

Article

No 2

Subject
Key West Indians
"An Indian Bottle"

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Among the Nez Percés.

AN INDIAN BATTLE.

On the 11th and 12th of July 1877, in the territory of Idaho, ~~took place~~ the battle of the Clear-Water ^{was fought.}

Take ~~a good~~ ^{the} map of the country and find Lewiston, which is situated at the junction of the Clear-Water with the almost interminable Snake; then, let the eye run easterly a distant ^{or} equivalent to nearly seventy miles till it crosses the South Branch of the Clear-Water; there, due north from the village of Mount Idaho, you reach a rough, uninhabited plateau.

That plateau was the battle-ground. There, between a dry ~~cross~~ cañon and the Branch, occurred the fierce combat, ~~just mentioned~~, between some five hundred Nez Percés ~~warriors~~ and about the same number of United States troops.

The young chieftain, usually called Nez Percé Joseph, led the Indians, while Gen. Howard commanded the government forces.

This battle ~~lasted a great part of~~ ^{continued nearly two} days. After Gen. Howard's final success a long chase ensued, the white men pursuing the indians for over a thousand miles, from the Clear-Water to Bearpaw Mountain beyond the Missouri River.

The story of such a struggle as this, which records what actually took place, ~~the writer thinks~~ ^{maybe emphasized, for it} pleads for peace.

Certainly, ^{as elsewhere} all the after-battle scenes ^{were strong} ~~terrible~~ protests against ^{the arbitrament of} war.

Note - the official estimate reported ³⁰⁰ provided by subsequent information to be less small

Showing the Negro Process.

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Still before the trouble ^{begin in order} ~~begins~~ to keep amity between two parties, ^{the} ~~there~~ ^{should have been} ~~must be~~ justice and good-will on both sides.

This was not the case between the white people and the non-treaty Nez Perces. ^{there was a} ~~A~~ quarrel of long duration ^{which} at last led to war.

~~Before describing the battle, to give a clear idea of the situation,~~ ^{with a view} ~~a few explanatory statements are necessary.~~ Though the Nez Perces

had never before had a war with the white men, boasting of never having shed a white mans blood, they had frequently waged contests with more eastern tribes; and they were accustomed also to all the hardships of long journeys to and from the buffalo country, whither every year in former times expeditions had ^{been made} ~~set out~~.

They were superb horsemen. ~~They~~ ^{like shepherd dogs} practiced constantly at manly games with and with out their ponies. they so trained these ponies that they ^{their owners} ~~their owners~~ ^{like} would understand and obey ~~them~~ like shepherd dogs? An indian having his lariat attached to his horses bridle or underjaw, would ride up a hill, stop short of the crest, ~~dismount~~, throw the loose end of his lariat ~~on~~ ^{convenient} on the ground, leave the horse there, and run with his rifle to some tree or log. At any sudden noise a white soldier is apt to spring to his feet, ^{more quiet} but the indian keeps ~~still~~ and remains concealed till he gets a good shot at his game, be it ~~either~~ man or beast.

If danger to him is imminent he runs back to his faithful horse, who ever waits for him, catches up the lariat and springs to the saddle. The trained animal does not dissappoint him by ~~a~~ sudden terror or flight.

Though the "tamed" pony might show a stranger no good turn, he is ~~and~~ ^{and loyal} docile to his own indian master.

Such were these indian horsemen, probably the best mounted skirmishers ^{at the commencement of the Nez Percé war.} in the world. They had courage, endurance, suppleness, skill, knowledge of the country, and almost as much discipline as our trained soldiers. We excelled them only in our knowledge of actual warfare and in our Anglo-Saxon persistency.

