Soule's death removed one of Chivington's bitterest enemies, but the attempt to remove Soule's testimony from the records, and to blacken his character, failed. In the meantime the murderer, Squires, was in New Mexico, and no reward had been offered by anyone for his arrest, in spite of the fact that even the Rocky Mountain News seemed to think this was odd. He apparently was talking before he was arrested, for the News of June 13, 1865 carries at item from the Santa Fe Gazette about a statement made by Squires on the shooting. Squires said that Soule fired first, and was killed by another man--Morrow. It's all very queer, to say the least.

On June 19, 1865, the News says that Marshall Hunt had arrived by coach from the south. "From him we have southern news of interest. Squiers was arrested at Las Vegas by Lieutenant Cannon, and is held as a military prisoner... Lieutenant Cannon took his prisoner to Ft. Union, where he is now in custody."

Almost at once protests began to appear in the News from Las Vegas. A letter signed by N.C. Carson says that Squires was not arrested by Cannon, but by a Captain Morton and a Mr. Powell, and that Cannon wasn't even in town at the time. What this is all about I myself can't say--perhaps an attempt to claim the reward that was never offered. At any rate, the News called Carson, politely, a liar, and Carson came back with affidavits and what-have-you to the effect that Cannon did not arrest Squires. Obviously there's something funny about it.

On July 11, 1865, Lieutenant Cannon arrived in Denver with Squires. (I am not completely sure if this is the same Cannon who testified against Chivington before the Commission, but presume that it is, as he was with a New Mexico regiment. I shall verify this later. The excitement caused in Denver by further events would seem to indicate that it is the same Cannon.) The murderer, the News remarks, was well-fed and calm.

Three days later the News reports the "mysterious death of Lieutenant Cannon" and says, "we forebear comments... We warn the public against giving credence to the many wild and groundless stories in circulation. No one has been arrested, and no evidence has, as yet, caused suspicion of foul play..."

Unfortunately for my researches, I didn't discover this latest development in the Soule-Squires-Cannon-Chivington story until I was in Washington, where they do not have a complete file of the Rocky Mountain News, and so there are gaps in the story which I can only fill in Denver. A post mortem was held on Cannon and a large amount of morphia was found in his interior, although apparently there was no one in Denver really competent to conduct a p.m. I'm wrong about that item of the morphia--it was found in his room, and his interior was in a congested state, which might have been caused by liquor There seems to have been no attempt to analyze the contents of the stomach. Cannon was a heavy drinker, and there is plenty of suspicion that he had either lost or been robbed of important documents.

The News, obviously unhappy about the matter, says on July 18 "The suspicion of foul-play causing the death of this officer has been dissipated by the evidence educed..." which seems a little thin to me, according to what evidence I've found. Certainly it must have been convenient for Chivington to have had both Soule and Cannon out of the way.

Squires was tried by court-martial, but because I've not had access to the News I don't know now what became of him. Chivington tried to run for Congress later, but even the News had difficulty supporting him and was obviously relieved when he withdrew from the race.