

Friday, July 14th / 65:- Dr. West and Thibe Stockton
traped through this place this morning, on their
way to Hubbards creek. Dr. West and Thibe Stockton
are gathering a drove of beef steers to drive to Shreveport
or New Orleans. Some indian sign been seen to day.

Saturday, July 15th / 65:- There has been quite an
indian excitement up in this place to day. ^{From}
Anderson came upon three or four indians this morning
while out horse hunting. As soon as it was
made known in the fort, seven or eight men
started after them. They followed them ten or
fifteen miles and became satisfied that it was
of no use to follow them any farther, as it was
very plain from their sign that they had seen
their pursuers and were getting away with all the
speed possible. Soon after the first party
left there were one or two more indians seen
in another direction, by two negre boys who had
went out to gather up the horses. But after all
I do not think they have succeeded in getting many
horses from this place; not more than five or
six at the most. We had a little rain this evening.
Late this evening Mr. Coleman and Mr. Gattat came
into this place; they are buying up a drove of beef.

Sunday July 16th / 65:- The indians have not gotten
as many horses from this place, as it was thought
they had yesterday evening, as some of the horses
have been found that it was thought they had.
This has been a very warm day indeed and we had
a small shower of rain this evening.

Monday, July 17th / 65:- This morning several
wagon loads of people left this place for the
lower country; some on a visit to their friends
and some to get bread stuff. We had a little more
rain this evening, and from all appearance there

has been quite a heavy rain up this river.

Tuesday, July 18th / 65th A cool and pleasant day.

Wednesday, July 19th / 65th The river is pretty full, fast flooding. This evening the crowd of cow-hunters that have been over on Hubbard creek returned, but they could not cross the river without swimming. They attempted to swim their cattle but did not get near all across.

Thursday, July 20th / 65th - Last night I was awake from my peaceful slumber by J. R. Browning who was wanting help to go back to Cooper with him. His story was about as follows; John and ^{and Pres. McEarty} Wilson and John's son ~~for~~ about twelve years old, and a negro boy were out cow hunting a few miles from Cooper yesterday about twelve O'clock and were attacked by a party of about twenty-five indians. Pres. McEarty made his escape and got into Cooper and told that he saw the indians have the rest of the party surrounded and that he saw John Wilson fall from his horse. Joe Browning says he waited until night and none of them came in so he concluded that they were all dead without a doubt. As soon as dark they put the women and children in a rock house, barred the doors and then started down here for help, leaving no one with the women and children but one old man and a boy about fourteen years old. Eight or ten, or as many as could get horses went with Joe Browning to guard the families down to this place and bury the dead. We expected them down this evening but they have not come.

Friday, July 21st / 65th - Mr. Lavin came in from Cooper late last night, and late as it was, there was soon a crowd around him to hear the news. It was a great deal better than we were expecting from the news we had already heard. There was

no one killed but the negro boy, and it was the result of very strange conduct in the boy. While they were running from the indians the boy's hat blew off and he stopped ^{and} got down to get it; and the indians being close behind them ran upon him and killed him. The rest ran to a branch where they found a bluff with some rocks projecting from the top about two or three feet. Under this they took a stand and succeeded in saving their lives. John was wounded in the thigh before they got to the bluff and Wm got two wounds after they got there but not very severe. After the indians had shot at them a while and done nothing they tried the plan of rolling rocks down the bluff, but the bluff projected just enough to make the rocks miss them. The indians after trying to get their scalps for about an hour and getting ^{all} their horses except John's which they wounded, they rode off and left them. But John and Wm would not venture out untill late in the night, when they started for home, which they made about mid night; where they were received as the dead would be from the grave.

The indians stole several horses from this place last night. They appear determined to break up this country. We learned by Mr. Lought from Palo Verde county that Philip Reynolds was killed by indians some time this week at Subbitt's salt works. Saturday, July 22nd 1861 - John Andersen, Robert Graham and Stephen Fraas left here yesterday morning on a small indian trail not expecting to be gone but a few hours, but they have not returned yet, and this morning a party of eight men started

out to see if they could see what had become of them. About dark they returned without the boys they went to look for, and said they could not trail them as it had rained on the trail. The people are very much distressed as they think the boys must be killed or they would have returned before now. But about bedtime the three indian hunters came in. They had followed the indians to the rounded timbers on the Brazas, where night overtook them and they were obliged to quit the trail. They brought back Mr. Irwin's horse which the indians dropped on the trail.

Sunday, July 23rd /65:- This has been a warm day. B. H. Reynolds and R. A. Clark returned from ~~from~~ mill this morning. This evening all the people that were living in Camp Cooper moved down to this place, in all five families. John and William Huston did truly make a narrow escape, almost a hair's breadth escape in reality. Mr. Wm Huston says his wounds are almost well and John's which were some worse are doing very well. The people are talking of driving their stock in from the outside, to save them from the indians.

Monday, July 24th /65:- A large party of cow-hunters left this place to day, to go up about Camp Cooper to drive in the stock from the outside. It is expected by a great many that this country will break up, unless we get some protection against the indians, shortly.

Tuesday, July 25th /65:- This country is still without law, and I cannot see but what we get along about as well now as when we had plenty of law. There is one or two families in this place talking of moving down to the Stockton ranch where J. C. Clark and J. M. Degraffenried are now living, and gather and herd their stock. Mr. January, Mr. Oxford and Mr. Bishop came over from Hubbard creek this evening. No news of interest.

Wednesday July 29th / 65: - J. C. Clark came into this place this evening with a wagon to move J. S. Steel and R. A. Clark down to Stockton's ranch. I notice Mrs. J. C. Clark and part of her family in this place for the first time.

Thursday, July 27th / 65: - This morning two families; J. S. Steel and R. A. Clarks, left ~~this~~ place ~~this morning~~ for the Stockton ranch. Their houses will not stay vacant long as there are families here waiting for them to move out.

Friday, July 28th / 65: - We had a very good shower of rain here today. J. A. Browning, Prof. McCarly and Mr. Hightower came in ^{from} Cooper this evening.

Saturday, July 29th / 65: - This has been a very cool, cloudy and rainy day. It is seldom we have such a day as this has been at this time of the year.

Several cow hunters came in this evening that have been up about Camp Cooper to drive down their stock but they found so many they could not drive them and were compelled to let them go.

They picked up a mare that they think the indians stole from Philip Reynolds. M. H. Anderson,

who has been on a visit to his sister, returned this evening. He says that the men that went from here over to Hubbard on a cow hunt, got into an indian fight yesterday, the result of which he did not know. The white men were

in pursuit of the indians, and had lost two of their best horses; St. Johns and Beck Stockton's.

Sunday, July 30th / 65: - The people of this place met at the schoolhouse this morning to make up a company to go out against the indians, but did not meet with much success. They have agreed to send word to Hubbard and Ft. Belknap, requesting the people to meet at this place on the 5th of August.

next, and come to some understanding what they will do; leave the country, or try to protect themselves and their property from the uncivilized savages. The country is without law or protection, and the frontier people must now do something themselves or this country is in a fair way to be broken up.

Monday, July 31st, 1865 - The last day of July 1865 has come and I am yet in the land of the living; and in health. Mr. Erwin is quite unwell to day with a very bad cold.

There are several in this place that are almost sick with bad colds. Kate Bragg and C. Johnson came over from Ft. Belknap, to day to meet the boys that went from here to Hubbards creek on a cow hunt but they did not come in. Their fight which are heard they had with the indians, has per haps delayed them a day or two. But if they should not get in pretty soon now, the people here will begin to be a little uneasy about them.

