



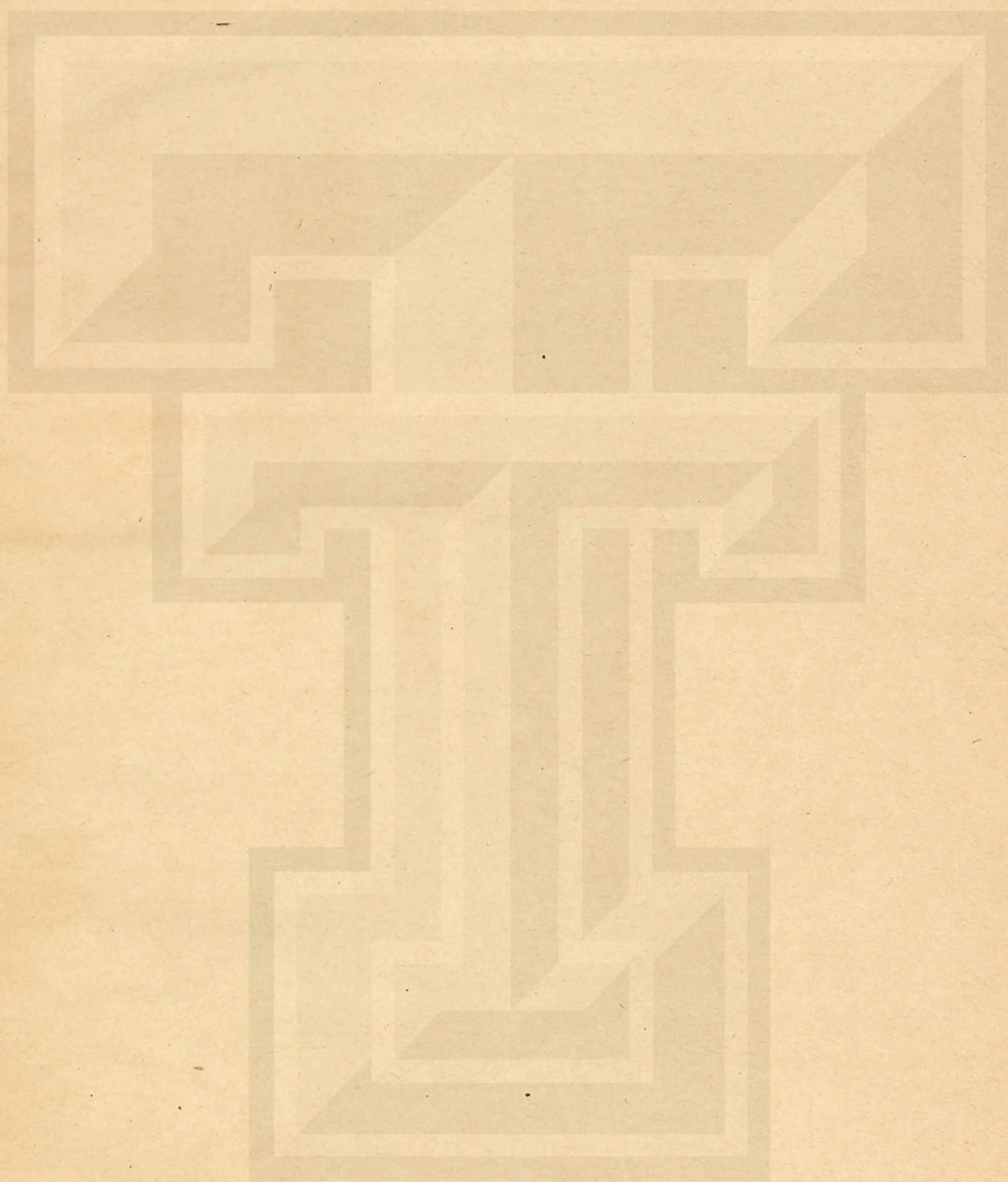
BAKER, ANNE WATTS

Collection, 1864-1896 and undated

Diaries, 1864-1896

NEWCOMB, SUSAN E. REYNOLDS

JANUARY 1, 1871 - JUNE 6, 1872



Susan E. Newcomb's journal.
For 1871.

Weatherford Texas Jan 1st 1871

Sunday Jan 1st:-

This is the first day of the week - the first of the month - and the first of the year. The year 1870 is dead, and buried in the past by old time; and a new year has taken its place. It has been very pleasant to day, and I hope it will continue to be pleasant, ^{all} the year.

But it will not be; there will be dark clouds, and raging storms ere the year 1871 draws to close; and there will be many disappointments, and troubles, to encounter during the year, that will look as black as thunder clouds, and feel as piercing and cold as the wind from the North Pole.

I think it advisable to brace ourselves up, and prepare for the worst. but others may look at things in a different light. Now every I have a right to express my opinion any way I choose on this paper, for I don't suppose it will ever be read. It isn't for the public.

Perhaps some one will see it when I am numbered with the dead; but then I will not know it, and as a matter of course I'll not care, and surely no one would ridicule the writings of the dead. I may like to look over this old journal sometime, but it will be of no importance to any one else until my boy is old enough to read and understand. But I don't think a Phil

a delphia lawyer can understand such gabble as I am putting down here, so I had better wind up by saying that that we had three of our old friends to see us to day, Mr. Kance and wife, and Mr. Matthews.

Sunday Jan. 2nd

Cloudy and cool to day.

Brother William got home to day from Colorado Ter. He had been out there one year and four months. It was a pleasant meeting I assure you. He looks as fresh pink and healthy as a fine rose.

Tuesday Jan 3rd 1871:-

Still cloudy, and cold. Mr. Matthews started to Louisiana to day, after his family. We look for him back in four or five weeks. Brother William went to town to day. Brother George and Sister Bettie got tidings from Colorado. The 13th of Dec. after an absence of two days and a half. They enjoyed fine health out there, they look better than I ever saw; but George has been unwell several days, he is quite poorly to day.

Wednesday 4th William came home to day; I felt almost vexed at him for staying away last night as I had not got to look at him enough.

George & Bettie went to cousin Ollie McLean's to day.

Thursday Jan 5th 71 George and Bettie came home to day and brought little Leon McLean with them, also aunt Adaline and Blake Barber. Blake and George went to hunt some lost horses this evening.

Weather some pleasanter to day.

Friday Jan 6th 71- William and George went to Mr. Shards this evening to a party. Brother Benmie is not feeling very well to day, and did not go to the party.

Saturday Jan 7th The boys got home to day, all in right, and found Bettie and I bending over the wash tub. Weather still pleasant.

Weatherford Texas Jan 8th 1871:-

William went to town to day, to preaching, and the rest of us, that is: George, Bettie, Benmie, Blake Barber and myself, went to singing at Shady Grove. Cousin Ollie came home with us, and stayed till evening. About an hour by sun she started home, and I with her. We got there just at dark, tired and noisy in the house; but we soon raised one and made them

about cheerful. Blake sawed on his fiddle till his usual bed time; over head of his wife & sister's personation to quit, ~~because~~ of its being Sunday night.

Monday Jan 9th 1871. I don't think cousin Ollie and I slept more than half of the night; we sat up late, and talked till for hours after we had gone to bed, we laughed and cried in turns; and finally got up and sat by the fire awhile, then we went to bed again, and got up alright this morning. We had company before breakfast this morning, Mrs Bedford and Mrs Skidmore. Brother George came by after me this evening, and cousin Ollie came with us as far as her father's. William went to Beal Station yesterday evening, and Mr. Clark and Steel came over with him to day.

~~Tuesday Jan 10th 71. Ma and pa staid with~~
~~uncle Sam Barber last night, and cousin Ollie~~
~~and Josie staid with us, We had a nice time~~
~~jumping the rope, singing and playing the accordion~~

Tuesday Jan 10th 71. Mr Clark and Steel left this morning. George and William went to town, and Ma and pa went to uncle Sam Barber's. Cousin Ollie and Josie came over to stay with us. We had a pleasant evening, jumping the rope, singing and playing the accordion.

Wednesday Jan 11th 1871. Another pleasant day. I went as far as my uncles, today with my cousins, and had the pleasure of meeting my brother and cousin, on their return from Colorado; also a friend that I had not seen for ten years. Brother Glen has been on the road two months with brother George's train of mules and wagons. They had a very bad weather, and lost a good many of their horses and mules. One of their men (a negro) got his feet very badly frost bitten.

After the excitement of our meeting was partially over
we started home. Myself and sons, Cha and Hallie, Ed
and Willison, and our old friend S. W. Odneal, and Charles
Gannary. ^{When} We got within half a mile of home, I could no longer
hold my self no longer, I left the crowd and galloped home
to tell the news. (like a simple child) but that was no
worse than my cousins; they cried like babies when this
met their brother; but I reckon they couldn't help it, I don't
think that I was as glad to see my brother as they were to
see theirs, but I did not cry about.

Eleon and cousin Hiram Barber left the wagons by
day light this morning, (the loose mules and horses
were left on Red River to recruit awhile) The wagons
will be here in the morning.

I took a very curious spell after I got home this evening.
I felt like I could not get enough breath, I snuffed
and blowed about an hour and a half. Had some meat
and Bettie after the brandy. I don't know whether it
was excitement, or what it was made me take such a
crazy spell.

Thursday Jan 12th:- After a good night's sleep
we find ourselves alright again this morning. It
commenced raining last night, and it is pouring
down yet; and it is very cool. The men got in with
the wagons before breakfast, wet and hungry. Six in
all, Mr. Darlin, Mr. Owens, Mr. Gaskick, Mr.
Summer, Mr. Gentry, and a darkey "Jem".
They took quarters in a little cabin down the bar.
It has been very wet and unpleasant out of doors today.

