

brought with them a prisoner they had captured, who stated that when he left the camp of Crazy Horse, Sitting Bull had moved south and having met some troops on his way down he had made peace with the commanding officer, the conditions of which were that they should have a reservation for themselves on the Belle Fourche, and that in the meantime they were to be allowed to hunt buffalo 'till spring.

It was also evident that both Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse were unloading as far as they could with a view of tiding themselves through 'till next spring and I resolved to move against the latter chief at once.

After leaving Reno another of our scouts, Sitting Bear, came in and reported that five lodges from the agencies who were moving over to join the Cheyennes reported to be in the Big Horn Mountains, had discovered us and fled towards the camp of Crazy Horse. This then changed my plan and I determined to attack the Cheyennes village first and with this view sent out Col. MacKenzie 4th Cavalry, with the cavalry of the command and the Indian Allies.

Colonel MacKenzie executed this movement with energy and skill attacking their village on the morning of the 25th of November, capturing and destroying it with all its contents; killing about twenty warriors and capturing about 500 head of ponies, with a loss on his part of one officer and five enlisted men killed, and twenty-six enlisted men wounded. For details of the movement see copy of Col. MacKenzie's report enclosed.