



Nebraska History posts materials online for your personal use. Please remember that the contents of *Nebraska History* are copyrighted by the Nebraska State Historical Society (except for materials credited to other institutions). The NSHS retains its copyrights even to materials it posts on the web.

For permission to re-use materials or for photo ordering information, please see:

<http://www.nebraskahistory.org/magazine/permission.htm>

Nebraska State Historical Society members receive four issues of *Nebraska History* and four issues of *Nebraska History News* annually. For membership information, see:

<http://nebraskahistory.org/admin/members/index.htm>

Article Title: Diary of Dr. Joseph A. Paxson, Physician to the Winnebago Indians, 1869-1870 (Part II)

Full Citation: James L. Sellers, ed., "Diary of Dr. Joseph A. Paxson, Physician to the Winnebago Indians, 1869-1870 (Part II)," *Nebraska History* 27 (1946): 244-275

URL of article: <http://www.nebraskahistory.org/publish/publicat/history/full-text/NH1946JAPaxsonTWO.pdf>

Date: 6/20/2017

Article Summary: This is the second part of Paxson's diary of his year at the Winnebago Agency in Nebraska. He faithfully recorded his professional and social activity each day.

See also Part I of Paxson's diary:

<http://www.nebraskahistory.org/publish/publicat/history/full-text/NH1946JAPaxsonONE.pdf>

Scroll Down for complete article.

Cataloging Information:

Names: JAPaxson, S M Janney, Asa M Janney, "Old Frenchman," Joe Mathewson, E G Shortledge, E Painter, P B Morrison, S L Hinaman, Ben Grosvenor, Alf St Cyr, B Chase, Joseph Mead

Agencies Mentioned: Winnebago Agency, Omaha Agency, Santee Agency

Place Names: Omaha, Nebraska; Sioux City, Iowa; Yankton, South Dakota

Keywords: St Elmo Hotel, New York Friends (Quakers)

Diary of Dr. Joseph A. Paxson,
Physician to the Winnebago Indians,
1869-1870

Edited by JAMES L. SELLERS

(Part II—1870)

1870 New Year's Day (M. 12 deg. A.; E. 15 deg. A.)

"This day, time winds the exhausted chain, to run the twelve-months length again."

This day has been set apart as the most appropriate of all to distribute the clothing, sent by the Friends of New York, to the little children attending the Winnebago Indian Schools. A number of the smallest & most destitute of the children were selected by the teachers to come to the office this morning and be fitted out in a comfortable suit, as a New Year's gift. At a very early hour numbers of them had collected around the door, accompanied by their mothers, older sisters & brothers, and a few of the men. The first boy to be dressed was John Priest, the son of the late "Chief Little Priest," the last influential Chief of the tribe. They were brought into the office one at a time, and all the old clothes, rags & blankets, taken off, and they were then fitted out in a good warm suit, from head to foot. The change was wonderful—from a dirty little Indian, wrapped in a blanket—came a neat well formed pleasant looking little Indian boy. As they were rigged out it was pleasant to see the smile of satisfaction that would pass over their faces as they would examine themselves in their new clothes. That peculiar stolid disposition of the Indian would in most cases prevent them from expressing thanks, in so many words. A few of them would thank you with

all the feeling of their wild nature. When they would leave the office and pass out among their friends, who had now collected in large number about the door, they would be examined as object of curiosity. Their appearance was peculiar when contrasted with dusty forms, by which they were surrounded, wrapped in the much coveted blanket. But little could be done for the little girls, as their clothes, must yet be cut and made up. It is best to put the clothes on before they are allowed to leave the office, as this prevents them from, selling or trading them away. Most of the day was spent in distributing these goods. It has indeed been a "Happy New Year's day" to many a little Indian boy. The evening was spent in a social way. . . .

1-3-70 (M. 16 deg. A.; E. 17 deg. A.)

Most of the day was spent in visiting the camps in the ravines below "Old Laughter's." Saw quite a number of the little Indian boys with their new clothes on. They looked quite well and the most of them were without the much loved blanket. The ladies of the Agency spent the day in cutting the clothes for the girls. Sent by Ben. to Sioux for a pair of heavy boots. Bought 100 cartridges for Walt's rifle. We want to practice some. Spent the evening in writing at the quarterly reports. . . .

1-6-70 (M. 12 deg. A.; E. 8 deg. A.)

The entire day was spent in the office writing up the Quarterly returns. We hope to get them finished today as I desire to go to Omaha tomorrow.

1-7-70 (M. 11 deg. A.; E. 4 deg. B.)

Started for Omaha this morning. Walter went with me to the Station. We stopped at the school House and got J. P. Averill to to with us that Walt could have company back. When we arrived at the river the wind was blowing at a fearful rate. Just as we were about to start across on the ice the wind blew my "Hat" off, and I saw it no more,

it was soon lost in the cloud of dust. Had to ride six miles across the open Prairie to Sloan Station without a Hat. The station is about six miles from the river. Met E. A. McClure on the train. Bought another hat at Missouri Valley Junction. Towards evening it grew rapidly cold. Waited for the train until after midnight.

1-8-70 (M. 12 deg. B.; E. 10 deg. B.)

The train did not arrive until 12.15 A.M. When within about 3 miles of Council Bluffs, we found a Freight train off the track. This delayed us a long time, and at last they sent to the Bluffs for the Omnibus to come up and take the Passengers to town. Put up for the night at the Pacific House, Council Bluffs. We arrived in Omaha about 11 A.M. I went direct to the residence of S. M. Janney Supt. Ind. Affairs. His residence is at the cor of 18th & Capitol Avenue. Found them all at home and well. Spent the afternoon in the office talking over subjects of general interest.

1-9-70 "First-day morning" (M. 12 deg. B.; E. 4 deg. B.)

A clear cold morning this. About 9 A.M. this morning Albert L. Green, U. S. Ind. Agent Otoe Indians, Sallie Lightfoot, daughter of the Agent at the Nemaha Agency arrived. During the morning a very gratifying meeting was held. During the afternoon we attended the Mission School where Eliza & Cornelia assist in teaching. Attended church during the evening.

1-10-70 (M. 4 deg. A.; E. 10 deg. A.)

Is much more mild this morning. The morning was spent in the office. During the afternoon we took a drive around the N.W. part of the town. We went out 16th, street, by the Barricks. Spent the evening socially.

1-11-70 (M. 14 deg. A.; E. 6 deg. A.)