Friday Jan 13th:- Another very cold day.
The men all went to town today, except Mr. Gentry.
He was wise in staying by the fire today, I think, for
for it is very unpleasant rickling across the prairie
being such wind as we have today.

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Saturday Jan 14th - Nothing happened worth notice to day, weather still bad.

Sunday Jan 15th 1881 - It is some pleasanter to day; but very sloppy and disagreeable under foot. William, Bennie, George and Bettie, Mr. Darlin, Mr. Owens and Mr. Gentry, all went to town to day to preaching; but were disappointed. John and Harden Kidwell, F. M. Barber and Sam. Reynolds, were here to day. Mr. Gosdick displayed some splendid tunes for them, on his Banjo.

Monday Jan 16th - Mr. Darlin and Owens started by back to Red River to day, after the stock that were left.

Bennie & Phin went to mill to day; and Mr. Sterling came out with them. He is a gentleman that came to Texas with Brother George's "outfit".

Tuesday Jan 17th - Brother Bennie & Mr. Sterling and Gentry started to San Antonio this morning after horses, to drive cattle; they may have to go to Old Mexico before they get back. Brother Bennie went off without saying adieu to any of us. William and George went as far as town with them. George got home late this evening, but William staid all night.

Mr. Murphy drove out here this evening in a fine buggy (and team). William got home at nine P.M. about

Wednesday Jan 18th - Bettie, George and Mrs. B. went over to uncle Sam's this evening. Mr. Byrd was here and took dinner with us to day.

William lost his horse in town last night, and he went back to hunt him to day. Charz Byrd came over to stay all night with me. We had a pleasant time. Mr. Gosdick gave us some music on the Banjo and we try had a little on the accordeon. William found his horse and saddle all right. Better luck than I anticipated. Good night.

Thursday Jan 19th 1871:- It misted rain last night
and froze on every thing. which makes every thing look
very beautiful, this morning. I went home with
Mary this morning, and called to see a sick man, Mr.
Jones. who has been sick for a long time with consumption
or something as bad. he is getting well; and disappointed
a great many by so doing, for all of his friends had
given him up to die. I don't think he will ever be re-
stout again. I found all well at Mr Byrds, and
spent a pleasant evening. George came over to re-
make a trade with Mr. Byrd, and sat till bedtime
talking over old times, with his old "army" friends.

Friday Jan 20th 1871:-

I came home this morning and found
brother George and Phin, making preparations to
go on a buffalo hunt, on the "Clear Fork of Brazos".

Phin started this evening with ~~Wm~~ Hays' outfit
Mr Sammers and Fern, hired to Hays, and were
also. Phin was in town with a "rocket" full of
rocks, when he got started.

Saturday Jan 21st:- George and Hays left
this morning. but Phin came home before break-
fast after runaway horses. Cha pat Gable, and
left us again this morning. Mr Goodick and Ellen
are out at work, and there is no one at the store
but William and Gus, Bettie and myself, and
we Bettie and I are up to our elbows in the wash-
tub. Late this evening when we had finished our
washing and scouring, cousin Ollie, Fossie, of
Nannie, Hiram and Oliver came over to spend
the night with us. I felt almost sick I was so
tired. We got supper over and enjoyed the eve-
ning very well. Mr. Goodick favored us with a
few lively songs, - and banyo music.

Weatherford Texas Jan 22nd 1871

Sunday Jan 22nd:- This has been a pleasant day. Cousin Oldie and the rest of our cousins went home early this morning. I felt very bad all the afternoon, and laid myself down to rest, but had not been long until we had some more company, Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds, their little daughter and son and James. Ma. and pa. got home about ten O'clock which relieved me considerable, for I did not feel like entertaining company in the least. Bettie and I took a walk this evening after the company left, over the hill and down the valley. I sat down and wrote a letter while I was resting after my walk.

Monday Jan 23rd:-

Another pleasant day in which nothing of interest has happened, unless I say that I have been in the wash tub again, which is nothing new for me.

I very often worry myself with sad thoughts, and this is one of my days. I know it is not right to be so sad and low spirited - especially such a fine day as this, but I can't help it sometimes. A person can not help brooding over sad memories of the past, and yet there are pleasant ones that ought to be uppermost in my mind, but sad ones get the best of me once in awhile. It must be nature I don't know what else. I believe that most any one will have the blues at times, especially when they think of staying in this world a life time without any one to love - love truly, and call their own. It is hard indeed to have the only one that your heart holds dear and rare snatch away from you - as I had nine months ago to day - to feel yourself entirely alone, as I did then, and do now. Those ^{that} have undergone what I have, and

only those, can deeply sympathise with me.

Tuesday Jan 24th:- This has been quite a cloudy day. We have been ironing, and doing jobs all day. I finished a cap for today - my first one - I like it so well. that I will have to make one I think.

Wednesday Jan 25th 71:- Another cool and cloudy, damp and ugly day; we have had very bad weather this winter, so far, and from all appearances, it will continue so. I don't believe that any thing has happened today worth recording.

Thursday Jan 26th 71:- It rained a little last night, and still cloudy. By no means pleasant for weddings and parties; but I understand there is to be a couple of weddings, a ball, in Weatherford to night. Brother William and Ellen and Mr. Gaskie went in to the ball, and so such a time as they had getting off. William was teased Ellen about his dress, and telling him to part his hair behind, like a Yankee, and to turn his coat collar up, and all that sort of thing, which did not seem very well on Ellen's stomach. Betsey and I had to do thing and that, to do, a button to sew on an overcoat, another on a vest, a hook to put on William's jacket collar, now a collar to buttoned for Ellen, and his butterfly (Shoo fly as we call it) to be fastened.

Now William wants some pomades on his hair and don't want to get his hands greasy, so I put it on and he saying "Don't grease my collar Sister," I missed all such little things very much, when they were gone from home. Often and often have I longed for a chance to do something for them.

I have many a time thought that I would never

have the privilege of doing them another favor, but they have all gotten home at last. They kept coming one at a time, till the last one got here. We are scattered again, and none of us knows whether we will all meet again or not.

The boys got off to the party at last, and our little family was left looking quite lonesome. Lallie got home to her cousin Ollie, a week.

Friday Jan 27th / 1871. The boys came home at one o'clock last night in the rain and sleet. It was so dark that Ellen and her band, Mr. Fasdick got lost for awhile. They paid a dollar to get in, and then could not get to dance but one or two sets, and some noise at all. They say that it is a long time, and a pretty cheap one at that. They look quite cross to day. Mr. Fasdick and Ellen kept stirring all day but William gave in and slept half the day - missed his dinner entirely.

Saturday Jan. 28th / 1871. ^{Pa,} William, Betie, my-
self and Lars went to town to day. We drove up to Mr. Anderson's store, and it was so full of people that we turned and rode down to his dwelling. The square was crowded with his wagons and people. Drunk men especially. We dined with Mr. and Mrs. Stance, and after dinner we went shopping. and then went with Mrs. Stance to the picture gallery. We had two pictures apiece taken. Mine looks like I had just eaten a half ripe persimmon, or a green melon. I never had one taken but what looked cross and sleepy. It must be my natural looks; but I am awfully sorry, if I look that cross all the time; my friends will think that I am mad. We intended going to see cousin Ollie to night, but heard that Mr. Anderson and family were at our house, and we came home, but they had gone, and we missed them by going around by Mr. Wallace's. It was very late when we got home but it has been a very pleasant day; and we had a pleasant ride, but I feel ^{a little} tired.

We drove home alone this evening, we got here about two o'clock
 John Kidwell stayed with us last night, him and
 Elson went to preaching in Mr. Shards little meeting.

This evening passed off tolerably quick and pleasant,

Monday Jan 30th / 11:-

Well, to tell the plain truth - I am somewhat tired
 to night, I have been washing very hard all day, and it
 gives me a pain in my side. I feel so tired and
 worn out sometimes, that I almost wish that I could leave
 this world of trouble, and misery; and go to meet the loved
 one, that is waiting to welcome me, on the golden shores of
 ever lasting love. Where the tree of life is blooming, and
 the weary are at rest. O! what a happy meeting it will
 be, I sit and ponder over it at times, until I get anxious
 to go, and feel as though I could not wait Gods bidding,
 I expect it is wrong to have such feelings, but I cant help
 it sometimes; although I am fully aware that I am not
 yet prepared to enter that peaceful abode, to
 join in songs with the purified souls; but I have a
 spark of hope, that I will be some day; and that spark
 with care, may be kindled into a burning flame, to light me
 and over the dark valley of death.

William, Elson, Mr. Parlin, and Mr. Davis went to
 town to day, and have just returned. No letters or news
 by of any sort.

Tuesday Jan. 31st / 11:- Mr. Parlin, Davis, and Owens

as commenced splitting rails to day, Mr. Goodick has been
 at the business several days, pretty hard work I presume.

William went to Weatherford again this evening, and
 Elson went out riding. Pa has been setting out little
 peach trees to day. I am writing up stairs by the east

window, where I can see the hilltops plain, and
 the men busking around through the lots feeding
 hares. Now Pa is riding one through the bars.

Now they have all come up to supper, and it is getting

Too dark to write, so I will quit and go down stairs.

Supper is over, and we are now quietly seated around our fireside. Pa is sitting in one corner, and Bess is in the other playing her accordeon. Callie is sitting by the table reading poetry, and ~~and~~ ma is at my elbow and chatting with pa. The men have gone down the lane to their "hall," as we term it, and I am has gone with them to hear Mr. Goodick pick on his banjo.

