

Frederic Remington, in Harper's Weekly:

"There are many views as to their proper organization and equipment among practical and experienced army officers, but all this is a small matter, which could be changed from time to time in the light of experience. General Miles would have them armed only with the revolver, and accoutered as lightly as possible, in order that they might ride with great rapidity and endure long. This would be proper as mere scouts, but as irregular cavalry they should have the carbine. It would be a pity to equip and handle Indian soldiers in any manner calculated to eradicate their primitive traits. A little thing, for instance, is this: By long moving in the solid ranks a cavalry horse cannot be forced out of them. In the battle of the Little Big Horn, General Custer's horses stampeded over the field in solid troop formations. This is not a grave defect in dragoon cavalry operations, but would be fatal to light cavalry. The Indian and his pony must be the unit, not the company. Indians should be allowed to scatter out on the march, and not be kept in the column. It is a curious fact that on the plains you can tell two cowboys from two Indians at a great distance. The cowboys will ride abreast, and the Indians will trail after each other. As to the uniforms of these <sup>471</sup> bodies, I suggest one which is light, inexpensive, and preserves as much of the local color of the Indian as possible. I believe in building the little log village. Some commanders will not agree with this, saying that it softens the men; let them live in the tepees, and retain the hardihood of the hunter state. We must remember that the organization I speak of is semi-industrial as well, and in process of time would lose much of its military character. If the Crows,