Tuesday, Aug. 1st, 1865 - The first day of Aug. 1865 and we are still without law or protection. The boys from Hubbards creek have not got in yet.

Wednesday, Aug. 2nd, 1865 - The cow hunters from Hubbard came in this evening and gave us an account of their indian fight. They say that there was eleven indians and that they were well armed with long range guns. There was nothing done in the fight except the indians succeeded in killing one horse and wounding another that belonged to the boys. They consider themselves lucky that they got away unhurt as they did. I notice a few cow hunters from Hubbards creek in this place this evening; I. L. Stockton, T. F. Moulding, Tom, Mathews and others. It had been a long time since I had met up with Tom before, but I can not see that he looks any older than when I saw him last. Soldiering must have agreed with him very well.

Thursday, Aug. 3rd / 65: - A very warm day. A few cow hunters that have been up about Camp Cooper came in this evening. They did not see any indians but saw one or two trails where some had passed out.

Friday, Aug. 4th / 65: - Kit Cooper came over from Hubbard creek to day. He says it is reported that the indians have robbed Ike Nisson and his. T. L. Stockton and those that were with him up the river cowhunting came in to day.

T. L. Stockton is gathering up a drove of beef steers to drive off to market. There are several about here talking of driving beef. We had a fine shower of rain this evening, but not enough to cool the air.

Saturday, Aug. 5th / 65: - Wm. Wilson left here this morning for home, he will find his family very uneasy about him as very bad reports have gone out about his fight with the indians.

This has been the warmest day we have had in this country this year.

Late this evening Wm. and Mart. Hoover came into this place.

They say that a great many beef drivers have been stoped and are not allowed to drive out of the state. And it is also reported that Jack Hamilton is the military Governor of Texas.

Sunday, Aug. 6th / 65: - It is very seldom that anything of sufficient importance happens in this place to write about. Now and then an indian fight takes place in the neighborhood which is truly worth writing about and would appear so, if it could have a good writer to picture it in ^{blood stained and} frightful colors. But my pen is very incapable of doing justice in the recording the horrible depredation committed on this frontier by the barbarous, uncivilized savages.

Monday, Aug. 7th / 65:— A large crowd of people that have been below after breadstuffs returned to day. Among the crowd was Mr. Frank J. S. George, Mr. Andersen, John Selman, ^{Flake Barber} T. G. Jackson and J. Willett &c. They bring up no news of importance except that bread stuff is very cheap in comparison to what it has been for the last few years, which is good news to the frontier men who have all of their bread to buy.

Tuesday, Aug. 8th / 65:— It is reported here that S. W. Wugler of Yack Co. has been killed by a mob. Nothing of interest to record for to day.

Wednesday, Aug. 9th / 65:— Another very warm day. Flake Barber and Wm. D. Reynolds came up from the Stockton ranch this evening. They say that Tom Stockton has left there with his herd of beef steers.

Thursday, Aug. 10th / 65:— Nothing to write.

Friday, Aug. 11th / 65:— James Tharp arrived home this evening from a visit to his kins folks below here on the Colorado river. He has been gone about five weeks. And Mr. Muzum and family got back from a visit to day. John January came up with them.

Saturday, Aug. 12th / 65:— To day has been very warm, and we had a very good shower of rain this evening which was very much needed. Mr. Wm. Duncan and Mr. Garrett came over from Fort Linn to day. No news.

Sunday, Aug. 13th / 65:— Another very warm day and a good shower. E. J. Reynolds left here this morning for Parker Co. The young folks of this place took a ride to day after plums but found none. Mr. Selden from Palo Verde came into this place this evening.

Monday, Aug. 14th / 65:— Another warm day past. We still live in ignorance, the mails are not running yet, in this part of the country once called the Confederate States. It is reported here that

the U.S. and France have run together in war in Mexico and have fought two large battles, ⁱⁿ the first the French were victorious, but in the second engagement the U.S. troops gained the day and took a number of prisoners.

Tuesday, Aug. 15th/65:- I sometimes think that this is the warmest weather that I ever experienced. But as we have no thermometer in this place we cannot tell exactly how warm it is, as we have no way of telling except by our feelings. Some of the boys came up from the Stockton ranch today and say that they have turned the herd loose.

Wednesday Aug. 16th/65:- Nothing new or fresh. Mr. W. S. Browning and George James came into this place this evening. It is the first time that Mr. Browning was ever in this town.

Thursday, Aug. 17th/65:- It is reported here that the Indians have made a great raid on the people on San Salo, and murdered about forty persons.

Friday, Aug. 18th/65:- Nothing of interest to write.

Saturday, Aug. 19th/65:- Three men from Hubbard's creek were here this evening. They brought no news of interest. Weather still very warm. Mr. W. Sutherland got home very late this night. He has been gone from home nearly four months. Mrs. Wilson has been very sick today.

Sunday, Aug. 20th/65:- Eight years ago to-day I left my father's house, and have not seen father, mother, brother or sister since. And it has been more than four years since I have had any intelligence of them. I intend to go to New and hunt some of them up when times get properly settled. I would like very much to see my mother once more in this world.

Mr. Gravin and Mr. Wheeler started with their
beef drove to-day; Mr. Wheeler took his family with
him on a visit to his father in law.

Monday, Aug. 21st / 65:— On this day at 4¹/₂ O'clock A.M.
I and my wife were made parents by the birth
of ~~an~~ son; a son has been entrusted to our
care and instruction, to prepare it for the future
and eternity.

It is a large, coarse, ugly,
big, rough-featured, black skinned. big fisted, flat, nose
and thick liped chap, but I hope he will get better
looking as he gets older; of course. He weighs eleven lbs.

Several wagons left here this morning for the
lower country to get bread stuff, among them was
J. M. Frans, E. Christensen, J. Thightower and a wagon of
P. S. George's. I notice Mrs. Willett in town this evening.

Tuesday, Aug 22nd / 65:— My boy is as ugly as ever.

Wednesday, Aug. 23rd / 65:— Nothing of interest happens
in or around this place, therefore I have nothing to
write, as my thoughts are on my boy. This
is now his third day with us and we have not
given him a name yet. But his mother is
anxious for me to name him so that he will
not be called by his nick name (Teat.) any more
which she does not like at all.

Thursday, Aug. 24th / 65:— I notice Phillip C. George
in town this morning, he is just up from
Weatherford but he has no news of importance.
My boy is all right yet, but his mother and grand
mother were so anxious for him to be named
that I have named him to-day. His name
~~name~~ is "Carlos Augustus Newcomb."

That now is the name of a new actor on the
stage of life, and who can imagine what part
of the great play of time he is to act, whether
honorable or dishonorable; noted or unnoticed; distinguished
or undistinguished; good or bad.

Friday, Aug. 25th / 65:— Last night after all had got to bed and all was still, I was awakened by the half of one of Sept. Lewis house tops falling in with a tremendous crash. But luckily there was no one hurt. These dirt top houses appear to be dangerous unless they are made very strong and of good timber. My boy and his mother are doing very well; at least, so the nurse says.

Four men: two Dabbs, W. Delong and a Mr. Leavittlow, came into this place this evening.

Saturday, Aug. 26th / 65:— The people of this place have been expecting to have preaching in this place to day and to-morrow, but they have been disappointed. It is very seldom that the people of this country have an opportunity of going to church, and there are even persons in this place that are grown, married, and are the parents of children and have never been to a religious meeting. Some cow drivers came in from the Bagas river this evening with a large drove of cattle for this place.

Sunday, Aug. 27th / 65:— Mr. Sutherland of this place was taken very sick this evening with the liver complaint. Mrs. Whitson is getting some better, she can go about the house. Weather some cooler than it has been.