Mr. Goodick and Owens and I am have come back again. Mr. Goodick is on the opposite ^{side} of the table reading a story, in which he seems very much interested. I

I am attempted to raise a play with me, but I was not feel inclined to help him in it, so to get rid of him I put him to bed. I have just kissed him good night and taken up my pen again. Dear little boy, him. I had a great play Sunday night, and he is so stout that he came very near getting the best of me; I never saw such strength in a five year old boy.

One twelfth of the year 1871 is about gone, a with more hours and, January will take its leave, and another month take its place. Oh, how a good night will be heard the last night time to night, many a soul will take its flight for worlds unknown, and many hearts will be made sad; this the last night of January 1871.

Every one is in bed, and perhaps asleep, and I am alone at the center table trying to write, and watching the fire that is slowly dying out with the month; and a cat that is sleeping so soundly on the hearth.

We have had a beautiful day; and the night is equally as beautiful. The moon is pouring its silver rays over the earth, and the stars are peeping out from their hiding places, and winking, as ^{though} they were ashamed to look this wicked world full in the face. Now I am will bid the month farewell, and retire for the night.

Weatherford Texas February 1st 1871.

Wednesday: This has been another pleasant day, in which nothing of interest has happened. Mr. Wallace singot into a little difficulty last Monday, (with C. Rivers,) and he came out here after William to appear as a witness. As he happened to be present when the row took place the Mr. Wesley Kidwell came over after some chickens this evening; he is going to have a "rail manling," and a supper to-morrow. I don't expect he will get many from here as to manling rails, for they have plenty of such fun at home. I should not be very brash at the business myself, if I were one of them, - but I expect he will get a few rails for the strength of a supper, and a little dancing.

Mr. Cha and Callie went to Mr. Baker's visiting this evening. Glenn and I went squirrel hunting, and we had a squirrel for supper. After supper Mr. Fossdick brought up his banjo and picked us a few tunes. It is now nine o'clock and Bettie is hurrying me off to bed; she says she can't go to sleep without me. Poor little child, I might as well say, she doesn't know what she can do until she is tired. She has a great deal of courage about her little self, and she can bear up under a great ^{many} more trials, than she imagines. Here she sits in her "night clothes," awaiting very patiently for me to get to bed, so I had better not impose upon good nature by sitting up any longer.

Thursday Feb 2nd 1871: - Glenn and Mr. Fossdick went to the rail manling this morning; and Mr. Davis and Lin went to work on the School house. Mr. Davis and I went worked at home. I have been making myself over rasper to day, and sweeping the yard; and I don't feel much like writing to night. My journal will not get into due I am afraid. Glenn, and Mr. Fossdick came home and dressed for the party, late this evening. Glenn carried Callie over, and Mr. Fossdick and

Richard Reynolds went after the Shirley girls, but did not get them. They came back after dark with their lead horses and saddles. Pretty hard for them after manling rails all day; but they are young enough to outline all such disappointments. Mr. Davlin and Mr. Davis went over just before dark, and a little while after dark. William and Flake came in, and Mr. went over. I don't know that it is any of her business, and I may be wrong; but I think that one would look more becoming in a married man, to sit at home with his wife, than to go to such a dissipated party as that will be. Ah! well, what a curious world this is, how strange people will act sometimes. So strange indeed, I sometimes wish that I were out of this world, but my boy needs attention and he has no one else to look to. But death would be a thousand times more desirable, than to live to see him grow so dissipated like some young men that I know of, may.

I would rather have the cold sod thrown over me both, than he should come to that. My heart feels uncommonly heavy to night, and I feel very tired, so I will leave off writing, and try and sleep it off.

Friday Feb 8th / 71 - This has been another beautiful day. The dancers got home at 3 o'clock. This morning, Callie has been looking a little ill to the day after her dance. Mr. Davlin went home with one of the girls, and got lost as he came home.

Betty, Callie, Fins and I, took a walk, to meet George and Fins. We sat down on top of a hill to rest awhile; and when we came back, George and Fins were standing in the yard. Bettie ran like a good little fellow, if I should call her "fellow". She has been very lively all the evening, and she has

als, right to be, if I had such a friend by my side, what a
 difference there would be in my feelings this evening. but
 that is not so ordered, and why do I complain.

enon Saturday Feb 4th / 71 - Mrs. Byrd and parson Thomas
 Williams over and spent the day with us. Hiram Barber came
 a litter this evening after some carn. The preacher went to
 Mr. Kidmells, and I went home with Mrs. Byrd. The sound
 of Mary and the children looking very lonesome. ~~Wm~~ Byrd went
 that one with Phin and stayed all night. Mr Byrd came
 to see at dark, he has been at work on the school house all day
 kids. I and the children had a great time playing.
 us Pa and Mr. Owens has been setting out peach trees, and
 time shad trees all day. They have made a considerable differ
 ence in the look of the yard.

Feb. 5th Sunday:

We all went to preaching this morning.
 row Tom, and Jeff. Byrd rode my horse, and I and I rode in the
 of wagon with the rest of the family, it went just a little against
 Mary's will to ride in the wagon, for she knew there would be no
 chance of getting a horse; and I don't blame her for not wanting
 to ride there. We got there early, and carried chairs in the wagon.

try and were comfortably seated by the time the congregation gathered.
 The house was crowded with people, and we heard a splendid
 with sermon. There were several persons from Weatherford.
 I saw cousin Sallie Barber to day for the first time since
 the summer of '63. She has broken a great deal since then.

Cousin George. was over here to see me yesterday evening
 after I left home. I wish I had been at home, I would like
 to have seen him very much. He went to preaching.

again at candle light. It was very pleasant, and we had
 in a nice ride home, the moon was shining so brightly that
 it made every thing look beautiful, and Salem too.

George and Betrie went to Mr. Byrd, Eliza went to Mr.
 Share, and Phin went to Uncle Sam. Barbers.

William and S. Mr. Davis, and Mr. Darlin came home this

I enjoyed the services of the day, and the moonlight ride much. Mr. Sherlow came out from town yesterday, where George and William. He is just in from Colorado. He

He looks quite natural and is as full of mischief as ever, a droll man was. Pa, Ma and Mr. Sherlow were sitting up for when we got here, but now every one is in bed, and I am the only occupant of this room. I have been feeling very aching and tired all day, ~~by some~~ from some cause or other, if it were not for that, I would sit up and write longer, but as I feel so bad, and have Bettie's bed all to myself I will, and go to bed and have a good nights rest if possible.

Thursday Feb. 6th / 71:-

Mr. Darlin and Davis left this morning, they are going back to Red River. Mr. Owens and Mr. Faddick are cutting poles, and the rest are building fence.

Phin came home, and brought Oliver and Byron Barbro with him, George and Bettie came home early this morning.

George and William had a settlement with Mr. Sherlow this morning; and then all hands went to work, Sherlow with the rest making fence. It has been cold and clear to day, and rained a little this evening. There was an appointment given out last night, for preaching again to night, but I think this bad weather will break it.

Friday Feb 7th:-

It has been very dark and gloomy today, it makes every thing ~~dark~~ lonesome. Mr. Sherlow went to town to day; and Pa William and George have been working on the fence. Elmer and Phin have been hunting. Oliver and Byron went home this afternoon.

About sundown, Elmer and Phin started on a fox chase; there will be quite number of boys out with them I suppose. ~~After~~ After supper Mr. J. Leeblet came in. He is just from Shreveport.

He says that Mr. Chatters will not be up for some time yet, and that has given Bettie the blues.

Mr. Harlow got here about nine o'clock. I heard in town what there had been a terrible fight at Colorado Post among the cow hunters, lately. Ten men killed and seven wounded, out of twenty one.

Wednesday Feb. 8th 1871-

Phin came home at eleven o'clock P. M. He has a very sore hand, got it burned at Picketville, and it injured him so, that he left the party and came home. Ileson but out in at one in the morning. They killed one fox only. Mr. Harlow and William went to town to day.

We were agreeably surprised by the arrival of Mr. Bartholomew this morning, our frontier friend. All hands were glad they see him. It has been eight months since I saw him last. I was heartily glad to meet him again, and why ~~not~~ ^{should} I should not be, for ~~he~~ he was my best earthly friend in time of Bartrouble. He did every thing in his power to help me, and as kind as a brother. If he does not get a reward in this world, he will in another, for kind acts never die.

Aunt Adaline and cousin Sallie Barber were over to day.

William and Mr. Harlow got back a little after dark. William brought a letter from brother Ben. He was in Austin when he wrote. They ~~are~~ ^{were} all right he said.

Harlow brought some things from town, for ma, and in making change he gave me a button. (accidentally) it Bettie told him that he had cheated ma out of a dime, ~~so~~ ^{so} I ~~did not~~ said he, I gave her a button too much, and ~~he~~ want it back. We had a hearty laugh at his expense.

He always has an answer ready for anything, no one but a Dutchman would have thought of the answer he gave me to night.

Feb. 9th Thursday.
 I promised to go over and spend the day with cousin ^{and} ~~that~~
 but I have not felt much like it to day. The and Sallie has
 been washing, and I ought to have been at it, but I have
 a strange spell once in a while, and this is one of my days
 I don't feel like working or visiting. I have been making a
 dress for Sallie though. Mr. Barlow, and Mr. Saftlet is taking
 up the country this morning. Mr. Couper came to see
 to day. Phil and Elmon went to mill this morning
 and when they came back, Elmon donned his best suit
 started to Mr. Bedfords to a party. William left early
 dinner, and guess he has gone to the party. I wish time
 could get "danced" out of their heads, it would be a fine
 thing if they could. Well it is getting late in the eve-
 ning, and rather than to break my promise I will go
 and go over to uncle Sam's.

