

# Kansas Memory



## Elam Bartholomew diary

### Section 1, Pages 1 - 30

Elam Bartholomew was a resident of Rooks County and Hays, Kansas. He was a horticulturalist, internationally known for his work with fungi. His diary reflects his active participation in Republican Party politics, local government, the United Presbyterian Church, farm organizations, and experimental farming. Elam Bartholomew was born in Pennsylvania, and his family moved first to Ohio and then Illinois. In 1873, he became engaged to Rachel Montgomery. Bartholomew settled in Rooks County, Kansas, in 1874, and returned to Illinois to marry Montgomery in June, 1876. The Bartholomews returned to Kansas in September, 1876, and lived on their farm on Bow Creek in Rooks County until 1929. They then moved south to Hays, Kansas, in Ellis County, where he served as curator of the mycological museum at Fort Hays Kansas State College until his death in 1934.

Creator: Bartholomew, Elam

Date: From January, 1877 to December, 1878

Callnumber: Elam Bartholomew Coll. #272, Box 10

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Amounts Recd. in Cancellation at  
Rockport Post Office Apr. 1<sup>st</sup> 1895 to  
Aug. 31<sup>st</sup> 1905.

1895 =	\$19.92
1896 =	45.10
1897 =	46.35
1898 =	51.12
1899 =	52.80
1900 =	49.53
1901 =	72.46
1902 =	86.40
1903 =	8173
1904 =	71.67
1905 =	33.70
Total	\$610.78

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January, 1877.

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Mon. 1<sup>st</sup> Having a holiday and not holding school, the day was spent in reading and writing.

In the evening a genuine surprise party occurred at our house when about 30 of our neighbors came in unheralded with baskets and buckets filled with New years eatables so we all enjoyed a good supper and a general good time all round in pleasant chat, games and amusements until one o'clock at which time our guests departed to their several homes.

Tues. 2 In the school room each of these 4

Wed. 3 days without variation.

Th. 4 On the 4<sup>th</sup> brother Elias of Louisville 1/2.

Fri. 5 made us a call and staid all night with us on the 5<sup>th</sup>. He is here to consult with the homestead law so that his claim near here may not be contested for abandonment.

Sat. 6 Spent the day in knocking about at miscellaneous work. Brother Elias left today on his return to Louisville.

Sun. 7 Spent the day in reading and rest.

Mon. 8 At school.

Tu. 9 At school.

Wed. 10 At school.

Th. 11 At school.

Fri. 12 At school.

Sat. 13 Worked in the a.m. at hauling up wood and in the P.m. went down to Sam'l. Hebrews on an errand and came home at 5:30 o'clock.

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Jan. 1879.

Sun. 14 A counterpart of the 7<sup>th</sup>.

Mon. 15 A most terrific snow storm being the order of the day I did not go to the school house but spent the day at home in reading and trying to keep the house warm.

Tu. 16 There being no fuel at the school

Wed. 17 house each of these two days was spent at home in reading & writing.

Thur. 18 In the school room again.

Frid. 19 At school.

Sat. 20 At school.

Sun. 21 Another counterpart of the 7<sup>th</sup>.

Mon. 22 At school.

Tu. 23 At school.

Wed. 24 Went to the school house in the morning and on the way there learned of the death, yesterday, of one young friend and neighbor John Kling (whose name is frequently mentioned in this diary) so I dismissed school and returned home and in the afternoon at 2 o'clock we attended the funeral at Samuel Hebrew's (where the young man was board-ing) which was conducted by a Rev. Mr. Jessold of Kirwin. The interment was made in a newly prepared cemetery on the S.W. corner of <sup>Sand</sup> Mr. Hebrew's <sup>Yards</sup>. Came home about 5:30 P.M. with a saddened heart as this was the first funeral of one of my young men friends that I have ever attended.

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Th. 25 At school.

Fri. 26 At school.

Sat. 27 At school.

Sun. 28 Still another counterpart of the 7<sup>th</sup> inst.

Mon. 29 At school.

Tue. 30 At school.

Wed. 31 At school.

February, 1877.

Th. 1<sup>st</sup> At school

Fri. 2 At school.

Sat. 3 Spent the day in teleworking about at  
miscellaneous work.

Sun. 4 Spent the day in reading and rest.

Mon. 5 At school.