The ~~war~~ war began in a series of ~~small~~ massacres, which the indians committed in the region around Mount Idaho. The white women and children, who were wounded ~~but not fatally~~ ^{but not fatally,} in the outbreak were gathered into that stricken village. Joseph at the same time ~~near by~~ in the low ground off the Whitebird canon, assembled all the indians who would join in the war. His men were ^{then variously} ~~variously~~ estimated to number from three to seven hundred. Gen. Howard, ~~being~~ ^{forward} providentially at Lapwai when the first news came, sent ^{forward} under Col. Perry, all the available force stationed there, that is to say, two troops of Cavalry, with instructions to check the hostiles and stop the murders. Meanwhile ^{the} ~~with~~ ^{speedily} intention to follow, he himself was hastily bringing together at Lapwai from the ~~the~~ various posts the soldiers of his Department. Perry had but ninety men. He made a forced march through Grangeville to the Whitebird canon, attacked the indians at once, but suffered a mortifying defeat. He lost in the fight ^{and retreat} over a third of his men, killed outright; of those hit only the slightly wounded escaped death;

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for at this time the indians ^{were killing their} ~~killed~~ all prisoners.

As soon as Gen. Howard had collected a ^{sufficient} ~~force near in numbers to the~~ ^{the General} ~~hostiles~~, he marched against them, drove Joseph down ^{Creek} ~~the~~ Whitebird and

forced him to cross to the west side of the Salmon River. Then with considerable difficulty he crossed his own command into ^{that the same} ~~that~~ country between the Salmon and the Snake, which is ^{as} ~~rough~~ and rugged as Switzerland, and immediately ^{set himself to} ~~followed~~ the indians' trail.

They had hurried down the left bank ^{of the Salmon,} ~~over the~~ mountainous crags, towards the mouth of ^{that} ~~the~~ swift river, and recrossed ^{without hesitation} ~~without delay~~ ^{The} ~~that~~ mad stream at Craig's Ferry. Our troops, unlike the indians ^{who} ~~swimming~~

their plucky ponies and dragging their skin-rafts after them, were ^{obliged to} ~~here delayed~~ for two or three days attempting ^{constructing} ~~to construct~~ a large timber-raft. But meanwhile the General had sent back on his Lapwai

^{the regular} ~~his~~ Cavalry, part of which was to hold Norton's ranch and part to bring up supplies from Fort Lapwai ^{the route} ~~by way of Norton's ranch.~~

^{cavalry -} ~~Eleven men~~ ^{of this force} under Lieut. Rains went out from Norton's to reconnoitre.

It was just after Joseph and his indians had gotten over Craig's Ferry

^{back} ~~Ferry and~~ was turning to pass between Norton's and Grangeville, ^{aiming} ~~and~~ further north toward Kamiah. The indians evidently surprised the ~~Lieut~~ Lieutenant and his party, and, without mercy, massacred them all.

Again seventeen mounted volunteers about the same time set out from Mount Idaho to go to Norton's when they also were cut off by a swarm of savage warriors and several of them slain.

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Gen. Howard lost his new raft in the wild torrent and could not effect a crossing; and just then, through an indian messenger James Reuben who, to the soldiers' astonishment, swam his horse across the river, he heard of the state of matters at Norton's ~~and vicinity~~ *and vicinity*; and *as the best thing to do, he* so turned straight back on his trail, and by the help of a few skiffs, with considerable difficulty ~~recrossed~~ *recrossed* the Salmon at Whitebird.

soldiers pack horses & mules
The horses held by their halters would follow a skiff four or five at a time, but would ~~not~~ take the water in ~~any~~ *no* other way.

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~~He then made~~ *men these made by the troops at Norton's & his own* forced marches to intercept the indians ~~who~~ *new forces* ~~who~~ *new forces* northward. A small force of ~~mounted~~ *mounted* Volunteers which the General had sent

back before him across the Salmon by the Rocky Canon now pushed on boldly after the indians who ~~were~~ *appeared to be* moving towards Kamiah. The savages

fortunately soon stopped to gather new recruits from the Lapwai reservation for their *reputed* success was fast bringing to them the hesitating. They ~~first~~ *now delayed* pitched

ed their lodges in the valleys along the Clear-Water near the mouth of the Cottenwood Creek. The Volunteers *cautiously* avoiding them ~~then~~ ascended

Round-Hill, a high butte in the neighborhood, and put them-selves *like good hunters* on

the watch. During the ~~the~~ *however* first night, a party of indians stole

their horses *them* setting about forty of ~~the men~~ *the men* on foot, but owing to *the volunteers* ~~their~~ strong place among the rocks the hostiles did not undertake to

further molest them. Gen. Howard had already sent word by a daring

officer to these Volunteers to stay there quietly while he was working

his troops around *the indian camp* by the way of Jackson's Bridge, with a view to get *eting* be-

yond ~~the~~ *the* entire hostile force and, if possible, compel Joseph to accept battle.

