

longing to the Penheatetkas band who would not join with the others, came in stating that the Cheyennes and the other Commanches are actually for war, and that Lone Wolf did commit some depredations while gone, that those Indians who are for war are using a great deal of whiskey which they get from Mexican traders,.

Now I believe I have told about all the news for today, and so as my paper is nearly all written twice over I will conclude with my dear love to you all and to friends and relatives as though named, Truly Etc. T. C. Battey  
8th All about as usual today. Kicking Bird gone to camp.

No. 37

6th Mo. 15th 1874

My Dear and Ever Precious Wife and Children:-

I again take up my pen to address you from this place. I received a very acceptable letter a few days since, No.36, containing some little letters from the children, which were very gratifying to me indeed, and I want to say to them, that I love to receive their little letters for two reasons, the first ~~ix~~ I cannot explain very well otherwise than to say that it does me good to see and read their letters just as it would to hear them talk, but the second reason is the good it does them to write. Many persons who can talk good and sensibly enough cannot write so as to make good sense, and by your writing letters you are learning to talk on paper, and it will be worth a great deal to you when you get to be men and women. Just think how it would be if I had not learned to write letters when I was young, and could not write so that you could ~~not~~ gather what was meant now when I am so far separated from you, and for so much of my time. I want Joseph to continue to write, if not to me to somebody. He can write a much better letter than I was expecting, and S.E. writes good little letters, write often to somebody.

My health is not as good as when I last wrote, so that I shall probably not go out to camp any more but think that I shall arrange to start for home as soon in next month as I can, shall probably stop a day or two at Wichita and again at Lawrence, so as to make the trip as easy as possible. I agreed or promised Kicking Bird when I parted with him that I would stay here until next month, and then if he did not come in I should not wait for him any longer, but should go home to my wife and children.

I have no particular news to write at this time, only the Kiowas have gone out to make their Medicine C amp. I am looking for some of them in day after tomorrow for rations, after their return their Medicine Dance will take place. Kicking Bird as well as other friendly Indians are very uneasy as to how matters will turn out at that time. All the friendly Indians appear to be in deep trouble, and say that they are in danger from the Indians who have gone out on the plains.

We are having considerable rain and wet weather, crops look well, we have been using turnips, onions, peas and beans of this years growth for some time, and judging from the vines potatoes might be large enough to eat but we have not had any as yet. Peaches are more than half grown, plums nearly ripe, mulberries are about gone.

J. Richards and J. D. Hoag made us a visit last 5th and 6th days. Margret has again returned to the Agency. Jonathan said that on the whole they had a very good yearly meeting at Philadelphi a though there were some things done by individuals which he could not approve.

We have been twice warned of a contemplated attack on the Agency by the Cheyennes and Commanches, but on both of the nights, a hard thunder storm came up and continued through the night, so that if they had any such designs, they were frustrated, by a higher power than that of man - even by one who controls the winds and the storms. I continue to sleep in my ambulance, and probably shall all while I stay here, as it is clear of bed bugs, and it is said they that