

Saturday 1st January 1889

A new year! O may it be happy and fortunate as the last was
written for Alphonse! A lot

Diary of
Abelard Smith

Jan. 1 to Oct. 4, 1889.

January 1

Rain & cold, grey day. Went to Calcutta and did not under-
stand quite so much as I thought. --t o-- a small depth having been
yet there is no change; a selfish, repulsive, suspicious spirit per-
vades the whole. October 4, old 859, night of that Eve and cer-
tainty accordingly when given to life its brightest dawn
and that is in progress when the work is done--
the city becomes and air pure and cooling

Sunday 2nd

Rather pleasant--mercury averaging 40°.

In this part of the day, read in Jayara Taylor's hands of the
forenoon--a well written work with a range of thought.

DIARY OF
ABELARD GUTHRIE

JANUARY 1

--to--

October 4, 1859.

Saturday 1st January 1859

A new year! O may it be happy and fortunate as the last was wretched and disastrous! O God; give thy angels charge over me and mine, that we may be protected from sorrow, from sin, from want, from disease, and that our hearts may ever enjoy the blissful emotions of gratitude to the Giver of all good. Stretch forth thy Almighty arm
~~~~~ O God! and protect me against the malice and machinations of my enemies, and support me in all just and rightful understanding takings and all the praise the honor and the glory shall be given to thee for thou art the foundation of all good and it is through thy merits alone our successes are obtained.

Rather a dull, quiet day. Went to Quindaro but did no business Quindaro is thought to contain about eight hundred inhabitants yet there is no society; a selfish, rapacious, suspecting spirit pervades the whole population and expels all thought of that free and confiding sociability which gives to life its brightest charm

A sh thaw is in progress under which the snow is disappearing---The sky cloudless and air pure and bracing

Sunday 2nd \* \*

Rather pleasant---mercury averaging 40°.

At home most of the day, read in Bayard Taylor's "Lands of the Saracen"---a well written work with a range of thought,

M. B. Newman spent an hour with me and I went with him to Alfred Gray's to see a statute which he says is in force in the Territory in relation to mechanics <sup>liens</sup>, and which I thought so absurd and unjust, that though no lawyer I disputed the existence of, Mr. Gray was not at home and we could not decide the matter

Capt. Wm. P. Burney, formerly of Parkville stays all night with me

Monday 3rd \*

Went to Quindaro

Rec'd from H. J. Fairbanks, an order on Mr. Wiles for a yoke of oxen entrusted to his care by Mr. Chapin acting for the Quindaro Company, who sold them to Fairbanks and Fairbanks sold them to me for seventy dollars. The Q. co. owed Fairbanks <sup>and</sup> and he owed me, hence the sales.

Monday 3rd January, 1859.

Went to Parkville to see if my buckwheat which was taken to a mill there six weeks ago, was ground, with the intention of bringing it away but as it was in the hopper and partly ground I left it, bargaining with a man to bring it to Quindaro in a skiff tomorrow for which I am to pay \$2.00. Paid for the grinding at the rate of 20 cts per bushel, there were 21 bushels and I paid \$4.20. Bro't home 44 lbs buckwheat flour.

Paid for trundle boardstead \$4.00

Paid \$1.20 to Bings & co said I owed them but which I had

certainly forgotten.

Frank, a German, commenced working for me at 50 cts a day.

Tuesday 4th " "

The man I had hired at Parkville to bring my buckwheat flour &c and bedstead, not coming as soon as I expected I went to Parkville afoot and came down with him in the skiff. I paid him the \$2.00 agreed upon. The buckwheat belonged to Alfred Gray and myself equally and he saved one bushel of the grain for seed; my half of the flour and that of one bushel more, (as an equivalent for the seed he retained) amounted to 239 lbs---about equal to 25 lbs flour to the bushel of grain. Let E.O. Zane have 24 lbs for \$1.00

Paid Richard M. Ainsworth \$5.00. The account he has against me is now reduced to \$24.00. He is a most ungrateful scamp and I shall be pleased if he never again enters my door.

Mat Turk and Hewt. Ainsworth staid with us last night.

Frank chopped wood---he is rather a slow hand.

Wednesday 5th " "

Started to Westport to obtain from the Shawnee Agent the boundaries of the land reserved by Treaty for absent Shawnees for the purpose of locating Mrs. Guthrie's claim but my horse became lame and I turned back at Wyandot city, after waiting there two or three hours for the Wyandot commissioners who I heard were to meet there; but they did not come.

Bo't at Wyandot city two door locks---one for 30 cts, the

The eleventh biennial report of the board of directors of the Kansas State Historical Society, just issued, shows that during the two years covered by the report there have been added to the

6 semimonthlies, 1 bimonthly, 10 quarterlies, 5 occasionals. They come from all of the 105 counties. Thus the society is preserving a record of the history of the people of all the communities of

other for 50 cts also a gallon molasses for 90 cts and 10 cts worth candy. I also bo't this blank book, having kept my diary on loose slips of paper as I could find no book to suit me sooner---cost \$1.00

X I prepared at the request of Isaiah P. Walker, a preamble and Legislative Act for the Wyandot council, authorizing the appointment of some one to go to Washington and get endeavor to get the two back installments of the Wyandot monies paid in May next and to get the Senate to pass a resolution explaining the Wyandot Treaty as construed by Congress. He said he would present the preamble and Act to the council, but I have no idea they will pass it as they have always been opposed to everything coming from me direct, and it has always been necessary for me when I wished to have anything done to have some other person propose it and in this way almost every measure of importance effecting their interests have been suggested to them by me. Power or office, small or great, in the hands of savage Chief or civilized President is alike jealous and ambitious, and hates as well as fears all whom may propose measures which reason and justice require it to adopt and which they feel that from its position it would be expected to originate. Men expect to pass for what they should be not for what they are.

