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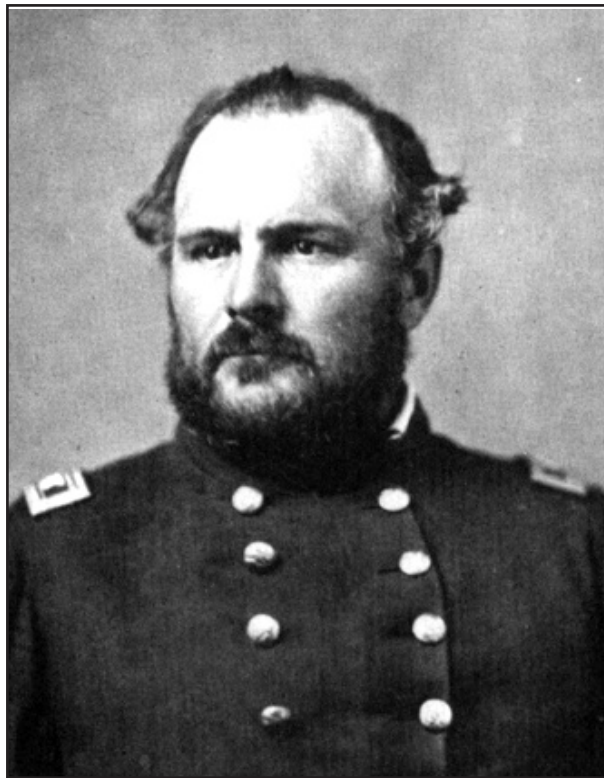
The Battle of Sand Creek

Among the brilliant feats of arms in Indian warfare, the recent campaign of our Colorado volunteer regiment will stand in history with few rivals. We are not prepared to write its [whole] history, which can only be done by some one who accompanied the expedition, but we have gathered from those who participated in it, some facts which will doubtless interest many of our readers.

The course of the [3rd Volunteer Regiment] was southeast out of Denver City, heading for Fort Lyon, [east of Pueblo, along the Arkansas River]. On the afternoon of the 28th the command reached Fort Lyon, a distance of two hundred and sixty miles.

At Fort Lyon the force was strengthened by about two hundred and fifty men of the 1st Regiment, and at nine o'clock in the evening the command set out for the Indian village. As daylight dawned they came in sight of the Indian camp, and just as the sun rose they dashed upon the enemy. Although utterly surprised, the savages were not unprepared, and for a

time their defense [held] against our ranks. Their main force rallied and formed in line of battle on the bluffs beyond the creek, where they were protected by rudely constructed



Colonel John M. Chivington

rifle-pits, from which they maintained a steady fire. As the battle progressed the field of [combat] widened until it extended over twelve miles of territory, and by three o'clock in the afternoon the carnage had ceased.

The Indian village consisted of one hundred and thirty Cheyenne

and Arapahoe lodges. Among their effects were large supplies of flour, sugar, coffee, tea, [etc.] Women's and children's clothing were found; also books and many other articles which must have been taken from captured [wagon] trains or houses. One white man's scalp was found which had evidently been taken but a few days before.

Our attack was made by five battalions: the two battalions of the 1st regiment were led by Colonel Chivington, while the three battalions of the 3rd Regiment fell under the command of Colonel Shoup.

This [operation] has few, if any, parallels. A march of 260 miles in five days is a remarkable feat, whilst the utter surprise of a large Indian village is unprecedented. In no single battle in North America, we believe, have so many hostile Indians been slain.

All honors to Colonel Chivington, and the brave men of Colorado. ♦