

7th Mo 1874

125
5th day Clear & Warm. To day
J. C. Breckenridge, came through to the
Agency, from Kansas & by him we
are enabled to get the straight news
respecting the captured train & the
murdered ~~trains~~^{men} on the road toward
Wichita. It appears that the
stock stolen from the ~~contract~~
^{new} mail contractors was stolen
by the retiring contractors in order
to cripple them so as to render it
impossible for them to deliver the
mails in accordance with the terms
of the contract, hoping thereby that
they might retain the old contract
but, that is now discovered & the new
company have recovered all their stock
but one, which is now among the
Cheyennes, who killed the man
who had stolen it & secured the
mule themselves. On the third
inst a train of three wagons (instead
of twenty as at first reported) laden
with supplies, was attacked by about
40 Indians & all the men were killed
& scalped, the mules run off & the wag-
ons burned. Appearances indicate
that three of the men were killed quick-
ly, while one of them was probably not
fatally wounded & was subjected to
death by the tortures of slow burn-
ing. A quantity of corn & oats
which formed a part of his load