

more men. The soldiers came upon them while they were preparing supper and shot the old man in the back.

The young man was ordered to explain why they were taking so many lives and he told them, they were trying to spite the government. After the boy had told all the soldiers requested, they shot him which resulted in an instant death. The soldiers beheading the Mexicans left their bodies unburied and brought their heads to the Fort on poles.

On the 20th of April we decided to go to our former home in Sidney, Iowa. The first day we moved on Turkey Creek, our third days travel brought us to Jimmy Camp, where there was an immense amount of petrified wood.

We observed two cedar trees which were petrified, one of them standing but the other one was laying on the ground beside it. Traveling onward, our course brought us to Cherry Creek and thence to Denver City. Here we stopped for several days. On March 1st we left Denver, traveling nine miles we reached the toll gate. From here we proceeded to Coal Creek, from here we went to Skunk Creek, thence to Live Springs, Vissue Bottom and to Moor and Kelleys Ranch. From here we went through Juelsburg, Sand Station and O'Fallon Bluffs and thence to Alkali Station. After we reached Box Elder Station we soon arrived at Cotton Wood Springs which is only about sixty miles from Plum Creek Station. When we arrived at the head of Beaver Creek, we soon reached the Big Blue. When we came to Salt Creek we decided to stop for a week for rest, as this was a very fine camping place. After we left Salt Creek, we went to Nebraska City, whence we stopped for several days at the Cincinnati House.

About eight o'clock one morning we crossed the river, and