

is at Sill coming here with agent Haworth to-day. We are expecting a great council with the Indians of our reservation perhaps tomorrow. I received thy letter No. 26, last First day, but having left my books at the Kiowa Agency I cannot number this letter. My health is gradually improving again. Dr. Grenell at the request of our Dr. O. G. Given, is furnishing me with medicine for a time, but thinks that I must make a change in my diet, by supplying myself with articles of food which my stomach will bear, whatever it may cost me.

As yet I am undecided as to what to do and so shall not do much for a while at least.

A. J. Standing is in the Apache camp. George Dickinson is in Satanta's camp, so I am not alone, isolated though I be from them.

In respect to my clothes, my drawers are about gone, not worth giving away, but I shall not need to wear them much longer, in fact were I stout, but am so susceptible to the cold that I continue to wear them, together with my flannel the same as in the winter. No signs of my boots giving out, either in sole or body. They were most excellent boots. My woolen socks are about in the condition of my drawers. My undershirts are good. I would send home \$250.00 dollars only I am afraid to do so, but probably will when I write again, though I think of directing to R. Mott and sign the cheque payable to thy order, or J. Peets. There need not be anything said about it only to have R. on the lookout for it.

I have had a very pleasant visit with Thomas Wistan, Cyrus Beede etc. and shall in all probability be in the company of Dr. Rhodes and M. C. Cope for several days to come. They are all except C. Beede very plain Friends.

Oh yes. I was at a marriage last evening in the Agents dining room. It was conducted as nearly as possible as a marriage in Friends Meeting, J. Richard saying the ceremony, the parties repeating after him, and signing the certificate, which was witnessed by all present, including the Philadelphia Friends. The girl was a daughter of T. Topping, the husband of Agent R's adopted daughter, who is in Phil. with Margret. She is a mere child in size and I guess in age.

It is a time of general health in this land among both whites and Indians I am about the only sick one on the list.

I must mention about the advancement of the spring. Trees turning green, grain is sown, and considerable planting done. The Caddoes are putting in quite an amount of corn this spring, more than ever before.

Our supplies for the Indians have about run out both at this Agency and at our own, owing to the cutting down of the Agents estimates, by the head of the department at Washington. If these supplies are not made up by the Government, it will be entirely impossible to control the Indians of our Agency, but what they will do is unknown. Washington men are so exceedingly wise that they of course know better than an Agent right in the field, what is to be done for these people, but in my humble opinion they will find that it will be rather difficult keeping them on their reservations away from game, on half rations, or now at all. And to let them go away from all influences for good, and into the influence of those who are even worse, will not help them in the way of civilization. I shall write again after the council.

My love to all

Thomas C. Battey

No. 28

4 / 8 / 1874

My Ever Dear and Precious Wife and Children:-

I have not received any letter from home for some time, nearly two weeks.