

Major Reno and Captain Benteen, both of whom were officers of experience, accustomed to seeing large bodies of mounted men, estimated the number of Indians engaged at not less than twenty-five hundred; other officers thought that the number was greater than this; the village in the valley was about three miles in length and almost a mile in width. Besides the regular lodges quantities of temporary brushwood structures were found, indicating that many besides the proper inhabitants of the village had gather there.

Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull, with their respective adherents, were both at the battle of the Little Big Horn, and for a time, Sitting Bull was credited with an importance which did not belong to him, his own direct following being comparatively small. Afterwards a separation took place between Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull, and the latter was, on several occasions, fought by the troops north of the Yellowstone.

During the afternoon and evening of June 27th, the wounded were moved to the camp of General Terry, and at five o'clock in the morning on the 28th, Reno's command proceeded to battle-ground of Custer and buried two hundred and four bodies there.

The 28th of June was passed making horse and hand litters for the wounded, so as to move them down to the mouth of the Little Big Horn, a transfer which occupied several days, for the marches had to be short. The same day a reconnoissance was made by Captain Ball of the 2nd Cavalry, along the trail of the Indians when they left the valley of the Little Big Horn. He reported that they divided into two parties, one of which kept the valley of Long Fork, making, he thought for the Big Horn Mountains; the other turned more to the eastward. He also discovered leading into the valley, a very heavy trail, not more than five days old. This was entirely distinct from the one Custer had followed and indicated that at least two bands had united just before the battle.

In the evening of June 28th General Terry began moving the wounded but was able to proceed only four miles on account of the insufficient number of