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Charles Ludwig Jacob Borberg Papers, 1866-1885

2 folders

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REPOSITORY

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DONOR INFORMATION

The collection was donated by Robert Sweet in January 2012.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Charles Ludwig Jacob Borberg was born January 24, 1836, in Switzerland, and came to the United States in 1850. After several years in New York City, he removed to Franklin County, Missouri, in 1858. During the Civil War he served in the 1st Missouri Infantry (3 months), 1st Missouri Light Artillery, 26th Missouri Infantry, and the 57th United States Colored Infantry. On August 17, 1865, he married Margaret Heeger. He died in 1903 and is buried in Sullivan, Missouri.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains a bound volume that consists primarily of the diary of Charles Borberg (pages 29-54 of the volume) describing his experiences during a march from Fort Smith, Arkansas, to Fort Union, New Mexico, to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, with the 57th United States Colored Infantry from June 8 to November 30, 1866. The volume also includes an undated, handwritten draft obituary of John L. Criswell of Stanton, Missouri (obituary is written in pencil and is difficult to read); a page of accounts titled "J.R. Clark Trustee," 1875-1876 (page 2 of the volume); a page of notes in German script titled "Thoughts, Ideas," February 19, 1883 (page 120 of the volume) (see transcription and translation below); a page of undated verse in German script titled "Auf die Geburt von J. Aschenbachs Jungsten" [To the Birth of J. Achenbach's Youngest] (page 121 of the volume) (verse is written in pencil and is difficult to read); memorial verse in German script titled "Wachruf an John Achenbach" [Fanfare to John Achenbach] (page 122 of the volume) (see transcription and translation below); page of names and addresses (page 144 of the volume); page titled "Memorandum of Forwarding of Pension Papers," which includes several names and addresses (page 145 of the volume); and a page containing two undated newspaper obituaries of Charles Borberg (last page of the volume). Many pages of this bound volume are missing. In addition to the bound volume, the collection also contains a handwritten statement of Charles Borberg recounting his military service in the Civil War up until his discharge on December 13, 1866.

Folder 1

[Extracts from the diary of Charles Borberg]

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- 1866 June 8 “ . . . Transportation is very limited & the men have to carry knapsacks . . . only a part of the train can be crossed on account of bad roads & as it rains during the night we severely miss our Tents.”
- 1866 June 9 “ . . . It was oppressively hot & many of the men drop off on the road—one sunstruck. We encamp near Scullyville, the former capital of the Cherokee nation partly destroyed during the war. Wood, water & grass are abundant. . . .”
- 1866 June 10 “ . . . March over splendid country—rolling prairie interspersed nice strips of timber—it looks like a flower garden. We camp on the edge of a prairie near a beautiful creek. The weather was very hot; many of the men did not get into camp until after dark.”
- 1866 June 11 “ . . . We march along San Bois Mountains leaving them to our left. The country is magnificent—one of the finest for farming & stock raising. The men becoming better used to marching are in good spirits. Encamp on San Bois Creek after marching 11 miles.”

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- 1866 June 12 “ . . . Marched 14 m. & encamp on Santa Rita Creek. The country still beautiful it seems a pity that the same cannot be opened to white settlement. . . .”
- 1866 June 13 “ . . . The bottoms on the west side of the creek have allmost become impassable & nearly every wagon has to be assisted out of the mire. March about 15 M. & encamp on La Vonda Creek. The air now is getting purer & lighter as we are constantly ascending.”
- 1866 June 14 “To rest our mules we remain in camp. The men are catching some fish in the creek. Received my Captain’s Commission here.”
- 1866 June 15 “Our Regiment is detailed to assist the train. It is very slow work & evening finds my company two miles from camp. It Being too late we bivouack on a glade.”
- 1866 June 16 “ . . . The roads are terrible & at 8 o’cl it again commences to rain. Every wagon has to be pulled up by the men on to hard ground. About 11 o’cl. we come up with the regiment, finding it in no better condition than ourselves.”
- 1866 June 18 “Have to remain in camp, the creek ahead of us not being fordable.”

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- 1866 June 19 “ . . . During the balance of the day the men are washing & drying their clothing & the camp looks like a huge laundry Establishment.”
- 1866 June 20 “Move at 8 o’cl. & cross Gaines’ Creek the current is very swift & many of the men cross with difficulty. Encamp on a beautiful prairie near the stream.”
- 1866 June 22 “Some of the train mules having strayed away we could not move until 6 o’cl. March 20 M. The country still remaining exquisite. Meet with horned frogs scorpions & tarantulas.”
- 1866 June 23 “. . . Cross Boggy River at 1 P.M. The head of our column took a wrong road & lost the trail. We however soon found it again & encamped after marching 25 M. Some of the wagons broke down & will not be up with the Command until tomorrow.”
- 1866 June 24 “Resting day was hailed with satisfaction by all. We are encamped on a sloping prairie near some springs. The weather is very hot. The dry grass in camp caught fire & a conflagration was prevented only by the utmost exertions of the whole command.

