

ver on account of the high water at the time, that should have come. I suppose it went down the river.

The Kiowas and Apaches have refused to smoke the War Pipe with the Cheyennes and Commanches, and tell me I must not travel alone any more, as they are responsible for my life. I must ~~not~~ listen to them and not go about any more without havin g Kiowas with me. I was not ready to go out with them when they returned to camp, so Kicking Bird and Stumbling Bear told me they would send men in after me in 4 days, as they were anxious for me to be in camp, and were not willing for me to come alone, that there had been no danger through the winter, but that there is now.

It is a general time of health at the Agency and among the Indians.

Night before last several ponies and mules were taken from the school house and other places not far off fo two ~~xxxx~~ belonged to the Agency. The trail was followed to the mountains and lost there among the rocks. They may have been taken by the Commanches.

It is now pretty generally believed that much of the raiding and murder committed in years past and laid to the account of the Kiowas, was really done by the Cheyennes and Commanches, and that the Kiowas were not so bad a people as represented. My going and remaining among them has had the effect of ~~xxxxxx~~ to prove this, or that they are much changed since my going among them. Now the great danger for them is as they feel it, or express it that the Cheyennes and Commanches will return as usual through their camps, and be followed by the soldiers, ~~and the camps having been found to be~~ who by following the trail right to the camps, will believe them guilty of the deed and treat them accordingly. Such heretofore having been the practice of the soldiers, and the camps having been found to be Kiowas, they have had to suffer for the crimes of others both in reputation as well as in suffering and death. That is why they are so anxious for me to remain with them, and why the Agent and Committee are so unwilling to give me up if I am in anywise able to continue in the field. I am taking medicine and arrangements are made by which I can get fruit and diet better suited to my condition for only a little over one-half what I have had to pay heretofore and of a quality that my stomach will bear, without the aid of fire, as I cannot do any cooking, and condensed food has been cooked only I must eat it cold, but I do not much mind that. But there is one thing you may depend upon that if at any time my health retrogrades I shall come right home without any further delay.

Now I want to tell you of one remarkable preservation I experienced before going home last year of which I never knew anything until since writing my last letter, showing as it does that the "Lords arm is not shortened that He cannot save" and adding one more instance that I, even I unworthy as I am, am not overlooked by that eye that careth for the sparrows.

After bringing me in to the Agency last summer sick, which in itself is a remarkable instance of the merciful providence of the Creator in overruling the evil intentions of men to effect the deliverance of a poor unworthy worm of the dust, while under the keenness of their dissapointment in not meeting Satanta and Big Tree, they left the Agency and went towards their camps to nearly north of Mt. Scott about 12 miles from the Agency, where they halted and held a council among themselves as to what they could now do. An Apache woman who understands the Kiowa language while going out overheard a remark which she told her ~~xxxx~~ husband, and being camped together, he sent her to play the part of an eavesdropper by secreting herself outside the council lodge where she could overhear what was said, and the decision they came to, they regretted having let me slip and finally decided to send five of their most daring men to take Agent Haworth and myself and flee with us to the staked plains beyond the reach of soldiers and hold us as prisoners until Satanta should be delivered up to them in exchange for us. The five men of daring prowess accustomed to deeds of violence. (were selected, men)

X