

and driven from our front. They made a second effort, which was to turn my flank, but we drove them off. As soon as I saw support was close at hand I ordered my men to advance to first ridge and take it and they did this with a rush. Lieut. Henely reported to me now and second ridge was taken in short order. Here I halted and soon Gen. Miles came up with 400 Cavalry. He sent me and my scouts to left, where we charged repeatedly and drove everything before us several times having to halt to await the support of Biddle's Cavalry, which followed on foot. Chaffey was on right of Biddle. Two Delawares were wounded. My only difficulty was to restrain my men from advancing too fast and far and getting in danger of being cut off. During the battle we crossed Battle Creek and pursued the Inds. on to south. Center was under Capt. Ewers and right under Maj. Compton. Gen. Miles took personal part in battle. Right wing advanced 3 miles south of Red River, the balance of command camping on north bank ready to advance in morning. Red River is 3000 ft. wide here and there is no running water - just a broad bed of red sand.

Aug. 31. Henely with 15 scouts went up south side to explore for road and staked plains but after marching around several hours did not find one. At 8 AM we all struck out crossing the bluffs into a pleasant valley where the Inds. had destroyed everything burning many entire lodges and all contents - large amounts of Indian property of all kinds. Marched out this valley 15 miles to its very head. Scouts going on staked plains to west following trails. Main train lower valley 4 miles from our camp tonight. Nothing of importance today except to learn Inds. have gone out onto staked plains. Water supply very bad and affecting both men and beast.

Tues. Sept. 1. - Lay in camp all day, my men all out scouting in every direction.

Sept. 2. - Took 10 men and followed trail out over Staked Plains. They have gone in direction 20 deg. west of South Bluffs to south high and stop and we much make road to get wagons up. When up there can see a perfect plain (nearly so) as far as eye can reach. Returned to camp, which is in pleasant valley on South Fork Red River (Main Red River?)

Sept. 3 - In camp all day resting and preparing for short trip onto Staked Plains. Not feeling well on account of bad water which can hardly drink. Only 5 or 6 day's rations on hand for command and 300 miles from depot. Think the command will return to meet supply train soon. Marshall and McFadden sent to overtake train which had been ordered to return to Antelope Hills for supplies and from there to proceed to Camp Supply. Dunlap and Martin sent to train with dispatches from Maj. Lyman.

Sept. 4. - Lay in camp all day. Nothing new except preparing road up to the plain.

Sept. 5. - At 2 this morning started with my guides and trailers to climb rocky bluffs which overlook valley from west. Got atop before daybreak and had breakfast. Spent the day following big trail of 3000 (estimated) Inds. and destroyed much of their property. Found several pools of good water during the day. Got back to camp at 1:30 AM next morning after having traveled 72 miles.

Sept. 6. Sunday - Arrived back in Biddles camp in Pleasant Valley at 1:30 AM and slept until 7. Sent back to temporary supply camp in Battle Creek which we reached at 2 PM. Country between Red River and Battle Cr. to north is rough and almost mountainous.