Tue. 6 At school.

Wed. 7 At school.

Th. 8 At school.

Fri. 9 At school.

Sat. 10 Made a trip to Stockton to attend to  
some business connected with my office  
of Clerk of the Dist. Court and while there  
appointed Henry M. Hill to act as my  
deputy during my absence. Came  
home about 5 o'clock P.M.

Sun. 11 A counterpart of the 4<sup>th</sup> inst.

Mon. 12 At school.

Tue. 13 At school.

Wed. 14 At school.

Th. 15 At school.

Fri. 16 At school.

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Feb. & March, 1877

Sat. 17 A counterpart of the 3<sup>d</sup> inst.

Sun. 18 Another counterpart of the 4<sup>th</sup> inst.

Mon. 19 At school.

Tu. 20 At school.

Wed 21 At school.

Th. 22 At school.

Fri. 23 At school

Sat. 24 Another counterpart of the 3<sup>d</sup> inst.

Sun. 25 Still another counterpart of the 4<sup>th</sup> inst.

Mon. 26 At school.

Tu. 27 At school.

Wed. 28 At school.

## March, 1877.

Th. 1<sup>st</sup> At school.

Fri. 2 Last day of school!

Sat. 3 The weather being very cold I spent the a.m. in reading but the p.m. being more moderate I worked at hauling wood up from the timber.

Sun. 4 Spent the day in reading and rest.

Mon. 5 Spent each of these 2 days in working about at miscellaneous work.

Tues. 6 Spent the a.m. mostly in reading and in the p.m. with Rachel went down to Mr. Foster's where we remained until evening when we all went to D.A. Duff's to attend a social party.

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after which we returned to Topeka where we remained all night.

Th. 8 Came home at 9 a.m. and worked the remainder of the day at chopping wood.

Fri. 9 Went up to Rockport after the mail in the a.m. and worked about a miscellaneous work in the p.m.

Sat. 10 Chopped wood all day.

Sun. 11 A counterpart of the 4<sup>th</sup> inst.

Mon. 12 Exactly the same as last Friday.

Tue. 13 Worked both of these days at making

Wed. 14 an excavation for a milk-house.

Th. 15 Finished the excavating in the a.m. and worked in the p.m. at cutting logs for the part above ground and timber for the roof.

Fri. 16 Made a trip to Rockport after the mail and getting home at 11 a.m. spent the remainder of the day mostly in reading.

Sat. 17 Went down to S.A. Duff in the morning on an errand where I spent the day in visiting and in talking about with Mr. Duff at his work. Home at 4:30 p.m.

Sun. 18 Spent the a.m. in reading and in the p.m. we went down to S.A. Duff's on a short call and came home about 5 o'clock.

Mon. 19 Went to Stockton to attend to some trustee business & came home at 5 o'clock p.m.

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March. 1877

Tues. 20 As T.P. Trustee and overseer of the poor went to the home of Jacob Shell and Mrs. Mary Messinger to make arrangements for their maintenance by the county as they have applied to me for such aid. Came home at noon and spent the p.m. in reading.

Wed. 21 Went down to D.A. Duff's in the morning after some seed wheat but not being able to get all I needed came home and went at once to J.A. Baileys where I secured the ~~the~~ remaining amount and came home at noon and having one of the neighbors do the sowing I worked at harrowing the wheat in.

Th. 22 Having employed one of the neighbors to finish my wheat harrowing I spent the a.m. in working about at not much of anything and the p.m. in chopping wood.

Fri. 23 The weather being very cold with a snow storm going most of the day the time was spent mostly in reading.

Sat. 24 Spent nearly the whole day in writing.

Sun. 25 Another counterpart of the 4<sup>th</sup> inst.

Mon. 26 Spent most of the day in planting potatoes.

Tue. 27 Worked about at making garden and other miscellaneous work.

Wed. 28 Spent each of these two days in working about at little odd jobs of all sorts but nothing in particular.

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March & April, 1877.

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Fr. 30 Went up to Rockport after the mail in the a.m. and worked in the p.m. at quarrying rock to make a well.

Sat. 31 Worked all day at quarrying rock as above.

April, 1877.