Was down town during the most of the morning. Called at the store of Kartz, Muhr & Davis, and spent some

time quite pleasantly. Went to the office of the "Daily Herald" and subscribed for it. Had a pleasant interview with Doctor Miller its Editor. Called at the home of Mr. Slicer, No 190 Jackson street, but he was not there. We all now went to the jail to see the four Pawnee Indians confined there for the murder of Edward McMurty. They have all been convicted of the murder and will be sentenced soon. Their names are Yellow Sun, Blue Hawk, Horse Driver, & Little Wolf. We found four white men confined in the same cell with them. One of them named Roebuck wrote a piece of poetry which was published in the Omaha Herald of Jan. 16th, 1870. During the afternoon we took another drive out 16th, st. and around by the Barracks. Evening spent pleasantly at home.

1-12-70 (M. 4 deg. A.; E. 2 deg. B.)

Today was not quite as pleasant as some of the time since our visit. Morning spent in the office, and during the afternoon we took an extended drive around town. We went up one street and down another until we thought all of the town had been seen. The town contains about 20,000 inhabitants and seems to be growing rapidly. During the evening we attended a Lecture before the Y.M.C.A. The attendance small, but the lecture reasonably good.

1-13-70 (M. 6 deg. A.; E zero.)

Saw U. S. Marshal [Joseph T.] Hoie on the street this morning. Went with him to his office. Met some of his friends at the office. Made arrangements to drive up with him to the Omaha Agency on Second-day. Went to the Post office and took up the mail. During the afternoon we went over to call on Wilmer Davis family, now living in their new home on 18th street. During the evening we all attended the Lyceum. This was poor enough. . . .

1-15-70 (M. 6 deg. B.; E. 4 deg. B.)

The ground all white with snow this morning. Spent all the day out sleighing. Drove around town with Samuel dur-

ing the morning, to attend to business. Went with him to call again on the Pawnee Prisoners. Took them all a quantity of tobacco, for which they seemed thankful. During the afternoon went out with Eliza & Cornelia, and had a very pleasant drive. Took tea and remained all night with Wilmer Davis. He seems quite pleasantly fixed in his new home. . . .

1-17-70 (M. 15 deg. B.; E. 8 deg. B.)

The storm seems to be over now, but it is exceedingly cold. Went down town to attend to some business previous to leaving town this afternoon. Started for the train at 3 P. M. Seemed much like leaving home to go from here at this time. The week has been so pleasantly spent that I am loath to bring such pleasant associations to a close. Each and every member of the family has been so kind that it does seem like going from home. Samuel went as far as the Post office with me. Did not leave town until near 6 P.M. as the train had to wait for the U.P. road. Remained all night at Missouri Valley junction.

1-18-70 (M. 4 deg. B.; E. 6 deg. B.)

Started for Sioux City at 8:30 this morning. Was detained on the road on account of a number of broken rails. Went to the St. Elmo. in Sioux City. Chas. Smith soon made some inquiries about the lost hat. After dinner I went to Cunningham's the Hatter, and traded the hat bought at the junction for one like the lost one. Spent the day and evening with my friends about the city.

1-19-70 (M. 7 deg. B.; E. 4 deg. B.)

Was out quite early this morning. Met the stage Dodson's Hotel Covington, and started for home. Stopped at Dakota City and saw Dr. Geo. Wilkinson. Arrived at the Agency in time for dinner, to which I did ample justice. It seemed good to be at home once again. Spent the afternoon in putting things to rights. In the evening Ben. came up and remained an hour or two.

1-20-70 (M. 8 deg. B.; E. 2 deg. A.)

Most of the morning was spent in arranging things about the office. Quite a number of Indians came in during the morning. A. B. Fuller came up on the Buck Board. Ben. went to Sioux. [City]. Was down the hill during the afternoon. During the evening I cut the magazines for 1868 and looked over them a little.

1-21-70 (M. zero; E. 6 deg. A.)

Spent most of the day of looking after the sick. During the extreme cold weather I fear that many of them must suffer. Ben. returned from Sioux City this evening. The evening was spent in reading the magazines.

1-22-70 (M. 7 deg. A.; E 10 deg. A.)

Flour was issued today. A large number of sick came in during the day. It was so cold that they could not stand out long. A. B. Fuller, declines to take \$50 for his Buggy. The evening was spent socially. . . .

1-25-70 (M. 24 deg. A.; E. 22 deg. A.)

Spent the entire morning down in "Prophet's Ravine." Saw and attended to a large number of patients. At noon secured a note from A. B. Fuller stating that we could have the "Buggy" for sixty Dollars. We concluded to take it and sent the money by return mail. . . .

1-26-70 (M. 19 deg. A.; E. 14 deg. A.)

Went out to visit a number of Patients this morning. Did not return until almost noon. During the afternoon quite a number called at the office. Was down the hill about one hour. William L. Cox, gave the "Buggy" a good repairing today. Spent the evening in the office reading. . . .

1-31-70 (M. 28 deg. A.; E. 30 deg. A.)

A most beautiful morning this. Major Mathewson came up this morning to see something about the old accounts. He

spent most of the morning with Howard looking after them. It seems that many of them he knows almost nothing about. Went down with Ben to see his wife who has been complaining for some time. Found her quite unwell but think that in a few days she will be much improved. At Ben's met Joe. Mathewson again. Was introduced to his brother Chas. Mathewson. Major M. went up to see Potter about the accounts during the afternoon. Wrote to McClure. Porter came up today, but went on to Sioux City. Spent the evening in the office reading & writing. So ends January 1870. We heard today that E. Painter U. S. Ind. Agent, from the Omaha tribe was confirmed. I hope that it is correct.

February 2-1-70 (M. 35 deg. A.; E. 23 deg. A.)

Spent most of the morning in the office. Major Mathewson came up and talked over the "unsettled accounts." Mr. Connus came in to see something about the pony stolen some time ago by Big Winnebago. During the afternoon we called in at Ben's. In the evening Ben & Major, came up and we had a dozen games of euchre, in which Major and I got ten, to their two. . . .

2-2-70 (M. 27 deg. A.; E. 14 deg. A.)

Howard & Major Mathewson went to Sioux City this morning. I was engaged about the office all the morning. Intended going over the river this afternoon with Ben. to see a Mr. Edwards, on some business, but just before starting we heard that he had left the parts. During the afternoon Mary Le Fletcher, the wife of Joseph Le Fletcher came up to see something about the claims due them by this agency. She was accompanied by Chas. Mason, a relative. The entire party above named are members of the Omaha tribe of Indians. Joseph, himself is quite unwell, not being able to leave his house. He is a man of ability and good sense. . . .

2-4-70 (M. 16 deg. A.; E. 12 deg. A.)

Went to Sioux City today to meet Dr. Shortledge and wife. It was a most beautiful day and I enjoyed the ride

very much. When I arrived in the town found that they had arrived. We all stopped the St. Elmo Hotel. During the afternoon we went around town and saw quite a number of our friends. Remained at the hotel during the evening. Wrote to Painter to come up during Dr. S.'s stay.

