

of government, and because I also learn that since the arrival there of Governor Green Clay Smith, he also has retained in service these volunteers, and has brought about a conflict with the Crows and other Indians outside of the settled limits of the Territory, when he knew that the government desired very much to retain peaceful relations with them.

About the same time, viz, May, 1867, the Indians, both from the north and south, began a systematic attack upon the Platte route. General Augur, within whose department this route lies, was present person and most active, doing all that was possible with the regular troops at his disposal. But being personally charged with the responsibility of calling out volunteers in case of necessity, and also advised of the great desire of the War Department to avoid a general Indian war, I repaired in person to Omaha, and accompanied General Augur to Fort Sedgwick, where, or in its vicinity, I remained from the 6th to the 22d of June, having previously ordered six companies of the seventh cavalry, under General Custer, from the Smoky Hill to the Platte. Governor Hunt, of Colorado, had also telegraphed to the Secretary of War concerning the dangers that threatened his Territory. His message was transmitted to me also by the Secretary of War, with a similar caution as in the case of Montana. I answered Governor Hunt under date of May 29, 1867: "There is no law to pay for volunteers, but you ought to raise a regiment of 500 men, and have them ready in case I call for them." After reaching Fort Sedgwick I had a very full correspondence with Governor Hunt, and in a despatch of June 6 I used this language: "It is barely possible the Cheyenne camp, stampeded by Hancock on Pawnee fork, is now on the Republican, south of this. General Custer may strike them in coming across; but if you will start four companies of 300 men from Denver at once, say to-morrow, for the head of the Republican, to scour it eastward as far as this, and then come in here, I will have General Potter to muster them in for two months, which will entitle them to pay for selves and horses as soon as Congress can appropriate the money. I will replace any arms or ammunition you may borrow for the time being, and will supply the command on its arrival with rations for selves and horses. This is the best I can do now, but it must be done at once." The Governor found it impossible to buy horses for these volunteers, and I had no right to buy them, so that the project was dropped, and no volunteers have been raised in Colorado, and I know of no money claims being entertained as growing out of recent Indian hostilities there.