Sun. 1<sup>st</sup> Spent the day in reading and rest

Mon. 2 Same as March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Tue. 3 Went down to C.C. Foster's where I  
Wed. 4 worked each of these 2 days at  
making fencing, railing and posts  
for an enclosure to the grave of  
our late lamented friend John  
Kling. Came home in the evening  
of both days.

Th. 5 Spent each of these 2 days in working  
Fr. 6 about at little odd jobs of all sorts.

Sat. 7 Went down to Mr. Foster's in the morning  
and with him went down to the new  
cemetery where we put up the enclosure  
mentioned on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and  
getting back to Mr. Foster's at 2 P.M.  
worked the remainder of the day for him  
at repairing a wagon. Home at 6 o'clock.

Sun. 8 A counterpart of the 1<sup>st</sup> inst.

Mon. 9 Went down to H.E. Williams after a wind  
lass to do well digging and getting home  
at noon spent the p.m. at work in  
the well. Sam Shell assisted me.

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April, 1877.

Tues. 10 With help of Shell continued work all day on the well, about completing it.

Wed. 11 Miscellaneous work - a little of everything.

Th. 12 Worked about at miscellaneous work in the a.m. and worked in the p.m. at hauling up rock for walling the new well and for other purposes.

Fri. 13 Made a trip to the post office in the a.m. and worked in the p.m. at laying up a stone wall along the bank on the north side of the house.

Sat. 14 Finished the wall at 9 a.m. and worked the remainder of the day at sinking the well deeper.

Sun. 15 Another counterpart of the 1st inst.

Mon. 16 Continued work on the well in the a.m.

Tue. 17 Of both these days but the P.M. of each day being rainy did no work.

Wed. 18 Made a business errand down to C.C. Footes in the a.m. and a trip to the N.C. after the mail in the p.m. which occupied the day.

Th. 19 Spent the time in hauling rock for the well and logs for the milk-house until 2 P.M. and then went down to Mr. Footes after a small load of lumber and came home about 5 o'clock.

Fri. 20 Went up to the post office in the a.m. and after home at noon spent the p.m. in work on the milk house.

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Sat. 21 Worked at the well today - finishing the walling thereof.

Sun. 22 A prairie fire from the south being the order of the day until 1 P.M. the time until then was spent in fighting it some, with many others, about 2 miles east of here. Came home at 1 o'clock and spent the remainder of the day in rest.

Mon. 23 Went up to the post office in the a.m. and getting back at noon spent the P.M. in knocking about at a little of everything.

Tue. 24 Made a business trip to Hesston and returned about 6 o'clock P.M.

Wed. 25 Miscellaneous work in the a.m. and an errand to C.C. Foster in the P.M. Home at 6 o'clock.

Th. 26 It being rainy all day the time was spent in reading and writing.

Fri. 27 Cold and rainy all day with a disagreeable northwest wind. Spent the day mostly in reading.

Sat. 28 Helped Rachel with work about the house until 3 P.M. & then made trip to the post office after the mail.

Many cattle perished from the severe storm of yesterday and day before!

Sun. 29 Still another counterpart of the 1st inst.

Mon. 30 Made a business trip to Stockton Losenbach and came home at 5 o'clock P.M.

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May, 1877.

Tues. 1<sup>st</sup> With Mrs. Mary C. Jerby assisted by Mrs. Sarah Bivitt and Mrs. Mary Messinger I was presented with a 10-lb. son and heir at 5 o'clock this morning and thus dawns another era in my life history.  
Spent the day at chores work in and about the house.

Wed. 2 Worked both of these days at assessing  
Th. 3 the property of the residents of this (Born Creek) township. Came home each evening.

Fri. 4 Spent the day in manufacturing a home made lounge.

Sat. 5 Knocked about at miscellaneous carpentry jobs.

Sun. 6 Spent the day mostly in reading and rest.

Mon. 7 Spent the day up the creek assessing about 15 miles stopping for the night with Co. Capt. Pub. Inst., Moses Adamson.

Tu. 8 Completed my assessing today and came home at 9 o'clock P.M.

Wed. 9 Made a trip to Stockton to carry in my assessors returns and came home at 8:30 P.M.

Th. 10 Spent each of these three days in Tu. 11 and about the house acting as "chief cook Sat. 12 and bottle washer" in house work!

Sun. 13 A counterpart of last Sunday.

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Mon. 14 Went up to Rockport after the mail and returning at noon worked in the afternoon at making garden.