Friday Feb 10th. - I arrived at uncle Sam's
 all right. Fannie and cousin Sallie were getting supper
 uncle Sam and William were chatting, and Byron and
 Oliver were playing checkers. Aunt Adaline, who has
 gone over to see a sick lady, Mrs. Blanton, and has not
 not returned when I left this morning. I had a pit-
 sant time last night, but had a cool ride coming. It
 is cloudy and looks very much like rain. I found
 Mr. Couper going home, and found the rest of the party
 quietly seated around a warm fire. Looking as com-
 fortable as you please. George and Bessie went
 town, and I went to see Mrs. Blanton. There is no one
 at the house but Bettie Sallie and myself, we had a very
 quiet time all the forenoon. But this evening Sallie
 has been trying herself at every mischief she could possibly
 think of. She went up stairs and came down with her
 long night gown and cap on, looking as much like a ghost
 as possible. I have had the blues, or heartache lately
 for two or three days, and I did not feel like being

annoyed, and I was a little cross, but she did not care for
 that, she had to wear her funny spell off. I don't know what
 she has made me feel so wretched to day, unless the bad man
 I have gotten the upper hand of one; which I hope he has not
 my sky heart has been almost in my throat for several days
 and I can't swallow it back to save my life, I will have to
 make a big cry before I get relieved. O! if I just
 had some good friend, to love me all the time, one that I
 could open my heart to and relieve it of its burden, —
 someone that I could wholly confide in, and love, as my own
 early life. As I have dared to say so much, I will say on and
 write down my feelings on this paper, as it is for no
 other eye but the one that is now on it. Although I
 blush to say it to this paper, as I strive alone as I am,
 but it is in my heart, and God knows it, and what
 could be the harm in man's knowing it. My heart
 longs for that love that has been so untimely taken
 from it. But why do I say untimely? does not God
 know best? Why do I complain when I know that
 that dear Soul is at rest, it is my loss but his gain
 and I am only left to have my faith tested. I have
 a pit to bear, and I might as well give him up cheerfully
 and will try henceforward to be cheerful, and contented.
 I know it is wrong to worry and grieve, and ponder
 over past trials; but they will loom up before me
 as called for, sometimes.

Tha, George and Mr. Bartholomew, got back at
 dark — we ate supper and spent a quiet evening.

Saturday Feb. 11th 1871:—

This has been a cold cloudy day; it rained some
 last night and the ground is very muddy to day.
 But Mr. Foadick and Mr. Owens went to town as it was too wet
 to work to day. I went out and got some wild cypress
 (Indian cypress it is called) and set out in the yard but
 I am afraid the ground will freeze to night and kill it.

22 Sunday Feb. 13th 1871:- So day has been quite pleasant

over head, but the wind has been blowing pretty cool. dry

Ma, Pa, and Lallie went to Mr. Kidwell's visiting the morning. William went ^{to} town ^{to} preaching, and the remainder of us have been very busily engaged in reading; novels & books that I am sorry to say myself with the rest.

I took a stroll this morning, and learned a thing or two on my accordeon. There were some horses and a mule by the field, and when I began to play, the horses came up and rubbed their noses against me, as though they liked the music; but the little dunkey stood still, legged in his tracks and stuck his ears straight out and then he passed by me looking as mad as a cat when hen; and presently he made me start up out of my seat by his loud braying. (I don't like will)

Monday Feb. 13th 1871:-

I hardly know what to say for myself and day, I have not been doing anything in particular, sewing on a dress for Lallie, and reading a couple of the, we sowed the floor this morning, and worked evening, after all we done considerable work. I feel tired to night. George and Barney had been hauling wood, Messrs. Fosdick and Owens have been at work on the farm, Pa. and William went to town, and Lessor Phin and Lallie started a writing school this morning.

W. P. Hays and W. Reins took dinner with us to day. They are just down from Portland with a drove of cattle.

Tuesday Feb. 14th 1871:-

This is brother George's twenty seventh birthday, and he went ^{to} town to keep from being rolled in the frost. I reckon - for we were threatening him all the morning.

plus Bettie and I robbed all the hens nests and made a
ake for George this evening, and then we took a terrible spell
ol. dressing, but we finally got fixed to our notion, and went about
the business. Mr. Edin came here late this evening, but
I am not acquainted with him, and therefore I do not know
his business. Pa and Mr. Bartholomew has been busy
fixing a plow this evening, I finished my ironing and
gathered a bunch of cedar, and made a baguet for George.
George and William did not get home till dark, and
the carpper was over. We spent a quiet evening, and a
happy one I think.

Wednesday Feb. 15th 1871: This morning was quite
bit cool and cloudy. George and Barney started to Stephenville
a day. I did not like to see them start in such unfavor-
able weather; but business called them away. I hope they
will have good weather and a pleasant trip.

Bettie and I started to the writing school this evening
and it was the most unwelcome looking place I ever
saw. we started home before school was dismissed
and could not stand to stay any longer. I have been feeling
bad all day, and I relieved myself by taking a cry.
I amused myself by jumping the rope this evening,
hardly while. I knew it would tire me, but I thought it
would dispel the blues for a while.

Thursday Feb. 16th

This has been a very nice day
but it has been very dull at school. Bettie and I
took dinner with Mrs. Reynolds to day, and it was very
pleasant. Mary Bzot came home with us, and we had
another game of "rope jumping". Mr. Fosdick picked
and sang us a few tunes this evening.

I received a letter yesterday, and was up late last
night and was up answering it. That and rope jumping
made me feel very bad to night.

Friday Feb. 17th 1871 - The sun rose clear and beautiful this morning; the atmosphere was clearer than I had seen it for a long time; and I thought we were going to have a fine day, but I was mistaken. It turned cold and began to rain in the afternoon; ^{and} it finally got so disagreeable that Bettie, Sallie and myself started home for fear of worse weather. We galloped home facing the north wind and a little rain now and then which lacked a great deal of feeling pleasant. No one at the house but pa, ma, and Gus. Gus was chopping wood with his little ax, but he quit when I came and had a cry to ride. Ma had ^{on} ^{and} was sitting by the west window reading an Advocate; ^{Ma} was sick, and we had to unsaddle our horses. By the time the other students got home it had fair'd off very beautiful, and the sun shone clear again.

Saturday Feb. 18th 1871 - To day has been very pleasant over head, but disagreeable under foot. Mr. Gosdick and Phin, went to mill to day, and Gus went with them in the wagon. Bettie, Eleanor, William and myself went in horse-back. William went to Mr. Byrds and we did not get any good of his company. Bettie and I had our pictures taken to day. I had Lussie taken ^{off} twice (with me). We took dinner at Mr. Smalums; and Miss Pasaphine favored us with some music on the piano. ^{off} ^{met} We ^{met} Mr. Davis at the hotel, he ^{met} come back to stay with us again. I met my old friend, Mr. Lynch at the table, and ^{met} ted to talk with him, but did not get an opportunity as he sat at the lower end of the table.

table, and he disappeared after we left the dining
 parlour. We went to the post office after ^{we} left the
 hotel; and Bettie got a letter, and I got some papers
 notwithstanding ^{how} of my brothers had inquired at
 different times for mail, and received none. I
 never saw such a careless postmaster.

We went to the picture gallery next, but our pictures
 were not ready, so we concluded to do our shopping
 and call for them afterwards. We got our pictures

and started home; Blake Barber helped us on our
 horses; and just as we turned to go, Bettie's
 horse began to kick up, right there, and the street
 was crowded with people; but she jumped off as light
 as you please, with ^{out} getting the least bit hurt.

I laughed nearly all the way home about her activity.
 A young gentleman by name of Ford came out
 some with us; he is just up from La. He is acquaint-
 ed with Mr. Matthews's family, ^{and} brought a letter
 from Mrs. Matthews to Bettie.

Sunday Feb. 19th 1871. This a beautiful day
 Mr. Byrd came over this morning, and Ma, Sallie
 and I went home with ^{him} to spend the day; he want-
 ed Bettie and me to go, but I felt like staying at
 home, and spending a quiet day, all to
 myself. Mr. Owens, Glenn and Mr. Fordsick

went to uncle Sam's today, and I began to think
 that we were going to have a quiet day; but I was
 badly out of it. About ten o'clock. Mr. Lynch

he Mr. Cooper, and two strangers came. Mr. Lynch
 began to quarrel with me the first the thing, that
 his way of doing when he gets with his old acquaint-
 ances. He calls it quarreling. He said that I
 ran off from the hotel on purpose to get away
 from him. He said that he had business in town

and ran off to get it arranged as quick as pass and came back and sat on the gallery of the hotel watched all the evening for me. I thought that it was him that ran off for I looked all over the place for him. We got dinner all on the stove, and I came in and took a seat in the sitting room, I had just seated myself when Mr. Lynch said, "Get up from there Susan, and go in to the kitchen to cook for I am hungry." I told him that I would get the raw potato, if he thought that he could not wait until dinner, but he declined the offer, and waited with patience. After dinner they passed off a few layments looking at some pictures. Mr. J. Ennis came this evening to buy pa's place, he wants it so bad, but pa won't sell. Mr. Lynch left after quarreling (as he terms ^{it}) till he got tired. He took one of mine and Susie's pictures, also one of Beth's for his little girl "Dutch," as he calls her, to put in his album. He says that he loves Dutch better than any one else living, better than his own wife, that does not seem natural to me; that a man should love his child better than his wife. He makes a strange genius. Mary Byrd came over this evening with ma. Hiram Barber came over with the boys that went over there.

