

Cheyennes, and Sioux become wealthy, industrious, and contented, the First Cavalry will not be at Fort Custer, but in New York, Leavenworth, or Chicago. In the case of a light scouting corps, I admit you must nurse the savage.

"There is one thing that cannot be urged too strongly - a wagon should form no part of a light cavalry outfit. A scout corps which is tied up to some wagons is about as useless as a spring runner with a cork leg. Pack trains of large broncho horses to each troop should be issued, and there should be enough of them so that they might be loaded lightly, and thus be able to pass over the country as rapidly as the exigencies of the case might require. In the winter oil-tanned cowskin moccasins should be issued. A system of tactics should be gotten up for the Indian soldiers, vast simplicity being the consideration, and preserving all the signs and movements peculiar to their old warrior days.

"As to the efficiency of these people on light cavalry duties there can be no question. Lieutenant Carter Johnson told me that he thought he could take a command of Apaches and ride from Arizona to Washington without losing any of his command, and judging from some of that officer's exploits, I am inclined to think he could. As to their faithfulness, an officer recently sent a Crow scout with a message, and inadvertently said, 'Go quick!' The Crow, thinking the thing was vital, rode a hundred miles and killed his horse (his own property) to deliver the message. A Crow scout also rode for three days after a stray horse, covering an enormous distance, which I have forgotten. Lieutenant Casey's scouts will fell trees and build houses. In short, experienced officers can do anything with these men, and the Indians