2-5-70 (M. 10 deg. A.; E. 19 deg. A.)

Took an early start this morning for the Agency. Ice on the river seems quite strong. On some places the water is standing. The morning was quite warm. Arrived at the Agency at noon. . . .

2-6-70 "First-day" (M. 24 deg. A.; E. 38 deg. A.)

A most beautiful morning but quite warm. A team was brought up and we all went over to visit the Sabbath School. It being late when we arrived most of the exercises were concluded. We heard some good singing by the class. At the close, by invitation of the teacher, I spoke for a few minutes to the pupils. Dr. Shorttidge did the same We failed to attend meeting today, for the first time. The evening was spent socially. . . .

2-7-70 (M. 28 deg. A.; E. 21 deg. A.)

After spending some little time about the office, we went down the hill and got a team to the ambulance. We all took a ride down to the mission, by way of the Bluffs. Remained at the mission for about two hours. Had a most pleasant time. Then drove around by the mud village. Stopped at the Omaha Agency for a few minutes. Painter did not ask us to come in, but having a little business we went. He did not ask us to be seated. He was glum and silent and just as disagreeable as he could be. Spent the evening at home socially.

2-8-70 (M. 22 deg. A.)

The morning was spent in a social way at home. There seemed to be much to say as the Doctor and wife would be

with us but a short time. During the morning we took a ride out to the school house, and to see some patients. Soon after noon the team came up and I started with Dr. Shortlidge and wife for the Santee Agency. The ride to Sioux City was pleasant, but the road was a familiar one. We remained at St. Elmo hotel, Sioux City all night.

2-9-70 (M. 20 deg. A.; E. 18 deg. A.)

We were on our way by 8 A.M. this morning. For the first five miles of the journey we passed over a very rolling country. The limit of this bluffs country is the Big Sioux river, which we crossed at this point. This river is about 120 feet in width, and spanned by a substantial bridge. From this point to our next stopping place at Elk Point, a distance of 15 miles we drove across a perfectly level plain. The country seemed to be well settled up with good improvements. We arrived at Elk Point about 12 M. and did justice to a good dinner. After a suitable rest we resumed our journey hoping to arrive at Vermillion, which we did about 3.30 P.M. distance from Elk Point 15 miles and from Sioux City 35 miles. Here we took up quarters at the "Adelphi house" kept by Dr. Lyons. Having letter of introduction to Chas. H. True, Editor and Proprietor of the Dakota Republican, and Judge Kidder, we called on these gentlemen, and held most pleasant interviews. Here we met a gentleman formerly from Bucks Co. Rev. P. B. Morrison. With him we had a most pleasant interview. During the evening we attended a "Church Festival" for the benefit of P. B. Morrison's church. Here we saw all the people of the town and surrounding country. The Festival was held in the hall of Lee & Prentis. The exercises consisted of singing, Characters & a good supper. Altogether it was one of the most pleasant gatherings we ever attended. Among the persons met at this place we would mention the following Chas. H. True, Judge Kidder, B. F. Campbell, N. Y. Wallace, Mr. & Mrs. Morrison, Dr. & Mrs. Lewis, H. Y. Austin, and a number of others whose names we do not now remember. At a late hour we retired, feeling well satisfied with this our first visit to Vermillion.

2-10-70 (M. 19 deg. A.; E. 28 deg. A.)

About 8 A.M. this morning we started for Yankton. During the entire portion of the ride we were passing over a level plain. Just after leaving Vermillion, we crossed the Vermillion river, which empties into the Missouri at this point. The country is not so well settled as from Sioux City to Vermillion. There is but one stopping place and that is known as the Eight Mile house. The first view of Yankton is a most beautiful one. As you go up a little rise when within 3 miles of town, it comes suddenly in view. Before coming to this rise we cross the James river, this river is 5 miles from town. The situation of this town site is most handsome. Situated as it is on what is known as the Second bench, it is high and dry, and commands a fine view of the river and surrounding country. This town has many advantages. Its situation is such that it has a good river landing, and a bank that does not waste. We arrived at Yankton about 2:½ P.M. distance from Vermillion 30 miles. We put up at the International Hotel, kept by Boensteel & Brothers. Here we soon met J. C. Dewitt, a partner of H. D. Booge & Co. of Sioux City, and with him we drove all around the town and surrounding country. With him we called on a number of his friends in town including Bremble & Miner, Mr. From, Gov. Edmunds, Mr. McIntire, and a number of others. A railroad is much needed at this place. During the evening a number of gentlemen called at the hotel, and thus the time passed most pleasantly by. A sociable party was held at the hotel during the evening.

2-11-70 (M. 24 deg. A.; E. 18 deg. A.)

About 8 A.M. this morning we left Yankton, hoping to complete our journey during the day. After leaving Yankton we soon came to a country that is but little settled. The country is less flat, and more rolling. The road is but little traveled save by the stage line. Situated 24 miles above Yankton is the town of Bonham. This place is quite small. When about 2 miles above Bonham, we came to a place which had a colored man cutting wood and we asked him to tell us

where we were, and his ready reply was that we were on the Old Stage road and at John Owen's ranche. At this point we left the main road and drove across the bottom for two miles, until we came to the river bank opposite the Agency. We arrived at the river we found that the ice was unsafe to cross, and we hitched the horses to some plum bushes and started to cross on foot. After crossing the river and climbing the bank, which was not a pleasant job for Mrs S. we had a walk of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles across the sand bottom, which was now mud, and water. This walk was a little too much for us all and particularly Mrs S. who seemed more like a rolley "mud ball", than delicate humanity. The cordial reception with which we were met by Asa M. Janney and his family seemed amply to compensate for all the trouble of the trip. After a short rest we went back to the river with A. M. Janney and his men to see what could be done with the horses. Finding it still unsafe to cross there his men took them to a stable near by for the night. By the time of our return to the Agency it was dark, the evening was spent in a social way, there being much to talk about. Distance from Yankton to Santee Agency—28 miles. Distance from Winnebago Agency to the Santee Agency 115 miles.

2-2-70 (M. 14 deg. A.; E. 6 deg. A.)

Took a look around this morning. The buildings at this Agency are built of logs. The one that Doctor S. will occupy is one story and contains but two rooms. Almost all the Indians of this tribe live in log houses, built by themselves. The agent and farmers have each put a story on theirs within a few months. The new saw mill started today for the first. The "Episcopal Mission" building is located near, and is a very fine building, and is under the care of Rev. S. L. Hinaman. The other mission building is built of logs but they intend putting up a new building this season. Brought the horses over the river this morning. The men in this tribe all dress in citizens clothes. B. F. Janney, the farmer, seems to be doing well and is quite popular with the Indians. He has a very interesting wife and baby. Asa Janney's family

seem to think they are in just the place to do a good work. Most of the Indians are living near the Agency. Spent the day in looking around the grounds and seeing all that was new.

