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Reverend Daniel S. Buttrick Diary  
1838- 1839

Thursday, Oct. 4, 1838 - Left Brainerd with my dear wife for the Cherokee camps, near Mr. Vann's. Thus we leave this place, perhaps never to return. O what scenes of distress we have experienced here for two years past; yet the Lord has been kind and sustained us under all our afflictions, so that the water floods have not overflowed us. And now I set out for Arkansas, bound in spirit, feeling that afflictions await us. We went seven miles to Mr. E. Nave's.

Friday (Oct. 5) We proceeded to the camps and pitched our tent near those of Brother McPhearson. The night, however, was rendered peculiarly distressing by the almost constant yell of drunkards, passing and repassing to and from a whiskey shop set up by a white man to ensnare the poor Indians.

Saturday (Oct. 6) Spent in visiting our dear Cherokee friends, and at evening held a prayer meeting at the camp of Bro: I. Reese.

Sabbath (Oct. 7) Preached from the following words, "There remaineth, therefore, a rest for the people of God." The scene was interesting; and at candlelight we held a prayer meeting. Just before dark Bro. Hawk was brought to the camps. He seems just gone with a consumption. He was taken from the waggons and laid on the ground with a bed under him. A tent was formed over him with two bed quilts, to keep off the night air. Yesterday I visited the members of the church and made arrangements for all the heads of families to attend family worship at the same time; soon after daylight in the morning, and at candlelight, the horn to be blown as a signal, by Br. Pridget. At the time of early evening prayer, after the blowing of the trumpet the scene was delightful. We were rejoiced to hear the praisers of God, in Cherokee, ascending from so many places at the same time but without confusion. Encampment 12 miles from Brainerd's, (Mon.- Oct. 8, 1838) Visited several camps, - find many sick with the ague, fever, and some children with the whooping cough. A number of the old people are unwell, and yet have to sleep in the open air, for the want of shelter. Spent a few minutes with Judge Adair, and sent a letter by him to Mr. Ross relative to reports that he has advised the 'A' Board to take the Valuation

money awarded by the treaty. He told the Assistant Commissary that it was the arrangement for Mrs. Buttrick and myself and have to be provided for on the journey the same as Cherokees. We accordingly drew provisions as necessary.

Tuesday (Oct. 9) Assisted Br. Moses in making a shed near our tent. Many of our Cherokee friends started this morning for the agency to ask the money for their improvements, but were turned back by learning that General Scott would allow no Cherokees to visit him without a permit from their respective directors.

Wednesday (Oct. 10) Visited several camps where were more or less sick previous- found one family in which the man was sick with the flux, and two children with the whooping cough,- discovered the woman to be Harriet Newel, sister of John Newton who died at Cornwall, former scholars of Brainerd School. She talks good English and reads, though she has now no book. Her husband being unwell, cannot sleep at night on account of the cold. They lived in the limits of Georgia, and when compelled to leave their house, they had no opportunity to take any of their furniture; and though she went back to get her bed, etc, yet the whites had taken everything from her house, and then stripped them naked. They have no blankets to keep them warm, nor house to shelter them, though, at my suggestion some young men split a few long shingles this afternoon and made a roof over them. They also split some shingles to shelter a poor old man who was sick. At our delight we held a prayer meeting at Bro. Jesse's camp. Mr. Taylor and his family arrived, and camped after dark. A little before noon Bro. Vail arrived from Brainerd. He brought us fifty dollars.

Friday (Oct. 12) Visited Bro. Hawk- enquired how he was, he said he thought he should not live long,- said he was not afraid to die; he had committed, or assigned himself wholly to the Saviour, and desired to be with Him. I told him it was probable he could not live long. He said he thought he should soon be at rest with the Lord. I could but weep for joy, because about two weeks ago, when he camped across the creek from Brainerd, I spoke to him about dying and he seemed alarmed. He said his mind was sometimes dark, so that he could not pray, and that this gave him much trouble. He has been a consistent member of the church some time. A few days after this he desired to be brought near the mission house that we could pray with him, and when he was brought here

to the camps, he was put down two or three rods from our tent, where he still lies, having bed quilts put over him for a tent. And though exposed in a great degree to the night air, yet he expresses no complaints, but seems intent only on leaving this land of sorrow to join the redeemer above. O what gratitude is due to the great head of the Church for such infinite Condescension to the dear lambs of his flock in this dark and stormy night of affliction. We understand that the detachments have gone on, and another is now crossing the river. O will the Lord have mercy on this poor people, and save them from ruin.

Saturday (Oct. 13) Soon after breakfast a little girl came from Bro. Hawk's camp and told us he was dead. We were surprised at the suddenness of the event, and went to him while his flesh was still warm, and wept over him, but his spirit had fled, and nothing remained but senseless clay. O how quick the transit from time to eternity, and how sudden the change from earth to heaven. Yesterday he longed to be with Christ, saying that he alone could deliver him from sin, and now in the fullness of joy, he triumphs in redeeming love, basking in the sun beams, of eternal noon. Many of our brethren and friends assembled, and appointed individuals to make preparations for burying the corpse. They could find no boards however for a coffin. I went therefore with Bro. Moses to some white family at a length found some loose plank in a loft, which we purchased to our delight. We held a prayer meeting, was held at Br. Jesse's tent.

Sabbath (Oct. 14) Soon after breakfast our dear Brethren Chamberlain and Vail arrived. This gave us peculiar joy. About noon Bro. C. preached to a large congregation, and after the meeting we attended the remains of our dear Br. Hawk to the grave, about a mile distant. Bro. C. and myself rode forward then, the corpse in the waggon, and then Mr. Taylor, followed by a long procession. Our dear Bro. Chamberlain spent the night with us, and though it was rainy, yet we all slept dry, some in the tent and some in the Carryall. O how kind that the wind and lightning are stayed, all is still.

Monday (Oct. 15) Bro. Chamberlain left for Brainerd, expecting to leave in the morning for New York or Boston. Visited a number of sick persons. Homany Smith says he prays. An old woman told us

she had formerly prayed, and had much happiness in that duty. She appears almost like a Christian. Many are sick with the ague and fever, and seem to have no opportunity to recover; as the cold air of every night exposes them to a relapse.

Tuesday (Oct. 16) Brother David Sanders and family arrived to go in this detachment. They bring the news that most of them sent from Ross landing last summer are dead, and those not dead are mostly sick. O where is our dear Bro. Epinetus and family, and dear Bro. Samuel and Isaac, and those dear trembling prisoners who spent the night at our house.

Wednesday (Oct. 17) Bro. Moses who is still with us is very sick. A little before sunset a woman died, who has been sick a number of months. We hear also that Smoker is dead. He has run his race. Probably he was about 40 years old, and has long been a curse to himself and a terror to his friends, having elevated himself to drinking, fighting, swearing, and every thing almost hateful to God, and destructive to man. A week before he was in eternity he was riding through the camps here, in his drinking frolics; not long since in a drunken fight he had his under jaw broken. His death was sustained by a shot from his own son in law, when neither of them appeared to have been intoxicated. At candlelight we held a prayer meeting. We returned but were long prevented from sleep by drunkards. O will our Lord have mercy on them.

Thursday (Oct. 18) The weather was very rainy, and our situation in the woods rather unpleasant. Afternoon attended the funeral of a girl who died last evening. On visiting the camp, found several persons who will not probably remain long in this world. Two are members of the Methodist Society, and seems prepared to leave this world. One is a member of Hawk's Church. She says she feels resigned to the will of God. Two others I fear, have no hope. The night was rainy, and though Bro. Moses had taken medicine to prevent the ague during the day, yet the cold and dampness of night brought it on, and he called me saying that he wished to get up, and sit by the fire. But the fire being outdoors, and the place all wet, and having no wood cut for a fire, I requested him to keep still till morning. As my dear wife, and myself slept in our little Carryall, we could scarcely move without being exposed to the rain.

Friday (Oct. 19) As the tent cloth was wet, and everything damp about us, Moses concluded to go to Bro. James Pridget's tent, as he has a roof to sleep under. The white man living near has obtained another supply of whiskey, and the poor Cherokees are swarming to him for the deadly poison, so that at night we could enjoy but little sleep.

Saturday (Oct. 20) The drinking still continues. Mr. Hog, a white man married to a Cherokee; viz- Bro. McPhearson's sister, has come with his family within a rod of our tent., and is peculiarly devoted to drinking, swearing, etc. I spoke to him but found his mind calous to Divine things. He went off with another drunken white man, and coming home in a state of intoxication, gave vent to the awful blasphemies of his heart. Mrs. Buttrick and myself both concluded at once we would not stay where we must be constantly exposed to hear the name of our Blessed God and Saviour thus blasphemed, and supposing that all further means to prevent it would be useless, I went out in search of another place for our tents, but as we came to this place according to the request of Bro. McPhearson, I concluded not to leave it without seeing him, and as he was absent till near night we deferred moving till Monday. At night however, on conversing with Mr. Hog, he promised to desist entirely from the use of profane language, and as Bro. McPhearson was unwilling to have us move our tent, we concluded to remain for the present. At night the woods around us seemed filled with drunkards, who went about yelling like dogs all night long, so that we could not sleep till the latter part of the night.