After the danger was over I took a refreshing bath at the springs. Undressing my pocket book fell out among the rocks & I found it again only by a long & tedious search, so the day ended for me with about as much excitement as I could well stand.”

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- 1866 June 25 “. . . Pass Talbots Academy which was destroyed during the war by the ‘Pin Indians.’ This country cannot be excelled in regard to fertility, water timber & healthy location. We cross Blue River about 160 miles fr. Ft. Smith. Near the ford is a beautiful cascade over overhanging rocks about 20 ft to the rocks at the bottom. The mail is sent back from here to Ft. Smith.”
- 1866 June 26 “My company is detailed as pioneers & we start at 4 AM. Soon after it rains. After fixing up some bad places along the route we encamp at 1 PM having marched 15 M.”
- 1866 June 27 “Cross headwaters of Topafky Creek & pass an old camp of Lt. Whipple who surveyed the country 1856. The road is very soft. Water tastes limy. Find some gypsum formations. . . .”
- 1866 June 28 “. . . Some of the wagons need repairs. Our guide has left us & we cannot well start again before we get a new one. . . .”

- 1866 June 29 “. . . . Pioneers are sent out to fix roads. False Washita river is about 2-3 miles from here.”
- 1866 June 30 ““We are mustered for pay by Col. Howe 3d U.S. Cav. Washita is yet past fording & may have to be bridged. Our new guide has come. He is a Commanche [Comanche] chief. During some Cado Indians on very fine ponies come to see us. Every body is in good spirits.”
- 1866 July 1 “The camp is crowded with Indians, they look gay on their ponies with their painted faces & their person ornamented with feathers & trinkets of all kinds. They are good shots with their bows. The river not falling any we resolve to change our route.”
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- 1866 July 2 ““We start again in a more northern direction. Pass some Indian villages & herds of ponies & cattle. At noon encamp 2 miles south of Canadian river having marched 16 M. Soil & timber is getting very poor.”
- 1866 July 3 “. . . . The day was very hot & water scarce & the the command was suffering. The country is very dry & barren 4 M. this side of camp we pass a saline.”
- 1866 July 4 “Detailed again as pioneers we construct a bridge & a piece of road. Col. Alexander’s Col. of Cav. has joined us.
- 1866 July 5 “March at 5 AM & get again on to Lt. Whipple’s trail. Cross Walnut Creek & take a wrong road encamp having marched 15 M. . . .”
- 1866 July 6 “Cross the Cross timber extending through Texas Ind. Territory to the Gulf. The same is very much crippled by fires, the soil is poor. Cross Branch Creek & two small tributaries of Washita river. The bottoms along these creeks are very fertile & fine farms could be made here. Weather still cool. Pass some large skeletons of buffaloes. . . .”
- 1866 July 7 “Started soon after daylight. The road is soft, it having rained during the night mor[e] buffalo signs. A herd of 1000 heads of cattle destined for Albuquerque follows in our rear. Marched 12 M. & encamp on Washita river.”
- 1866 July 8 ““We march, though this is Sunday we have now completed 1/3 of our march. March up along the river. The soil is very rich grass is of man’s hight & also wild grain which grows in stretches of 5-6 miles. Pass the Indian rebel’s Stanwaithe’s [Stand Watie’s] old camp. March 18 M & encamp on the river.”

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- 1866 July 9 "March to old Fort Cobb. 12 M. The same is demolished. Fortunately a bridge across a considerably sized creek is passable yet & we cross without accident. The fort was evacuated in 1861, the garrison joined Maj. Sturgis at Ft. Leavenworth. I paid it a special visit this evening. It was built partly of Adobe & red sand stone of very poor quality. Before the outbreak of the rebellion several Indian tribes were fed here in a reservation."
- 1866 July 10 "Start early & pursue a northwestern direction. Cross several creeks & encamp on Washita after marching 22 miles. Today we saw the first live Buffaloes, also a prairie dog town. It rains."
- 1866 July 11 "Roads again have to be fixed, before we can start up. By noon we pass large masses of gypsum rock. On the road side we discover a sweet artichoke growing wild in great abundance. The cavalry killed several Buffaloes. Ahead of us we see a large herd. Encamp on creek."
- 1866 July 12 "Leave camp again at 7 AM. March in northwestern direction. Weather cloudy & raining. Pass immense herds of Buffaloes & witness a hunt, which afforded vast excitement. The country is no getting very dry & barren as we leave the river & gypsum & sand rock are the predominant formations. The water in the creek we cross is hardly fit to be used for its brackishness. March 14 M. & encamp near a cut or cannon."
- 1866 July 13 "Col [Paul] Harwood has not been heard from since yesterday morning, when he left the command in pursuit of buffaloes. Scouts are sent out but they return without having met him. The road was very bad & had to be fixed often. Encamp after marching 12 M."

