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of country.

"In the spring of 1876, thousands of these Indians left their reservations and met at a point, then unknown to the military, which was ordered out to get the Indians to return to their reservations. About two thousand troops were under Gen. Terry and a like number under Gen. Crook. I commanded Company B. first Infantry and in the spring this company was sent from Fort Sully, S. D. to Fort Rice, N. D., from the latter post Gen. Custer and two companies of the 7th U. S. Cavalry reported to Gen. Terry on the Yellowstone river. There were five of us officers then at Fort Rice, we each put up a dollar or two as a prize for the best pony in a race held on the Fourth of July. There were half dozen entries and one Indian was made happy by winning the race.

"The next day, three strange Indians came to the post and I was the first officer they saw. They told me that there had been a fight and that the Indians had killed Custer and all the soldiers. One of them had a bow and half dozen arrows that he had cut out of the dead bodies of soldiers. I bought the bow and arrows and they are now in the museum at West Point, N. Y. with my other Indian relics. I took these three Indians to the commanding officer, got an interpreted, and the Indians repeated their story, and added that the Indians were going to kill all white people in their country. The military and a few wood choppers were all the white people then there.

"Being the Post Adjutant, I wrote a telegram to the Adj. Gen., Department of Dakota, St. Paul, Minn., which the commanding officer signed and sent by a mounted courier to Bismark, N.D. and telegraphed from there. This gave the first news of the Custer fight. The next day Capt. Grant Marsh arrived at Fort Lincoln, opposite Bismark, on the steamer Far West of the Coulson Line, from a point on the Yellowstone river, with wounded