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Photographs / Images: Major Guy V Henry on his horse “George,” Bellevue, Nebraska, 1890s; Map of 1874-1875 Ride; Richard I Dodge illustration of “Winter on the Plains—A Terrible Experience in the Teeth of a Norther,” published in *Our Wild Indians*, 1884; Officers of the Ninth Cavalry at Pine Ridge Agency, 1890-91 with Guy V Henry; Map of 1890 Ride; Troop K of the Ninth Cavalry at Pine Ridge Agency, 1890-91
"The Men Behaved Splendidly"

Guy V. Henry’s Famous Cavalry Rides

By Thomas R. Buecker

One great ride in a cavalryman’s career would stand as a fitting testament, but two such feats would seem without precedent. However, one man, Guy V. Henry, Sr., a noted United States Army officer during the Indian Wars period, did just that. He commanded troops from Fort Robinson, Nebraska, on two marches—separated by sixteen years—that became a celebrated part of western military lore. Those memorable episodes, along with his reputation as a “born soldier” and a “noble and genuine Christian gentleman,” have long been remembered.1 The details of Henry’s rides seem to confirm these high opinions.

In the fall of 1874 Capt. Guy V. Henry commanded Company D, Third Cavalry, stationed at Camp Robinson near Red Cloud Agency in northwest Nebraska. Rumors abounded that parties of miners had entered the mysterious and forbidden Black Hills of Dakota Territory. Several months previous a large army column led by Lt. Col. George A. Custer legally entered the Hills on a reconnaissance expedition. Miners accompanying the expedition found gold, confirming a fact known to westerners for several decades. Reports of their findings spurred considerable interest, regardless of the treaty forbidding whites to enter the Black Hills region.2

The 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty established the bounds of the Great Sioux Reservation, which included the Black Hills. The treaty also prohibited unauthorized entry into the Hills; however, to some enterprising whites the reward was worth the risk. The job of preventing their illegal entry into the dangerous yet tempting Sioux domain fell to the United States Army. The army undertook the task, ill-prepared as it was, to prevent a war that any white invasion of the Hills would undoubtedly bring.3

To the military the assignment of keeping miners out was a virtual impossibility. With the vast open territory around the Hills, bands of miners could slip in from several directions. Because there were no nearby posts or cantonments, any field deployment of troops presented the army with huge logistical problems. The difficulty of pursuit and supply would only be compounded in the winter months. Cold weather did not keep out small, daring groups of miners seeking the promised riches.4

In early October 1874 a small party of adventurers organized by John Gordon left Sioux City, Iowa, for the Black Hills. The so-called “Gordon Party” consisted of twenty-six men, one woman with a small boy, and six wagons. They inconspicuously traveled westward along the Elkhorn and Niobrara River valleys into northwest Nebraska. Hoping to avoid any contact, the party then followed the White River into the Dakota Badlands. As the party reached the Cheyenne River, it was spotted by Sioux Indians and again as it moved up Elk Creek. Undaunted by being discovered, the Gordon party traveled north along the eastern slope of the Hills to Bear Butte. Here it entered the Hills proper and followed Custer’s trail south to the interior. On December 23 the party reached the site of Custer’s main camp (near present Custer, South Dakota), where traces of gold had been found on French Creek. Anxious to commence prospecting, the Gordon party made its last camp and began construction of a substantial log stockade.5

Evidently the Sioux who saw the party crossing Cheyenne River reported them to H. W. Bingham, the Indian agent for the Cheyenne River Agency, some distance to the east on the Missouri River. Bingham quickly contacted Captain Robert H. Offley, post commander at Fort Sully, seven miles below the agency, for troops to pursue and eject the intruders. On December 5, Offley received orders to act on Bingham’s request. He sent Captain Thomas M. Tolman with twenty-one First Infantry soldiers, temporarily mounted, to chase the reported miners. Agent Bingham also accompanied the detachment.

