

supplemented by the cracking of rifle shots and the whiz of bullets in our canon, and as I was the only paleface in the party, I figured that my chances of effecting an exit alive were reduced to lowest terms. Perhaps we were all the more alarmed because our position in the canon was untenable. But whatever fleeting emotions may have seized upon us, we still rushed on toward the open meadow, where we might join in the fight on an equal footing with the enemy. We were scared, and were on the run; but we were running in the right direction. We did not hesitate until we halted in the open field. Then--what a shock!

'A small herd of antelope had strolled along the edge of the meadow, on the windward side. They did not scent the Indians, but suddenly the Indians discovered the antelope. Those who were fully awake caught up their rifles and fired in the direction of the herd, producing that first volley which had startled our little company in the canon. By this time, the sleeping scouts had been aroused, and they, too, joined in the shooting, giving the effect of the second volley. Very promptly, the antelope scattered into the forest, but as long as any of the animals remained in sight, the Indians maintained desultory firing. We were kidded a bit, then resumed our journey.

'When we arrived at Ojo Caliente, late in the afternoon of April 20, I found awaiting me a telegram from Major Wade, advising me that he would not be able to join me with his three companies of troops until April 22. This delay of one day may or may not have been unavoidable, but it placed the full responsibility of a most serious situation squarely up to me. It was obvious that if I remained two days at Ojo Caliente with my twenty-two San Carlos police, the renegades either would massacre us, or flee to Old Mexico. But troops were not cooperating, at my request. If I took any action against the renegades, without consulting the officer commanding the troops in the field, I must be solely responsible for the results. That is the way the army used to work.