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- 1866 July 14 "March 16 M. to Oak Creek over which we have to construct a bridge. Six companies of Cav. are sent out in different directions after Col. [Paul] Harwood, the[y] return however without success. Our mules are falling off & the wagons are becoming Shackly[?]. We are put on 3/4 rations, but the men make up the difference with Buffalo meat & wild plums which latter grow here in great abundance."
- 1866 July 15 "The Cav. returned without having found Col [Paul] Harwood & the command takes up its line of march. Buffaloes are plentiful and we don't get out of sight of them. A wounded Bull upset one of our wagons trying to break through the line, hurting the driver & scaring the mules. We passed some strangely shaped mounds looking like fortifications capped by lime stone. We also pass many gypsum formations sticking out of the ground & some strange petrifications of seashells protruding in slabs of a

singular conglomeration. March 20 miles & encamp. While out on some hills gathering specimens of rock, I came near getting run over by a scared herd of buffaloes. I dodged behind a large rock & so was saved.”

1866 July 16 “Leave camp at noon, march 10 M & encamp on a small tributary of the Washita. The country is very rolling & broken, vegetation poor & soil hard & dry.”

1866 July 17 “Remain in camp on Epsom Creek, water is so brackish as to be almost unfit to drink.”

1866 July 18 “Start at 5 ½ AM. taking a northwestern course the country looks desolate, the soil has the color of brick dust but changes to black as we approach Canadian river. The buffaloes having herded here in large numbers no feed is found for our stock & we travel 28 M. before we find grass.”

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My feet are chaffed & sore & I am detailed on guard. On returning from posting guards at 9 PM, I perceive the strange sight of a moonlight rainbow. We are in sight of Antelope hills in north Texas. Our camp is on the Canadian which is dried up only running under the sand.”

1866 July 19 “Start early but get along very slow, our teams travelling only with difficulty over the soft sandy trail at the rate of one mile pr hour. Toward evening we arrive at Antelope Hills. They are six peculiarly shaped mounds formed in a semi circle north & S. having the appearance of fortifications. They are from 100-150 ft high & capped with coarse sand stone. As they stand so isolated they present a very singular phenomenon. From the highest of the mounds we had a splendid view of the Canadian valley.”

1866 July 20 “Marched 20 M. Weather cool. Find abundant springs on the road. Our stock is somewhat improving. A singular feature of this country present the mounds in the high prairie. Near our camp on the river we discover the remains & fragments of a train which undoubtedly has once met with a sad fate. We have to dig wells in the river bed in order to get water. Wood is very scarce.”

1866 July 21 “March 3 M. & encamp on valley creek. Our mules are in very poor condition. See numbers of mounds again in the distance. Weather is very fine.”

1866 July 22 “Start at daylight & march 25 M. up the river again find fragments of wagons. Two dogs who seemed to have belonged to them followed our command. We find nice white grapes growing on the river bank, the[y] taste well, & some are already ripe.”

1866 July 23 "March 15 M. The road is all sand & we

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progress but slow. The scenery becomes somewhat more picturesque. Bluffs & large mounds forming the north bank of the river."

1866 July 24 "Weather very hot, but a cool breeze coming up about noon & good water on the road enable us to march without much inconvenience. The river sides are now more hilly & rugged."

1866 July 25 "We march along the river in the sand up to our ankles. Every thing is dried up & parched. There seems not to have been rain here for months. Encamp in a valley grass is poor & so is water; there is a small rise in the river & the water looks red & tastes salty."

1866 July 26 "Cross the Canadian this afternoon & encamp on the bank. Have struck the Fort Gibson road."

1866 July 27 "Remain in camp. The 2d Column has come up & also Col. Debois of the 3d who now will serve as guide. The formation of the soil are now very strange. The river seems to have cut its way through the rocky masses that line it. It seems as though the rock was cleft into to make a passway for the stream. Nearly all kinds of rock are represented. Sand, lime, flint & a kind of granite are seen, also slate. I get some very curious specimens which I am saving. This was one of the hottest days we had this summer & the heat was hardly endurable. While at breakfast a ground squirrel came quietly walking up to my chair. I discovered afterwards that my tent had been pitched over his abode. It stayed with me as long as we remained in camp, but would not allow to be petted. We saw some antelopes in the distance, & mustang & buffalo tracks all around us."

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1866 July 28 "March 17 M & cross Mustang Creek. There is not much difference in the appearance between this & the South side of the river. Vegetation is poor, only along the creek the grass looks green. We find a kind of creeping grass growing over 40 ft long. Marching is very difficult on account of excessive heat, & many of the men drop off."

1866 July 29 "March 15 miles & encamp in a ravine where we find good water & grass, but no wool & we have to get along with cold diet. We passed some old camps on the road & crossed quite a number of dry creeks. By digging down on them we strike water every where however."

1866 July 30 "It having rained during the night the roads were in fine condition for travelling. Marched 22 M. & encamped in an old camp finding water fuel

& grass in abundance. Weather is cool & somewhat hazy or cloudy & we march on a high plateau almost level. About 9 o'clock we began seeing all kinds of mirages representing lakes forrest cities so plain that some were even deceived, taking them for real. The mirages changed however continually from rear to front & from right to left always differing in subject. It was a grand sight & every body enjoyed it."

