

they were he knew not; from bows and arrows found he judged them to be Cheyennes.

"Dunn getting the worst of the fight, returned to camp, obtained a guide, and a remount, and the next morning started again. In May following, Major Downing, of the first Colorado cavalry, went to Denver and asked Colonel Chivington to give him a force to move against the Indians, for what purpose we do not know. Chivington gave him the men, and the following are Major Downing's own words: 'I captured an Indian and required him to go to the village, or I would kill him. This was about the middle of May. We started about eleven o'clock in the day, and travelled all day and all night; about daylight I succeeded in surprising the Cheyenne village at Cedar bluffs, in a small valley, sixty miles north of South Platte river. We commenced shooting. I ordered the men to commence killing them. They lost, as I am informed, some twenty-six killed and thirty wounded. My own loss was one killed and one wounded. I burnt up their lodges, and every thing I could get hold of. I took no / ¹⁶⁴ prisoners. We got out of ammunition, and could not pursue them.'

"In this camp the Indians had their women and children. He captured one hundred ponies, which the officer says were distributed among the boys for the reason that they had been marching almost constantly day and night for nearly three weeks! This was done because such conduct 'was usual (he said) in New Mexico.' About the same time, Lieutenant Ayres, of the Colorado troops, had a difficulty, in which an Indian chief, under a flag of truce, was murdered. During the summer and fall occurrences of this character were frequent. . . . time during the fall, at all

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In the year 1866, the Sioux Indians became dissatisfied at the great emigration, through their country, of parties attracted to Montana by the stories of wonderful gold discoveries in that territory. The route called the Powder river route was the popular one, and yet the one that the Indians objected to most seriously. This country, by the assignment of boundaries to the different tribes, by the Laramie treaty of 1851, was recognized as Sioux territory. It was true that