

## GEN. CROOK'S POSITION DISCUSSED.

OPINIONS OF LEADING ARMY OFFICERS—A FATE SIMILAR TO CUSTER'S REGARDED AS IMPOSSIBLE WITH CROOK'S FORCE—UNEASINESS OVER THE TARDY ADVICES FROM HIM.

*Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.*

WASHINGTON, July 13.—The failure to get positive information from Gen. Crook is causing apprehension in Army circles here that something has gone wrong with him. None of the many General officers here are willing to believe that he and his command have shared the fate of Custer, but the fact that sixteen days have elapsed since he has been heard from is deemed strange and in some degree alarming. The fears are strengthened by the fact that in the battle of the Rosebud he was defeated by a smaller force of Indians than were in position to attack him after the terrible defeat of Custer and his command. Gen. Hancock says he believes Crook will be heard from soon, but he admits that there is some ground for concern. He says that the country is rough where Crook is, and very difficult to make much progress in, and that it is rather more favorable for Indians than for the troops. He also says that it is an absolute impossibility for Crook to have shared the fate of Custer, and the very fact that he has not been heard from is a very good proof that no great calamity has overtaken them, else the stragglers would have come in before this. Gen. Hazen and several other officers take the same view. They declare that were it not for the disaster which befell Gen. Custer and his command and the result of the battle of the Rosebud, there would be nothing in Gen. Crook's silence to create the least alarm. Gen. Crook, they say, has 1,500 men and forty days' rations, and he may have no need to send in couriers. All military men agree that the annihilation of Crook's command by the Indians is not within the range of possibility. Gen. Hancock, as well as all the other General officers here, have great faith in Gen. Crook's ability to take good care of, and make a good report of, himself. They rely upon his ability, large experience, and caution to bring him through all right, notwithstanding the seeming suspicious circumstances which surround his recent movements. Crook is, on all hands, esteemed the most able of all our Generals to conduct an Indian war, and he will, when heard from, probably be placed by Gen. Sherman in charge of future operations.

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