

7<sup>th</sup> Mo 1874

It has long appeared to me that the preliminary work having been sufficiently accomplished, these Caddoes are ripe for the reception of the good seed of the Kingdom. As in nature the rough soil must be grubbed, broke, & cleared of stones, & perhaps left to the mellowing effects of the rigorous snows & frosts of winter to insure the successful cultivation of that grain which outwardly is as the staff of life contributing to the nourishment & growth of these bodies; so I believe there is a preliminary work among these wild people to be accomplished, before their rude, savage, & superstitious nature can receive with ease the seed of the word of life, as to insure its growth among them so as to afford <sup>to their</sup> ~~among~~ them a souls that bread which will nourish <sup>them</sup> up to ever-lasting life; not but that they are heirs of salvation & that a manifestation of the Grace of God which brings salvation has appeared unto them, but that while they secret enmity, their superstitions, ignorance, with their abhorance to the arts & labors of civilization & civilized people, prevails among them, a prior work is needed, before presenting the sublime truths of the gospel, which would appear like casting pearls before swine, or sow-