Sabbath (Oct.21) Many are still drinking, others are chopping, and shooting and playing cards, while some are out after chestnuts, About noon we assembled for public worship, but the congregation was smaller than usual. I spoke on the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures, and some of the solemn truths established in them. On returning to our tent, we saw a company in the woods playing cards. I went to them and remonstrated with them on the wickedness and dangers of their course. After a few minutes they put up their cards. The evening was as the morning devoted to wickedness, and the wilderness resounded with the yells of the drunkards. White men flocked in from every quarter, some to

collect debts, some to sell cabbages, or other things, and some simply to walk about, seeking whom they might devour, leading the unwary Indians down to death. During the night we slept but little, about midnight two white men came to Mr. Hog's tent, and though they talk low, yet their blasphemies were now and then audible. The white men in this country generally seem devoid of moral principles, and I do sometimes very much doubt whether any true Christian has ever been left to unite in the present method of robbing the Indians of their country.

Monday (Oct. 22) Soon in the morning a poor Cherokee woman came to our tent, saying she could not live so. She had been kept awake all night long by drunkards, and was almost worn out. I told her I would mention the subject to Mr. Taylor. I then took a paper to get the names of such as would agree to get wood Saturday, so as to avoid chopping on the Sabbath, and found the Cherokees generally ready to unite in the nuisance. Mr. Taylor had already requested some soldiers to be sent to stop if possible the selling of liquor.

Tuesday (Oct. 23) Visited the sick. One man especially seems at the point of death.

Thursday (Oct. 25) Arose before day and started for Brainerd- found sister Vail sick with a fever, and Bro. Vail himself unwell. All seemed rather gloomy- put together a box of books, etc., and returned.

Monday (Oct. 29) Spoke yesterday from 1 Cor. 2:2 after which WELOOKA preached. He is a Cherokee Methodist preacher. He says Mr. Cummins told him he must continue to preach on the way, either in connexion with me, or by himself, as he thought best. He said he wanted to write down the names of all who belonged to the Methodist Society. I told him if he was willing to forget the name of Methodist, Presbyterian etc., I should be willing to have meetings with him, but if his object was to support a party he had better be by himself, or to that effect- That we had no idea of receiving any members to our Church while on the road, but simply instruct sinners in the doctrines of the gospel and lead them to Christ.

Tuesday (Oct. 30) Last evening a little child perhaps a year old died with the bowel complaint, and today was committed to the grave.

Wednesday (Oct. 31) At candlelight the brethren of Brainerd and Hawk's Churches assembled at James Pridget's tent, and adopted resolutions to the following effect, viz- that while on the road they would spend the Sabbath in the worship of God, as far as is practicable- that they would regard their spiritual interests in selecting plans to settle in the West- That they would not unite in Christian fellowship with those who made, signed or executed the New Echota treaty, without a confession on their part, and that they would not recognize Mr. Schemerhorn as a minister, or even as a common Christian. All united in the above resolutions but Johnson Reese. He is doubtless influenced by his father and brothers, who evidently favour the treaty, and have moved to the West agreeable to its requisitions. But I am sorry to find that this in them is connected with other un Christian preachers. His father, Charles Reese, was a few years ago, accused of criminal intercourse with a young woman. This was brought before the session but could not be proved. The young woman had a child which was said to resemble his other children. In the course of time she had a second, yet we could scarcely believe him guilty, though it appears now that the young woman told her sister Caty that Mr. Reese was the father of the children, and was to return for her this fall, as he went with his family to the West, last year.

Accordingly he came back last September, and it seems, often visits the woman, and now has taken her and all her fathers family into his own waggon, and is taking them on in Brown's detachment to the West. Wm. Reese his son, is still a minister of the Church, but has for a long time absented himself from the house and worship of God, and manifests no interest whatever in religious society or Christian duties. I fear there is not one who has favoured this treaty who has any true love to God. Mr. Boudinot united with the Church at Cornwall, yet after he returned, he went to a ball play on the Sabbath, and I requested him afterward to acknowledge his faith before the Church at Cornwall, but though he spoke to the people at the meeting, yet, I afterward learned that he said nothing about his fault, and I presume had not to this time by way of acknowledgement.

(Thursday) Nov. 1, 1838 About 9 O'clock we started with the detachment to cross the river, to go this week to the foot of Waldern's Ridge, 10 miles. We were among the first who crossed. One waggon with five horses, came within a hair's breadth, almost of sinking, the water coming within about an inch of the top of the gunnels at one corner. After crossing the river, our road ran a side hill, and was scarcely wide enough for a waggon to pass. The road formerly ran at the foot of the hill, but the man who owned the land turned it on the side. The Court would not for some time accept the road. The forward waggons stopped, and as Mr. Taylor was behind, I went about half a mile to see the owner of the land to obtain permission to go through his field. The corn was picked and thrown in heaps, and as we had no loose horses, no damage could apprehended. Yet I told the man, if he would allow us to drive our waggons through, we would pay all damages and he himself might be the judge, but he would allow the fence to be taken down. He said the road, in the narrowest place, was eight feet wide, though by actual measurement it was but 5 and one-half feet of firm ground. He swore we should not pass through his field, and of course we were obliged to keep the road. One loaded waggon ran off, but was caught and propped up, till unloaded, and then got onto the road. Another turned over entirely though nothing was broken. At length, all the waggons which had crossed the river, got over this dangerous place and camped, having about a quarter of a mile to go for water. We kindled our



fires, and hoped for a quiet night, but the whites had met the detachment on this side- the river, with a barrel of whiskey, and tempted some to drink, some of them were one side and some the other. On one side was a Cherokee by the name of Big Dollar, who had a company with him, singing, fighting and yelling almost all night long; and on the other side was a white man from the neighborhood, as I supposed, were drinking and swearing nearly the whole night. O the awful oaths we were obliged to hear from their mouths. We could scarcely sleep at all the whole night. When we arose in the morning, I went off some distance and kindled a fire, determined to hear such infernal language no longer, if I could possibly avoid it. Soon the Company started, while we stopped with a dear Cherokee family to attend prayers. After this we went on about six miles to the foot of Waldern's ridge, where the detachment were all to assemble before the Sabbath. On arriving at this place we selected a spot for our tent far from those families who gave us so much distress last night; and I told the people plainly that I would not hear the name of the Blessed God thus impiously profaned, if we could possibly avoid it. Here we enjoyed a quiet rest, and before bedtime our dear Bro. David Sanders, James and Nicholas Sanders encamped near us.

Saturday (Nov. 3) O how quietly we rested, and how peaceful was all around us during the night. O what a hell must it be to be confined with blasphemers forever and ever. My dear wife and myself both thought secretly of this, and would only pray that the Lord never shut us up with his enemies. O Thou dear Saviour is not thine hands all our delight and our portion forever? Before night a white man brought a barrel of whiskey near the camps, and succeeded in tempting many of the Cherokees to drink. Among others was one who had professed religion. This man threatened to kill Judge Adair because he would not lend him 100 dollars in money.

Sabbath (Nov. 4) The drinking still continues. Last night was very rainy, so that we could scarcely keep dry in our little Carryall, and many of the Cherokees, having no tents, were soaking wet, lying on the wet ground. During the night the yells of the drunkards responded to each other from almost every part of the camps, so that truly they barked out like dogs, and almost banished sleep from our eyes; and though we had slept but little we rejoiced at

the approach of day, as the thought of leaving that fatal barrel, and those tempting whites was peculiarly cheering. I had preached on the Sabbath, or attempted to preach from Ezek. 2:10, "true there was written therein lamentations and mourning and woe."

Monday (Nov. 5) We started very early with Bro. McPhearson. His waggon lead the way for the whole detachment. We soon came to Walden's Ridge and ascended it- a steep mountain about one mile and a half from the bottom to the top. Ascending this hill Little Broom's waggon broke and he was obliged to stop and repair it. Two or three other families also stopped, to return and bury an aged relative who had been long sick. When passing that narrow and dangerous part of the road on the side hill, her waggon turned over and hurt her so that she died soon after, not being able to be moved, but a few rods. This day we travelled about 8 miles and camped on the Mountain, near a house, from where we drew provisions. The landlord had also a supply of whiskey; and though he had promised Mr. Taylor, I understand, not to sell to the Cherokees, yet drinking soon commenced among Cherokees and Whites; so that numbers were drinking, and yelling most of the night. And one Cherokee, being drunk, lay down by the fire, and came very near being burned to death. The skin came off from one arm, and mostly from one half of his body. It is doubtful whether he will live. About 8 O'clock two drunken white men came to me, requesting me to preach, as a number of white people had come to attend. It was some time before I could get them off.