Monday, Aug. 28th / 65:— My boy is one week old this morning, and looks about as ugly as he did at first—only instead of very red he is now yellow. Mr. Steel and wife are in this place, they came up yesterday evening.

Tuesday, Aug. 29th / 65:— Mr. Sutherland is still very unwell. Mrs. Whitson is getting some better. No news to record.

Wednesday, Aug. 20th/65:- Mr. Sutherland was taken a great deal worse this evening. He needs a physician very much but he will not consent to send for one. It is about sixty miles to the nearest doctor, and whenever there is one needed people are so apt to wait until it is too late, before they send for one.

Thursday, Aug. 31st/65:- I set up with Mr. Sutherland last night, he suffers a great deal of pain and is very low. Tod Willett and M. H. Anderson started for a doctor this morning, they will have to go to Palo Pinto. Col. Carroll from Tarrant Co. is in this place this evening, also a gentleman by the name of Kilham that once lived in Ft. Belknap. Mr. Sutherland is about the same as he was this morning, I can see no change for the better.

Friday, Sept. 1st/65:- Last night between 7 and 8 o'clock P.M. Mr. Sutherland breathed his last and thus ended his pains and troubles of this life. He died without saying anything about leaving this world or bidding his friends a long, last fare well. The people have been at work to day digging a grave and making a coffin and a box to hold the coffin, and have every thing ready to bring ~~soon~~ ^{to} ~~tomorrow~~ ^{to} morning.

Saturday, Sept. 2nd/65:- M. H. Anderson got back from Palo Pinto late last night. He could get no doctor which was well enough now, as the sick is perfectly well from all pain, in death. This morning the remains of Wm. Sutherland were respectfully and nicely buried in Ft. Davis burying ground. The news came here this evening that there had been some indian signs seen not far from this place, such as a beef killed and a pony found.

Sunday, Sept. 3rd / 65:- This has been quite a warm day, and like all other sundays in this place

Monday, Sept. 4th / 65:- My boy is two weeks old this morning and weighs 11³/₄ lbs. He is a very peaceable fellow and does not make much disturbance.

This has been a warmer day than we have had for some time and looked like

Tuesday, Sept. 5th / 65:- Col. Carroll left here to day with what beef he had gathered.

Wednesday, Sept. 6th / 65:- John Whitten got in home last night from Parker county. He brings no news of importance.

W. McEarty got in this evening from mill. John Selman also got in to town late this evening. He has married while he was in Grayson Co and has brought his wife up with him. She married Miss Ednie De-graffenried of Grayson county.

Thursday, Sept. 7th / 65:- George Reynolds got home from Parker county to day; he has been gone nearly three weeks. No news worth notice.

Friday, Sept. 8th / 65:- There must have been a great deal of rain up above here on this stream as it is up higher than it has been before this year, by several feet.

Saturday, Sept. 9th / 65:- Nothing to write.

Sunday, Sept. 10th / 65:- Mr. Frans and Mr. Christerson got in from mill this morning; they could not get their wagons across the river as it is not fordable yet. Mr. Frans had to be rafted across; he cannot swim.

Monday, Sept. 11th / 65:- Our country is yet in a very bad condition; no law except military law in force, and it's hard to tell how soon there will be any other. I noticed W. B. St. John

and Si Huff in town today. I hear a great deal of talk about jayhawkers from Mexico driving cattle from the frontier of Texas.
Tuesday, Sept. 12th / 65:- Mr. Jewel, Mr. Kauls and several other gentlemen came into this place this evening. Mr. Jewel is buying up a drove of beef cattle.

Wednesday, Sept. 13th / 65:- The people of this and surrounding counties held a public meeting in this place to-day, the proceedings of which were forwarded to the "Dallas Herald" for publication. This by the by has been a very warm day for this time of the year.

Thursday, Sept. 14th / 65:- Mr. Jewel and Mr. Kauls left here this morning. B. W. Reynolds and Si Huff took a wagon down to the Stockton ranch to move up some bachelors and their negro woman. Mrs. Reynolds thought that it would be as good a time as she would get to go a visiting, so she went down with them.

Friday, Sept. 15th / 65:- Lige Johnson, Mills and Robert Shaw came over from Belknap today. It has been a long time since I have seen Robert Shaw in this country before.

This evening B. W. Reynolds and Si Huff brought in a load of negroes. They went into Steers house.

Saturday, Sept. 16th / 65:- Nothing new about this place for today. I have spent the day in repairing an old spinning wheel. My boy is doing very well I believe.

Sunday, Sept. 17th / 65:- A very warm day.

Monday, Sept. 18th / 65:- All Anderson got in from Weatherford this evening, and he had not been in town long until it was reported around town that he was going to get married in a week or two. This report is worth a little credit.

Tuesday, Sept. 18th / 65:- Mr Lee and Mr Hightower got back from below to day, but neither one brought back their families. Mr Lee has only come back after the remainder of his things.

Wednesday, Sept. 20th / 65:- Mr. Anderson is working on a house to day, which looks a little suspicious. The nights are getting ~~some~~ cooler.

Thursday, Sept. 21st / 65:- My boy is one month old this morning, and weighs fourteen pounds. There are more men in this place this evening than common. They are cow-hunters, and a great many of them are strangers to me. Mr. Duncan from Fort Grovel, moved into this place late this evening.

Friday, Sept. 22nd / 65:- I made a larger trade to day than I have made in some time before. I bought one hundred head of stock cattle.

The cow-hunters in this place tried to get up a dancing party here to night, but it resulted in nothing but a stag-dance.

Saturday Sept. 23rd / 65:- I have been at work pretty hard to day at the cooper's trade. I have made a water cag to day. It is made in rather a singular way, there is only three pieces of lumber in it; one stave and two head pieces. J. C. Clark and J. A. Degraffenried of the Stockton ranch, were in this place to day. They are expecting to move to the lower country shortly.

We get but very little news here, but it is reported again that there are troops on their way to garrison the posts on the frontier.

Sunday, Sept. 24th / 65:- Nothing important.

Monday, Sept. 25th / 65:- This is getting to be a very dull place, now that the war is ended. My boy is getting very troublesome; or unwell.

Tuesday Sept. 26th / 65:- John Wilson, M. H. Anderson, Mr. McBarry^{J. S. Leary} and Mr. Lee left here with wagons this morning for the lower country. A party of young folks also left here this morning for Weatherford; they went down with Al. Anderson who is to be married next Sunday to a Miss Wilson. Levi Shaw returned from Wise county this evening; no news.

Wednesday, Sept. 27th / 65:- This is my wife's seventeenth birth day; and we have been married nearly 3 years.

Thursday, Sept. 28th / 65:- Nothing to write to day. Times are going on about as usual; no protection, nor no law in this part of the country, nor any way of hearing from any where to know what is going on in ^{the world}.

Friday, Sept. 29th / 65:- We have had several very refreshing showers of rain to-day, which were very much needed. Mr. Sharf's youngest child was taken very sick with a fever to-day; he had a pretty severe spasm this evening. My boy is doing very well I think.

Saturday, Sept. 30th / 65:- Last night was the coolest that we have had this fall, but to-day has been very warm and pleasant. Mr. Thorp's boy had another spasm this morning and is pretty bad off.

Sunday, Oct. 1st / 65:- This is the first ^{day} of the tenth month in 1865, and Sunday; but the Sabbath is not much respected in this country. Some cow-hunters from this place drove in a fine drove of cattle this evening, and marked and branded them. Mr. Thorp thinks that his boy is some better.

Monday, Oct. 2nd / 65:- The weather has some the appearance of fall and is very pleasant. This county will now be called by its original name now that the Confederacy has gone by the board. My boy, Gus, has been some fretful to-day and I expect he is run well, but what ails him is hard to tell. Nothing serious I hope.

