

Bowie Station S.P.R.R.

Arizona by Jan 2, 86.

My darling wife

I had begun to worry exceedingly  
at not hearing from you - when I was  
most agreeably surprised at receiving  
three large letters - Dec 30<sup>th</sup> - Jan 2<sup>d</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
and two papers - all at once this afternoon  
I will first give you an outline of our  
trip - which was a pleasant one consider-  
ing the circumstances. We did not leave  
the depot - at Y & Townsend Sts till long  
after dark - as the horses and freight  
had to be all loaded first - were  
then furnished cars to the ferry and  
crossed to Oakland where another delay

of a couple of hours occurred. Ran past  
 Benicia in the night. and had dinner at  
 Fresno. then south to the Tehachapi which  
 we also passed at night. Next day  
 dinner at Los Angeles. Afternoon travelled  
 through a lovely country and past  
 San Bernardino. Through the U. S. G. M.  
 desert during the night and through a  
 hucous country of desert - Cactus - and  
 mesquite - to Tucson - where we  
 met a Postmaster Cope and where  
 Jerome is stationed. He is in the Custom  
 house detective service has a good  
 place and is doing well - He was  
 not there when we arrived but has  
 been here since to spend the day  
 I met him but was on the road. He  
 was very friendly and appeared to  
 be glad to see all of us. To continue  
 the journey - The next morning we were

3

here - having been four nights and three  
 days on the train - The Passenger Train  
 time is but two days and a half - as  
 we were on a special - and going  
 East - had to wait for everything -  
 and besides were detained three or  
 four hours each day taking off the  
 horses to feed and rest - This place  
 is a little RR Station with a ~~quadrant~~  
 a little eating house and several other  
 houses - of the usual class - small  
 stores and saloons - all the water is  
 pumped from one Artesian well by  
 the RR Co - we pay \$10<sup>00</sup> per class  
 for our water - that is the "out-pass" it  
 three Cos from Angel Island came with  
 us - and the trains had three engines  
 most of the time - since - the ~~two~~ <sup>two</sup> Pacific  
 Cos under Lt Col Bryant - and the ~~San Diego~~  
 Co and the Hallack Co - with Mr Polhemus

4  
have also joined - Making 9 Cos but the  
two Troops our Camps are separate and  
we are pleasantly located - so far. On  
Arrival Major Sireton Reported by Tel to  
Fort Bowie (which is only 3 miles from  
here) and was told to await orders.  
A day before yesterday - We received instructions  
to prepare the two Troops to go into Camp  
with 30 days rations and forage on the  
Gila River about 60 miles from here  
and to come up bringing Kebrusen and  
myself to report for instructions. Yesterday  
the Comd we went to the fort in a horse  
I seated back board - I had forgotten  
to say that we came here at a snow storm  
and that it has been quite cold - ground  
frozen every night - since until tonight  
The coldest weather ever felt in this County  
so all say - Fort Bowie is built in  
a cone in the mountains on a steep

Bowie Station S P R R  
Arizona N<sup>y</sup> Jan 2 86

Darling wife

I will begin where I left  
off the morning. Fort Bowie is built  
on the slope of a mountain about as  
high as those next to Maginnis but without  
timber or water excepting a few little  
springs which are piped into the Garrison  
The C.O. house is a nice modern building  
better than any at this Post. The rest  
of the Qrs are Adobe - and look like  
an old Mexican town - The Parade is a  
steep gravelly sidehill of about an acre.  
The next best house in this Post is an  
Adobe Guard-house. The Officers Quarters

are one story adobe. Ceiled overhead - but  
 whitewashed inside and out - instead of plastering  
 with windows like those of Jefferson Massachus  
 The doors are mostly battened the floors are  
 poor - some of them of dirt - and the  
 back yards are not - walled nor fenced.

