

1876

July 1 joined my co at Sage creek very cold Rain
marched to Chyenne River

2 G Co started out to scout for Indian signs
by road

3 more Indian in view two more co's gone out
Dec on picket fire weather

4 wagons left for Sage creek co went to scout
around another way snowed 60 miles very bad
mud water thick as cream with all trails

5 found mile pit and two men killed with horses

6 marched to Sage creek no breakfast

11 still in camp on Sage creek about 15 of first winter
me came on scout worth its weight in gold

12 en route for Laramie camp on Running water

13 camped on Red Hide creek cool with rain

14 orders to go to Red Cloud marched 18 miles

camped on Red Hide fished in the creek caught a few

15 orders to Sage creek again marched 33 miles to

Running water very hungry no supper

16 arrived at Sage creek rested for an hour

marched on to Indian creek 45 miles nothing
to eat till late at night

17 Indians reported by the pickets the command
ordered to retreat to the plains But two courses

- arriving from Agency being in danger cowardly
fired on them killing the chief Yellow Hand
the rest tried to rescue him but we charged
on them killing six followed them into the Agency
40 miles
18 started for Laramie 10 miles
19 camped in ~~mountain~~ prairie 25 miles
20 Ran 40 miles route recruits going to Agency
to Companies Stationed there Re-horn Run short today
21 marched to Laramie very hungry nothing to eat
for 36 hours Co C arrived from scouting they captured
14 ponies packed for the new path
22 rest and preparing to start for Crooks Camp
bathed in the flat
23 camped on Bulls Bend of the flat 35 miles
caught a few more of fish
24 camp unknown 27 miles De Cass and De
Hittel - some say De Cass
25 camp at Ft. Jetterman 22 miles three men
deserted taking their horses and equipments
26 made 12 miles marching slow to let other Co's catch up
27 camp at Milton Springs very pure water
28 made 22 miles Co. F and C came up with us
29 camped on N fork of Powder River 25 miles
30 camp on Powder River at Old Fort Reno 28 miles
found 3 wagons there the ones had been jumped
by Indian and abandoned everything
31 camp on old woman's creek 30 miles killed Buffalo

1876

July 1 joined my co at Sage creek very cold Rain
marched to Cheyenne River

2 Co started out to scout for Indians seen
by Coady

3 more Indians in view tons more Co's gone out
L Co on picket fine weather

4 wayons left for Sage creek Co went to scout
around another way marched 60 miles very Bad
water water thick as cream with alkali

5 found rifle pits and two men killed and horses

6 marched to Sage creek no breakfast

11 still in ~~the same place~~ drew beef first since
we came on scout worth its weight in gold

12 en rout for Laraine camp on Running water

13 camped on Rawhide creek cool with rain

14 orders to go to Red Cloud marched 18 miles

camped on Rawhide fished in the creek caught a few

15 orders to Sage creek again marched 33 miles to

Running water very hungry no supper

16 arrived at Sage creek rested for an hour

marched on to Indian creek 45 miles nothing

to eat till late at night

17 Indians reported by the pickets the command
ordered to Secret in the ravines But two couriers

1 arriving from agency being in danger coady
fired on them killing the chief Yellow Hand
the rest tried to rescue him but we charged
on them killing six followed them into the agency
46 miles

18 started for Laramie 10 miles

19 camped on running water 25 miles

20 Ran high 28 miles into recruits going to agency
to company's stationed there Roskams Run short today

21 marched to Laramie very hungry nothing to eat
for 36 hours Co C arrived from scouting they captured
4 ponys packed for the war path

22 rest and preparing to start for crooks camp
bathed in the flat

23 camped on Bulls Bend of the flat 35 miles
caught a fine mess of fish

24 camp unknown 27 miles Gen Carr and Dr
killed some sage hen

25 camp at Ft Jetterman 22 miles three men
deserted taking their horses and equipment

26 made 12 miles marching slow to let other Co's catch up

27 camp at Milton Springs very fine water

28 made 22 miles Co F and C came up with us

29 camped on N fork of Poudre River 25 miles

30 camp on Poudre River at Old Fort Reno 28 miles
found 3 wagons there the ones had been jumped
by Indian and abandoned everything