Tuesday (Nov. 6) About day we started to descend the Mountain. and spent the night in the Vale of Sodom, commonly called Sequache Valley. Here the people were wicked exceedingly, and gathered in from every quarter. One seemed at first to take the lead, he soon became intoxicated and staggered about the tavern doorway, cursing and swearing and reiterating the most awful oaths and blasphemies he could invent, as it would seem. His conduct was so outrageous that he was at length put under guard, and by attempting to jump a fence to make his escape, he hurt his arm, and immediately the bully bellowed out in a loud cry, like a little boy smarting under the rod. A barrel of liquor was soon rolled along. This was called cider, though probably prepared i.e. mixed with whiskey to make the Indians drunk. But the poor

Cherokees seemed to stand astonished at the exceeding wickedness of the whites, and kept very sober during the night. About dark I took the Bible to read for prayers. The whites gathered round in such numbers that I lengthened the exercises, and in a short time had a large congregation. I gave a lecture on- profane swearing. All seemed still for the moment, but soon after the exercises closed, the white men commenced their awful rancor for the night. All night long they wandered about among the camps seeking whom they might destroy, and seemed intent on filling the air about our fire with their horrid oaths. We could sleep but little, just as day broke, these evening wolves raised their howl and retreated to their thickets, while the company began to prepare for moving onward. Last evening through the importunity of a white man, I agreed to take of him 100 lbs. of flour, if he would fetch it to the road. We passed the house however without knowing it. I had to give the man a dollar for the disappointment as he followed us, part of the way up the mountain, where I could not stop, nor go back, being crowded by the waggons. This mountain is long and steep and difficult to ascend, yet all succeeded in getting up safely, and camped in the woods on the top, having travelled about five miles. The wind was very high, which led us to select an open spot for our tent, this being Wednesday, at night we held a prayer meeting at our tent, tho but few attended. I could but wish in view of the poor Cherokees, who, on the brink of destruction, seemed yet anxious to excell in those awful practices which have provoked the Lord to leave them to suffer these evils; and I told some of our dear brethren that if an angel could weep, he must weep in view of such a spectacle. Soon after dark it commenced raining, and the wind drove the water into our Carryall so that our bed and clothes became quite wet on one side. The weather also became very cold, and our blankets over the waggon were covered with snow when we arose.

Thursday (Nov. 8) The detachment travelled about ten miles and camped still on the mountain and suffering with the cold.

Friday (Nov. 9) We descended the Mountain. The ground was frozen and the mountain steep, and the descent very long, so that I became alarmed, fearing I could scarcely get down with our Carryall, though we had no load. It seems to me almost impossible for heavy waggons to descend without damage, yet all came down safe, and we

camped on Collins River in Warren County, Ten. Here the citizens were kind and some of them seem to be truly the children of God. Saturday (Nov. 10) The women attended to washing and the men to getting wood and smith work. This morning a Cherokee woman died and was buried.

Sabbath (Nov. 11) We held a meeting at a house near the camps. A large congregation assembled from the neighborhood. I spoke from 1 Tim. 4:8. At night, as on Saturday night we were afflicted with some wicked white men, and a few drinking Cherokees.

Monday (Nov. 12) We crossed Collins River and proceeded about ten miles and camped near McMinnville. This is a pleasant village, and doubtless contains many of the followers of the Lamb. O how different do Christians appear to us after having been tormented with the blasphemies of the wicked a few weeks. The rain commenced falling soon after dark, and the night was very unpleasant, yet we slept comfortably in our tent.

Tuesday (Nov. 13) The rain commenced and we rode most of the day in the rain. At night we camped where we had about 1/2 of a mile to go for water. The night was stormy and we had considerable trouble to keep dry.

Wednesday (Nov. 14) Mrs. Buttrick and myself went on a little before the detachment, and after travelling a mile or two, stopped at a house to dry and warm us, the first time we had been in a house for about five weeks. Here we were refreshed and comforted a few moments by the fire, till the detachment came along, when we joined them and went to a camping place near Stone River. The rain still continued. We stopped to camp again in the wet, but as it seemed necessary to have some new oilcloth to put on the top of our Carryall, I rode to a little town called Woodbury about 1/2 mile distant. On entering a store, the first person I saw was Mr. Trott, formerly a Methodist Missionary in the Nation, and as he requested us to spend the night with him, we very gladly accepted the invitation. I returned to the camps, and with my dear wife and Jonas, went to his house, where we were peculiarly refreshed. We had not before eaten at a table for five weeks, This kind refreshment seemed provided by a kind Providence, as we seemed on the point of failing through fatigue and exposure. This morning I puked up my breakfast, and felt that I must soon yield to sickness and disease.

Thursday (Nov. 15) As the detachment came on we proceeded about 6 miles and camped near Stone's River, having crossed that river four times. Soon after we had pitched our tents, a great company of white people came in, as eager apparently, for money, as ever for birds of prey were for a dead carcass. Some appeared evil, but others were awfully profane.

Friday (Nov. 16) Last night William Hawk died, after a short illness, and was buried in the afternoon. White men crowded about our fire so as almost to take possession of it, and some were very profane. I requested them not to put us to the pain of hearing such language. One replied that they injured no one etc. I told him we could not hear profane swearing if we could possibly avoid it. They soon retired.

Saturday (Nov. 17) We started early and travelled about 12 miles, over a very rough road, but pleasant as a part of it lay through a thick cedar forest. At candlelight we held a prayer meeting in the woods near the encampment. I spoke from the first verse in our Lord's Prayer. "Hallowed be Thy name," showing the awful wickedness of profaning the name of God. I spoke very plainly and with authority, because I had all authority, all holy being on my side. John Goodmoney left behind sick, died on Saturday night, back at the place where we had camped the Tuesday night before. The poor sick Cherokees cannot stop, when sick and be refreshed by kind friends, as we were at Woodbury, but must be exposed and die.

Monday (Nov. 19) The detachment started early, and proceeded through Murphreys'borough, on the road toward Nashville 20 miles. Some of the ox teams did not get up till after dark.

Tuesday (Nov. 20) We travelled ten miles and camped within four miles of Nashville. Our tent stood on the side of a cedar hill, "The Cedars of Lebanon bow at his feet" "And the air is perfumed with his breath" often passed in my mind.

Wednesday (Nov. 21) Early in the morning a gentleman, by the name of Bryant, his wife and two other ladies called at the camps, and enquired for us. They had visited other detachments, and been informed of our coming. They now invited us to take lodging at their house, while the detachment might remain in this place. We were thankful for this expression of kindness, though as our tent was pitched, we concluded to remain with our dear Cherokee friends.

Mrs. Eryant and the other ladies had brought clothing to give to the needy Cherokees, though they said they found none needy in this detachment, compared with the other companies that had gone on. We agreed to visit this kind family on Friday as next Sabbath is the regular time for the holy communion in Brainerd Church, I proposed holding a sacramental meeting in this place if we could obtain ministerial assistance from Nashville. Mr. Bryant therefore agreed to accompany me to Nashville tomorrow. Thursday (Nov. 22) Rode 5 miles to Mr. Bryant's. Here I saw the effects of true religion. This family appears as we might expect true Christians to appear toward the suffering Cherokees, and missionaries accompanying. I partook with them of a kind repast, and then accompanied Mr. Bryant to Nashville, 3 1/2 miles. This is a beautiful city. I have seen no such place (in my view) since I left Boston. Here are iron works, a college, penitentiary, female academy, court house, and several very handsome meeting houses, and many elegant buildings. But what especially adds a beauty to the prospect is the cedars which grow naturally in all parts of the town. But my object was to find a minister to assist me at the contemplated sacramental meeting. I was first introduced to a young Methodist minister. But his city dress and appearance, together with his having both hands full of other business, discouraged me at once, and I relinquished the idea of obtaining aid, and said to Mr. Bryant that I would seek for no other ministers in the city, but return to the camps. Just as we were preparing to leave, however, a very dear minister by the name of Lassley, passed that way. His health was poor, yet he expressed a strong desire to be with us on the Holy Sabbath. I accordingly appointed the meeting for Brainerd and Harris ? Churches, at the camp, and returned.

Friday (Nov. 23) My dear wife and two Cherokee girls accompanied me to the house of our dear friend Bryant, where we spent the day delightfully with that dear family.

Saturday (Nov. 24) Our dear Cherokee brethren prepared seats on one side of the camp ground, where we held a meeting in the afternoon. Our dear brethren Lassley and Greene from Nashville attended and Bro. Greene preached. The weather was cold, and rather uncomfortable as we were outdoors. At candlelight we held a prayer meeting in our tent.

Sabbath (Nov. 25) While we were contemplating the unpleasantness of holding meeting in the cold open air, an aged man, whose head had blossomed for the grave, called at our tent, and offered us the use of his meeting house, about half a mile distant. He was a Baptist elder, and said he was a missionary in spirit. We gladly accepted his offer, and found a large brick house, well finished and furnished with two stoves. Our dear Bro. Lassley preached, and Mr. Taylor interpreted, and our dear Bro. Stringfield assisted in administering the Holy Supper. The whole was delightful, and will not soon be forgotten by us. O how kind was our Heavenly Father in providing for us such a meeting house, and such kind friends, just at the time they were so much needed.