Tue. 15 Spent the a.m. in knocking about at a little of everything and the P.m. in breaking prairie sod.

Wed. 16 A counterpart of yesterday.

Th. 17 Worked at planting corn and cane on sod breaking with hand planter.

Fri. 18 It being rainy all day the time was spent mostly in reading.

Sat. 19 Miscellaneous work - a little of everything.

Sun. 20 A counterpart of the 6<sup>th</sup> inst.

Mon. 21 Spent these 2 days in knocking about at little odd jobs of all sorts.

Tue. 22 Spent the a.m. in miscellaneous work and the P.m. in planting sod corn.

Th. 24 Planted corn as above, all day.

Fri. 25 A counterpart of the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Sat. 26 It still being very wet and disagreeable no outdoor work was done.

Sun. 27 Same as the 6<sup>th</sup> inst. with the exception of about an hour when we, Rachel, the new baby, George, and I went out for a walk over the farm and to view the high water in Bear creek from the hill a half mile east of the house.

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May, 1877.

Mon. 28 Went to Stockton early in the morning to attend to my official duties as clerk at the May term of the Dist. Court which was called at 9 a.m. by the sheriff but his honor, the Dist. Judge, Joel Holt, not being present court adjourned until 9 a.m. tomorrow. Spent most of the day in attending to official business and got up for the night at the McNulty house.

Tu. 29 Judge Holt having come in last night court convened at 9 a.m. and continued in session throughout the day so I was kept busy in my official capacity. Past the night as last night.

Wed. 30 Continued in court work each Th. 31 of these 2 days without much variation.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

June, 1877.

13

- Sat. 1<sup>st</sup> Continued in the court room all day and until 8 o'clock in the evening at which time court adjourned for the term. Spent the night at the McNulty house as heretofore.
- Sat. 2 Came home at noon and spent the P.M. in knocking about at not much of anything.
- Sun. 3 Spent the day in reading and rest.
- Mon. 4 Made a business trip to Stockton and while there was appointed by the County commissioners as one of the Teachers Examining Board. Came home at 8 o'clock P.M.
- Tu. 5 Spent each of these days in knocking about at all sorts of miscellaneous work.
- Wed. 6 Worked at hoeing in the garden.
- Th. 7 Worked at hoeing in the garden.
- Fri. 8 Went to the post office after the mail in the A.M. and the P.M. being cold and rainy the time was spent in reading.
- Sat. 9 Birth Day; Age 25 Years. Made business errands to C. C. Foutie and Wm. Wiesbarts in the A.M. and spent the P.M. at hoeing potatoes.
- Sun. 10 A counterpart of the 3<sup>d</sup> inst.
- Mon. 11 Miscellaneous in the A.M. and hoeing corn in the P.M.
- Tu. 12 Worked for C.C. Foutie at hoeing corn. Came home at 6 o'clock P.M.

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June, 1877.

Wed. 13 Worked at hoeing potatoes until 9 a.m. and the remainder of the day at finishing the milk-house mentioned under date of Apr. 19-20.

Th. 14 First Wedding Anniversary! Having a goodly number of callers and visitors the entire day was spent in helping to entertain our guests.

Fri. 15 Knocked about at miscellaneous matters.

Sat. 16 As one of the teachers examining board went to Stockton where I assisted in an examination. Came home at 7:30 P.M.

Sun. 17 W. E. Foster of Osborne City, a S.S. missionary for the American Sunday School Union of Philadelphia Pa., came in last evening after having conversed the neighborhood somewhat and stopped with us for the night. At 10 o'clock a.m. he organized a Sub. school at our house to be held at the same hour each Sat. I was chosen chapt. Spent the P.M. in reading and rest.

Mon. 18 Worked at plastering the milk-house.

Tu. 19 Spent the entire day in the capacity of baby nurse, Rachel being engaged at the wash-tub!

Wed. 20 Spent each of these days in knocking Th. 21 about at little odd jobs of all sorts. Fr. 22 and not much after all.

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Sat. 23 Knocked about at miscellaneous work.

Sun. 24 Participated in our Sub. school exercises at 10 a.m. and spent the remainder of the day in reading and rest.

Mon. 25 Made a business trip to Kirwin and returned at 7:30 P.M.

