

continued

into the bluffs on my left without orders.

Question What was the most advanced line held by our troops with reference to the Indians line of rifle pits?

Answer We occupied one crest overlooking a ravine, the Indians occupied the opposite one. The distance was not over 300 yards.

Question Had the command not been withdrawn that night, could it have held the Indians in position?

Answer Yes, we had them surrounded. Capt. Hemphill afterwards said that when he made this reply, he had not understood the position of the Indians and the nature of the ground. Since then he had seen a map of the ground prepared by Capt. Wedemeyer. He is now of the opinion that the troops did not occupy a position which could have prevented the escape of the Indians.

Hatch
Lt. Col. 4th Cav.

4840 A.A.C.O. 3 Dept. of the Mo. 1878

Headquarters,
Fort Dodge, Kas.
Sept. 29, 1878

Post Commander

Transmits Copy of Report
of Capt. Morse of operations of his
Command in the field.

File -

Seen by Department Commander.

10/2/1878

E. N. Platt, AAGenl.