

Transcribed Journal of L.P. Bradley

Journal of Luther P. Bradley January 1867 – December 31, 1868, Box 1: Autobiographies, Biographies, Diaries, General Correspondences, The Luther P. Bradley Papers, The Army Heritage & Education Center, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

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1867

- Jany Received leave of absence from the War Dpt. until Feby 1st Went east & spent half the month at home & in Boston. Visited the Davis' & Halls at Concord & Dorchester. Returned to Chicago about the 20th & remained until the last of the month. Had a very pleasant time but found it hard to break away from old friends.
- Feby 1 Went to Akron to see Ione. & found every thing as I wished: Spent some of the happiest days of my life with my new joy & my new friends. Returned to Chicago on the 6th - & found a welcome from all the dear ones.
14. Started for Omaha¹ but was stopped by [freshets] & went to Cleveland for Ione.
16. Reached Cleveland at 2pm & persuaded Violet² to return with me. Left at 9pm for home.
17. Got to Chicago at 1pm. after a tire-some but to me very pleasant journey & found them all glad to see us. Said good-bye at midnight, & went away sorrowing.
18. A bright clear morning: made a new a new

¹ Omaha, Nebraska was general headquarters of the Department of the Platte, comprising of Iowa, Nebraska, Dakota Territory, Utah Territory, and a small region of Idaho. Oversaw the Overland Route to Salt Lake City as well as the Bozeman Trail to Montana.

² “Violet” is a term of endearment or nickname for Bradley’s fiancée Ione Dewey.

1867

- Feb. start for the Plains. Left Chicago at 8 & crossed the Mississippi [sic] at 3pm.
19. Snowing all day. Reached Council-Bluffs at 4pm & crossed the Missouri just before dark. River looked dangerous & likely to break up at any time.
20. Called at Head Quarters Department of the Platte & reported. Saw Gen. Auger³, Litchfield, Riske & Chambers. Got permission to return to Chicago & remain until further orders. as it was not practicable to cross the Plains until March. Snowing hard all day. & had all the roads blocked. Spent the evening with Gen. Hughes, Maj. [Brent], & Mr Read.
Remained in Omaha until the 28th waiting for the roads to open.
- Mch 1. Started for home on a week leave & got to Chicago at 9pm of the 2nd – Went at once to Indiana Street & spent most of the night waiting for the girls to return from a party.
28. Received orders to report in Omaha⁴, & started at once after four weeks delightful life in my new home. Left Chicago at 8:15 & did not reach [Boone] until 10am of the 29.

³ Major General Christopher C. Auger was head of the Department of the Platte from 1867-1871.

⁴ Special Orders No. 128. Luther P. Bradley Papers Box 5: Official Papers 1846-1911.

1867

Mch30. Reached Omaha at noon. 60 hours from Chicago.

31. Received detail as member of Court of Enquiry⁵: on the Phil-Kearny⁶ massacre with orders for court to meet at Kearny April 1.

Apl 3. Gen Auger telegraphed Sec of War⁷ to order Court to assemble at Omaha. to save returning after the work is closed at Phil-Kearny.

8. Order received to meet at Omaha.
Telegraphed Van Voast to come down at once.

9. Returned to Chicago to await Van Voast arrival from Phil-Kearny. & remained then until the 6th of May.

May8. Reached Omaha again today. Met Gen. Gibbon & Van Voast & organized Court. Court in session daily until the 14th when it adjourned to Fort McPherson.

12. Bought Black Colt "Sarpy" for 175 dolls from Mr Weirich of Council Bluffs.

18. Left Omaha at 6pm with Van Voast & Chambers. Reached North-Platte in the morning of the 19th but could not cross the river on account of high water.

21. Crossed the Platte this morning at Jack

⁵ Court of Inquiry formed to investigate the Fetterman Massacre, December 21, 1866 near Fort Phil-Kearny were Lakota Indians led by Crazy Horse ambushed a party under command of Capt. William J. Fetterman. His entire company, 79 men, were killed in the attack.

⁶ Fort Phil-Kearny located between Fort C.F. Smith and Fort Reno along the Bozeman Trail. Site of the Fetterman Massacre of December 21, 1866.

⁷ Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton, January 15, 1862 (Abraham Lincoln Administration) – 1868 (Andrew Johnson Administration)

1867

- May Morrows: river very high & full of quick sands. Reached Fort McPherson⁸ at 2pm
22. Court met at 10am & continued in session until the evening of the 28th adjourned to meet at Fort Laramie⁹ on the 20th of June or as soon thereafter as practicable. **Letter**¹⁰
28. Board ordered to divide the Regimental property of the 18th U.S. Infantry between the the three Regts formed from it: viz the 18th-27th-36th met at 7pm & agreed to sell the Band instruments & music to the 18th for 500 dolls & the Library to the 36th 468 volumes for 350 Dolls. these amounts to be divided equally among the three Regts. The Regt. Fund, 490 Dolls, to be divided in the same way as soon as the amount due from the companies of the 27th stationed at Fort Phil-Kearny & Fort C.F. Smith is ascertained & remitted & received from Regt. Treasurer of the 18th 166.66 Dolls. and from the Regt. Treasurer 36th 116.66 Dolls. to be paid over to the Regt. Treasurer of the 27th upon arrival at Fort Phil-Kearny. have memorandum receipts for above amounts.

