A Window on Flint Hills Folklife

Part I

The Diary of Elizabeth Mardin

edited by James F. Hoy

The Flint Hills, containing some of the most physiographically distinct landforms in Kansas, have developed a distinctive agricultural folklife, one centered around the cattle industry. That the chief elements of this folklife—a mixture of farming and stock raising, the grazing of transient cattle, and spring burning of pastures—were established early in the settlement period seems apparent from examining early source materials, such as the diary of Elisha R. Mardin for calendar year 1863. This log of daily activities, along with that kept from May through December of the previous year by his wife, Elizabeth, serves as a window into both agricultural and social customs during the formative years of pioneer life in the tallgrass prairie. In addition to their historical value as some of the earliest original source materials from the Flint Hills, these documents also possess intrinsic human interest, providing glimpses into such things as friendships, entertainments, illnesses and death, relationships with the Kansa Indians, and the effect of the Civil War in an area seemingly remote from the battlefields.

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1. The Mardin diaries were first brought to Dr. Hoy’s attention by Dorothy Hart Kroh of Shawnee Mission, Kansas, great-granddaughter of Elizabeth Mardin. Mrs. Kroh provided him a photocopy of a typed transcript, the original of which was held by Elizabeth Ott of Topeka (granddaughter of Elizabeth Mardin and daughter of Lulu Janette Mardin Call), who also possessed the original diaries and the courtship letters. Mrs. Ott exchanged letters with Dr. Hoy and granted him permission to publish these materials. Upon Mrs. Ott’s death, her niece, Jane Donaldson of Wichita, who also provided photographs of Elizabeth and Elisha Mardin, graciously made the original diaries available for the author’s use. Mrs. Donaldson has since donated the diaries to the Kansas State Historical Society.
Elisha Mardin (or Marden—the name is spelled both ways in the records) ranted near the Cottonwood River of northeast Chase County. He was born on August 27, 1833, in Chenango County, New York, and moved when he was twenty-one to Bloomington, Illinois, where he taught school and engaged in agriculture. He met his future wife when the Frank family moved to neighboring Logan County from Piqua, Ohio, in 1856. Elizabeth Ann Frank was twelve years old at the time. She was fifteen when Elisha came west to Kansas in 1859. There he farmed, raised livestock, and bought cattle for Dolby Brothers.

2. In addition to information provided by Elizabeth Ott, background for the lives of the Mardins as well as for the glossaries was gleaned from the following sources: Chase County census records for 1859, 1860, and 1865; a typewritten history of Toledo Township by B. M. Garth, and a typewritten history of Chase County by D. A. Ellsworth (Chase County Historical Museum, Cottonwood Falls, Kansas); Breckinridge and Madison County census records for 1860; Lyon County census records for 1865; a typewritten history of the Cottonwood Quarterly Meeting of Friends 1854–1889 by Paul L. Snyder (Lyon County Historical Museum, Emporia, Kansas); Greenwood County census records for 1870 and obituaries from the *Eureka Herald* and the *Democratic Messenger* (Greenwood County Historical Museum, Eureka, Kansas); Logans County census records for 1860, and *Chenowth: 100 Years, 1872–1972* (Lincoln Public Library, Lincoln, Illinois).


Drovers and Livestock, of Chicago. These cattle, after grazing on the open range pastures of the Flint Hills, were delivered in herd of one hundred or more to markets as far east as New York. Family stories relate one such trip in which a storm on Lake Erie resulted in the cattle being dumped overboard in order to prevent the boat from capsizing.

While in Kansas, Elisha corresponded with Elizabeth and visited her on return trips to Illinois to deliver cattle. Late in the summer of 1861, he proposed marriage in a letter, a proposal Elizabeth accepted by return mail. They were married in Logan County, Illinois, on December 12, 1861, and moved immediately to Chase County.

The Mardins’ Chase County ranch, headquartered on an eighty-acre tract in Toledo Township (the east half of the southeast quarter of S17, T19S, R9E), was apparently a profitable one. According to the 1865 census, this was the largest and most valuable farm in the county, while the cash value and size of Mardin’s livestock herd was second only to that of S. N. Wood. Mardin controlled 960 unimproved and 100 improved acres, with 250 acres under fence for a total value of $9,000. His livestock, mostly cattle, was valued at $5,605. Wood’s farm, by sixty acres less than Mardin’s, was valued at $7,500, while his livestock, which also included a flock of sheep, was worth $13,200. Wood, incidentally, had registered the first brand in Chase County, the W, on July 4, 1864; Mardin was the ninth registrant, on May 19, 1865. His brand was the SJM. It could well be that Mardin actually ran more cattle, but they might have been owned by Dolby Brothers.

In 1868, Elisha was elected county sheriff, at which time he and Elizabeth sold their farm to Samuel Moore and moved to Cottonwood Falls. Two years later they moved to Greenwood County, where census records list his occupation as butcher. Their three daughters, Lulu Janette (Call), Mary Caroline (Davis), and Meriam Angeline (Rollins), were born there. Elizabeth was not quite fifty years old when she died in 1894. She is buried in the Eureka cemetery. Elisha continued to operate a butcher shop in Eureka until about 1910, at which time he retired to the Masonic Home in Wichita. He died in 1916 at age eighty-three and is also buried in the Eureka cemetery.
The Courtship Letters

The four surviving letters between Elisha and Elizabeth are printed below as they were written, with phonetic spelling and a minimum of punctuation, neither of which interferes with the ability of these letters to communicate feelings and emotions, even after a century and a third.

Emporia July 30th 1861

Dear Friend Bettie

It is with pleasure that I seat myself to pen a few thoughts to you it is not pleasure to think that I am far from you but it is because I know you are one that I can place confidence in at all times I arrived here last Saturday safe and sound I had a very pleasant trip of it and everything looks fine here I am well pleased with the country this time the crops all look fine we have a plenty of roasting ears beans cucumbers & all such things I think that I shall be home again in september but do not know yet do not look for me till I come I bought five steers yesterday and shall keep buying all the fall I have not much news to write give best Respects to Sarah & Arthur also to your Father & Mother Write as soon as you get this & tell the news I guess you had better kiss Myrtle for me no more at present

E. R. Marden

Good By with a kiss

Emporia Sept 1st 1861

Dear Friend Bettie

I came to town today and found a letter from you and take this early opportunity to answer it I had begun to think you had forgotten me entirely but I am truly glad you have not. Bettie I am very sorry you are having so much trouble but I suppose the boys think that they are doing right I for myself shall not go to the war unless I have so you need not worry about that Bettie I think I shall be at home sometime between this and Christmas if you want to come to this country & think enough of me to marry me and come here we will be married when I come if any thing happens that I do not get there so soon I will let you know. Now Bettie I am in earnest about this so let me know just what you will do when you write I am going to

Mt. Pulaski Aug the 18
1861

Dear Friend Elisha

I am once more seated to pen you a few thoughts to let you know how I am getting along lish [Elisha] I have been vary sad this day I have cryed all day tomarro the boys are a going to war I will tell you some of the boys names brother Isreal Isaac and Lu is gone Israel is going tomarro lish many tears have I shed this morning but enough of this I must tri to cheer up Lish I should have written to you sooner but when I received your letter I was geting redy to go to a wedding I went to the wedding and I enjoyed myself rite well the cupple that was married was Emmy Allen Jo Plat they were married at Jobe Allen on thursday last at 8 clock A. M. and then went to miles east of Atlanta to Emmas sisters and danced all night.

