

there at daylight on a good fast walk. That was about the first talk I had with Gen. Crook after he hired me. Of course I didn't know anything about the soldiers' way of traveling, mode of living, or much of anything pertaining to the army. It puzzled me. He gave orders for the pack train to be ready at six o'clock that evening to cut loose from the wagon train, leaving the latter to go back to Powder river to wait there for the command.

Everything being ready, we left there at six o'clock at night. The weather when we started was fair, but after we had set out sometime it commenced snowing, and snowed from that time on until about nine o'clock next morning. We traveled without any accident all night at a good fast walk. Along towards daylight it commenced snowing fast and hard. I suppose the General was getting anxious, for just at daylight he rode up to me and said, "It is daylight." You could not see fifty yards ahead of you on account of the snow. I told him then that we had almost reached the forks of ~~Clear~~ creek. I could not see anything, and he asked me how I could tell, and I said I could tell by the lay of the ground. He asked me how far away ~~Clear~~ creek was, and I said it was not more than two or three hundred yards. He laughed and said, "I don't see how you can tell it."

181 We didn't go over one hundred yards from where we were talking till we got to the bank of the river, at the spot where Kramer's ranch is at present, about four miles from the forks. Gen. Crook did not express his satisfaction in words. His mode of expressing pleasure was by a rapid twinkling of his eyes, and my recollection is that the General's eyes twinkled very merrily when the command reached ~~Clear~~ creek. A big snowstorm was in progress. We moved on the creek almost to the forks before going into camp, and stayed there the rest of that day.