Monday (Nov. 26) The detachment being supplied with tents etc, etc, proceeded on their journey. Mrs. B and myself dined with our kind friend Mr. Lassley. We travelled about four miles from Nashville and camped. As the fires began to be kindled, an aged Cherokee, who had been sick all the way, lay down by the fire, when his clothes caught fire, and he sprang up, but before he could be relieved, was burnt nearly to death. Here Mrs. Buttrick received from our kind friend Mr. Lassley a valuable cloak, bonnet, shawl and a pair of shoes, sent on by a waggon which passed through Nashville after we left.

Saturday (Dec. 1) Camped on a branch of Red River in Kentucky, having travelled during the week about 60 miles. The poor old man who was burnt, was left at a house to be taken care of but died in a few days. On Wednesday night of this week sister Ooskooni gave birth to a son, and on Thursday two children, one a daughter of our dear sister Ashopper ? were called into eternity. They had long been sick.

Sabbath (Dec. 2) Preached at a large brick dwelling house on Heb. 9:27 There we find some very kind Christian friends. After meeting, a lady gave the little Cherokee boy with us, a dollar, wishing him to take the sister and --- preacher. She and some came to the camps, as Christian friends.

Monday (Dec. 3) We started soon in the morning. The ground was mostly covered with snow and frozen rain. We travelled about 12 miles, and camped within half a mile of Hopkinsville. Here we attended the monthly concert at the tent of Br. James Fidget.

Tuesday (Dec. 4) Travelled 12 miles, but found no convenient place for camping on account of water. A small spring however, and a pond, furnished a partial supply. We pitched our tent a little on one side, for retirement, and endeavored to give thanks to our kind Heavenly Father for all his mercy to us on this journey and all our lives. O how great has been his kindness—his mercy is unspeakable.

Thursday (Dec. 13) Within ten miles of Ohio River, or Golconda. Last week on Thursday, we passed Isaac Bushyhead, Col. Powell and another man, left sick about three weeks before, by Rev. Jesse Bushyhead's detachment. Isaac's father and sister Susan were with him. As we camped about two miles beyond, I returned and spent the evening with them, and was pleased to find them disposed to converse on religious subjects. As I was about leaving Mr. Bushyhead requested me to pray with him, as I was myself desirous to do. Sixty persons had died out of their detachment previous to their arrival at that place. During the night a Cherokee woman died in the camp. Though she had given birth to a child but a few days before, yet last evening she was up and no danger was apprehended, but in the morning she was found dead, with the infant in her arms. As the man living near was not willing to have her buried there, and as no plank could be obtained for a coffin, the corpse was carried all day in the waggon, and at night a coffin was made, and the next morning she was buried near the graves of some other Cherokees who had died in a detachment that preceded us. Also, on Saturday night of last week an infant, a few months old, died with the bowel complaint. The corpse was interred after meeting on the Sabbath. Our meeting was appointed for the Cherokees, but white people crowded in, so that no room was left for the Indians: and finding my congregation made up of white people, I spoke to them on the subject of missions, and gave a brief history of the Cherokee Mission. Near the place of meeting was a man sitting a fire, afflicted with the bowel complaint. I did not think of his being dangerous, yet yesterday about noon he died. I went to the tent, and learned that he was a professor of religion, and seemed willing to die. He was a brother of Jesse and Josiah. We learn that the young man burnt on the mountain, when drunk, is dead. On Friday of ?



11.

week we passed through a very beautiful village called Princeto. In the midst of this town we were saluted by a young clergyman, by the name of Payne. He knew us from a former acquaintance at Brainerd. When he was a boy, his pious mother went with him to that mission and spent a number of months. At his request, we dined with him. About a mile from this village, in full view, is Cumberland College, an institution belonging to the Cumberland Presbyterians. This is a handsome building. On Tuesday of this week we arrived at this place about noon, but found some of Mr. Wofford's detachment still on the ground. As the conductor himself drinks, the company made but little progress. They have long been a hindrance to Mr. Taylor's detachment so that we have often performed but half days travel. About sunset the man who died yesterday was buried near the bank of the creek on which we camped.

Friday (Dec. 14) Last night a child about 14 months old died. This is the 15<sup>th</sup> death since we crossed Tennessee River. We travelled about 6 miles, and camped 4 miles from the Ohio River.

Saturday (Dec. 15) Early in the morning the detachment started for the river, and commenced crossing about 10 o'clock. The weather was pleasant and still, affording us a favorable opportunity for crossing the river. As we were now passing out of a slave into a free, we reflected on the pleasures of landing where all were in a measure, aged and free. But we had scarcely landed when we were met with volleys of oaths from every quarter. I turned to one boat to make a few purchases, but heard such awful profaneness within, that I quickly turned away to another. On entering it, I scarcely had time to speak to the owner, behind the counter, before I was obliged to hear from his unhallowed lips the same infernal language. I told him the cause of my turning from the other boat, and my regret at being compelled to hear the same thing from his mouth, and urged him to desist from such a practice. On going up from the boats into the village called Golconda, it seemed to be made up chiefly of groceries, and little boys in the streets had already learned to lisp the infernal language. I almost longed to be back in the still, quiet towns of Kentucky. I could but think of the unhappy fate of Mr. Lovejoy, who fell a victim to the principles of slavery, in a

state of nominal freedom. Those of us who crossed first went on to the place designated for camping about a mile and a half from the river. I immediately commenced gathering wood for the Sabbath. Having done this, and commenced making preparation for supper. we were told by a white man living near, that that was not the place for camping, ~~but we must go beyond the next plantation.~~ We therefore harnessed, and leaving our fire and wood went on with other waggons to the place specified. Here we found a man of Wofford's detachment still on the ground drunk. That company left here this morning. We now again selected a place for our tent, and put it up, and gathered wood for the Sabbath. My dear wife had also made her tea, when word came that we must not camp there as the owner would not allow the Cherokees to cut or burn any wood. Mr. Taylor also who was yet behind wished the detachment to farther and camp on public land. It was very near dark, Saturday night, and we were quite tired and hungry, yet we could only prepare for another encampment, about a mile distant. We had now no time to prepare wood, but found dry bushes, etc. near our tent, so as to answer our purpose for the night.

Sabbath (Dec. 16.) As but few waggons arrived at this place last night, they kept coming in today. But about half the detachment crossed the river yesterday, and as the ferryman seems determined that the others shall come over today, Mr. Taylor considered it his duty to go back and see the detachment all over, and of course we had no Meeting. This is the first Sabbath since we left Brainerd, on which we have not had public Worship. About noon a number of white people came to our tent, and I gave them a brief history of the sufferings of the Cherokees. This afternoon and night were still stormy.

Monday (Dec. 17) The rain still continues. Two or three Cherokees came in last night drunk, cursing and blaspheming in an awful manner. Today again, one of them returned, raging like an infernal spirit, but was soon seized by the Cherokee Light Horse and bound.

Tuesday (Dec. 18) As we do not start today, it is thought best to move onto dryer ground. My own health failed, had a high fever in the afternoon, and took an emetic. After the operation of this, I was seized with a severe pain in my right side, which increas

still some time in the night, when the physician bled me, and put a poultice of mustard seed on my side which afforded relief. Wednesday (Dec. 19) We travelled about 6 miles, and camped. Had a comfortable night.

Thursday (Dec. 20) As several waggons and some sick persons are still behind, we wait today for them. This morning a little child about 10 years old died. Previous to starting on this journey, I determined to let it be a journey of prayer, and to devote much time every day to that sacred duty, but instead of this, I have very strangely neglected prayer. In the morning our time is employed in taking our bed etc. from the little waggon in which we sleep, to the large waggon which carries it, - replacing the seat, getting water- cooking breakfast, putting up things, harnessing, etc. Soon we are hurried on by the waggons we accompany to the next encampment. Here we have to undo what we did in the morning, - put up our tent, get wood, and water, prepare supplies, fix our bed, etc. We often become much fatigued by the time we get our fire prepared. I know that all this cannot justify neglect of prayer. I think my own heart is more peculiarly despaired, especially as respects impatient and angry feelings. And further, I have no pleasing anticipations about arriving at the Arkansas. Mr. Worcester will doubtless wish to sustain, or at least, excuse Mr. Boudinot in the course he has taken; and as the A. Board have received Mr. Boudinot as an assistant missionary at the West, they doubtless look over his conduct in making the treaty. Yet the mission Churches in the Nation do not, and by attempting to crowd him into their favour, without any acknowledgement on his part, we should only prove, or seem to prove to them, that we were interested with him, and plunge the mission of the A. Board like lead in the mighty waters. Mr. Taylor said long ago, if I mistake not, that he could not commune with Mr. Boudinot. Bro. Mills, an elder in Harris' Church said the same, and would not attend the communion when Messrs. Chamberlain and Potter held it at Mr. J. Ridge's, because he was opposed to the measures they were taking. Maj. Lowrey an elder in the Willstown Church had spoken decidedly against the measures adopted by the treaty party. Knowing the mind of the Church, I felt that the case called for a thorough and candid investigation by some ecclesiastical body,

and therefore I gave the brethren of Brainerd Church an opportunity to express their feelings on the subject, hoping that, this might bring the case before some council in Presbytery, by which it might be examined, decided in a proper manner, though it is very doubtful whether I live to reach that place. The little boy who died last night was buried today in a coffin made of puncheons.