I did not see a tree nor a flower nor  
 a blade of grass. The Climate is de-  
 lightful owing to dryness and elevation it  
 being over 5000 ft. It is not a lovely Country.  
 The Post is hemmed in by hills to the north  
 with one outlook over the Cedron Valley  
 wherein we are camped - and toward high  
 mountains in the extreme verge of the horizon  
 beyond the hills - on all other sides there  
 is a rise of a steep Mountain - without timber  
 excepting scrub - This is Captain Thompsons  
 Station this Post is in Guadalupe Canon  
 South of here Huachuca is south west -  
 General Crook is at Bowie but his Horses

3  
are at Prescott. It is understood that he  
is ordered to remain at Bowie - and today  
the rumor is that he is to be relieved by  
General Miles. Gordon is to be ordered  
home - having no command - I am  
to go to the Gila about 50 miles west  
of here with 30 mays supplies - will  
be within 8 miles of Solomonville  
4 miles of San Jose a little old Mexican  
town and about 30 miles from  
Roberson who goes to Ash Springs.  
we will have a daily mail and  
be in a settled country. are to  
watch Indian trails leading south.  
This is the safest Indian country I was  
ever in there are about 40 hostile sets  
and about 4000 troops none of whom  
ever see one - except by the Merritt  
accident - Gen Crook told me that  
none had been killed by the troops for

4  
a year - all by the Scouts - (Indians) - I see  
men travelling everywhere just as in Montana  
and families remain at home even in  
the most secluded Mountain districts.  
The Gila Valley is settled mostly by Mexicans  
and Mormons - and their wives come  
in with women and children - singles and  
in trains - nobody appears alarmed and  
no one has abandoned ranches or mines.

The danger and the stampede is all  
in the newspapers - The same old story  
they want freight and money - The  
B<sup>g</sup> Infy is at Klamath and the 4<sup>th</sup> Infy  
ordered here - (so reported) - General Crook  
declares that these movements are all a  
mystery to him - and that he knows no  
occasion for them - we are to be paid on  
Saturday or Monday - I send you  
some bills paid which paste in the bill book  
The Beef Bill you will see has a bal due.

Have to stop again as the Mail Train is  
coming - Write bushels of love - and  
yours & wife's  
G. L. D.

Address

{ Via Bowie Station S.P.R.R.  
to Solomonville  
Arizona } }

Bowie Station S.P.R.R.

Arizona Tg. - Jan 10<sup>th</sup> 86

My Darling wife your letter of Jan  
7<sup>th</sup> came today - In relation to the Postal  
Cards. I must say that I have written  
as soon as I could - and you must  
know that Official papers are generally  
not written by me but only signed. You  
must be aware that I have had a  
great deal to do. Coming to an entirely  
strange country in getting started and  
in getting supplied. Tomorrow morning  
the Co will be paid and I will start  
for the Gila River going 18 miles  
the first day to the next and expect  
to the next to the new Camp - I

will doubtless be there some time say a month - at least - as we are supplied for that time - No new developments and nothing on which to predicate a judgment. As to the situation - People here in the Army scout the idea of Gen Crooks removal. No one knows anything.

The bill for the newspaper should have been for 2 months \$1.25. I sent you a check for \$100<sup>00</sup> which I turn over to Mr Berretta Ed draw from him 50<sup>00</sup> and pay to ~~the~~ Mr Scott. Including this amount I will have paid \$164<sup>00</sup> on indebtedness out of December pay. So use all the money you want. As after paying Scott 50 you will have about \$90<sup>00</sup> to draw from on Berretta. I wrote to Mother a day or two ago telling her of the change and that

3 The Wakefields were with you. She  
had not of course gotten the letter when  
she wrote to you. I was apprehensive  
that she might go to you on newspaper  
reports. And wished to have her know  
that the house was full. I told her  
also about James being at Clifton  
which is not very far from where I  
will be camped. I shall probably  
see him before long. Send my official  
mail as fast as it comes. In Camb  
I shall have a great deal better op-  
portunity to work at papers than at home  
as the clerks are close by and no obstacles  
to call out any one. Nor so many drills  
courts &c. No not be at all uneasy about  
me. This country is even safer than  
Montana or New York <sup>and infinitely</sup> more  
so than Chicago. With kindest regards  
to all and wishes of love to my darling  
As ever yours  
Ch. H. Brewer

niece of Mrs. & Thonght my  
wish would suit her. as I  
very confidently all to work.  
& went to several places &  
finally a sheet found what  
seemed to suit all of us. & so  
we came home. & at the  
dinner table to my great  
surprise she presented it to  
Mr. saying that she had bought

Residia S. F.

