

On the morning of the 17th at 5 A.M., broke Camp, and started out to search the country east of me, to get the trail if possible or find Capt. Reudlebroke (about five miles from this ranche. I buried one of Collors herders. After burying this man I saw another party of five or six Indians, and was trying to get them, when two of Dreskill's herders came to me and reported that Draskill's Ranche had been raided at sunrise. I immediately started for that point distant about 12 miles, On Day Creek. Upon arriving there, I looked up the trail and followed it, till it was too dark to see the trail. I dismounted, leaving the saddles on the horse during the night. I sent a courier to Lt. Col. Lewis informing him of the direction in which the Indians were going. At day break the 18th, I looked up the trail and followed it at a trot when ever the nature of the country would admit of it until about 9 or 10 A.M. when I found the Indians in force in the brakes of Sand Creek. I tried to draw them out, but did not succeed., and as I could not get, (after taking out my guard for the pack mules, and No. 4's to hold the horses) over 30 or 32 men to fight over one hundred (100) Indians I withdrew, but not before having a skirmish with them lasting about an hour, they having the advantage of the ground. In this skirmish, I had no man wounded, and two horses shot. I then marched to Bluff Creek, where I remained until night, when I started into Fort Dodge, arriving there at 3 A.M. the following morning. I reported to Col. Lewis, who said he would keep me there, as he had orders from Dept. Head. Qrs. to hold all troops coming to his Post. About 8 or 9 A.M. the same morning, Captain Morse, of the 16th Infantry, with his company, reported to Col. Lewis for duty, and after a conversation between Col. Lewis, Mr. Day and Mr. Skeedy, citizens, he (Col. Lewis) concluded to send Captain Morse with his company and mine, with what cattle men and herders (some fifty or seventy five, who had received arms and ammunition from the Governor of Kansas,) to Cimmaron Station, about 20 miles west of Dodge on the A.T. and S.F.R.R. Left Dodge at 2 P.M. the 19th for the R.R. Left R.R. on the 20th and marched 35 or 40 miles going south, camped on Crooked Creek, for the night. Left Camp the morning of the 21st, for Sand Creek, where