Friday (Dec. 21) We proceeded six miles to a very pleasant spot, to remain till Monday.

Saturday (Dec. 22) This morning two children died with the bowel complaint. Toward night the wind arose, and the air turning cold. I did not attend the prayer meeting.

Sabbath (Dec. 23) We have peculiar cause of gratitude for the preservation of the last night. The wind blew a gale nearly the whole night, and seemed to threaten almost certain calamity, both by scattering the fire through the leaves and tents, and also by throwing limbs, trees, etc. upon our heads. But those eyes which never slumber watched over us, and preserved us in safety, though we had but little sleep. The weather is now piercing cold, so that we despair of holding any public meeting. I consulted Mr. Taylor and we concluded to hold a prayer meeting in some tent; and accordingly met in the tent of Bro. J. Pridget.

Monday and Tuesday (Dec. 24-25) Travelled about 15 miles. Tuesday about noon the cinch pin came out of one end of the fore axletree, falling on the frozen ground broke, so that we have much trouble to get on to a waggon maker 6 miles forward. My dear wife had to walk considerably, and I became quite fatigued. We now called for lodgings at the house where we were to get our work done. The house was rather open and contained but one room, yet the family at length consented to our stay. Here our bodies were refreshed, but our souls pained. The workman, - the man of the house came home a little before night in a high state of intoxication, and almost every word was accompanied with an oath. We hastened to bed, not considering it possible to have family worship. None of this family can read or write. The workman, i.e. the waggon maker is about 60 years old, and presents an awful spectacle. There are five adults in the family, yet none to read. The woman says also that their preacher himself sometimes gets drunk. He is a Schis

matic, or Bible Christian. He does not exclude any from the church, not even for drinking, because he says, all must grow together till the harvest. Thus far the citizens of Illinois appear more and more pitiable. They seem not only low in all their manners, but ignorant, poor and ill humored. They have no slaves, ~~but in general, as far as we have seen, they seem to be hankering~~ after these leeks of Egypt, and because they cannot have slaves, let their work go undone. We see nothing like schools in the country.

Wednesday (Dec. 26) This morning is exceptionally cold. Rode to the encampment, one mile, and found our dear Cherokees comfortable in their tents. Saw Mr. Taylor, - he says they will remain today where they are. It is said the detachments now at the Mississippi are stopped by floating ice, and Mr. Hildebrand's detachment is stopped by the same means at the Ohio River. After breakfast my dear wife accompanied me to the camp, where we put down our tent, prepared wood for the night, but on returning for our Carryall found it would <sup>not</sup> be done to sleep in, and therefore we were obliged again to sleep at the house.

Thursday (Dec. 27) We proceeded with the detachment about 6 miles, where we camped for the week. Here the snow increased to three or four inches and the weather was excessively cold.

Friday and Saturday (Dec. 28-29) Afflicted with a fever afternoons and a cough during the night. So also on the Sabbath was unable to attend meeting. Our dear Bro. Welooka had a meeting. It is distressing to reflect on the situation of the Nation. One detachment stopped at the Ohio River, two at the Mississippi, one four miles this side, one 18 miles, and one 3 miles behind us. In all these detachments comprising about 8,000 souls, there is now a vast amount of sickness, and many deaths.----six have died within a short time in Maj. Brown's company, and this detachment of Mr. Taylor's there are more or less affected with sickness in almost every tent and yet all are houseless and homeless in a strange land and in a cold region, exposed to weather almost unknown in their native country. But they are prisoners. True their own chiefs have directly hold of their hands, yet the U. States officers hold the Chiefs with an iron grasp, so that they are obliged to lead the people according to their discretions, in executing effectively that Schemerhorn Treaty.

Monday (Dec. 31) This morning we were permitted to read the texts for this last day of the year. O what a year it has been ! O what a sweeping wind has gone over, and carried it's thousands into grave, while thousands of others have been tortured and scarcely survive, and the whole Nation, comparatively thrown out of house and home during this most dreary winter. And why? As coming from God, we know it is just. But what have they done to the U. States? Have they violated any treaty? or any intercourse law? or abused any of the agents or officers of the U. States? Or have they refused to accomodate U. States citizens when passing through the country? NO such thing is pretended. For what crime then was the whole Nation doomed to this perpetual death? this almost unheard of suffering? Simply because they would not agree to a principle which would be at once death to their national existence, viz- that a few unauthorized individuals might, at any time, set aside the authority of the National Council and Principal Chief, and in opposition to the declared will of the Nation, dispose of the whole public domain, as well as the private property of individuals, and render the whole Nation houseless and homeless, at pleasure. Such a treaty the President of the U. States sanctioned, senate ratified, and the military force was found ready to execute. And now we see some of the effects. The year past has also been a year of spiritual darkness. We have had but few happy seasons, and as for myself I have by no means been faithful to my trust. I have wanted faith and love and real. A great part of the time my heart has been grieved to hear the awful profanities, and see the scenes of wickedness which have been brought before us.

Tuesday. Jan. 1, 1839 Thus we enter on a new year in this wilderness, about 25 miles from the Mississippi. I say wilderness, because though many people are settled around us, yet we, Indians, have a little spot of woodland assigned us, in which we must reside as really as if all the region were a wilderness. White people come to sell and get gain, but not to invite any to a friendly roof. Last evening a young man died by the name of Ramsey. A white man, who had charge of one of Mr. Taylor's teams. He is said to have been deranged ever since we came to this spot. He was taken to a house in the neighborhood, where he died. About 4 O'clock this afternoon he was buried. I spoke a few words at the grave

on the subject of death, and the swiftness of time, and prayed with the assembly. I felt thankful that I was able to attend, and speak a word for God on this first day of the year, but my health was such that I hastened back to our tent, where we had also prepared a small shelter of boards. This was peculiarly grateful as the night was rainy. I am now obliged to hire our fire wood cut, and almost every thing done which we need outdoors. O how kind the Lord is in providing all things to keep us from suffering. The mercies, as well as the judgements of the year past demand peculiar attention, as we proceed to take our leave of it, though we have been distressed on every side, yet we have not been destroyed. And though by my unfaithfulness I have forfeited every favour from God- from the dear Board that supports me, and the poor Cherokees, who, still bear with me, yet thus far I am kindly permitted to labour in the mission field, and I would plead this privilege while I shall be able to labour. The health of my dear wife the year past calls for the most unfeigned gratitude to God. During almost the whole of last winter I was confined to the house with sickness. She arose first in the morning, saw to fires being made, and to all the domestic concerns of the house. By this means without hiring help, we proceeded with the school, boarding ten children and the teacher, and attending to the constant flow of company that called on us. Thus also through the whole summer and fall her labours have been peculiarly trying, and since we have been on this journey, for three long months, she has slept in a waggon or a tent, and been exposed to cold and wet, and at present has to go forward again, and take care of me in my ill health. Yet she has not sunk under her burthens. The Lord has sustained her, and blessed be his name. O that her health, spiritual and temporal, may still be preserved. The little boy also that has lived with us has also enjoyed uninterrupted good health. O what could we have done in these times of distress, if the Lord had also afflicted us with sickness? O what unspeakable gratitude is due for his mercies past. And O how kindly has he dealt with us since we set out on this journey. During the three months we have been thus in the wilderness, no tempest has been let loose to throw down the many trees hanging over, and no flashing lightning to frighten the timid. And very

seldom have we experienced any special inconvenience from rain. Though some have been sick and fallen on the way, yet many still survive, in circumstances calling for gratitude. O, Thou dear deemer, do help us to praise Thee, and may Thy kindness still attend us.

Wednesday (Jan. 2) Was quite sick, able only to visit a few other sick persons. Thursday confined mostly to our tent by ill health- rode a short distance to purchase a few articles of food- Found a delightful family. Will the Lord remember them in mercy.

Saturday (Jan. 5) Rode out a few rods- Saw Mr. Taylor in pursuit of some to assist in burying a little boy of about 9 years, who died last night. Saturday the detachment is still waiting- my dear wife is now unwell, afflicted with a relax ? Her strength has been declining a number of days. I am also scarcely able to walk.

Sabbath (Jan. 6) A number of our Cherokee brethren came to our camps, so that we held a meeting about noon. I endeavored to speak from Exod. 40:2. It was encouraging because we had so long been unable to meet with our dear friends.

Monday (Jan. 7) Early this morning a blind man by the name of Avery (Aveby) died with the bowel complaint. He had no family, but lived with two of his sisters. It is said they did not pay that attention to him, which his situation required. I had not known of his sickness, nor even heard of the man himself, till I heard of his death, though he has been all the time in the detachment. He was buried about dark near the tent where he died. Today most of the detachment left this place for another about one mile and a half distant, as there is a plentiful supply of water, whereas here we have it to fetch about half a mile. About noon I visited a sick man in the neighborhood who is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He seems resigned to the Divine will. At our delight several brethren- Cherokees came to our tent, where we held the monthly concert. We were rejoiced in being able to attend this meeting on the first Monday in the year.