2-13-70 "First-day morning" (M. 8 deg. A.; E. 14 D. A.)

This day was spent quietly at the house. Had meeting with the family of the Agent, as is their custom and some of the whites of the agency. Spent much of the time in social conversation on the subject of the Indian Policy. In the evening the Indian Police arrested a white man for bringing whiskey on the reservation. He was locked up to wait the action of the U. S. Marshall, who was at once notified.

2-14-70 (M. 18 deg. A.; E. 24 deg. A.)

Started for home this morning. Rev. S. L. Hinaman came with me. Came as far as Yankton on the Nebraska side. Crossed the river at this point and remained some little time. Saw a number of persons of the town. Drove as far as Vermillion and remained all night. Saw many of the people of this town and called on some.

2-15-70 (M. 20 deg. A.; E. 24 deg. A.)

Took an early start from Vermillion this morning. Dined at E. Point, and arrived in Sioux City at 3:30 P.M. Attended to some business for A. M. Janney. Stopped at the St. Elmo Hotel. One horse a little stiff this evening. Returned soon after tea, as I was in need of rest.

2-16-70 (M. 22 deg. A.; E. 20 deg. A.)

Started for home this morning. Had some difficulty in crossing the river. The ice is quite unsafe. Met B. White about 3 miles from Covington, going to Sioux for his goods. Because of the condition of the river, he turned back, thinking to wait for better times. Stopped some time in Dakota. Arrived at the Agency about 2:30 P.M. Found all well.

Mitchell St. Cyr's little boy broke his arm during my absence and had that to set. Found the people at home busy distributing some goods sent by the New York Friends. Spent the rest of the day and evening giving some account of my trip.

2-17-70 (m 8 deg. A.; E. 24 Deg. A.)

Spent the day at home quietly. Ben. came up. Was appointed station agent for the stage company. Bought some things of Ben. A large number of Patients came in during the day.

2-18-70 (M. 28 deg. A.; E. 14 deg. A.)

Was in the office during a part of the morning. About 10 A. M. went down the hill with Howard to spend a little time with Ben. & wife, as they will leave us today. Bought some things of him including, carpet, blankets and a Hog. Remained down almost until noon. Soon after dinner Ben came up to finish up some business. He left a number of Bills in my hands for collection. When he went down Howard and I went with him to see them off, which we did about 4:30 P.M. B. White, went to Sioux City after some of his goods. Was sorry to see Ben. go, but think that it may have been best that he should do so. Spent the evening writing.

2-19-70 (M. 11 deg. B.; E. 4 deg. B.)

A great change in the temperature this morning. Wind high. Was called out quite early and did not return until almost noon. During the afternoon brought up the things bought of Ben. But few Indians about during the day because of the cold. Postponed the issue of beef until 2nd-day, hoping it will be warmer. The men who went to Sioux City returned almost frozen. Spent the evening in the office writing. . . .

2-21-70 (M. 6 deg. A.; E. 18 deg. A.)

Went down the hill to see some patients about the farm buildings. Quite a number came to the office after

my return. During the afternoon a payment was made on the back account of Late Agent Mathewson. Porter & McClure were present. Was paid \$3 by James Buchanan to be paid to Ben Grosvenor. Spent the evening in filling up the vouchers.

2-22-70 (M. 20 deg. A ; E. 24 Deg. A.)

Howard & wife went to Sioux City this morning. I went down to the river to see some patients, and did not return until noon. Was busy in the office during part of the afternoon. Assisted in packing some ice in the ice-house. A number of children came in for clothes. Spent the evening writing.

2-23-70 (M. 22 deg. A.; E. 28 Deg. A.)

Was out among the sick almost all day. Howard & wife returned about noon. Put in more ice today. Sent some papers to H. W. of Poplar St. Bo't 100 bus. of corn of Harrington for \$50. Will use it for the stage horses. . . .

2-25-70 (M. 38 deg. A.; E. 36 deg. A.)

Went over portions of the bottom where I had never been before. Saw some of the sick. They seem to be wasting much valuable timber. Some goods came from W. D. Stites & Co. Some interesting letters. . . .

March 3-1-70 (M. 37 deg. A.; E. 35 deg. A.)

A most beautiful morning this. Sun is shining brightly—birds singing and every thing indicating spring. Started with Howard in the buggy to Pilgrim Hill to look for some seed wheat. Did not go all the way. During the afternoon I was out among the sick. Visited the "Teepees" near "Young French" and "Old Laughter." Received a letter from Supt. S. M. Janney which stated that he would leave soon (today) for the East. Wrote some letters during the evening.

3-2-70 (M. 32 deg. A.; E. 31 deg. A.)

Wrote some letters this morning. Started for Decatur with Howard, intending to go to Omaha. Get to Decatur about 3 P.M. and put up with A. B. Fuller. Started from Decatur for Tekama, distance of 16 miles, on the "Buck Board" about 7½ P.M. where we arrived about 11 P.M. Was a cold dark ride and could see but little of the country. Crossed 16teen bridges going 16teen miles. Made but one stop—"Silver Creek P.O." Left Tekama for Cummings City—distance 14teen miles, 10 minutes before 12 midnight.

3-3-70 (M. 8 deg. A.; E. 14 deg. A.)

About one oclock this morning it grew cold and commenced to snow and blow. Arrived at Cummings City about 4 A.M.—tired, cold, wet & hungry. Got a little sleep and a good breakfast and started again for Omaha. At Cummings City we left the "Buck Board" and road in a stage known as a "jerker." About two miles from Cummings City is the town of Blair, not yet a year old, containing about 800 inhabitants and growing rapidly. From Blair to Ponca a distance of 20 miles I could see but little of the country as it was yet snowing and the coach was shut up. From Ponca to Florence distance two miles. Florence is an old Mormon town, and now looks deserted, it having been absorbed by Omaha. Florence to Omaha distance 6 miles is a beautiful drive. Stopped at the Barracks to change the mail. Arrived in Omaha about 3.30 P M and found all well. Found the daughter of Asa M. Yanney, Mrs. Thomson. Spent the remainder of the afternoon and evening here looking after things a little. S. M. Janney started East on 3rd-day evening. Found things about as I had hoped. Learned such things from the clerks as was desirable to know. Quit snowing about the middle of the afternoon. Some few sleighs out in the streets during the evening.

A few persons whom I knew called at the office during the evening. Distance from Agency to Omaha 78 miles.

3-4-70 (M. 10 deg. A.; E. 12 Deg. A.)

