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such may be the condition now and I only represent the facts of the case so that they may be known to superior authority and such precautions taken as they seem to demand if it be practicable.

Every available man in the Department within two hundred miles of the scene of disturbance was sent forward in ample time but it is not to be expected that Infantry can head off or overtake mounted Indians. There is no doubt they did all that it was possible for them to do.

I had the hope that the Cavalry companies, of which five were in pursuit under Col. Lewis, as efficient and capable an officer as there was in the Army, would be able to deal with the Indians or at least delay their movements so that the Infantry could meet them or come up with them. The Cavalry had four skirmishes with them with indecisive and unsatisfactory results, in the last of which Lieut. Col. Lewis was killed.

The Indians have the long range arms and plenty of ammunition, and the Cavalry is armed with the Carbine, which is no match for the long range rifle of the Indian. As soon as the Indians make a stand, they put themselves in rough country and in rifle pits where the Cavalry cannot charge them, nor with their Carbines fighting on foot drive them from their defences.

I am of opinion that the Cavalry serving against Indians should be armed with the Springfield rifle so as at least to put them on an equality with the Indians in respect to arms, but above all I think if it be possible, that Cavalry should be sent here in view of the actual and prospective necessities of this frontier.

There is at present no appearance of farther trouble at the Cheyenne Agency, but quiet is likely at any moment to be broken unless the Indians are sufficiently and regularly fed.

In order that the facts in this latter respect may be known, I transmit enclosed a copy of the statement of Indian Agent Miles of the Cheyenne Agency of the reasons why the party of Northern Cheyennes left the Reservation, and the condition of the supplies for those that remain.

It will be seen from this own statement that there is an enormous defi-