Mat Turk and Frank worked for me---Frank on the roads and Mat in removing an old crib.

Thursday 6th " "

The weather has suddenly changed and brought upon us a severe snowstorm, commencing about 10'clock this morning and is still raging--

the mercury throughout the day 16° above zero.

Walked to Quindaro.

Bought a quart pitcher at Judge Wright's store---price 25 cts  
ch'd.

Frank chopped wood and broke my ax badly which he attributes to the frosty weather. The rest of us have been idle except small chores, and reading the newspapers. How different the days action of the body from that of the mind, the former does but little, the action of the latter would fill a volume as it flies from thought to thought from scene to scene compressing the incidents of years within a moment of thought even exhuming the long buried emotions of the past until we are again alive to the thrill of joy and the pang of grief. So has my mind been occupied to-day--

Friday 7th

Weather very cold;-- mercury at zero this morning and but about 5° above at any time of the day. Snow three inches deep.

Bo't of P. Caswell 30 lbs beef chd

George bro't home a mended shovel and 2 iron wedges from the blacksmith shop, ch'd.

Nat Turk put soles on my sled and took Mrs. Guthrie and daughters to Wyandot city. Mrs. G. bo't 2 brooms---50cts pd and gave Margaret Brown \$2. to buy hoops with.

Frank chopped ~~xxx~~ split wood.

A dull day with me, read a little in the newspapers and Bayard

Taylor's "Lands of the Saracen." There are times when the mind refuses to pursue any regular train of thought and lightly yet largely wastes itself upon the most trifling incidents and speculations and so have I dozed away this day.

Saturday 8th " "

Went to Quindaro and attended a meeting of the voters of the township called for the purpose of levying a tax for roads &c and they agreed to tax themselves to the amount of twenty five hundred dollars, one hundred of which is to pay incidental expenses the balance for the roads. This tax is in itself well enough, but in a community tumbled together by fortune and all strangers to each other, there is much less regard paid to the public welfare which is generally sacrificed to individual interest, than in older communities where, though the inclination to speculate is equally strong it is more in subjection to public opinion. I expect but little good to result from the burdensome tax just assessed.

Mrs. Guthrie went with Mrs. Canfield to Mrs. Lucy B. Armstrong's in the sled although there is very little snow and the road rough.

The day has been pleasant--thawing a little.

Frank chopped and helped saw board timber.

Sunday 9th " "

Sky cloudless and snow disappearing rapidly.

Paid Frank \$2. and told him I should not want him longer; ~~he~~ insisted that but he was importunate and ~~xxx~~ I had agreed to keep him another month,

this it is true I had reluctantly; but as Mrs. G's health is not so good as it was, and she can get no help, she wished me to discharge him, as his staying imposes additional labor on her, but he is so anxious to stay that I have agreed to keep him. He is a catholic german, and I have never known a catholic servant it matters not of what nation, that was honest, humane, and conscientious.

A quiet day of country life; read a little in several books and rode round my fields. Wife and daughters went to church. The earth is too wet from the melting snow to make a ramble pleasant.

Monday 10th " "

Went with George and helped load four hundred clapboards which we had to carry up a steep hill more than fifty yards; a tiresome job as I found before we were through with it. These boards were made by Hick Hick for 50 cts per hundred.

Went twice to Quindaro, but did not see the persons I wished to see and therefore did little business; took with me a petition for the establishment of certain roads, to be circulated and left it with Mr. Stewart to be handed to Mr. Canfield, took some shoes to be mended, bo't 30 cts worth "gum drops" for children, read a little in the newspapers and so ends the day.

Frank commenced his month's work---chopped wood

Wrote to Samuel Maguire, Member of the Mo. Legislature, asking the distance from Parkville and Kansas city to St. Louis by the respective railroad routes which are designed to connect them with that

city. My letter was thoughtlessly dated Iith instead of IOth

Tuesday Iith January 1869

Wrote to Messrs Ligerson, Nurserymen, St. Louis about fruit trees.

Wrote to James Andrews about pear and apple grafts.

" Jacob Henry about a gardener

Ruth took scions from all my apple trees and is to graft me ten of each, except the genneting and 20 of that.

Bro't home a yoke of oxen bo't of H.J.Fairbanks and by him of the Quindaro company. I left them in the possession of Ben Hurd with

Hurd the promise that when he finishes the job of clearing he has taken of me I will give him a deed of sale of the oxen. He was to take the oxen to his boarding house, Carlton's.

Sent George to Quindaro to get the shoes I left with the shoemaker to be mended yesterday and to get 5 lbs 8 penny nails for the latter he paid 25cts and 15 cts are yet to pay to F. Claus.

Day cloudy---Mercury at 40° .

Wednesday 12th \* \*

