

at once the Indians would have made a horrible massacre as the Indians came upon them the next morning two thousand strong. Soon another telegram reached Fort Laramie, calling for fifty more men and a supply of ammunition and to be sure and come at the dead of night, or they would be slaughtered before assistance could reach them. As the Indians were then two thousand strong, and could probably receive reinforcements the next day as they previously had done. Lieutenant Brown with fifty men and artillery at once started to reinforce them. They arrived just in time for if they had been in such a desperate battle the following day as they had previously had they would probably been defeated. But one of the soldiers met with a horrible death during this battle. He was riding the horse which assisted me in my escape. This horse was naturally very high spirited and during the battle became uncontrollable and dashed into the thickest of the battle among the savages which resulted in the death of both horse and master.

They seized the soldier and they continued to mutilate his body by cutting his heart out and tossing it into the air, then they cut off his fingers and toes, and continued to disjoint him. Then they threw him upon the ground and crushed him into the cold damp earth.

After the Indians had all departed from the battlefield and had taken with them their dead and wounded the soldiers returned to Fort Laramie highly elated over their great victory. It was at Fort Laramie that they told me, how nearly Col. Summers who was in hearing distance of our massacre and rushed in hopes of assisting us, carefully had the militia to place them in their lone