

Among these men was the notorious White Horse, Running Wolf, and Frizzle, head men every way, qualified to be entrusted with the enterprise. Having gained this information, the woman returned to her husband and reported. He mounted his horse and came to the Agent at once, the same night and gave him the information. As I was in a weak condition the Agent dare not let me know of it, and prudentially kept the thing a secret from all but his wife, son, and one other young man, endeavoring to cast his care and place his dependance for help and preservation where help is only to be found. The second night thereafter the five Kiowas came in the dusk of evening. White Horse taking off his revolver, gave it to the Agents wife and went into the Agents Office, and sitting down in an arm chair, the arm of the chair so raised his blanket as to disclose another revolver secreted under his blanket, which the Agent noticing, mentioned to him. Supper was directed for ~~KIM~~ them and they were treated with very great kindness, and their hearts failed them, and they were afraid to go back to camp without us and so they staid until the next night being treated with the utmost kindness all the time, but their hearts still failing they returned the next day to the tribe, the Agent furnishing them with sugar and coffee for the journey, Thus through the merciful providences of Him who turneth the hearts of men as a man turneth a water course in his field were we preserved from this captivity, in which had it been carried into effect, most likely, in my weakened state, my days on earth would have ended. My paper is full. Farewell. Your husband and father,

T. C. Battey

No. 33

5 / 20 / 1874

My Ever Dear and Precious Wife and Children:-

Arrived from camp yesterday about 4 o'clock. My health considerably improving. Found your letter no. 33 awaiting my arrival and need not to say how glad I was to get it. I am afraid my answer to thy pert question as to thy being real good to work so hard. I do not apprehend anything is gained by such over doing. What thou gains today or this week by crowding the work of two or two weeks into one, is lost by inability to work through lameness, sickness or something induced by the overtax on thy strength, tomorrow or next week, and at thy age repeated overtaxing of strength will induce permanent weakness which will tell upon thy health eventually.

Our camp is much enlarged by other Kiowas coming in and joining us to avoid becoming mixed up with the Commanches and Cheyennes, and is north of the mountains about thirty miles from the Agency, perhaps not so far.

The Commanches stole considerable stock of the Agents and others near here last first day night, amounting to thirty or forty head of horses and mules. The Kiowas say there were 5 Commanches and 3 Pawnees that did the deed. The Commanches had sent a very good pacific message to the Agent from their Medicine Hodge only the day before. They are also stealing stock from the Kiowas whenever an opportunity offers by their neglecting to keep them sufficiently guarded. The Great Medicine Man of the Commanches, makes the greatest pretensions probably, of any man living. It is believed by the Commanches that he has raised the dead to life, he is reported to have vomited up nearly a wagon load of cartridges at one time, in the presence of several Commanches, he then swallowed them again saying the Commanches will not lack ammunition to carry on a war with the Whites, -he can make medicine that will render it impossible for a Commanche to be killed even though they stand just before the cannons mouth, -he ascends up above the clouds, in the view of men in the open day, -remaining over night and returning next day. In short he has absolute power to contrroll the elements, -to send wind, hail, lightning and thunder upon his enemies being in no respect inferior to the Great Spirit. The main body of the Commanches believe all this, and are afraid to cross his will for fear of his medicine if they offend him. Horseback has brought in his ambulance and left it with th