Started to Westport but could not cross the Kansas river for the ice. I met at the Ferry Rev'd Mr. Pratt of Delaware mission on his way to Washington city with the delegation of Delaware Indians who go thither to treat with the Government.

Went to Quindaro

Paid Frank \$2. and discharged him. He was a hard worker, but

inexperienced and selfwilled.

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Thursday 13th " "

Went to Quindaro twice

Tryed to get some of the most prominent citizens of Quindaro to aid in paying my expenses to Washington city to look after the Delaware treaty about to be made and from which we expect railroad aid. My acquaintance with these Indians led me to believe that I might be useful in securing an advantageous treaty, but though all agree as to its importance but expect me to perform the labor and pay the expense as usual; no one has anything to contribute yet all expect that I will be impelled to the performance by the weight of my own interests. How ineffably mean is that wretch who reaps the rewards of other men's labors and yet will contribute nothing himself to help forward those projects on which he relies for the improvement of his fortunes! If public opinion should brand these reptiles with the contempt and ~~and~~ odium to which they are entitled the evils would be less felt though the numbers would ~~be~~ probably not be reduced.

Bought one bushel excellent apples for \$1.25 paid

Bought 3 1-2 lbs coffee 50 cts paid

Bought 1 gallon molasses at 75 cts and jug 15cts. 90cts paid

Wrote to George Spybuck about selling his farm and about his rents &c.

Friday 14th " "

Went to Quindaro and handed Mr. Canfield the papers relating to the Cooper house (190 Kansas Avenue) for Mrs. Smith's examination.

Went to Kansas City to see Mr. McCoy about the Wyandot land assignments and he says they will be closed up speedily with slight alterations.

Bo't a pair woolen stockings for wife, for 75 cts of R.D. Kincaid who happens to be an old acquaintance, though I have not seen him before for 22 years. He has been in the dry goods business ever since and for some years before and has nothing but a small stock of goods yet; although I have never heard that he neglected his business or was extravagant in his style of living.

Ferriage 50 cts paid

George George has been ~~ixxmk~~ gone most of the day and came home drunk.

Thompson Brown came here this evening after being drunk all week; I told him I did not want him to come to my house at all; that I had trouble enough with drunkards, and he must go elsewhere. He went and told his mother, who is here, and who was so weak as to feel herself offended, and went away with him. A beautiful way of admonishing a child of his evil ways! But it is the unfortunate error of the Indians to make no distinction between good and bad associations.

Saturday 15th " "

Started to Atchison 1-2 past 8 O'clock A.M. with a note of \$1,000 in favor of Widow Kayrahee on Genl. S.C. Pomeroy for collection. Had my horse fed and ate a miserable dinner three miles east of Leaven-

worth city, for which I paid 50 cts <sup>-II-</sup> and proceeded on my way. Stopped for the night at a Mr. Johnson's 10 miles north of Leavenworth city ~~xxx~~ where I slept in a comfortable house and had good farmers fare. I arrived at Mr. Johnson's sometime after nightfall. Towards evening the movements of another traveler attracted my ~~attention~~ notice. I was ignorant of the road and as there were other roads branching from the one I was on, I made frequent inquiries for directions, and once of the stranger in question but he pretended to be as ignorant as myself, but evinced no desire to be better informed, but kept some distance behind me until dusk, when he passed me on a rapid trot, but as it grew dark he slackened his speed until I came near him, which happened to be near a deep ravine with no human habitation near I suspected his intentions were none of the best, but as he crossed the ravine and rode slowly up the opposite hill, I felt a good deal relieved and a little mortified at the false suspicions I had entertained when just as I had entered the bed of the ravine he suddenly turned round and came slowly toward me, my fears were all revived in an instant, but there was no chance to retreat. My mare was a powerful and spirited animal and as I struck her with my spur into her she flew up the hill like lightning, and I heard the stranger mutter something as I shot by him. I know not what his designs was but I felt very well pleased to get rid of him.

Sunday 16th " "

Paid my bill (\$1.25) very reasonable) and pushed forward to Atchison by a nearer way than the military road, but very hilly, and

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arrived at Atchison about 11 O'clock 2 A.M. The wind filled with frosty particles, blew violently in my face during the whole journey (12 miles by this route) and I was almost blind on reaching town. It was the most disagreeable ride I ever had for the distance, Genl. Pomerooy had no money so I had my journey for nothing. I ate a cold dinner with the General, his wife remarking, as an apology, I suppose, that she never cooked on Sunday. Now of all the days in the week I prepare a good smoking dinner on Sunday, and I think it should always be kept as a day of feasting and innocent enjoyment.

Started home after dinner and again sleep at Mr. Johnson's. The wind being on my back the ride returning was more pleasant although it was fast freezing.

Monday 17th \* \*

Paid my bill \$1.25 as before. The road was hard frozen and in places so rough that I had to get down and walk in many places.

Took dinner and fed at Charles Journeycake's---bill 50 cts, aft and got home 5 1-2 O'clock P.M. finding all well except having bad colds.

Tuesday 18th