Tuesday, Oct. 3rd 1861 - A party of cow hunters from this place that have been hunting on the Pecos River, came in this evening with a small bunch of cattle. They bring the report, that a man on Deep Creek by the name of Mayhew murdered one of his neighbors (Mr. Whitten) and that Mr. Mayhew was killed by a party of the citizens while attempting to arrest him. Mr. Whitten bore the name of being very peaceable but Mr. Mayhew, that of being very quarrelsome. They both have large families, fatherless.

Wednesday, Oct. 4th 1861 - We had a fine shower of rain this evening, and I find that my house needs recovering as it looked some. These dirt covered houses will need recovering once a year as in that time a great deal of dirt will wash off. No news from abroad.

Thursday, Oct. 5th 1861 - This has been a damp, cloudy day. The people of this country are cow-hunting very briskly this year. And it is all the occupation that will pay in this country.

Friday, Oct. 6th 1861 - About sun set this evening Al. Anderson and his wife got into this place, also those that went from here with him and his brother-in-law. Mrs. Anderson is a very good looking lady, some above the medium height. Al. Anderson says that there is a very great indian excitement in Parker Co. That there has been a great many horses stolen from Parker Co., and three men killed by the indian, which has caused a great many people to move into Weatherford as off out of the reach of indians.

Saturday, Oct. 7th 1861 - I have employed myself to-day in trying to make a bed-stead.

Sunday, Oct. 8th / 65:- Another Sabbath has passed over our heads. People do not respect the Sabbath as much as they should in this country.

Monday, Oct. 9th / 65:- I notice Tom Matthews in the fort this evening; he brings no news. Tom Matthews and Eli Huff were fellow soldiers in the Confederate army, as I have learned from hearing them talk over some old scrapes.

Tuesday, Oct. 10th / 65:- The wind has been blowing a little cool to-day and begin to feel a little like autumn. All the old women say that my

boy is out growing all the babies ~~they~~ ever saw. Wednesday, Oct. 11th / 65:- T. F. Maulding and Pres. Maulding are in this place to night. They are lately from Ft. Worth, but bring no news of great importance.

Thursday, Oct. 12th / 65:- Taylor's mule was missing this morning, and after hunting for him nearly all day in vain, he left here this evening for Hubbard's Creek. Tom Kitchiff and a Mr. Wilson, brother-in-law to Al. Anderson, left here this morning for the lower country. Weathered. The earth, sun, air, clouds and wind, all begin to feel and look very much like autumn.

Friday, Oct. 13th / 65:- This has been a remarkable cool day for the time of the year. W. D. Reynolds is pretty sick with the fever and chills, also I hear of several others complaining of the same disease.

Saturday, Oct. 14th / 65:- Today has been some pleasant-er than it was yesterday. Nothing new.

Sunday Oct. 15th / 65:- Another pleasant Sabbath spent in the usual way, in not doing much good.

Monday Oct. 16th / 65:- Mr. Irvin came in very late last night, and in poor health. He says he sold his beef at Ft. Smith for not a very big price. He left Mr. Walter, Prophet, and Wm. Anderson

at Sherman, sick with fever, but that their health was improving when he left them, and that Stephen Frans and W. B. Tacket are coming on with the wagon and will be here in a few days. George Reynolds and W. B. St. John riddled out their beef steers this morning; they have about eighty, and intend to start to Mexico with them to-morrow morning. Lieut. Willett is in this place to day, he is from Weatherford. Several milling wagons got in today. Tuesday, Oct. 17th / 65: - This has been the coldest day we have had this Fall by a great deal.

Mr. Irwin has been very sick to-day, though he thinks he is some better this evening.

St. John and G. Reynolds got started with their beef this morning bound for old Mexico.

Wednesday, Oct. 18th / 65: - To-day is some pleasanter than it was yesterday. John Hightower came over from Hubbard creek to-day, he says he stayed with our Mexico traders last night at Sanchez's ranch. Taylor Maulding came over to-day to get his lost mule. Mr. Irwin is not much better.

Thursday, Oct. 19th / 65: - There was an eclipse of the sun visible at this place at about 8 O'clock this morning; it was an eclipse of about 4 fingers. Miss Mira Sutherland was taken very ill to-day.

Friday, Oct. 20th / 65: - Mr. Irwin is some better to-day.

Saturday, Oct. 21st / 65: - My boy is two months old to-day and weighs eighteen pounds. Three wagons got started off from here this morning for mill: B. W. Reynolds, E. E. Christerson and James H. Frans. Milling is a grand object in this country.

Mr. Irwin's health is still improving.

Sunday, Oct. 22nd / 65: - I notice Tom Mathews and Rep. Maulding in town today. J. H. Frans and W. B. Tacket came in this morning with Mr. Irwin's wagon from Fort Smith. Stephen looks very

had with the chills. Miss Anderson, Tom & his wife
John Anderson and others got in very late this
Monday, Oct. 23rd/65:- Nothing of interest took place
to day in and about this place.

Tuesday, Oct. 24th/65:- It has been looking a little
like rain to-day. Nothing to write.

Wednesday, Oct. 25th/65:- A remarkable instance of
"sin will out" came to light in this place today. Last
Thursday a young lady of this place who has been complaining
of bad health for some ^{time}, arose from her bed and took a
walk up the creek bank, but not returning in a reasonable
length of time, her mother and sisters became alarmed
and went in search of her. They found her farther up
the creek than they expected to, and unable to get back to the
house. She told them that while she was climbing the
creek bank, something bursted inside of her and blood
was flowing from her pretty freely. They got her back to the
house and her health has been improving since. The next
morning it was rumored about, that, this young lady
gave birth to a child and put it away where it "would
tell no tales," while she was up the creek by herself.
But it was soon ascertained that the rumor was
entirely without foundation and most of the people
were satisfied that it was false. And so it might have
remained, had it not been intended that her sin should
find her out. The people were very much excited this
morning when they heard that a dead child had been
found in the creek. The child was taken out and
properly buried. The young lady before spoken of
finally acknowledged that it belonged to her, but that
it was actually dead when born. This is the second
birth of the kind that has taken place in this fort
and been recorded in this book, and I hope it
will be the last. It is astonishing that civilized,
educated and christian people will sin in this way.

Tuesday, Oct. 31st/65! - This evening the weather was a little pleasanter than it has been for a few days.

It is now a little more than a year since this place was started, one year ago there but very few houses here.

Wednesday, Nov. 1st/65! - This is the first day of the eleventh month of 1865 and like those that have gone before it, both month and year will soon be gone. Wm. H. H. and Charles Nelson and his brother are in town.

Thursday, Nov. 2nd/65! - S. E. Miller and his son S. E. Miller and J. H. O'Conor were in this place today, they are just from St. Louis, but bring no news of importance.

Friday, Nov. 3rd/65! - Some pleasanter today than it has been.

Saturday, Nov. 4th/65! - I notice our fellow citizen, J. H. Whelan in town this morning, he has just returned from Arkansas. He has not brought his family up with him but says that he will as soon as he can. Weather cool but pleasant.

Sunday, 5th/65! - This has been quite a pleasant day, but a very long and tedious one to me.

We have not had any religious meetings in this place, notwithstanding there is some more than twenty families in this town, enough to afford a very good congregation, in regard to size.

I notice Mr. Darnell in town this evening.

Monday, Nov. 6th/65! - The weather is still pleasant. We had a spelling-match and speaking to-night at the school house.

Tuesday, Nov. 7th/65! - Nothing to write.

