

continued

Law (?) Log Creek, and the extreme head of that creek. Thence bearing more northward crossing the head ravines of the Middle branch of the Pawnee; then in a northwestward direction, turning the north branch of the Pawnee, crossing its extreme head and Tributaries; then North and N.N.E. crossing headwaters and ravines of Walnut and Hockberry creeks, arriving within sight of Smoky hill river some 8 or 10 miles to north of Hockberry Creek. From this point, about S.S.E. from "Castle Rock", and in sight of that landmark, turned S.E. to Hockberry creek, then down the north side of that stream to its junction with Walnut Creek, about 20 miles west of the crossing of the Fort Dodge and Fort Hays road. Thence south and southwest, zigzagging to the north and middle branches of Pawnee, thence south and southeast zigzagging to Sandy Creek, and Fort Dodge, returning on the 11th day. Total distance 167½ miles.

I have the honor to submit herewith, a map and journal of the route, compiled with the aid of, an Odometer and Prismatic Compass as carefully as the circumstances would allow.

I saw no traces of the existence of Indians in that vicinity; there are no settlements anywhere along this route.

One party of hunters, the only persons seen, expressed no fear, and, during their stay in the vicinity of Hockberry Creek, have seen no signs of Indians, and believe there are none in that vicinity.

Well beaten roads, along the banks of Walnut creek, and the north and middle branches of Pawnee indicate much travel, a strong evidence that the settlers farther East, in thus frequenting this vicinity, for hunting purposes, do not fear hostilities from Indians.

I am Sir very respectfully  
 Your obedient Servant  
 Gabriel (?) Smith  
 1st Lieut. 6th Cavalry  
 Comdg. Detachment

A true Copy

Thomas B. Nichols  
 2nd Lieut. 6th Cavalry  
 Post Adjutant