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 his troops around by the way of Jackson's bridge, with a view to ~~cutting~~ ^{cutting}
 round the entire hostile force and, if possible, completely to ~~cutting~~ ^{cutting}



The 10th of July was a busy day. ^{country wagons were} ~~The General~~ hired and used ~~some~~ ^{the} country wagons, enough to carry a third of his infantry at a time. ^{while the rest were marching} That day they ^{by his help} ~~marched~~ ^{made} thirty eight miles, the longest one days march of the campaign. ^{The command} ~~He~~ crossed the South branch of the Clearwater and encamped between that and the main river at Walls farm.

~~At this place~~ ^{This place} ~~He~~ was ~~now~~ at least a dozen miles beyond the Indian lodges, on the Northeastern edge of the wild, rough plateau, before named, where the battle was destined to be fought.

The Indians were by no means alarmed when their scouts showed ^{them} the Volunteers ^{perched} on the lofty Round Hill westward; nor were they much more disturbed when it was reported that General Howard and his soldiers ^{more numerous} ~~their~~ ~~General Howard~~ ~~and his~~ soldiers were eastward of them ^{between the} ~~beyond the~~ two rivers.

Joseph, Whitebird, Hool-hool-sute, Olicut, Joseph's tall brother, and Lookingglass, just joined after being for sometime neutral, all, the war-chief and heads of bands, agreed in council that they were now strong enough to engage ^{the} General ~~Howard's~~ main force. They knew now from what direction ^{their enemies} ~~the General~~ would approach them. They would get together, all mounted, ~~and~~ conceal themselves in the deep valleys of the Cottonwood, the Clearwater Branch and the neighboring canon, and be ready to run up the valley of the Branch ^{toward the East} and make an attack at the word. Each chieftain had his men told off. The women, like regular quartermasters, cared for the baggage and the herd of spare horses, and were ^{always} to keep well back from the thick of the contest ~~where~~

The 10th of July was a busy day. The General hired and used some country wagons, enough to carry a third of his infantry at a time. That day they marched thirty eight miles, the longest one days march of the campaign. He crossed the South branch of the Clearwater and encamped between that and the main river at Walla Walla. There was at least a dozen miles beyond the Indian lodges, on the Northwestern edge of the wild, rough plateau, before named where the battle was destined to be fought. The Indians were by no means alarmed when their scouts showed the Volunteers on the lofty Round Hill westward; nor were they much more disturbed when it was reported that General Howard and his soldiers were eastward of them ^{between the} two rivers. Joseph, Whitebird, Hool-hool-sute, Oliewe, Joseph's tall brother, and Lookingglass, just joined after being for sometime neutral, all the war-chief and heads of bands, agreed in council that they were now strong enough to engage General Howard's main force. They knew now from what direction the General would approach them. They would get together, all mounted, and conceal themselves in the deep valleys of the Cottonwood, the Clearwater Branch and the neighboring canon, and be ready to run up the valley of the Branch and make an attack at the word. Each chieftain had his men told off. The women, like regular quartermasters, cared for the baggage and the herd of spare horses, and were to keep well back from the thick of the contest where



and stay where the lodges were pitched. Joseph, before the battle, was ~~as~~ confident of victory as ~~Lee at the end of the first day at Gettysburg.~~ ^{near at hand} The streams were generally fordible; the banks high, steep and protecting, only broken through by cross ravines and ~~canons~~ ³. There was ~~quite~~ a quantity of small trees and bushes in the ravines, and the ground was every where, between the river and the Branch, rough and gullied. Now turn to the little column of white men, a few troops of horse, a few companies of foot, ~~two~~ ^{three} howitzers and ~~two~~ ^a gatling guns, all told, less than a single regiment of the Rebellion.