⁸ Fort McPherson was a post along the Overland Pass, protecting the route between Fort Phil-Kearny and Julesburg, Colorado. It was known as Cantonment McKean until it was changed to honor Civil War General James B. McPherson in February of 1866.

⁹ Fort Laramie, Wyoming was first established in 1834 by the American Fur Company. Fort Laramie was involved in the supply and defense of U.S. forts along the Bozeman Trail after the Civil War. In 1868, Fort Laramie would play host to commission that signed the Treaty of 1868, closing all forts along the Bozeman Trail.

¹⁰ Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, May 25, 1867.

1867

May 30. Marched at 7am with Gen. Gibbon & detachment of the 36th enroute for Fort Sedgewick. Rained all the afternoon. Camped at Fremonts Ranch. 15miles. A very cold wet night. My first night in tent in 2 years. Slept well.

31. a very wet morning. Did not march till 10:30. Had a cloudy day but good for marching. Had our first chase after an antelope. Camped at Fremonts Springs. 17 miles.

June 1. A fine warm day. Marched 21 miles. & camped at 2pm.

2. A beautiful Sunday. Marched at 6am & went into camp at 9 Mile Ranch on the Platte. 23 miles. Capt. McArthurs & the Pawnee camps on the opposite side of the river.

3. Marched at 6. Had a fine day & went into camp at [Van Cleves'] Ranch. 23 miles.

4. Started at 6 1/4 & reached Fort Sedgewick at noon. 13 miles. Camped on the Platte & commenced crossing the train over the river.

5. Gens. Sherman & Auger arrived to day. Crossed Head Quarters over & camped on the north side. Remained here two days.

1867

- June 7. Received order from Gen. Sherman to adjourn Court of Enquiry & forward record & opinion of Court to Sec of War. Addressed a communication to the Gen. declining to give an opinion on the evidence taken. Ordered to proceed to our proper commands. Adjourned sine-die.
8. Gibbon & Chambers left this morning.
 9. Started for Laramie at 3 o'clock with Van Voast & an escort of 25 men of the 4th Infantry in wagons: Made 20 miles & camped within sight of Gibbon's camp at 7:30.
 10. Broke camp at day-light & marched till 10. Halted for breakfast & moved on at 2pm. Made 34 miles.
 11. Up at daylight & marched at sun-rise. Halted at Mud Springs for breakfast & camped at Browns Ranch at 5pm. 20 miles. Passed Court House Rock at 3pm.
 12. Started at 4:30 am & passed Chimney Rock at 8. Halted for breakfast at 9 & moved on to Fort Mitchell at 12. Made 32 miles. Spent the evening with Capt. Hughes & officers at the Fort.

1867

June 13. Marched at 5. Halted at Horse Creek for breakfast & camped at 3 P.M. at Cold Spring. 28 miles.

14. Broke camp at 4. reached 'Laramie' at 11. – 22 miles. Met Gen. Smith & officers of the 27th. Found Commissions as Col. & Brig. Gen. by Brevet in U.S. Army. Camped on Laramie view. Remained until the morning of the 14th waiting for the paymaster.
17. Left Fort Laramie at noon with escort of 2d Cavalry & camped at Ritter Cottonwood. 20 miles.
18. Started at 5 A.M. Reached Gen. Smiths Camp at Bridgers Ferry at 6 P.M. – 28 miles. Lay in camp three days, while the trains were crossing the river.
22. Crossed Head Quarters & camped 3 miles from Ferry.
23. Marched at 6 A.M. Showery all day, & road very rough, & hilly. Camped on the South Platte at 1:30 P.M. – 17 miles.
24. Marched at 6 A.M. Roads bad & rough. Camped on the Platte at 1 P.M. – 12 miles. Passed the camp of the 4th Infantry. approached site La Praille.

1867.

