

2--Sioux Indian Paintings

Plate IV

Retreat of Reno's command. The drawing is notable for the costume indications of the charging warriors. Drawing by Amos Bad Heart.

Note that three of the soldiers, including a non-com, are firing their pistols straight up in the air.

Plate V

Retreat of Reno's command. At the right warriors are shown with captured cavalry horses. Drawing by Amos Bad Heart Buffalo.

Plate VI

Retreat of Reno's command. At the top of the picture is shown a warrior lancing a cavalryman. The warrior wears a stuffed hawk skin on his head. It was the characteristic headdress, worn as a charm, of the Oglala warrior Soldier Hawk (Cetan Akicita). Drawing by Amos Bad Heart Buffalo.

Soldier Hawk, at the top of the picture left, is stabbing a soldier with a bow-spear, a sacred weapon. These bow-spears are rare among the Sioux. This is the only example in all the Sioux war paintings I know. An officer with shoulder straps on a falling horse is represented brandishing a sabre. Another officer fallen close by has a sabre beside him. There were no sabres in the Custer fight.

Plate VII

Retreat of Reno's command. Drawing by Amos Bad Heart Buffalo.

Plate VIII

Retreat of Reno's command. The painted warrior who is shooting a trooper from his saddle is Crazy Horse, the Sioux chieftain, as shown by the writing of his name. Drawing by Amos Bad Heart Buffalo.

The bow-spear appears being used as a lance, but apparently of a different color and in the hands of a different color. The one in #6 is painted blue and white; the one in #8 red, white, and black.

Crazy Horse is represented incorrectly as going into battle with only his moccasins and breech clout on, whereas he wore a white buckskin suit that day. Here he is painted green with red dots all over his body, whereas his protective warpaint consisted of white dots scattered over his face. The figure in #8 is correct in one respect, that Crazy Horse's hair is loose and not braided.