

Headqrs. Battalion 3 Cavalry  
Camp near Camp Robinson Neb.  
October 16, 1878

Assistant Adjutant General  
Department of the Platte  
Omaha, Barracks, Neb.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that your telegrams dated September 28th & 29th were received, directing that his command be prepared to march at a moments notice rapidly and far.

Your telegram of the 3d instant directing that it be moved "in the direction of Clark's bridge on the Sidney road at once," and that I "report compliance" was received at 7 oclock on the evening of the 3d. At a quarter of ten same evening the command moved from camp marching down the Sidney road in the direction of Clark's bridge. Some little delay was caused by packing in the dark and some articles lost on the march from the same reason. Marched 4.9 miles to Snake Creek ranche and pushed forward a small party to Clarks bridge to obtain information. In the vicinity of Snake Creek ranche received notice that the Cheyennes had crossed the U.P. road near Ogallalla. The guides with me judged from the Point where the Indians crossed that they would take a northerly course. The command therefore moved in a direction slightly North of East with a view of intercepting them, before they reached the Camp of the Sioux Indian. Couriers were left at Snake Creek Ranche to bring up any information that might arrive there. Several Cowboys were engaged at that point with the understanding that they were to be rationed by us, and would receive pay in the event of their giving us any important information. These men were put out on the flank (to the South) on our march eastward. We marched down Snake Creek twelve miles east of Sidney road where the Creek disappears by sucking in the ground. After marching thirty miles we struck an alkali pool in the Sand hills. At that point commenced leaving rear parties at various points to follow on afterwards at intervals to bring us information. Also kept parties 10 or 15 miles in advance to examine the country and obtain information. Resumed the same general course, the main column marching the next day 45 miles the last 30 without water and made a dry camp. The advance company had marched 15 miles further and made a dry camp. Also the guides were lost and