Department of Dakota commanding general Alfred H. Terry, from his headquarters in St. Paul, Minnesota, had reservations about not sending cavalry on the pursuit, but the only regularly mounted troops in the department were companies of the Seventh Cavalry stationed at posts far distant from Fort Sully. The regiment had recently participated in the arrest of the Hunkpapa chief Rain-in-the-Face at the Standing Rock Agency far to the north. Terry worried over the excitement and unrest his capture stirred among Standing Rock Indians, explaining “I am unwilling to weaken Custer just at present.”6

Meanwhile, on December 6 the small force of mounted infantry left Fort Sully. It quickly moved west and actually followed the Gordon party thirty miles into

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the Black Hills, "at times close behind." But Tolman's horses gave out, and he decided it best to give up the pursuit and return to the post. The detachment was in the field for eighteen days and rode more than four hundred miles. While on the outbound march, Tolman had a conference with some "hostile" chiefs who wanted to send their young men after the miners. They promised to await word of the success of his pursuit. General Terry was openly chagrined over Tolman's actions in counseling with the Indians: "Captain Tolman seems to have converted his expedition from one intended to drive out those lawbreakers into one for their protection."

After the detachment returned, agent Bingham telegraphed the commissioner of Indian affairs that "troops should be sent at once to drive out the miners." Secretary of the Interior Columbus Delano concurred and admonished Secretary of War William W. Belknap to use "the most effective measures within the powers of the War Department... toward all persons making encroachments upon said territory," and that "all intruders be pursued, overtaken, and expelled from it."

On December 17 an Indian called Falling or Twenty Stars reached Spotted Tail Agency, the Brulé agency forty miles northeast of Red Cloud Agency. There he reported that twelve days earlier, he had met twenty-one whites with six wagon teams on Elk Creek. Word of the intruders was quickly sent to District of the Black Hills headquarters at Fort Laramie. District commander Lt. Col. Luther P. Bradley telegraphed the news to Brig. Gen. Edward O. C. Ord at Department of the Platte headquarters in Omaha. On December 22 Ord passed the reported sighting to Division of the Missouri headquarters and asked if he should send out a cavalry company to intercept the miners. The next day he received approval from the division.

That same day (December 23) Bradley at Fort Laramie was notified to send out troops as soon as the weather permitted. In a hastily written dispatch Bradley ordered Capt. Guy V. Henry, Third Cavalry, at Camp Robinson to find the reported trespassers. A small but mobile force under Henry's command was to proceed from Robinson to Camp Sheridan, the military post at Spotted Tail, to pick up as its guide the Indian who saw the party. Henry was then to march to the Black Hills "to discover and expel a party of miners reported as having been on Elk Creek." Capt. William H. Jordan, post commander at Camp Robinson, was to assign one lieutenant and enough enlisted men from the Ninth Infantry to increase Henry's field strength to fifty men.

By this time in his career, Guy Henry was a respected and experienced troop commander. Graduating from West Point in 1861, he eventually commanded the Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry through much of the Civil War. During the war he received repeated brevets for "gallantry and meritorious service in action" and by war's end held the rank of brigadier general of volunteers. He was later awarded the Medal of Honor for actions at the Battle of Cold Harbor. After the war Henry became a captain in the Third Cavalry and served in Arizona Territory against the Apaches. In 1871 the regiment moved to the northern Plains, and Henry served at several stations in the Department of the Platte. On November 12, 1874, he and his company reported for duty at Camp Robinson near the turbulent Red Cloud Agency.
After word of the deployment was received by mounted courier at Camp Robinson on December 24, arrangements for Henry's winter march were quickly made. As per orders Captain Henry and thirty-six enlisted men of Company D were joined by 1st Lt. William L. Carpenter, Ninth Infantry, and twelve enlisted men from the various companies of that regiment at the post. The command gathered rations and forage for thirty days and "plentiful allowance of ammunition" that was carried by twelve wagons, apparently to be driven by the infantrymen. Wall tents with Sibley stoves—borrowed from the infantry companies at Camp Robinson—were taken to shelter the soldiers while in overnight camp. Likewise, horse blankets were taken to protect the 140 horses and mules carrying the men and supplies.