I will tell you somthing about the camp meetings we have had I was up the creek to camp meeting but they did not have a very good time up there but they had a lively time down here at this camp meeting it lasted very nigh to weake

I must bring my letter to aclose for this time I gave myr tus the kiss you sent her and she sends one in return Tip sends his love to you Sarah and all the rest of the folks sends there love to you I must quit for this time I wish you were here that I could talk to you I could tell you more than I can write lish I wish for you every day I would like to have along talk with you it would sute me better than to write

I clos with my love to you

Good By with a kiss

E. A. Frank

lish my last request is for you not to go to war for it has all most taken me off now

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send a letter in yours for Lew Lyon I want you to send it to him for I do not know where to direct it to tell Tip to write to me and I will ans give Myrtle a kiss for me tell Sarah that I am going to write her a letter soon.

No more at present

E. R. Mardin

To Bettie Frank

Now Bettie do not wait so to ans this for I shall be very anxious to hear from this letter.

E. R. Mardin

Mt Pulaski Sep the 23
1861

Dear Friend Elisha

It is with pleasure that I now sit down to reply to an unancered letter that I received but a few days ago Elisha your letter tuk me on surprize I did not expect the news you wrote me you proposed marriage to me and I have thought of it and I will go for I know I cant love any one better than I do you I will say as I all ways said that I never would marry untill I love them well aough to go where ever they wanted me to go one thing I will ask you do you want me to be ready when you come or if not do write to me and tell me I cant write any more for I must help to put up peaches in cans and I must quit write soon

E. A. Frank

Good By with to write more but [The last few words of the closing have been lost.]

Perhaps the most unexpected revelation in this diary is the sheer amount of social intercourse that transpires. Elizabeth had visitors at her home on forty-three days; seven nights she had overnight guests. She went visiting on thirty-four days, spending twenty-one nights at the homes of others. Thus, 77 of the 234 days recorded in her diary (nearly a third) are spent visiting. Add to this total the eight times she noted her attendance at church and an Independence Day celebration, then consider as well that usually a hired girl and one or more hired men were around, and one can only conclude that Elizabeth was hardly isolated: her life was a busy one.

Some of the visitors to the Mardin house were there to see Elisha on business and some of Elizabeth's leisure activities were solitary—reading, maintaining correspondence—but most of her social activities involved others: horse riding, canoeing, berry picking, going for tea or for dinner or "to see the babies."

Her domestic life was equally busy. For despite the luxury of a hired girl, Elizabeth was heavily involved in the many onerous tasks of pioneer life—washing (mentioned in the entries for twenty-eight days), ironing (twenty-six days), sewing (seventy-six days), helping to butcher (five days), rendering lard and making soap (six days), putting up preserves (nine days), cooking for harvesters (four days). She also kept a garden, gathered wild berries, churned, helped haul hay, and helped drive cattle from the fields.

The Diary of Elizabeth Mardin

On the first of May in the first year of her marriage, living far from her family, Elizabeth began keeping her diary just a few days before her eighteenth birthday. Her account shows that pioneer life in the Flint Hills was not easy, but neither was it as hard or as isolated as the standard view of the settlement of the West would have it. Perhaps distances between neighbors were greater on the sod-house frontier farther out on the plains, and perhaps Elisha Mardin, with the backing of the Dolby Brothers livestock firm, had more secure financial backing than many other early settlers. However that may be, Elizabeth's laments of loneliness (May 6, 9, July 8), while undoubtedly genuine, nevertheless seem more the yearnings of a new wife far from her natal home, her husband gone on business, than they do cries of isolation.
She records ten days of feeling ill, eleven of visiting others who were sick. She sits up with the bereaved when a close family member of her hired girl dies. She sews for babies, and, although not recorded in her diary but according to family members, she often visited war widows, she and Elisha taking meat and other foodstuffs to them. Elizabeth's entries into her diary end on December 26 when she arrives at Springfield, Illinois, en route to a visit with her family at nearby Mt. Pulaski. On the page immediately following her last entry, Elizabeth has copied this poem:

Remember me Oh
pass not thou my grave
Without one thought whose
Relice there recline
The only pang my bosom
dare not brave
Must be to find
forgetfulness in thine

Separated from the verse, at the bottom of the page, is this contemplation written in Elisha's hand: "there are hearts that are glad but mine is sad, and I'm half inclined to weep." On the following page, also in Elisha's hand, are written some travel instructions; after their visit Elizabeth evidently left Illinois to return to Kansas a few days before he did: "stop at the St Michele House in Springfield & tell the clerk that you want to get on the Quinsy [Quincy, Illinois] train in the morning [sic] at Leavenworth stop at the Planters House tell the clerk that you want to go to Lawrence stop at Eastern House in Lawrence."

Elizabeth's diary, printed below as she wrote it, is easy enough to follow once one gets used to the phonetic spelling and to the lack of punctuation. When she refers to a "pleasant" day, she means that the weather is sunny, and, in a pronunciation I often heard from my maiden aunt, Lillian Bredenstein, who came from Illinois to the Butler County Flint Hills as a small girl in 1886, Elizabeth occasionally uses an "a" instead of a "y" to end a word: i.e., "winda" for "windy." Elizabeth's occasional statements about her health and the references to sewing baby clothes suggest pregnancy. Her first child, however, was not born until well after the Martins had moved to Eureka. If she had a miscarriage in the first year of her marriage, it was a secret she kept for the rest of her life. The following comments are those that Elizabeth Call Ott (granddaughter of Elisha and Elizabeth) wrote at the end of the diary typescript:

In Elizabeth's diary she recorded making several baby garments and a baby quilt. She did not say that she was pregnant nor did she ever reveal a possible miscarriage to her first child, Lulu Janette, born in the eleventh year of her [Elizabeth's] marriage. My sister [Mary Ann Call, Elizabeth Call Ott's twin] and I are prone to believe that these garments and quilt were made for the babies she went to see in Emporia. Many times Lulu, our mother, told us of Elizabeth's and Elisha's trips to Emporia to distribute butchered meat to "War Widows" of the town.

Two glossaries follow the diary, one for persons named and one for places and things.

