

to take flight." This foray of the Indians was made by Yellow Eagle, a sub-chief under Red Cloud. "It was a close call for all, but Lieutenants Grummond and Bingham were yet unaccounted for, as well as Sergeant Powers; all of whom had been separated from their command while chasing some scattered Indians. Search was instituted for them, Lieutenant Bingham was found dead. Sergeant Powers had been fearfully wounded, and scalped; he was still alive but died immediately. He had killed three Indians/before he was overborne. Five others were wounded; Grummond was rescued after a hand to hand fight with the enemy." This will serve as an example of the character of the warfare which was carried on during this period. There had been, previous to this, affairs which reached the dignity of engagements on July 17th, July 20th, August 9th, September 10th and 16th, at Fort Phil Kearney and September 13th and 16th between Pino Creek and Fort Phil Kearney, September 21st on the Little Horn, September 29th near the fort, October 6th and again following this on December 19th before the great culminating battle. During all of this period the public had no conception of the condition of affairs in the Big Horn country. The peace commission had reported that they had made satisfactory treaties and that there were only a few of the recalcitrants who had refused to sign and had made trouble. On the 8th of December, two days after the affair at Goose Creek, just described, the president in his annual message to congress felicitated the people that all was peace in the northwest. Previous to this about 150 men had been detached from Fort Kearney to build C. F. Smith, about ninety miles up the Montana trail, leaving a total available force of soldiers, teamsters, citizens and employes of 350 men at Fort Phil Kearney. It will be difficult to approximate the number of Indians in the vicinity. Red Cloud had been joined in the autumn by recruits from all of the Teton bands and the Yanktonais. Inkpaduta, Black Moon, Gall, and Sitting Bull were already with him. In addition to the entire force of the Cheyennes under Roman Nose and Medicine Man, the northern Arapahoos having strength of about 125 lodges, under Little Chief and Sorrel Horse, had joined in the effort to keep the soldiers and travelers out of the buffalo country. It is