Spent the day attending to some business and some pleasure. Went to the jail with the folks to see the Pawnee Prisoners. Called at "Brownell Hall" to see a little daughter of Rev. P. B. Morrison of Vermillion. Saw W. Davis. Met Jim Lancaster, Mr. Shotwell & bride arrived at Samuel's from Canada. Spent the evening with the family—and having finished my business will return in the morning. Remained all night at the "Morrison House" that I might not disturb the good folks of the family in the morning.

3-5-70 (M. 8 deg. A.; E. 6 deg. A.)

Left Omaha at an early hour this morning. Had company most all the way up. Post Master from Blair came up from Omaha. Dined at Cummings City and rode from there to Tekama with a Mr. Cooper of that place. The stage horses were so poor they could not bring us. At Tekama saw a lady suffering with pneumonia with the attending Physician when I went down, but found her much improved on my return. Left some "Brandy" for her. Arrived at Decatur about 11 P.M. Put up with A. B. Fuller.

3-6-70 "First-day morning" (M. zero; E. 4 Deg. B.)

A very cold morning this. Remained at the Hotel until noon and then started for the Agency. It was a cold ride. The wind and snow blew which made the ride most unpleasant. Arrived at the Agency about 6 P.M. in the evening. Found a number of letters waiting me. . . .

3-10-70 (M. 26 deg. A.; E. 37 Deg. A.)

A disagreeable morning this. Wind strong north east. Got warmer towards noon and during the afternoon the snow melted rapidly. Bot some hay of "King of Thunder" for the stage barn. Paid him \$6.40 for his stack. Spent some little time down the hill but was busy most of the

time in the office. The book for which I sent "The Great Empress" came today. Think it will be interesting. Spent the evening writing. . . .

3-12-70 (M. 22 Deg. A.; E. 27 Deg. A.)

About two inches of snow on the ground. Trees all covered with ice. Sun shines brightly at times which makes a most beautiful appearance. Called to see Mr. Jones's family—some of them being unwell. During the afternoon *Old Frenchman* fell from his sled coming up the hill and died in a short time. He was the best Indian in the tribe, and his untimely death is much to be regretted. "In the midst of life we are in death."

3-13-70 "First-day" (M. 31 Deg. A.; E. 14 Deg. A.)

A very disagreeable morning. Went over to the funeral of *Frenchman*. The family and friends seemed glad to have us with them. They dressed him in a true Indian costume for burial. He was buried on the hill East of his home. This was a good and faithful Indian and his loss is much to be deplored. . . .

3-14-70 (M. 6 Deg. A.; E. 4 Deg. B.)

About dusk last evening it commenced to storm—being wind and snow. It stormed at a most fearful rate all night and during the entire day. The wind strong north west. But one mail arrived during the day, and that not until evening. The mail from Omaha did not arrive. Was called to see Mrs. St. Cyr about noon. Had fearful time getting to the house. Unless positively compelled no one ventured out during the day. It was unsafe to go. During the afternoon the Thermometer went down to 2 deg. below zero, and the storm increased in violence. At bedtime the Thermometer was still falling and the wind and snow increasing in violence. I think we will soon have some idea of the terror of a snow storm on the Prairies.

3-15-70 (M. 8 deg. B.; E. 6 D. B.)

The storm still continues unabated. Seems to be increasing if that is possible. Have been shut in the house all day. No one attempts to go out. No mail from either way today. This is the first time they have both failed to come. Have not heard from the one from the South since 7th-day. Could not see but a few paces from the house during the day. If any of our Eastern friends would like to know what a Western snow storm is like, here is the place to find out. The storm continued all day with unabated violence. At bedtime no sign of clearing. Completely shut in all day.

3-16-70 (M. 4 Deg. A.; E. 8 Deg. A.)

A little warmer this morning, but the storm still continues. Went down the hill about noon, and found a portion of the roof of the Carpenter shop gone. All the buildings are full of snow. The cattle are not doing well, and the hay is all gone. Dined with Mr. Jones and his family. Got the pony to come home on, but found it quite a job to ride him. About the middle of the afternoon, it seemed to be getting a little lighter, the wind to fall and at last the storm ceased. Just at evening the mail from Decatur came in, it having been detained by the storm at the Omaha Agency. When the mail from Decatur came in the one from the North started to Sioux City. A beautiful sunset—the storm seems to have ended.

3-17-70 (M. 6 deg. A.; E. 34 deg. A.)

A beautiful clear morning. Howard & wife went to Sioux City; also Bart. Spent most of the morning down the hill. Sent "Blow" with the team to draw some hay from "King of Thunder." Want it for the stage A. Paid for it \$4.25 for the drawing \$2.00—total \$6.25, which is charged to B. Grosvenor. The mails did not arrive until quite late this evening. Letter from Vincent Colyer. Quite a large number of Indians about all day. Wrote the letter for them

to send to their friends. It was quite warm during the entire day, which caused most of the snow to melt. . . .

3-19-70 (M. 24 deg. A.; E 32 deg. A.)

A dull wet morning. A little rain fell during the night, but it froze as it fell. It being issue day quite a number of Indians came about. They do not like to stand out in the rain and wet. Was down at the store during the forenoon. Spent the most of the time in the office. Was down the hill part of the time during the issue. A few of the Indians came in for clothes. . . .

3-22-70 (M. 30 deg. A.; E. 28 deg. A.)

Was down the hill during the most of the morning. Went out to Coo-Noo's Camp to see some sick. Was in the office during the afternoon and evening. Quite a number of patients came in to the office during the afternoon. Wrote some letters to the friends of the different Indians. Spent the evening writing. Sam'l Richey, one of the herders, left today. . . .

3-24-70 (M. 29 deg. A.; E. 34 deg. A.)

The snow almost all gone. Was in and about the house most of the day. Very muddy. A large number of Indians in most of the time. . . .

3-25-70 (M. 37 deg A.; E. 44 deg. A.). . . .

Saw during the evening a copy of "The Covington News" a paper just started. It bids fair to be a good country paper. Very muddy all day, but seems to be drying.

3-26-70 (M. 38 deg. A.; E. 37 deg. A.). . . .

Walter spent the day fixing McClure's old store-house, so that Sidney can hold school in it. The ground is drying rapidly today. Went down to the store during the afternoon. Read "Joseph & His friends" in the "Atlantic Monthly."

Sent an article to the "News" at Covington. Bot some more hay for the stage barn. Spent the evening writing reading &c.

3-27-70 "First-day" (M. 48 deg. A.; E. 37 deg. A.)