With scouts well ahead and covered with skirmishers, they move quietly along the unused trail; they hunt their way ^{slowly} through an extensive forest; they probe the ravines and ~~the~~ crown the few bare hills, till, about noon, they emerge into comparatively open ground. Lieutenant Fletcher, ^{temporarily on the staff} General Howard's Aide, takes on a sudden impulse to try his field-glass. He gallops off to join the headmost scout. A few hundred yards being gained, standing on a knoll to the left of our path, he catches the first glimpse of the indians. They were moving about restlessly near the mouth of the Cottonwood, well beyond the deep-down Clearwater Branch which here and there, in spite of its steep banks, reveals itself to his glass. Fletcher at once sent word; "Here they are General". The General then dispatched an Aide to Capt. Trimble; ~~Kimball~~; "Take your troops and push straight on westward to ^{the} ~~the~~ river and watch out in that direction". The Aide went with Trimble to

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scout the peninsula and bring back report. General Howard then rode over to Fletcher and saw plainly ^{numerous} mounted indians in motion. They seemed to have just discovered his approach and were taking on ^{a shadow of} some formation. ^{As} the General was looking, he said: "Let the column keep well closed up and come forward quickly". Soon the four pieces of artillery were at Fletcher's knoll, and Lieutenant Otis commanding them was firing, endeavoring to reach the masses of indians that ~~now~~ engaged his attention. Our little column on the trail ^{lunging forward} had well nigh passed the deep cañon and the cross ravine near it and were coming together on the flat plateau opposite the mouth of the Cottonwood, when it was discovered that the indians were galloping ^{back past them} up the main Branch on both shores, mostly concealed by the high banks. Their leaders turned to the left into the grand cañon and were passing at a run up it into ^{the} cross ravine, which, being ~~rough~~ stony and wooded, gave them good cover. Of course the troops, to confront them, must now face about; because their enterprising enemy is nearly in their rear, and there is danger of being caught before we are ready, and also of their cutting off some supply pack-mules that are bearing ammunition and food. Tired mules with heavy loads will often lag behind and bother the best of quartermasters. It was just this way that the same indians had turned Perry's flank at Whitebird. It was the same game that the Sioux under Sittingbull had played with Custer in Montana. And how they now sped on, yelling and running their horses! Crises like these teach men to keep their

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wits about them. There will be excitement at a fire in a city, ^{advising} an
~~unexpected~~ earth-quake, a sudden flood, or a terrific storm at sea;
 so in an indian onslought there will be great excitement. How im-
 portant then for a leader to have some plan previously digested and to
 put it promptly into execution. A moment before ^{Everybody} ~~the General~~ was made
 to believe that the indians were trying to escape, for Chapman the guide
 had said; "They can not get away except by the big canon back there".
 Now ~~he saw~~ ^{was evident; they were not escaping} Chapman's error. At once ~~he~~ took the offensive. ~~He sent~~
^{went} The small battery ^{back} at a double quick; it was guarded by the troop
 of Captain Winters. Winters ^{galloped} ~~passed~~ around the head of the cross
 ravine, and ^{there} just beyond the bluff ~~there~~ down in ^{the} ~~the~~ low ground, he
 found some indians already dismounted hiding and waiting.
~~Winters~~ ^{he} Instantly dismounting his men ^{while} put them into line, ^{the} the horses
 were led back by a few troopers. The firing began at once. Carbines
 and rifles cracked, ^{guns} gatlings ^{away} rattled, and the howitzers boomed and the
 air was full of sound. Meanwhile several mounted indians ^{stiving} ^{until} to
 keep beyond the range of the guns, kept extending their line ^{the} ~~till~~ it
 became a great enveloping curve. Colonel Mason, ~~Howard's~~ ^{ending} Inspector,
 seeing how needfullit was to lengthen our ^{the} line, hurried up Captain
 Burtons Company of infantry. It quickly took Winters place ^{pushing}
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~~with their~~ hindered by ~~with~~ their heavy loads were in danger. The first indians that came out of the canon, we would call them flankers, succeeded in disabling two of ~~one, three that were~~ these mules loaded with howitzer ammunition; and they killed the packers in charge. By this time Captains Whipple and Perry had dismounted their cavalarymen and prolonged Winters line so much that they could cover the fallen mules by a rapid fire; ~~and~~ so they saved the ammunition from capture. A brave messenger from the General had during the melee guided the main supply train till Captain Wilkinson, aide-de-camp, came to help him. They ~~massed~~ ^{successfully} massed the train near the cavalry horses ~~and~~ well beyond the hostile fire. Just as speedily as it could be done Trimble was brought back ~~and~~ all the remaining companies ^{were} put in to position. ^{our} ~~The~~ line, as we have seen, looking back, had now its infantry on the right, and next, ~~to the left~~ ^{in succession}, its artillery and cavalry, all acting as infantry. It was a thin line, shaped like a crescent, ~~thus~~ ^{left}; The indians, ^{long curved} by a line more or less continuous, ^{fully} enveloped ours, ^{right} ~~thus~~ ^{thus}.

