

but one pony and one mule. You cannot imagine the thankfulness that I was made instrumental in any degree in rescuing those most amiable young women from a danger far greater than that of death. Now I will close this long letter, - and perhaps you can see that my detention by a secret feeling - in this land has not been in vain. In true and unchanging love, your husband and father, T. C. Batten. I have written to the Shearon, informing them of the subsequent developments, proving their danger. A Kiowa had told them the very night on which they were to be taken. Evening: X. K. B. has sent for me to come out to camp. I shall probably start in the morning. T. C. B.

No. 35

6th Mo. 1st. /'74

Again at the Agency and writing to you my precious wife and children. I came in yesterday, on account of the scarcity of provisions in our camps. My health continues quite good, that is for me. I had but two of those sick spells while out at camp this last time. My bowels feel well, but my stomach is far from right yet, though I think the medicine I am taking is doing me good, though I do not take much. I wrote you a very long letter the last one perhaps a week ago today and went to camp the next day after writing to C. and R.

Things were all quiet in K. B. 's camp, and I heard from all the camps while out, also from the Arapahoes, Apaches, Pawnees and others. It seems that the Cheyennes and Comanches cannot get other Indians to join them unless it shall be through the influence of whiskey. I understand by a Comanche chief that the Mexicans have brought in twenty-six barrels of whiskey to their camps which are over one hundred miles from the Agency, and gone back for more. Santa is a notorious whiskey drinker and I greatly fear he will, while under its influence take the war pipe with the Comanches and so involve the Kiowas in trouble. K. B. and the chiefs associated with him will not move out in that direction at this time.

I have been out to the Apache camps today with Alfred and Frank Mattby. I do not know whether I informed you that a son of Dr. Holloway at the Cheyenne Agency, was shot by an Indian through a window while standing by the bedside of a young man who had had a leg broken. He died a week ago tonight after having lingered four days, suffering intensely. He was said to have been a noble young man and to have died triumphantly in the faith of the Gospel, even though suddenly called from hence. (directly that)

We have not heard ~~XXXX~~ the Shearon Girls had got home, but we heard from them after having got into Kansas. (once for all) that)

I have failed in getting a letter from home. And now let me tell you it goes exceedingly hard with me to fail in getting a letter from my most precious family, and were I to give way to my feelings, living the life that I do, it would be but a few days that I could be of any account at all, for if ever a man was bound up in his family, or had a deep feeling for his wife and children or enjoyed the sweets of home and the domestic life I am one, but it will not do. I dare not let my mind out in my natural affections while wandering about as I do. Indeed in looking back upon my life among the Kiowas, I wonder that I am still living on the earth. But day by day as the duties have developed and as trials have been meted out, so has my strength been perfected through Him that is mighty, and the storms have been tempered to my weak and shorn condition, for truly I feel that I am the weakest of the weak, having neither strength nor might nor ability to do anything of myself or even at times to seek strength where it is always to be found, but help has in every case been administered in every needful time in a way and manner marvelous to myself so that I have myself been amazed thereat. For truly what am I that the Lord should be mindful of me, and from the depth of ~~my~~ a feeling of my infirmities, I may say with one formerly, I am a worm and no man. But still in humility I say it - I believe I have a hold upon the hearts of many of these wild and savage Kiowas possessed by no other man, and I believe there are not a few among them that