1866 July 31 "Rain during the night. Start early & march 13 M. Crossed a high plateau of about 8 M. length after which we descend into a well watered valley. Encamped in a cotton wood grove. The Bluffs are a limestone formation, but flint is plenty also & of a fine & beautifully looking texture."

1866 Aug 1 "March 22 Miles & encamp on a prairie near some water holes in which we find some fish & turtles. Wood is scarce."

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1866 Aug 2 "March 25 M. Country very level. Pass petrified trees that would be a matter of interest in any museum. Encamp at 4 PM along some fine springs."

1866 Aug 3 "March 12 M & again encamp on Canadian R. Wood & grass plenty. Cedars grow on the Hill sides & Cottonwood on the creeks."

1866 Aug 4 "We come now in sight of the Rocky mountains which loom up in the distance & the scenery generally is becoming attractive. Again encamp on Canadian."

1866 Aug 5 "Recross the river near Fort Bascom & encamp marched 15 M. The fort is built of Adobe & situated in the bend of the river about 20 M. E. of long. "28" The buildings have flat roofs & the garrison consists of 2 Co. 1st N.M. V Inf & 1 Co Cav which troops will be relieved by some of our command."

1866 Aug 6 "March to day. As we pass the Fort the Flags are hoisted & cheer after cheer from our boys rend the air echoing & reechoing in the surrounding bluffs & hills. Draw rations at the Fort. The road winds now through a mountainous pass & is hard to travel but we hail with joy the renowned Rocky mountain Evergreens. Came 18 M."

1866 Aug 7 "Our road again winds along between mountains cliffs & precipies & is very rough indeed. The predominant formations are red & white sand also a gray & white Granite rock. Among the loose rock we find some nice petrifications of wood & vegetables, also [word unclear]."

1866 Aug 8 "The road is much better. We are still traveling between the mountains. We encamp on Concho Creek near a beautiful Cactus grove at the foot of

a mountain. From the same we had a splendid view of the surrounding country. The mountains now are more massive & chainlike, some are 5-600 ft high. Passed two small ranches

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near one of which we encamp. Here we saw the first cornfield since we lef[t] the states. The corn is just in roasting ears & we invest in that luxury at 75 c pr dozen. Close by in a canon large herds of sheep are feeding. The new mexican frontiersman is a very careless sort of a being, his wants are very few & he does not exert himself beyond what is actually required to supply them. His diet is of the most simple kind and consists chiefly of Atole a gruel made of corn meal jerked beef & goats milk or water & tortillas also of corn meal & fired on hot rocks or grid irons. The goat & sheep meat is cut in long strips and dried in the sun at any time of the year. When sufficiently dry & hard it is stored away in some corner of the room ready for daily use.

The education of the New Mexicans is generally finished when they know how to say their "Pater noster & Ave Maria." Reading & writing are rare accomplishments among the common class & if they practice any trades it is done in a very primitive way."

1866 Aug 12 "Started again at 9 AM. Pass numerous sheep herds owned by the rancheros of Moro a settlement on that river. Marched mostly on a high plateau about 18 miles."

1866 Aug 13 "We came to an old ranche, the same had almost the look of a small town. The principal buildings were surrounded by an adobe wall with turrets in each corner as a defense against the Indians. Fields of colossel size stretch along both sides of the Moro & are irrigated through the numerous canals built from the river around the cultivated lands. This ranch belongs to a German named Koenig who managed his almost princely Estate yet under the system of peonage, although the same has been

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abolished years ago. The Mexicans however are so ignorant & indolent that they don't seem able to get along without guardians. We arrive at Ft Union at 11 o'cl AM."

1866 Aug 20 "The regiment is restored to its former status by Genl Carleton comdg [commanding] District of N.M. Col [Paul] Harwood turned up again and is with Cos D & K assigned to duty at Ft. Stanton 280 M. South of here."

1866 Aug 22 "Left Ft. Union to day for Ft Stanton with a new outfit. Marched 12 M. & encamp. Weather cool & rainy"

1866 Aug 23 “This is a cool day—splendid for marching. Came 18 M. & encamp opposite Los Vegas [Las Vegas] on Cajenna river a very swift & turbulent stream. On the road Col. Howe 3d U.S. Cav. passed us on his way to Ft Craig.

Los Vegas [Las Vegas] is an old town of about 1000 inhabitants mostly Mexicans. The buildings are built of Adobe & brick dried in the air. The streets are laid out tolerably regular, but very filthy. The population is a mixture of Spanish Indian & Negro. The best looking building in the place is the public gaming house. All classes of the population may be found represented here daily. The priest, the judge, the ranchero, the mechanic, the merchant—All take a hand in “Faro” or “Monte”

1866 Aug 24 “The river is unfordable. Dr. Wright of our Command crossed this morning & came nearly losing his life.”

1866 Aug 25 “Make preparations to cross over. Long ropes are fastened to the hind end of the wagons. The muskets are loaded in them and the first wagon is driven into the river. It was quite a spectacle. Although not very deep the current is so strong that it often appears as if men holding holding onto the ropes behind, wagon & mules were going down stream.