Jan 6/86.

My Darling Husband.  
I was greatly disappointed  
when I came home  
this afternoon &  
found no letter  
for me, from you,  
I had expected one  
for a certainty - but  
shall hope to have  
one tomorrow. As  
I was going to the

months to come. I am sure  
I should give up in despair.  
at the prospect - if it were  
not for the little hope I have  
that it will be as the Pope  
says - that you will only be  
gone 60 days - While in  
town this afternoon Mrs W  
said she wanted me to seek  
a bracelet for a married

city this noon. Saw  
McKeeber was in  
the car. & I heard  
him say that the  
Cavalry troops had  
been separated &  
sent in the field,  
you can imagine  
my feelings. My  
heart went down  
at once. & I could  
hardly restrain  
myself from giving  
them a few tears.  
Oh, Pet I do so hope  
that you are not  
to be kept out, as  
others have for

Much. They played  
unusually well!

Tomorrow we go to  
the City again, & on  
our return I hope  
to have a letter from  
you - & will write  
you, what we did  
& where we went -  
of course I shall of  
write them all I can,  
as it helps to pass away  
the other wise weary  
dreary time - Ah, I long  
how I miss you - I  
long so for your com-  
placent good night  
sweet kisses - lovingly  
& devotedly your wife Mary -

for me - it is lovely -  
Gold band, Tiger  
head on one end  
with ruby eyes - &  
a very good sized  
diamond in the  
mouth - & a tail  
on the other end -  
I was so very  
much surprised &  
at the same time  
delighted, as it was  
the one thing I  
wanted - We all  
went to the usual  
concert this evening -  
& enjoyed it very

Bowie Station S.P.R.R.

Arizona Jy 9<sup>th</sup> Jun 86

My darling little wife,

Your two sweet letters came today - making five in all. The report about Genl Miles coming is not yet confirmed here - Major Gordon is not to return home but to remain here at this station - where there will be a Co of Infy. Whidney 8<sup>th</sup> Infy - a Troop of Cav M. G. L. Cav and a Troop of Indian Scouts - as a relay on the N.H. in case of need - to move Southwest. The situation is unexplained as ever. It is doubtful if there is a hostile Indian north of Mexico - but no one knows. It is an immense territory and with

New Mexico alloted is immense - where  
there are settlements there is quite a population  
but with great deserts or vacant spaces  
between - We have not yet been paid

The Paymaster came today but his money  
did not - We hope to be paid tomorrow  
and start Monday morning for the Gila

I will send you a check for  $100^00$  - which  
give to Mr Beretta charging it on the left  
hand side of your cash book - with the  
date <sup>on</sup> which you give it to him - Then  
draw  $50^00$  for Mr Scott - and such  
other money as you need from time to  
time - do not pay any more bills except  
make a payment on the the where we get  
the Chartruses - I send two Memorandums  
of stuff to have packed - send me  
a recd bill for this stuff as it is so found  
you will see from these that it does  
not look much like actual hostilities

It will be somewhat interesting for a while  
as the County is new - I send for the  
papers because I find I can make out  
more in a week here than in a year in  
Garrison - I am at work at those  
I brought with me every day - and  
getting along famously - Am glad you  
were so pleasantly surprised with  
the bracelet - It was very kind of  
them to give it to you -

Weather fine - This is the most  
deliberious winter climate in the County  
My Son W Mrs Wakefield the Sibbie.  
I don't see why they can't stay with  
you all the time that Mrs W remains  
and have a jolly time together  
knew liberally on Barrett - I have  
about 50<sup>+</sup> with him beside the  
100<sup>+</sup> which I will send you

With a thousand regards to my little son  
Elmer