

# **EVENING NEWS.** Published Daily, Sundays Excepted, AT FOUR O'CLOCK. PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE DESERET NEWS COMPANY. CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR. Thursday, May 4, 1882. **THE MURDER OF SECRETARY BABBITT.** We have received the following ex- tracts from the Crescent City, Iowa Oracle, and publish them in the News by request of Mr. J. E. John- son, who clipped them from back numbers of that paper, as they con- tain authentic information concern- ing the killing of Allen W. Babbitt, about whose death so many false- hoods have been told by anti-Mor- mons. These stories have been given more prominence by the resur- rection of the dead and buried per- juries of Levy Abraham alias Raz- zell. The first clipping is an editorial which appeared in the Oracle of Friday, May 22, 1881: MURDER OF HON. A. W. BABBITT. We notice in the letter of resignation of Hon. W. W. Drummond, to Attorney-General Black, that he there, among other very grave charges, asserts that the Hon. A. W. Babbitt was murdered by white men disguised as Indians, by order of the authorities of Utah. In jus- tice to the parties thus named, we will state that we have taken much pains to gather all the information possible calculated to throw light on the death of our relative, Mr. Bab- bitt, and the particulars connected with the same; and we have not a shadow of doubt but that Indians of the Cheyenne nation murdered him for revenge and plunder; and for the satisfaction of his friends, who we do not heard the full particulars, will recount them briefly: As Secretary of Utah, the late lamented Col. Babbitt purchased the stationery and other necessities for legislative purposes, etc., and at a proper season started off from Flo- rence across the Plains, with ox- teams, under the charge of a Mr. Nickels. Late in August, with only one attendant, and in an open car- riage, Mr. Babbitt left Florence, for Utah. Upon arriving at Fort Kear- ney he there met some of his stock, his wagons, and a portion of the goods, and one man who had followed him, being all that remained of the number having been killed; three on the spot and one (Mrs. Wilson) the next day after capture. Mr. Babbitt hastened to purchase more cattle, and, gathering up the remains of his freight train, he started again for Fort Kearney, and wrote us several letters, stating that he would start forward himself with two attendants, the day following. These are probably the last he ever wrote. Mr. Babbitt left the fort as had been arranged, and was never again seen by white men. All the emigra- tion was ahead. He intended to reach Fort Tule, in northwestern Nebraska, and was making good time. Some weeks later an Indian came into a French trader's station with a gold watch which bore the initials of Mr. Babbitt's name, and soon another came with a massive ring, which was also marked as a ring. The Indians then being charged with the murder, acknowledged that they had done it. News was sent to the fort and Maj. Wharton immediately sent out a detachment in search, which found Mr. Bab- bitt's carriage, trunk and many val- uable papers, but nothing of the un- fortunate victim but a few bones. The Indians then confessed that having been insulted and abused by the party in charge of the mail, and some of them killed by the sol- diers, a company of twelve had fallen upon Mr. Babbitt's ox train as being the first they met to meet and avenge the wrong. That they had seen Mr. Babbitt arrive at the fort, and knew him (he having crossed the plains nearly 20 times) and that he was a big man, and by killing him they might get plunder and revenge at the same time. They had gone on ahead and lay in wait; when he passed they followed him at a distance until he had stopped, the second day in the afternoon. Then they rode down upon him, yelling and screaming. Mr. B. shouted at them and motioned them to stop, and pointed his pistol at them, but they passed on and he fired at them. Frank Rowland (a young man ac- companying him) stood with his arms by his side until shot down; the other man slowly backed up to his carriage for protection behind. He had seriously wounded several when one, more severely than the others, jumped out of his wagon, and with a tomahawk, killed a brave and noble man. Major Wharton still has possession of the ring which he obtained of the Indians, and some other valuables and relics, found on the spot of the murder. Mr. —, a French trader, has a fine gold watch, which belonged to Mr. Babbitt, which he purchased of the Indians, together with some articles of minor value. All that is known of the murder of Mr. Babbitt, is obtained through the statements of themselves, who acknowledge they committed the murder. It seems to be a very malicious charge the ex-Judge is thus making against the people of Utah, without anything to justify him in doing so. The widow of the late Mr. Babbitt is now on her return from Utah to this place. Upon her arrival, we shall, at the earliest moment, an- nounce the receipt of anything further connected with his murder. The annexed is an editorial pub- lished in the Oracle of August 7, 1887: "LETTER FROM MRS. BABBITT." "The New York Herald of July 25th, publishes the following notice of a letter, from Mrs. Babbitt, re- lative to the murder of her late hus- band." "Mrs. Julia Ann Babbitt, mother of a communication full of malicious interest, containing the results of an inquiry lately made by her, relative to the circumstances attending the murder of her late husband. The letter is dated at Crescent City, Iowa, at which place Mrs. Babbitt had ar- rived after a fatiguing and perilous journey from Lake City, thence to Fort Laramie, Fort Kearney and Ellendale, Iowa. At the three first named places Mrs. Babbitt had com- munications from travelers, French traders, friendly Indians and the U. S. officers commanding the forts. Their joint testimony shows that Mr. Babbitt, in company with Mr. Rowland and Mr. Sutherland (Sim- mons), started from Fort Kearney for Fort Tule, Nebraska, about the 6th of September last, and that they were murdered and robbed by a party of Cheyenne Indians. Some of Mr. Babbitt's jewelry and other valuables have been seen since, with the Indians, and it is quite prob- able that some of the party who killed him, are still in the country."