em in the frontiers of Kansas about Fort Dodge.

The Commanches are still holding a menacing attitude, but the result we know not as yet. I think they are waiting to know the result of the Kiowa Medicine.

I have no idea how that may turn but have the word of about one-half of their chiefs that if it is decided to join the Cheyennes,-which Lone Wolf favors,- they will take what people will adhere to them and come back to the Agency and maintain their allegiance to the government, even though they have to fight their way back. The friendly Indians are fearful and know not what to do, for their own safety but still appear to be determined against joining the hostile parties. I understand that fears are entertained respecting the Wichita Agency, and yesterday the Post Commander sent men up there to enquire into the liabilities of an attack being made upon that place, with the intention of sending soldiers there if it appeared to him necessary. They have not yet returned. White desperadoes are getting very bold in may places around, as in the vicinity of the Cheyenne Agency, and Smith Pauls Valley. A part of them armed, rode up to Greens trading house at the latter place, in open day demanding the surrender of the stores. Green was here at Fort Sill at the time,- the employees about the premises did not see fit to surrender the stores for plunder, and being themselves well armed (according to the custom of the country) made resistance and succeeded in defending the stores and driving the thieves away. I understand that one man was shot in the fray but whether mortally I have not learned, nor yet whether he was one of the attacking party or one of the employees about the store.

In an attempt to arrest some horse thieves near the Cheyenne Agency a short time since one of them made up his mind not to be arrested, and while preparing his rifle for use, was shot dead, and so arrested for a higher Tribunal than that of man, which admitted of no delay, awful indeed the thought, instantly killed in the midst of deliberate preparations for murder, but the annals of this land, if correctly written would reveal many similar occurrences. Several of the Apaches are in today, with Alfred who appears to be getting along well and retains his health pretty well.

I am getting rather impatient of remaining at the Agency so long with nothing to do which I can do, and still think I shall start for home the fore part of next month. I have written from time to time along how much I weigh, in order to keep you posted. I now weigh 128 lbs. but being in the open air so much of my time I keep of a pretty good color, so that I do not look very bad, I mean unhealthy. I work a little in the shops occaisionally,- tinkering of course,- as I can not keep still, have got two or three canes nearly finished to bring home with me when I come if that is to be.

The stages I understand are to stop running in a few days,and then I know not how I shall get through, but do not worry about it as I guess there will be some way if it is right for me to come soon.

I forgot to mention having some ripe plums to eat day before yesterday, which were refreshing. We have had new potatoes - Early Rose - several times since my last, so that we are now having nearly all kinds of garden vegetables which helps out our dry rations very much. The Peas are excellent but the beans are not old enough yet to shell, so I do not eat them though they are on the table. The Agents wife has been sick but is better now, She talks some of going home. Howards wife also talks of going to Oskaloosa in Iowa but know not whether she will or not, or if she does, when she will go. I think Howard has got a pass for her, so that she can go if she wants to. I do not know what to say to thee about writing to me any more at this place though I guess thou had better write again anyway, as I may be detained longer than I now know of. Feeling as I do I dread the journey, and were it not for the joyful anticipation of the enjoyments beyond it, would hardly be willing to undertake it, but the thought of once more meeting my beloved family cheers me up and will to a great degree lessen the burdens of the journey