

And another ruse had been arranged. Two roads ran from Yates to the Grand River villages. They were parallel to each other and four miles apart. It could not be sure which one Buffalo Bill would take. A man was therefore sent out on each of these roads several hours before Colonel Cody's departure, with confidential instructions. One of these men was met about twenty-five miles out by Cody's party. The man, a half-breed who spoke English, was apparently coming in from Sitting Bull's village on Grand River. He greeted the party and asked them casually which way they were bound for.

"Oh we are just going down to make old Bull a visit," Colonel Cody answered.

"No use going down there to see him," the half-breed replied "old Bull is on his way to the agency at this minute on the other road."

They parleyed a little more and Colonel Cody convinced himself that that the half-breed knew what he was talking about, and then turned round and started back for Yates with his party.

Meantime the message arrived which Colonel Drum and Major McLaughlin were hoping for and anxiously expecting from Washington, directing that Colonel Cody be recalled. A few minutes after Colonel Cody started back he was met by an Indian Courier riding at full speed and was handed a copy of the message. Colonel Cody and his party drove on back to Yates and a few hours afterward set out for the railway station at Mandan, and the incident was closed.