

captured came into camp having escaped that morning; fear had also given them good spurs and they had ridden ninety miles that day. Believing that the hostiles would at once feel convinced that they had been deceived and would turn back or press hurriedly forward and try and cross the Yellowstone before I could reach them, I left the wagons at this point and taking eight days rations and as much forage as possible on packs marched forty-five miles the next day. I sent three Cheyenne scouts and two Sioux on to learn what they could about the trail and location of village. On March 24th, after I had made some thirty-five miles I met the two Sioux scouts returning; they reported the trail as turning back and recrossing Hole in the rock creek, and that the three Cheyenne scouts had continued on the trail. I went forward about ten miles and camped on this creek, my scouts told me that the hostiles had undoubtedly become convinced soon after the escape of the prisoners that troops were in the country after them and were making for a particularly strong place well known to both the Cheyenne and Sioux Indians. This place may possibly be identical with what is put down on the map as Hole in the Rock, but it appears nearer the mouth of Box Elder Creek.

The next morning I struck an old camp of the hostile two days old, after I had marched some three miles, and about two miles further, ~~now~~ two of my Cheyenne scouts met me bringing three of the hostiles with them; said they went into the camp during the night and had delivered my terms, which the hostiles said they would accept. The three Cheyennes brought to me corroborated this statement, but desired me to go into camp where I was and their village would move over and join me, that if I marched up to their camp the women and children might get frightened and there might be some trouble. I declined of course to do anything of this sort, but selected the two head men, "Brave Wolf" and "Two Moon," of my Cheyenne scouts to ride on ahead and renew briefly, kindly and firmly my terms and bring "Little Wolf" out to meet me as I approached the village with my command. This the scouts did, and Brave Wolf added to the message in delivering it, "I love the soldiers at Keogh, I go with them to fight all their enemies and if you will not listen, you will force me to fight my own people, for you are of my kinsfolk." Little Wolf met me about half a mile from his camp and said he would accept the terms offered by my scouts and that he was glad to meet me again. I marched my command to within one hundred yards of the village, which was in a natural fortress, and they had strengthened it by breast works of stone and dirt, and put my forces in the next best and strongest position about there, both for their protection and to attack in case there should be any necessity for such a measure. After about an hour to allow the excitement to wear away and give my Cheyenne scouts time to talk the matter over with them, I went over to the camp taking off my arms to show them that I had confidence in them, and briefly told them in council what they must do as far as I was concerned. That I had told my scouts to give them no lies and I hoped they had done as I told them; that the guns and ponies must be given up, this was the price of peace and they must pay it. I wanted the guns then and would take the ponies when we reached Keogh; that I was truly and heartily glad we had arranged this matter without loss of life on either side; they had ears and sense; they must listen and use their reason; there were many troops and Indian scouts in the country and I thought they were wise to surrender.