- June 25. Started at 6. – Good weather, clear, but hot. roads good. Met Col. Green, Col. Kinney & others, just from Fort ‘C. F. Smith’ – Camped on Sage Creek. Indians appeared in afternoon & made a dash at the head. got under arms & drove them off.
26. Marched 16 miles in forenoon. & camped on South Cheyenne.
27. Marched at 5. Halted for breakfast at Humphreyvilles Camp. Camped at 3 P.M. on South Cheyenne. 20 miles.
28. Out at 5. Halted at 9 at Cintis Spring. Very hot day & hard marching. Camped at 5 P.M. on Dry Fork. 27 miles.
29. Left Camp at 6. Reached Fort ‘Reno’ at 1 P.M. 18 miles. Very hot day. Camped on Powder River. Freeman, Hartz¹¹ & Jeuness came out to meet us. Dined with Mrs. Freeman.
- July 1. Left ‘Reno’ at 5 A.M. – Van Voast remained & took command of Post. Capt. Hartz & Co. met up with us. Halted at Rose Creek. & moved on again at 1 P.M. Camped at Pond 4 miles from Crazy Woman
2. Marched at 5. Halted at Clarks Spring for dinner. Camped at Corners Spring.

¹¹ Captain Edward L, Hartz, Commanding I Co. (*Roster*).

1867.

July 3. Marched at 5. Crossed Clear Creek & Rock Creek, two beautiful mountain streams & reached Lake d'Smedt at 10 A.M.

Major Gordon, Brent, Brommam, Hyer, & Dandy came out to meet us. Went to Fort 'Phil-Kearny' at 12. Was disappointed in the appearance of the Post. It is badly located. Badly built. Troops came & camped on Little Piney.

4. Had quiet day in camp. Dined with the Officers of the 18th. **Letter**¹²

6. Gen. Wessells & three companies of the 18th left for Fort 'Reno'. Moved Camp up to the south side of Fort. Remained here two weeks awaiting arrival of Freeman & the companies at 'Reno'. Went out with Gen. Smith & Gordon to the battle ground where Fettermans party was massacred. **Letter**¹³

17. Started for Fort 'C. F. Smith' with train of 60 wagons & Companies 'H' & 'I' 27th infty. Gen. Smith joined, with Gordons Cavalry to make a days march with us & look at the Hay grounds on Goose river. Took a cut off road from the Massacre ground & found it very hard traveling & roads almost impassable for loaded teams. Rained all the afternoon.

¹² Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, July 4, 1867.

¹³ Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, July 7, 1867.

1867

July 17. Went into Camp at 4 P.M. on branch of Goose river having made but 14 miles & nearly used up the mules.

18. Rained hard all night. Gen. Smith returned to Phil-Kearny with Gordon. Did not march on account of rain. Cleared up at noon. Broke camp & moved over on to Beaver Creek. 3 miles in a beautiful valley under the mountains.

19. Received dispatches from Gen. Smith at day light with orders to wait the arrival of Gordons Cavalry. before pushing on. Gordon came up reported at 10 A.M. As he had made three marches in 24 hours, decided to lay in Camp until next day & let him rest.

20. Marched at 3:45 A.M. Halted at 9 for breakfast & moved on at 1. Roads bad & rough but the country beautiful. Camped on middle fork of Tongue river at 5 P.M. – 16 miles. Very warm from sunrise to 4 O'clock.

21. Left camp at 4. Had rather a pleasant march & camped at 5 P.M. on Trout Creek. 22 miles. The country on Tongue

1867July

river is as fine as I ever saw: fertile & beautiful; plenty of game, & the streams full of Salmon Trout. Killed two Buffalo & an antelope to day. Indians in sight all day.

22. Marched at 4 A.M. Country very rough & hilly, crossed the Little-Horn at 9. Halted on Lodge Grass Creek for dinner. Moved out at 2, & camped on Rotten Grass 16 miles.

A lot of Crow Chiefs, - Crazy-Head, -Iron Bull, -White Mouth, -Left Hand & others came into camp this afternoon; stayed all night. Gave them supper & tented them. Said they wanted to come up to Fort 'Smith' & would go there when I told them.

23. A 'Red Letter day', -Ione's Birth-day-
Marched at 4 A.M. Halted on Nance Creek for dinner. Very hot; & the country as rough & hilly as possible. All day, it has been mainly down hill.

Came in sight of Fort 'C.F. Smith' at 4 P.M. & waited for the train to close up. Went on to the Fort about 5. Major Burroughs¹⁴ came out to meet us. Camped on the bluff west of the Fort. - 20 miles to day. Found a rough looking place, log houses,

¹⁴ Captain & Brevet Major Thomas B. Burrowes, Commanding G Co. (*Roster*).

1867

- & very poor ones too: no floors, & no roofs, but such apologies as are made by corn sacks & dirt. **Letter**¹⁵
24. Assumed command of Fort 'C.F. Smith', & commenced preparations for altering & enlarging the Post.
25. The Crows came in & camped on the river almost three miles from the Fort.
26. The Crow Chiefs, Crazy-Head-
Iron-Bull – White Mouth – Thin Belly –
Wolf-Bow – Winking-Eye – Left-Hand –
Roman-Nose & others came up this afternoon, & had a talk & smoke. – Don't much like these fellows: except Iron-Bull & Thin-Belly: they are natural gentlemen, & I believe they are honest. The rest of them have been trading with the Sioux, I think, & I doubt them. They are a great lot of beggars, any way.
27. Went down the river 12 miles, with Gordon, to look at the Hay grounds: found the grass light, except in a few places of 20 or 30 acres each.
28. Out to the Pines this morning with Gordon, & a party of officers. Found good timber 10 miles from the Post. Had the finest

¹⁵ Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, July 23, 1867.