31 camp on Old Woman's Creek 30 miles killed Buffalo

Aug 1 started to cook coffee at
a beautiful mountain stream took
night march at 5 P.M. 35 miles
camped on deer creek saw a pine lake
2 camp on goose creek 35 miles
passed fort Mills. Karamay on deer creek
Saw a monument put up for those
killed there 40 in number

3 camp on Tongue River found creek

4 Layed over preparing to start for
Anthony Bull

5 Started for Sitting Bull with 600 mule
packed 15 miles camp on Tongue River

6 camp on Tongue River 20 miles

very rough country crossed River 17 times

7 camp on Rose Bud 28 miles

Beautiful country but hilly

8 changed camp 2 miles down Rose Bud

Started out at 1 P.M. made 19 miles down

R.B. very heavy Indian trail left a road

9 camp on R.B. 20 miles very cold

made a lodge to sleep in

10 met Gen. Harty's command went in

camp on R.B. 18 miles got grain from Tongue

11 Both commands started on the trail

camp on Tongue River 12 miles found

the bodies of 2 men scalped by Indians

12 sent section shot in hand accident

19 camp on Tongue R. 10 miles rain all

day sleep tight wet

13 Tongue R. 35 miles rain all day 9 of

the boys give out left the first

1 mile give out packed with food took one

made a raid on it

14 Branch of Tongue R. 18 miles

15 camp on Tongue R. 16 miles

8 horses give out very rough

15 Tongue R. 22 miles Rain boys very

hungry being about 2 days without food

and eating them in our sleep

after drinking in camp against Run thing

the rain is coming lots of fun

17 arrived at Yellow Stone 2. Boats

here with supplies for me sent a letter home

23 still in camp on Yellow Stone had

a general command out last night

24 marched up Tongue R. 18 miles

3 of the boys who were sick went down

with the Bull to fort Lincoln

25 camp on Tongue R. 15 miles

26 left for the River started 5 for dead end

the way and had our horses

29 Both boys for tobacco smoking coffee

gravel of 2 & 4 10 dollars for a yellow

Boys did not know what they are going

Sept 14th

Sept 15 Sampson whine wood 7 miles
Boys in Belle spirits but still weak
the few horses that are left general

troop started for Larrañe should
washers would be no fresh feed and flour
17 Laysed on continental pack 12 miles

18 miles from export city carried
water to creek with from remaining slaves
about a mile Southern washery gold

19 Sampson Bot sleds creek 28 miles
found a company of 8th Oct with
supplies for us but very cold and 9

men to set about 12 o'clock that night
my washers men in my bundle of
Ellynk's some skins were hitched

to haul our supplies and did not get in
till morning

20 Laysed out and baked Barn for dinner
21 Sampson Laysed creek 15 miles
22 camp at Springs creek 15 miles
took off my outfit and washed it
have had no change of clothing since

August 4th
23 camp at water city meta train
with supplies for us from Larrañe

24 Laysed our boys very dilly 9
for had some bags

25 26 27 28 29 30. nothing worthy of
note only morning camp for 5 days

Oct 1st = 5th our wagon train
came in to day boys had high fever
very sore and had some labor
Pulmo discharged by order
his father got him out

we left water city about the 10th
and Securita and fresh horses

found no trace then we went
on a 10 days rest on Chiquime
river from there to Red Cloud
arrived there about the 24th