~~Wholly~~ ^{Indian} Joseph and his warriors showed great boldness and executed their movements without hesitation. Opposite our right they were lower ~~down~~ ^{there} than we, behind rocks, logs and trees. They constructed some rude barricades. At most other points they found shelter and were usually out of sight. Near our left flank upon a small hill ^{early in the conflict} one indian purposely exposed himself to view, throwing ^{up} his red blanket ^{in defiance} like a flag ^{as you might expect} in defiance, and leaping about ^{with it} from point to point. ^{At first time we had} ~~then we could not~~ get an occasional sight of others in the edge of a ~~neighboring~~ neighboring wood.

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~~Our enemies~~ ^{his} They distributed ~~their~~ best shooters at various points.

One group was so located as to command our only spring of water which was situated some distance out ~~beyond~~ ^{from} our left. The river behind us was so far down and so much exposed to skirmishers from the other bank that nobody ventured there. There was a little muddy pool, ~~very~~

~~shallow~~, near our held horses, ^{very shallow,} but it was too alkaline for much use.

^{to us} Thus hemmed in, with savages ~~apparently~~ very numerous and fighting with all the fierceness of Arabs, with-out drinking-water, and with every man posted in a defensive line, the situation was, ^{in the beginning} it must be confessed, not very encouraging. True, all the indian charges were firmly

resisted and there was no immediate danger of their breaking through.

But how could we ~~end~~ ^{enterprising} this troublesome work? In the afternoon several indians ~~had~~ crept furtively toward Capt. Bancroft's and Lieut. Haughey's company-fronts, seized a ridge, and with good shelter ^{from} ~~behind~~ it, began firing not thirty yards off.

In the skirmish ^{captain} that ensued Bancroft, Lieut. Williams and several of their men were ^{badly} wounded. Capt. M. P. Miller, the senior artillery officer, was near by and saw that something must be done at once, for our men ^{ahead} were giving way.

Miller ran to Bancroft's front and called out; "Cheer and charge!"

He then sprang ahead beckoning to Haughey to come on.

Haughey and his company obeyed the call and joined Bancroft ^{thus forced out} in the cheer and charge, and the ridge was promptly cleared. The indians for

^{for safety} ran back to the barricades ^{that} they had ^{left} left.

One group was so located as to command our only spring of water which was distributed ~~at~~ ^{by} best shooters at various points.

was situated some distance out ~~from~~ ^{from} our left. The river behind us was so far down and so much exposed to skirmishers from the other bank that nobody ventured there.

~~near~~ ^{near} our held horses, but it was too alkaline for much use.

Thus hemmed in, with savages ~~apparently~~ ^{very} numerous and fighting with all the fierceness of Arabs, with-out drinking-water, and with every man posted in a defensive line, the situation was, it must be confessed, not very encouraging.

True, all the Indian charges were firmly resisted and there was no immediate danger of their breaking through.

But how could we stand this troublesome work? In the afternoon several Indians ~~came~~ ^{came} creeping furtively toward Capt. Baneroff and Lieut. Harghey's company-fronts, seized a ridge, and with good shelter ~~from~~ ^{from} it began firing not thirty yards off.