Went to Quindaro and endeavored to borrow \$400. First from Charles H. Canfield and then of Mrs. Louise M. Smith, both lately of Buffalo New York. My object was to get money to bear my own and Chas. Journeycake's expenses to Washington to throw in our mite of influence to get a treaty between the Delawares and the United States whereby the necessary aid for building a railroad from Quindaro westward should be

guaranteed. Believing I might be of some service, I was very anxious to go, but having exerted myself to the utmost and failed, I am content, for although I was anxious to go, the impossibility of doing so convinces me that the Great Overruling Power has otherwise ordained for a good purpose.

Wednesday 19th " "

Wrote to Charles Robinson (Washington city) enclosing him a copy of my skeleton of a Treaty for the Delaware Indians.

Wrote to Hiram Hill, Williamsburg, Massachusetts.

to H. English, College corners, Ohio.

Went to Quindaro to explain to some of my creditors the reasons of my failure to pay them. These little debts are very vexatious and several of these people greatly need the small amount I owe them, but it seems utterly impossible for me to collect a single dollar.

Bo't at Judge Wright's store 2 pocket knives for my boys price 50 cts each. chd.

Bo't of Mr. Bodenburg 1 lead pencil 5 cts envelopes 10 cts - chd I owe him now \$1.95

The day mild and pleasant, mercury at 50°

Thursday 20th " "

Went to Kansas city and Westport; to the former to see if I could get a note on S.C.Pomeroy cashed in which I did not succeed; and to the latter to see the U.S. Shawnee Agent about Mrs. Guthrie's claim to Shawnee lands. The Agent, Mr. Newsome, takes a different view of

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the claim, than Mr. Davis represented, owing probably to the violent opposition of the Shawnee Head Chiefs; and his own inattention to the Treaty, for it seems he supposed the Treaty designated the particular Shawnees who were entitled to the land whereas upon examination it appears no discrimination is made. I am confident the claim is perfectly just and would have been allowed long ago but for the malice of the Head chief.

Ferriage 50 cts, paid with my last cent.

The Steamboat E.M.Riland passed up.

Friday 21st " "

Went to Quindaro twice.

A letter from C. Robinson to C.H. Chapin was shown me complaining that he would be obliged to leave Washington for want of money, thereby endangering our railroad interests. Fielding Johnson sent him a draft for \$47.50 and I agreed to send or take him more. Mr. Chapin is to send him a dispatch requesting him to remain at Washington city.

Borrowed \$2.00 of E.O.Zane.

Saturday 22nd " "

Day very cold---mercury at sunrise 3° below zero.

Started to Leavenworth city on foot expecting to be overtaken by the mail at Frank Colter's but it did not come and I returned home; the road was too rough and the weather too cold to go on horseback.

At home the rest of the day.

Sunday 23rd January 1859

Started to Leavenworth city a little after 2 O'clock P.M. and supped and sleep at Charles Jouny cake's

Whiteerow took dinner with us.

Monday 24th " "

Paid my bill \$1.00 (for supper, lodging, breakfast, and horse feed) but the accommodations were poor indeed, no pillows to the beds and very thin covering, but I slept well under my own coats and an old blanket and two quilts. The wind blew all night with such violence as to keep the house in a constant tremble.

Arrived at Leavenworth city in three hours ride from Journey-cake's\* and tried to get a note of \$1,000 on Genl. S.C.Pomeroy of Atchison discounted at the Banking house of Smoot, Russell & co. who are part owners of the Bank of Atchison of which Pomeroy is President, but there were several excuses given for refusing to buy the note and I learned for the first time that Pomeroy is much embarrassed and of course his credit impaired. I am collecting the note for Widow Kayrahooc( a Wyandot) and have already had a good deal of trouble with it and am out of pocket several dollars.

Paid 50 cts for getting my horse fed and returned to Charles Johnycake's where I stay all night. On the road I became very hungry and bo't a dimes worth cheese and crackers.

Tuesday 25th " "

My bill was \$1.00 but I had only 75 cts left, this I paid leaving a debt of 25 cts behind. Such is my present pennury.

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Arrived at home about noon.

Went to Quindaro where I attempted again to borrow money for Jounycake who wants to go to Washington as a part of the Delaware delegation. He may be deceiving me but professes to be in favor of my project for a treaty.

Wednesday 26th \* "Next"

Went to Parkville to borrow money for Jounycake but did not succeed. Jounycake promised to come to my house this evening and his failing to do so makes me suspicious of his professions, yet I can think of no object to be obtained by dealing falsely with me. How utterly impossible it is to guess the motives that govern the actions of men!

Rec'd a strange letter from Lima, Ohio, dated the 17th instant to which I immediately replied. The letter is confidential and offers to give information of interest to me in some matter of which I am left in utter ignorance. It excites my curiosity and I have written for an explanation.

Thursday 27th \* "

Went to Wyandot city where I found the Wyandot council in session. The U.S. Agent was present, having been sent for by the Chiefs who wished to inform him that they were sending a delegation to Washington city. The leading Wyandots are very uneasy because white men have been appointed to administer upon some of the estates of dec'd Wyandots. The chiefs and their favorites have hitherto controlled this business, and as no security was required, and no investigations were

instituted, it was always a lucrative business, for Administrators and guardians generally kept the estates or sold them and kept the money. Thus several of our Wyandots who figure as wealthy men have been able from time to time to replenish their exhausted stores. I have never known such heartless villany as I have witnessed among these people.