A most beautiful morning this. Everything seems to indicate the near approach of spring. Went out with Howard to look at the "breaking" to see if it would do to "drag" in the morning. The frost is not out quite enough. . . . Going across to meeting we set the prairie on fire in a number of places, and some of the hills were in a blaze. After dinner we went out the other way and started fires, some of which were most beautiful. A great number of geese & ducks went over during the day.

3-28-70 (M. 40 deg. A.; E. 38 deg. A.)

A warm rainy wet morning. It rained until about 9 A. M. when it turned to snow and continued so to do until bed-time. About 6 in. of snow had fallen by this time. It was very wet and heavy. A small boy living with A. St. Cyr was kicked by a pony. Had his wounds to dress. The snow and mud together make the traveling almost impossible.

Remained in the house most of the day. Spent the evening writing an article for the "Omaha Herald."

3-29-70 (M. 40 deg. A.; E. 47 deg. A.)

Still snowing this morning, and by the quantity on the ground it continued to do so all night. Is now about 14 in. in depth. It is so wet and heavy that you get through it with much difficulty. Was down the hill to see the boy that was hurt. Remained in the office most of the day. Wrote up some of the returns. It continued to snow and rain all day.

3-30-70 (M. 37 deg. A.; E. 30 deg. A.)

Quit snowing during the night. Snow 10 inches deep. Started for Sioux City on the sled with Howard. He went

to Nixon's and I then rode to Sioux on the pony. Arrived there about 3½ P.M. The traveling was very hard the mud almost knee deep. Sent \$355 to E & N. S. Paxson. Transacted some business for the agency. Put up at St. Elmo.

3-31-70 (M. 37 deg. A.; E. 32 deg. A.)

Sioux City a town of mud. Crossed the river in a skiff. Started back about 9 A.M. Snow melting rapidly. Had to ford some streams. Never did see such mud and water to wade in. Arrived in the Agency about 2½ P.M. Spent the remainder of the day assisting to pay off. Received a letter from Benj. Hallowell.

April 4-1-70 (M. 39 deg. A.; E. 40 deg. A.)

This morning John Calkins, moved from the Agency house to his own, and Howard White took charge of the housekeeping department. A warm day and the snow has melted rapidly—which makes the mud almost impassable. Remained in the house all day, assisted some about the house and wrote at the "Quarterly Reports."

4-2-70 (M. 44 deg. A.; E. 41 deg. A.)

A most beautiful morning, The mud almost gone. The ground dried very rapidly during the day. Bought a nice "Bay Pony" in partnership with "Walt"—for \$65. Bo't. him of Little Thunder's son. Was quite busy most of the day in the office. . . .

4-4-70 (M. 45 deg. A.; E. 40 deg. A.)

A nice morning and the ground quite dry. All the morning was spent down at the stable, seeing the oxen yoked for to drag the wheat ground. The first of the wheat sown today. Was out to the field. Spent the afternoon and evening writing at the Q's returns [quarterly report]. . . .

4-6-70 (M. 42 deg. A.; E. 38 deg. A.)

A little damp this day. A number of cattle came in this morning, and an issue was made. Had quite a job shooting them because of the want of a good shooting iron. Drove them up along the creek in a bend to shoot them, because of the mud in the usual place. Mr. F. Carter from Dakota, came up to look for some Indian whom he thinks robbed his store to the amount of \$300, on the 17th, of March. I went to Decatur to see Robt. Hoy. Put up at Fullers. Mr. Hoy had gone to St. John's hence I could not see him. During the evening Capt. L. C. Leaming & Porter with some friends called late in the evening Went to the home with Capt. Porter, and spent a pleasant evening with him & family.

4-7-70 (M. 40 deg. A.; E. 49 deg. A.)

Got up and found it raining a little this morning. During the night some one came to the door and wanted me to go across the river into town to see a sick person. Did not go because there were those in town whose business it was to go. Called on C. F. Leaming at his home this morning. He has a fine situation for a house. Arrived at home about noon. Got a little wet. Spent the afternoon and evening writing at the "Q. Reports." . . .

4-10-70 "First-day morning" (M. 45 deg. A.; E. 57 deg. A.)

A little dull this morning, with a little rain. In company with Bart., Walt; and Camin, I went to the lake for ducks—got four and those we bought of an Indian. Was absent until sunset. Had a good time. Had my first ride in an Indian Canoe. Rained but little during the day with a bright evening. . . .

4-12-70 (M. 49 deg. A.; E. 77 deg. A.)

Went down the hill for a time this morning. Finished up the "Returns" and mailed them to Supt. Janney, at Omaha. Spent the afternoon looking after some patients.

4-13-70 (M. 64 deg. A.; E. 72 deg. A.)

A heavy Thunder shower during the night. A very warm day. Walt working on the stable. Now moving the scales. A number of Patients in. Went to Prophet's ravine. Went out to the wheat field. The grass is getting quite green. A number of interesting letters from the East. . . .

4-15-70 (M. 20 deg. A.; E. 22 deg. A.). . . .

Went down to "Good Thunder's Camp to see Sarah Fisher, who was bad hurt last evening by the "American woman." Has been very cold and windy all day. . . .

4-16-70 (M. 24 deg. A.; E. 20 deg. A.)

Joe Averill, returned from Sioux City, with the goods including a lot of medicine. The demand is very great at this time. Howard was unwell. Spent a part of the afternoon in "Young Prophet's" ravine. Spent the evening writing. . . .

4-19-70 (M. 58 deg. A.; E. 64 deg. A.)

Went down the hill to see and shoot some cattle. Had good luck. Remained down until almost noon. Was in the office all the afternoon attending to the wants of those who came in. Wrote some letters in the evening. . . .

4-21-70 (M. 64 deg. A.; E. 70 deg. A.)

Went to "Old Laughter's ravine this morning. Saw a large number of patients. Howard & Calkins went to Sioux City. Jones finished putting in the wheat in the big field today. Has been a most beautiful day. Spent but little time in the office. . . .

4-27-70 (M. 63 deg. A.; E. 60 deg. A.)

A most beautiful morning. Spent all the forenoon out among the Indians. During the afternoon a number of

them came for medicine. At this time the Indians, are too much unsettled—the cause is uncertain but I feel sure that it is deep seated and will cause trouble to some one. . . .

4-29-70 (M. 64 deg. A.; E. 72 deg. A.)

This has been a most beautiful day. Went up this morning to see Mr. Averill, who is quite sick. Remained at the field and saw the plowing teams start. They do well after they get started but it requires some time to start them. . . .

5-6-70 (M. 58 deg. A.; E. 50 deg. A.)

Rained hard almost all night. Capt. Leaming and his party came in this morning. They had a rough time last night. The storm broke up the tent and they were compelled to remain in the wet all night. . . .

5-7-70 (M. 50 deg. A.; E. 48 deg. A.)

