

to the been attacked, and in some cases destroyed; occurrences of this kind have, however, during the present year been less frequent than they ordinarily have been; nothing which has happened within the Ter during this spring and summer, in my judgement, justified the alarm which was felt. The point which was supposed to be most exposed to attack was the valley of the Gallatin river, a very valuable and important part of the ter, inhabited by a purely agricultural people numbering four or five thousand souls. The mountain range lying east of this valley is an Ind frontier line, which should be guarded by a military post; such post is demanded and justified by the importance of the valley, and by the fact that its inhabitants being agriculturists, living dispersed on farms, and having their families with them, are far less capable of protecting themselves than are the inhabitants of the mining regions. That great alarm was honestly felt by the people of this valley, I am satisfied; many of them left their farms untilled, and repaired to the town or places of safety. Many others made preparations for leaving their homes, but, as I have said before, nothing which happened within the Ter justified this alarm, and but for occurrences elsewhere it would ~~xxxxxx~~ not have been felt. The massacre at Ft Phil. Kearney, and the Ind hostilities on the Platte and the Smoky Hill route, had inflamed the public mind, and when Bozeman, a well known citizen, was killed on the road from Gallatin City to Ft C F Smith, an undue excitement was produced. Using my best judgement upon the matter, I have failed to satisfy myself that it was necessary to call out the militia; I have been unable to ascertain positive facts to justify it;

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Until such time as the civil authorities may, by the estab. of courts of justice and otherwise, secure the legal rights of the people and public corporations in the country under your control, he wishes you to protect the legal rights of the Union Pac. R.R. Co. from infringement, and secure the their property from illegal seizure and occupation.

The affair at Ft Phil Kearney, on the 21st Dec. preceeding, had made it necessary to strenthen the garrisons of some of the posts in that vicinity. This had been done by my predecessor, and the re-enforcements had reached their destinations about the time of my arrival. The supplies for these post had been regulated on the basis of the ~~xx~~ then existing garrisons, and of course additional supplies had to be sent to them. This, in mid-winter, was as expensive, difficult, and perilous task, and involved a great loss of animals and ~~makis~~ material, and great suffering with everything but fresh beef and vegetables. The former was run off by Ind, and, with the vegetables, could not be replaced that season. There was, in consequence, some suffering and a few deaths from scurvy.

The 13th inf, which had been ordered to this dept early in Jan, I found en route to Ft Laramie, suffering greatly from the severity of the weather. As there were no quarters for them at Laramie, or in fact any point in the dept, and as there seemed to be no present necessity for their services above, I determined to stop them at the first point where they could be supplied. This was Ft Sedgwick. The regiment went into camp there,