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The Indians for ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~first~~ ^{first} ~~time~~ ^{time} ~~ran~~ ^{ran} ~~back~~ ^{back} to the ~~position~~ ^{position} they had left.



All the right wing ___ Capt. Evan Miles leading his own infantry ___ caught the spirit of this movement and rushed forward ^{making two or three charges,} covering the howitzers which had almost suffered capture ~~and~~ ^{ed} gaining important ground.

We had not as yet done much, merely taken the outworks of Joseph's sheltered line. Following up the excitement Wilkinson gathered all the available men who from any cause were not in front, including horse holders, orderlies, extra duty and train men, and with them made a rush from the right down into the ravine. ^{This attempt} ~~These~~ also drove in the worrysome sharp-shooters and made our exposed right flank more secure.

^{& this} Fletcher pointed the howitzers and helped on all the exciting charges by landing shells so as to explode ^{them} among the indians. But this noisy work only made the warriors cling more closely to their barricades, for like their white antagonists they had piles of logs and rocks in front of them. Farther to the left the indians soon attempted the whitemans' ^{favorite} ~~successful~~ game.

~~X~~In squads they too yelled and charged, but Winters, Morris, Perry and Whipple quickly arrested these onsets and sent the ^{indians} back with severe loss ~~to them~~. Such partial combats were inspiring, but as darkness came on our comrades did not take a very hopeful ~~X~~ view of the field. Cut off from all communication with the outside world,

^{our} with the water supply still in the enemy's hands, with every fighting man on the line ^{our} a single ~~line~~ long and thin, and with indians numerous enough to encircle ^{our} their whole front, the night was cheerless indeed. There was little sleep. ^{The time was spent in preparation.} New barricades were constructed on both sides.

In one or another of the charges Pollack, Queller, Ellsworth, Farquhar, Wood, Bailey & their men were at the front, plunged in action.

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which had almost suffered capture ~~again~~ ^{but} important ground.
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available men who from any cause were not in front, including horse
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enough to encircle the whole front, the night was cheerless indeed.
There was little sleep. New batteries were concentrated on both sides.

A line was
 formed & General Fremont's division, including the regulars, moved up to the
 summit of the hill at 11:30 and the fighting was continued until 1:30 when the
 Indians were driven back and the howitzers were captured.



Our men said little, but, with the few implements at hand, worked hard.

The indians were noisy, and like Goliath of old ^{frequently} defied their foes. ^{And}

They did not lack English words, which, rough and profane, they hurled

across the disputed ground. To have ^{our} ~~their~~ officers risk their lives

by going in the night to the spring, and bringing back water to refresh

^{their men} ~~them~~, greatly encouraged ^{them} ~~them~~. This they generously did several

times before daylight appeared.

In the daytime it had not been safe to ^{pass} ~~go~~ from one part of ^{our} ~~the~~ line

to another. To avoid a shot our officers found that they must

creep, like children, to and from the front. One ~~brave and~~ hearty

^{Capt. Pollock whose Capt. Miles commends for bravery} officer, when asked how he, so large a man, had passed from the center

to the flank of his company, answered in a half whisper, "Oh, being

too fat to crawl, I rolled". It was much more comfortable to get

about by night, for in the darkness the indians did not waste many

shots. ^{PP} At last came the dawn. Matters were yet substantially ~~in~~

unchanged, except that ^{promulgated} ~~the General had formed~~ an offensive plan, ^{had been promulgated} which

~~he soon proceeded to execute~~. It was first, to recover ^{the} ~~his~~ spring.

Second, ^{should have} ~~to see to it~~ that every man ~~had~~ his breakfast, not omitting

a cup of coffee for each. Third, to withdraw Captain Miller's Artillery

Battalion (all that were serving as Infantry) from the front line.

Fourth, at an hour appointed, Miller was to form a column, move out

southward, pierce the hostile ^{curse} ~~line~~ and, when just far enough across,

face to his right and roll up that line. The howitzer battery and all

other troops were to support and follow up Miller's movement if ^{it should be} successful.

