

Miles to Nicholson, Aug 4, 1876 (2)

~~Many~~ to the Agency sugar, coffee, arms, horses, and some scalps around which dances were kept up. I enclose herewith a diagram which will give some idea of the Custer fight from an Indian standpoint as related by these Indians who heard messengers relate the fight - the red line will indicate Custer's approach to the camp of about 50 Lodges on the Rose Bud who being apprised of his approach made a hasty march to the Little Big Horn going into camp at the extreme north end of the main Sioux & Cheyennes camp. Custer crossing the Rose Bud discovered the deserted camp and took the trail as indicated by the red line, attacking the last mentioned camp just before daylight killing some men women & children. The camp stampeding or retreating in the direction of the main camp and just at day break Custer came down on the camp with a charge but in the meantime his attack had been sounded throughout the entire camp & preparation had been made for his reception. So will be seen by the red line Custer led the charge from the Camp of 50 Lodges in the direction of the main village but was met with such a terrific fire from the Indians who had by this time gained superior advantage from the hills as to force him into and across a big "slough" or "bayou" (a point well known to all the northern Indians) in which many of his horses mired and sixty (60) of his men were killed in this "slough" & afterwards dragged out by the Indians stripped of all valuables and generally scalped. Custer then with the balance of his troops endeavored to cross the river