Departure for the "expedition to the Black Hills" was set for December 26. Henry later recalled, "The day after Christmas the command ... bidding adieu to families and friends, started on our march into the wilderness." Besides having an expectant wife, field service brought other concerns. That fall had seen particular unrest among the Sioux at Red Cloud Agency. To Henry the Indians "were far from friendly and were liable to break out at a moment's notice. The knowledge of all this made our farewell a sad one."

As the detachment left Camp Robinson, Bradley telegraphed Ord that he thought the assigned search would require several companies, not just one. He was also concerned about snow in the Hills and thought a force sent on such duty would need supplies for at least sixty days. Ord was also concerned about the winter weather and as a consequence did not want to place additional troops in the field. Henry's command would be alone on this difficult mission.

Unfortunately for Captain Henry and his soldiers, the winter of 1874–75 proved to be one of the most severe on record. A correspondent from Red Cloud Agency wrote the cold snap had "put the oldest inhabitants to comparing dates, and they have at last arrived at the conclusion that since the winter of 1848–9 they have never known it to get up and howl as it has done." During the last of December and into January, temperatures in the double digits below zero were reported with uncomfortable frequency from all upper Plains locations. The writer from Red Cloud also noted, "We fear we may yet hear of great loss of life."

On the evening of December 26, Henry's command made camp halfway to Camp Sheridan, the troops having enjoyed comparatively mild weather. The first night's camp was made with "horses under the shelter of a bank"
with blanket covers; the men in their
tents, with stoves, were comfortable. Camp Sheridan was reached the next
evening. Henry found that Falling, the
Sioux guide, could not be persuaded to
accompany the command. Prudently
fearing the weather, neither he nor any
other Indian would agree to guide the
troops to the Hills. Finally a white fron­tiersman named Raymond offered his
services. Henry found out that Raymond
was an "old soldier" and well ac­
quainted with the country. Besides serv­
ing as a guide, he could also act as an
interpreter "in case of meeting Indians
so that the object of our trip could be
explained and no trouble caused." Be­
fore leaving, Henry drew five more days'
ration for his men.

On the morning of December 28 the
troops left Camp Sheridan, marching to
the White River, where they camped for
the night. The soldiers found the river
valley contained good shelter, wood,
and grass for the animals. As a harbin­
ger of things to come, however, some of
the men had to be treated for frostbitten
fingers. Setting up camp proved to be a
time-consuming process. With the
ground frozen solid, wooden tent pins
were nearly impossible to drive, and
the next morning they were equally dif­
cult to remove. The men were forced
to tie their tent ropes to trees or bushes.
Additionally all food had to be thawed
before cooking. Before mounting, bits
had to be warmed before putting them
in the horses' mouths.

While on the march the command
generally moved through rolling, tree­
less country, without any shelter from
the wind. A thermometer with the com­
mand once recorded forty degrees be­
low zero. During the whole trip the weather was stormy with the threat of
heavy snow at any moment.

Camp on December 29 was made
where Wounded Knee Creek entered
the White River. The next day the troops
entered the Badlands. Remembering
their march through the desolation of
what he termed "the lower regions with
the fires extinguished," Henry recalled:

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Here are found what scientists regard as
the richest deposits of bone, backs of
turtles, etc. It may be easily imagined,
however, that under the circumstances
this subject did not occupy our thoughts.

Camp on New Year's Eve was at Ash
Springs, between White River and the
Cheyenne. On New Year's Day the soldi­
ers crossed the divide and camped on
the Cheyenne. When the command
crossed the river, Raymond, the guide,
said he would prospect a little. He rea­
soned if there was gold in the Hills it
would show in the Cheyenne. All Henry
saw him accomplish, however, was to
thaw out a couple of frozen fingers.

Meanwhile, back at district head­
quартers the military authorities tried to
enlist Sioux assistance in locating miner
trespassers. Bradley ordered the com­
manding officers at Camps Robinson
and Sheridan to advise agents at their
respective agencies to send out "compe­tent and discrete" Indians to search for
illegal parties in the Hills. In theory the
scouts were only to locate, not attack,
the miners, and then lead troops to
them. Considering the harshness of the
weather, the agency Sioux did not jump
at this opportunity.