Elizabeth Mardin's Diary

Thursday, May 1st, 1862
I was at home till noon then went to Odells and stade all night

Friday, May 2
went to Watsons and dined went to Smithlens for tea went to Watsons and stade all night

Saturday 3
went to Randolf and dined with her and went back to Watsons and from there I went home I recied a letter from Isreal

Sunday, May 4th, 1862
was home all day reading a book it was a very plesant day

Monday 5
was at home all day I cut out my dress and made part of it

Tuesday 6
I was at home I worked at my dress I was very lonsom lisha went to Emporia

Wednesday, May 7th, 1862
I helped to wash we had a larg washing I got very tired Elisha came home it was A plesant day

Thursday 8
at home all day I wrote a letter to Israel and sarah we had compny it was A plesant day
Friday 9
Molly and I ironed all day Elisha went to town I am so lorn some it is a pleasant day

Saturday, May 10th, 1862
was at home all day it rained all fore noon and in the after noon it was plesant

Sunday 11
Elisha came home and we went to meeting it was a plesant day

Monday 12
I finished my dress it was plesant day it was very warm

Tuesday, May 13th, 1862
I was in bed all day nerly till in the evening then I worked at the babies skirt it was so warm

Wednesday 14
I finished the babies skirt and made the babies stockens it was a fine day very warm

Thursday 15
Molly washed and I done the cooking I was very tired it rained in the after noon

Friday, May 16th, 1862
We ironed Elisha and Hodggin went to Emporia it was plesant till in the after noon and then it rained

Saturday 17
it was very unpleasent day I did not do much of eny thing only to help do the cooking and do the patching

Sunday 18
I was at home all day I was in bed all fore noon and in the after noon I went a canoe riding we had company it was cloudy and cold

Monday, May 19th, 1862
I churned in the morning and helped to do the work and in the afternoon I worked at the babys quilt it was cloudy and cold it rained some

Tuesday 20
I worked at the babys dress Mr. Odel was here Mr. Hodggin and Elisha was away from home John Miller was here it was cloudy

Wednesday 21
Molly and I washed and in the after noon we ironed it was clear in the fore noon and in the after noon it rained

Thursday May 22d, 1862
I finished the babys dress and worked at the baby pantys lisha went to Emporia it was clere till after noon then it rained and hailed

Friday 23
I ironed all fore noon and in the after noon I sewed some and went to the garden and planted seedes it was plesant

Saturday 24
I received a letter from lin I churned and helped to do the morning work and made the babys shoes lisha came home Mr A Hodggin came with him it was a plesant day

Sunday, May 25th, 1862
we went to meeting came home I had the headache it was warm and plesant I got an introductions to the two Miss Shaftes and Miss Hunt

Monday 26
I worked at Mr. Hodggin coat it was warm and plesant Elisha went to the Falls and brought home some fish

Tuesday 27
I worked at the coat till noon and then I hemed a ruffle Elisha and me went a goose barieing it was a warm day

Wednesday, May 28th, 1862
I churned I did not do much of eny thing for I felt so bad that I could not work I went to the garden it was cloudy

Thursday 29
We washed in the fore noon Elisha went to Emporia I worked at Mr Hodgins pance it rained very hard

Friday 30
Molly ironed and I washed Jims clothes and patched them it was a plesant day it was very windy John Miller came here and stade all night

Saturday, May 31st, 1862
it was a plesant day Jim started for Ills. we got our chairs and stand I dun some bakening and churning lisha came home
Sunday, June 1
It is cloudy and cold I was at home till in the after noon and then I went a horse back riding.

Monday 2
It was a pleasant day I was buisy all day a sewing Elisha was sick

Tuesday June 3d, 1862
I did not do much of any thing I felt sick and bad it was warm and plesant I churned

Wednesday 4
Molly and I washed all fore noon and in the after noon we cleaned the kitchen I was very tired

Thursday 5
We ironed it was a plesant day Elisha went to Emporia

Friday, June 6th, 1862
we baked and fixt to go to quarterley meeting it was a fine and plesant day Mr Tompson was here

Saturday 7
we went to meeting and from there we went to Odells and stade all night it was very warm and plesant

Sunday 8
we went to meeting we stade for dinner at a quakers house we came by Toledo and took Mrs more home I received a letter from sarah and Bill

Monday, June 9th, 1862
we cleaned house it took us nearly all day Mr Tompson was here it was a plesant day

Tuesday 10
Molly and I went a goosebarien I wrote A letter to lin and Israel Coke lisha and me went a mulbarian

Wednesday 11
Koke Elisha and me went up south fork a goose berrying it was very warm we went on horse back

Thursday, June 12th, 1862
was home all day Elisha went to Emporia I worked at my tippit lineing

Friday 13
Molly and I washed it was very warm and winda Mr Mer- dock was here

Saturday 14
Hodgin Molly and I went up South fork a goose berrying stoped at granny Millers for dinner came home I ironed and Molly baked pies

Sunday, June 15th, 1862
was at home all day reading Elisha came home it was warm and windy

Monday 16
I finished my tippit it rained very hard Elisha was up to Masons a geathering corn

Tuesday 17
I ironed in the fore noon and in the after noon I made my muftees it was very warm till in the evening it was cold

Wednesday, June 18th, 1862
we washed and cleaned house it was a very plesant day

Thursday 19
we ironed in the fore noon and in the after noon I went to Odell and stade all night it was a plesant day

Friday 20
I went to Emporia to Watsons and went to Randolfs and stade all night went to see Mrs Stollars babies it was a plesant day

Saturday, June 21st, 1862
I went a goosebarrying in the fore noon and I went to see the soldiers drill in the after noon it was a pleasant day

Sunday 22
I came home the cattle was in the cornfield Elisha and me drove them home Molly and Hodgin went to Wentworth

Monday 23
I stemed the gooseberrys in the forenoon and in the after noon I cut carpet raggs I went to the garden it was a plesant day

Tuesday, June 24th, 1862
I cut carpet raggs there was to gentlemen here for dinner it was a plesant day they commenced the cellar

Wednesday 25
We washed we had a large washing Mr Randolf was here all night it was a very warm day

Thursday 26
Elisha went to Emporia it was a very warm day in the evening it rained and hailed very hard the wind blew dreadful

Friday, June 27th, 1862
we ironed very neer all day it was a very warm day Mr Hodgin went to town and brought home some sugar

Saturday 28
we scrubed the house all over that is the lower parte Elisha came home it was a warm day I received a letter from Israel
Sunday, July 29
We went to meeting we went to Mr Prathers for dinner it was a pleasant day

Monday, June 30th, 1862
I was not very well I fixed my dress and mended Elisha coat it was a pleasant day

Tuesday, July 1
Molly and I washed in the fore noon we fixt the clock so that it would run

Wednesday, July 2
We ironed we had company the to Miss Patens was here it was a very pleasant day

Thursday, July 3d, 1862
We baked some cakes and roasted a pig to take to the fourth it was a pleasant day

Friday 4
We went to the dinner we had a good dinner a good speach there was a good menny folks there

Saturday 5
We had company the to Miss Shaft Miss Prather Mr Shaft Mr Drinkwater Mr Prather was here

Sunday, July 6th, 1862
I went to meeting Elisha did not go he was not well I went to Fowlers for dinner Dr Lacy was married