Tue. 26 Worked both of these days for neighbor

Wed. 27 Mr. Jerby at crodding, raking and binding rye. Mr. Jerby, J.A. Bailey, John Hastings and I expect to exchange work through harvest, running three cradles and sufficient additional force to rake, bind and shock the grain.

Th. 28 The a.m. being rainy did not do much of anything but in the P.M. worked for Mr. Jerby as above.

Fri. 29 Spent the a.m. in knocking about at a little of this, that and the other but in the P.M. worked for J.A. Bailey at crodding, raking and binding rye.

Sat. 30 Went to Stockton to assist in examining the county treasurer's books for the past quarter and to attend to business connected with the clerk of the dist. court's office.  
Came home at 6 o'clock P.M.

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July - 1877.

Sun. 1<sup>st</sup> A counterpart of June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Mon. 2 Worked for J.A. Bailey at cradling and binding rye in the a.m. and finishing that part of his harvest at noon. I came home and worked in the p.m. at cutting timber from which to build a pig pen.

Tues. 3 Worked for John Hastings at cradling and binding rye.

Wed. 4 Wife and I in company with Mr. & Mrs. J.A. Barker attended the national celebration at Kirwin and came home at 11 o'clock at night.

Th. 5 Cradled and bound wheat for J.A. Bailey.

Fri. 6 Spent the day in knocking about at miscellaneous work.

Sat. 7 Worked at cutting and hauling poles from which to construct a pig pen.

Sun. 8 Participated in our S.S. exercises at 10 a.m. and in the P.m. at 3 o'clock we attended the Sugar Loaf S.S., 5 miles west, and came home at 5:30 P.m. We rode up with the Privett family.

Mon. 9 Spent the day in knocking about at odd jobs of all sorts.

Tues. 10 Worked in the a.m. for J.A. Bailey at raking and binding wheat after the cradle & for N. Kirby in the P.m. at the same work.

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- Wed. 11 Worked for N. Derby at crodding, raking, binding and shocking wheat.
- Thur. 12 Worked for J. A. Bailey today in same as for Derby yesterday
- Frid. 13 With th Bailey, <sup>Hastings</sup> and Derby forces worked at home today at helping to cut, bind and shock 5 acres of wheat.
- Sat. 14 Worked in the wheat field today for John Hastings same as at home yesterday.
- Sun. 15 Participated in our S. S. at 10 a.m. and spent the remainder of the day in reading, writing and rest.
- Mon. 16 A counterpart of the 11<sup>th</sup> inst.
- Tues. 17 The a.m. being rainy did not do much of anything but in the p.m. worked as above, for Mr. Derby, in the wheat field.
- Wed. 18 Another counterpart of the 11<sup>th</sup> inst.
- Th. 19 Worked three two days for Mr. Hastings
- Fri. 20 at raking, binding and shocking wheat.
- Sat. 21 Still another counterpart of the 11<sup>th</sup> inst.
- Sun. 22 A counterpart of last Sunday.
- Mon. 23 Spent the a.m. in knocking about at miscellaneous work and the p.m. with wife in visiting at C.C. Trotis.
- Tue. 24 Went to Stockton on official business and came home at 7 o'clock p.m.

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July 1877.

Wed. 25 Light miscellaneous work.

Th. 26 Worked these three days at excavating <sup>for</sup>  
Fr. 27 and hauling up timber from which  
Sat. 28 to build a stable.

Sun. 29 A counterpart of th 15<sup>th</sup> inst.

Mon. 30 Spent these 2 days at work on

Tues. 31 construction of th stable as in-  
dicated above.

August, 1877.

Wed. 1<sup>st</sup> Continued work each of these two  
Thur. 2 days on construction of th stable.

Fr. 3 The weather being rainy and wet

Sat. 4 these 2 days were spent mostly within  
doors reading and entertaining <sup>of</sup> callers.

Sun. 5 Participated in our S.S. exercises at  
10 a.m. and spent the remainder of  
the day in reading and rest.

Mon. 6 Spent the forenoons of both these days

Tues. 7 in knowing about at miscellaneous  
work and the afternoons at work  
on th stable, as above.

Wed. 8 Continued work on th stable.

Thur. 9 Worked for Mrs. S.A. Prinett at quarry-  
ing rock.