Wednesday, Nov. 8th/65! - B. H. Reynolds, J. H. Fraw, R. H. Shaw and a stranger by the name of Hartman came in to town this evening.

Thursday, Nov. 9th/65! - A crowd of mill-folk came in this evening. Flake Barber has come up with the L. C. notice. Mr. Steel in town this evening. He has left his family in Parker county.

Friday, Nov. 10th / 65th This is my twenty-sixth
birth-day, twenty six ^{years} of my time in this world
gone, and how much more have I to spend; no
one can tell me, and no one knows but "He
who" made man after his own image, and
breathed the breath of life into him.

I have travelled some distance from the place
where I first drew the breath of life. I was
born in the State of Connecticut, Tolland Co.,
on the 10th day of Nov. 1838, that is if my father's
family record is correct, which I am disposed
to believe is about right; according to my re-
collection, I lived in my native State until
I was sixteen, when my father moved to Mo.
After that I staid with my father only about
eighteen months and then struck out for do-
whist for myself. I took my course towards
Texas and here I am on the very ^{extreme} frontiers of
Texas where I have been about six years. I have
been married just three years today, and my
family now consists of my wife and one big, fine
fat boy not quite three months old, besides myself.

Saturday, Nov. 11th / 65th As this is the only
day in the week, excepting Sunday, that I am
free, I have been working on my house to-
day stopping some of the cracks. Charlie Lindley,
James Veale and a Mr. Carothers came into
the fort this evening.

Sunday, Nov. 12th / 65th This has been a bad
looking day. Nothing interesting.

Monday, Nov. 13 / 65th Mr. Jackson raised a house
in this place today. Fort Davis still improving.

Tuesday, Nov. 14 / 65th J. A. Browning, J. Selmer
and Ted Willett came in from the Plains where they
have been on a hunting expedition.

Nov 15th Mr. January moved out of this place today he moved to Walkers ranch on Sandy creek

Wednesday, Nov 15th 1861 I notice W. B. Brown, George James and J. S. Steel in the fort this evening. Mr. James business up here was to stop the driving of a stock of cattle that he had charge of at the commencement of the late war and was impeded by the Confederate authorities, but which now falls back to the old owner.

Thursday, Nov. 16th 1861 - This has been quite a pleasant day. Mr. Spedbetter was in this place a few minutes this evening; he is on his way down the country with a wagon load of salt. No news from ahead.

Friday, Nov. 17th 1861 - Mr. Spedbetter is still camped down on the creek; he was troubled about finding a part of his team to-day. J. W. Wheeler is fixing to go below with him.

Saturday, Nov. 18th 1861 - A party of buffalo-hunters came in this evening; they did not kill many. They say that the fastest and best of the buffalo have not come down yet. Kit Cooper and Must. Hoover came over from Hubbard creek to-day; they bring no news.

Sunday, Nov. 19th 1861 - John Anderson and the Wilson boys left this place this morning with a drove of haves. They intend to drive to San Antonio or Mexico.

Mr. Hartman from Louisiana started for home this morning. Several persons from this place left here this morning to make a cow hunt on Hubbard.

Monday, Nov. 20th 1861 - This has been a very pleasant day.

Tuesday, Nov. 21st 1861 - My boy is three months old to-day, and weighs the round sum of twenty-one pounds.

He is said to be a very good sized boy for his age.

Wednesday, Nov. 22nd 1861 - The weather has been very pleasant for several days; the sky is very smoky and looks very much like what is called in the north, "Indian summer". Mr. S. Miller and a man by the name of Hedger are in this place to-day.

Thursday, Nov. 23rd 1861 - Another smoky Indian summer day.

Friday, Nov 24th 65:- Mr J. L. Swin and John Selman left here, to go to mill, this morning. Milling is no small job for the people of this country.

Saturday, Nov 25th 65:- We had a little excitement here today, not an Indian excitement but a buffalo excitement. Some men that were out a little distance from the fort came out to a bunch of buffalo and drove one of them to the fort. As soon as it was seen by the people in the fort, the men, women, children and dog ran out. The dogs about twenty in number soon caught it and had a pretty severe fight with it.

Sunday, Nov 26th 65:- Penn Sindsley and Bill Sindsley and James Current came over from Sackettville today also Marion Sutherland came in to the fort this evening. Mr Sutherland brings the news that we are soon to have troops on the frontier to garrison the old posts. They are needed very much.

Sunday, Nov 27th 65:- Another pleasant day in which nothing of interest took place in this fort. As we have no preaching here, Sunday appears a long dull day, except to those who amuse themselves by playing marbles, ball or some other like diversion.

Monday, Nov 27th 65:- Still another pleasant Indian summer day. One of our old citizens, Mr J. McCarty and his son Dick came into the fort this evening. They are just from Johnson Co.

Tuesday, Nov 28th 65:- Buffalo are becoming very plentiful about here. Some men from this place succeeded in driving one through the fort to-day. There was quite a scattering of women and children as it came through and the screaming and crying they made as they went was enough to frighten average buffalo. The poor buffalo had come to a poor place to make his escape for he had no cover then entered the fort when he was attracted by about forty large

and fierce dogs that soon put an end to his life without the assistance of any one else. It died in less than two minutes after the dogs caught it; I think they must have caught it in such a manner as to ^{have} stopped its breath and held it so until it died. It was a very large one, and this is the first time I ever knew of one being killed by dogs alone.

Wednesday, Nov. 29th 65! - Another pleasant day in which nothing of interest happened in this place.

Thursday, Nov. 30th 65! - This is the last of November 1865. One more month and then the year 1866 will be with us, that was before the deluge. Time passes swiftly away. Day after day flies over our heads and soon will come our last one. Still after still we march on and soon we will take our last one. Breath of life we breathe the breath of life and soon we will pass for our last one.

Friday, Dec. 1st 65! - This is the first day of the last month in 1865, and quite a pleasant day it is.

Saturday, Dec. 2nd 65! - W^m Duncan and Harriet Guthrie's started to mill this morning. I have labored harder to-day than I have for a long time and I feel very tired from it. My boy is sick with a cold.

Sunday, Dec. 3rd 65! - This has been a remarkable warm day for this season of the year. It rained a small shower just before day this morning and then cleared away warm and pleasant like a Spring morning.

I feel very bad to-night, the effects of working yesterday.

Monday, Dec. 4th 65! - Yesterday was warm, but to-day is cold and very cold. It has sleated considerable to day. Our boy is very sick this evening and unless he gets better we will be obliged to set up with him to night.

Tuesday, Dec. 5th 65! - Still very cold and sleating. There have been several small bunches of buffaloes seen about to the first to day; some of them were

within two or three hundred yards of the fort.

Wednesday Dec. 6th / 65:— It has been a little pleasanter to day. Sus is still quite sick.

Thursday Dec. 7th / 65:— The weather is some pleasanter to day, but this country is subject to very sudden changes at this time of the year. My boy is some better to day.

Friday, Dec. 8th / 65:— This has been quite a pleasant day though it has been pretty cool. Buffalo are plenty around this place yet, I saw one pass by in sight of the fort this evening. I have stood in my school-house and seen a drove of buffalo that were not more than three hundred steps off. This would be quite a show in my native state, where there was no wild game larger than a fox. In this country there is game of various kinds and sizes, even wild hogs and wild horses &c. In this backwoods country, people are compelled to do as they can, or not "do at all". I have made me some home-made ink, and find it is hard to get it of the proper consistency and of a black enough color. This page is written with ink of my manufacture. Sus is still improving.

Saturday, Dec. 9th / 65:— A pleasant day. Mr W. L. Browning was in this place to day and left for home very late this evening, about sun set.

