

after the destruction of the village, the column returned to Fort Fetterman and the troops were distributed to their various winter stations for shelter.

About the same time that General Crook was preparing to move, as described, General Terry projected an expedition against Sitting Bull's band, but before the 7th Cavalry could be fully concentrated at Fort A. Lincoln, for the purpose, the season became so inclement that it was thought advisable to postpone the expedition until later, the snow being so deep and the number of men badly frozen, so great. The impracticability of operating from the Missouri River against the Sioux, during the winter and spring, owing to the wild storms of Dakota, was fully proven and rendered more than ever apparent the necessity for the large military posts at the mouth of the Tongue River and on the Big Horn, already repeatedly recommended in anticipation of hostilities with the Sioux.

April 28th, near Grace Creek, Nebraska, a mounted detachment of nine men of Company "A", 23rd Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant C. H. Heyl, had a fight with a band of Indians, killing one Indian and wounding several others,. The Sergeant of the detachment was killed upon charging the Indians strongly posted on a hill.

No change having been made in the orders already described, early in the spring Generals Terry and Crook prepared to resume the operations discontinued previously on account of the severity of the weather. At Fort Fetterman, Wyoming, General Crook concentrated Troops "A", "B", "D", "E", and "I", 2nd Cavalry, Troops "A", "B", "C", "D", "E", "F", "H", "I", "L", and "M", 3rd Cavalry, Companies "D", and "F", 4th Infantry, and Companies "C", "G", and "H", 9th Infantry.

On May 29th, this column under the personal command of General Crook, left Fort Fetterman for Goose Creek, where a supply camp was established on June 8th. From this point General Crook moved out. June 13th, and on June 17th, Indians were discovered in large numbers on the Rosebud. General Crook's of less than a thousand men was attacked with desperation, the fight