Fr. 10 Went up to Rockport after th mail in  
th a.m. and worked in th P.m. for  
Jacob Shelle at stocking wheat.

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Sat. 11 The weather being very hot did not do much of anything all day. In the evening a number of the young folks of the community met at our house for a social sing.

Sun. 12 A counterpart of the 5<sup>th</sup> inst.

Mon. 13 Spent each of these three days in Tues. 14 reading and knocking about at Wed. 15 light miscellaneous work.

Thur. 16 Quite sick all day with some sort of a bilious attack.

Friid. 17 Somewhat better yet not able to be about much. Mrs. J. A. Southard and daughter Ola and Mrs. C. C. Foster and daughter Kettie visited us several hours today.

Sat. 18 Went to Stockton on business and came home about 8 o'clock P.M.

Sun. 19 Attended church services up the creek 2 1/2 miles at the old squire Davis house and listened to a good sermon by Rev. R. S. Osborne of Bull City. Took dinner at J. A. Bailey's and then came home and participated in our S.S. exercises at 3 o'clock P.M.

Mon. 20 It being rainy spent the day mostly in reading and at work within doors.

Tues. 21 Worked about at miscellaneous work until 3 P.M. and the remainder of the day worked for Jacob Shell helping thresh his wheat.

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August, 1877.

Wed. 22 Finished threshing for Mr. Shell in  
noon and spent the P.M. at home  
knocking about at miscellaneous work.

Th. 23 With wife and the baby went down  
to C.C. Footh where we spent the  
day in social visiting coming home  
in the evening about sunset.

Fri. 24 Spent each of these two days in  
Sat. 25 knocking about at little odd jobs of  
all sorts.

Sun. 26 Another counterpart of the 5th inst.

Mon. 27 Each of these 2 days was spent some  
Tues. 28 as the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

Wed. 29 Worked for C.C. Footh at rebuilding  
and repairing a cattle corral.

Th. 30 Knocked about at miscellaneous work.

Fri. 31 Worked in the a.m. for Mrs. S.A. Privett  
at helping to put the large Cottonwood  
ridge logs on her new stone dugout.  
In the P.M. Mr & Mrs. H.E. Williams and  
Miss. Kiddie Footh living called on us  
the time was spent in social visiting.

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September, 1877.

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Sat. 1<sup>st</sup> Light miscellaneous work.

Sun. 2 Participated in our S.S. exercises at 10 a.m. and spent the remainder of the day in reading and rest.

Mon. 3 A counterpart of the 1<sup>st</sup> inst.

Tues. 4 Made a business trip to Stockton and came home at 7 o'clock P.M.

Wed. 5 Another counterpart of the 1<sup>st</sup> inst.

Th. 6 With wife and little George attended a Sunday School picnic down the creek about 7 miles in Weaver & Warren's grove on the old Synder place. Came home at 9 o'clock P.M.

Frist anniversary of "Start for Kansas!"

Fr. 7 Worked in the a.m. at broadcast wheat sowing on ground previously plowed and had one of the neighbors, J.A. Bailey, harrow it in. Did not do much of anything in the P.M.

Sat. 8 Not being well and it being rainy the day was spent within doors.

Sun. 9 A counterpart of the 2<sup>nd</sup> inst.

Mon. 10 With wife and baby spent the day visiting at J.A. Bailey's.

Tu. 11 Resumed work on our stable, working thereat during the day.

Wed. 12 Made a business errand up west 3½ miles to N. Jeffrys & came home at noon spending the m. in miscellaneous work.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

22

Sept. 1877

Thur. 13 Worked nearly all day at digging potatoes.

Fri. 14 Continued work each of these 2 days.  
Sat. 15 on our stable, nearly completing it.

Sun. 16 A counterpart of Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> except that I came home for dinner.

Mon. 17 Went up to Rockport after the mail in the a.m. and got home at noon.  
Worked in the p.m. at completing our stable.

Tu. 18 With wife and baby went down to C.C. Footis where we visited until after dinner and then went on down to D.A. Duff's where we remained until after supper when I returned home but wife and baby went across the creek to J.A. Southards where they staid all night.

Wed. 19 Worked for neighbor J.A. Barker at helping to roof his new stone dug-out. In the evening went on down to Mr. Footis where I met wife and we came home about 9 o'clock.

