

on the Missouri River near Fort Randall. The Sixth Iowa Cavalry were recruited from various parts of the state for this expedition and were assembled at Davenport, where they were mustered into service, and came overland to Sioux City, arriving here somewhere the latter part of May, or the first of June. They had considerable trouble crossing the Floyd River, which was covered only by an improvised low-bridge. They also required some time to cross the Big Sioux River on the ferry boat and were finally in camp on the banks of the Missouri River. This regiment was commanded by Col. Wilcox, Lieut. Col. Pollock, Majors Tenbrook and Horace Shepperton.

In the meantime the infantry company at Ft. Randall under Col. Pattee and the Sioux City company were added to and made part of the Seventh Iowa Cavalry. It was the intention for these to go into convenient quarters, taken there by boat on the Missouri River in event the conditions of the river were favorable. The ice broke up unusually early and made the river navigable earlier than generally.

About this time Gen. Sully appeared on the scene. The general was about fifty years of age, was a regular army officer and had the reputation of being an expert Indian fighter. He was very reserved and a man of few words, exacting and severe with his subordinates. The preparation for the expedition up to date had been made by Gen. Cook and was about complete, and he was much disappointed and chagrined when he was relieved.

After having been around Gen. Sully's headquarters for a few days the orderly took notice and concluded that he could