Monday 7
I was not very well I had dreadful soare lips finished the cellar went to the garden

Tuesday 8
Elisha went to Emporia I was very lonesome I wrote a letter to sarah

Wednesday, July 9th, 1862
I made me a collage Elisha came home Randolph and Coke came home with him brought home some muslin

Thursday 10
I made a pair of pillow slipse coke went home commenced the cistern it was cloudy

Friday 11
We washed Randolph took sick Mr Drinkwater was here and stade all night it was a pleasant day

Saturday, July 12th, 1862
We ironed lisha took Randolph home did not get home till in the night it was a pleasant day

Sunday 13
I was at home all day Mr and Mrs Gipsan were here it rainy in the evening

Monday 14
I cut out some sheets and made too we had company John Prather and John Drinkwater was here it was a pleasant day

Tuesday, July 15th, 1862
I worked it the sheets I wrote a letter to Bill Leathers

Wednesday 16
I made a sheet and cut out a pair of drawers for Elisha it was a pleasant day

Thursday 17
I went to Emporia and bought me a new dress went to stilters to see the babies came home in the evening I received a letter from lin

Friday, July 18th, 1862
I finished lisha drawers and don some patching it rained in the evening

Saturday 19
I did not do much of any thing I was not well I wrote a letter to lin

Saturday 20
Molly and me went to Wentworth a visiting it was very warm and when we came home Elisha had company

Monday, July 21st, 1862
I cut out my basketteen and worked at it Gipsans boys brought some chickens Mr Hodgins came home

Tuesday 22
I made me a under waste I went to Fowlers and took tea and went to Prathers and stade all night

Wednesday 23
Was at Prathers Elisha went up cottonwood to buy some cattle it was very pleasant day

Thursday, July 24th, 1862
I came home coke came home with us Randolph was here it was a pleasant day
Friday 25
I worked at my basketteen it rained it was very unplesant John Drinkwater was here

Saturday 26
Coke went to Emporia and came back in the evening it was a plesant day Molly and me made a table cloth

Sunday, July 27th, 1862
was at home all day Mr and Mrs Merdock was here and John Wentworth was here it was very winda

Monday 28
I worked at my basketteen John Bucanon was here Elisha went to Bazaar

Tuesday 29
I finished my basketteen and worked at a shirt bosom it rained all day

Wednesday, July 30th, 1862
I made the ash leach and worked at the table cloth Elisha went to Emporia it rained in the morning

Thursday 31
I made a table cloth and worked at the shirt bosom Elisha came home it was a plesant day

Friday, August 1
We washed we had a large washing in the after noon I went a horse back riding we had company here to supper

Saturday, August 2d, 1862
I done all of the work nearly Molly was not well we ironed we had company here to dinner Mr and Mrs Mason was here in the afternoon

Sunday 3
I took a horse back ride in the evening John Miller was here all day coke Watson came

Monday 4
I cut out Elisha a shirt Gipson brought us some chickens three it was a plesant day

Tuesday, August 5th, 1862
I worked at lisha shirt Elisha went to Emporia coke killed a pig Molly and I dressed it

Wednesday 6
I ironed Molly baked pies and Elisha came home it was a plesant day

Thursday 7
Elisha and coke brought me some water and Molly and I washed in the fore noon the wind blew very hard

Friday, August 8th, 1862
Molly and I ironed in the fore noon and did not do much in the after noon

Saturday 9
Molly and me went after plumbs and grapes I got a letter from Sarah

Sunday 10
Coke and I went to Masons we got some water mellons it was very windy and warm

Monday, August 11th, 1862
I worked at Elisha shirt it rained moste all day

Tuesday 12
I was sick in bed nearly all day in the evening I worked at the shirt it rained very hard in the morning

Wednesday 13
I finished lisha shirt it was a plesant day

Thursday, August 14th, 1862
I did not do much of any thing lisha went to Emporia

Friday 15
Molly washed I don the other work it was a plesant day

Saturday 16
I don the ironing and picked the grapes for pies

Sunday, August 17th, 1862
I was at home all day till in the evening Elisha and me went to gather some plumbs

Monday 18
I done the morning work swept the yard we had company Mr Davis and Mason

Tuesday 19
I went up to Masons came home aby Deadric was at our house I came down to Emporia it was a plesant day

Wednesday, August 20th, 1862
I am in town I went to Randolph and stade all after noon it was a very plesant day

Thursday 21
I was at Watsons in the forenoon and in the after noon I went to Perleys

Friday 22
I went to Smidling in the forenoon and to Stotlers in the after noon it was a very plesant day

Saturday, August 23d, 1862
I am at Watsons was here all day in the after noon I went to the store went a horse back riding in the evening
Sunday 24
I came home there was company here Mr and Mrs More was here we stade to Patens for dinner

Monday 25
am at home lisha and me went to geather grapes I picked grapes in the after noon of the stem

Tuesday, August 26th, 1862
I made an apron and part of another one it was a plesant day

Wednesday 27
I finished apron I put water on the Ayleach I went to Gipsons it was very warm

Thursday 28
I made soap and washed

Friday, August 29th, 1862
I ironed and made soap and made some preserves

Saturday 30
I baked pies and cakes and bread I received a letter from lin it raine most all day

Sunday 31
lisha and I went to camp meeting it was a plesant day

Monday, September 1st, 1862
I went to Emporia I went to Fossups to spend the afternoon I went to Randolphe and stade all night

Tuesday 2
I went to Stows to see the soldiers start for Leavenworth Elisha went with them

Wednesday 3
I went to Mrs Merdock’s a visiting Mrs Stotlar was there I went to the store and then went to Randolphe

Thursday, September 4th, 1862
I came home Mrs Randolphe came home with me Molly quit work Dr Lacy was here

Thursday 11
I preserved peaches I was at it all day I cut out my dresses

Friday 12
We washed and I made some preserves it was A plesant day

Saturday, September 13th, 1862
Amanda ironed I done the baking Molly and I went to the garden

Sunday 14
I was at home all day Fisher was here

Monday 15
Hodgins moved to there cabin I went to Patens and got some tomatoes

Tuesday, September 16th, 1862
I was at home all day sewing

Wednesday 17
Mandy washed Miss Jacobs was here I went with her to Molly’s Frank took sick

Thursday 18
I went to Molly’s and stade all day it was a plesant day Mr Shallenbarger came to fix the house

Friday, September 19th, 1862
I went to Molly’s and stade all day I got a letter from sarah

Saturday 20
I was home all day I ironed and baked pies I could not go to Mollies I sint Manda

Sunday 21
I wrote a letter to lin in the fore noon and went to Molly’s in the evening Frank died in the night

Monday, September 22d, 1862
I went to Molly’s and done the work was there all day came home and went back sat up all night
Tuesday 23
I went to the graveyard went to
stouts for dinner came home and
was very tired and sick

Wednesday 24
I boil my peach preserves over
the were a souring had to cook
for hands

