

7th Mo 1874

5th 2nd day Clear & Warm Still very
 unwell. Visited Captain Black Beaver
 Reports ^{of Indian depredations} along the road from here to Michi-
 ita, & other places are more than con-
 firmed. The Cheyennes & Comanches
 made an attack upon the settlement
 at Adobe Walls near the Canadian
 River on the of month & were
 repulsed with heavy loss to themselves
 both as regards lives & stock. Since
 which, probably last 5th day the unit-
 ed trains of W^m Mathewson, Post, & Jack-
 son, numbering about 19 wagons loaded
 with supplies for this & the Kiowa Agen-
 cies, & having over one hundred mules &
 some twenty five men, was attacked
 near Skeleton Creek, probably while
 travelling & scattered along the road
 several men killed, the wagons burn-
 ed & the mules run off. The mutila-
 ted remains of four men were found
 in the ashes & one dead Indian near
 by, whether the attacking force were
 Cheyennes, Comanches or Osages we have
 not as yet ascertained. The prob-
 abilities are that most of the men
 escaped, or were carried away as pris-
 oners. Much excitement prevails.

7th 3rd day Clear & Warm Last night
 an attempt was made by a party of
 Cheyennes to run off the stock belong-
 ing to the Michitas, but as the Michitas
 were on the watch they were driven
 away with the loss of a war bonnet
 which exposed the attacking tribe.
 Mails can scarcely be got through.