

**Affidavit of J. E. Crow.**

Territory of Nebraska,  
County of Nemaha:

On this 17th day of January, A. D. 1866, before me, William H. Hoover, county clerk of the said county of Nemaha, personally appeared Jerome E. Crow, who, having been by me first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, in relation to the matters hereinafter set forth, on his oath, says:

On the 27th day of June, A. D. 1864, I started from Fort Leavenworth, in the State of Kansas, with a train of twenty-one or two wagons under my charge, loaded principally with flour and wagon-bows belonging to the Government of the United States, which I was transporting, under contract, to Fort Union, in New Mexico. A train of Richard F. Barret, containing nine wagons, under the charge of John Hiles, wagon-master, started at the same time and for the same destination.

Barret's train was left a few miles behind us, but overtook us on the 17th of July, 1864, and on the night of July 17, 1864, we all coralled together at the Big Bend of the Arkansas River. The next morning, about 10 o'clock a.m., when we were distant from a post where some fifty or sixty soldiers were stationed, under command of Captain Dunlap, about seventeen hundred steps, I saw from one hundred to one hundred and twenty-five Indians approaching. Our two trains then stretched out about half a mile. The Indians divided at the head of our trains and rode down on both sides of us.

They stopped along our trains and commenced firing upon us with bows and arrows and guns. They killed ten men and wounded five men in the two trains. They then commenced plundering, and took away all the wagon-sheets and other articles mentioned in the bill hereto attached, and also destroyed one hundred and thirty-two sacks of Government flour by ripping open the sacks and throwing the flour on the ground, and carrying off the sacks. They also took away some of the flour. I swear positively, of my own personal knowledge, that the articles described in the bill hereto attached as belonging to me were then taken away by those Indians, and that the said articles were then worth the sums set opposite the items. I would here state that two wagons charged in the said bill were so much damaged by those Indians that I was forced to abandon them.

Richard F. Barret, the owner of the train of nine wagons, and myself had taken a contract from Stewart, Slemmens & Co., Government contractors at Leavenworth, Kansas, to convey the flour and wagon-bows, with which our wagons were then loaded, from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to Fort Union, New Mexico, at the rate of \$1.50 per hundred pounds per hundred miles, and we were then conveying the said articles under said contract when we were so attacked by Indians. The point at which we were attacked and robbed by Indians, as above stated, was two hundred and thirty-one miles from Fort Leavenworth and five hundred and four miles from Fort Union, New Mexico.

The firm of Stewart, Slemmens & Co., Government contractors as aforesaid, refused to pay either of us the freight on the one hundred and thirty-two sacks of Government flour, destroyed by the Indians as aforesaid, and neither Barret nor myself has ever received any portion of the same. The reason for the refusal of Stewart, Slemmens & Co. to pay such freight was because Government refused to pay them anything. Of the one hundred and thirty-two sacks of flour belonging to Government, destroyed by the Indians as I have stated, one hundred sacks were taken out of the wagons of Richard F. Barret and thirty-two out of mine.

In consequence of the said attack and robbery by the said Indians I lost, on the freight alone of the said Government flour, the sum of \$110.73 and Richard F. Barret lost the sum of \$346.50. From the information given me by the soldiers, who came up afterwards, I am satisfied that the Indians who robbed us belonged to the Kiowa, Arapahoe, and Comanche tribes, but I can state nothing, of my own knowledge, in relation to the matter.

J. E. CROW.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17th day of January, A. D. 1866.

WILLIAM H. HOOVER.  
[SEAL] County Clerk.