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The team however landed safely & the others followed with the same success. The last wagon however when in the middle of the stream capsized & only with difficulty 5 of the mules were swept down the river. After the command was all safely across a light wagon with a bridal party attempted to cross also. But the vehicle was too light & capsized & to us it was a miracle how the occupants were saved. They were all fished up however & no lives lost.

We encamp near town. I am Officer of the guard. During the evening we take a stroll through town & visit the prominent places. Invited to a fandango we go & look on a while. Then we refresh the inner man with a supper & return to camp.”

1866 Aug 26 “Leave at 7 ½ o.cl. March SW. 18 M. & encamp at Appache Springs [Apache Springs]. Pass several ranches & gain valuable information about the country before us.”

1866 Aug 27 “March 16 M & encamp 3 M fr. Gajenna river at some springs. Meet Genl Sykes with 5 Cos of 5th US. Inf. Had a fox hunt close to camp & caught him. Wood is scarce.”

1866 Aug 28 “Cross Cajenna River without accident although it is very high yet. March 29 M. Sykes is ahead of us only a short distance.”

1866 Aug 29 "Our mules having strayed off during the night we Start late & only march 9 M to a Gov Agency."

1866 Aug 30 "March 19 M & encamp at 11 AM. The country we traversed during the last few days is a desert. There is some very good country however to

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our right on the Pecos. Every thing is terrible high & fabulous prices are paid for even necessaries of life, for instance corn 4 D p. Bshl [bushel?] Bacon 50 c p. [letter unclear] Canned fruit 1.75 pr. Can Onions one Doll. P. Doz."

1866 Aug 31 "Marched 20 M. & encamp near Some springs. Weather very hot. Mustered for pay."

1866 Sept 1 "March at 4 AM. Arrive at Ft Sumner at 8 AM. The Fort is about 1/4 M square—quite new and afords excellent quarters. Genl Sykes in Command."

1866 Sept 2 "Waterbound. An immense amount of labor has been performed at this post by the troops who garrisoned it since 1863. A farm of 3500 ac has been made along the river with the requisite irrigation ditches. Cotton trees are planted along the avenues leading to Headquarters. Spacious & strong outbuildings are erected such as Store houses Shops Hospital quarters.

The fort with said buildings form the centre of the Navajoh reservation which has a radius of 8 M. This tribe was subjugated 1864 & since then confined in the reservation. There wigwams look in the distance like so many mole hills. There are nearly 10,000 Indians here. They seem tolerably docile, but are very lazy. The commissary issues them corn & fresh beef all other provisions they can get by working for them. The women weave very fine & valuable blankets & make neat moccassins, Horse hair bridles & lassoes for which they find ready sale at the Stores of the Fort."

1866 Sept 3 "The weather is very warm & river not fordable. The red skins have come to the camp & make friends with the men."

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1866 Sept 4 "In camp"

1866 Sept 5 "River falling"

1866 Sept 6 "Strike tents at 6 AM. Cross all baggage on flat boats. Teams ford the river above. After reloading our wagons we march 12 M & encamp near

some very fine springs in the prairie. We caught some fish & turtles Wood Scarce.”

- 1866 Sept 7 “March nearly all day to Stinking Springs So called from the Alkali they contain. For fuel we dig the root of a shrub that grows abundantly around us, the same grows as large as man’s hight & burns in a green State with kindling. Antelopes are in plain view but hard to shoot”
- 1866 Sept 8 “March 25 M. Weather very hot. We suffer for water. Encamp at the mouth of a Cannon near which we find a pool of water. Before us now are the Sierra Blanka Mountains [Sierra Blanca Mountains] with their highest peak El Capitano”
- 1866 Sept 9 “Leave camp at daylight very much refreshed by a rain which fell during the night, leaving the air cool. Marched 25 M without water & encamp at dark at Hopkins Springs in a beautiful valley at the foot of the mountains. We are now in the Appache [Apache] country & have to double the guards.”
- 1866 Sept 10 “March at daylight & march to Ft. Stanton 25 M. arriving there at 3 PM. The Garrison consists of N. Mexican Vols. who welcomed us with great delight, as they were to be discharged after being relieved.”
- 1866 Sept 11 “We are encamped near the Fort

[Volume does not contain pages 45-46.]

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on the bank of the Rio Bonito, a beautiful mountain stream. During the evening we participate in a farewell party given by the officers of the old garrison a large number of ladies from the surrounding Ranches attend & every body felt gay.”

