How frequently did crime occur on the trail? What kinds of crime?

Number of Diaries, Letters, Reminiscences Examined: 91

Accounts reporting at least one killing: 18

Accounts reporting multiple instances of killing: 5
Henry Allyn (1853): 2
E.W. Conyers (1852): 2
Polly Coon (1852): 3
Francis Sawyer (1852): 2
Abigail Jane Scott (1852): 3

Total number of murders reported [includes one suicide]: 24

Number of people executed: 10

Results of trials:
Conviction and execution: 10
Execution by hanging: 7
Execution by shooting: 1
Method of execution not specified: 2
Acquittal: 2
Defendent convicted and "bound over on good behavior": 1
Accused being held for trial; outcome not reported: 1

Total number of people dead by violence [including those whose killers were acquitted on grounds of self-defense as well as the one suicide reported.]: 36

Accounts of those who had direct evidence of killing: 5
[Two of these accounts were those reporting acquittals.]

Reports of seeing information about killings on grave markers: 6

Accounts of killing based on second hand and/or hearsay evidence: 11

Cause of killing (where known):
Drunkenness: 1
Fight: 1
Fighting over a woman: 1
Murdered for his money: 1

Relationship between killer and victim (where known)
Member of same party/wagon train: 7
Employer/employee or partner: 3
Traveling companion: 1
Member of family (brother-in-law): 1

Instances of theft or attempted theft reported: 7

Reports describing various types of physical confrontation: 5