

For such purpose I placed one troop on flank at head of train, second troop at center of train, while I remained with the third troop on flank and at rear of train. Our march that second day was about thirty-five miles, and up the Rosebud Creek.

On arrival with the train and battalion at the place of bivouac for the night, I found the regimental adjutant, Lieut. W. W. Cooke, awaiting my arrival for the purpose of designating the place each troop of my train-guard was to occupy in the camp.

p. 11 I said to Cooke that 'General Custer had ordered me to march the whole battalion in rear of the last mule of the train, and that I had carried out his orders until I feared to longer do so, as I might have lost a great portion of the train in case it had been attacked,' telling Lieut. Cooke the manner in which I had marched the guard to protect the train, and requested that he would communicate the same to General Custer, so that the next officer in charge should not receive such orders as had been given to me regarding the marching of the train. Lieut. Cooke replied, 'No, I will not tell General Custer anything about it. If you want him to know it you must tell him of it yourself.'

On the morning of the 24th of June, General Custer rode by my bivouac of the night before. I approached him and reported that on account of fearing for the safety of the train the day before, I had placed the battalion on guard differently from the manner he had ordered. Custer stammered slightly, and said, 'I am much obliged to you, Col. Benteen. I will direct the officer who relieves you to guard the train in the manner you have done.' As my duties ended on delivering the train at camp on the 23d, I did not have to report to the commanding officer with the new officer of the day.

The march of June 24th was interrupted by frequent and sometimes quite lengthy halts of the column, but on what account I was not aware; but on arriving at Mud Creek, which was to be our place of bivouac, I was loudly called to by Col. Keogh to come where he was; that he had been saving me a snug nook with beautiful grass in it for me, that I might camp next to him. The reply to this was characteristic of the Plains, something like 'Bully for you, Keogh, I'm your man!'

After our frugal repasts which went for dinner, Col. Keogh and his lieutenant,