1867

- July view I ever saw, in a canon about 5 miles from the Fort. Moved the Companies into the Fort, to keep them out of the way of the Indians. **Letter**¹⁶
29. Sent out Hay party, with 25 men under Lieut. Sternberg.
30. The Crows all left last night for Pryor Mountain. They will hunt down Pryor river to the Yellowstone, & return to the Big-Horn in September.
31. Very busy all day mailing letters & getting up reports for Gordon to take down.
- Aug 1. Gordon¹⁷ left at 3 A.M. taking with him the train, & Maj. Almstead, & Asst. Ssg McClery. Co. 'D' under Lieut. Councilman as escort. – About 11 O'Clock Indians appeared in large numbers in the neighborhood of the Hay fields, & a little firing was heard. They demonstrated on the Wood train, but did not molest it. Not hearing from the Hay party, & the Indians keeping in sight: sent out 20 mounted men to reconnoiter: they found the Sioux in force, & the grass burning. I then sent out Co's 'G' & 'H' & a Howitzer under Maj. Burroughs, with orders to relieve the Hay party.

¹⁶ Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, July 28, 1867

¹⁷ Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, August 4, 1867.

1867.

Aug. & bring them in if he thought proper.
Maj. Burroughs found the party besieged in their stockade, Lieut. Sternberg 'G' Co. in command of the detachment Killed. – Private Navins 'H' Co. Killed, & three soldiers & one citizen wounded. Out of 22 mules in the stockade 4 were killed & 15 wounded. The Sioux were in large force, not less than 500 by all the accounts, & they lost, by the reports of "Mr Colvin, Mr Hayns, & the soldiers, between 30 & 40 Killed. Large quantities of arrows were found inside the stockade & sticking in the wagons. One mule had three arrows in his body when he came in, another had 9 bullets. The party reached the Fort at 8:30, having shelled the Indians on the way back. **Letter**¹⁸

2. Mr Steinberg & Navins buried to day with funeral honors.
3. Went out to the Hay grounds with 'I' Co, found all the property safe & brought in the mowing machines.
4. Train arrived from 'Phil-Kearny' to day, with supplies, mails & c. 'D' Company returned & Mr Halleck¹⁹ & Mr Harwood²⁰ joined the Regt.

¹⁸ Letter Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, August 4, 1867.

¹⁹ 1st Lieutenant W.F. Halleck, Post Quartermaster, Fort C.F. Smith, M.T. (*Roster of Officers 27th U.S. Infantry, September 1, 1867. Box 5, Bradley Misc. Official Military Papers Received*)

²⁰ 2nd Lieutenant Paul Harwood. (*Roster*)

1867.

- Aug 6. Lieut. Matson²¹ left at 5 P.M. with 'E' Co, & train for 'Phil-Kearny'. Took down two deserters from Gordons Co, with horses & equipments. Very hot, Thermom. 105° Sent out Hay party & built new stock-ade. Lieut. Fenton²² with 'D' Co, camped with them.
7. Hottest day of the season so far. 107°
Barometer – 'Change'.
8. Pleasant day, Thermometer 80°. Barom, 'Change'
Richard arrived from the Gallatin Valley with train & 25 men. Made a scout along the river with Burroughs & Hartz.
9. Fine day, Thermometer 90°, - Barometer 'Change'.
Established boundaries of Military Reservation to extend six miles N.E. & S.W. & three miles N.W. & S.E. to include Hay grounds & part of the Pine timber. **Letter**²³
11. 'Blackfoot', Chief of Crows came in to day: reports the tribe at the mouth of Pryor. A war party of Sioux came up & attacked the hay parties about noon: - were driven off without loss.
Fine day, showery & cool.
Thermometer 80° Barometer – 'change.'

²¹ 1st Lieutenant W. Scott Matson, Commanding C. Co. (*Roster*)

²² 1st Lieutenant Reuban N. Fenton, Commanding H Co. (*Roster*)

²³ Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, August 10, 1867.

1867.

Aug 13. Commenced making adobe's for Barracks & Quarters; decided to build of this material, on account of the difficulty of getting timber, & as good clay & lime is found near the Post.

Indians attacked Hay train at 5:30 this morning, but were driven off without damage.

Thermometer 80° Barometer – 'Change'.
Letter²⁴

20. Hottest day of the season, & the most scorching sun I ever saw: nothing in Georgia or Alabama to equal it. Hay & Adobe's coming in well & the work at the Post going on satisfactorily.
Thermometer 107° - Barometer 'Fair'.

