

hostile Sioux are in the hands of the government, and those who remain in the British provinces are too few in number and too much broken in spirit to leave room for apprehension of annoyance from them. The Sioux war, which commenced in 1876, and which was carried on at a great cost of life, as well as of money, is finally closed.

I desire to invite special attention to the services rendered by Major Brotherton, of the Seventh Infantry, and by Major Ilges, of the Fifth Infantry, and the officers and men under his command. To Major Brotherton is due the credit of having originally suggested the course of action which resulted in the surrender or capture of Sitting Bull and his adherents. During the progress of the negotiations which brought these Indians back to our soil he displayed the utmost patience, tact and discretion; he was unwearied in his efforts to accomplish the results desired, and no term less strong than "invaluable" would fitly characterize the service which he rendered.

The troops under Major Ilges, including the garrison of the cantonment at Poplar River and the detachment from Buford, were subjected to great hardships. Much of the time during their movements the thermometer registered from 20° to 50° below zero Fahrenheit. Their marches were made through snows, which rendered the roads over which they moved almost impassable. They endured every hardship without complaint, and when a severe conflict with the Indians was expected they prepared to meet it with cheerful alacrity.

Major Ilge's conduct deserves especial commendation. Rendering an intelligent obedience to the instructions which he had received from these headquarters, he made every reasonable effort to induce the Indians who had gathered at Poplar River to surrender; but when these efforts had failed he struck promptly and effectively. He shares with Major Brotherton the honor of having brought the war to a conclusion.

The detachment from the garrison of Fort Assiniboine, which, under

*But these "hostiles" would
never have camped at the fort,
I really "hostile" of Roman noses words -*