

~~trooper~~  
~~soldier~~ to guard the captives - & pursued the men over the hill - overtook & killed them - Then

The

turned to rejoin his ~~command~~. The pursuit had carried him a couple of miles - <sup>from the white troops</sup> ~~But~~ The sound report of fire arms had reached the Indian Villages a few miles down the Washita & aid was ~~hurry~~ <sup>racing</sup> up the Valley -

The leading riders ran out to the guard with the captives women & killed him - & were in time to intercept Major Elliott, on his men on their return - from over the hills -

The Indians as they could catch their mounts <sup>were hurrying</sup> had strung out - with long spaces between the riders - As the leaders ~~peaked~~ rounding the hills into the Valley widening of the Valley caused by the creek coming in from the South, discovered the captives left in the hands of a guard

They attack & killed him - And were in time to intercept Major Elliott & his squad of 19 of 19 - on their return -

At first there were only a few Indians & he might ~~have~~ easily have