

continued

between the troops from Bear Butte and hostile Indians, in the Bad Lands, between Bad River and White River. Sent out scouts in advance of the Column during the day, also down Grindstone Butte Creek to Bad River. Nothing seen to indicate the presence of troops or Indians.

As the route usually taken by Indians going north lies between Pinos Spring and Grindstone Butte Creek, or in their vicinity, and as our camp on Deadman's Creek was about 10 miles east of the spring and about the same distance west of Grindstone Butte Creek, I concluded to remain in that camp until I could learn something definite as to the movements of the hostiles. For this purpose on the morning of the 13th I sent out Corporal Connally, of company "K" 11th Infantry, who volunteered his services for the occasion, and an Indian scout, with instructions to proceed west in the direction of the South Fork of the Cheyenne until they struck the trail of the troops from Bear Butte, and then to follow the trail until they overtook them. I sent by the Corporal, a letter addressed to the Commander of the troops, notifying him that I had left Cheyenne Agency on the 7th instant, with four companies of Infantry and ten Indian scouts and had been moving along the Fort Pierre road, parallel to the Cheyenne River, for the purpose of defending the line of that river against hostile Indians, that I was then in Camp on Deadman's Creek, about midway between Pinos's Spring and Grindstone Butte Creek, the route usually taken by Indian going north; and that it was my intention to remain there until I could learn something definite as to the whereabouts of the hostiles. I requested that any information he might have which would enable me to operate intelligently, or to cooperate with him, might be sent to me by Corporal Connolly. I also sent out at the same time scouts to examine the country to the south of Bad River, and endeavor to ascertain if troops or Indians were moving between that river and White River.

On the 14th instant, seven Indians returning to Crow Creek Agency came into Camp, early in the morning, from Rapid City where they had been as witnesses before the United States District Court, setting at that place. They stated that everything was quiet where they had been; that they had not seen nor heard of any hostile Indians being East of the Black Hills. Sent two scouts to observe the