

## THERE IS NO DEATH.

LORD LYTON.

There is no death! The stars go down  
To rise upon some furer shore;  
And bright in heaven's jewelled crown  
They shine forevermore.

There is no death! The dust we tread  
Shall change beneath the summer showers  
The golden grain or mellowed fruit,  
Or rainbow tinted flowers.

The granite rocks disorganize,  
And feed the hungry moss they bear;  
The forest trees drink dilly life,  
From out the viewless air.

There is no death! An angel form  
Walks o'er the earth in silent tread;  
He bears our best loved things away;  
And then we call them "dead."

He leaves our heart all desolate,  
He plucks our fairest, sweetest flowers;  
Transplanted into bliss they now  
Adorn immortal bowers.

The bird like voice, whose joyous tones,  
Made glad their scenes of sin and strife,  
Sings now an everlasting song  
Around the trees of life.

Whene'er he sees a smile too blight,  
Or heart too pure for talent and vice,  
He bears it to that world of light;  
To dwell in Paradise.

Born unto that undying life,  
They leave us but to come again;  
With joy we welcome them the same,—  
Except their sin and pain.

And ever near us, though unseen,  
The dear immortal spirits tread;  
For all the boundless universe  
Is life—there are no dead.

## Headquarters Indian Territory Expedition.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS,  
March 4th, 1875.

Assistant Adjutant General,  
Department of the Missouri,  
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the Indian Territory Expedition:

In compliance with Special Orders No. 114, series 1874, Headquarters Department of the Missouri, the expedition was organized at Fort Dodge, Kansas, in the early part of August, 1874.

It consisted of eight (8) companies of the 6th Cavalry, which were organized as two equal Battalions, commanded by Majors Compton and Biddle, 6th Cavalry; four (4) companies of the 5th Infantry—from which details were made to form an Artillery detachment, (commanded by 2nd Lieut. J. W. Pope, 5th Infantry),—and a detachment of thirty nine (39) guides and trailers, under 1st Lieut. F. D. Baldwin, 5th Infantry.

For convenience in rendering a report, the operations of the command may be described as five (5) distinct movements.

I. As the command moved from Fort Dodge to Camp Supply, Major Compton, with his Battalion, one company of Infantry and the guides, left Fort Dodge August 11th, making a detour to the right; the remainder of the command left August 14th, moving by the direct route.

From the crossing of the Beaver, near Kiowa Creek, a scouting party of forty-nine (49) men, under command of Lieut. Baldwin, proceeded along the line of the Palo Duro to Adobe Walls, on the Canadian River, arriving there in time to repulse a second attack upon that place, made by a small band of Indians, who retreated southeast, burning the prairie grass behind them.

From Adobe Walls this force moved down the Canadian, surprised a small party of In-

dians near the mouth of Chicken Creek, killed one and wounded another, and rejoined the main command; (which, meantime had moved down from Camp Supply, via Wolf and Commission Creeks,) twelve (12) miles west of the Antelope Hills, August, 24th.

With the advance of the command, the hostile Cheyennes, Kiowas, Comanches, who had been camped in the vicinity, retreated from the Sweetwater, North Fork and McLellan Creek, concentrating as they moved southward.

They were rapidly pursued by the light and effective portion of the command for one hundred (100) miles to a point some twelve (12) miles north of Red River, opposite the mouth of the Tule, where an engagement took place. (August 30th,) with some six hundred (600) warriors, they having selected a line of bluffs, some five (5) or six (6); miles in extent, from which they made the first attack on the advance; this was as speedily repulsed. At the opening of the fight, the dash and courage, usual in a savage warfare, were exhibited, but as the command was rapidly deployed and the offensive immediately assumed, the field was cleared and the Indians driven over rugged bluffs, through deep and precipitous canyons, across Red River—through their burning villages in the Canon of the Tule, and out on the Staked Plains to the southwest. With their strength, position and the almost insurmountable natural obstacles, they should have contended against several thousand troops, instead of being routed and driven twenty (20) miles over an almost impassible country by a force inferior to their own in point of numbers. During the time required to bring up supplies from my train, over a very broken country, to make a practicable route over the rugged bluffs, out from the deep canyons and up the precipitous bank of the Tule, and to determine my pursuit of the Indians beyond the head off the Tule, 35 miles beyond Red River, that they had gone directly out on the Staked Plains, beyond any of the tributaries of the Red River, my supplies were so far exhausted as not to have warranted my crossing the Staked Plains, even if I had had means of carrying water, and it became necessary to return to replenish. While this movement was in progress, a large body of Kiowas and Comanches, numbering about two hundred and fifty (250) warriors, supposed to be friendly, left their Agency and assumed hostilities.

