

This train, composed of three wagons accompanied by four men, never arrived, being attacked on the 3d, near Buffalo Springs, by about forty Indians. The men were killed and scalped, the mules run off, and the wagons burned. Appearances indicate that three of the men were killed instantly, while the fourth was probably subjected to death by torture and slow burning, while tied to the wheels of his wagon, over a fire of corn and oats, which formed part of his load. The bodies of the three men killed in the onset were removed and buried by a ranche-man, whose ranche was but five or six miles from the place, and who had warned them of their danger, and endeavored to dissuade them from proceeding farther when they passed his ranche an hour or two previous. As the Indians continued hovering about, the remains of the burned man could not be moved away, and they daring not remain at the place long enough to dig a grave, it was unburied until Agent Miles passed on the 5th. He and the party with him gave it a burial.

Many murders have been committed in the frontiers of Kansas, reported to have been done by Indians; yet it is thought that some have been done by white desperadoes in Indian disguises. Of this I cannot testify, but from what I know of the character of some of these desperate men, they would not be obliged to stoop in order to perpetrate any species of crime. A company of these characters, we are told, have been formed in Kansas, and make their headquarters in the Pan Handle of Texas, south of the Canadian River. These they have

partially fortified, and are known as the Adobe Walls, from the material used in their construction. According to the best information I can obtain, the object in establishing this outpost appears to have been to build up an illicit trading-post, where whiskey, arms, and ammunition may be exchanged with Indians for their stolen stock. This place, according to Indian reports, was recently attacked by the Indians, who were at first repulsed with some loss to themselves; but afterwards gaining access to the interior of the walls, they report having killed all the men within.

Other depredations having been committed in the south-western parts of Kansas, the people there are much alarmed, and are leaving their claims in some of the more remote and exposed settlements. These depredations occurring at or just before the holding of the great medicine dance of the Kiowas, and it being their superstitious idea that any of their men who neglect the attendance of that, the great yearly assembling of the tribe, will not live until the return of the anniversary, they are supposed to be all present. Hence the reports of Kiowas being engaged in any of these depredations are not entitled to credence. Not but that a portion of the tribe might have engaged in hostilities immediately after the close of the medicine dance. This took place the 3d of the 7th month; after which that portion of the Kiowa tribe with which I had been so long associated came in to their Agency, registered their names as friendly Indians, and submitted to the roll-call in order