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camped the troops directly around the thicket, on a open ground and in easy range.

From the moment they heard they were going to Robinson, they set to work digging pits and when the troops camped, constructed breast works opposite each detachment of troops; also indulged in some war songs. Two companies of South Cavalry were at the time marching from Sheridan towards me. Major Tilford, hearing of the condition of affairs, very kindly (and without request from me) ordered them to continue their march and report to me. Capt. Monahan very kindly sent out a howitzer, obtaining an escort for it from Major Tilford. Lieutenant Chase, 3 Cavalry, under orders to join, very thoughtfully (but without orders) brought a brass-piece with him.

These detachments were arriving during the night and were evidently observed by the Indians; for after their arrival, they sent out word that they would be ready to go to Sheridan in the morning.

In the morning they were shown the numbers and position of the troops, and informed that they had been allowed a choice as to direction, and had declined it. Now, they must go to Robinson, and would have nothing to eat until they arrived there, and must decide at once. They decided to go, and arrived here at 10 o'clock at night. After arrival here, their Breech-Loaders were taken from them.

The few arms taken from them at Camp on Chadron were muzzle-loaders, or unserviceable. The position of the troops seemed to me a delicate one. An assault would probably have resulted in killing the majority of men and women. It might have been considered that after the Indians had surrendered and had given up their horses and arms, the troops then murdered them. Lone-Bear and Two Lance (Sioux) staid in the Indian Camp during the night to see that none escaped. I promised (and gave) Two Lance his daughter (who was married to a Cheyenne) and her children, whenever the Cheyennes were once started on the road to Robinson.

I promised to treat them as prisoners of War, until they should arrive at Camp Robinson, but persistently urged upon them that I would make no promise as to their future disposition, or punishment, and I think they understand it.

Very respectfully  
Your obedient servant  
C.H. Carlton  
Major 3 Cavalry Commanding