

Fort Dodge Kansas  
March 31st. 1875

*Military  
Gallies*

To the  
Post Adjutant,  
Sir:

~~1875-75~~  
~~1878~~

For the information of the Comdg. Officer, I have the honor to report that on the 19th inst. in compliance with Special Orders No. 44. c.s. Head Quarters Ft. Dodge Kas. I proceeded with a detachment of Co. "G" 6th Cavalry by the shortest route to North Fork of Pawnee with the aim to intercept a party of Cheyenne Indians supposed to be endeavoring to join the Northern tribes, With this view I encamped on Bald Eagle Creek, a tributary of the No. Fk. of Pawnee, selecting a concealed plan for my Camp and posting Pickets and examining the contry. About. This route, via Bald Eagle Cr. has been the high-way for communication between the Northern and Southern Indians crossing the A.T. and S.F.R.R. at or near Pierceville. At the North Fk of Pawnee at Bald Eagle Cr. and the K.P. Railway between Grinnell and Buffalo.

I found no signs of Indians, but might mention that I discovered the rendezvous of a large band of horse-thieves, with corral and Stables for 60 or 80 ✓ animals, ranch and signs of a sudden departure within a few days. This band appears to have lived here all winter and to have had in their possession considerable Stock, chiefly shod horses and mules.

On the 25th inst. in compliance with dispatches that day recd. from the Comdg. Officer. I proceeded to the head of North Fk of Pawnee, carefully examining the country West but did not find a trace or sign of Indians of any character. From the head of this Creek I proceeded to the South striking the Arkansas River near Pierceville, thence to this Post

Total distance travelled 181½ miles.

Very respectfully  
Your obedient servt.  
Thomas B. Nichols  
2nd. Lieut 6th Cavalry