Started for riding next day
arrived at riding Oct 31st

DIARY OF JAMES FREW

- 1 -

1876

- July 1--Joined my company at Sage Creek. Very cold rain. Marched to Cheyenne River.
- 2--G Company started out to scout for Indians seen by Cody.
- 3--More Indians in sight. Two more companies gone out. D Company on picket. Fine weather.
- 4--Wagons left for Sage Creek Co. Went to scout around another way. Marched 60 miles. Very bad water--thick as cream with alkali.
- 5--Found rifle pits and two men killed and horses.
- 6--Marched to Sage Creek. No breakfast.
- 11--Still in camp on Sage Creek. Drew beef first since we came on scout--worth its weight in gold.
- 12--Enroute to Laramie. Camp on Running Water.
- 13--Camped on Rawhide Creek. Cool with rain.
- 14--Orders to go to Red Cloud. Marched 18 miles. Camped on Rawhide. Fished in the creek. Caught a few.
- 15--Ordered to Sage Creek again. Marched 33 miles to Running Water. Very hungry--no supper.
- 16--Arrived at Sage Creek, rested for an hour, marched on to Indian Creek 45 miles. Nothing to eat until late at night.
- 17--Indians reported by the pickets. The command ordered to secrete in the ravines. But two couriers arriving from agency being in danger Cody fired on them killing the chief, Yellow Hand. The rest tried to rescue him but we charged on them, killing six. Followed them into the agency, 40 miles.
- 18--Started for Laramie, ten miles.
- 19--Camped on Running Water, 25 miles.
- 20--Rawhide 28 miles. Met recruits going to agency, to companies stationed there. Rations ran short today.
- 21--Marched to Laramie. Very hungry--nothing to eat for 36 hours. Company C arrived from scouting. They captured 14 ponies packed for the war-path.
- 22--Rest and preparing to start for Crook's command. Bathed in the Platt.

- July 23--Camped on Buel's Bend of the Platt--35 miles. Caught a fine mess of fish.
- 24--Camp unknown. 27 miles Gen Carr and Doctor killed some sage hens.
- 25--Camp at Fort Fetterman, 22 miles. Three men deserted taking their horses and equipment.
- 26--Made 12 miles, marching slow to let other companies catch up.
- 27--Camp at Welton Springs. Very poor water.
- 28--Made 22 miles. Companies F and C came up with us.
- 29--Camped on north fork of Powder River. 25 miles.
- 30--Camp on Powder River at old Fort Reno. 28 miles. Found three wagons there. The owners had been jumped by Indians and abandoned everything.
- 31--Camp on Old Woman's Creek, 30 miles. Killed buffalo.
- Aug. 1--Stopped to cook coffee at a beautiful mountain stream. Took up the march at 5 p. m. 35 miles. Camped on Deer Creek. Saw a fine lake.
- 2--Camped on Goose Creek, 35 miles. Passed Fort Phil Karney on Crow Creek. Saw a monument put up for those killed there. 90 in number.
- 3--Camp on Tongue River. Joined Crook.
- 4--Laid over, preparing to start for Sitting Bull.
- 5--Started for Sitting Bull with 500 mules packed. 18 miles, camp on Tongue River.
- 6--Camp on Tongue River. 20 miles. Very rough country. Crossed river 17 times.
- 7--Camp on Rose Bud. 27 miles. Beautiful country but hilly.
- 8--Changed camp two miles down Rose Bud. Started out at 1 p. m. Made 18 miles down Rose Bud. Very heavy Indian trail, like a road.
- 9--Camp on Rose Bud. 29 miles. Very cold. Made a lodge to sleep in.
- 10--Met Gen. Terry's command. Went in camp on Rose Bud. 18 miles. Got grain from Terry.

- Aug. 11--Both commands start on the trail. Camp on Tongue River. 12 miles. Found the bodies of two men scalped by Indians. Lieut. Eaton shot in hand--accident.
- 12--Camp on Tongue River. 10 miles. Rain all day. Everything wet.
- 13--Tongue River. 25 miles. Rain all day. Nine of the horses gave out, left behind. 1 mule gave out packed with hard-tack. We made a raid on it.
- 14--Branch of Powder River. 18 miles.
- 15--Camped on Powder River. 16 miles. 8 horses gave out. Country very rough.
- 16--Powder river. 22 miles. Rain. Boys very hungry being issued two days' rations and eating them in one day. After arriving in camp a fawn ran through the ranks causing lots of fun.
- 17--Arrived at Yellowstone. Two boats here with supplies for us. Sent a letter home.
- 23--Still in camp on Yellowstone. Had a general drown-out last night.
- 24--Marched up Powder River 18 miles. Three of the boys who were sick went down on the boat to Fort Lincoln.
- 25--Camped on Powder River, 15 miles.
- 26--Left Powder River. Started south-east for Deadwood. Made 20 miles. Had to walk most of the way and lead our horses.
- 29--Boys crazy for tobacco. Smoking coffee grounds. Offer 8 to 10 for a plug. Boys discouraged not knowing where they are going.
- 30--Camp on Beaver Creek. Boys all complaining of sickness.
- 31--Camp on Foster Mountains. 12 miles. A fine grazing country.
- Sept. 1--Moved camp 7 miles for grass. Over 300 of the boys sick--hardly able to ride. Myself feeling very well.
- 2--Camp on Beaver Creek. 18 miles. Boys smoking coffee grounds and grass.
- 3--Camp unknown. 23 miles. Water scarce.
- 4--Camp on Little Missouri River. 25 miles. 100 miles from Ft. Lincoln. I gathered some buffalo berries, stewed them. The hills all around are like cinders all melted and run together.
- 5--Camp on head waters of Heart River. 30 miles. Cut down to half rations.
- 6--Camped at a big pond. No wood to build a fire. Lost a great many horses.

