

one of the two Indians seized the musket of one of the scouts and endeavored to wrest it from him. Failing in this, he released his hold after the scout became dismounted in the struggle and set off as fast as his pony could carry him, but not before the musket of the scout was discharged. From blood discovered afterward it was very evident that either the Indian or his pony was wounded. I hope that niether was seriously hurt, although the Indians have their own bad faith as the sole ground for the collission."

General Custer quite overlooks the fact that he was himself a trespasser upon the Indian preserves and that the latter had good cause to be alarmed at discovering an army in the middle of a reservation which the government had pledged its faith to hold inviolate.

"One Stab, the chief, was brought back to camp. The scouts galloped down the valley to the site of the village, when it was discovered that the entire party had packed up their lodges and fled, and the visit of the four Indians to our camp was not only to obtain their rations promised them in return for future services, but to cover the flight of the lodges. One Stab claims to belong to both Red Cloud's and Spotted Tail's agency, but has been to neither for a long time."

Proceeding in a southeasterly direction, on the 30th Custer reached and ascended Harney's Peak, and at the top drank the health of the veteran for whom it was named, and for the next two or three days divided up into small parties for the exploration of the country in the vicinity of Harney's Peak and Custer's Park. In describing it General Custer again breaks into a rhapsody: "The country which we have passed since leaving the Belle Fourche River has been generally open and extremely fertile. The main portion of that passed over since entering the unexplored portions of the Black Hills consists of beautiful parks and valleys, through which flow streams of clear, cold water, perfectly free from alkali, while bounding these parks, or valleys, is invariably found unlimited supplies of timber, much of it being capable of being made into good lumber. In no portion of the United States, not excepting the famous blue grass region of Dentucky, have I ever seen grazing superior

one side of a question, & Custer was a thoroughly soldierly man. I can hardly expect a soldier to be expected to be a soldier.