Yet they are for ever complaining of the dishonesty of the white men and are anxious to get beyond the law again. This is one object they have in view in going to Washington to get the Government to sanction an arrangement whereby that can get homes among the <sup>e</sup>Senecas who have no laws.

Met Alson C. Davis, U.S. District Attorney for the Territory just returned from Washington city. He speaks encouragingly of the business I entrusted to his management.

Went to Quindaro

Bo't to plugs tobacco for Margaret Brown of Johnson & Veale price 40 cts ch'd.

Called to see Alfred Gray who has been spending sometime in Lawrence watching the Legislature, now in session. He thinks the action of that body in regard to our interests very uncertain.

Friday 28th " "

Morsena fell on her wrist and hurt it so badly that I had to call in Dr. Budington---it turned out to be only a severe strain

Went to the Delaware Agency to see Maj. Robinson, in relation to some of my Wyandot locations. But he had gone to drive some squat-

ters off from the Delaware lands. The weather was cold, the road rough and long and thus have I spent the day without profit or pleasure.

Bo't 1 lb star candles of Johnson & Veale of Quindaro, price 30 cts. chd.

Saturday 29th \* \*

Went to Wyandot city to meet the Wyandot commissioners who I was told would meet the Chiefs there; but none of them came. Thus I have lost another day.

Rec'd a letter from Dr. Samuel Maguire a member of the Mo. Leg-  
from  
islature, giving the distances from St. Louis ~~to~~ Parkville and Kansas city by their railroad routes, from which it appears the Parkville route is 4 1-4 miles the longest.

Sunday 30th \* \*

A quiet pleasant day, the mercury at 33° sky, clear and air bracing. Was at home all day, but in one of those idle, listless, neutral moods, that gives neither pleasure nor pain---where the desires are all quiet and the passions sleep. After sundown I walked over to Alfred Gray's but he was not at home.

M.B. Newman spent half an hour with me.

Monday 31st \* \*

Started to Westport, Mo. but went no further than Wyandot city where I expected to join A. C. Davis with whom I had agreed to go to Westport on business relating to Mrs. Guthrie's Shawnee claim, but Mr. D. not having returned from Lawrence I returned home by the way of

Quindaro where I spent several hours trying to close an agreement with the husband of Mrs. Louise M. Smith in relation to the establishment of a soap and candle factory in Quindaro. But could not agree on the terms.

Today came confirmatory intelligence of the erection of the new county of Wyandot which cuts us off from Leavenworth and must injuriously effect the interests of Quindaro, as there are now no taxable lands in the new county, and the support of a county organization must impose burdensome taxation. This untoward event was occasioned by the treachery of our representative John W. Wright, who owes his elevation entirely to the people he has betrayed. May the ingrate receive the just reward of his infamous conduct! and he will!

Went a second time to Quindaro to get "Jane" shod.

Tuesday 1st Feby. 1859

A day of business but profit doubtful. Went to Quindaro--- signed an agreement for the Quindaro co. with Louise M. Smith whereby the company agree to give her certain lots, on the condition that she erect buildings and put in operation a soap and candle factory

Mr. Collins was here and offered to take \$125.00 for his claim on the house I bo't of the Coopers, but I doubt if he can get that price with my claim on it.

Sold a note on And Tuttle for \$30.00 to A.C.Stroch, for the face of it \$5.00 in cash his account against me which was \$15.00 and the rest in goods, \$2.50 of which I immediately took and he gave me his

due bill for the balance \$9.50

George and I shelled 2 bushels corn and I took it to mill.

Bo't a broom of Mr. Page for which I owe him 25 cts

Wednesday 2nd     "     "

Wrote to Samuel Maguire, Member of the Mo. House of Rep about railroad matters.

Was in Quindaro most of the day. There was a good deal of excitement about the organization of the new county of Wyandot, and the treachery of our representatives in the Legislature. There is no taxable land within the new county and the support of a county organization must be oppressive and we have now no source of revenue for public improvements. The county seat is located temporarily at Wyandot city and is designed to facilitate the sale of property in that place, but I do not believe it will equal the expectations of the speculators of that town for the river is rapidly changing its bed opposite the town and in a few months they will be without a landing and the bubble will burst and the intended fraud recoil upon its authors.

Gave to I Rhetor A. C. Storch's due bill for \$9.50 to be credited on Frank Cotter's order for which I accepted.

Thursday 3rd     "     "

Day cold Mercury 10° above zero at sunrise

Handed a paper to Chas. H. Chapin agreeing to give five lots to a wholesale stoneware factory which Fielding Johnson proposes to have

brought on.

Walked to Quindaro. The excitement in regard to the erection of the new county of Wyandot continues. Some of our best citizens think themselves injured by being suspected of having yielded their opposition to this measure, in consequence of an agreement with certain persons of Wyandot city to establish the county seat between the two places and making for themselves a handsome little speculation. These imputations are indignantly repelled. Whatever may have been the real motive, the agreement was an illadvised one and gave reasonable pretext to the censorious to prefer the accusation. But the ill blood thus excited might easily have been laid by the exercise of a little cool reason. But among an idle people, as we are at present, jealousy, envy, and malice, keep social order in continual ferment. So these little storms must rage on until they exhaust themselves