- Sept. 7--Camp. 40 miles. Rain and cold. Boys in a desperate condition. Killing the played out horses. No wood yet.
- 8--Camp in a range of hills. Wood at last. 30 miles. Boys feeling very weak for want of anything to eat. 15 horses gave out today. Mine nearly gone.
- 9--Came on an Indian village at Slim Buttes. Routed them at four in the morning. Some took refuge in a ravine close by and took us till noon to get them and they killed three men before they would come out. Then we stopped to build a fire to smoke them out and they came out covered from head to foot with mud from digging to conceal themselves. American Horse, the chief, had been wounded and died soon after. They came back with reinforcements at about two o'clock. Charged us from all sides but we drove them back. Kept up a steady fire till dark.
- 10--Camp. 15 miles I had to walk. My horse was killed yesterday. Feel very bad. Nothing to eat but a piece of dried meat taken from the Indians--about 5000 pounds of it.
- 11--Camp--27 miles. Plenty wood and water. Killed 25 or 30 ponies to eat. The old sore backed horses are at a discount since we got the Indian ponies to eat. In the absence of salt I opened a cartridge and put the powder in my soup.
- 12--Marched 40 miles. Mud very deep. I gave out twice on the road. Lay down then got up and went on. Got in camp about 1 o'clock next morning. Lost about 300 horses. Killed over 30 ponies to eat. Laid over till noon waiting for the men to come in camp that gave out.
- 13--Broke camp at noon. Made 5 miles. Camp on _____ River and got beef and flour. Such a time cooking. Boys cooked till near midnight.
- 14--Laid over. Cooked all day. A settler from Crook City came with a wagon. We went through him like wolves.
- 15--Camp on White Wood. 7 miles. Boys in better spirits but still weak.
- 16--Laid over to rest ourselves and the few horses that are left. Gen. Crook started to Laramie. Double rations issued to us--fresh beef and flour.
- 17--Laid over. Cooked all day. Baked bread.
- 18--Camp on Centennial Park. 12 miles. $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Crook City. Carried water to cook with from a mining sluice about a mile. Saw them washing gold.
- 19--Camp on Box Elder Creek. 28 miles. Found a company of Third

Artillery with supplies for us here. Very cold and I was very tired and did not get anything to eat till about 12 o'clock that night. My rations were in my bundle of blankets. Some citizens were hired to haul our bundles and did not get in till midnight.

20--Laid over. Had baked beans for dinner.

21--Camp at Rapid Creek. 15 miles.

22--Camp at Spring Creek. 15 miles. Took off my shirt and washed it. Have had no change of clothing since Aug. 4th.

23--Camp at Custer City. Met a train with supplies for us from Laramie.

24--Laid over. Boys very dirty. I found some rubies.

25-30--Nothing worthy of note only moving camp for grass.

Oct.1-5--Our wagon train came in today. Boys in high glee. Very cold weather. Some snow. Burnes discharged by order. His folks got him out.

We left Custer City about the 10th. Some recruits and fresh horses joined us there. Then we went on a ten days' scout on Cheyenne River. From there to Red Cloud. Arrived there about the 24th. Started for Sidney the next day. Arrived at Sidney Oct. 31st.