22. Went down to Hay field this morning with Burroughs & Hartz, found everything in good order. Brought back Private Penny of 'H' Co. who deserted from Phil-Kearny, July 12th & has been wandering in the mountains ever since. He is deranged from effect of hunger & fright.
Thermometer 90°. Barometer 'Fair'.

²⁴ Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, August 18, 1867.

1867.

Aug. 24. Went out on a scout this morning at 6, with Hartz, Templeton²⁵, Richard, McKenzie, & the mounted men. Crossed the river 3 miles below the Hay grounds, & went up on the plateau: found large herd of buffalo, & charged them: Killed 4 Cows, & brought the meat into the camp. Had a very pleasant day, but met with a sad accident near the Fort. Sergeant Murphy, in charge of the mounted men, was drowned in crossing from the west bank of the river, to the island. His horse got into deep water & threw him, striking him with his feet. Thermometer 100°, Barometer, 'Change'. **Letter²⁶**

26. Fine day: light rain in morning. Commenced putting up Adobe buildings, for officers Quarters. Thermometer 85° - Barometer, 'Change'.

27. Hay contract finished today. Broke up the Camp at the Hay fields, & destroyed the stockade. Thermometer 90° Barometer 'Change'.

29. Raphael & Steed, came in at daylight, with despatches from 'Phil-Kearny', and a bundle of private

²⁵ 1st Lieutenant George M. Templeton, Commanding D Co. & Post Adjutant. (*Roster*)

²⁶ Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, August 25, 1867.

1867.

letters. Despatches are to the effect that a commission consisting of Genls. Sherman, Harvey & Terry with some civil officers of the Govt. are to be at Fort Laramie the middle

of September, to treat with the Indians, & ordering me to communicate with the Crows & Sioux. Sent out John Richard & Boyer immediately, to find the Crows, & carry presents of tobacco & coffee.

Went out to the timber with party of mounted men, & scouted the canón, but did not see any game. Very warm at noon.

Letter²⁷

31. Inspected & mustered Companies 'D'-'G'-'H'- &'I', - Comp. 'E' not returned from 'Phil - Kearny'. A large fire is burning all around the Post, destroying the grass, & all the dry timber: it was a beautiful sight last night, & from all appearance will give us plenty of light to night. Thermometer 85° - Barometer 'Change'.

²⁷ Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, July 28, 1867.

1867.

Sept 1st Lieut. Matson arrived with train of 85 wagons from Fort 'Phil-Kearny'. Had one man Killed by Indians on the road. Got large mail, & supply of papers.

4. Appointed Lieut. Palmer²⁸ Post-Commissary vice Shirly. Very windy & dusty. Thermometer 70 – Barometer 'Rain'.

5. Appointed Lieut. Halleck Post Quartermaster, vice Shirly. **Letter**²⁹

8. Major Burroughs started for 'Phil-Kearny' with train of 85 wagons, 'G' Co. as escort. Very cold morning, Thermometer 33°.

10. Boyer & Richard returned from the Yellowstone to night with 'Blackfoot', 'Crazy-Head' – 'White-Mouth', & about a dozen other Chiefs, on their way to Fort Laramie. They carried the present of tobacco to the Sioux, & the Sioux, Cheyennes & Gros - Ventres, came over to the Crow village to talk with Boyer. Said they wanted peace, but that these Forts, & this road must be abandoned. They admitted they were badly

²⁸ 2nd Lieutenant George H. Palmer, Post Commissary. (*Roster*)

²⁹ Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, September 5, 1867.

1867.

Sept 10. whipped here, & at Phil-Kearny on the 1st & 2d August, & said they lost 8 Killed & 50 wounded at Kearny, & 7 Killed & 30 wounded here. The dead Indian left here, was Chief of the Unkpapas, "Bear that grabs." Fine weather, Thermometer 70° Started Jack Steed to Phil Kearny at 8 P.M. with despatches.

11. Had a long talk with the Crow Chiefs this morning, and learned that they did not want to go to Laramie, on account of the distance, & the fear of the Sioux.

12. Major Gordon arrived this morning, with Dr Matthews, who comes up as special agent of the Peace Commission to the Crows. Had a conference with the Crow Chiefs in the afternoon, 'Blackfoot', 'Iron-Bull', - 'Bears-Tooth', 'Thin-Belly,' & 'Winking-Eye', made speeches. Said they were white in their hearts, & that their hearts were glad to see their white brothers. Made their presents of flour, sugar, Coffee, tobacco, pistols, & spy-glasses.

1867.

Sept 14. Col. Sweitzer arrived this morning, with three Companies of the 2d Cavalry & a large train. Rode out to meet him with Gordon & Templeton.

17. Major Burroughs arrived to day, from Fort Phil-Kearny. Went out to meet him, with a party of Officers. Cold & wet

18. Col. Sweitzer left today, with train for Phil-Kearny. Cloudy day. "Billy the bear," died today, from the effect of poison: regretted by every one, except, perhaps, the rascal who poisoned him.