Friday 4th     "     "

A cold day--snowing at dark--mercury 8° above zero.

Went to Wyandot city.

Mr. Miller one of the Wyandot commissioners told me my locations are all as I wished except Mary Whitewing's which I wanted on the widow Coon's improvement which I had bo't and which was taken from me most unjustly by Mr. McCoy, one of the Commrs.

Rec'd from the Express office in Wyandot city a package of medicine from Cincinnati on which I paid \$1.80 charges.

Jim Zane returned to me Gov. Robinson's agreement to keep me

harmless, in consequence of the note Zanr holds against me. Zane asked me in the presence of Mr. Glick, if I had not agreed to pay him ten per cent interest on the note. I replied I had done so under the impression that it was the lawful interest, and that I was still willing to adhere to that agreement although made under a mistaken idea of the rate of lawful interest

Saturday 5th " "

Went to Fielding Johnson's in the evening and returned to him Bayard Taylor's "Lands of the Saracim" which I had borrowed and read; and borrowed from him Dr. Livingston's travels in Africa. I proposed to Mr. Johnson that he should go to Washington and look after the Delaware Treaty about to be made and from which we hope something for our railroad. He is willing to go but wants Charles Jonnycake to go with him and thinks money can be obtained to pay his (Jonnycakes) expenses.

How like a blank in life is an idle day!

Sunday 6th " "

Mr. Johnson came to see me this morning and thinks the money to pay Jonnycake's expenses can be obtained. I went over to Mr. Alfred Gray's where I met Mr. Veale who said I had better see Jonnycake and if he would go to start immediately. I accordingly rode out to Mr. Jonnycake's house, but he did not like to go without the consent of the Chiefs and wished me to see Legendyne on the subject. At Legendyne's house happened to be Nehon (the acting Head Chief). I told the Chiefs I thought they had better send another delegate to Washington

they had better send another delegate to Washington as I suspected there were efforts making to get their lands for speculation. The wished me to have Jonnycake to interper<sup>t</sup>. I accordingly went ~~to~~ Jonnycake and a long "talk" followed but without discussion when I left--after dark.

Monday 7th " "

It being desirable to know what ~~discussion~~ decision the Delaware Chiefs had come to, I rode out to Jonny cakes to enquire and found it adverse to our wishes. Upon my return Mr. Started to Parkville to get conveyance to the Hanibal and St. Joseph railroad but learning that it would take him longer to go by that rout than by St. Louis returned home.

Took dinner at Jonnycake's for which he made no charge, but I handed him 50 cts which he kept; his usual price being 25 cts I expected him to return the change

Returning to Quindaro I overtook these men, Smith, Tayler, and Mateon, who had some large pieces of stove coal which they had just taken from a ravine adjoining Quindaro and where they believe there is a valuable bed of coal. It is of excellent quality.

Tuesday 8th " "

Went to Quindaro twice.

Got a new pair slippers from H. P. Downs-price \$2.00

Had poney shod, 75cts ch'd, and let Mr. Stewart have him to ride out to the newly discovered coal bed.

Tried to get A. C. Stock to postpone the collection of \$14.30

due for property sold ~~him~~ under execution and for the payment of which I became responsible but he refused and after several unsuccessful attempts to borrow the money, <sup>at</sup> last got it from A. Bartales to be returned within a week. I hope these lessons of adversity will impress themselves indelibly on my mind that should I ever be in easy circumstances the remembrance of them will modify my joy and check those impulses of confiding liberality which has familiarized me with the ingratitude of mankind.

Wednesday 9th       '       '

Went to Wyandot city, Westport, J. C. McCoy's and Kansas city. I business was to see the Wyandot Commrs. who, I ~~understand~~ understood, were to meet at one of these places; and I was anxious to see for myself how my lands had been located. Two of the Commrs. (Miller & McCoy) had met and <sup>ur</sup>adjoined to Kansas city before I arrived, but I understand they will meet again tomorrow. I went and returned by the way of the Wyandot bridge--a work that does great credit to the enterprising spirit of the people of Wyandot city who built it, but very little to their judgement, for the bridge is too frail a structure to resist the force of the Kansas river when the closing winter freshet carries away the immense bodies of ice, that usually covers the stream during our long cold winters. The bridge too, is too low to escape the high waters we usually have in May or June. Still it is a bridge! and a wonderful one at that considering all the circumstances.

Borrowed \$50 of H. M. Northrup for 30 days, and gave my note for the same.

Thursday 10th        "        "

Went to Kansas city, leaving my horse at the Wyandot ferry and walking from thence. My business again was to see the Wyandot Commrs. who met to close up their business, but Mr. McCoy was dissatisfied with some changes that had been made and would not sign the report. Miller then took them back for ~~ve~~correction. As usual I found my locations interfered with to my detriment but the Commrs. agreed to have the necessary corrections made. Thus have I to watch the proceedings of these men continually and a thousand dollars would not indemnify me for the expenses and loss of time occasioned by the dishonesty or carelessness of these men. I have agreed to go to Millers office tomorrow to examine all the assignments made under my direction either as purchase for myself or others and he has agreed to let me make the examination.