Not raining but is quite dull this morning. No issue of beef because of the wet. A large number of Indians in the office during the day. . . . The mails have been quite irregular during the storm.

5-8-70 "First-day morning" (M. 49 deg. A.; E. 58 deg. A.)
. . . .

Leaming and his party went out to Camp this afternoon. But few claims taken yet. . . .

5-10-70 (M. 68 deg. A.; E. 74 deg. A.)

Spent all the morning out among some patients. Was in the office during the remainder of the day. Received a number of interesting letters.

5-11-70 (M. 68 deg. A.; E. 70 deg. A.)

Went out this afternoon and planted some watermelons. Was in the office during the remainder of the day.

5-12-70 (M. 70 deg. A.; E. 79 deg. A.)

Spent most of the time in the house after returning from seeing the surveyor and his party. No Indians out taking allotments. Has been a most beautiful day.

5-13-70 (M. 71 deg. A.; E. 70 deg. A.)

Went down the hill to the camp of Little De Cori'i to see some sick. Returned at noon. Heard that Supt. Janney would be up during the day. He arrived about dusk.

5-14-70 (M. 72 deg. A.; E. 81 deg. A.)

Spent the day with Supt. Janney looking at the wheat, the issues &c. Howard & wife returned from Omaha during the afternoon.

5-15-70 "First-day morning" (M. 74 deg. A.; E. 80 deg. A.)

We all attended the First—day school Had a large and interesting meeting during the afternoon. E. Painter and some of the folks from the Omaha Agency came up. Has been a most beautiful day.

5-16-70 (M. 70 deg. A.; E. 80 deg. A.)

At an early hour this morning the Indians commenced to assemble at the school house to "Council" with Supt. Janney. A large portion of the tribe was present. The council was a long and tedious one.

They complained of almost every thing. Much of their complaint was about the Agent. They seem much unsettled at this time.

5-17-70 (M. 74 deg. A.; E. 80 deg. A.)

Went up to pull a tooth for Chas Potter, at Omadi. Spent the remainder of the day in the office. Howard held a council with the chiefs at the school house. Remained in the office during the remainder of the day.

5-18-70 (M. 70 deg. A.; E. 80 D. A.)

Time spent much as usual. Chiefs held a council. Went up to see Potter. . . .

5-21-70 (M. 63 deg. A.; E. 83 deg. A.). . . .

Capt. Leaming quit the survey and went home this morning. Issue of Beef but no flour. The creek was so high that the cattle could not cross. The medicine came down this evening. Spent most of the time in the office attending to the wants of the patients. It was quite warm during the latter part of the day.

5-22-70 "First-day morning" (m. 74 deg. A.; E. 76 deg. A.)

A very warm morning. Information came that Supt. Janney, accompanied by Joseph Mead of Ohio, Benjamin Chase of New York, would be at the Agency and hold a meeting at 4 P.M. They came at the appointed time and a very satisfactory "Council" or "meeting" was held. They took tea at Sidney's and remained over night with Howard. They seem like quite pleasant, jovial persons. A party from the Omaha Agency came with them.

5-23-70 (M. 60 deg. A.; E. 74 deg. A.)

A little cool this morning. Supt. and party took a ride out in the direction of the river to see the conditon of the timber. Returned about noon. They spent the remainder of the day in looking around the reserve generally.

5-24-70 (M. 67 deg. A.; E. 70 deg. A.)

Last evening the Indians got up a general "scare" about the Sioux Indians. It was reported that the Omahas had seen some out on the Logan. The Supt. and the "Friends" held a council with the Indians during the morning. During the afternoon they talked building &c.

5-25-70 (M. 63 deg. A.; E. 74 deg. A.)

Last evening a report was circulated that some of the tribe had been out on a hunt and killed a white man. Last evening two men came from West Point, Cumming Co., to look after the subject and learn what they could. During the day the five Indians who had been out were arrested and examined. There was no evidence against them, except the fact that they had been out in that direction at that time. They were discharged for want of evidence.

5-26-70 (M. 73 deg. A.; E. 80 deg. A.)

This morning the Friends started for the Santee Agency, but on going down the hill they found another witness who knew something about the case. They came back and had the Indians again arrested and placed in jail to wait the demand of the proper officer. The murdered man was named Oscar P. Munsen, and lived in Wayne Co. directly west of the Reservation. There is great excitement about the subject now. The "Friends" left for the Santee Agency this afternoon. . . .

5-28-70 (M. 72 deg. A.; E. 82 deg. A.)

The sun has been quite warm all day. Was out most of the forenoon attending to the sick. A large number came to the office. The flour and beef were issued. J. Calkins had some trouble with the Indians during the issue of flour. They seem quite rampacious.

5-29-70 "First-day morning" (M. 73 deg. A.; E. 84 deg. A.)

. . . .

At dusk this evening a party from below Decatur came up to see about those Indians who committed the murder. . . .

5-31-70 (M. 71 deg. A.; E. 78 deg. A.)

Was out all the morning. The cattle were issued today. A party from West Point came for the five Indians. They will start in the morning. So ends the month of May. J. A. P.

June

6-1-70 (M. 74 deg. A.; E. 87 deg. A.) . . .

The party from West Point who came last evening—started with the Indians this morning. They went with the officers very quietly. The Indians are White Spirit, James White Breast, John Casimony, James McCloskey & Black Hawk.

Howard finished issuing the cattle and then started for West Point. Went to see Porter in the afternoon and found him much improved. Bart went to Sioux City. The cattle that were issued yesterday are roaming over the prairie wild. Has been a very warm day.

6-2-70 (M. 73 deg. A.; E. 84 deg. A.)

Spent a part of the morning notifying the policemen to arrest the parties who were slaughtering the cattle. Went up to Omadi to see Mr. Hubbard. Was in the office a part of the afternoon. Just at evening the Supt. and the committee returned from the Santee Agency. Spent the evening quite pleasantly [not clear] telling of the trip.

6-3-70 (M. 77 deg. A.; E. 83 deg. A.)

Was out during the most of the morning. The Supt. held a council with the Indians during the afternoon. The young men made all kinds of fine promises and asked to have all the old chiefs removed. Said they would abandon the "medicine dance" &c. I fear that if they attempt that thing they will get into any amount of trouble. B. Chase is quite ignorant of Indian Character but presumes to know all about them. He blunders hugely. Jos. Mead is more moderate and does well.

6-4-70 (M. 64 deg. A.; E. 74 deg. A.)

A very warm morning. Chase & Jos. Mead left for the Omaha Agency & Supt. remained hoping to see Agent White, before he returns. The regular issues came off today. Howard came from West Point this evening. The five prisoners were sent to Fremont to jail to await their trial. The feeling in that country is quite strong against them.

