

on the left and not in sight. About eleven o'clock Reno's troops crossed the creek to Custer's column and remained with them until about half-past twelve o'clock, when it was reported that the village was only two miles ahead and running away.

Reno was not directed to move forward, at as rapid a gait as he thought prudent, and to charge, with the understanding Custer would support him. The troops under Reno moved at a fast trot for about two miles, when they came to the river, crossed it, halted a few minutes to collect the men and then deployed. A charge was made down the river, driving the Indians rapidly for about two miles and a half, until near the village which was still there. Not seeing anything, however, of the subdivisions under Custer and Benteen, and the Indians swarming upon him from all directions, Reno took position, dismounted, in the edge of some timber which afforded shelter for the horses of his command, continuing the fight on foot until it became apparent he would soon be overcome by the superior numbers of the Indians. He then mounted his troops, charged through the Indians, re-crossed the river and gained the bluffs upon the opposite side. In this charge, First Lieutenant Donald McIntosh and Second Lieutenant Benjamin H. Hodgson, 7th Cavalry, with Acting Assistant Surgeon J. M. DeWolf, were killed.

Reno's force succeeded in reaching the top of the bluff, but with a loss of three officers and twenty-nine enlisted men killed, and seven men wounded. Almost at the same time Reno's troops reached these bluffs, Benteen's battalion came up and a little later, the pack train, with McDougall's troop escorting it. These three detachments were all united under Reno's command and numbered about three hundred and eighty-one men, in addition to their officers.

Meanwhile nothing had been heard from Custer so the re-united detachments under Reno moved down the river, keeping along the bluffs on the opposite side from the village. Firing had been heard from that direction, but after moving to the highest point without seeing or hearing anything of Custer, Reno