

les, is ~~the~~ due the honor of this important victory, which had far-reaching consequences, Not since the battle of the Little Big Horn had the followers of ~~an~~ attacked by the troops in offensive battle.

December 7, a detachment of the command, -Companies G, H, and I, 5th Infantry one hundred officers and men, commanded by First Lt F D Baldwin, 5th Infantry, overtook SB's camp, one hundred and ninety lodges, and drove it across the Missouri, and on the 18th the same force surprised the camp near the ~~head~~ head of Redwater, a southern affluent of the Missouri, and captured camp and contents with sixty animals, the Indians scattering out south of the Yellowstone

As SB did not for a considerable time thereafter enter as a factor into the campaign, it will be permitted to anticipate for a little and describe his subsequent movements. With a small following he shortly after moved northward and camped on the left bank of the Missouri; thence, near the end of the water, poor and with scarcely any ammunition, he and his scanty following sought refuge north of the ~~boundary~~ international boundary. As a war was raging of which he was an important factor - not so much from military prowess as from his position as "Medicine Man" and an extreme and inveterate savage Indian, which had made him the nucleus of all the disaffected and hostile Sioux - his band ought to have been either disarmed at the boundary or interned. General Miles made repeated and urgent appeals to the higher authorities that action to that end be taken, but unfortunately it was not taken.

Page 364

Four hundred and eighteen Indians surrendered; 57 were killed or wounded during the

Page 365.

fight and siege; 105 including Joseph's daughter escaped when the troops charged, and reached Dominion territory. The captives were taken first to Kansas and then to Indian territory. Nearly seven years later, when General Miles had received promotion and was commanding the department of Columbia, he at last succeeded in having Joseph and the remnant of his band turned to the vicinity of their old home.

In his annual report ~~transactions~~ for 1877, General Miles summarized thus the operations of his troops for the year ending with October: "Distance marched, over 4000 miles. Besides much property captured and destroyed, 1600 animals were taken. Upwards of 7000 Indians were killed, captured, forced to surrender, or driven out of the country.

in the spring of 1878, I heard that SB, so far from coming to the rescue of the besieged Nez Percés, was so terrified by the proximity of the command of "Bear Coat," as the Indians called General Miles, because of a fur-trimmed coat that he wore, that he pulled up stakes and fled incontinently northward. In February, 1878, his following moved south of the boundary, and General Miles made preparations to attack him; he had already sent out his supply train with escort when a telegram from Washington ordered him back. One of the conditions of the successes of 1876-1877 was the absence of speedy communication. That helpful lack has now been hurtfully supplied and the method adopted of conducting campaigns from a point so remote that prompt and intelligent use of the varying conditions at the scene of hostilities could not be made. But though
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