19. Anniversary of "Chickamauga", the bloodiest battle of the war, except "Gettysburg". Four years ago to day, I nearly got my quietus.

20. Rode out to look for timber this morning: went over the mountain, & returned by the Big-Horn Canón. Found "Long-Horse", & a party of his soldiers at the Fort when I returned: they wanted a 'talk': gave them some rations, & assembled for council. "Long-Horse" was impertinent, so, stopped his talk, & sent him out of the Fort.

1867.

Sept 22. ‘Warm-Robe,’ & ‘Chief-Bull,’ with a party of Crows came in this morning. Sent them back to their village after two deserters. Clear & warm

23. ‘White-Horse,’ ‘Long-Horse’-‘Blackfoot,’ & a large party, came in with four deserters, one of whom had been in their Camp for two months. Paid them the regular bounty, 30\$ each. Weather fine. Thermometer 90°

25. Went down the river to mouth of Grass Lodge, with Dr Matthews, to the Crow Village. Found village on the bank of the Big-Horn river full of boys & girls, & the village full of men, women, papooses, dogs, & ponies. Warm day, Thermometer 100°

26. Surrounded with Crows, the whole tribe being camped round us. Squaws, papooses & ponies are everywhere, & are a collective, & individual nuisance. Had presents of robes, fans, & e. from “Crazy-Head” – “Thin-Belly” & others. Very warm, Thermometer 102°

27. The Crows all left to day, going toward Pryor mountain. Very warm.

1867.

Sept 29. John Richard arrived from Gallatin Valley this morning. Reports his train corralled on the Rose Bud, by a party of about 100 disbanded Montana Militia, who are robbing, & plundering through the Territory. Sent out Lieut. Fenton, with 36 men, & Howitzer to relieve the train, & bring it in.

30. Had monthly inspection at 630
Wind blowing a gale, & the dust flying fearfully.

Oct 1st Sent mail to Phil-Kearny, by Crow Indians. Cool day. Storm brewing.

2. Jack Steed came in to night from Phil-Kearny, with despatches, & letters. Indian Commission postpones meeting at Laramie until November 1st

4. Lieut Fenton returned to day with Richards train, having been as far as Clarks Fork.

5. Mail carriers returned from Phil-Kearny, with mail.

6. Hard storm of wind & rain.
Very cold, Thermometer 48°

9. Crow village came in to day on the way to the Little-Horn.

1867.

Oct 10. First birth in Fort C.F. Smith to night, Crow squaw wife of Shane, the Post interpreter, has a daughter. The Mother is round the Fort to day, as usual, & the baby has been visiting half the Crow village. I expect to see it running about tomorrow, & next day riding a pony. Fine weather.

12. Crows left this morning for the Little Horn, to hunt buffalo.

13. Doctor Matthews left for Fort Laramie with about 20 Crow Chiefs, to meet the Indian Commission. Richard & Shane go down as interpreters. A party of the Montana militia numbering about 75 under Hughes, came in from the west to day. Refused to let them cross the river, & ordered them back to Helena. Beautiful clear day, Thermometer 70°

14. McKenzie came in this evening – having boated down the Big-Horn, about 60 miles, running the rapids in the big Canón, a trip probably never performed by any white man before. He reports the timber lodged

1867.

Oct 14. some 30 miles above, cannot run it down on account of low water. Weather cloudy, Barometer – ‘Change’.

16. Went down to Hay fields with Palmer & Templeton: found plenty of geese, duck, & grouse. Beautiful day, clear & warm. Thermometer 70° - Wood party started up the Big-Horn, to run timber down from Dry-Head.

17. Col. Smith arrived to day with a large train from Phil-Kearny. About half the train was left back 8 miles, without proper escort, & allowed to straggle: just at dark the Indians attacked & captured the rear wagons, but were driven off before they could burn them. Sent Capt. Hartz out to relief of the train, with “E” & “I” Cos. Very windy day, dust in clouds, but clear & warm.

19. Rain in evening, about the first of any amount this season: first snow fell in the night, covering all the mountains & hills, but was not seen in the valley. Weather cold & windy. Thermometer 30°, Barometer “stormy”.

1867.

Oct 20. Crow Indians came in today from Little Horn, & report Dr Matthews still in their village, waiting arrival of Cheyennes, & Arappahos.

21. Went up to the big-Canón to day, with Col. Smith – Templeton – Harwood Luther – Matson - & Dr Thatcher. Had a hard ride of 40 miles & got into the canón with much difficulty: our horses being barely able to climb the sides of the ravines. One horse lost his footing, & rolled down to the bottom of the canón, 150 feet. Shot an elk, & a bear: Got home at 6. Very cold in the morning, & the mountain covered with snow.

