

escaped northward with his own small band, and was joined later by "Gall" and other chiefs and their followers. Having returned to Tongue River Cantonment, Colonel Miles organized a force numbering four hundred and thirty-four rifles and moved north in pursuit of Sitting Bull, but the trail was obliterated by the snow, in the vicinity of the Big Dry River. A band of one hundred and nineteen lodges under "Iron Dog" crossed the Missouri in advance of the command and dissolved itself in the Yanktonais camp, Sitting Bull continuing to hover about the neighborhood of the Missouri River and its branches, for some time afterwards.

October 14th, a detachment of Troup "K", 2nd Cavalry was reported as having a fight on Richard Creek, Wyoming, one soldier being killed.

General Crook, having learned that there was danger of a considerable number of Indians at Red Cloud Agency again attempting to join the hostiles, directed a strong force, from his column, to proceed to that agency, under command of Colonel Merritt, 5th Cavalry, for the purpose of disarming and dismounting the bands from which trouble was expected. Before Colonel Merritt could reach there, however, affairs had assumed such a threatening aspect that it was determined to arrest and disarm the Indians, with such force as was at hand. Accordingly, Colonel Mackenzie, 5th Cavalry, with eight troops of cavalry, on

October 22nd succeeded, at night, in surrounding and surprising Red Cloud's and Red Leaf's bands, so that when daylight dawned on the 23rd, the Indians surrendered without firing a shot. The Indians, numbering about four hundred warriors, were at once disarmed and, followed by their families, with camp equipage and property, were brought into the agency, where they were released and put into camp. About seven hundred ponies were captured, together with all the arms and ammunition the Indians had about their persons and in the lodges.

General Crook then had a council with Spotted Tail and, satisfied that the latter intended to be loyal to the government, placed this Indian