

## TERRY'S ORDERS TO CUSTER

Passing now to the battle and events immediately preceding it, I will quote a few lines from Gen. Terry's written orders to Custer: "The Department Commander desires that on your way up the Rosebud you should thoroughly examine the upper part of Tulloch's Creek, and that you should endeavor to send a scout through to Colonel Gibbon's column, with information of the result of your examination." In Godfrey's first account, page 366 of the Century, he says; "....the scouts, who seemed to be doing their work thoroughly, giving special attention to the right, toward Tulloch's Creek, the valley of which was in general view from the divide. Once or twice signal smokes were reported in that direction." In the last printing he adds the words, "but investigation did not confirm the reports." On page 14 of the pamphlet he also adds a note that the "smoke puffs" supposedly seen, were cloudlets of mist formed during the night in the valleys, and wafted over the hilltops by the breeze. The statement that the scouts gave especial attention to the right, "towards Tulloch's Creek," has no foundation. Lieut. Varnum said (page 31, Journal) that in all his instructions from Custer in regard to scouting, he never even heard of Tulloch's Creek, and he reiterates the statement in letters. George Herendeen, one of Gibbon's scouts, was especially sent by the latter for the purpose of bringing the information to Gibbon set forth in Terry's order quoted, but when he rode to Custer, on the march and said to him "Here is where I leave you, General, the headwaters of Tulloch's is near," Custer merely looked at him, but neither gave him a dispatch nor even made reply. In both publications this was a gratuitous assumption by Godfrey in support of Custer, but like Fry, he strains the point to breaking, by the inference "that as there was nothing to report on Tulloch's Creek, no report was made." The reader is also referred to Lieut. Hare's statement, (page 31, Journal) "I had Herendeen with me on the morning of the 25th, and he went into the fight with me. No orders were given me to send him on any detached duty, although he told me that he had expected to carry dispatches." Much more similar testimony might be produced.

## GODFREY'S FAR-FETCHED STATEMENTS

We now come to the day of the battle, June 25, and at once discover changes, omissions