Paid Mr. Walker, clerk for F. Conant \$4.25, the whole amount of my indebtedness at Mr. Ps' store.

Bo't George a pair of buckskin mittens 75 cts pd.

Bo't 5 lbs candy for children. I wished to buy but one pound for which I would have to pay 40 cents but was told I, could have 5 lbs for one dollar; and so I took the 5 lbs on the score of economy

Ferriage 10 cts pd.

A snowy afternoon.

Friday 11th February, 1859

Snow six inches deep---w rather cold.

Went to Wyandot city as arranged yesterday w th Mr. Miller, but the numbers on the map and Schedule not corresponding I preferred to wait until the corrections are all completed.

Bought one gallon "golden syrup"--90cts paid.

Paid Post office bill, 40 cts.

Rec'd the first of the "N. Y. Tribune" dated 29th January 1859

Wrote to Beckwith inclosing him \$20. Letter sent by John Ainsworth--

Saturday 12th " "

Mercury 6 below Zero at sunrise.

Paid J. A. Bartels the \$14.00 I borrowed of him the 8th instant

Went to Quindaro and idled away much of the day talking talking to and hearing the citizens talk an amusing and sometimes instructive pastime.

Sunday 13th " "

At home most of the day reading, writing talking

Went to see old man Wilson who wanted me to buy his hogs but he was not at home and I took dinner with Isaac Zane and his sisters.

Monday 14th " "

A strange morning--ushered in by lightning, thunder and rain. Mercury 38° above zero;

Started to Kansas city--was delayed an hour at the Wyandot city

ferry, the ferry man being absent. The old Wyandot ferry has been stopped by injunction and a new ferry started a few rods further up the river but much more inconvenient of access than the old one.

Ferriage 25 cts

Left with H. M. Northrup <sup>of Kansas City</sup> for collection a note of \$1,000 on S. C. Fomeroy in favor of Mary Kayraho, on the back of which I signed her name and my own as <sup>his</sup> Agent.

Went from Kansas city to Westport where I stopped to get a description of the lands reserved by Treaty for absent Shawnees. Maj. Newsome the Agent kindly permitted me to take a copy of them, but appears adverse to Mrs. Guthrie's claim in which he is probably influenced by the Shawnee Chiefs. My object in getting the description of the lands is to make the locations for Mrs. G. and her children.

Put up for the night at William Donaldson's, 11 miles from Westport.

Tuesday 15th " "

Mr. Donaldson would receive nothing for my stay with him and I proceeded on my way, stopping for my dinner at the "Eudora Hotel" kept by Pascal Fish, who is now at Washington bill 50 cts, fare wretched. <sup>went on to Lawrence where I stay all night at the "Johnson House."</sup>

Called to see Judge Josiah Miller expecting him to give me some information about the Shawnee lands, but he was out and I did not see him

Met Gov. Robinson accidentally at the "Eldridge House". He speaks encouragingly of railroad matters and mails

Wednesday 16th " "

Judge Miller called to see me but could give me no reliable information respecting the lands I am in quest of

Called to see Gov. Robinson, at his office, conversation the same as last night--railroads, mails &c.

Had to linessa a good deal before I could get clean sheets for my bed. It is extremely disagreeable to me to have to roll myself in sheets crumpled by my predecessor even though I know him to be a more animal cleanly than myself. Few of our land lords know the value of a clean sheet.

Paid my bill, \$2.00, dear for the fare), and started to take a random look at the lands I was in search of. Crossing the Wakarusa I missed the ford, got into deep water, got my feet wet. Stopped at Blue-jackets (formerly Toleys) to dry my socks and get dinner bill 50 cts. Finding it impossible to trace the lines I went on to Jacob Ulrich's where I arrived after nightfall having wandered far out of my. Mr Ulrich was from home, at the burial of Ellis Bond.

Thursday 17th February 1859

Mr Ulrich not returning I started early for home but took my course over the reserved lands expecting to get a general idea of their value, but meeting with a Mr. Wm. I. Barbour who professed to know the lines I hired him for 50 cts to show me a few tracts on the Little Wakarusa. I think this region one of the most beautiful in Kansas and should my family succeed in getting the lands I have selected for them I shall spend much of my time there.

Stopped for dinner at Dr Soto--bill 70cts--50 cts for self and 20 cts for horse--the horse had the better dinner of the two I could have borne such an imposition from a man without a thought, but from a woman, that made me think a good deal.

Crossed the river at Dr Soto, Ferriage 25 cts. In consequence of the ferryman's giving me wrong directions or I forgetting them took the wrong road and became bewildered on the prairies. I found several Indian cabins-- some were empty, but the inmates of the others refused to let me stay all night and lied to me about the road to get rid of me. After wandering about until near midnight I came to a cabin where I prevailed on an Indian to take me to the right road for which I had to pay him a dollar in advance. He was faithful to his agreement and took a "bee line" over the prairies without path or compass and in about four miles brought me to the road at the point I wished to strike it. I got to Wolf creek about midnight where I had a stable for my horse and a bed <sup>for</sup> ~~for~~ myself, but I was too tired and chilled to sleep well, yet contrasted with my late wanderings I felt supremely comfortable

Friday 18th " "

Resumed my homeward journey before breakfast and arrived <sup>at</sup> home about, noon, the roads were in wretched condition, the winter freeze having just left the ground,