Thursday, September 25th, 1862
I cleaned to house it was so dirty

Friday 26
Manda washed I done the other
work

Saturday 27
Manda ironed I sewed at my dress
the mowers was here for dinner

Sunday, September 28th, 1862
I was at home all day the cattle
got in the corn field Manda and I
drove them out

Monday 29
Molly was here I sewed at my dress
in the fore noon and in the
after noon we went to Patens

Tuesday 30
I sewed at my dress the mowers
was here for dinner

Wednesday, October 1st, 1862
Manda washed I done the other
work it was a plesant day

Thursday 2
I finished my dress the mowers
was here

Friday 3
I worked at my other dress I felt
very sick and bad Manda ironed
some it was very winda

Saturday, October 4th, 1862
I helped to dress a pig and ironed
Elisha went to town

Sunday 5
linly and me went to Hodgin

Molly Mr Hodgin and I went to
Fishers went with them to haul hay

Monday 6
I worked at my dress and made a
bed tick went with them to put
up hay in the night

Tuesday, October 7th, 1862
I went to Molly's she was not at
home went to started home seen
Molly we went back it rained I
stade all night

Wednesday 8
I came home it was very cold and
windy I finished my dress all but
binding it around the neck

Thursday 9
I finished my dress Mandy wash
I done the other work

Friday, October 10th, 1862
Wrote a letter to Sarah Mandy
ironed Elisha and I went for
grapes it was very cold and
windy I worked at my quilt

Saturday 11
I made some tomato preserves
went after the cattle worked at
my quilt

Sunday 12
We had company Marthy Paten
and her Brother was here I went
for the cattle

Monday, October 13th, 1862
I went to Merdocks for William
went to Molly's came home went
for the cattle

Tuesday 14
I made some grape jelly Mr
Hodgin was here they killed a
hog I went to the garden

Wednesday 15
I made some grape preserves
cleaned the hog head and feet it
is a very plesant day

Thursday, October 16th, 1862
Mandy washed and I done the
other work it was a plesant day

Friday 17
Elisha Manda and Mr Hodgin
went Emporia Molly was here
Molly and me went to Gibsons

Saturday 18
Manda and me done the ironing
it was a plesant day only a little
windy

Sunday, October 19th, 1862
we started to meeting the
Indian's put out fire we went to
Molly's Elisha came back it was a
plesant day

Monday 20
at home all day I worked at my
quilt Manda worked at my
shiny

Tuesday 21
I worked at my quilt and worked
at my shiny in the evening

Wednesday, October 22d, 1862
I finished my shiny Mandy
washed there was some Indians
here I cut me out a pair of drawers

Thursday 23
I finished my drawers the prairie
was on fire Molly is sick Mr
Hodgin came for me

Friday 24
Still at Hodgin's Molly is very
sick it is very cold the wind blew
strong from the north

Saturday, October 25th, 1862
at Hodgins the wind from the
north there is snow on the ground
I came home Manda went up
Sunday 26
at home all day Coke Watson was here it is not quite so cold

Monday 27
at home worked at my quilt

Tuesday, October 28th, 1862
Went to Molly's in the forenoon came home baked some bread and worked at my quilt went to the garden

Wednesday 29
I was at home Elisha was sick tended to Elisha worked to my quilt Manda came home

Thursday 30
Went to Molly's stayed till after dinner Mrs Odell and allord was there it was very winda

Friday, October 31st, 1862
I finished my quilt it was very winda

Saturday, November 1
Went to Emporia it was very cold wind from the north came home in the evening

Sunday 2
was at home we had company sarah Gipson marthy Paten was here Mr Watson and Stotlar was here all night

Monday, November 3d, 1862
went to Mollies she was worse went to Gipsons got some eggs

Tuesday 4
I washed and scrubbed Linly helped me Mr Mason was here

Wednesday 5
I Ironed went to wentworths and Gipsons it is very cold wind from the north

Thursday, November 6th, 1862
I went to Patons to get some butter went to the garden Mr and Mrs Stotlar came

Friday 7
Mr Mrs Stotler went home Elisha went to Emporia wind from the north

Saturday 8
at home I done some bakeing Fill Paton was here and an other gentleman was here Ilisha came home I received a letter from Sarah

Sunday, November 9th, 1862
At home all day Linly and mandy went to Molly's it was a pleasant day wind from the south Baker was here

Monday 10
I cut out some drawers and made one pair it was plesant wind from south it rained in the night

Tuesday 11
I made one pair of drawers Elisha went to Emporia it was cold wind from the north

Wednesday, November 12th, 1862
I made a pair of drawers not quite so cold Elisha came home Coke come with him

Thursday 13
Coke went home mandy washed I went to Patons for butter wind from the south

Friday 14
we ironed I done some patching wind from the north

Saturday, November 15th, 1862
I went to Masons fro some butter in the forenoon and to Molly's in the after noon wind from the south east

Sunday 16
At home all day Mr Hodgins was here it is clouda and disagreeable day

Monday 17
I lined my mufettees Elisha and Linly went to Emporia Hodgins went to Gipson for some eggs got a dozen and a half

Tuesday, November 18th, 1862
I made a shirt bosom John Prather and Mr Hodgins was here it rained in the afternoon

Wednesday 19
I cut out some shirts and worked at one John Prather went home Elisha went with him

Thursday 20
Manda washed and I worked at the shirt in the fore noone and then I done the other work

[A page, from 21 November through 26 November, is missing.]

Thursday, November 27th, 1862
at home all day worked at the shirt

Friday 28
Manda washed some few things I did not do much of any thing
Saturday 29
Manda ironed Elisha went to
Emporia I got a letter from lin

Sunday, November 30th, 1862
at home all day it was a cold day

Monday, December 1
I fixt me a skirt ready to quilt I
had a sore finger I could not sew

Tuesday 2
I did not do much of any
thing only tend
to the work

Wednesday, December 3d, 1862
I went to Emporia and stade
all night it was a cold day

Thursday 4
I came home Mr Means commenced
to plaster it was not quite so cold

Friday 5
Manda and I washed we had a
very large washing it was a pleasant
day wind from the west

Saturday, December 6th, 1862
at home till in the after noon we
went to the falls Molly went with us

Sunday 7
at home all day Coke Watson
was here

Monday 8
I done the work in the fore noon
and in the after noon I went to
the falls Molly came home with me it was clear and pleasant

Tuesday, December 9th, 1862
Molly finished the shirt I commenced
to clean house it was clear
and pleasant Molly went home

Wednesday 10
I cleaned the big room and the
up stairs they finished plastering
it was very windy

Thursday 11
we butchered Molly came and
helped it was cloudy and winda

Friday, December 12th, 1862
we cleaned some of the guts for
soap grease it sprinkled rain

Saturday 13
we rendered out lard all day
Elisha went to Emporia it was
cloudy and cold

