

Dec. 11, 1878. I in charge of a detachment of one Non Com Officer and six privates Co. "G" 19 Inf. and one private Co. "E" 19 Inf. mounted and with three pack mules, left this post at sunset on the 11 instant in pursuit of horse thieves. We proceeded up the Arkansas river to a point about twelve miles from this post; then crossed the river and travelled in a southerly direction to near the head of Mulberry Creek, where a dry camp was made at 2 oclock A.M. on the 12 instant; distance travelled 25 miles. At day break on the 12 inst. we marched to Gantz Ranch on Crooked Creek. A distance of fifteen miles from the Camp, a halt was made for the purpose of cooking breakfast, after breakfast every thing was prepared for a start when a severe wind and snow storm prevented our leaving, as there was no timber or shelter on the course I wished to take, within thirty miles. of the place where we then were. I thought it unsafe to start until the storm had ceased.

The storm continued all the remainder of the 12 inst. and until 11 P.M. on the 13 inst: On the morning of the 14 inst. we started for Sovells Cattle camp on Crooked creek a distance of thirty miles from Gantz in a southeasterly direction. We found the country covered with snowdrifts which made it almost impossible to search ravines on the way. Camped at Sovells that night: The next day the 15 inst. marched to a point on Beaver Creek, I.T. about forty five miles west of Camp Supply.

Ravines on Crooked Creek, Cimmaron River, and Beaver Creek were searched as well as the snow drifts would permit. Distance travelled on the 15 thirty miles, direction West of South.

On account of rations and forage giving out I was compelled to go into Camp Supply. We arrived at that Post on the night of the 16 inst. having travelled forty five miles.

The horses being tired and stiff with cold and the long march, a rest of two days became necessary. Left Camp Supply for Fort Dodge on the 19 inst. Marched to Cimmaron River, distance travelled thirty seven miles. On the 20 inst. marched to Bluff Creek, distance twenty two miles.

The weather was intensely cold throughout the march.