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about by night, for in the darkness the Indians did not waste many

shots. At last came the dawn. Matters were yet substantially

unchanged, except that the ~~Indians~~ Indians had an offensive plan

in ~~their~~ their minds. It was first, to recover the spring.

Second, to ~~kill~~ kill every man ~~in~~ in his breakfast, not omitting

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southward, pierce the hostile ~~line~~ line, and, when that far enough across,

face to his right and roll up that line. The howitzer battery and all

other troops were to support and follow up Miller's movement if successful.

But Joseph seeming to anticipate some contrivance ^{against him} had his own offensive plan. He set in motion a herd of ^{ponies} ~~horses~~ some three hundred strong and directed them across the space ^{which was} not covered by our troops, ^{he did it doubtless} with a view to stampede our animals and possibly break our ^{rank} ~~lines~~ and terrify our men. They ran ^{swiftly, as} ~~like~~ a herd of wild animals keeping well together, but were themselves turned from their ^{straight} ~~course~~ ^{at them} by the discharge of a few pieces; and disappeared as suddenly as they came without doing us ^{perceptible} ~~whatsoever~~ ^{for the second day} any damage. Our operation commenced about sunrise.

Miller had Otis' battery ^{so} located as to shell the bushes and hollows in the neighborhood of the spring. Perry's and Rodney's men, waiting ^{during the shelling, at the command} on foot near at hand, ~~then~~ with no little shouting, made a series of charges from hillock to hillock till the ground was cleared of enemies far and near; ^{for} the indians ^{speedily} ~~fled~~ from their hiding places.

Immediately picket posts ^s were so chosen and occupied, that a man, going with a pail to the water, could not again be molested.

Soon, little fires had started and camp-kettles were steaming.

The handy soldier-cooks, sent from each company, made ready the hot ^{and warmed up the food,} coffee, so that before two hours had expired, officers had been cheered ^{and men} and refreshed by a respectable breakfast. ^{to take away from the front several companies,} The third thing devised was not so easy to execute. There was ~~much~~ strong protesting: "Oh no General ^{already} our lines are too weak ~~and~~! It is not safe". But the General ^{all} remained firm and shouldered the risk. Captain Miller then cautiously ^{Capt.} withdrew his four companies; while Miles and Perry stretched out their

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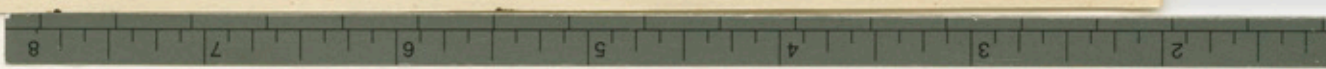
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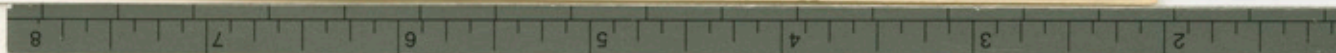


battalion-lines to fill the gap so created. It was fortunate for us, perhaps, that Joseph did not comprehend what we were doing and so made no attack while the companies were in motion. Miller at half-past two, the time designated was just ready to start across the ravine held by the indians. His entire command, in waiting ^{prepared} were filled with hope and expectancy ~~ready~~ to take up the parts assigned them,; when lo, a big dust ~~appeared~~; it rose some two miles away toward the southeast. All our field glasses were turned that way. ^{The dust was} ~~A~~ approaching. As it came nearer some one suddenly cried out: "It is Cavalry". ^{evident now; it was} Yes it was ^A Captain Jackson's troop that had been coming from Fort Klamath with instructions to join us; ^{they were} escorting supplies. The cheery sight gladdened all hearts on our side, but affected the watching indians with ^{apprehension} ~~dismay~~. Immediately the General ~~ordered~~ the expectant Artillery battalion, ^{was ordered} to push out and meet the coming Cavalry. Miller moved at once ~~and~~ rapidly, taking the indians by surprise, so that only moderate skirmishing arose. ^{where he was crossing their lines} It ^{required} ~~took~~, however, more than an hour to bring in the new troops (some fifty strong) and the provisions.