Sunday, Dec. 10th / 65:— This has been another pleasant day. Jan Ratliff, J. S. George, J. S. Musgroves and M. Anderson and wife started to mill this morning. I ate a bite of corn for dinner at neighbor Irwin's to day. Late this evening, after dark, Mr. Irwin and J. Selman got in from Weatherford. Mr. Musgroves came back with them. He started with the crowd that left here this morning but turned back on the account of some news that Mr. Irwin brought up about getting bread-stuff.

Monday, Dec. 11th / 65: - The fore part of this day was very pleasant. But in the evening the wind commenced blowing from the north, and now (8 o'clock P.M.) it is quite cold and the wind is blowing a pretty strong norther, as they are called. Mr. Erwin says that the Indians are still deppe-rodating considerably in Fisher county; also that it is reported below that we will soon have troops stationed here on the frontier.

We have been expecting and looking for them very patiently for a long time, but however we have not been troubled by Indians now for a good long while; two or three months.

Tuesday, Dec. 12th / 65: - The norther that commenced blowing yesterday is now very cold and has made this a very cold day. These northers are very disagreeable.

Sus is very sick to-day, he had some fever last night and appears to be very sore, from the way he complains when he is moved.

Buffalo are still pretty plenty around here, there are more or less killed about this place every day. The hide of the buffalo is very valuable.

The flesh of buffalo is very much like that of the common cow. They are killed for their hides, flesh, tallow, tongues and snops, the long hair that grows on their fore heads and on

Wednesday, Dec. 13th / 65: - The norther still blowing, still colder and colder. Mr. Erwin, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Thompson and Wm. Anderson started out with a team buffalo hunting, but this norther drove them all in this morning.

Sus is yet very sick, he had a very high fever again last night. We gave him a dose of calomel this morning, by the advice of the old folks who have had more experience in child raising than myself

and wife. I do not like to use calomel unless it is by the direction of a skillful physician, and then I am afraid of it. But as my boy appeared to be in need of something and that very bad, and calomel was recommended by all the old people, therefore I concluded to

give it a trial on the strength of the judgment of older persons than myself.

Thursday, Dec. 14th, 1861 - It has been so cold to-day that I did not teach school to-day.

Friday, Dec. 15th, 1861 - The creek has frozen over very solid, strong enough to bear up a great many persons. I got me a pair of skates and had a little sport, such as I was use to in my boyhood. There were a great many persons in this place that never had seen any one on skates before, and the bank was lined with people to witness my exploits upon the ice. After I had tried them a while and shown the people how the things were used, I gave them to some persons that had never been on any before. They staggered a-bout with them to the, little danger of their skulls, and great amusement of the bystanders.

This was ~~the~~ last day of my second term of school in Fort Davis. I have a vacation now of two weeks.

Saturday, Dec. 16th, 1861 - The creek is still frozen over and I tried it again this morning with the skates. This kind of amusement is not often to be enjoyed this far south, but where I spent my boyhood days it was very common. I remember when I was about thirteen or fourteen years old, that some of my schoolmates and I were skating very late one night, and when I went home, pulled off my boots, I found one of my big toes froze hard as a rock. My boy is still very bad sick; he has very hot fevers. Mr W. L. Browning is in town this evening. He brings the news that the United States have made a treaty with nearly all of the Indians, and are going to locate them on reserves. That M. J. Johnson is one of the committee appointed to locate them, and that he is in favor of locating them on the Wichita mountains. The people of this country would rather have them back from their old reserves.

than two or three hundred miles off.

Sunday, Dec. 17th, 65:— I think that Sun. is some better to day, just enough to be very frosty. Several persons in this place regardless of the Sabbath went buffalo hunting to day. I think we will have something like a wedding about Christmas in this place, as H. Aron started to Palo Pinto this morning for licence to marry and an officer that could tie a knot that nothing but death could untie. Births, Marriages and Deaths are few and far between in this thinly populated country, in comparison to what they are in clover countries. Deryl Lynch came over from Hubbard's to day. He is anxious that the people of this county should organize their county, and save the trouble and expense of going to Palo Pinto every time we need a little business transacted. And keep our poor and school funds in our own county, &c. Cary, one appears to wish to get the county organized, but there does not appear to be as many office seekers now as there were a few months since, when a little office would keep a person out of the service. Then nearly every one that could write and a few that could not, was a candidate for office.

Monday, Dec. 18th, 65:— I have been getting my gun fixed in order today that I might take a buffalo hunt, soon long. I think my boy's health has commenced to improve, but he is very low and it will be a long time before he is entirely well.

Tuesday, Dec. 19th, 65:— The weather is some pleasanter than it has been for some time, but there is still a lot of ice on the creek water yet. Some boys of this place drove two buffaloes up to the fort to-day. As soon as they got to the fort, the dogs caught one and it was instantly killed. The other got some distance from the fort before the dogs got it. The dog with the horns was very

up with it. I think that my boy is some better today.
Wednesday, Dec. 20th/65:- This is another very cold day,
and I have been hauling wood to have things in
readiness that I might go buffalo hunting tomorrow.
I have only one week more after this to play in, and
I wish to make the best use I can of the time.
And I know of no better way, than to go buffalo hunt.

Thursday, Dec. 21st/65:- This morning after getting
up our horses, a crowd of us started buffalo hunting.
Our hunting party consisted of myself, E. Christman,
W. D. Reynolds, Mr. J. Barber and J. S. Evans. Besides these
there were J. L. Savin, J. M. Evans and J. Wilson that
were going up to Camp Cooper on other business.

We left home about 12 O'clock P.M. and got as far
as the old agency by night. On our way up
we saw several buffalo but killed none. We
struck camp in one room of the best house at the
agency and fared very well, although it was a very
cold night. After listening to a few camp go
well spun by old and experienced hands, we retired
to our camping pallets and were soon in the
land of dreams. My boy is four months old today.

Friday, Dec. 22nd/65:- A little before the break of
day a part of our party got so cold that they concluded
to get up and recruit the fire. After this it was not
long until all hands were astir. When we had eaten
breakfast we found our horses all right and then di-
vided out into small hunting parties. Myself, E.
Christman and W. D. Reynolds took our course for Bee-
sq. creek. We found plenty of buffalo and Christman
was very good luck in killing them, but I found that
I had taken a gun that would not shoot correct,
therefore I got nothing. We skinned buffalo until very
late in the night and then went three miles to camp
at Camp Cooper where we found the balance of

our crowd camped in a very good rock house sitting around a large fire. We were not long soaking and eating our supper and in the time we talked over the fortunes of the day. I found that Flake, who had been hunting with my rifle, had had about such luck in shooting as I had. Therefore we agreed to exchange guns to see if our luck would not change too. As soon as we had eaten our supper it was very late bed time.

Saturday, Dec. 23rd, 1851 - All of our party except J. Hilton and Jessy concluded to go home to day. Christensen and myself took a little round hunting as we went. We first went up the left hand prong of Tecomacy to where the indian run John and Bill Hilton under a bluff. After looking at the battle ground as much as we wished, we turned a crop onto the right hand prong of the creek where we killed two or three buffaloes and one deer and then we took our course for home. We got into Fort Davis about 8 o'clock in the night. I found that my boy was a great deal worse than he was when I left home and had been still worse.

Marion McPartly, who it was thought had run away and left his family, came in last Thursday very unexpectedly by every one. John Dawson is in this place, he has come up to take a buffalo hunt. He says that the indians are very troublesome yet in the lower counties. It is a little strange that they should depredate so much on the inside counties and not trouble us who live on the out side of all settlements, as they have done for the last three months. Wm Anderson got back from Palo Pinto to day with four slaughter as the man that is to solemnize the rites of matrimony between him and Miss Susan V. Fears on the 25th day of the month, which is next Monday. I hear from John Dawson that J. L. Stocker has got back with goods and specks to sell in Palo Pinto.

