4 months just previous to my going among them they had murdered upwards of forty people, but since my going xxxxx xhxx to their camps not an individual case can substantiated against them, although I am satisfied that they have two white children who are captives, whom they have had for a number of years They had admitted to me that they were white children, but claimed that they were born among them, of white parents who had been captured and grown up among them, but Howard recently discovered that one of them talked Spanish and knew his letters, and on talking with him found that he was captured in New Mexico. I think a demand will be made for the release of these two boys, one of whom belongs to Satanta and the other to the Medicine Chiefs band. I hope they may yet be recovered and restored to their friends, if they have any,and were my health so as to admit of it, I should bend my efforts to that end,but as I am Iexpect to make the best of my way home to my family, and leave this task to other hands, to accomplish. In looking back over the time I have spent with this people, I can see but little of the"good which I would" have been glad to have accomplished, almost nothing in the xxixxxxx direction of my original concern of bringing the children into a school and under a greater civilizing influence, yet I can but believe that my many trials and deep sufferings among them beyond what I can express, may have an effect, which may appear in the future, though I greatly fear that will have to feel the heavy hand of xxxxxxx military power before they will fully yield to be guided by those who are indeed their true friends. In saying this I do not mean to convey the idea that Divine Grace is not sufficient to reach even their hearts, but there are so many obstacles, purposely thrown in their way by designing men, under the coloring of friendship, so little sympathy with their necessities and feelings on the part of government that with their training and natural disposition, agravated as they are, it cannot be expected of them that they will not retaliate and commit more or less depredations which will bring upon themselves the strong arm of mans retribution, which is not always in strict accordance with justice xx xxxxx to say nothing of mercy.

The Agent and his wife neither of them enjoy good health. Howards wife wil probably go to the states soon, her health is poor at best. Others connected with the Agency are in pretty good health. I shall write from time to time as I have opportunity.

With my love to all I close, remaining as ever your husband and father,

Thomas C. Battey

I do not know whether I mentioned receiving a letter from sister Anna and Mother H.? I did however and being so soon to start for home I think it may not be worth while to answer it,though I was very glad to get them, and as they will have the reading of your letters they will probably be willing to excuse me.

No. 40 Wichita Agency, Anadarko 7th Mo. 5th 1874

My Dear and Ever Precious Wife and Children:-

Your letter No. 39 was duly received last fourth day and the next day I came to this place with Agent Richards, expecting to get an opportunity of continuing my journey towards home, soon, but can not leave here for a week or so, as the stages have ceased to carry passengers, and on account of Indian troubles on the road to Wichita the train which should have arrived yesterday has not been heard from and I know not when it will be in. There is some talk of atarting the women and children of this Agency(and that includes me) away via Caddo tomorrow by Agency teams,on account of unfavorable reports from the Indians, yet I can see no cause for alarm myself.

My health has xxxx not improved since my last, I get very tired just sitting around, and have to lie down a good deal, in which position I feel very comfortable an easy. If we start tomorrow for Caddo, it will take us about 6 days to get there and then it will take me some two or three days to get home