

I must own that I ~~xxx~~ felt a little dissapointed on returning yesterday from the other Agency, in not finding a letter from my most precious wife, but then when I remember her many cares and perplexities, with the amount of work she has to ~~xx~~ perform I am more surprised that she finds so much time to show the faithfulness of her love and tender affection for so unworthy an object as I feel myself to be. So thou seest, my loved one, that I cannot in my heart lay anything to thy charge if I do not get my letters very regularly.

I returned to this Agency yesterday, Marmaduke C. Cope and Dr. James E. Rhodes returning with us.

I had a very pleasant visit at the Wichita Agency, and i think the talk with the Indians will (if heeded) be beneficial to them, those who were there, but the Kiowas did not get there. Report had been circulated in camp that there was a body of soldiers near ready to arrest them when they came, I think was the reason of their non-attendance.

Day before yesterday was a very warm day, but today we are having a regular Norther, sometimes raining, then hailing and then snowing, and all the time blowing cold. I fear the fruit will be killed, and there was such a beautiful prospect for Peaches, ~~XXXX~~ and Plums that I was really in imagination feasting on the prospect, which now appears likely to be cut short, however we know not.

The Agent talks of sending me to Caddoe on the M. K. and T. R. R. on business. It is 157 miles and will take me eight or ten days to make the trip. If I go, I shall go in my ambulance, I have not grown fast to it yet, but st ll it is a pretty sure sign of my whereabouts, and is called Battey's Ark, is not that an honorable name? the Ark part I mean.

A good many Kiowas are here now, among them Amatze (you will remember my girl of all the Kiowas). I gave her a little needle book this morning. I know you need all of my earnings, but I have to give them a little something sometimes. I have \$250.00 to send home, but think I will send it from Caddo. Peet's note is due next month and if I can borrow enough from some one of the employees until next payday, I will send home enough to pay him off and then another debt will be off hands.

I shall have to keep considerable more money by me than I have been in the way of doing on account of my state of health. I know not what to write about that. As yet I am taking medicine of Dr. Grenell of the Wichita Agency I felt pretty well while there, but since ~~xx~~ coming back here I have had two or three attacks of that dreadful stomach sickness, but as it lasts but a few minutes, I say but little about it, commonly unless someone comes across me in the midst of it, and then I cant say much.

Thou wrote about going over to Richards to see the boys so I conclude they have got home. I wrote to them since receiving anything from them, or from Thomas, as Johnny has not condescended to give me a chance to see his penmanship, I cannot of course say whether he has improved or not. I was glad to hear that Linds had moved that house up to fathers, as they need to have someone live there to take the needful care of things, and I hope L. and M will do their duty by Father and Mother, and trust arrangements may be made to amply remunerate them, so far as the property can do it, and hope that other folks may rest easy without putting any "bugs" into any of their ears, and that they themselves will guard against letting them do it, as I know personally that a very small thing having the least power to "buzz" makes a big roaring in that delicate organ almost to the exclusion of other sounds.

Our friend Jonathan Richards expects to go to Philadelphia to attend the Yearly Meeting this spring. I think he expects Margaret to return with him, but I am not certain. He also expects to build an addition to his school house of nearly the same size as the one he now has, . They now have 75 scholars, and can ~~xxxx~~ accomadate no more, and would soon have as many more if