22. Col. Smith left at noon, with train for Phil-Kearny. Part of the Montana Militia went off without orders. Reported the matter to Gen. Smith.

24. “White-Forehead” came in to day from the Sioux villages, says the Sioux, Cheyennes, & Arappahoes are all on the Little-Horn, except “Red-Clouds” band of 20 lodges. Charley Richard came

1867.

Oct 24. up from Laramie with tobacco & ‘White-Feather’, ‘Tone-Belly’ & about half the soldiers went down to Laramie with him. They will all make peace if Gen. Harvey tells them to, if we will not travel this road. ‘Red-Cloud’ does not want peace: but the tribe does not follow him. ‘Red-Cloud’ is on the Rosebud, all the others on Little-Horn. A large party of Sioux, Arappahoes, & Crows, under Young Afraid-of-his-Horses, start today to cross the mountain, & fight the Snakes & [illegible]. The Minnecoujoes & Unkpapas got tobacco from Forts Buford & Berthold, & went in there & agreed to make peace, Large presents were made them. Red-Cloud took tobacco from ‘White-Forehead’, & smoked it. “Young afraid-of-his-Horses”, “Bull-that-sits-down”, “Left-hand-Bull”, & ‘Mad-Dog’ lead the Sioux soldiers.
Letter³⁰

27. A fine bright Sunday. Train came in sight just after breakfast. Saddled up & went out: met Merrill, Grimes, Cushing, & Comly, on an inspecting tour. Col. Green with a squadron 2d Cavalry, as escort. Got

³⁰ Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, October 24, 1867.

1867.

Oct 27. full mails & papers. Col. Clarke, paymaster comes with them, & pays to Oct 31st.

30. A cold day. Moved Cos. 'E', 'H', & 'J' into new barracks, & cleared away all the tents.

31. Inspection & muster at 8 A.M. – Comly, inspected arms: Merrill, clothing &c, Col. Clark paid the troops to date. A very windy, dusty, disagreeable day. – Lieut. Cahill, 2dCavalry, came up with a drove of Cattle for the Commissary.

Nov.1st Col. Green left this morning, with Merrill, Grimes, Cushing, & Comly. – fine warm fall day.

2. Cold storm from the east, with snow. Thermometer 35°-Barometer 'Rain'.

4. Had a wolf chase this morning, on Sarpy: caught the rascal in about five minutes. Beautiful day.

6. Cold & cloudy, blowing a gale from the west, with occasional gusts that nearly take the roofs off. Almost impossible to walk across the parade. Commenced evening schools to night.

1867.

Nov 8. Couriers arrived to day with mail from Phil-Kearny, bringing information that Lieut. Shirly's train was attacked on the 4th – 20 miles from Kearny, & Private Partinheimer Killed. Lieut. Shirly, Corporals Donnelly, & Fitzgerald wounded: two wagons lost, one containing mail & ammunition.

11. Major Gordon arrived to day with train. Freight in bad condition, and about half the sutlers goods gone. The Indians caught the train just as it was crossing a bad ravine at the head of Peno Creek, capturing the rear wagons, and shooting Mr Shirley and all the men while working the Howitzers. If Merrill and Green had gone to their assistance when they heard the firing, the losses would not have occurred. Fine warm day.

14. Gordon left this noon with the train for Phil-Kearny. This the last train from below this year.

16. Crows came in today from the Yellowstone country, where they have been to trade with the Nes-Perces. Beautiful day.

1867.

Nov 17. Rode down to the Crow village with Templeton & Harwood. A beautiful fall day. Thermometer 70°.

I never saw such perfect weather in my life, there is not a breath of cold air, or a cloud. and the atmosphere is wonderfully clear. I do not believe there is a more healthy climate in the world; in proof of this, is the fact that there has not been a death from disease here, since the Post was established, in August 1866.

18. A party of about 50 Sioux came up and threatened the beef herd this afternoon. Sent out a Company and offered them a fight, but they did not come within reach. Indians from the Crow village on the Little Horn report Matthews, Shane, Richard & Smith at Phil-Kearny, on the way up.

19. Mr Story, with train load of vegetables from Gallatin Valley, arrived to day. This is our last invoice of stores, and rations us up to the summer of 1868.
Weather clear & warm.

1867.

Nov 22. Hospital steward, Simons was reported crazy to day. Think it is from effects of opium. Commenced raining to night, the first real rain storm this fall. Weather very fine up to this date.

25. Major Burt³¹ arrived to day with the recruits for the Regt, And his family, also. Lieut. Miller & wife. Blowing a gale, and quite cold. Doctor Franz came up with Burt, and enters on duty as Post Surgeon. Commenced drill in Uptons tactics.

26. Snow to night and quite cold.

27. Capt. Hartz started for Phil-Kearny this morning, with train. Snow again to night, 4 inches. Crow Indians came in and reported that the Sioux have made peace at Fort Laramie. Hope it is true.

