

Head Qrs Fort Dodge Kansas
August 20th 1868

Bvt Major E. A. Belger
A. A. A. Gen Dist Upper Ark

Major

I have the honor to transmit herewith an Affidavit made by G. Maxwell, and C. Blanchard wagon master for Desmarias and Bernard, relative to the running off of their Stock by Cheyenne Indians at Bluff Ranch.

It is rumoured that there is about 2,000 "Cheyennes" encamped on the Middle Fork of the Pawnee, numbering about, 2,000, and according to the enclosed Affidavit, the band committing the depredation at Bluff Ranch went direct to that Camp. I have not sufficient force to take active measures against this party on the Creek, but I send to day 40 men in charge of Lieut Wallingford to Bluff Ranch together with 400 mules for the purpose of bringing the wagons, Govt. and other properties etc, to this Post.

In last nights Mail a Statement of Robert M. Wrights was forwarded, relative to depredations committed at the Middle Branch of the Pawnee, which all plainly show that the Indians are in the vicinity of this Post, pretty thick and as hostile as ever.

Nothing whatever has been heard of the 10th Cavalry since the receipt of S. O. No 113, from your Head Quarters, dated August 5th 1868, ordering them to Fort Larned via Downers Station and this Post.

I am very Respectfully
Your Obt Servt
W. Douglas
Major 3rd Infantry
Commanding Post