Tuesday (Jan. 8) We went to the new camp ground and pitched our tent near those of Br. McPhearson and Mr. Burns, got a black to cut some wood for the night. About sunset I married Mr. Robert D. Blackstone to Miss Loisa C. England at her fathers tent.



Wednesday (Jan. 9) My dear wife is scarcely able to walk about. The weather is now warm and debilitating, and her strength seems to decline.

Thursday (Jan. 10) Visited the camps- find a large number sick and unwell. Mrs ? Club, our old friend gave us some slippery elm bark to use for the bowel complaint.

Friday (Jan. 11) There was some rain last night, yet in the morning it abated so that I kindled a fire before the tent, but soon a very powerful rain commenced, and the water ran in streams through the tent, and considering the state of our health, we had great cause for the gratitude that we took no new cold. At length the rain ceased, and the ground dried away so that we prepared our breakfast. During the day I visited our dear friend Bro. George Hicks detachment;- found him well- saw also our dear Bros. Levi Woodward, and Frank. It is said that upward of thirty have died out of this detachment since they started.

Saturday (Jan. 12) This morning was also ushered in with a severe rain, so that I had to get up and go directly into the rain to make a fire. My dear wife is evidently much affected by these exposures. We learn that Judge Brown's and G. Still's detachments have already crossed the river, and that Mr. Wofford's will probably commence crossing tomorrow.

Sabbath (Jan. 13) Last night was also rainy, and this morning during a heavy rain we had considerable difficulty in making a fire. The rain subsided before noon so that we held a meeting at Bro. J. Pridget's tent. I spoke from Romans 4:8,9. O how consoling the thought that salvation is all of grace. If the least worth or merit were required as a condition of acceptance, I would only yield at once to eternal despair. I am not only unworthy, but unworthiness itself,- not only devoid of merit, but deserving all evil. Yet, if while we were sinners, without strength. Christ died for us, will not He also, without our merit, from the same free grace, grant those favours, necessary to complete that salvation which He has begun. I also endeavored to encourage our poor brethren and sisters, in their present state of poverty and distress, to take hold of this free salvation, and come with boldness to the throne of grace.

Monday (Jan. 14) The night was again rainy, but the morning more pleasant. Soon after breakfast I went to Mr. Taylor's tent to enquire when we should proceed on our journey. He thinks of starting tomorrow. When we camped a mile and a half back, a young white man, a waggoner was sick at the house of a Mr. Gode (or Gore) a few days, where he died. Mr. Taylor showed me Mr. Gode's bill against the young man's estate, which he had paid viz- For a coffin (very ordinary one) four dollars. For some grave clothes and burial, ten Dollars, and for the use of a bed eleven dollars, in all twenty five Dollars. Mr. Taylor also spoke of some trouble which Mr. Hicks had lately experienced. A very aged Cherokee belonging to Mr. Wofford's detachment fell back into that of Mr. Taylor's, the other side of Ohio River, and crossed the river with us. One of our company viz- Little Broom broke his waggon and remained at Golconda a day or two and this old man remained with him. At length, however, the old man left him, and Little Broom came on soon after this. Mr. Hicks detachment crossed the river and pursued his journey. Sometime after this the citizens near the river found the old man dead, and buried him. They then followed Mr. Hicks with a charge of 39 Dollars for burying, though the corpse was hauled to the place of burying with a log chain and a yoke of oxen. Mr. Hicks told them the old man belonged to another detachment, and that of course he was under no obligation to pay any charge against him. The man on hearing this returned, obtained a warrant and returned on the Sabbath and took Mr. Hicks back to a little town called Vienna, when after some debate he was acquitted. The man who was the principle in this prosecution, is suspected of having killed the old man himself. It is also stated that some of his neighbors saw lately two young Cherokees well dressed lying dead in a branch below his house, and went to him and told him of it. Not long after they went to bury the bodies, but they could not be found, yet when Mr. Hicks detachment camped near this place, and left their encampment Mr. Hildebrand's company coming after, found one of the bodies of the young men, as they now suppose, lying on the camp ground. Though the body seemed to have been some time dead, yet from all appearances it had lain in that place but a short time. It is supposed this man put it there, to induce the belief that it died out of Mr. Hicks

detachment. These young men are said to have belonged to Mr. Still's detachment- to have had a considerable amount of property, and to have stopped at Golconda, as the detachment went on. Thus the citizens of this state seem thus far to display a more mean and niggardly disposition than I have ever found in any other part of the Union. Mr. Hicks detachment started today, and passed us about one mile. Some of his waggons however had been unable to get up on account of the mud. Mr. Hildebrand's detachment came up within about a mile of us, excepting some waggons mired down in the mud.

Wednesday (Jan. 16) Just before breakfast our dear brethren Blunt and Parker called. They had been commissaries in Mr. Foreman's detachment, but was obliged to return on account of the ill health of bro. Blunt, before completing the journey.

Thursday (Jan. 17) Mr. Hildebrand's detachment passed on, so that we are now left behind. A number of Cherokees were drinking today at the house of a white man, and the Light Horse went to stop them, when the drunkards jumped onto their horses and fled. The Light Horse pursued them, the drunkards rode up to Mr. Burn's tent, when one of them, W. Goodmoney, sprang from his horse, seized a gun and instantly discharged it, evidently intending to kill one of the Light Horse men; though the ball passed through the foreleg of his horse. The Light Horse then seized him and took him to Mr. Taylor's tent.

Friday (Jan. 18) We understand that there is to be a council of Cherokees, Mr. Goodmoney is fined \$120 for shooting the horse.

Sabbath (Jan. 20) Yesterday spent some time in visiting the sick and at candlelight held a prayer meeting at the tent of Br. Mills. Today a good number assembled, and I attempted to hold up to their view, the great, the good and kind works of our Divine Redeemer, while he tabernacled in the flesh, taking for my text "We hath done all things well," at candlelight held a meeting at Br. Mills tent.

Monday (Jan. 21) After remaining at this place two weeks, today we proceeded on our journey four and one half miles, where we camped. Here we had a pleasant night. The elements were still and quiet and the stars sparkled with peculiar lustre; and by means of an old tree fallen long ago and broken by the wind we were

furnished with wood. This was peculiarly grateful because I was unable to chop. My dear wife and myself are both troubled with diarrhea. I have also been troubled with a swelling I feared would prove dangerous. Today, the twenty first of January, I trust I experienced some relief. I tried to give thanks to God, and feel determined, if relieved, to devote this day yearly to thanksgiving and prayer.

Tuesday (Jan. 22) Today we travelled about five miles, and stopped where Mr. Hildebrand's detachment had this morning left their fires all burning. I soon gathered wood ready cut, for the night. Here the company before us left one of their number to be buried by her friends, who stopped for the purpose. We also learn that last Friday night, a woman in the same company was killed by the fall of a tree, and two others wounded. The tree fell on them, it seems, while asleep. O how kind, how infinitely kind the dear, the condescending, the infinitely condescending Redeemer is. He guides us like the kindest shepherd- He carries us in his bosom. O who can praise Him succeeding to his infinite kindness. Eternity will only afford time to give Him thanks.

Wednesday (Jan. 23) We travelled again five miles, and camped a mile beyond Jonesborough. This is a pleasant little village, and its moral character much better than that of any we have seen in the state. The weather is pleasant, and in the middle of the day warm.

Thursday (Jan. 24) As we do not travel today, I concluded to devote the day to fasting and prayer. This morning a young woman died near us, she had come in Mr. Hildebrand's detachment till that came near us, when her father in this company took her to his tent. I had not seen her, nor known of her being in the company.

Friday (Jan. 25) We proceeded seven miles to the bank of the Mississippi River. At this place a sand bar in the middle extends probably half across the bed of the river, leaving two sluices of about an equal width on each side. Therefore it is like two rivers, crossed by two ferries, that is, two sets of boats, one conveying passengers to the bar, and the other from it. But three waggons and a Carryall crossed today. We find our tent on the bank of this great river, one of the wonders of Creation. Soon after we arrived, our attention was arrested by the passing of a large, beautiful and grand steamboat. Neither my dear wife nor myself had ever seen one before. Of course the appearance was quite imposing. We have long been looking forward to this river; and numbers who crossed the Ohio with us have not lived to arrive at this. O, how kind our dear heavenly Father has been to us. Though some affliction has fallen to our lot, yet O how light, and with what peculiar kindness it has been laid upon us. O Thou dearest Lord, wilt Thou still be our Savior and our friend, all our journey through. O how vast, how boundless the grace which has thus far sustained us. And now, O Thou Dear Redeemer, having brought us to gray hairs, shall thy kindness now cease, and must we be left to sink because we are unworthy? O may we not, even now, roll ourselves, - all our brethren upon thine arms? Thou only canst sustain us. O do take us and let us walk with God. This is all our desire.