Th. 20 Spent each of these 3 days in knocking about at light miscellaneous work — odd jobs of all sorts.

Sun. 23 Another counterpart of the 2<sup>nd</sup> inst.

Mon. 24 Worked all day at mowing prairie hay with scythe and raking and stacking the same!

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Elam Bartholomew diary

23

Tu. 25 The County Sup't Pub. Instruction, Moses Adamson, being here as a visitor nearly all day the time was spent in social chat.

Wes. 26 Spent each of these 2 days same as Th. 27 the 24th.

Fr. 28 Made a business errand up to J. A. Bailey's in the morning and came home at noon worked in the hay field again as noted above.

Sat. 29 Went up to Rockport post office at 10 a.m. where I attended a caucus to send delegates to the Republican convention to be held at Stockton Oct. 6 to nominate county officers. Acted as secretary of the caucus and was chosen as one of the delegates to the convention. From there went direct to Stockton with Co. Sup't. of Pub. Instruction, Moses Adamson, where at 2 p.m. assisted in the examination of 9 school teachers, I being one of the Board of county examiners. Came home at 9 o'clock P.M.

Sab. 30 Participated in our Sab. school exercises at 10 a.m. closing the school for the season. Spent the P.M. in reading and rest.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Elam Bartholomew diary

24

October, 1877.

- Mon. 1<sup>st</sup> Made a trip to Stockton on official business and returned at 4 p.m.
- Tu. 2 Spent the day in Knocking about at little odd jobs of all sorts.
- Wed. 3 Spent nearly all day at gathering in all sorts of late garden truck preparatory to a prospective hard freeze tonight. Cold N. west wind.
- Th. 4 Worked the same as yesterday. Very hard freeze last night killing all killable vegetation.
- Fri. 5 Worked up at neighbor J.A. Bailey's through the day, helping him do his grain threshing - wheat and rye.
- Sat. 6 Went to Stockton as a delegate from this (Bow Creek) township to the county nominating convention. Came home at 7 o'clock p.m.
- Sab. 7 At home all day. At 11 a.m. listened to a sermon by Rev. J.K. Allen, of Lowell, which was preached in our house.
- Mon. 8 Did our wheat threshing today finishing at 3 p.m. and working the rest of the day at husking corn.
- Tu. 9 Spent each of these three days in
- Wed. 10 Knocking about at little odd jobs of all sorts - nothing in particular but everything about the farm in general.
- Th. 11

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Elam Bartholomew diary

25

Fri. 12 Went up to Rockfort after the mail in the a.m. and returning at noon spent the P.m. in miscellaneous work.

Sat. 13 It being rainy nearly all day the time was spent mostly in reading.

Sab. 14 Spent the day in reading and rest.

First anniversary of life in our own home!

Our living expenses for the 12 months ending today have been as follows from the articles enumerated, viz:

Flour, 630 lbs., \$17.00; Cornmeal, 260 lbs., \$4.00; Potatoes, 12 bu. \$4.00; Pork, 70 lbs., \$4.50; Dried fruit, \$5.55; Sugar, 30 lbs., \$4.00; Lard, 10 lbs., \$1.25; Coffee, 6 lbs., 1.50; Beans, 25 lbs., 1.75; Salt, 1.00; Tea, 1.00; Coal oil, 5 gal., \$2.25; Sundries \$4.00; making a total for the year of even \$54.00, or about \$1.04 per week!

Mon. 15 A counterpart of the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Tu. 16 Knocked about at miscellaneous work, among other things making some manure in the stable.

Wed. 17 Worked in the a.m. for neighbor Jacob Shell at stripping sorghum for molasses making and in the P.m. worked at clearing sorghum and other rubbish from a piece of land to be sown to rye, yet this fall.

Th. 18 Worked all day for Mr. Shell as noted above.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Elam Bartholomew diary

26

Oct. 1877.

Fri. 19 A continuous rain being the order of the whole day the time was spent in reading and writing.

Sat. 20 It still being wet and very disagreeable the day was spent as yesterday.

Sat. 21 Reading & rest in the a.m. and in the p.m. took a Sabbath day stroll down to friend C.C. Foster's and came home at 5 o'clock.

Mon. 22 Made a trip to Stockton early in the morning to attend the October term of the District Court and officiate as clerk thereof. