

## A BLOODY CAMPAIGN

OF Indian Warfare Now Certain, and Likely to Last Through the Winter.

## ORDER AND PLUNDERING

Mark the Path of the Vicious Savages, Who Are Headed For the Bad Lands.

## A CATHOLIC MISSION WAS BURNED

And the Good Priest Killed, Yesterday, by the Blood-Thirsty Redskins, Who Had Formerly Held Him in Esteem.

## THE WARLIKE SPIRIT FULLY AROUSED

And the Young Bucks, or Fighting Men of the Supposed Friends, Are All With the Hostiles Now.

## THE NEBRASKA STATE GUARD IS CALLED OUT

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH: RUSHVILLE, Dec. 31.—The last faint hope that the Indian troubles would be settled without further bloodshed has departed, and there seems nothing left but a war of extermination. This apparently means a prolonged and bloody winter campaign, as for every hostile who bites the dust, two spring from the ground to take his place, and practically every one of the supposed friends who can pull a trigger is now upon the warpath.

Already there has been another battle, or rather a succession of them, for the firing in the vicinity of the Pine Ridge Agency is now almost continuous. One of the encounters, however, deserves to be ranked with anything in the annals of Indian warfare, and the balance of the Seventh Cavalry very narrowly escaped the fate which befell those of that regiment who went out with the gallant Custer, never to return.

A Catholic Mission Burned.

For an hour or so there had been a lull in the firing in the immediate neighborhood of the main agency building, and the tired troopers were snatching a little rest, when a courier rushed in with the startling news that the Catholic Mission building, on Clay creek, where there usually are a number of Catholic priests and Sisters and hundreds of children, was surrounded by hostiles and had been set on fire. Instantly the order to fire was given, and the Seventh Cavalry, with a couple of Hotchkiss guns, started on a gallop for the mission.

An Influential Priest Killed.

As the troops approached the Indians drew off about a mile, after firing one of the buildings. During the melee Father Cracraft, a Catholic priest who has hitherto had considerable influence among the reds, was killed. He was the only white person in the mission school at the time, the others being the Indian children, who, of course, were not molested by the warriors. The Indians, who were variously estimated at 1,300 to 2,000 strong, did not retreat far, but made a stand in the hillocks about a mile from the mission. Little Wound and Two Strike were in command of the braves, and managed their forces with consummate adroitness.

The evident intention was to draw the cavalry into the hills and ravines, and surround and massacre the Entire Regiment.

To this end the main body of the reds remained concealed, while a band of a hundred or more, mounted upon fleet ponies, dashed toward the troops, firing and yelling, and then make a leat at falling back.

Colonel Forsythe, however, refused to venture farther, and the reds became bolder. Concealed behind their ponies, with nothing but a foot and arm showing, they would dash all around the troops, pouring in a constant, although scattering fire. The soldiers replied, and several ponies were seen to fall, but whether any of the braves were killed is not known, as the Indians held the ground.

With blood-curdling screams the ambuscade was then unmasks, and hundreds of Indians poured out upon the plains. In a very short space of time the regiment was almost entirely surrounded. Just at this moment, however, and before the chiefs had made up their minds to order a charge, the Ninth Cavalry bugles were heard, and shortly after the head of the column made its appearance, under Colonel Henry.

The Troops Retreated Safely.

The Indians at once broke, and though the desultory skirmishing continued, made no further attempt to cut off the retreat, which was safely in safety. Had it not been for the wholesome fear which the hostiles have for the Hotchkiss machine guns the results might have been even more serious.

Two Strike, Little Wound, Short Bell and other chieftains ran away from the agency Monday night, after hearing of the Wounded Knee creek fight, taking with them hundreds of warriors. They also compelled the old chief, Red Cloud, to accompany them, under threat of death. It was these Indians who located the supply train and raided the school.

It has been ascertained that the supposedly large camp of friends, located south of the agency, is made up almost entirely of old men, squaws and children. The question is what became of the large number of friendly bucks located there until yesterday.

Supposed Friends Join the Hostiles.

half-breed courier who was through camp last night reports that nearly

every able bodied Indian in this friendly outfit had quietly slipped away after dark and joined the hostile forces. Friendly Indians at Pine Ridge, now, he says, are principally squaws, and those not able to fight.

That further fights will occur there is no doubt. If the Indians should make an onslaught during the storm they would undoubtedly have a great advantage. The danger is now that they will break away to strongholds in the Bad Lands and will be reinforced by Rosebud, Standing Rock, and other Indians. Signal lights are burned at night from every hilltop, and the situation is becoming more serious with each passing hour.

## MANY SQUAWS KILLED.

## ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF THE FIRST TERRIBLE ENCOUNTER.

The Battle Lasted About Two Hours, and at the Close of the Field Presented a Sad Spectacle—The Work of the Hotchkiss Machine Guns.

OMAHA, NEB., Dec. 31.—The Bee has still another account of the first battle between the soldiers and Indians. According to the latest advices the firing did not cease entirely until 11 o'clock, and continued about two hours. The hot part of the struggle, however, lasted about 30 minutes. The wind-up presented a strange scene, with the battery of three Hotchkiss cannons surrounded by a hasty improvised breast-work of sacks of grain and boxes of provisions, behind which were gathered 200 of the cavalry firing at those of the daring Indians, who, as by a miracle, had escaped from the open triangle of cavalry men, and were making for the gullies and draws which cut up a plain that separated them from the foot hills to the west.

This recommendation of General Miles stated at length his reasons for recommending such a radical change of administration as this, and forwarded his letter to the War Department for approval. It was endorsed by General Schofield, and was submitted to the Cabinet meeting to-day, accompanied by a war letter of recommendation from Secretary Proctor. The President accepted the matter, and Secretary Noble at once antagonized the change proposed by General Miles. He regarded it as little short of impertinent for any army officer to suggest that the Interior Department was not capable of exercising proper control of the agencies and indigenously situated Indians. He also urged that General Schofield and Secretary Proctor.

Miles' speech made a point of order against the resolution, and a sharp debate ensued, which was not finished when the morning hour expired and the matter went over without action.

The Senate then resumed consideration of the elections bill and was addressed by Mr. George in opposition to it. At 12 o'clock Mr. H. M. Tracy adjourned the session.

Mr. Tracy moved to adjourn the session.

After a somewhat heated discussion,

the President decided that General Noble was right, and the subject was dropped.

This was the week of the opposition.

The Republicans could not muster a quorum;

they could meet only for the purpose of giving the Democrats a chance to talk. It might seem rather ungracious for any Senator to find fault with the delay of the bill at this time, when everyone knew that no progress could be made, but it was possible the bad weather had something to do with the bad tempers of the Senators.

The Senator intimated that the friends of the Indians were not to be blamed for the lack of progress in the legislation.

The Senator intimated that the strength care fully and that they had no doubt of their ultimate victory.

In the Senate to-day Mr. Morgan asked the Vice President to lay before the Senate the resolution heretofore offered by him, instructing the Committee on Privileges and Elections to report as to the contents and meaning of the bill.

Mr. Sherman made a point of order against the resolution, and a sharp debate ensued, which was not finished when the morning hour expired and the matter went over without action.

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