

Nez Perces campaign in the following autumn.

During the remainder of May and the early part of June the force under Colonel Miles, commanding the District of the Yellowstone, was increased by eleven troops of the Seventh Cavalry, four companies of <sup>69</sup>the First Infantry, and two of the Eleventh Infantry. A portion of these were sent to assist in the construction of the new post on the Big Horn (now Fort Custer), and field operations were continued by several separate columns from Colonel Miles' force.

One of these detachments, consisting of six companies of the Twenty-second Infantry, three companies of the First Infantry, and one troop of the Seventh Cavalry, under command of Maj. H. M. Hazelle, First Infantry, on June 16, left Tongue River, dropped down by boat to below the mouth of Powder River, marched thence beyond the Box Elder on the Upper Little Missouri, and struck the trail of Lamé Deer's band. This was followed nearly to Sentinel Buttes, the advance overtaking and skirmishing with a part of the band.

A second detachment, consisting of three troops of the Second Cavalry and one piece of artillery, was sent by boat from Tongue River to Glendive, July 2, with orders to march towards the Little Missouri and to try to intercept the Indians pursued by Major Hazelle. The two forces united on the Yellowstone about July 18, and the three troops of the Second Cavalry, re-enforced by three companies, A, H, and I, Fifth Infantry, mounted, were placed under command of Maj. J. S. Brisbin, Second Cavalry. These two commands moved across the Little Missouri, following the trail of the Indians up that stream to Short Pine Hills. Major Hazelle's force then returned with the wagons to Wolf Rapids and subsequently to Tongue River, arriving there about the end of August. Brisbin's column, with pack animals, continued the pursuit of the Indians across the Little Powder River, then to the main Powder