General McDowell's Aide-de-camp, Major Keeler, a courteous gentleman and gallant officer, accompanied Captain Jackson and brought us kind words of encouragement from our Division General at San Francisco.

Now, as Miller, who had dropped back behind the new comers as they neared Joseph's line, was about in position to execute the ^{stated plan} ~~movement~~ which had been for an hour interrupted, General Howard with Aides and ordilies

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~~He~~ rode to a good point for observation. As he moved away he asked ^{from the central group,}
 Major Keeler ^{do you wish} if he wished to see the battle ^{if so} to accompany him ~~me~~.

With a smile of surprise at such a quiet invitation the Major joined the General and ^{was} ~~sat~~ by his side through the noisy and dusty conflict that soon ensued. ^P Miller's column began to move quickly toward us, and to encounter ~~ing~~ quite a storm of bullets fitfully striking the ground around him. He had again pierced the indian line when his men ^{suddenly} faced ^{his} to ~~the~~ left and charged. Rodney's company, having halted a moment, let the others pass, then followed, some ^{distance} ~~way~~ in rear, to guard against the repeated attempts of the indians to get around one flank or the other of the moving front. There was some obstinate resistance at Joseph's barricade, some rapid firing, but no indian dreamt of such a rolling up. After a few more wild shots and a few bold but vain efforts to gallop around Miller's command the indians gave way en masse and began to run down the ravines and the steep slopes to the Clearwater branch, and then to wade or swim to the other shore. More quickly, than one can tell it, ^{our} General Howard's force had taken up the pursuit, the Infantry, Artillery, and Winter's troops on foot, and the remaining Cavalry on horseback; that is, all who had time to get to their horses and mount. The gatlings fairly flew to the river bluff with Jackson's troop abreast of them in lively support; there they opened a brisk fire on the retreating hostiles. The howitzers, a little later, came galloping to the same heights with Trimble's men close behind them; and they threw their bursting shells into the living ravine and amid the waiting lodges

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bursting shells into the living ravine and amid the waiting lodges

beyond the river.

The fugitives mainly went back by the routes they had come, down cross ravines into the large cañon and thence out into the river ; but some tumbled over the rocks and crags and sped mounted or dismounted down the roughest inclines till the river was alive with wading crowds of frightened ponies and ~~men~~ ^{the} indians.

It was now ^p ~~simply~~ flight and pursuit. Every thing except the cannon and the packs took ~~every~~ ^{the} foot-paths or water-courses to get first to the Branch. The indians gained the south bank by the time the Cavalry got

to the other. The women and the herds were ~~and~~ ^{al} ready in full retreat *when the warrior overtook them,*

Running up every hollow that led from the river, when suddenly, wonderful to tell, a host of warriors all mounted appeared to be turning back and getting ready for another fight. This ^{considerably} ~~disturbed~~ the commander of the

Cavalry. Perry and his men stopped as they immerged from the water

on the indian side. *As they had halted,* They were ~~the~~ ordered to ferry over the foot-men

using their horses ^{for a ford} as the water was rather deep and swift. This was done. ^{But} The indians

^{movement} return ~~was~~ ^{certainly} was ~~was~~ brief; it was a ruse, and a good one; for, time was con-

sumed by it; the terrified women and children were protected; and the ~~and~~

^{thoroughly} cover of night soon more ^{sheltered} all the fugitives from effective pursuit.

The abandoned indian camp fell into our hands with robes, blankets, utensils for cooking, and provisions of various kind. The losses in killed and wounded were not so great as one would have supposed. They did not exceed on both sides a hundred people, and were as afterwards

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proved about equally divided. Over a hundred prisoners were subsequently ^{gathered in} ~~taken~~ and sent to Fort Vancouver as a result of this battle.

It was by this remarkable contest at the Clear-water that the whole North-west was for a time cleared of hostile indians; but it ^{inaugurated the} ~~took~~ a long chase. ^{before mentioned} Another year of desperate war with the Bannocks and Piutes ^{was necessary} to procure and establish a permanent peace.

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