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under Compton and Biddle, and pushed up his Gatlings, under Pope, with their infantry support, and the astonished hostiles were quickly driven in a retreat that continued to and beyond the river, and only ceased when the labor of pursuing down ravines and over buttes, now through a burning village and now across a waste of sand, in terrible heat, and with only the acrid and filthy water of the Red River to drink, had forced a halt.

Throughout the autumn and winter this campaign went on. The scene was the borders of El Llano Estacado, the Staked Plains, a desert-like stretch, where stakes

settlers of the Northwest; and among the most interesting chapters in the annals of frontier fighting is the one that records how a comparatively small force subjugated that nation, and robbed the names of Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse of their terrors.

In June, 1876, General Custer's command was slaughtered on the Little Big Horn, and the Fifth Infantry was ordered to Montana to take part in the resulting operations of Generals Terry and Crook. These over, with little accomplished, and the hostile Sioux still unsubdued, most of the troops were withdrawn, and Miles was left to winter alone on the Yellowstone, with his own



GENERAL MILES FIRED UPON BY LAME DEER.

were driven to mark trails. Very little respite did the hostiles get. At one time they were followed through sand-hills for a hundred miles; at another, the troops were after them when the mercury was twenty-five degrees below zero, the frozen streams bearing up the loaded trains. There were "nine different engagements and affairs," and at last they went back to their agencies, worn out, almost starving, and completely broken in spirit; and from that day to this they have never again been on the warpath.

## VI.

TWENTY years ago the Sioux, from their numbers and prowess, were the dread of the

regiment and six companies of the Twenty-second Infantry, so as to be ready for a spring campaign. But to an officer thus isolated, discretionary power had to be entrusted, and Miles used it in a characteristic way. He resolved, as soon as the work of hutting at the mouth of the Tongue River was cared for, to strike the hostiles at once. "They expected us to hive up," said the General, "but we were not of the hiving kind." The Indians who had left their reservations were in two principal bodies, one under Sitting Bull, in the Yellowstone Valley, and the other under Crazy Horse, in the Wolf Mountains.

Made insolent by recent successes, Sitting Bull sent word to Colonel E. S. Otis, who