Sunday 14
at home all day we rendered out
lard in the morning it was a
grimy day

Monday, December 15th, 1862
We kild the rest of the hogs I put
my skirt in the frame to quilt it
was clear and cold winds

Tuesday 16
Tried out lard in the fore noon
and quilted in the after noon

Wednesday 17
Mandy and I washed isha the
scrading

Thursday, December 18th, 1862
I ironed and baked ties it was a
pleasant day

Friday 19
I baked ten pies and fore kakes it
was a very pleasant day we had a
rain in the evening

Saturday 20
the folks went home I went to
bed at eleven and slept till four

Sunday, December 21st, 1862
at home all night it was cloudy

Monday 22
I went to Emporia went to see
Mrs perley's baby

Tuesday 23
I started to Lawrence at too
Oclock arived there at six it drizzled rain all day

Wednesday, December 24th, 1862
started to Leavenworth arived here
at too it has been a plesant day

Thursday 25
went to Weston it rained dreadful
hard we went to the cars the
bridge broke down stade till nine
went to st Jo

Friday 26
Started from st Jo at three got to
Springfield at half past nine

[There are no entries for the
remaining five days of the year.
On the pages written in Elizabeth's hand following the diary
entries are the following entries
in 1863. Apparently she was
keeping track of the work done
by hired men, Linly, Lock, and
Amos Frank, her brother. The "he
lost" notations are puzzling; per-
haps they refer to work lost
because of illness.]

August 20
Linly worked for Hodgkin all day
came home in the evening sick
with the head ache

21
Linly worked for Hodgkin

22
Linly worked for Hodgkin come
home sick

August 23
had a chill

24
he was sick and lost

25
Linly lost
he lost

he lost

he lost

he lost

he lost

September 3

Elisha went to town in the afternoon Linly went to the cornfield at half past two hauld a load of corn in the evening.

4

haul a load of corn in the morning hauld water till noon at three they went for water.

5

lock and Amos hauld a load of corn in the forenoon Linly went to Hodgins.

September 10

Elisha went to town Amos & Linly cut hay in the forenoon went out at two in the afternoon.

Friday 11

Amos & Linly put up hay in the forenoon went out at too and hauled corn in the afternoon.

Saturday 12

Amos and Linly went to Emporia.

[On the second page following are the following notations.]

March the 28th

currents 4 lbs $1
Sugar $3
Coffee $2

April 20

pickles 29 cts
one pound soda 15
sugar 10 lbs $2

May 1st

4 bushels potato $5
11 lbs sugar $2
Coffee $1

M18

Sugar $3
Coffee $2

June 1st

Sugar 20 lbs $4
5 apples $1
Coffee $2
corn starch 20 ct

June 20th

Sugar 20 lb $4
July 14

Sugar 10 $2
24 Sugar 10 $2

[On the second and third pages following is this poem or song lyrics, in a strange hand.]

Evening Star

Beautiful star in heaven so bright
Softly falls thy silver light
As thou movest from earth afar
Star of the evening beautiful star

Beautiful star beautiful star
Star of the evening
Beautiful beautiful star

In fancy's eye thou seemst to say
Follow me come from earth away
Upward thy spirit's pinion's try
To realms of love beyond the sky

Beautiiful star etc.

Shine on oh star of love divine
And may our soul around thee twine
As thouns movest from earth afar
Star of the twilight beautiful star.

Beautiful star

[On the second, third, fourth, and fifth pages following is this entry in a different, and difficult, hand with eccentric spelling. Elizabeth's cousin has attempted a memorial reconstruction of several verses of Henry Clay Work's 1862 song, "Kingdom Coming or the Year of Jubilo." On the bottom of the third page of this entry is this notation.] From a friend

Ann Fletsher
to my cousin
remember me
Wen this you Sea
Elizabth M

[The entry reads as follows.] 1863 January the 8

the kindom Com

Sa darkey haf you Sean
Old massa wir the mush
Stark on the fasse go
Don the roade Som time
this morning like he is
gon to leaf the plase I
Saw the Smoke way up
the river wair the Lincoln
gunboat lay he took his
hat and left very sudin
I expect he has rund away
he is Six feat won way
and toFeat the other and
he wais three hundred
pown his coat was So
big ha cold not goy
halfway a rond he Drild
So much they cald
him captain and he got
So Dred full tend i expect
he will try to fool them
yankee to think he is a
country hand

the massa they ha ha
the Darkey they ha ha
it must be now that
the kingdom Com in
the year of joublo

turn over beta M [i.e., Betty M.]
the Darkey git So tired
of livin in the loghouse
all a lone they move their
thins to massa paler for
to keep wen they air gon
their is wine and sider
in the kitchen and the
Darkey all haf Sam I ex-
pect it will be con-
fiscated when the Linco
ln Soldier com

The whip is lost the hand
 cuff is broken and the Massa
gets his pay he is big
enough Old enough he
ought to know better
then to gon and run
away the overseer’s they get
so tired they drive them
round a spell they lock
them up in the smoke
house sellar with the

key thrown in the
well

the massa they ha ha

[On the second page following is
this recipe for a cake.]
One tea cup of butter three of
loaf sugar rub them to a cream
stir into them the yolks of five
eggs well beaten & dissolve a tea
spoonful of B. soda—salaeratus
in a tea cup of milk add the milk
add the juce and grated peel of
one lemon and the whites of the
five eggs and four tea cups of
sifted flour

[On the following page is a name
and a sketch of floor plans for a
building.]
Parry Higgins
McKissicks grove
Freemont Co

[On the following page Elizabeth
has written her name.]
E. A. Mardin

[On the second page following
Elizabeth has written, below a
scratched out “Mr.” and “Mrs.”,
the names of herself and her hus-
band.]
Mrs. E. A. Mardin
Mr. E. R. Mardin

[On the second page following
are some figures and what
appears to be a shopping list.]

Indago
Starch
candle wick
darn needles
One plug of tobacco
two yds of Black Silk

[On the following page is a
name, a notation, a sideview
sketch of a building and a sketch
of a floorplan.]

Manda
[date] 17 one hoop shirt [paid]
$1.50

Glossary of Names

Alford (October 30). This most
likely was E. A. Alford, listed
in the 1860 Chase County cen-
sus as a thirty-two-year-old
farmer born in Connecticut
and living in Bazaar Township.

