

Wade County Dec 2 1863

Dear friend

I seated myself

this morning to write a little news from this section of a country. The people is returning to their homes for they cannot stay out for if they could help it. And good many are in this county destitute of clothing or any thing else something is to be done for them to get long for provision.

Col Jackson McArthur has disbanded his two companies

We cannot form a local company on this frontier unless an army was on the front of our country

Because just as soon as we form confederate militia that would draw federal to attack ^{the} company and we stand no showing. Gen. Muscnear has issued his order that their pickets should not cross the line into the Choctaw Nations unless ^{their own} confederate soldiers or gay hands. And so we kept off while that some us will ^{might} stay home this winter not trouble by federal

As I understand their was four regiment arrived and camp on the other side Fort Smith they are from Fort Scott some at Station Greenwood Dunbar and Fort Smith the whole amount seven thousand

There is more injury done to the people ^{by} south ern people then by federal. The federal has not been in the nation since the retreating of Steel.

The people in Red River can form their local defend an organize and elect their officer. This company will be in with them just as soon as they see fit. I wish to hear from you very much concerning if the army down their ^{company} near paper with you send me a p. How is state the affairs down there. Yours remain affectionately

Alfred Wade