

From W.W. to M.

[page 1]
Washington
June 22, '56.

Dear M.[,]

We have been here about a week; sometimes attending to business and some times seeing sights.

On Thursday Gen[.] Whitfield arrived and with him, to my utter astonishment, came Joel Walker, J.W. Gray Eyes and J.S. Bearskin. Surprised as I was, I was glad to see them.

As it regards their business, they maintained a most singular and studied reserve and almost dumb Silence -- and a complete offishness. At this I feel a little wounded; as I think they treated me rather cavalierly, and as I member of the Wyandott nation I claim a right to a knowledge of their business if, of a national character.

[page 2]

Meantime S. Armstrong arrived. He could give no satisfactory account of their business.

They at first put up at Brown's Hotel, but afterwards shifted their quarters, I know not where, nor have I seen anything of them since. You will bear in mind it was on Wednesday I saw them and this is Sunday. We are staying at Whitlock's near the General Post Office. I informed them where we boarded and invited them to call, but none have done so. They have not, as yet, called at the office of the Comr[.] of Indian Affairs[.] To morrow (monday) I shall try to hunt them up. Silas is in great tribulation about his Kaw bottom claim. The Comr[.] of the Gen[.] Land Office cannot as yet make

[page 3]

a decision. You know that this military Reservation has always been a vexed question with Gov't officials: still the possibilities are in his favor.

The Seneca delegation from Cow Skin are here, and from what Joel stated, Gray Eyes and Bearskin wished to perfect some arrangement with them for the benefit of such a decline coming under the laws of Kansas Territory; but unfortunately, according to what Geo[.] Herron says, this is "all gammon." Now, if the two John's have come away for the purpose of merely having a good frolic at the expense of the nation, and wanted a conductor, and Joel came only for that purpose, and all at the expense of the nation, then, I am not at all surprised at their shyness. When I met Joel he was well to do.

[page 4]

The two Houses of Congress have been without a quorum for near two weeks; tho' I think tomorrow both branches will be able to proceed to regular business.

The abolition members are woefully down in the mouth about the availability of Sharp's Rifles in Kansas. Pomeroy, Roberts and Eldridge have arrived, but no Gov[.] Reeder. Abeland is here, but keeps company with his own kith and kind.

I shall write you tomorrow[.] Excuse haste[.]

Your's[.]
W.W.

[*P.S.*] Keep this in confidence for certain reasons[.]