Then follows the translation of the letter from Peria, which names two other sufferers, Don Resqu Goneolus, and Don Salvador Armijo.

Letter No. 29-Headquarters--Fort Dodge, Kansas--January 24, 1868
To--Bvt. Brig. Gen. Chauncy McKeever AA
General Department of the Missouri

Through district headquarters General Douglas recognizes letter from Honorable Chaves, delegate from New Mexico, enclosing letter from Don Jose Peria and reports as follows that a train of wagons made up of three trains under Peria passed Dodge on September 7 and lost all their animals by an attack of seven Indians near "Nine Mile ~~Ridge~~ River." The Mexican did not move a finger to recover them . A non-commissioned officer and a few men returning to this post from escort duty saw the affair as they were approaching the train, and gave pursuit, but the Indians, having a fair start for the river, could not be overtaken. The non-commissioned officer states that if the Mexicans had mounted the remaining animals and started immediately in pursuit they could have recovered their stock. It was thus that they were compelled to "lay by". The subsequent attack was but a small affair at best; the desperate character of the fighting may be inferred from the casualties, the loss on both sides consisting of one Indian pony killed by a soldier.

I state the above facts because Mr. Chaves's letter made some stress upon the results of these Indian attacks as misfortunes and entitling the trained men to some consideration as ~~which~~ result of the ~~discovery~~ ~~destruction~~ destruction of intoxicating liquors contained in the train--wheras ~~there~~ their misfortune is either due to their cowardice, fearfulness, or indolence. No matter which, it was their own fault. The train, on passing this post recorded 50 men, 50 guns, and 1500 rounds of ammunition. This was their ~~command~~ number when they lost their stock by an attack of seven Indians. Their number when parked in an entrenched position was 37, including six men of this command. Before explaining the cause which induced me to direct the destruction of spiritious