

his base. He scouted on several streams and in the valleys, assigning a part of his command, under Gen. Reynolds, to go in quest of the band of Crazy Horse. Agent Hastings had notified the authorities, on the 28th of January, where<sup>309</sup>/the village of this chief was, and hence Gen. Crook knew where it was situate. The village was at Bear Buttes, and the Indians were on their way to Red Cloud agency. A number of the Northern Cheyennes were with them. Crazy Horse had been there for some time, the weather being so cold that he could not, with safety, move his women and children. On the 17th of March, Gen. Reynolds attacked and destroyed the village, and captured about eight hundred ponies. The Indians were not aware of the presence of the troops until the attack was made. Crazy Horse recovered his herd the next day. Gen. Crook, in his report of the affair, expressed dissatisfaction at what he regarded as failures on the part of portions of the command to properly support the attack. A failure to make a vigorous and persistent attack with the whole command. A failure to secure the provisions which were captured, for the use of the troops, instead of destroying them. And most disastrous of all, a failure to secure and take care of the horses and ponies captured, nearly all of which again fell into the hands of the Indians the following morning." And he regarded a farther prosecution of the campaign, at this time, abortive, and his expedition returned to Fort Fetterman, on the 26th of March. This was rendered necessary by the inclemency of the weather. As Gen. Crook could not keep the field with his supply train, and his troops clothed for the occasion and the season, it does seem that Crazy Horse ought to have been excused for not