

comes to the troops. "You'll eat no more fat bacon," they called; "you've had your last breakfast." Suiting his tactics to the nature of the ground, General Miles deployed all his force, keeping no reserve, and set the men at climbing up the steep hill-sides, now through gullies filled with snow, and now over the slippery ice. Despite the drag of their heavy clothing, they reached the crests, and there, facing the Indians on equal ground, at length drove them through the mountains. Big Crow, their medicine-man, had told them his medicine was so strong that the whites could not kill them; and he may have had faith in it himself, for, coming out in front, he ran about in a circle of perhaps a dozen feet in diameter, shaking his gun. "It was a dare-devil thing to do," said the General, "but Indians sometimes try it, perhaps counting on the constant change of position to protect them." Shot after shot failed to hit him, but at length a bullet brought him down; and then a panic spread through the camp. The end of the battle and the flight of the Indians took place in a blinding snow-storm.

Returning to the cantonment, General Miles sent Brughier to Crazy Horse's camp, with a demand for his surrender; and during the spring that chief, with Little Hawk, Little Big Man, The Rock, and more than two thousand Indians, gave themselves up at the agencies; and about three hundred more, under Two Moons, Hump, White Bull, and Horse Road, at the cantonment. Sitting Bull had found refuge on Canadian soil.

VIII.

WHEN spring opened it was learned that one band, mostly Minneconjous, under *Lame Deer*, was still out, along the *Rosebud*. Early in May, therefore, General Miles started after them, using as scouts some of his surrendered Sioux and Cheyennes. A hard and secret march enabled him to surprise *Lame Deer's* village, of fifty-one lodges, at the mouth of *Muddy Creek*. Desiring to avoid bloodshed, the General directed Lieutenants Casey and Jerome to charge through the village, cutting off the herd, while another body of troops, following more deliberately, was to call out that, if the Indians would throw down their arms, their lives would be spared. This was done, *White Bull* making the demand for surrender, while General Miles rode up and held out his hand to *Lame Deer*, saying: "How, how?" and Lieutenant Baird, of his staff, in like manner grasped *Iron Star's* hand.

Just then a scout foolishly pointed a rifle at *Lame Deer*, as if to cover him. "The chief, who was a big, powerful fellow," said the General, "jerked away his hand from mine, and reached down for his gun, as if he suspected treachery and thought, 'I'll send him, at any rate, to the happy hunting-ground.' My horse started back, and *Lame Deer's* bullet, whistling by, killed a soldier named *Stringer*, just behind me."

The troops at once opened fire, and then charged the hills, to which the Indians had retreated, keeping up the pursuit for eight miles. Among the killed were *Lame Deer* and his chief warrior, *Iron Star*, and twelve other warriors; and the band, under other leaders, afterwards surrendered at the agencies. As for the captured horses, they were used for mounting the Fifth Infantry.

IX.

ONE of the noblest figures in Indian history, and one of the greatest warriors, is the *Nez Percé* Chief *Joseph*. In this same year, 1877, he had resisted attempts to put him and his band on the *Lapwai* reservation, in Western Idaho, and had sought to carry all his people hundreds of miles to Canada. He outran the force that General Howard had on his trail, escaped from *Big Hole*, where General Gibbon fought him, and again from General Sturgis, who engaged him in the *Yellowstone Valley*. Sturgis had been sent out by Miles; and when the latter, on the evening of September 19th, heard what had occurred, he started the same night with all the available force of the *Tongue River* cantonment, to head off Chief *Joseph* before he should reach the border.

Hard marching brought the command, on the last day of the month, to *Joseph's* village, in the *Bear Paw* mountains. It lay within the curve of a crescent-shaped bank, in the valley of *Snake Creek*, and the warriors occupied the beds of adjoining ravines. A brilliant charge of the Second Cavalry battalion, under *Tyler*, cut off the herd of eight hundred ponies; and then battalions of the Seventh Cavalry and Fifth Infantry, under *Hale* and *Snyder*, headed by the Sioux and Cheyenne scouts, under Lieutenant *Maus*, charged directly into the village. The heroic attack was resisted with a valor as heroic, and in a short time Captain *Hale*, Lieutenant *Biddle*, and twenty-two soldiers were killed, and four officers and thirty-eight soldiers wounded, among them being Lieutenant *Baird*, of the General's staff. One gallant charge by Captain *Carter*,