- 1866 Sept 12 “The old garrison moves out of their quarters & we make preparation to occupy them.”
- 1866 Sept 13 “Move into our new quarters. This fort was built in 1848-49 is beautifully situated in the valley of the Rio Bonito. At the beginning of the Rebellion it was destroyed by Texan rebels after it had been abandoned by U.S. troops. The garrison we relieved came here in 1863 & rebuilt the Fort.”
- 1866 Sept 14-16 “Now that we are in quarters once more we almost feel like prisoners caught off from the rest of the world. The only passtime known here are gambling drinking & hunting. There are many Americans up & down the river & the[y] are mostly wealthy from the forage contracts of the Quartermaster. There still exists great danger from the Indians & the[y]

will come down from the mountains quite unawares & carry off all the plunder the[y] can manage to get away with. Since the Americans have commenced settling the valley the depredations have almost ceased.”

1866 Sept 17

“The N. Mexicans leave to day for Albuquerque to be mustered out.”

1866 Sept 18

“Move into my quarters in the fort. Every thing we have to buy outside of the Com. Dept. is very high. Butter \$1.00 p. [word unclear] Milk 50 C. p. Gallon; but we get our share of vegetables from the Post

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garden vis.[?] Onions Lettuce Cabage Cauliflour pepper beats artichokes turnips etc.”

1866 Sept 25

“Nothing worth mentioning has occurred during last week except the receipt of mail matter I am posting up my books & papers.”

1866 Sept 28

“A hunting party consisting of Col. [Paul] Harwood Captains Wilson & Dowling & 4 men returned to day loaded down with trout & deer. The mountains 10-15 M. from here are swarming with game of various kinds—from the grizzly bear to the jack rabbit.”

1866 Sept 30

“Paid a visit to the Panda, a small village about 9 miles below here on the river. It is very irregularly built & looks dilapidated being almost exclusively inhabited by Greasers, that conglomeration of Spanish Indian & Negro cans. It contains however one good store kept by a German Jew. In the evening I attended a Fandango at which we met many Americans.”

1866 Oct 1

“Rose very late waked up by Capt Colivar [Thomas B. Colliver?] who came to my room with the news that our Regiment was ordered to Ft. Leavenworth to be mustered out. I heartily forgave him his disturbing my slumber. We will start as soon as we can get ready. I bought me a pony as I am in sad fix for marching my legs being sore & stiff from former exposure.”

1866 Oct 4

“Owing to a small detachment of our men having been delayed at an outpost we were delayed until noon to day. Having insufficient transportation

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the men have to carry their knapsacks March through a gap in the mountains to Hopkins Springs & encamp. The train arrived about midnight.”

- 1866 Oct 5 "We abandon our tents & leave camp at noon with a scant supply of water for two days marching, as there will be no water on the road short of 70 miles. Encamp at midnight on the plains."
- 1866 Oct 6 "Start out at daylight—Each man with one pint of water. Headquarters & train in the advance. The command follow as best it can. Weather is exceedingly hot. Nearly all the men give out. I marched only with 5 men who kept up with me until we reached camp at dark having made 35 M. The water we found was miserable & brackish, but it tasted splendid to our parched mouths."
- 1866 Oct 7 "Leave camp at daylight & marched to Sweet Springs. Grass & water is good but fuel scarce."
- 1866 Oct 8 "March at daylight. Came very near losing my pony—finally find him at Ft. Sumner near which we encamp. Marched 12 M."
- 1866 Oct 9 "Leave the Fort at 7 AM. & march 26 M. to Gerhard's ranch an US. Agency."
- 1866 Oct 10 "March to Elliotts Ranch another Agency—24 M. Encamp at 4 PM. Weather pleasant."
- 1866 Oct 11 "March 31[?] M. to Cajenna river, the night was very cool."
- 1866 Oct 12 "Start at daylight. March to Gorman's Ranch. Meet Capt. Martz fr. Ft. Bascom. The Utes having lately committed many deprivations there are some rumors of an Indian war."
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- 1866 Oct 13 "March to Los Vegas [Las Vegas] 20 M. Weather cool & rainy."
- 1866 Oct 14 "Move at daybreak. Arrive at Ft. Union at dark having marched 28 miles. There we find the companies fr. Bascom."
- 1866 Oct 15-29 "Cos. A & D are mustered out their term of service having expired. In consequence Col Harwood is also discharged. Was mustered in as Capt. on the 17th inst. The regiment receives pay up to Aug 31."
- 1866 Oct 30 "We start for the States again with a train of 85 wagons & rations for 50 days. There is great dissatisfaction about Harwood's returning with the command among Officers as well as soldiers. March 10 M & encamp on a good spring."

- 1866 Oct 31 “March 12 M & encamp at Ogatee Springs & Creek. Muster for pay. The weather is beautiful & the scenery before us beautifully picturesque. The prairie is covered with a volcanic mass of rocks containing some iron.”
- 1866 Nov 1 “March through several mountain gaps & encamp at Riaul[?] a small town. Came 28 M.”
- 1866 Nov 2 “March at daylight. Pass Maxwells Ranch at 10 oclock. A large number of Utes & Appaches [Apaches] have congregated there to trade Robes & furs. We are introduced to Genl Kit Karson [Kit Carson] the celebrated guide & Indian scout who is commanding a N. Mexican Vol Battallion. He may be about 60 years of age, is square built 5 ft. 6' tall & has a rather feminine voice but his clear greyish-blue eyes for which the Indians call him Eagle eye—give Evidence of great energy.