Saturday (Jan. 26) Through Divine goodness we were conveyed safely over the great river, though we had to wait some hours on the sand bar where the wind blew almost a gale. But when we landed on the western bank, we found that the wagon carrying our tent, bed etc. had not come over; and of course we were obliged to seek shelter in some house and as a kind Providence ordered, a man came to the camp, who lived near, and conducted us to his own dwelling, where we found a kind reception & happy rest for the night.

Sabbath (Jan 27) As the weather was cold, and but few families were over the river, we had no meeting but improved the day at the house of our host, in reading, conversation, etc.

Monday (Jan 28) Bainbridge Cape Girardau Co. Mo. Last commenced raining, and the storm, snow and rain continued which will render it very unpleasant for our dear children to cross the river, but yet this reminds us of the gratitude we owe to God for providing us a shelter, especially as my dear wife is so unwell. Toward night Messrs. R. Brevard and Judge Obannon, called on us and kindly invited us to make their houses our homes while we might be detained. This we gladly accepted, and on Tuesday went to Mr. Brevard's, and on Thursday to Judge Obannon's, returning again to Mr. Brevard's on Saturday morning. In these two families we found everything we needed to refresh our bodies and comfort and revive our drooping spirits. This kind Providence was probably the means of saving the life of my dear Elizabeth, if not my own also, as I had been afflicted with the same complaint. About noon Mr. Brevard's father, a pious man, called and conducted us to his house, where we were entertained in the most hospitable manner. Their unwearied attention and the abundance of their liberality call for a better reward than we can render. The Lord will repay them a thousand fold. O may his richest blessings ever attend them and their dear children and servants.

(Tuesday, Jan. 29 - Mr Brevard's)

Thursday, Jan 31 - Mr Obannon's

Saturday, Feb. 2 - Brevard's father

Continued on Tuesday Feb. 12, 1839

Mr. Brevards, Feb. 12, 1839 (Tuesday) Went to the camps. We learn that some of our dear Cherokee friends crossed the river yesterday, and it is hoped we shall be able to go forward day after tomorrow.

Feb. 14 (Thursday) We are told the detachment will probably be able to proceed on the journey tomorrow. It will then have been three weeks since our arrival on the other bank of the river. About half the detachment crossed when the ice began to run and so filled the water as to stop the boats near three weeks. During this time five individuals have died, viz. one old Cherokee woman, -one black man, and three Cherokee children, making in all since we crossed the Tennessee River twenty six deaths.

Thursday Feb. 21 Eleven miles west of Farmington and 80 miles from the Mississippi River. Last Friday (Feb. 15) we left the hospitable roof of our kind benefactor, Mr. Brevard. He accompanied us about a mile, when we took our leave of him, and proceeded forward with the detachment. We went to Jackson 12 miles and Mrs. Buttrick and myself spent the night with a son of the friend we left this morning. The son seem to possess all the generosity of the father. Some of the detachment arrived before and some after us, and went on a mile or two to the place of encampment, but we were sorry to see some stopping to drink in the town.

Saturday Feb. 16 We proceeded to the encampment and spent much of the day, but on learning that the company was to travel the next day, Mrs. Buttrick and myself went on six miles to the house of a Methodist preacher by the name of Crane. Here we arrived about dark and met with a very cordial reception. We found also two other Methodist preachers with him, and a pious layman from Illinois and had a peculiarly pleasant evening.

Sabbath (Feb. 17) Mr. Crain and myself held a meeting at his house, which the other two ministers, fulfilled an appointment several miles distant. At candlelight one of the brethren who was abroad today preached an evening lecture. Thus the day was indeed a pleasant and refreshing season.

Friday (Jan. 25) We proceeded seven miles to the bank of the Mississippi River. At this place a sand bar in the middle extends probably half across the bed of the river, leaving two sluices of about an equal width on each side. Therefore it is like two rivers, crossed by two ferries, that is, two sets of boats, one conveying passengers to the bar, and the other from it. But three waggons and a Carryall crossed today. We find our tent on the bank of this great River, one of the wonders of Creation. Soon after we arrived, our at? ----- but yet this reminds us of the gratitude we owe to God for providing us a shelter, especially as my dear wife is so unwell. Toward night Messrs. Brevard and Judge O'Bannon called on us and kindly invited us to make their houses our homes while we might be detained. This we gladly accepted, and on Tuesday (1-22) went to Mr. Brevard's and on Thursday (1-24) to Judge O'Bannon's, returning again to Mr. Brevard's on Saturday (1-26) morning. In these two families we found everything we needed to refresh our bodies and comfort and revive our drooping spirits. This kind of Providence was very probably the means of saving the life of my dear Elizabeth, if not my own also, as I had been afflicted with the same complaint. About noon Mr. Brevard's father, a pious man, called and conducted us to his house, where we were entertained in the most hospitable manner. Their unmeasured attention and the abundance of their liberality call for a better reward than we can render. The Lord will repay them a thousand fold; O may his richest blessings constantly tend them and their dear children and servants.

Continued February 12, 1839



Monday (Feb. 18) We rode about 16 miles and encamped with the detachment, which had proceeded ten miles on the Sabbath. Tuesday (Feb. 19) Wednesday, (Feb. 20) and Thursday (Feb. 21) we proceeded 37 1/2 miles. Mr. Ross the principal chief met the directors of the detachments at Jonesborough, and considering the unexpected delay, and expenses of the journey, he urged them to press forward as fast as practicable; and as Judge Adair, the assistant conductor urges sometimes to travel on the Sabbath. Mr Taylor has in one instance yielded. I remind our Cherokee friends however, that the Lord is here, and requires the same observance of the Holy Sabbath as when we are at home. This morning we passed through Farmington, a pleasant village.

Friday (Feb. 22) Last night Drowning Bear died. We did not hear of it, till some time after we started this morning, and of course could not be at the burying.

Today (Feb. 22) we passed through a handsome little village called Caledonia. The village is neat and the country around delightful. The people also appear to be intelligent and well bred. Thus far we are more and more pleased with Missouri, and the very name conveys delight to our minds. We camped in a clean and pleasant place by the side of a small creek, the night was cloudy, though but little rain fell. I visited Mr. Taylor to enquire if the detachment thought that under present circumstances they should be obliged to proceed. Therefore we prepared for an early start, and Mrs. B. and myself travelled Saturday (Feb. 23) about 25 miles and put up for the Sabbath at the house of Mr. Brickey. The day and night were mostly rainy.

Sabbath (Feb. 24) As the day was rainy, I said nothing about a meeting, but spent the day with our kind host, enjoying a quiet and peaceful Sabbath and reading and retirement. All was still and the house was uninterrupted by company or noise. About noon our dear Cherokee friends began to pass on to their encampment, nearly a mile beyond us. Here at the house of our host, our young friends, Wiley Bigsby and his wife called a few weeks ago on account of her sickness, and here she expired and was buried.

Monday (Feb. 25) The morning was still rainy, and the detachment went but four miles, and camped on a hill, where we were far from water and had but a scanty supply of wood. This morning as the company was about starting, a young Cherokee, most white, by the name of Lewis Perdue died in the waggon. Soon after we crossed the Tennessee River this young man was taken sick. The physician being called, bled him, and it was said that the blood was so impregnated with whiskey as to emit a strong smell of it, as it flew from the vein. He had been intoxicated, it was said for a number of weeks, at length his fever subsided, but a swelling of his legs ensued, which rendered him helpless. At length sores gathered around and broke, and worms it was said, were taken out of the sores. He had two uncles and an aunt and many cousins in the detachment, but all left him to suffer, and for some time before his death he went from one waggon to another begging permission to ride. Last Saturday night a Cherokee went to his uncle and notified him of the distressed condition of his nephew. The uncle then took him into his waggon and carried him on the Sabbath, and on Monday morning had him put into the waggon and driven on, but the waggoner soon discovered that he was dead. The corpse, lying as it was, was carried on to the place of encampment, where a box was made of rough plank, and the remains were interred in the wilderness where we stayed. This young man had been unrestrained in wickedness, and sought pleasure in all forbidden paths, as far as his inclination roved, and his circumstances would permit, yet how soon were all his bowels filled with gall and wormwood.

Tuesday (Feb. 26) The rain had ceased and the weather soon became pleasant, and we proceeded seven miles where we stopped for the night, the detachment having to draw fodder, corn etc.

Wednesday (Feb. 27) Before started I visited a few sick children. We travelled about ten (?) miles and camped for the night. After the detachment all came up we found that two persons, an old man and a child had died on the way. The old man was by the name of Bird, and the child was a daughter of Archibald Fields, by the name of Mary.

