

continued

Supply and Medicine Lodge Creek is quite interesting, and I would have been glad to have had time to have properly and intelligibly mapped it myself. The Odometer and Compass Survey taken by Private Kelly is tolerably accurate, but in my opinion he is incompetent to correctly, properly, or intelligibly make a map of any country passed over though I am satisfied he did the best he could on this occasion. The above, together with Private Kelly's notes and map of the country passed over is herewith respectfully submitted.

I am Sir,

Very Respectfully  
L. A. Abbott  
1st Lt. 6th U. S. Cav.

A true copy

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

Fort Dodge, Kansas  
August 26th, 1873

Lieut. Th. B. Nichols  
6th U. S. Cavalry  
Post Adjutant

Sir:

I have the honor to report for the information of the Commanding Officer that I have just returned to this Post having complied with the provisions of S. O. No. 117, dated Fort Dodge, August 12, 1873.

I found Mulberry Creek almost dry on the 13th inst. excepting the spring near the mouth of the west fork there was no water in the bed of Fish Creek, neither is there a particle of water in Bluff Creek. Salt water stands in pools in the Cimarron River below the mouth of Bluff Creek. I found running water in the Cimarron at the ranch on the Camp Supply road and from that place to a point fifteen miles east of the mouth of Sand Creek, but the water in the Cimarron is not fit to drink south of Crooked Creek.