On January 2 the soldiers reached
Elk Creek. Henry's men made a careful
search on both sides of the creek valley,
but could find no signs of the miners'
trail. Raymond told Henry that Elk
Creek was the only route into the Black
Hills along its eastern slope. The troops
then moved up the creek toward the
Hills until they were south of Bear Butte.
Here they surmised the miners had en­
tered the interior farther north and west
of where the troops had been ordered
to search; in fact, the miners had fol­
lowed Custer's exit trail into the Hills,
not Elk Creek.

By this time the weather had turned
severely colder. The troops had been
out a week and were suffering. Frostbite
forced some of the men from their
saddles to ride in the forage wagons.
With no trace of the miners and the
specter of losing more men to the cold,
Henry decided it was best to turn back
to Camp Robinson.

He had wanted to return by way of
the Cheyenne River, following it until
they were directly north of Camp
Robinson, but his wagons were begin­
ing to break down, and following the
Cheyenne route might bring unknown
hazards. There was also the chance of a
heavy snow at any moment, so he chose
the route they knew.

The return march through the Bad­
lands was tough on men, horses, and
equipment. It once took three hours for
the wagons to ascend a hill. One of the
wagons was so badly damaged it had to
be abandoned. It was the only govern­
ment property lost on the expedition,
although five other wagons broke down at
one time or another. Luckily for the
suffering command the wind was light
and at their backs for several days.
When in camp the men could make
themselves and their animals more
comfortable.

On the last day's march (January 8)
the troops broke camp early in the
morning "in gay spirits, as we thought
that evening would bring us to Camp
Robinson." As the command moved
out, the cavalry rode ahead on a differ­
ent trail and became separated from the
wagons. At 7:00 A.M., an hour out of
camp, a strong Arctic wind arose, what
the frontiersmen called a "norther," and
hit the column with full force. Produc­
ing extremely low wind-chills, the
norther was one of the dreaded hazards
of winter travel on the upper Plains. One
experienced military officer and plain­
man described how "oftentimes without
the slightest warning, a wind will come
from the north, so piercing that on expo­
sure to it for any length of time is certain
death to anything." Henry called the
norther worse than fire or shipwreck,
deadly if men or animals were caught in
the open without shelter. With the freez­
ing wind that day came blinding snow,
causing piling drifts and loss of any
sense of direction.

Henry found his command in a
tough situation. With the blinding snow
and wind, the men could not find the
protected campsite they had just left,
and, even if they had, the wagons with their tents would not have been there. Sending parties to search for the wagons could not be done without risking lives. Henry decided it was best to push on for Camp Robinson.

Throughout the morning and into the afternoon, the suffering troops plodded on. The cold was so intense Henry had the men dismount and lead their horses to keep from freezing. As the snow piled up, the exhausted soldiers struggled to keep moving and to control their frantic mounts. Hands and faces froze, noses and ears bled, and eyes became "absolutely sightless from constant pelting of frozen particles." Many of the weakened men gave out, refused to move any farther, and were beaten to keep them moving and alive. Captain Henry and the stronger soldiers lifted exhausted men and tied them in their saddles to keep the command together. To be abandoned in the norther was to die.

The march became a desperate struggle for life, the men's only hope in knowing the post could not be far away and someone would reach it. Finally, in a last bid for survival, Henry ordered his men to mount. Lost in the terrible storm, he realized their only chance was to trust the horses to somehow find shelter. Henry ordered the men forward hoping "the instinct of our horses would alone save those who could hold out." On through the storm the beleaguered command staggered, when suddenly, after turning the curve of a hill, they came upon a half-buried ranch. The owner and occupant, John H. Bridgeman, promptly rendered assistance to the frozen detachment. The horses were put up in his corrals, while some thirty men crowded into his small cabin to thaw out. Bridgeman told Henry he was only fifteen miles from Camp Robinson; the ranch was located along the White River, several miles north of the road between Robinson and Camp Sheridan, explaining why the soldiers had not seen it before. Aware that shelter at the ranch offered only a temporary respite, and considering the physical condition of his frozen command, Henry knew that he would have to send word to the post for assistance. Because of the unabated danger of the storm, an Indian colleague of Bridgeman's at the cabin could not be persuaded to ride for help; therefore Henry and three of his men set out for the post. They arrived that evening, and the next morning Captain Jordan sent an ambulance and several wagons with blankets and robes to bring in the disabled. Meanwhile
Henry's supply wagons also stumbled across Bridgeman's cabin before the Camp Robinson relief arrived. It was said "the scene was pitiful," with a cabin full of frost-damaged, exhausted men—but every man was present and alive.32

