

cy a large number of Indians left; others, under Red Cloud, determined to stay with General Brooke. A camp of friendlies, within sight of the agency, was burned just before sundown, and it is supposed the inhabitants massacred.

CAPTAIN WALLACE TOMAHAWKED.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 29.—The *State Journal* has from its special correspondent the following story of the fight between the troops and Big Foot's Indians at the camp at Wounded Knee:

At 8 o'clock this morning the troops were massed about the Indian village with Hotchkiss guns overlooking the camp not fifty yards away. Colonel Forsythe ordered all the Indians to come forward away from the tents. They came and sat in a half circle until counted. Dis-mounted troops were then thrown around them, Company K, Captain Wallace, and Company B, Captain Varnum.

#### AN ORDER

was then given to twenty Indians to go and get their guns. They returned with only two guns. A detachment of troops at once began to search the village, finding thirty-eight guns. As this task was about completed, the Indians surrounded by Company K and B began to move. All of a sudden they threw their blankets to the ground, whipped up rifles and began firing rapidly at the troops not twenty feet away. The troops were at a great disadvantage, fearing that they would wound their own comrades.

The Indian men, women and children then ran to the south, the battery firing rapidly as they ran. Soon mounted troops were after them, shooting them down on every hand. The engagement lasted fully an hour and a half. Many took refuge in a ravine, from which it was difficult to dislodge them.

I should estimate the killed and wounded, from what I saw on the field and vicinity, at fifty. Just now it is impossible to state the exact number, as the soldiers are shooting them down wherever found. The field was a scene of great confusion, with horses running in every direction and the men for a few moments were frantic, owing to the unfortunate way they were placed.

Captain Wallace of K troop was the only officer killed. In the first mad rush of the Indians those of them who had not guns attacked the troopers with knives, clubs and tomahawks, and poor Captain Wallace was struck down with a blow from a hatchet on the head. Father Croft, a Catholic missionary, received a bullet wound, which will probably result fatally. Lieutenant Darlington of Arctic exploration fame received a serious wound in the arm.

A number of non-commissioned officers and privates were wounded, probably twenty-five or thirty in all. Several of these are likely to die. I cannot at this time give the names of all the wounded. As this dispatch is being written

#### THE TROOPS

are still pursuing the Indians in every direction.

The correspondent says the Indians must have been mad to have attacked the number of soldiers who were gathered about them, there being only 120 bucks. The treacherous deed, coming at the time it did, was a surprise, and the doubts if any of the Indians will be left alive to tell the tale when the soldiers get through the day's work. The members of the Seventh Cavalry have once more shown themselves heroes in deeds of daring. Single conflicts of great bravery were seen all over the field.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—The rumor received in the city this afternoon that a serious fight had occurred when the troops tried to disarm Big Foot's band is confirmed by receipt of the following by Colonel Corbin from General Miles at a late hour tonight.

RAPID CITY, S. D., Dec. 28.—Colonel Forsythe reports that while disarming Big Foot's band a fight occurred. Captain Wallace and five soldiers were killed. Lieutenant Darlington and fifteen men were wounded. This again complicates the surrender of all the Indians, which would have taken place in a short time had not this occurred. Forsythe had two battalions and a Hotchkiss gun. Quite a number of young warriors have been away from camp that were going to the Bad Lands; also quite a number of Two Strike's band are going toward Forsythe. The troops are in close proximity. Signed: MILES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Official dispatches from General Miles, dated Rapid City, S. D., were received tonight by General Schofield telling of a fight in the Bad Lands today. The first was:

Whiteside had four troops of cavalry and held the Indians till Forsythe reached him with four more troops last night. At 8:30 this morning, while disarming the Indians, a fight commenced. I think very few Indians have escaped. I think we will have this matter in hand soon, as all are in position. There was no precaution omitted. The fight occurred, near the head of Wounded Knee Creek. I have just seen many of the Indians who went out toward Forsythe this morning come back.

The next dispatch says: General Brooke telegraphs:

Forsythe reports that while disarming Big Foot's band this morning a fight occurred. Captain Wallace and five soldiers were killed. Lieutenant Darlington and fifteen men are wounded. The Indians are being hunted up in all directions. None are known to have gotten their ponies.

General Brooke also reports that many young warriors that were going out from camp in the Bad Lands to the agency have gone toward Forsythe. All the troops have been notified.

A later dispatch says:

General Brooke reports that two shots were fired near the agency (Pine Ridge) by some one later in the day, and several shots were fired in return. Quite a large number of Two Strike's band ran away, and all the agency are generally excited. All this makes matters look more serious.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—An *Omaha Bee* special from Rushville says—At daybreak this morning thirty Indians belonging to Two Strike's band tried to capture a pro-

vision train of the Ninth Cavalry, two miles from Pine Ridge. The Indians were all killed. People are flocking into town by hundreds from the territory bordering on the reservation.

OMAHA, Dec. 30.—Colonel Forsythe reached Pine Ridge Agency this morning with the Seventh Cavalry and the surviving prisoners. He reports that twenty-five of his men were killed and thirty-four wounded.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 30.—A dispatch to the *Bee* from its special correspondent regarding yesterday's battle says the Indians waited until the dismounted men were gathered in a group about the tepees searching for arms, and then suddenly, without warning, threw down their blankets and poured in volleys from their rifles. The fact that the soldiers were grouped in a compact body is explainable of the great execution done by the Indians' bullets.

It did not take the troops but a moment, however, to recover from their surprise. Maddened by the sight of their comrades lying dead and dying on the ground, the soldiers poured in a fire with frightful effect. Through the cloud of smoke a buck could be seen here and there running, but there were not many of them. They were pursued and most of them brought to a stop with bullets.

The wounded Indians lying on the battle fought like fiends. They continued shooting until killed or their ammunition was exhausted. There were many single-handed ferocious combats between the wounded soldiers and the Indians. After the first few minutes, when the Gatling and Hotchkiss guns could be used, they were turned loose on such fugitives as were flying down the ravines.

It was a war of extermination now with the troopers. It was difficult to restrain them and tactics were almost abandoned. About the only tactic was to kill while it could be done. Wherever an Indian could be seen the firing was directed, and so it went on until not a live buck was in sight.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 30.—A special from Pine Ridge Agency about the skirmish this morning says: The Seventh and Ninth cavalry were returning from the scene of yesterday's battle, followed at some distance from a wagon train. About four miles from the agency and just before daylight a band of Indians, headed by Two Strike, dashed at the train with the intention of rushing it off to the Bad Lands. The cavalry quickly returned, however, and a sharp running fight followed, in which it is estimated twenty or thirty Indians were wounded more or less seriously. One soldier was killed and two wounded.

The sudden outbreak of the Two Strikes' men followed the receipt of the news of yesterday's fighting, and there is considerable apprehension lest many of the supposed friendlies follow their example. General Brooke, however, is quite sure that no more will run away. It is understood, also, that the