Thin stayed at Mr. Kidwells last night and Lyman came home with him this morning. In short we have had quite a stir and no all day; and to cap everything I got my feet touched in a tender place; and I could not have having the blues, ever since, although it was not done intentionally. But I will call no names and fear no law, and try to drive away the blues, although I find a very hard task.

pass Monday Feb. 20th 1871. We all went to the much
 dreaded school house this morning. That is, I dread
 that, for it is so lonesome. I get tired of writing
 all day, it makes my side ache - and then it is so
 dull. I am all the time studying about something
 else besides writing. Home seems so much
 better than any other place. I feel more at ease
 and see more pleasure at home than I do anywhere
 else. Home - the ^{name} sound sweet, no difference how poor
 it may mean it is so it is home sweet home.
 Mr. Davis went over to work for Mr. Byrd to
 day.

Tuesday Feb. 21st / 71 Six students absent
 to day, there are only twelve now. It was dull enough
 after first without out any leaving. All the fun that
 we saw to day was at William's expense, he managed
 to ride with Mary, in such a cute way. Mary was riding
 an inspired little pony ^{along} by the side of me, and ~~Wm~~ rode
 than behind us a whistled sharp and shrill, and Mary's
 horse ran off, and he galloped up by the side of her
 and laughed half way home. Mr. France and Dock was
 nowhere to day, while we were at school.

Wednesday Feb 22nd / 71 I went home with
 Mary last night. Mr. Byrd and Davis had killed
 seven hogs and were just through when we got there.
 We all sang and passed the evening away very plea-
 santly. Mr. Byrd started to town bright and ear-
 ly with his pack this morning. Mr. Davis
 picked up four little rose bushes, and a holly hawk
 that he saw, and I brought them over home this mor-
 ning. They were all on their horses starting to
 school when we got here. Nothing of interest
 has happened to day. Mr. Ford went to work
 for Mr. Bridgeman to day.

Thursday Feb. 23rd 1871. Mary and I went to Mr Kidwells last night, and it cost me a little so, for I wanted to go to that sweet place called bed but I had promised to go, and I always try to keep my promises. Mrs. Kidwell was expecting us and had supper ready when we got there.

Glenn was there when we got there. He stayed home, but changed his mind, and took a near and beat us. Hiram Josie and Oliver took up after supper, and sat till bed time. They sang awhile in the note book, and then went to the kitchen to have their own fun, and they did have it. I think from the noise they made. We heard him singing "Jim Finnigan," and Mr. & Mrs. Kidwell and myself went and peeped through a chink at them. Hiram would dance over the floor and pull Mary and Josie with him, and then sang the "Scolding Wife," to them, and looked at their faces, in such a curious manner, that I would have made a dog laugh to have seen him.

Our school was as dull as ever to day. Betsey went home with Mary this evening, and I am left alone to night, to take the "blues," and drink of the past.

Friday Feb. 24th 1871. Thank goodness our dull school is out. I could not be hired to tend another ten days writing school at the present time. I don't know what makes me take as a spell as I've had lately. I have felt like staying at home all the time. I did not want to go to school in the first place. I only went to satisfy Bettie, and I think she got as tired as I did. The school ended. We paid Mr. Colby (our teacher), and I was amused to see how

ent he cheated himself in settling with Mr. Kid-
 well. I think the least child in school could have
 seen the mistake, if they had paid any attention
 to the settlement. Mr. Gollom did not see the
 mistake, ~~nor~~ and it was not corrected by Mr. Kid-
 well either.

I cut a dress for Mary this
 evening, and William gallanted her home.
 It looks dark and cloudy like we would have a
 storm before morning. Mr. Davis came back today.

Th. Saturday Feb. 25th 1871. We had some pretty
 loud thunder last night, but not much rain
 either all the threatening. Pa, William, Phin.
 and Mr. Owens went to town; but got no mail
 with the exception of one letter from Benny, and
 a note from George, both were well. Benny
 was fixing to start to old Mexico for horses.

Th. Sunday Feb. 26th 1871. Mr. Frans came over
 this morning to spend the day. Glenn went ^{to} uncle
 Sam's and Hiram and Dock Frans came back
 with him. Mr. Davis rode a wild horse this
 morning. Mr. Fosdick was with him, and they
 went to town before they returned. William
 dressed himself with unusual care this morning
 and inquired where he was going, he replied
 that he was going now where right then, but I
^{and} that he was only waiting for Mr. Davis to
 come with his saddle, but he waited in vain,
 and this evening he borrowed Mr. Fard's saddle
 and rode over the hill. I can guess where he
 has gone; but it would take red hot pinners
 to make him tell anything if he did not choose
 to tell. What any one gets out of him, they get
 little, and add it up. If I had a secret
 too heavy for my own heart, and wished to put

it into safe hands, I would go to him with it for once locked in his bosom, there would be no chance of escape. It was nearly dark when I got back, and Mr Ford was getting just a little impatient, for he is a stranger on the prairie and don't relish night-riding much, far from of Indians. Our company all left this evening.

Monday Feb. 27 1870. Mr. Davis started down the country this morning after a horse he left below here. William went to town this morning, and Glenn went to an infare dinner this evening, given at Mr. Gompkins.

I heard to day, that Mr. Crow was killed near Friday, by Indians.

Tuesday Feb. 28th 1870. William came in from the party at half past ten, last night, when Wilson came with him. There were a great ^{the} party he said, Glenn came home this morning. They danced all night, and were dancing when he left. There were several pistols stolen two night at Mr. Gompkins, and some of the men followed the thieves, and had a fight with them or with Indians they didn't know which.

William started to Fort Worth to day, and Ma Bettie and Gus went cousin Ole.

There is no one here but Sallie and myself to day and we are very lonesome.

Every thing thing is beginning to look to again; the grass is peeping up, the honey suckle on the porch is leaving out, and some of the and plum and peach trees are in full bloom and look very pretty, but I am afraid they will get killed again, by Jack frost, although we have fine weather now, with the exception of a hard

Wednesday
March 1st 1871

The South wind has been blowing
at a terrible rate all day. I washed to day but I
could not put any thing ^{out} for the wind and dust.
Ma and Bettie got back this evening, and Bettie
complains of being tired, as she rode a very rough gated
horse. I feel somewhat tired myself this evening
after my days work, and I reckon all the rest of
the folks are tired too, for they have plowing and
threshing all day.

Thursday March 2nd 1871: Mr Davis
got back last night with his horse, and brought
news that the Indians had killed twenty-five me-
re soldiers at Ft. Sill. That is bad, but I
would hate it a great deal worse if it had been
white men.

This has been a very dark day
it rained a little this morning, and turned
cold and has been very disagreeable all day.
I have been feeling very bad all day, and I spent
two or three hours in bed up stairs; but it did
not help my feelings much. Mr. Ford came
over this evening to sit awhile with the boys.

Brother George got home just at dark, cold
and tired. He drove from Buchanan town to day.

Friday March 3rd 1871: I have been iron-
ing all day, and I feel tired enough to lie down
on the floor and rest for hours, but I have
to keep stirring, although I feel like every joint
would come apart. Bettie has been washing,
and Ma has been scouring, and I reckon they
are just as tired as I. But perhaps they don't
complain as much as I do. I can't help but
complain sometimes. Albert Anderson and
his wife, and Mr Wilson Left (La Fayette)

came here this evening; they are just the Bear's ^{from}

Pa has been burning the prairie to day, and it is very smoky around the house. I can see the ft of keeping up the sides of the hills, which looks very beautiful to night; the moon is shining very bright and every thing is pleasant to the eye.

Saturday March 4th 1871:- Bettie, Mr. Anderson, Lillie, Glenn, Phin and myself, we boys to church this morning; the wind was blowing very hard from the south, and that with the smoke gave me a severe head-ache. Mr. Anderson, for Wilson and George went to town to day, they their just returned, and brought several letters, over for myself from Sister Rosa Newcomb, first.

It relieves one so much to get a letter from ^{I am} a good friend, especially if ~~they are~~ ^{I am} feeling set and sad. William got home to night with one of the horses that he went after. He said in that had he was very sick a day or two while he was he gone.

Sunday March 5th 1871:- Charlie Peterson came here early this morning to see his sof Mrs. Anderson, but did not tarry long. He was as rasy and saucy as any body I ever saw.

We all went to preaching to day and heard a splendid sermon. The text was taken from 1st Hebrews, 1st verse and XII chapter.

Stannie Barber came home with us, and like Mr. Anderson and wife took her home in the wagon this evening. I have had fever all the evening and feel very bad, entirely too bad to write. I have just finished a letter to my friend, Annie Murphy, and I can't write on ^{my} journal.

X

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Monday Mar. 6th 1871-

This morning was very

cloudy, and looked like we would have rain, but it fared off and has been very pleasant. My Betty and George, myself and Gus. (also William and Mr. Davis) went to town to day. I saw a great many of my old friends and acquaintances; among them were Mrs. Hawkins, three Pannary boys, Joe Browning and brother, and parson Cornette.

We went to the picture gallery and had some pictures taken; and then went to the St. Charles for dinner; such a confusion as they always have there; When the men went into dinner, they went running and charging, every one trying to be first, I never saw such ill manners in my life. They would not give way for ladies. They could not get to the first table if they were not invited, and seated before the bell rang. I would not live in town, especially, at a hotel; there is always too much bustle and noise to suit me.

We done our shopping, and started home about one o'clock, it doesn't take long to make me weary of Weatherford; every one seems to be care more for self than any thing else.