Friday (March 1) We learn that two children died last night in

the camps, two or three years old. We stopped till after the buryal of little Mary, and then went on with the detachment about 12 miles where we camped. The day was beautiful, and warm as May, so that we begun to talk of summer. Later in the night on hearing it thunder and rain as we supposed. I hurry up to secure some things exposed to the weather, when I found our summer had changed to winter, and instead of rain we were beset with hard (round) snow. Soon, however, the snow fell in flakes, and covered the ground about ankle deep. I kindled our fire, but the wind kept whirling in almost every direction so that I could scarcely stand by the fire without being enveloped in smoke. We soon found ourselves encountering a Northern winter, and could not secure ourselves from the piercing cold. I told my dear wife that it seemed almost as if we should perish. We, however, succeeded in getting breakfast, and with the company of the poor, suffering Cherokees, started on our journey, and proceeded seven miles. On the way we suffered exceedingly with the cold; and after passing through a long piece of woods, we arrived at a house which gave us great joy. I hastened to fasten the horse, and we hurried to the door, but in knocking, were told by an unseen voice, we could not warm by the fire, as the house was full, though I believe there were but few persons by the fire. We were obliged therefore, to go on to another house. The weather became pleasant, but continued cold. We camped on the bank of Little Piney River.

Sabbath (Mar. 3) The detachment rested and we held meeting at the tent of Br. D. Sanders, Mr. Taylor interprets. Toward night Mr. Lewis Ross called on his return from Arkansas. The night was severely cold.

Monday (Mar. 4) This morning the word came that a Cherokee woman was dying. I hastened to her tent, and found that she was a member of Harris Church. She was put in the waggon which carried her family when the detachment started, but soon expired, The corpse was carried to the next encampment, on the banks of Big Piney River, and for want of boards puncheons were split, and something made of them to answer the purpose of a coffin, and the corpse was interred after dark. This evening we attended the monthly concert and a good number attended.

Tuesday (Mar. 5) We travelled about 12 miles to a settlement called Port Royal on the banks of a beautiful stream called Rubedoo. Here we had a delightful place, on the bank of the river, convenient to wood and water, we employed our kind Nancy, a black woman to wash, and dried our clothes in the evening by the fire.

Wednesday (Mar. 6) We proceeded 14 miles to a handsome River, called Gasconade, having passed over a most barren country.

Thursday (Mar. 7) We travelled to the west branch of the Gasconade, not quite as large as the first, where we stayed last night.

Friday (Mar. 8) Visited Mr. Taylor to enquire if the detachment would travel on the Sabbath; he thought they would rest the Sabbath after. I fear that a rest for the poor Cherokee is still far from them, and that the day of their prosperity will long linger. We travelled ten miles to the Osage branch of the Gasconade, which empties into the west branch where we stayed last night.

Saturday (Mar. 9) We travelled 18 miles to a Mr. Burnett's, where we put up for the Sabbath. We are still on the Osage branch of the Gasconade River. In travelling 18 miles we passed but one house. The detachment came today ten miles, and expect to come to this place tomorrow. They have to fetch corn for their teams tonight from the place where we stayed last night, as as they cannot obtain it on the ground. They could not come through 18 miles today, nor fetch provender for their teams two days, and therefore find it necessary to travel 8 miles tomorrow. This morning we understood that an aged Cherokee brother, sick, did not reach the camps last night, and of course was out on the road all night. I called on his brother and requested him to send a horse back after him. Had it been a common time, I should have seen more about it; but today we had to perform two days travel, and were obliged to hasten on as the road was bad. We are now drawing near the Arkansas, that land of spiritual darkness, and fear I am becoming more and more unfit for the holy warfare. O for an overcoming faith to enable me to withstand wickedness in high places, and obtain a complete victory over myself, the world and the Devil. Tonight we hear that a woman

who has long been sick with the consumption in the detachment, expired last night and was buried this morning.

Sabbath (Mar. 10) About 9 O'clock the detachment began to arrive, so that we commenced public worship but little after the usual time. I spoke from 2 Cor. 8:9. Just before meeting I visited a family, in which was a boy ten or twelve years old, sick with the bowel complaint. He extended his emaciated hand to take mine and then pointed to the place of his extreme pain. Before our meeting was closed he was a corpse. This evening I visited our aged, sick brother who had lingered behind. He is very sick.

Monday (Mar. 11) We travelled with the detachment 12 miles and camped for the night. Mr. Parks, the waggon master, brought intelligence that Mr. Hildebrand's detachment, on another road, intended to get into our road, 5 miles ahead before us tomorrow morning, and then go on before us. On this account Mr. Taylor requested his waggons to start before day.

Tuesday (Mar. 12) The detachment generally arose before day, and most of the teams were on the road either before or at day-break, and in this way took the road before Mr. Hildebrand. At night we camped on a beautiful prairie, and found a tree fallen, by which we pitched our tent, and a part of which we took for wood. The weather was almost uncomfortably warm, and the clouds seemed charged with electricity, and about sunset we heard low thunder. Soon after dark the wind arose almost to a tempest. We retired to rest as usual in our little Carryall, but were awakened in the night by a severe storm. The wind drove with such violence that a part of our tent was thrown down and the rain beat down in between the curtains of our Carryall and with our bed we arose and partly dressed us but could not think of going into the open air, and therefore again wrapped ourselves in our bedclothes and fell asleep. A little before day, the rain was changed to snow, and the cold seemed very severe.

Wednesday (Mar. 13) About day we arose in the storm - found our tent blown over mostly, and many things in it were wet. I found some difficulty in making a fire. My dear wife also came out in the storm, but as her cap and bonnet were wet, she tied a handkerchief on her head. My hat and shoes were also wet, and of course very uncomfortable. After eating a little we proceeded

with the detachment, and suffered considerably with the cold. Passing through some large prairie, we arrived at Springfield, a pleasant village, about noon.

Thursday (Mar. 14) We travelled about 8 miles and camped. As the waggons came up, in one was found a corpse. She had long been sick, and during the storm on Tuesday night, she probably took cold. This forenoon about ten miles from Springfield we crossed a stream called St. James River.

Friday (Mar. 15) We travelled 17 miles over a barren desert, in general destitute of wood and water, but almost naked hills rose to view as far as the eye could reach. We camped in a beautiful place on a small stream called Sugar Creek. Just before arriving at the encampment, a little boy was run over by a large waggon, the wheel passing over his neck and the back part of his head. The physicians were called, but supposing he would certainly die, did nothing for him. Mr. Taylor thinks the detachment will be obliged to travel next Sabbath to keep out of the way of Mr. Hildebrand pressing them behind.

Saturday (Mar. 16) We understand that the wounded boy is better. Mrs. Buttrick and myself left the detachment and travelled about 26 miles to a Mr. Mason's, and put up for the Sabbath. Our host was from Tennessee - has a pleasant family and good accommodations for travellers.

Sabbath (Mar. 17) The morning is pleasant but the prospect is that we can only act alone, without any opportunity of attending public worship. We have a room by ourselves and everything is still and quiet about us. We hope, if the Lord will, before another Holy Sabbath to be in the country toward which we have been so long travelling. O how kind has the Lord been in preserving us thus far on this tedious journey, and now what can we hope or desire but his kind direction and His supporting Providence. O for faith to confide only in Him.

Monday (Mar. 18) We travelled with the detachment about 20 miles. The day was windy and dry so that the dust was often troublesome. Early in the evening it began to thunder, and we had just composed ourselves to sleep in our little Carryall when we were awakened by loud peals of thunder, and a heavy rain falling upon us. One shower followed another so that we had but little sleep.

The high trees, however, hanging over us, were not commissioned to do us any harm.

Tuesday (Mar. 19) The morning was rainy and word came that the detachment would not move today unless the rain should cease by about ten O'clock. The rain continued yet by some means the idea was circulated among some of the camps about noon that we were to proceed, Accordingly, we prepared and went on with Brother McPhaerson's teams. The thunderstorms still continued, one shower after another, with but little intermission. We proceeded about 9 miles, and pitched our tents on a hill where there were but few high trees about us. As our Carryall was wet, we were obliged to sleep in our tent, fixing chains, as we had two with us for a bedstead to keep the bed from the wet ground. During the night the rain, wind and thunder continued with but little cessation. The thunder and lightning were quite severe.

Wednesday (Mar. 20) We travelled but about 6 miles as most of the waggons did not move yesterday, but lay still where we camped night before last. The night was pleasant and still.

Thursday (Mar. 21) and Friday (Mar. 22) We travelled about 26 miles and camped on Friday night about 8 miles from the place in the Nation, where the detachment is to stop,

Saturday (Mar. 23, 1839) After early breakfast, we proceeded to Mr. Woodhall's, 8 miles. This is the place of deposit and also the place where Mr. Taylor is to deliver the detachment over to the U. States officers, who are to supply them with provisions one year. We arrived about noon, and made arrangements for a meeting tomorrow- Find that Mrs. Woodhall is our dear sister Eleanor, daughter of Bro. and sister More of Hightower.

Sabbath (Mar. 24) Mr. Taylor told me that the officers from Fort Gibson had sent word that they should be here today to take the detachment off his hands, and therefore he should be able to attend meeting. Thus, by means of U. States officers the first Sabbath in the country must be profaned by almost every individual in the detachment. We had a meeting, however, and a considerable number of our Cherokee brethren attended. I endeavored to warn them of the dangers and temptations that await them.

Monday (Mar. 25) We made arrangements to send Jonas, the little boy who came with us, to his father, gave our tent to an old Cherokee woman, who had none, and took our leave of the dear detachment with whom we had been wandering these five months past..

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