Amanda (September 10, 13, 17,
20, 26, 27, 28; October 1, 3, 9,
10, 16, 17, 18, 20, 22, 25, 29; No-
November 9, 13,
20, 28, 29; De-
cember 5, 17). Amanda, one of
two hired girls
who worked for
Elizabeth, can-
not be posi-
tively identi-
fied. A likely
candidate, according to
Elizabeth Ott, is Amanda
Peyton. (See Peyton.) Another
possibility, perhaps less likely,
is Amanda Newton, daughter
of R. M. and Rachel Newton
of Bazaar Township, who was
eighteen years old at the time
of the 1860 Chase County cen-
sus. Elizabeth Mardin’s sister,
Malinda, had a step-daughter
named Amanda, and the
diary does suggest a possible
arrival from Illinois: on
September 2, Elisha goes to
Leavenworth and does not
return until September 10,
when Elizabeth meets him
and Amanda in Emporia.
Annah. See Randolph.
Bill. See Leathers.
Bucanlon, John (July 28). In the 1860 Chase County census, John Buchanan is listed as a twenty-three-year-old farmer living in the household of his father, Samuel, in Toledo Township. Two years earlier John had become the first postmaster of Toledo.
Coke. See Watson, Coke.
Cougher, Malinda Frank (May 24; June 10; July 17, 19; August 30; September 21; November 29). "Lin," an older sister with whom Elizabeth Mardin exchanged letters, was married to Thomas Cougher of Illinois. The Coughers moved to Kansas in 1875.
Davis (August 18). Eight men named Davis are listed in the 1860 census records for Lyon and Chase counties; there is no way of knowing which, if any, one of them was the Mr. Davis who, with Mr. Mason, visited the Mardins.
Deadrin, Aby (August 19). According to the 1860 census, eighteen-year-old Abigail Dietrich lived with her family, headed by Jacob Dietrich, in Pike Township of Breckinridge (now Lyon) County.
Drinkwater (July 5, 11, 14, 25). John Drinkwater was twenty-two years old when he died at Cedar Point on October 1, 1862. He was the brother of O. H. Drinkwater, who, according to the 1865 Chase County census, was a twenty-nine-year-old farmer born in Pennsylvania who lived in Cottonwood Township.
Fisher (September 14; October 5). James H. Fisher, a neighbor of the Mardins who lived near the junction of the South Fork and the Cottonwood rivers, was the first permanent settler (1855) in Chase County.
Fossup (September 1). This was an unidentified family living in Emporia.
Fowler (July 6, 22). According to the 1860 Chase County census, Charles Fowler, a twenty-six-year-old farmer born in New Jersey, lived in Toledo Township with his wife Lucinda, age twenty-four, and a baby daughter.
Frank (September 17, 21). Unidentified. This man lived near the Mardins and was apparently related in one way or another to Molly, q.v.
Frank, Israel (May 3, 8; June 10, 28). Elizabeth Mardin's brother, who later moved to Chase County, lived in Illinois at the time she was keeping her diary.
Frank, Sarah (May 8; June 8; July 8; August 9; September 19; October 10; November 8). Sarah was Elizabeth Mardin's younger sister, who lived in Illinois at the time this diary was written. Sarah later married George Estes of Chase County, who was a sometime partner of Elisha Mardin in the cattle business.
Gibson (July 13, 21; August 4, 27; October 17; November 2, 3, 5, 17). According to the 1860 Chase County census, Barzillia Gibson, a forty-year-old farmer born in North Carolina, lived in Toledo Township with his wife Isabel and five children. Also in the household was a Sarah Patterson, age eleven, who most likely was the Sarah Gibson who came to visit Elizabeth on November 2.
Gipsan, Gipson. See Gibson.
Hodgin (May 16, 20, 24, 26, 29; June 14, 22, 27; July 21; September 15; October 5, 14, 17, 23, 24, 25; November 16, 17, 18). J. B. and Mary Hodgins are both listed in the 1860 census as twenty-five-year-old natives of North Carolina, and living in Falls Township in Chase County. The 1865 Chase County census includes D. L. Hodgin, twenty-three years old and born in North Carolina (perhaps a brother of J. B. Hodgins), a hired servant who was a member of the E. A. Marden household in Toledo Township. See also Murdock.
Hunt (May 25). The "Miss Hunt" to whom Elizabeth was introduced was Abbie K. Hunt, who came to Chase County from Oneida County, New York, in 1860. She taught school, then married Dr. Moses
Lacy (q.v.) on July 6, 1862. After his death four years later, she married Dr. W. A. Cormack of Cottonwood Falls. She died in 1891.

Israel. See Frank, Israel.

Jacobs, Miss (September 17). Charlotte Jacobs, daughter of Gabriel Jacobs, for whom Jacobs Creek was named, was eighteen years old at the time of the 1860 Chase County census and lived in Toledo Township.

Jim (May 30, 31). Unidentified. Jim was perhaps someone Elisha had hired to help with cattle; on May 31 he left for Illinois.

Lacy (July 6; September 4). Dr. Moses Lacy, according to the 1860 Chase County census, was thirty-two years old and a native of Kentucky. His marriage on July 6, 1862, was to Abbie Hunt (q.v.), a schoolteacher originally from New York. He died on August 4, 1866.

Leathers, Bill (June 8; July 15). The 1860 census for Logan County Illinois lists W. P. Leathers, age twenty-three, as a farm laborer living in Mt. Pulaski, Elizabeth's hometown.

Lin. See Cougher, Malinda Frank.

Lind. (October 5; November 4, 9, 17). Unidentified. He appears to be a young man the Mardins hired for general work.

Manda, Mandy. See Amanda.

Mason (June 16; August 2, 10, 18, 19; September 6; November 4, 15). The Masons obviously lived close to the Mardins and provided them with various commodities—corn, watermelons, butter. There is, however, no record of the name in the vicinity until the 1885 Chase County census, which lists a T. B. Mason, forty-five years old and born in West Virginia.

Means (December 4). According to the 1865 Lyon County census, James Means, a forty-five-year-old mason born in Ireland, was living in Emporia Township.

Merdock. See Murdock.

Miller, Granny (June 14). Jane Miller was fifty-four years old in the 1860 Chase County census and living in Falls Township. A widow who had emigrated from Ireland to Canada to the United States, she was one of the early settlers in Chase County. Her son, Arch, worked for Elisha Mardin in the cattle business.

Miller, John (May 20, 30; August 3). Not related to Jane Miller, this man may be the one listed in the 1860 Chase County census as a forty-three-year-old farmer born in Virginia and living in Cottonwood Township. Or he may be, with less likelihood, the John Miller listed in the 1860 Madison (now part of Lyon) County census as a farmer living in Elmadoro Township.

Molly (May 9, 15, 21, 30; June 4, 10, 13, 14, 22; July 1, 20, 26; August 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 15; September 4, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 29; October 5, 7, 13, 17, 19, 23, 24, 28, 30; November 3, 9, 15; December 6, 8, 9, 11). Molly, one of two hired girls who worked for Elizabeth, cannot be positively identified. She seems to be closely connected to the Frank (q.v.) who died on September 21, a relationship that may or may not have been marital. It is possible that, because Molly is a nickname for Mary, she was the Mary who was the wife of J. B. Hodgins, in whose home, when she was sick, Elizabeth visited her. In this case Frank may have been a hired man working for her husband. It is also possible that Molly was working for the Hodgins family in the same way that she had worked for Elizabeth.

More (June 8; August 24). This most likely was Morris Moore, originally from North Carolina, listed in the 1865 Chase County census as living in Falls Township.

