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to the inevitable. I will give the head chiefs a few rations as a reward for their assistance to me, which has really been valuable during my stay here, and the transaction of the business on hand.

To Major Porter, United States Indian agent at this point, much praise and recognition are due by me for his able assistance in many ways, both in command and by supplying me with material and guides. Upon his urgent request, I have, yesterday released about 35 hostiles who had for many years lived with his agency Indians, and who hold tickets from him. They are not a discordant element, and their presence here will not endanger the interests of the service.

During the night of the 9th instant, the Missouri rose beyond all proportions of former knowledge or recollection of oldest inhabitants. The whole valley, perhaps 3 miles wide, is now submerged in from 3 to 15 feet of water, which runs by the agency buildings within 15 yards of the same. Many hundreds of horses of the Indians have been drowned; and it is feared that many lives were lost, as it is known that several families of Indians, few of them hostiles, had failed to leave the timber and come to the agency. On the evening when the waters rose, cries of people in distress could be heard, and some of them were reported to be clinging to the branches of the trees lining the Missouri, and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant from here. Without boats nothing could be done, but it is hoped that the water will subside in time to bring succor to the endangered people before they succumb to hunger and cold. The agent will do all he can for them.

Owing to the unexpected and sudden rise of the Missouri and the overflow of the bottom lands through which the road to Buford leads, my march to the latter post was postponed from the 9th to this date. I will have to find my own road, and have hired the only man in the country who can guide me, whom I will have to pay a compensation of \$50 for the trip.

I inadvertently neglected in my report of the 31st of January last, describing the engagement of the 2d of that month, to mention Second Lieut.