29. Harwood and Matson went out after deer, and brought in seven fine ones. A small war party of Crows under "Bear in the water," came in to night singing their war songs: they have

³¹ Brevet Major Andrew S. Burt, Commanding H Co. (*Roster*)

1867.

Nov 29. been fighting the Shoshones and taken two scalps. - Mercury 6° above.

30. Had inspection this morning, very cold. Went out to the mountain with Dr Franz. Harwood and Matson saw about a dozen deer, but did not get any.

Dec 1. A party of Crows came in to night from the villages on the Little Horn, and report that the Sioux have Killed two of their tribe. Also, that the Cheyennes and Arappahoes have left the Sioux and are to side with the Crows hereafter. All the Sioux are reported to be in favor of peace, except "Red-Cloud" and his band, even "Young-afraid of his horses" is for peace. The Minnecoujoes have made peace at Laramie and are to have a reservation on the Cheyenne. Thermometer 30° above. – Clear

3. Mail came in from below, at sun down, bringing letters and papers in abundance. Another fight at 'Crazy-Woman'. 2 Killed, and 4 wounded. A party of 50 Sioux passed six miles south of the Fort to day, Prob-

1867.

Dec. 3. ably after the Shoshones.

5. Harwood, Babtiste and party started up to Dry Head hunting. Snow storm to night, Cold and blowing hard.
Thermometer 15 above.

8. My birth day. Shall make lots of good resolutions, and try to Keep some of them. Harwood and party returned to day, had indifferent luck, got six elk and one buffalo.
. A charming day, as mild as Autumn.
Thermometer 54° above

10. The finest winter day I ever saw, clear, and warm enough to make one want to be out doors all the time.
Thermometer 58°, Barometer 'Change'.

11. Moved into my new house to day.
A beautiful morning. Rode until noon with Major & Mrs Burt and Harwood.

12. John Hill, Nes Perces came in to day, with message from 'Old-Bear', Chief of the Cheyennes, who wants to come to the Fort and make peace. Sent John back with present of tobacco to bring the Cheyennes in to talk
Will return in six days.

1867.

Dec 13. Richard returned to day, and goes back to Phil Kearny with teams to haul up Dr Matthews goods for the Indians.

14. 'White Forehead', Crow Chief, came in to day and reports that 'Man-afraid-of-his-horses' wants to come in and make peace.

He has 130 lodges which he can take with him wherever he goes. Sent 'White-Forehead' back with tobacco, with instructions to bring some of the Sioux Chiefs in for a talk. A part of the Sioux are disaffected, and threaten to join the Cheyennes and Arappahoes to fight 'Red-Cloud'. This is a good idea, and I shall encourage it, hoping to repeat the story of the Kilkenny Cats.

Very disagreeable day, a furious gale is blowing, and the dust is like snow.

16. Burroughs started for Phil-Kearny this morning, with Richards train. Cold day, and snowing. Thermom, 2° above.

17. Major Burroughs returned with the train, having got as far as Warm Creek, last night. Gave up the trip on account of the depth of the snow, and the danger of losing the

1867.

Dec 18. stock. Heard a clap of thunder last night, while it was snowing, sounded like the report of a heavy gun a few miles off.

19. Saw a sun-dog this morning, coldest day yet. – Thermometer- 0°.

21. Matson & Harwood went out after deer, but got none. Cold and wind blowing very hard.

22. Sent out hunting parties from the different Companies at the Post, to get some game for Christmas dinners. All got a supply of deer and elk except “E” Co. **Letter**³²

24. Went out with Matson & Harwood after grouse. Wind very high- and birds wild. Shot some rabbits.

25. Fine day, but very high wind. No work at the Post, men playing base-ball, and amusing themselves. All the Companies had game dinners. Had a good dinner at the mess, but wished I was home to make merry with the dear ones. Next Christmas I shall not be alone, but shall have a house full of happiness.

Bradley, in left margin, wrote: Thermometrical – Daily mean for December: 28° above.)

³² Luther P. Bradley to Ione Dewey, December 22, 1867.

1867.

Dec 27. The finest winter weather I ever saw, clear, warm, and bright. Went out after a herd of buffalo reported crossing the river near the Big-Horn Canón. Reached them in a hurry, and they turned out to be a herd of mules.

29. Richards mules were run off this morning at day break, by about 100 Sioux, all the result of careless herding. Mounted McKenzie and 18 of his men, armed them with breech loaders, and sent them after the Indians. Very cold.

30. McKenzie returned at 3 P.M. having been to the Little-Horn without seeing anything of mules or Indians.

“Bears-Tooth” came in today with 30 lodges. No buffalo on the Little-Horn, and all nearly starved. Fed them, and sent them over the river to camp. Cold, and blowing a gale.

31. Inspected and mustered the battalion this morning. Men and arms in good order. Blowing hard all day.

“Good bye old year. Good bye.”