

he had sent for me to tell me these things himself, and assure me that I need have no fears for ⁶² / my own safety, as far as he was concerned. It was his turn to be surprised, when I told him how I had heard all about it before I got to the camp, and when I mentioned the name of Black Bull, as being the one who brought me the dispatch, he gnashed his teeth as he said, "Only for him, I would have got the real offender."

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CHAPTER VII

Start for Fort Buford with the entire camp; A graphic description of Indians on the march; I narrowly escape an encounter with a desperate savage; Leave the Indians in the midst of buffalo, and return to Buford with three delegates from Sitting Bull.

Early the next morning found us moving toward the Missouri River; Black Bull and the others having returned from the Trading Post during the night.

Having barely horses enough to pack their effects, nearly all the able bodied warriors and squaws were afoot. The order of march being, First, three mounted warriors, who moved out about one hour in advance of the main body of warriors, one keeping to the proposed line of march, the other two acting as flankers, observing a distance of about one mile from the center guide; next in line of march, and immediately preceding the main body, were ⁶⁴ / about fifty warriors afoot, and armed for action, who moved, however, without any more display of military order than would a herd of so