

Hist of Mont.

744-56

1739-1885

Chicago Warner, Beers & Co. 1885.

MILES PURSUIT OF THE SIOUX. - The pursuit of the Soo after the Little Big Horn affair was weak in the extreme. In October, 1876, this military inactivity was brought to a close by the exit of 1,000 lodges from the Standing Rock Agency, and the non-appearance when it should arrive. Scouts failed to learn of this train, and on Oct. 1u, 1876, General Miles ordered out the 5th U S Inf. On the 18th the troops met the supply train. Col Otter stated that after the first day's march the herd was attacked about 3a.m. by SB's band, and a couple dozen mules stampeded. The following day it was so harassed so much on its march that it was obliged to put back. It was again started out and was attacked again, this time during the day; about 300 or 350 Ind taking part in the fight which followed. Failing in stampeding the mules or capturing the train, they sent in a flag of truce, and repented of ~~this~~ this attack, promising not to molest the trains any more, stipulating however, that the train guard should not in the future kill any more buffalo. Then they left, and the train moved off without any more trouble. After receiving this information Gen Miles decided to order the 22nd Regiment to Tongue River and proceed with the 5th Regiment to punish the Soo. On the 19th of October this plan was put in practice. The 5th Regiment proceeded fifteen miles to Cherry Creek, where camp was made. On the 20th the command reached Cedar Creek, where the train guard had seen the savages last, and where also, they did not delay showing themselves to the 5th Regiment. A few councils between SB and Gen Miles were held on Oct. 20 and 21st, 1876, but the chief resolved to fight rather than agree to the terms of peace proposed by Miles. A battle ensued in which the Ind were repulsed with heavy loss in men and supplies. Later the Minneconjous and Sans Arcs surrendered, giving as hostages their chiefs, Black Eagle, Red Shirt, Sunrise, Sitting Eagle, White Bull and Foolish Bull.