

Jan 2-1843

On the morning of the 2d instant I completed my arrangements, leaving a few enlisted men of each company, and the entire number of men of Company B, Eleventh Infantry, under command of First Lieut. C. F. Roe, Eleventh Infantry, behind, for the protection of the camp and agency.

At 11 o'clock a. m. I directed Capt. O. B. Read, Eleventh Infantry, with Company F, Eleventh Infantry (29 enlisted men), and detachments of Companies A, B, and E, Seventh Infantry, under immediate command of First Lieut. Charles A. Booth. Seventh Infantry (28 enlisted men), to proceed and take position about 3 miles below my camp, and to the east of the hostile villages, separated from the latter by the Missouri River. A 3-inch Rodman gun accompanied this command, and was served under the direction of Lieutenant Booth. During the engagement which took place later in the day, one shot was fired from this gun at the villages, after which I brought it across the river, and placed it in position with the main command, and in immediate vicinity of the largest village.

At 12 o'clock m I started with the main column in a southerly direction from my camp, timing my march so as strike the village simultaneously with the detachments under Captain Read. My command consisted of the battalion of the Fifth Infantry as follows: Company A, Second Lieut. E. S. Avis; Company B, First Lieut. T. M. and Second Lieut. C. A. Churchill; Company F, Capt. Simon Snyder; Company G, Capt. S. Ovenshine; also Company F, Seventh Cavalry, Capt. J. M. Bell (50 enlisted men); 1 enlisted scout, Joe Culbertson; 6 Indian scouts from Fort Keogh, (Mont, 10 of the agency Indian police; 3 Yanktonnais volunteers; 1 citizen volunteer (Mr. Jos. S. Culbertson); 1 citizen volunteer (Mr. Chas. S. Diehl). During the march and firing, Second Lieut. C. A. Churchill took temporary command of Company B, Fifth Infantry; Second Lieut. J. M. T. Partello, Fifth Infantry, and Dr. Sabin accompanied the expedition, the former as adjutant and the latter as medical officer.