We drove out to Uncle Sam's and stayed an hour or two. Mammie was fixing to go up the country on a visit. Dear little Mammie, she looks sad and unhappy, and I feel sorry for her, she looks as if she had something on her mind, almost too heavy to bear; I hope the obstacle, whatever it may be, will soon be removed, and her sad heart be made glad and happy again. I may be wrong in ^{my} conjectures; but I think that I can read faces too well, to be mistaken in her

bad countenance. ~~The~~ We drove home, put
our things, changed our dresses and got supper, a

by that time I felt very tired and almost

Ma had been washing and she was tired all

Just as supper was ready, Mr. Bishop and Peter

Matthews drove up, and just at dark Joe and

Jem Browning came, and after all hands

were had eaten supper and the dishes cleared

way, Mr. Sedbetter and his little boy came in

Bonaparte Sumner got back to day: he had

down the country with Mr. Hays. We met them

we went in town this morning.

Thursday Mar. 7th 1870. Mr. Anderson, May

Grans, and Blake Barber started up the country

morning. Mr. Grans had a fine pair of mares

carrying up with him; he paid four hundred

dollars (\$400) in gold for them, yesterday. They are

truly too fine to risk any further west.

Mr. Matthews and Mr. Bishop left

morning. I sent some rose bushes up by Sam

to plant on Mr. Newcombs grave. I wish that I

could have gone up there myself. I would rather

plant the roses with my own hands. I would

be better satisfied; but I cannot go this time.

When I go it will be too late to plant flowers.

It would be a great satisfaction to me, to

by the grave of that loved one, for one hour

longer, and dampen it with the tears of

affection. But the privilege is denied me.

I will have to be content with my lot; it

all for the best, but I cannot look at it that

Bettie and George went to Mr. Byrds this

morning, and left me a little lonesome. It

been very warm to day.

Wednesday March 9th 1871.

This has been a terrible windy, dusty day. It has been blowing a regular old fashioned sand storm, and pretty cold too. Ma and pa and Sallie went to town to day. Ma and Sallie spent the day with Mrs. Fair. Mr. Ledbetter started to Ft. Worth yesterday, and left his little boy here; he is the kindest chap I ever saw. Glenn and Phin tied him hand and foot to day, with a long rope. They tied his feet to the cherry tree and his hands to a post and stretched him like they were fixing to brand a calf. I learned to day that Mr. Franks lost his fine mare yesterday.

Thursday March 9th 1871: - To day has been very pleasant. I went to Mr. Byrds this morning. I heard that Mr. Tompkins shot at some Indians last night and they left two horses that they had stolen from pa and George last night. They had missed them before it left, but they thought they were out in the brush. Mr. Taylor rode out on dry creek thinking that it was an Indian pony I suppose. Mr. Davis took the other horse, and went with George to dry creek to get after his, but did not get it, as Mr. Taylor had not been at home.

Friday March 10th 1871: Mary and Mr. Davis came home with me this morning. I did not intend staying all night when I went, but I could not easily get away from them. I enjoyed myself very well. Mr. Browning Mr. Schoecraft and son had dinner with us to day. The blues a little this morning evening, and went off further than usual to take a cry. I had not been gone long till Betty tracked me up and made me go to the house. she said I should not stay there alone

and cry. We found Mr. Derrett and Mr. Medd

at the house when we got back.

Saturday March 11/41. Messrs Derrett and ne
ling started to Palo Pinto this morning. With
went home with Mary, and all the rest of the crew
to town. Gus and I went to cousin Ollie's ar
evening. We met the boys coming from town, see
they had no letters for me. Phil stopped at Mrs.
Sams to stay with Oliver. Aunt Adaline and
me that cousin Ollie had left there a letter, c
before I got there, - alone, I was sorry that once
I missed her company, for the road is long and
lonesome. The first word cousin Ollie saw
when I got there was, "Why didn't you come. By
play me on it; I have just masied over that
long road by myself." Josie and Hiram were
there, and Wm. Hays and his men, Mr. B
Mr. Steward and Mr. Bright. We had a great si
of fun out of Hiram, cousin Ollie hid his fid
and he chased her all over the place; he caught
her at last and made her get it. We got the
worst of it, for he pinched our arms till they
were black and blue, but we saw a little fun and
he was at it.

Sunday, March 12th 41. Cousin Ollie
Josie and I took a ride this morning, and
a nice time. Hiram came home with me
the after-noon. All the folks went to class
meeting to day except Ma, Ma and Bettie, pla
William got ~~last~~ ^{home} from the party as usual, I w
I guess he found himself at Mr. Byrds. I
has been a pleasant day, although the morn
was very cool.

Monday Mar. 13th/71

Bettie and I washed

to day, we finished in the middle of the afternoon, and was walking around about ^{the yard} enjoying ourselves with the best we could, looking at the green grass, and a few flowers.

The boys were busy playing a game of marbles, and we stopped awhile under the a cherry tree to watch the players, and smell the sweet blossoms.

We were standing there bare headed and becoming a little interested in the game, when Mr. Bartholomew rode up, as unexpected as a ghost, and asked if he could get in to that game.

Bettie and I walked in to the house, wondering what he thought of us.

Glenon stayed at Mr. Byrds last night, and Sallie stayed at Mr. Kidwell's.

Harriet stayed with us last night, and went home this morning.

Tuesday March 14th Ma and Bettie went to see Mrs. Kidwell to day. George and Barnie, and Bone Summer all went to town. William stayed up stairs all the forenoon nearly, and went fishing this evening, but didn't catch any fish.

I had a bad headache this morning and felt very much like going to bed, but I could not do that. I have been ironing most all day. I felt much better this evening, than I did this morning. I was getting supper when they all got home.

George brought a letter for Sallie, from Mary Bragg, one of our Clear Fork friends. She complained about none of us writing to her. I guess I will have to write pretty soon.

Wednesday March 15th 1871. This has been another very pleasant day. Barnie went to town this morning and William went this evening.

Bettie and I went over to sit awhile with Mrs. Price.

I have had a lump in my stomach all day. I don't know what it means; it makes me feel very bad. I could not be contented all the while I was at Mr. Price's. Hiram and Mr. Davis paid while we were there. We did not stay but a few

while; and as we came back we met Hiram, and he ^{brought} us back in the buggy. Barnie came

tolerably early, and Reck Stockton came with Will.

It is the first time that I've seen Reck for years. He looks as young as he did the last time I saw him. I am always glad to see my friends.

but it makes me feel somewhat sad, as they all are in one by one. The ones I used to see so often were house keeping in days gone by. They love to mind the happy past; and that is why it makes me feel sad. Barnie had some pictures

sent to day, and Bettie and I got one in our album.

The boys went down to the "hall" after supper and had quite a lively time dancing to the banjo.

Thursday. March 16th 1871.

This has been a very pleasant day. Bart started up the country to day. that is: he means to stay in Weatherford to night and start up in the morning. He expects to have to go alone, it will be very dangerous and lonesome. I wish him a safe and pleasant journey. Reck went to the with him this morning. Hiram stayed with us last night, and went home this evening.

Some of the men have been putting up fences to day for a garden, and some repairing old fences. I washed again this evening. William took a ride over the ridge this evening. I don't know where he went.

Mr Friday March 14/1841: This has been a beautiful

all day. Pa, Fos Dick, Davis and Bone went to town
all day. Ma has been planting garden seeds, and I have
been ironing and mending clothes nearly all day. Ius
and Sallie, have been feeding some little chickens they
taoed in the yard. Ius has been riding his pony
and cutting up in general to day like always.

Wm Hays came over this evening. George and
William have been horse hunting all day nearly.

It is now past nine P. M. The men all got back
from town awhile after dark, and a mexican (Peep)
with them, nearly all of ^{them} brought candy for Ius and
Sallie, and they have been making a great deal of noise
over it. They have gone to bed now, and quiet reigns
once more.

We all got an invitation to meet
making to day. It is to come off next Thursday, in
Tarrant Co. about thirty miles from here. I have
an idea of going if an opportunity offers itself, and
all are well.

Some of us have been talking about
going fishing to morrow. Mr Davis got some hooks
and lines to day. I suppose he intends to help off
if he can.

I have been writing in the little
by the window, and at I heard a boat screech out
inside, and as the window had neither curtain, nor
blind; I thought it advisable to move into the
sitting room where I am now writing. I went in
to the little room in order to be alone, as it is a dif-
ficult matter to write in such a crowd as we have
here.

I wish that I had a room to myself where
I could lock myself up, and stay as long as I pleased
I am sure I would be in it to night. I get so
tired sometimes, of so much bustle, that I feel
living alone with Ius.

Saturday March 18th. This morning was

pleasant, and we all fixed to go fishing, but before we got started. Mr. Derritt and Mr. Meddely came, and George got into a confab with them and before he got through, aunt Adeline and uncle Sam, Oliver and Georgia came over, and of course that knocked fishing in the heavens.

I was not disappointed in the least, for I do not care about going. The day passed off too pleasant. Ma and pa, Phin and Sallie and I went home with uncle Sam. William, George and Bone, went to town today; and Joe and John Browning, and a negro came out with them in the evening.

Sunday March 19th 1871. Better weather went to preaching this morning, but got disappointed; the parson got hurt accidentally, and was not able to come out. We drove back home; at the home, and took a ride over the prairie, and came back by Mr. Bakers. Mr. Byrd drove up just as we got home. We went after pa and Ma, who got dinner over. Ma came home with a very cold. Peck Stockton came in this evening from Palo Pinto. He said that Mr. Bell's house burned up Friday night, after he got in town.

Barnie sent me a book by or called "Reveries of a Bachelor." I like it, and rate what little I've seen of it. Many thanks to the giver.

Mrs. Byrd brought B. over to see Ins, but the little fellow was disappointed, he looked very lonesome, till Ins got home but he has been making up for last time ever since.

