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observed along the Piney / in front of the fort. A spherical case shot from the howitzer in the fort exploded in their midst and they vanished. The Indians were much afraid of the 'gun that shoots twice' as they call it. At that time it was discovered that no doctor had gone with the relieving party, so Surgeon Mines, with an escort of four men, was sent out with orders to join Fetterman. The doctor hastened away but returned soon after with the information that the wood train had gone on and that when he had attempted to cross the valley of the Pine to join Fetterman's men, he 'found it full of Indians, who were swarming about Lodge Trail ridge, and that no sign of Fetterman was observed. Despite Fetterman's orders he must have gone over the ridge.'

"The alarm caused in the fort by this news was deepened by the sound of firing at 12 o'clock. Six shots in rapid succession were counted and immediately after heavy firing was heard from over the Lodge Trail ridge, five miles away, which continued with such fierceness as to indicate a pitched battle. Carrington instantly dispatched Captain Ten Eyck with the rest of the infantry, in all about seventy-six men, directing him to join Fetterman's command, then return with them to the fort. The men went forward on the run.

"Counting out Fetterman's detachment, the guard of the wood train and Ten Eyck's detachment, the garrison was now reduced to a very small number. The post might be attacked at any moment. Carrington at once released all the prisoners from the guard house, armed the quartermaster's employes and citizens, but could muster altogether only 119 men. Although every preparation for a desperate defense was made there was not enough soldiers to man the walls. The general, with his remaining officers, repaired to the observatory tower, field glasses in hand and watched the ridge in apprehension of a catastrophe so fearful that they scarcely allowed themselves to imagine it. The men and children, especially those who had husbands and fathers with the first detachment, were almost crazed with terror.

"Presently Sample, the general's own orderly, who had been sent with Ten Eyck, was seen galloping furiously down the opposite hill. He had the best horse