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The general was very sociable & his conversation touching local affairs was very instructive & interesting. The Indians who some weeks ago had again been stirred up, are again pacified, chiefly through his influence.

We encamp on Cimerone river [Cimarron River] at dark 24 M. fr. previous camp.”

- 1866 Nov 3 “March 25 M. & encamp on Red river or Canadian. Weather is excellent for marching. Harwood using regimental transportation causes increased indignation against the Ex Col.”
- 1866 Nov 4 “Start at sun up & enter Rattoon mountains [Raton Mountains]. Scenery is splendid as we cross in the pass. We ascended about 10 M. when we had reached the highest point. Descending we cross one creek 34 times. After encamping the regt. Officers proceed in a body to Maj. Hunters tent requesting him to let them use the transportation for their convenience on the march back. The Col. only promises.”
- 1866 Nov 5 “March to Trinidad where we meet Cos H & F at the foot of Rattoon Mountains [Raton Mountains]. The scenery is wildly beautiful. To our left are looming up the snow covered peaks of the Snowy range terminating in the Spanish Peaks Mountains of over 5000 ft high from their base about 12000 fr. the sea level.”
- 1866 Nov 6 “March 23 miles over rolling prairie. To our right, Purgatory valley to the left the mountains. Encamped at the Hole in the Prairie, an old camping ground on the route.

The officers send a written request

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- to [Paul] Harwood to leave the command he responds & takes the stage.”
- 1866 Nov 7 “Start out at daylight. The men get on the empty wagons & the officers in the Ambulances. The road is hard & level. At dark Encamp at Iron Springs so called from the peculiar taste of its water. Wood water & grass is plentiful.”
- 1866 Nov 8 “March 35 M. to Arkansas river weather cool. Are yet in view of Rattoon mountains [Raton Mountains] & the Snowy range. Encamped at dark. Met two large ox trains for Ft. Union loaded with Gov. Stores.”
- 1866 Nov 9 “Cross Arkansas river at Old Bents Ford. We here leave the evergreens of the Rocky mountains & the character of the country is now changing. We encamp on the river where we can see up the Purgatory, which stream here empties in the Arkansas.”
- 1866 Nov 10 “March to Ft. Lyons 24 M. & encamp near the river. Met 2 Ox trains & recruits for the 3rd Cav. The Fort is situated on the north bank of the river. The buildings are of rock & have adobe roofs.”
- 1866 Nov 11 “March Early. Make 20 M. & encamp again on the river side. We here provide for wood for seven camps.”
- 1866 Nov 12 “March 31 M. Towards night it commences to snow. Have crossed the Kansas line.”
- 1866 Nov 13 “Leave Camp at 9 AM & march to old Ft Aubery a stage station. Weathe[r] still cold & wood is scarce Bought some at \$1.00 a stick.”
- 1866 Nov 14 “Take a rest. Wagons are sent south of river after wood.”

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- 1866 Nov 15 “Clearing up. Start at sunrise. The snow disappears as we advance.”
- 1866 Nov 16 “Roads are Soft & we dont get along very fast. Marched 20 M. Passed a trapper’s ranche. They are now poisoning the wolfs by hundreds in order to get the skin.”
- 1866 Nov 17 “Move at 7 AM & get along better. The country now looks more rolling. Towards evening we see ahead of us a large herd of buffaloes. They now look dark. The men Killed some of them & we relished a change of meat. Encamped at Cimerone Crossing after marching 36 miles.”
- 1866 Nov 18 “Arrive at Ft Dodge 25 M. march See buffaloes all day. This Fort is just now building. Met more Cavalry going west.”

- 1866 Nov 19 "We now leave the river & march N. East. Encamp 31 M. from last camp. More buffaloes."
- 1866 Nov 20 "Arrived at Ft. Larned at 3 PM having marched 20 M. Some of the mules died having drank out of some Alkali Springs on the road. Bought 6 Buf. robes for 25 D. Encamp on the Pawnee fork of the Arkansas."
- 1866 Nov 21 "March to old Ft. Hara [Ft. Zarah] 35 M. Near which place we cross the burnt prairie & meet Indians going out on a buffalo hunt. Encamp in a bend of Walnut creek."
- 1866 Nov 22 "Bought some more Buffalo robes & moccassions at a Fur Depot on the route. March 25 M & encamp on Plum Creek. The prairie presents a very disconsolate appearance since the grass is burnt off

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- exposing to view multitudes of bleache bones."
- 1866 Nov 23 "Arrive at Ft Ellsworth now called 'Harker' & encamp near the Smoky Hill fork of Kansas river. The country now becomes more rolling & will once be a fine agricultural region."
- 1866 Nov 24 "March 25 M. Pass several ranches. Encamp near a grade of the Western Div. of Pacific RR. Fine country well watered, but timber scarce."
- 1866 Nov 25 "March Early. Pass Saline [Salina] the Co. seat of Saline Co. Country improving pass some very fine settlements. Marched 20[?] M."
- 1866 Nov 26 "March before sun up. Passed through Solomon & Abilene. March 27 miles & encamp near Chapmans ranch on the P R R. See again once more a R R Train."
- 1866 Nov 27 "Weather very blustery. March 15 M to Ft. Riley & Junction City a very thrifty place. The fort is garrisoned by one company of 19th US Inf & 3 Cos. 9th US. Cav under command of Col. Smith."
- 1866 Nov 28 "In camp"
- 1866 Nov 29 "Leave on the evening train for Ft. Leavenworth."
- 1866 Nov 30 "Encamp near the Fort."
- "Mustered out Dec. 17th 1866."