Murdock (June 13; July 27; September 3; October 13). Samuel Murdock, born in North Carolina in 1818, moved with his wife Susan and three sons, Joshua Hodgins, William and Josiah, to Chase County in 1859. They lived in Falls Township, according to the 1860 census. Joshua Hodgins Murdock (1844-1923), who is buried in Hillside Cemetery at Toledo, may at times be the Hodgins (q.v.) referred to in Elizabeth's diary. Some of the entries, going gooseberrying with Elizabeth and Molly, for example (June 14), seem more appropriate to an eighteen-year-old boy than to a twenty-eight-year-old head of a household.
Odell (May 1, 20; June 7, 19; October 30). The Odell family seems to have lived near Emporia and was most likely that of Benjamin Odell, who, according to the 1860 census, was a sixty-one-year-old farmer who was born in New York and lived in Waterloo Township of Breckinridge (now Lyon) County. His forty-eight-year-old wife, Minerva, also was born in New York and their household included five sons and three daughters, whose ages ranged from six to twenty-one.

Paton, Paton. See Peyton.

Perley (August 21; December 22). L. E. Perley, originally from Vermont, lived in Emporia Township of Breckinridge (now Lyon) County, according to the 1860 census. He was at that time a twenty-six-year-old merchant.

Peyton (July 2; August 24; September 15, 29; October 12; November 2, 6, 8, 13). Dennis Peyton, for whom Peyton Creek is named, came to Chase County from Virginia in 1857. According to the 1860 Chase County census, he was a sixty-four-year-old farmer living in Toledo Township with four of his children, including Manda, age twenty-three, and Martha, age nineteen. A son, Philip, is listed as a farmer in a separate household, along with two of his brothers. Amanda Peyton may have worked for Elizabeth Mardin as a hired girl. See Amanda.

Prather (June 29; July 5, 14, 22, 23; September 7; November 18, 19). Enos Prather, a fifty-six-year-old farmer born in Ohio, according to the 1860 Chase County census, was married to Zeruah Prather and had three sons (including John, age twenty-one in 1860) and two daughters. The family moved from Ohio to Chase County in 1858 or 1859, settling in Falls Township a mile and a half west of Cottonwood Falls.

Randolph (May 3; June 20, 25; July 9, 11, 12, 24; August 20; September 1, 3, 4, 7, 10). The Randolphs were close friends of the Mardins. Joseph V. Randolph, born in Pennsylvania, was a thirty-one-year-old mechanic according to the 1865 census. He was married to Anna, daughter of John H. Watson (q.v.), and they lived in Emporia with three children.

Romick (September 7). William S. Romigh, thirty years old at the time of the 1865 Chase County census, had taken a claim a mile west of present Cottonwood Falls in 1857. In addition to farming, he also taught school and practiced law.

Sarah. See Frank, Sarah.

Schmedling (May 2; August 22). According to the 1860 census, F. Schmedling was a twenty-eight-year-old butcher, born in New York and living in Emporia Township of Breckinridge (now Lyon) County.

Shaft (May 25; July 5). The “two Miss Shaft” that Elizabeth refers to are Carolyn and Mary, the oldest daughters of William C. and Jane Parker Shaft, who had moved to Silver Creek near present Clements in late 1857. William drowned in early 1858 while attempting to cross Diamond Creek during a flood, leaving his wife with nine children to rear. The “Mr. Shaft” of July 5 is most likely the eldest son, also named William.

Shallenbarger (September 18). Nelson J. Shallenbarger (1834-1901) is buried in the Hillside Cemetery at Toledo. He was born in Pennsylvania and came to Kansas via Ohio, Missouri, and Iowa. He lived on Buckeye Creek near the Mardins.

Smidling. See Schmedling.

Smithlen. See Schmedling.

Stotlar, Stotler (June 20; July 17; August 22; September 3; November 2, 6, 7). According to the 1860 census, two men named Stotler, both printers by trade, lived in Emporia Township: Charles, age twenty-two, and Jacob, age twenty-six. Because no wife is mentioned for either man, they would seem to have no con-
nection to the woman and babies visited by Elizabeth.

Stout (September 23). A number of Stouts, all born in North Carolina, were members of the Quaker congregation at Toledo, having moved to Pike Township of Breckinridge (now Lyon) County in 1858. According to the 1860 census, they were Malon, twenty-nine; Cyrus, thirty-three; and James, twenty-four.

Stows (September 2). Unidentified, but perhaps he was N. S. Storr, from whose hotel Elizabeth may have watched the soldiers depart Emporia for Leavenworth.

Tompson (June 6, 9). Orville Thompson, according to the 1860 Chase County census, was a twenty-five-year-old farmer born in Michigan. He was one of the founders and an early postmaster of Toledo.

Watson (May 2, 3; June 20; August 21, 23; November 2). The Watsons, friends of the Mardins, were a prominent family in early-day Emporia, arriving there in 1857. John Hampton Watson, fifty-five years old in the 1860 census, was a Pennsylvania physician and lawyer who became a district judge in Kansas. His family included his wife, Hannah; a daughter, Mary Jane, who opened the first school in Emporia; and a son, Thomas Coke, who would have been in his mid-teens at the time of the Mardin diaries. Another daughter, Anna, was married to Joseph Randolph (q.v.) (Family information was provided by Gail Rindom, grandson of Anna Watson Randolph.)

**Watson, Coke** (June 10, 11; July 9, 10, 24, 26; August 3, 5, 7, 10; October 26; November 12, 13; December 7). See Watson.

**Wentworth** (June 22; July 20, 27; November 5). According to the 1860 Chase County census, A. P. Wentworth, a sixty-seven-year-old farmer born in Maine, lived in Toledo Township with his wife Esther and two children, including a twenty-three-year-old son, John.

**Glossary of Places and Things**

**Ash leach, Ayleach** (July 30; August 27). Homemade lye. Dave Pinkston, of Cedar Point in western Chase County, has in his possession a large piece of circular limestone used by his mother in making lye, which was a major ingredient (along with lard) of homemade soap. Mrs. Pinkston would place a barrel of ashes on the stone, then pour water into it. As it passed through the ashes, the water would be changed into lye and would trickle out along a groove cut into the stone and collect in a large crock.

**Basket een** (July 21, 25, 28, 29). Some sort of needlework. Perhaps a quilt cover of the traditional basket design.

**Bazaar, Kansas**. Village in Chase County.

**Cottonwood River**. Major river running west to east through Chase County.

**The Falls**. Cottonwood Falls, Kansas, county seat of Chase County.

**Muffetees** (June 17; November 17). A neck scarf or muffler.

**Shimy** (October 20, 21). A chemise.

**South Fork River**. A major branch of the Cottonwood River, running south to north through the southern half of Chase County.

**Tippit** (June 12, 16). A kind of scarf or shawl.

**Toledo, Kansas**. Formerly a village in Chase County, site of a Quaker church. Now a farming neighborhood with no post office or businesses.

**Town**. The term used by the Mardins for Emporia.