Bill at Wolfcreek 50 cts but as my landlady could not make change I left her my last dollar. I was too tired to attend the city election,

held today under the new charter.

Saturday 19th February, 1859.

Went to Wyandot city to look after my Wyandot land assignments and as usual I found an error-- on the incompetent list <sup>(the name of a person)</sup> ~~xxxxxx~~ of whom I bo't land--declared competent before I ~~bo't~~ the land and afterwards declared incompetent to deprive me of the title. Thus have I constantly to watch the work of these Commrs.

Mailed a letter written a week ago to T. K. Jacobs.

Went to Quindaro and brought a letter for George Omsel; it is from his father near Strasburgh, Germany, and appended to the letter was a small package of grape seeds which George had written for three months ago. They are of two kinds, purple, and black and George thinks they will do well here as the climate is much the same as at Strasburg.

Sunday 20th " "

At home till near sundown when I went to Alfred Gray's to borrow a half quire letter paper. Mr. Gray handed me the note which he and I had signed in favor of Mr. White for \$62.50 and which Mr. White had declined taking saying he would regard it as a "debt of honor." I tore the signatures off the note as I will pay it tomorrow.

Monday 21st " "

Went to Quindaro to get the money to pay Mr. White. I had borrowed this money for Isaac Jonnycake and took I. A. Bartles' and Jacob Hick's note payable in ~~sixty~~ <sup>60</sup> days with interest at three per cent a

month , and gave my receipt to Jonnycake for the note, to be delivered up to me when the note should be paid. Bartles paid the money today and I gave him the note, but he says he tore the receipt up. Mr. White declined taking the interest and I kept it for my trouble, as I had no interest in the transaction but to accomodate Mr. Jonnycake.

Sent my black mare Jane to E. D. Brown to take his wife to Kansas city in a buggy, but instead of a light buggy he took a heavy one horse wagon which with such roads, is much too heavy for the poor animal. How a man with a human heart could think of taxing the strength of a noble animal to gratify a mere desire for pleasure I cannot conceive.

Tuesday 22nd " "

Went to Kansas city where I met Wm. Miller & J. C. McCoy two of the Wyandot Commrs. to whom I applied to ~~fix~~ an error in the report, corrected, but McCoy as usual threw all the difficulties in the way he could well think of and finally said he would bring the matter up in Washington when the other Commissioner (Robinson) would be present and final corrections be made. I have rarely found a more unjust or unreasonable man than this ~~Mr.~~ McCoy who seems to have taken a peculiar pleasure in exercising the power entrusted to him by the treaty, to my prejudice--to harass and defraud me.

Attended the election for the new county officers and voted the Republican ticket entire.

Mailed a letter to Thaddeus Hyatt

Ames 5 cts

Ferriage 50 cts

Wednesday 23rd " "

This morning I hear with profound regret that the entire Democratic ticket is elected, on which were some of the worst men in the ~~xxx~~ country--drunken unprincipled scoundrels--This result was produced by the treachery, selfishness and dishonesty of the late and previous Legislatures, for whose conduct the party is held responsible

Was in Quindaro twice--went with Dr. Root of Wyandot city and John W. Wright to look at some lands which they (or rather) Wright, said they were authorized to buy for the purpose of locating the penitentiary upon it. It is possible there may be some private arrangement between these men and the Governor, whereby a handsome speculation is to be made

Saw A. C. Davis in Quindaro and agreed to go with him tomorrow to see the Shawnee Agent at Westport, Mo.

Thursday 24th " "

Started to Westport, Mo. but when I called on A. C. Davis as agreed yesterday, he said he felt too unwell to travel through such weather and proposed postponing it till tomorrow. It is, indeed, a dreary day, a cold, slow, eastern<sup>ly</sup> rain has been falling all day.

Started to Quindaro but hearing that no mail had been rec'd, returned, and have spent the most of the talking and reading. newspapers & Dr. Livingstones travels in Africa

Friday 25th " "

Went to Westport with A. C. Davis as arranged yesterday to see the Shawnee Agent in regard to some preliminary steps to be taken in the settlement of Mrs. Guthrie's claim for Shawnee lands and it was agreed, as the Shawnee Chiefs wished to be present when the affidavits were taken, to meet at the Agents room <sup>in</sup> at Westport on Monday the 7th March proximo, and take the evidence on both sides.

From Westport I went to Quaker mission to see if I could have Mrs. G. and family boarded there for a short time until I could get a house for them to live in as it will be necessary for them to reside within the Shawnee Reserve as a condition of their getting lands. The Superintendent of the Mission declined receiving them on the ground that they had already as many as they could accommodate; and besides he and his family expected soon to leave for Ohio. These reasons may or may not have been the true ones, but I was well satisfied; because I did not think my family would have been satisfied or benefited by the accommodations. The living is very plain and the large number of half civilized children, would not have been the best associates <sup>my</sup> ~~my~~ our little ones. I have lost all confidence in Indian mission schools.

Ate dinner at the Harris House, Westport, and paid \$1.00 for self and Mr. Davis,

Saturday 26th February, 1859

My kind friends at the Mission would receive nothing for the trouble I had given them, and I started home, stopping at Mr. Greene's,