After a night to warm up, Lieutenant Carpenter arrived at Camp Robinson on the morning of January 9 with twenty-five men. Ten other soldiers who were unable to ride were brought in later that day by the relief wagons. With them came Henry's supply wagons and their infantry teamsters.

Recovery for the frozen command was a slow process. Dr. John A. Ridgely, the civilian contract surgeon at Camp Robinson, took "great interest ... in the performance of his duty in relieving the suffering" of Henry's men.33 Of the two officers and fifty men on the ill-fated expedition, both officers and forty-five of the enlisted men required immediate medical attention. So many of Henry's men were incapacitated from exposure, some for weeks, that Captain Jordan reported Company D as unfit for duty.

While the cavalrymen recovered, infantrymen at the post cared for their horses and provided their barracks with water and wood. Lieutenant Carpenter suffered severe frostbite to his nose and right ear. Contrary to some reports and subsequent retelling, however, there were no major losses from amputation.34 It was Henry who suffered the most, "so much so that it is said he will not be able for duty in a long time."35 After the ride from Bridgeman's ranch, Henry recalled, "Entering my own quarters I was not recognized owing to my black and swollen face."36 His hands were so stiff from being cold his gloves had to be cut off. When the leather strips were removed, "flesh sloughed off, exposing the bones."37 All his fingers were frozen to the second joint; one finger on the left hand was amputated at the first joint. The joints in his left hand had become so stiff from the cold, he was never again able to bend his fingers fully. Although his recovery was slow—for months he was lost to duty on sick report—his personal sufferings were lightened by the birth of his son, Guy V. Henry, Jr., on January 28.

After hearing of the plight of Henry's men, General Ord requested that troops from his department be ordered into the Black Hills only conditionally, depending on the state of the weather. In his words, any such movements made before April were "extremely hazardous."38

On February 4 the men of Company D penned a resolution of thanks to Dr. Ridgely for his care during their conva-
In each telling Henry's leadership and devotion to duty loomed large, his "intrepidity and bulldog courage" recounted and extolled. Nevertheless, he never took full credit for saving the command; rather he praised his men for their fortitude and determination. "All the men," he reported, "behaved splendidly during the whole, and especially the worst part of the trip."

Sixteen years after his 1874-75 march, Guy V. Henry, now a major in the Ninth Cavalry, again found himself commanding troops in the dead of winter in the Dakota Badlands. It was the time of the 1890 Pine Ridge Campaign, when troops were called to the Sioux Reservation to ease the fears of agency employees and quell rebellious Ghost Dancers. Among the first units mobilized in November and moved to the reservation were Troops F, I, and K of the all-black Ninth Cavalry stationed at Fort Robinson. Later Major Henry, with Troop D of Fort McKinney, Wyoming, arrived to join the regimental camp at Pine Ridge Agency. Henry took command of the Ninth Cavalry squadron and prepared the "buffalo soldiers" for the eventuality of field service against the Sioux.

Camp life at the agency was fairly routine until mid-December. The violent death of Sitting Bull at the Standing Rock Reservation on December 15 changed the situation. A large band of Minneconjou Lakotas left the Cheyenne River Reservation, supplemented with many of Sitting Bull's followers, and all were thought to be heading for the Ghost Dance camp at Pine Ridge Reservation. The camp was located on the
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Cuny Table, a geographic feature called the "Stronghold," some fifty miles northwest of Pine Ridge Agency. Fearful that the arrival of these newcomers would upset the delicate negotiations underway to coax the dancers back to Pine Ridge, Gen. Nelson A. Miles, in overall command of army operations, ordered Henry's squadron to investigate the Stronghold vicinity. If possible, it was also to find and intercept the Minneconjous.

