

**"BOOTS AND SADDLES":
OR, LIFE IN DAKOTA
WITH GENERAL CUSTER;
WITH PORTRAIT AND MAP**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649085194

"Boots and Saddles": Or, Life in Dakota with General Custer; With Portrait and Map by
Elizabeth B. Custer

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

ELIZABETH B. CUSTER

**"BOOTS AND SADDLES":
OR, LIFE IN DAKOTA
WITH GENERAL CUSTER;
WITH PORTRAIT AND MAP**



G. A. Hunter.

“BOOTS AND SADDLES”

OR LIFE IN DAKOTA WITH GENERAL CUSTER

BY
ELIZABETH B. CUSTER

WITH PORTRAIT AND MAP

NEW YORK AND LONDON
HARPER & BROTHERS PUBLISHERS
1899

Dedicated
TO
MY HUSBAND

THE ECHO OF WHOSE VOICE HAS BEEN MY INSPIRATION

10

11

12

13

14

15

PREFACE.

ONE of the motives that have actuated me in recalling these simple annals of our daily life, has been to give a glimpse to civilians of garrison and camp life—about which they seem to have such a very imperfect knowledge.

This ignorance exists especially with reference to anything pertaining to the cavalry, which is almost invariably stationed on the extreme frontier.

The isolation of the cavalry posts makes them quite inaccessible to travellers, and the exposure incident to meeting warlike Indians does not tempt the visits of friends or even of the venturesome tourist. Our life, therefore, was often as separate from the rest of the world as if we had been living on an island in the ocean.

Very little has been written regarding the domestic life of an army family, and yet I cannot believe that it is without interest; for the innumerable questions

that are asked about our occupations, amusements, and mode of house-keeping, lead me to hope that the actual answers to these queries contained in this little story will be acceptable. This must also be my apology for entering in some instances so minutely into trifling perplexities and events, which went to fill up the sum of our existence.

E. B. C.

*148 East 18th Street,
New York City.*

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. CHANGE OF STATION	9
II. A BLIZZARD	17
III. WESTERN HOSPITALITY	30
IV. CAVALRY ON THE MARCH	37
V. CAMPING AMONG THE SIOUX	49
VI. A VISIT TO THE VILLAGE OF "TWO BEARS"	60
VII. ADVENTURES DURING THE LAST DAYS OF THE MARCH	73
VIII. SEPARATION AND REUNION	86
IX. OUR NEW HOME AT FORT LINCOLN	94
X. INCIDENTS OF EVERY-DAY LIFE	104
XI. THE BURNING OF OUR QUARTERS.—CARRYING THE MAIL	115
XII. PERPLEXITIES AND PLEASURES OF DOMESTIC LIFE	124
XIII. A "STRONG HEART" DANCE!	131
XIV. GARRISON LIFE	138
XV. GENERAL CUSTER'S LITERARY WORK	140
XVI. INDIAN DEPREDACTIONS	154
XVII. A DAY OF ANXIETY AND TERROR	159
XVIII. IMPROVEMENTS AT THE POST, AND GARDENING	167
XIX. GENERAL CUSTER'S LIBRARY	174
XX. THE SUMMER OF THE BLACK HILLS EXPEDITION	181