Sunday, Dec. 24th, 66:- This has been a beautiful Sabbath
morning. Slaughter delivered the first religious discourse
that was ever preached in this place to day, at 10:00 o'clock
A.M. He also preached again this evening and says
I understand that there were a few grown persons
in this place that never had heard the word of
God preached untill to day. That looks a little
like heathenism, but here on the frontier where
the people are so scattered, if there was preaching
in the country, it would hardly be practicable for
many to attend with their families.

Mr. Mangrove, who has been up to the salt
works, came in to day with a load of salt. The
noted carter, William Washington Crow, is in and
down to day.

Monday Dec 25th, 66:- This is the one thousand
eight hundred and sixty-fifth birth-day of Jesus
Christ, and it is a very pleasant day with the exception
of a brisk wind from the west. We had preaching
this morning and evening by parson Slaughter.
The people of this place appear to be very much interested
in the preaching, as it is so very seldom that they
enjoy religious worship in this country. I think
that a good preacher could do a great deal of good in
this place, in the way of being instrumental in pro-
moting the eternal welfare of many poor sinners' souls.
I have not heard any thing from my father for several
years but if he is alive he is fifty-three years old to day.
It would give me an untold amount of pleasure
to see my father, mother, brothers and sisters once
more in this world and I hope it is the will of God
that I may and that before many months more.
And if I live untill Spring it is my intention to go
to Missouri for that purpose.
According to appointment W. W. Anderson and Chas.

Trans were united in the sacred bonds of matrimony this evening at 4 O'clock, by parson Slaughter.

We hope they may live together in peace, happiness, health and prosperity to a good old age. This is only the second marriage that has been solemnized in this place.

There was a meeting of the voters of this place, or of this county rather, at the school house to night for the purpose of nominating the persons that they wished to be appointed as county officers in this county by the provisional Governor of the State of Texas.

⁷⁷ Tuesday, Dec. 26th, 65:- This has been another a bad day, it rained and snowed some and has been pretty cold. We had preaching again to day and night, and the Parson has promised to preach for us again tomorrow. Parson Slaughter appears to be anxious to do some good among us. And he appears to be an honest hearted man, trying to make as much for his Master of the talents that have been entrusted to his care, as he practically can. This evening, at the school house, in honor to his wife.

Wednesday, Dec. 27th, 65:- This day, instead of being like yesterday was cold and damp, is very pleasant. Such changes are continually taking place in this country at this time of the year.

We had preaching again to day. Miss Elizabeth Jackson was baptised this evening after evening service. My boy is better to day than he has been for a long time, apparantly. He has been awake nearly all day and has not complained much. A gentleman by the name of Adams and a boy came into this place this evening from Camp Colorado. I believe that Mr. Adams lived above here on the Clear Fork a few years ago. He brings some news of importance, though he says he has heard it sayd that the troops for this frontier would be out here by next March. We have heard of troops being on their way about here so often and all proving false, that we do not put much confidence in that which we hear.

Thursday, Dec. 28th / 65 - Parson Claughton started for home this morning after promising to come up and preach for us again on the third Sunday of next month, and to bring some help with him if he could. W^m W. Anderson and J. S. Trans went to escort the parson home, as it is considered unsafe to travel through this country alone, and in fact it is not entirely safe for three or four, much less for a dozen. As a person travels over this country he often will see the graves of men that have been murdered by the Indians and buried where they fell. Nate Bragg, Lige Johnson and Mr. Proffit came in town this evening from Fort Belknap. J. S. Dawson and several others left here this morning on a buffalo hunt.

Friday, Dec. 29th / 65 - Several persons, John Wilson, B. W. Reynolds, E. C. Christensen, M. T. Barber, B. D. and W. D. Reynolds, left here this morning for Camp Cooper to take a buffalo hunt. I intended to go with them but I could not leave my boy while his health was so poor. I think Gus is some better but he has very high fevers every night. He rested very well and slept a great deal to-day. Nate Bragg and those that came with him left here this evening for Fort Belknap. J. S. Trans and W^m W. Anderson returned late this evening after seeing the Parson safe on his way home. This fort has now been established more than a year and is now as strong as it ever was. The people in this fort enjoy one advantage over here that they seldom enjoy on the frontier, that of sending their children to school. The child on the frontier has very poor chances to get an education or learn much of the ways of the world.

Saturday, Dec. 30th 1851. One day more and then another year is gone forever. Right here in this place I have spent more than a year of my life, but I do not expect to stay here longer than Spring. Since I have been here I have been teaching school most of the time, and as far as making money is concerned I have not made much, only about two or three dollars per day. But as doing any good as far as preparing to meet my God at the judgement bar on the last day, ^{evening} I have done little or nothing. I hope that there will not another year pass over my head without something more being done by me in that respect. It must be dreadful for a man that has wasted his days in sinning against his Creator, to die and leave all that he ever loved, and be dragged before that Tribunal where his every idle word and evil deed is recorded to be read on that day when the wicked will be cast into outer darkness. What must be the thoughts and feelings of the sinner as he is commanded to "depart ye cursed" from the judgement bar and sinks lower and lower deeper and deeper down to hell forever and ever? He will likely think of his sinful career on earth, of the innumerable blessings that he was unthankful for, of the many rejected invitations to become a follower of Christ, of the truly nothingness of all things earthly, and it will then strongly appear to him as surpassing strange that men are so blind and near sighted as not to see the end to which they are coming.

What then would he give to be once more on this side of the shadow of death and have an opportunity of making peace with God; think you he would be willing to give up all the earthly pleasures that he enjoyed on earth? Yes, and all the wealth of the whole world besides, if it was in his power. But it is not; he must go on

in the flames of torment and there
suffer. For how long? For ever and for ever without end.
Sunday. Dec. 31st. 1865. I now seat myself to write a
little as a record for the last day of 1865. It has
been a pleasant day, and I presume the sun is here
with as much splendor today, as it did one thousand
eight hundred and sixty-five years ago today.
But what wonderful political changes has taken place
since that time. Civilization has spread her in-
fluence into almost every corner of the globe. But
still there is a great deal of wickedness in the world.

I have now been an actor on the stage of life, twenty
six years one month and twenty days. And I can
look back to the place I started from and trace up
the track that I have travelled so far through life.