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[Transcription]

1883

Feb. 19th

Thoughts, Ideas

Tilley, Blaine

Tilley ist einer jener rutinierten Partei Politiker, die, wenn sie auch noch so tief fallen, doch innen sich einen gewissen Anhang zu bewahren wissen mit dessen Hilfe sie der Geschäft wieder von Neuen beginnen können. Die vor kurzen wieder circulirten Tilley papers eröffneten wieder einer seiner kleineren Canpagnen und siehen in enger Verbindung mit seiner Anwesenheit in W.C.

Wenn es ihm gelingt die Administrations Partei von seiner erneuten Wichtigkeit zu überzeugen so mag er seine Rolle immerhier noch einige Zeit spielen.

Wie Grant, Conkling, Cameron u. A. war ihm der Ramm in Folge von Erfolgen so geschwollen dass auch er anfang sich hier unverfehlbar zu halten. Dies ist ihm indass weniger vorzuwerfen: er ahmte seinen höheren Vorbildern nach. Aber dass er sich erdreistent, den "irrepressible" zu spielen, zeigt eine Nichtachtung oder Unkenntnis der liberalen Elementes die schon andern und mit Recht verderblich geworden ist.

Die Mensch will frei sein, und sich nicht einmal zu seiner eigenen Besten zwingen lassen.

Blaine seinerseits hat dies gelernt und geigt dass indem er sich zurückzogt. Er wird in Bälde dass was er gelernt hat in seinem 20 Jahre im U.S. Senate od. etwas Ähnliches zum Besten seiner Mitbringen publiciren. Das ist anerkennungswerth. Nur immer Takt.

[English translation]

1883

Feb. 19th

Thoughts, Ideas

Tilley, Blaine

Tilley is one of those experienced politicians who, however far they have fallen, always keep in touch just enough to resume business as usual. The Tilley papers which are about to circulate soon will again open one of his lesser campaigns and are to be seen in connection with his presence in West Canada.

If he manages to convince the administrative party of his renewed importance then he may again play a role here for some time.

For him as in case of Grant, Conkling, Cameron and others had his ego swollen subsequent to successes and he had begun to regard himself as infallible. For this he can hardly be blamed as he was only following his higher up idols. But, that he endeavored to play the "irrepressible," shows a disregard for or lack of knowledge of the liberal elements which has already rightly been the downfall of others.

Man wants to be free and will not allow himself to be forced into what may be the best for him.

Blaine on the other hand has learned this and plays it right in that he has withdrawn. He will soon publish to the best of his ability what he has learned in his 20 years or so in the U.S. Senate. This is praiseworthy. Always the gentle approach.

Wachruf an John Achenbach

Edler Kämpfe ruhe sanft im Grabe
wo mit Thränen wir dich hingelegt!
Weile Pilger an dem Wanderstabe
Und erinnere was meine Brust bewegt

Wer wie ich gekannt hat ihn im Leben,
misst den alten Kameraden schwer;
Grösser Geister hat es wohl gegeben
Treuer Freunde gab es nimmermehr

Statt verteidigen das Grosse, Edle, Wahre
War unbekannt ihm jede Gauchelei:
Sein Lebenslauf war bis zu seiner Bahre,
Ein offner Buch der Ehrlichkeit und Treu.

So lebe wohl! und wo auch deine Stätte—
Im hohe Otpenz nun oder Abram's Schoss
Scheu mild herab auf deiner lieben Katte,
die noch bedrückt des daseins hartes Loos!

[English translation]

Fanfare to John Achenbach

Nobel warrior, rest so softly in the grave
In which with tears we thee laid!
Linger pilgrim by your walking stave
And remember what looms large in our chest

Those who like me in life you knew,
Will miss the old companion more;
Of greater genius are perhaps a few
Of faithful friends there are not any more

Pretend you not to Honesty, Nobility and Truth
To you unknown was always the Deception:
Your life was until it reached its end,
An open book of fairness and trust.

So now good bye! And wherever you are—
Be it in the warmer regions or the bosom of Abraham
Look kindly down upon your beloved cat
Who still so sadly mourns the being lost to her.

Folder 2

1885 June 9 Handwritten statement of Charles Borberg recounting his military service in the Civil War up until his discharge on December 13, 1866. Describes his movement during the war, the battles in which he participated, wounds and illnesses from which he suffered, and the medical care he received. (5 pages)