On the afternoon of December 24, Henry's troopers moved out. With cheers of "Merry Christmas!" from their comrades remaining behind, the riders clattered out of the agency camp and headed northwest. Behind the column followed a long train of wagons and pack animals loaded with supplies for the men and their horses. After a long night's march the squadron reached the Stronghold on Christmas morning; one of the cavalry troops had covered fifty-three miles in twenty-one hours. The soldiers set up camp at Harney Springs, coincidentally near the same site Henry's earlier expedition used on its march to the Black Hills.

For several days the soldiers scouted the area, examining the approaches to the Stronghold and looking for the Minneconjous. Under winter conditions the scouting was rough work. Luckily no severe storm blew in.

On December 29 after a long day in the saddle, Henry's squadron made camp for the night. The men were just settling in when a courier suddenly arrived with the alarming news of the Wounded Knee fight and with orders for the troops to return to the agency immediately. Henry with three troops left camp at 9:45 P.M. on a forced march; one troop followed with the pack mules and wagon train. Thus began Henry's second winter ride.

In spite of winds and snows that night, Henry pushed his column on, aiming to reach the agency before daylight to avoid being attacked. Of that night march he later recalled:

The wind was cold, and as it howled out of the canyons and swept over the valley, it carried with it the crystals that had fallen the day before. There was no moon, the night was inky dark, even the patches of snow which lay here and there on the ground gave no relief to the eye.

Through the night the column moved on. Finally, at 6:00 A.M. on the morning of December 30, the tired troops rode into Pine Ridge Agency. Including the distance traveled while scouting on the 29th, the three troops had covered eighty-four miles in twenty-four hours.

As the weary cavalrymen prepared to make camp, Corp. William O. Wilson, who earned a Medal of Honor for this gallant deed, galloped in with word that the wagons were under attack. When the train was about two miles north of the agency, a large band of warriors—angered at the killings at Wounded Knee—attacked, killing one of the column's advance guards. The wagons were quickly circled as a sharp fight ensued. Henry's men remounted and rode to the relief of the train. The attackers were chased off and the wagons escorted to the squadron camp.

As the black troopers again relaxed, word came that Sioux warriors had turned with a vengeance elsewhere. They had set fire to a cabin near the Drexel Mission, four miles north of the agency. Seventh Cavalry troops were dispatched to investigate, while Henry's command was allowed to rest. North of the mission the Seventh came under heavy fire from Indians commanding the hills on both sides of the regiment's position. The call came for Henry's squadron to help extricate the white
troopers from their precarious situation. At noon Henry’s squadron “moved at once to the sound of the guns.”30 Reaching the mission, he quickly divided his troops, who swept the warriors off the hills above the imperiled Seventh Cavalry. After the brief skirmish both commands returned to the agency. The fight at Drexel Mission was the last major engagement between Sioux Indians and United States soldiers.

The march of the buffalo soldiers on December 29 and 30 has gone down in history as “Henry’s Ride,” during which the troopers traveled 102 miles in thirty hours, all over rough country in winter weather. Accordingly, it was memorialized as the most famous ride ever performed by troops in the United States.31

By mid-January the last of the belligerent Ghost Dancers had returned to the reservations and the dogged leadership of Guy V. Henry, his personal friend of Henry’s, wrote of both in Harper’s Weekly series on “Adventures of American Army and Navy Officers.” Several years later Cyrus T. Brady, a personal friend of Henry’s, wrote of both in his frontier army classic, Indian Fights and Fighters (1904 and subsequent editions) and brought these exploits to the attention of another generation. Under the dogged leadership of Guy V. Henry, the accomplishments of his Third cavalrymen and Ninth Cavalry “buffalo soldiers” were duly recorded in the annals of the Old West.

Notes

The author wishes to thank Dr. James W. Wengert, Omaha, for biographical materials on Guy V. Henry and assistance with the preparation of this article.

