

On July 17, the advance guard of Colonel Miles' column, consisting of a troop of the Second Cavalry, a company of the Fifth Infantry, and about fifty Indian scouts, commanded by Lieutenant Clark, Second Cavalry, had a sharp fight with from three to four hundred Indians, between Beaver and Frenchmen's Creeks; the Indians were pursued for twelve miles, when the advance became surrounded; Colonel Miles moved forward rapidly and the hostiles fled north of Milk River. Several of the enemy were killed and a large amount of their property abandoned; two enlisted men and one Indian scout were wounded, and three Indian scouts killed. Sitting Bull himself was present in this engagement.

On July 31, Colonel Miles reported that the main hostile camp had retreated north, across the boundary, to Wood Mountain; the column followed and halted on the main trail at the British line, whence it returned to Milk River.

Attention was then turned to the camps of the half-breeds which had formed a cordon of outposts around the main hostile camp, furnishing the latter with the supplies of war. On August 4, Captain Uveshine, Fifth Infantry, with a portion of Colonel Miles' command, arrested a band of half-breeds on Porcupine Creek, capturing one hundred and forty-three carts and one hundred and ninety-three horses. On August 5, four camps of half-breeds were arrested, numbering three hundred and eight carts. On August 8, Colonel Miles reported the total number of half-breeds arrested by various detachments eight hundred and twenty-nine, with six hundred and sixty-five carts.

On August 14, Lieutenant-Colonel Whistler, Fifth Infantry, with part/ ⁸⁸ of Colonel Miles' command, captured a band of fifty-seven Indians with one hundred ponies, who had left the Rosebud Agency and were in the act of crossing the Missouri, near Poplar Creek, on their way to join Sitting Bull in the north.