6-5-70 "First-day morning" (M. 81 deg. A.; E. 83 deg. A.)

A most beautiful morning. There was a large an interesting meeting at the school house. A large number of Indians in attendance. It was one of the most impressing meetings ever held here. After dinner Supt. Janney, went to the Omaha Agency, where he intends holding a meeting. Spent most of the afternoon reading, writing &c. . . .

6-10-70 (M. 63 deg. A.; E. 72 deg. A.)

Much warmer this morning. Spent the entire day out among the Indians. Was down to the camp of "Little De Corii" and saw a large number of the sick. A large number are complaining of sore eyes. . . .

6-11-70 (M. 69 deg. A.; E. 73 D. A.)

A large number of Indians, about the office. They are bringing back the bottles that they have had. Got a large number. Went down to the "Beef issue" and tried the new pistol. Was in the office during the afternoon. Spent the evening reading. A nice shower during the afternoon. Just at dark Andrew Hunter came for me stating that his child was dying. It had swallowed a piece of the sulphur cutfire. Got well again in a short time. . . .

6-15-70 (M.70 deg. A.; E. 79 deg. A.)

Was detained at the office most of the morning. Went out to "Coo-noo's" Camp just before dinner. Howard & wife went to Sioux City. At 4 oclock this afternoon Rev. Mr. Van Doozen, preached at the school house to the Indians. Quite a large number of them were present. Practiced with a revolver after tea. . . .

6-16-70 (M. 71 deg. A.; E. 77 deg. A.)

During the afternoon Howard returned bringing with him Thomas Foulke & son of New York. Spent the evening socially. . . .

6-18-70 (M. 74 deg. A.; E. 79 deg. a.)

A large number of Indians out as usual at Issue. Vaccinated a number of children this morning. A council was held and a number of new chiefs appointed. The chiefs of the tribe are now as follows. B. L. Porter, Big Head, No-so-ho-Kaw, Lieut. Uptail, Chas. English, Otter Smith, James Race, John Coe-Noo, Chas. Mallorii, Robert Lincoln, Henry M. Rice & Alf St. Cyr.

During the council each of the old chiefs made a retiring speech. Some nice some not much so. Grey Wolf made a flaming speech—denouncing everything and everybody. At his close he went out and saw "Butter Milk" my pony standing at the door and he threw the saddle from him and mounted and rode off like a flash. The excitement seemed to run high just at that time. Just at the close of the council, Lieut. De Lany of the 9th U. S. Infantry and a squad of men rode up to the door. These men had been sent to "Plum Creek" by Gen. Augur to quiet the settlers in that country. The Lieut. came at a good time. Just at dusk "Grey Wolf" sent the pony home, stating that he had been to consult the Spirit of his brother "Little Priest" who was a very brave man.

6-19-70 "First-day morning" (M. 79 deg. a.; E. 88 deg. A.)

A large meeting at the school house, but I did not attend. . . .

6-20-70 (M. 78 deg. A.; E. 94 D.A.)

Went to Sioux City. Took Thomas Foulke & son. Met Joshua Lippincott, wife & son. Remained over night at Dakota City. Saw some friends & talked some business. Therm. stood 102 at Boogee's at noon. . . .

6-22-70 (M. 78 deg. A.; E. 89 deg. A.)

Commenced to take the census this morning. Assisted during the morning but went to Sioux City in the afternoon—will be absent a day or two. Was most oppressing warm all

day. Arrived in Sioux City about 6 P.M. Put up at the St. Elmo. Spent the evening with some friends.

6-23-70 (M. 71 deg. A.; E. 89 deg. A.)

A most beautiful morning. Found the town all excitement about the proposed visit of the "Wisconsin Editors." There was about 225 expected, including the Governor and other officials. Every arrangement was made to treat them well. Give them a dinner, a ride and show them the town generally. A dispatch was received about 7:½ A.M. stating that they would not come as they had been invited to a "Dance" at Des Moines, Iowa. This did not suit the Sioux City people much. They thought it was a gross insult. Mayor D. F. Hedges telegraphed that the people thought they should have kept their promise. In company with Mr. Smith & wife of Watertown, N. York, & Emma Robinson of Sioux City, I had a pleasant ride around the town. Visited the various places of interest around the town. Saw Mr. Conner at the Northwestern. Had a most pleasant time during the entire day and evening. Very warm—but a pleasant shower during the afternoon. . . .

6-25-70 (M. 77 deg. A.; E. 89 deg. A.)

Spent most of the time in the office. Packed my trunk. During the afternoon went down home to Decatur with Capt. S. F. Leaming. Arrived there about 8½ P.M. Spent the evening quite pleasantly in a social way. . . .

6-27-70 (M. 72 D. A.; E. 83 deg. A.)

Took my final departure from the Agency this morning. B. White Jr. brought me to Sioux City. Spent the remainder of the day in town seeing some friends and making some purchases. Left my trunk and a box of books with John H. Charles, to be sent to me at Phila. when I shall so direct.

6-28-70 (M.87 D. A.)

Spent the forenoon about town most pleasantly. seem to feel a great loath to leave this place. Think much of the

town and its people. At 1½ P.M. took the train for Missouri Valley on my road to St Louis. Miss Robinson of Sioux City went as far as Council Bluffs. Had to remain about two [?] at Missouri Valley for the train. Mr. Griffy of Dakota City, Neb. was with us on his way to Omaha. Put up for the night at the Pacific house.

6-29-70 (M. 89 deg. A.; E. 97 D. A.)

At 7½ A.M. was again on my road for St Louis. Arrived at Kansas City at 5½ P.M. A very dusty ride — but through much good country. From Council Bluffs to St. Joe the country seems like one vast corn field. From St. Joe to Kansas City we found the wheat harvest completed. Met a number of interesting people on the train — some from St. Joe., Kansas City and Lexington.

6-30-70 (M. 98 deg. A.)

Took a sleeping car last night and I knew nothing until morning. Arrived in St. Louis at 6½ A.M. Went direct to 22nd & Clark Avenue, to see J. M. Good. Found him & wife well and he is doing a good business. Thus was my "diary." Have kept it during the past year in full. Shall remain a few days with J.N.Y. and then go to Oconomowoc Wisconsin. Am well satisfied to quit the diary business. To all who may see this in the future, I am most respectfully

J. A. Paxson, M.D.

10-13-1886

Dr. E. G. Shortledge & wife spent this evening with us. This was the first time that we had seen one another since 1870. They came on our invitation. Mrs. Paxson had never met with the Doctor or his wife. She was much pleased with both. The Doctor is now and has been for about 16 yrs. in the practice of medicine at Wilmington, Delaware.— We will hope for a continuance of the friendly intercourse, thus taken up after the lapse of so many years.