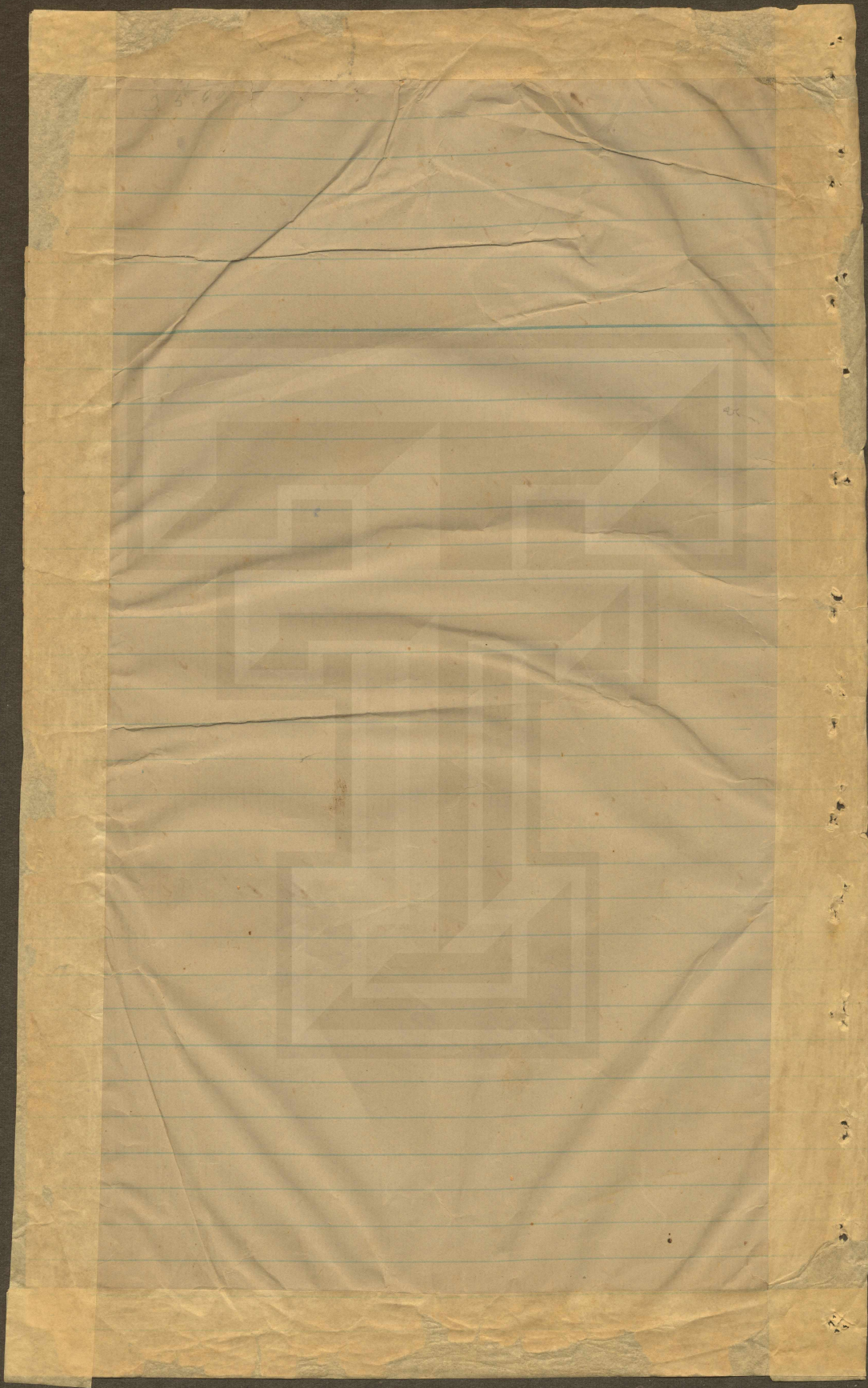
I was born in Mansfield, Galland county, Penna.,
on the 10th day of Nov. 1839, at 2 O'clock P.M. What ed-
ucation I received, I got in my native country. Before
I was seventeen years of age, in 1856 my father moved
to the state of Missouri, Grundy Co., where he was
still living when I heard from him last. After
we had lived in Mo. about eighteen months, I took
what was called the Texas fever, that is, I had a great
desire to go to Texas, and in spite of all the talking
my parents gave me on the subject, I went to Texas.
I left my fathers house on the 20th of Aug. 1857, and
stopped in Birdsville, Tarrant county Texas on the 2nd
day of Oct. of the same year. When I got into Texas I had
but very little money, not more than one dollar of
that much, as my father was very much opposed to
me going to Texas and did not give me any thing at all.
Soon after I came to Texas I was taken very sick, and
instead of making money, I was some in debt when I got
able to go about. I then went to work for my friends
and to pay my debt. I spent quite a while

that I were owing, in the winter of
1858 and 59, I worked in the printing office of the "Red
mills Union" at Birdville. But still not having very
good health, I went out upon the frontier of Texas in
June 1859 as it bore the name of being a very healthy
country. I staid in, what was then called, Buchanan
county. There I spent most of my time in doing
but little good, though I enjoyed very good health.
When I first came to Buchanan county it was unorgan-
ized and the Reserve Indians were then living on
the old reserves on the Clear Fork of Brazos. But they
were moved across Red river in May, 1859 as the citizens
were at war with them. In the Spring of 1859, three
or four hundred citizens under the command of J. M.
Baylor attacked the lower reserve Indians and it
resulted in a bloody battle. A few were killed on both
sides. As to this I presume the agents of the Indian
thought they had better move their feet across Red river.
On the 20th day of Aug 1860 there was an election held
in Buchanan county for the purpose of electing officers
to organize the county, at this election I was elected
county clerk, though I lacked from that day to the
21st of Nov. of being twenty one. Thus, I was elected
to the office of county clerk of Buchanan county Texas
just three years from the day I left my father's house.

Govt employed me to lay off the town of Brokenridge
the county site of said county, also to run the county
line. I commenced surveying the county line in Dec-
mber. According to the act of the Legislature of the State
of Texas that created the county of Buchanan, it was
to be forty miles square; beginning at the N. W. corner of
Madison county, thence west thirty miles, thence south
thirty miles, thence east thirty miles, thence north thirty
miles, the west line of Madison county to the place

of beginning. Some time in the Spring of 1862, I was appointed District Collector of the Confederate War Tax of seven counties. I had my office at Fort Bend. And in this place I got into a difficulty that came very near being serious. My means ~~that I cannot~~ ^{being} to be explained here, I got upon unfriendly terms with Lieut. Col. Obenchain, and for fear that I might be thought cowardly, I came very near acting impudently. In the summer of 1862 the authorities of the Confederate States commenced conscripting all able bodied men of proper age for the army service. And I thought that I had as well volunteer my services as to be conscripted, so I joined a company that was making up in Palo Pinto. This company organized in Palo Pinto on the 12th day of Aug. 1862, for which I was elected to the office of captain, myself to that of 1st Lieut. and - Meiser as 2nd Lieut. and Wm. Wilson as 3rd Lieut. This company by some means never went into the service, but afterwards broke up; therefore I never became a soldier but was compelled in the Spring ^{of 1864} to go into the State, ^{Texas} ~~with~~, In Aug. 1862 I made my returns, as Dist. Coll. of the 4th District of the Confederate War Tax, to ~~the~~ ^{the} Chief Collector at Austin. I arrived in Austin on this business on the 21st day of Aug. 1862, which was just five years and one day from the time I left my father.

Stone Branch Texas Sept 1st 1866



Fort Davis, Texas Feb 24th / 66

The citizens of Stephens county?

Gentlemen, I write you a few lines to let you know that I am still running the same old race that I commenced last August, or in other words an electioneering note. You may think it a little astonishing that I should hold on so well after being beaten twice in succession, but gentlemen, when I think of the unfair means used against me, of the malicious and scandalous falsehoods circulated to injure me and then the misfall and drifting amongst Davis beats, I conclude that perhaps I had better run the race all the way through.

If I should commence to enumerate and correct the errors that have been reported concerning me it would tire the patience of a Job, therefore I will simply say that I am well known to most of the people of this county and if they think that I am guilty of any misdemeanor worthy of such derision, do not hesitate to make it known at the ballot box on the first Monday in March next.

Do not understand me as abusing my old opponents, for such is not the case. I respect them as gentle men.

In the first place when I was beaten by Mr. Brownning I was absent from the county, but I am satisfied that there were very unfair means used against me, not by himself but by his electioneers. In the second case when J. Schoecraft came out against me I do not think he would of done so if he had known the truth of the whole affair. And again a few very influential men, and whom I had looked upon as some of my best friends, were induced to use their influence against me, by the clan that was so vigorously opposed to me.

acquired

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