Two parties bearing despatches, one under 1st Lieut. F. D. Baldwin, 5th Infantry, and one under Guide Chapman, were met and surrounded by Indians while en route from the command to Camp Supply, and my supply train, with escort commanded by Captain W. Lyman, 5th Infantry, was detained for four (4) days near the Washita by the persistent attacks of some two hundred and fifty (250) Indians; all of these attacks were handsomely repulsed. The Indians who attacked the train and the couriers were of those who had recently left the Wichita Agency. This party divided after their final repulse by the troops, a part going southwest to the Staked Plains, and a part eastward; these were followed beyond the Antelope Hills and surrendered, a part of them at the Cheyenne Agency, October 3rd, and a part at the Fort Sill reservation.

The detention of my supply train, above referred to, rendered it necessary to return to the Washita, where the command arrived September 15th. The delay in obtaining supplies made necessary a period of

partial inaction, and the command camped on the Canadian, Washita and Sweetwater. From these camps parties were sent out, thoroughly scouting the country in the vicinity, and a reconnoissance from Oasis Creek, on the Canadian, along Wolf Creek, beyond the Palo Duro, thence to Adobe Walls and down the Canadian, was made by Interpreter Clark with a small detachment, and it established the fact that no Indians were in that region, or had recently passed through it northward.

During this time also (September 26th) one half of the 6th Cavalry, under Major Biddle, was sent back to Camp Supply. This diminishing of the force was rendered possible by the changed state of affairs since the engagement on Red River, August 30th, and was rendered necessary, partly to enable me to send out of the field, to recuperate, all except the strongest horses, and chiefly in order that the grain that arrived might accumulate sufficiently to warrant another and more extended forward movement.

A Battalion of four (4) companies of the 8th Cavalry, under command of Major Wm. R. Price, 8th Cavalry, joined my command a second time on the 15th September. I assumed command of it, temporarily, on the 17th September, and on the 23rd, the Department Commander directed that it be come a part of my command. It so remained until December 28th, when it was ordered to New Mexico.

II. 1st Lieut. F. D. Baldwin, 5th Infantry, in command of a detachment of Cavalry, Infantry and scouts, was sent (October 12th) from near the head of Washita to scout to the south towards Red River. He moved to head of South Branch of McLellan Creek, and thence northward, examining the heads of the various streams between that point and the Canadian.

On the 10th of October, Major Compton, with two companies of Cavalry and one of Infantry, started from Oasis Creek and proceeded north of, and along, the Canadian to Adobe Walls, thence to Mustang Creek and Palo Duro (branch of Beaver.) This anticipated the movement of the Indians to the north before the advance of troops from the Department of Texas, though no report of such advance had been received. The movement was successfully executed, and the Indians were intercepted, persistently followed for more than one hundred (100) miles through sand hills, and by circuitous and very difficult routes, and, though every effort was made to deceive and throw the command off their trail, they were finally driven (October 18th) to the plains south of the Canadian.

While this movement was in progress, a detachment of Cavalry, under Captain C. B. McLellan, and another under 1st Lieut. W. M. Wallace, 6th Cavalry, were sent well up the Beaver, and to the Palo Duro, respectively; a third detachment of Infantry and scouts, under Captain Ewers, was sent to near head waters of Wolf Creek: all of which were in position to intercept any Indians who might evade Major Compton's command.

On the evening of October 13th a movement of a considerable body of Indians going east was discovered between Gageby Creek and Sweetwater. I started immediately from the head of Washita, found the trail at daylight on the 14th, and put a force at once in pursuit. The force consisted of Companies "I," 6th Cavalry, "C," 8th Cavalry, and "C," 5th Infantry, Captain A. R. Challice, 6th Cavalry, commanding.

The Indians were pressed so closely as to