Monday March 20th/71: The day has been very plea-

g.asant indeed. The men all worked at some wagons
before noon. Joe Browning hunted horses all the
morning, and started for home this evening
in a Bone Summer, and the Mexican went up with
er. him. Mr Gosdick sold his banjo to the Laskie that
hears with Browning; So I guess we will have no
for more music soon. Beck left this morning.

The men finished the garden with the exception
and of a gate to day. They have been improving and
repairing till they have gotten the place to looking
and much better. Bettie has been washing, and I

have been putting black folds on a purple poplin
dress, and it looks very nice I think. But I don't
know whether any body else will think so or not.

Ma has been very poorly all day. She was sick at
the stomach and vomiting since she went to bed
came. Every one is in bed but Glenn; and he is sitting
at the table with me writing a letter. I will quit
for to night, as I have to get up and go to work in
the morning.

Tuesday March 21st/71: The day has been
tolerably pleasant; the nights are pretty cool yet.
We are needing rain very bad now, and have been
for some time. and I am afraid it will not
rain soon if the wind keeps blowing like has been
the day. Mr Gosdick and Davis took a day to
the mill to day, to get some plank sawed. George
is spent to town, and I am anxious for him to return
for I think I will surely get a letter.

Glenn and Phin are out hunting a cow.
It is now sundown, and high time they were all

getting home. Bettie is up stairs in the wind
 looking for George, and the wagons. — The wagons are
 coming and Gus has just run in to ask if
 he can ride, his pony to water. He is a good
 boy to ride, and on hearing the word "yes"
 ran out like a shot. Bettie and I
 have been making ourselves some, "bunny"
 brillantee bonnets to day.

Mr Goodick has a new baby's I swear
 I reckon we will have some music to night.
 Nine o'clock, The men have all gone
 to the hall. William has gone up stairs to bed
 and there is no one around the table but
 George and myself. I did not get the letter
 expected when George came. I don't think my
 head would ache so bad, if I had gotten one
 a dear friend. It has clouded up and
 the appearance of rain since dark, I hope
 will pour down, and give the dry thirsty
 a sweet refreshing shower before morning.

Well I will close my journal for to night
 and write a letter, to Sister Rosa.

Wednesday, March 28th 41. Bettie and I
 been ironing, and fixing to start down the creek
 to morrow. We finished our bonnets, and packed
 the valise in order to get an early start in the
 morning. It has been very warm to day
 agreeably so.

Wednesday March 29th The rain
 is over and we are at home again. Home is
 sweet name, and what a welcome place, I have
 been to be here many times, in the past week.
 We left here Thursday morning at eight o'clock.

wine stopped awhile in Weatherford, and got the buggy

repaired a little. Sarge Betrie and myself rode
ask the buggy, a pretty heavy load. William, Glenn
said Phil went horseback. We met with Hiram
Hays and Wm. Reynolds in town, and they went
with us.

We had provision with us, and we ate
burr dinner on a little creek, and let the horses graze
while. we then drove on, we ^{had} a pretty good road
scurly all the way, and reached Mr. Robertsons
at 4 o'clock. The morning was cool enough to

one wrap up in a blanket, but the evening was very
pleasant.

They were married at candle light
at by parson Madaris. William was groom-
litan, and Miss Hester Matthews was brides-
maid.

The bride looked very neat and pretty.
They had a splendid supper. They commenced
dancing after supper, and danced all night. I laid
down at 4 o'clock A.M. but could not sleep, not being
used to so much noise. I enjoyed the music very
much, and felt a little like dancing myself.

They danced a set after breakfast, and then
we all started to the infare. It clouded and
sprinkled a little last night, and was cloudy
when we started, and pretty soon the long wished
for rain commenced. and it rained on us all the
way to Mr. Fannarys (8 miles) The bride
gave me her hat to keep it from getting wet, as
we were pretty comfortably situated, a top to
the buggy and pair of splendid blankets, that came
in time for the cold rain. William loaned the
room his overcoat, and Sarge loaned his to the
bride, without them they would have gotten
very wet. The rest of them got a good soaking

We found a wet house when we got there for on the room leaked very bad. Dinner was ready when I

got there; and after it was served, the dancing began, notwithstanding the floor was very ^{wet} muddy. They soon danced the floor dry, and I scraped the mud off with a shovel; but it rained off and on all night, and kept the floor a little slippery on one side of the house. I sat and looked on, ~~until~~ ^{until} nearly all Thursday night; and it looked like a innocent amusement to me; every one seemed to enjoy themselves extremely well. I enjoyed myself very well, but felt like I could have passed the time better dancing, but I only sat and patted my ^{feet} and listened to the music. Friday night I ^{tried} to get up my mind to dance; but I was a long time in getting it up. I looked at it every way, and on every side, I and could not see the harm, in it; if there indeed there is any. I thought that some might speak lightly of it; but they will do that anyhow about any body, whether they have room or not, that people are bound to talk, if it is not about me, so not about some one else. It does not cost them doing anything, or they would not be so free with their tongue "gab". I tried my hand (or feet rather) a few times on the floor. I don't know what kind of ^{one} figure I made; not a very good I am sure, and I hope it was not very bad, although I came near falling once, the floor ~~being~~ ^{being} wet. I enjoyed it fine, and I did not feel like I had sinned against God nor man, my conscience does not ^{bother} me in the least. I think if I had done worse my conscience would tell me so. I went up the stairs and went to bed a little after midnight and next morning (Saturday) when I was

as the music and dancing were still going on, and
which did not stop till eleven o'clock; and then we

every one all started home; It was still cloudy and mist
coming a little. William, and ~~Wm~~ Regns went by

and Bart Warth after a horse of mine that has been
and one fine year. Ellen, Phin Hiram and Hays

very took a straight shoot for home; and as we were
in the buggy, we had to take the best road and keep
like a. We took dinner with an old man by name of

ed Matthews. He is a great talker, I was hungry

and he cheated me out of half my dinner, with his

talk; he didn't only plague me but hurt my feelings

like everything, I could easily have taken a hearty cry

at the table; but I had to choke it back, I went

time to say something back to him, and would have

where so, if ^{he} had not been an entire stranger; and

it, I thought perhaps he was a little crazy, and that

might wound his daughter's feelings by resent-

ing the insult. He was very old and gray, and I

to, have respect for gray hairs; mine will be gray

me some day, if I live long enough. To make a

long story short, I will say that He was teasing

me about a young gentleman that I never spoke

of in life, and never saw until the evening he

d care, and such jokes as that touches my feel-

ings quicker than anything else.

We met Beck Stockton there and he travel

with us in the evening. It commenced

raining on us before we had gone far, and we

had to stop at the first house we came to, which

was Mr. Durkee's. We found Mr. Hawkins

and family there. They were in bed trying to make

it for the sleep they lost last night. We spent

a very pleasant evening with Mr. Durkee and family

44 We retired early, all hands being tired and
sleepy from sitting up.

The next morning, Sunday March 26th,
we started to W. R. St. Johns. We reached
there at one o'clock after travelling 18 miles
facing a cold weather. Our California
kets proved to be good friends that day. They
Mrs. St. John in bed, - the mother of a little
Two days old, - mother and babe were getting
finely, all the rest were well. We passed time
very pleasantly there, with our old friends, F.

Monday afternoon, we started to Ashme
Creek, to see our friends, Mr. Clark and famar
We arrived there at two o'clock all right, the
was very warm and pleasant, after the a heat
frost the night before. We found all well
they seemed to be very glad to see us.

We helped to rob a bee-hive, and Bath
stung twice; and it made her cut a line, the
I slept soundly that night, and waked
next morning, to find the ground very sloppy,
still raining. I wanted to start home very
there was no chance. It kept raining very
and gentle till twelve o'clock, and then stopped.

We bid our friends good by at 1 P.M. and
started home; We traveled eight miles and
ped at R. H. Clark, with the intention of going
to Weatherford that night, but nothing would
them but we must stay all night. So we
but it went against the grain with one far
anxious to get home, besides they only had one
room, and a large family of their own, and
widow Steel and child. This morning
started home. We found it slow traveling

tired was so muddy. I was tolerably cool and it misted on
s nearly all the way. We did not make any halt in

ch 36 pm except at the post office, we all got some
reachsters to pass away the time. I got one from Nanmie
milarcher, written at Bit Griffin, and I found her
via home when I got to Uncle Sam's.

They We found all well at home. I have felt too tired
little to do any thing this evening.

Thursday March 30th 1871. Bettie and I
made a wagon sheet to day and commenced on a tent
ds. It rained again last night, and I transplanted
Ashme rose bushes to day. I thought I would try once
I amore, and see if I could get some to grow. I set out
I some bushes before and something always happened
near them. There are five more men here, that
will come last Sunday. Some that George and William
hired to drive cattle.

Friday March 31st 1871. This is the last day of
the blustery month of March. I hope we will
have pleasant weather after to day. One of the new
ladyman (an irishman) built a chimney to the lit-
ing room to day, and draws splendid. we built
a fire and sat in there this evening. Bettie
and I have been working on the tent to day.
Weather tolerably pleasant.

Saturday April 1st 1871. I suppose this
is all fools' day. I had a notion of fooling some
body to day but changed my notion. We finished
the tent to day, and the boys stretched it in the yard.
There was preaching at Shady Grove to day, but we
stayed at home to finish up jobs. I helped
and plant some garden seeds this evening, and
watered my little rose bushes. Three of them
are alive, also a lilac and some cypresses. Perhaps

Perhaps some of them will be alive and green, now I am lying in the tomb. Perhaps some

friend will look at them when I am far away, and think of me. If I should be so fortunate to have a friend left behind, which I hope I shall

Sunday Apr. 2nd 11.