2 For more on Custer’s Black Hills expedition, see Donald Jackson, Custer’s Gold (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 1966).
4 Ibid., 103.
5 “Narrative of the John Gordon Stockade Party in 1875 Contributed to the Custer Chronicle by One of the Party, David Aken, Vona, California,” undated typescript, Fort Laramie National Historic Site, Fort Laramie, Wyoming.
7 Telegram, Dec. 21, 1874, “Citizen Expeditions.”
8 Telegram, Dec. 23, 1874, “Citizen Expeditions.”
9 Army and Navy Journal, Jan. 9, 1875, 320. See also U.S. Congress, Senate, Message from the President of the United States, transmitting, in answer to a Senate resolution of March 15, 1875, information in relation to the Black Hills country in the Sioux Indian Reservation, 43rd Cong., spec. sess., S.Doc. 2, Serial 1629.
10 Telegram, Dec. 22, 1874, “Citizen Expeditions.”
13 Special orders No. 10, RG 393.
15 Ibid.
16 Telegram, Dec. 28, 1874, “Citizen Expeditions.”
17 Cheyenne Daily Leader, Jan. 21, 1875; Army and Navy Journal, Feb. 20, 1875, 436.
18 Henry, “Winter March.”
19 Ibid.; Army and Navy Journal, Jan. 30, 1875, 290, contains Henry’s report of the march. Raymond is probably Enoch W. Raymond, who married into the Brules and resided near the Spotted Tail Agency.
20 Henry, “Winter March.”
21 Ibid. Henry, regarded by others as possessing “an admirable Christian character,” probably preferred this description for the Badlands rather than the earlier “Hell with the fires out.”
22 Ibid.
23 Special Orders No. 13, Dec. 31, 1874, RG 393.
25 Cheyenne Daily Leader, Jan. 21, 1875; Army and Navy Journal, Feb. 20, 1875, 436.
26 Henry, “Winter March.”
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10 Henry, "Winter March."
11 Dodge, Our Wild Indians, 510.
12 Henry, "Winter March."
13 Army and Navy Journal, Jan. 30, 1875, 390; Dodge, Our Wild Indians, 511. John H. Bridgeman was married to an Oglala woman of Young Man Afraid of His Horses’s band. Later in 1875 Bridgeman served as an assistant farmer at Red Cloud Agency. From the published clues his ranch was near the 1871-73 site of the Spotted Tail Agency along White River.
14 Henry, "Winter March;" Army and Navy Journal, Feb. 20, 1875, 436; Cheyenne Daily Leader, Jan. 21, 1875.
15 Army and Navy Journal, Jan. 30, 1875, 390.
16 Record of Medical History of Post [Fort Robinson], tablet 31, Eli S. Ricker Collection, MS 8, Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln; Capt. William H. Jordan to asst. adj. gen., Jan. 16, 1875, Letters Received, Dept. of the Plate, RG 393; Merrill J. Mattes, Indians, Infants and Infantry: Andrew and Elizabeth Burt on the Frontier (Denver: Old West Publishing Co., 1960), 198.
17 Medical History of Post; Cheyenne Daily Leader, Jan. 21, 1875.
18 Henry, "Winter March."
20 Telegram, Jan. 11, 1875, "Citizen Expeditions."
21 Army and Navy Journal, Feb. 27, 1875, 452; Cheyenne Daily Leader, Feb. 16, 1875. Descendants of Dr. Ridgely donated the original, handwritten resolution to the Nebraska State Historical Society (NSHS Museum Collections 11,468-1).
26 Brady, Indian Fights and Fighters, 344. For examples of incorrect versions of the story, see Chicago Chronicle, Oct. 28, 1899, and Omaha Daily Bee, Oct. 29, 1899, written at the time of Henry's death.
27 Army and Navy Journal, Feb. 20, 1875, 436.
34 Army and Navy Journal, Mar. 14, 1891, 491.
36 Ibid., Apr. 4, 1891, 546.
37 Omaha Daily Bee, Jan. 29, 1893.