

could escape to the north. The "Sand Hills" form certainly the worst country I have ever seen, they are worse than the worst of Arizona, although there is of course no such great heat to be encountered, at least at this season.

To pursue the Cheyennes in such a country and under the unfavorable circumstances of our march was just exactly what the Cheyennes wanted us to do. Our horses loaded down with (5) five days rations were no match for the fleet ponies and spare horses, of which judging from the trail I saw on the North Platte, each Indian must have had two (2) or (3) three. Whenever the Indians came to a grassy hill or plain, they scattered like quail and impeded our progress a great deal by the difficulty occasioned in finding again the directions of their retreat.

Very Respectfully  
Your obedient servant  
John G. Bourke  
1 Lieut 3rd Cavalry  
Aide - de - camp.

Official for file  
Wm. D. Whipple  
Asst Adj. Genl.

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Sidney, Neb. Oct 16/78

Clark, Ben  
Interpreter,

Reports information received from two Cheyennes captured on Snake Creek in regard to band of that tribe who have escaped and gone north.

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Copy to Adj. and to CG Depts. Mo. and Dakota Oct 19, 78

Sidney, Neb. Oct 16th 1878

Gen Whipple

Sir:

A Cheyenne Squaw and her Son aged about 16 years were captured on Snake Ck by some herders and were brought in here last night and turned over to me. Their ponies became tired and they were left behind at South Platte and followed the trail to near Snake Cr where they were taken. They report 15 killed in the fight up to the time they became separated, also that over one half of the party were men. A few Southern Cheyennes were with them. The leaders were Dull Knife Little Wolf "Hog