Ma, pa, Seargeant, Phineas, Sallie, Gus, and myself went to pretable in the wagon today. We all went home with this and took dinner, for nothing short of a wagon would satisfy them. I had the headache, and was very stupid all the evening. Mr. Byrd weighed us all in the evening, I weighed 151 lbs. and he 52. Bhesa Taylor came in; just in time to weigh. I suppose he is courting Miss Ste

He is a very nice young man; I went to school with him nearly three months last summer, and got pretty well acquainted with him.

The boys got dinner for themselves to eat and they did pretty well, at least they cleaned the dishes and very kitchen very nicely.

Glenn went to Mr. Dean's to preaching this evening. I went to see a little grave, between

I took my accordeon with me and played

"When I am gone," It was nearly dark when I left, and the tune sounded lonesome, and I felt a little sad. I wish that some one would visit my loved ones' graves, sometimes; and sing or play some sweet tune. It would do a heart good to be there today, and play the same tune that I have just played, and plant flowers on the little mounds that mark their last resting place.

Monday Apr. 3rd 71: Bettie and George went
 with cousin Allie today. Pa and two of the strang-

ways went to town with a wagon after plank.
 William, Glenn, Mr. Gosdick and Mr. Owings
 and the other three strangers went turkey hunt-
 ing this evening. I covered a gun stock for Mr.
 Owings, and William this morning, and hemmed
 creatale cloth; potted around (as Bettie says)
 this evening. They brought a new man from
 wagon with them this evening. Our family
 anook small to night, there is nine gone and I
 regiss them considerably; although there is
 and even here yet. a good sized family left.

Tuesday Apr. 4th 71: Pa finished flooring
 the porch this morning, a part of it that had no
 floor when he bought it, it helps the look of it ver-
 sumuch, and it seems to make the honey suckle look
 finer.

Ma and I commenced washing this
 morning. Bettie got home about eleven o'clock.
 Ma and I took Ma's place. Mr. Spear, (Bettie's uncle)
 came here this evening. He expected to find Mr.
 Matthews here, but was mistaken. We have been
 expecting him daily, for two months; he
 will make his appearance after awhile I reckon.
 Bettie thinks long of the time, and I don't blame
 her.

Well I have just finished a gun cover
 for Mr. Gosdick, and commenced to make a
 house wifery, (as Mr. Gosdick calls it) for Glenn
 and carry needles, thread, and buttons, across the
 plains.

Nannie and Fannie sent word for me
 to go over and stay with them to night, so I will
 lay journal aside and go, as my horse is sick
 and maiting at the gate; and Gus is in
 hurry to start.

Wednesday Apr. 5th 1871. I found Nannie & Josie washing, and quite lonesome; no one else

there except the baby and little Lou McLeight.

Aunt Adaline was at cousin Ollie's, and at Mr. Byrds, and all the rest started to the country last Monday. Uncle Sam got home before dark.

He was fixing to take Nannie to cousin Ben when I left. I came home early, and found he, O'wings flooring the little room. He made it very pretty snug and put the rest of the plank which helped the "canse" considerably. I have last evening things up stairs, and changing them down stairs, all the evening, till I feel a little better.

William, George, and Mr. Spear went to town today. George got a letter from Bennie, it comes that he would be at home by the 15th Inst. if I sound.

Thursday Apr. 6th 1871. Mr. Davis started down the country this morning, to meet Bennie and help him drive his horses up. Mr. Spear left also. I ironed some this morning, and felt almost too tired to stand, but I must get through, and then I laid down. I soon feel asleep and slept till dinner was over, I got up and washed my face, and tried to eat but felt too drowsy. I could not get myself up, and I went back to bed and took my head out. I then got up feeling a little better, don't know what made me feel so bad unless it is cold. I got up this morning with a cold cough. Bettie had a sleepless night. Mr. [unclear] is also, and is complaining of a sick head to night. I sent a gingham dress this evening and commenced making it.

This has been a very warm day, We heard that
 some Indians stole some horses in Weatherford last
 night.

Friday Apr. 7th 1871. To day has been very windy,
 to the cloudy and cool, quite a change since yesterday. Such
 sudden changes ^{are} enough to make people sick. I have
 been feeling very bad all day, with ~~and~~ a cold, and head-
 ache, but I have been sewing all day on my dress.

Uncle Sam, walked over here today, horse hunting.
 He thinks the Indians got his horse night before
 last. Mr. Owings hunted horses all the forenoon,
 but did not find them. William and Uncle Sam

went out this evening and found part of them.
 Uncle Sam rode my pony (Prince) over
 it home, and little John McLean rode him back.
 Gus has been in town with his pocket full
 of rocks, ever since Johnny came.

Mr. Meddling came here this evening, and
 desired to George and William to drive cattle.
 I am afraid he will hire all the men in Parker
 Co. There will not be enough ^{left} to protect the women
 and children, when he leaves with his army.

Bettie laughed, and said that she was going to hire
 some "women", or put George to washing dishes.

Mr. Fosdick and Glenn have been dressing deer
 skins to day. This is good Friday and ma has been plant-
 ing beans.

Saturday April 8th 1871. I got up this
 morning feeling very bad, but I went to work and
 managed to keep up. but I gave up about noon and went
 to bed with a chill on. I pretty sick for awhile.

Mr. Fosdick brought a letter for Sallie; and
 started down stairs to see if he heard any for
 me, when I got to the third step. From the floor
 I fell sprawling. Bettie thought I was half killed.

and came running to help me up. but she could not
have lifted me if I had been half killed; & she

my ankle a little, but not bad. Jim, was by
the wood pile, when I fell, and said he heard
lumbering, and thought the disk safe had
been. George hired another man to do the

A one armed man by name of Darby. He

Sunday Apr. 9th 71 This is Easter
day, and Sallie has been coloring eggs half the
day. Mrs. Grans came over this morning, and

Mr. Price came over this evening, also Mrs. T.
erson, and Wm. January, the latter are from
up the country.

Mr. Matthews family
in late this evening. Bettie ran to the end of
the lane to meet her Ma, if had been well there
would have went with her to see them men.

I had a chill again to day, and had a bad
ing fever when they came. Bettie was
glad to see her Ma and the children, indeed
glad for her, but I could not enjoy myself
with them, for I had to go to bed.

Mr. Matthews did not come with the family
but they expect him in a few days.

Mr. Grans got took John home with
this evening.

Monday Apr. 10th 71: I was worse
sick last night, worse than ever, I suffered
deal with my head and a pain in ^{my} side. Ma told
me that I was talking all sorts of nonsense. I
been ⁱⁿ bed all day, or very near it. Sallie and Mrs.
are having a fine time playing with the girls.

George and John M. went to town to day.
They brought me a letter from Rosa Newcomb.

Tuesday Apr. 11th Mr Gosdick picked the banjo
 & us last night, and two of the men sung

as I liked the music first rate. They played and
 sang the Mocking Bird.

Brother Benjamin got home to day from
 old Mexico with the horses, ninety-five head

He does not look as well as he ^{did} when he left

Mr. Sentry came back sick. Mr. Davis did
 not meet him, but he got home very near the same
 time. Mr. Bartholomew and Mr. J. Allen came

here this ~~Wednesday~~ ^{Thursday} Apr. 12th evening, also Beck
 of Stockton and Mr. Matthews

Wednesday Apr. 13th Mr. Matthews,

Mr. Spear, Mr. Bartholomew and Beck all left

this morning, and some of the boys from here

went as far as town with them. This very plea-

sant weather - too pleasant to be making around

sick, but I suppose it cant be helped, for I

feel very bad. Mr Sentry is still unwell.

Thursday Apr. 13th The boys have been
 branding horses to day. Will Hays is here with

his men, he has bought some horses I think, and

is branding them. They are all fixing to go up

the country to gather cattle.

Aunt Adaline, Josie, Nannie, uncle Sam,

uncle Matt, and Georgia, and Johnny McLean came

over this evening. I felt quite unwell and did

not sit up much. They had not been here long be-

fore I took a severe earache, Mr. Bethe and

Mrs Matthews did every thing to ease it, but it did

no good. They put laudanum in it, and I took

care to see if it would not hurt the pain, but

it was all to no purpose

Friday Apr. 14th. I suffered a great deal with my ear last night. Bethe and her mother

blew smoke in it, put lanthanum and oil, and I don't know how many things in it, but it did not

It kecked and run last night, and then it got left.

The lanthanum that I took yesterday, had no effect till to day. I have felt very drowsy, no

slept half the day. I hardly know what has happened

The boys have been preparing to start up the boat tomorrow to gather cattle.

Saturday 15th. The boys started this morning about sixteen in number. William, Benjie, and

Steen, went. It looks like Benjie don't get to the boat at home any. I wish they were out of the canoe

so they would not have to go into that Indian country

We walked down to the old house after they left. It looked quite lonesome. Mr. Sentry was the only one

left, and he was on a pallet sick; he moved up to the house this evening and made his bed on the porch.

Alexandre Grez started up the country to see how he would like cow hunting; I don't expect he

will like it much, as he is fresh from Louisiana. Sunday Apr. 16th.

This has been a pleasant day. Ma went to Mr. Moore's visiting to day. This

Sallie and Martha went to Mr. Fridwells. Bethe, John, and myself tried to sing some

to pass time, but am so hoarse, with a cold, that we made a very bad out. Sallie brought two little

girls home with her, and they went down in the boat to take a bath. George stayed with the boys

last night, and Allick came back with him this morning. He said that one night would do him. Mr. Che

came here to day. He is going to work for the boat