

GRAY

It was 'round noon on September 22 when we came up on two of Forsyth's scouts, they commenced to sayin' Forsyth's camp was attacked and was surrounded by hostiles...In desperate straits they was running out of rations, medicine and had many wounded.

SHARPE

Captain Louis H. Carpenter, H company, Tenth Cavalry gave us orders to move out pronto! About thirty five miles out we came on a up on a indian trail with many dead indians up on scaffold in the trees. They had all died of gunshots...Capt. Carpenter thought one of the dead was Roman Nose, a Cheyenne warrior with a deadly reputation! We found Jack Donovan, another one of Forsyth's scouts, he also said Forsyth was being overrun.

MILLER

Carpenter took thirty of our best riders off with a few supplies...Running the horses full speed about eighteen miles north we finally reached what was a horrible sight.

GREY

Six of Forsyth's command was dead...that included Lt. Beecher and Surgeon Mooers. Fifteen was wounded...Forsyth himself had been hit in both legs and maggots was eating at his wounds.

SHARPE

The smell of the dead bodies, men, animals, everythang was so overpowering the Captain had us move the wounded away from the STINCH, so they could be treated.

MILLER

Ole Doc Fitzgerald had a time talkin' Major Forsyth in to lettin' him take off that leg...Forsyth was hollerin', I NEED MY LEG, I NEED MY LEG! Ole Doc said, "Better loose ya leg, than ya life." He cut that leg right on off. Years to come they would call this here the Battle of Beecher's island...named after the young Lieutenant.

(WALKING BEAR appears from down stage.)

WALKING BEAR

The white man made much of this battle, survivors told the tale that they had killed hundreds of redskins, we found no more than thirty...they called it Battle of Beecher Island we remember it as the fight when Roman Nose was killed.

(Black out WALKING BEAR.)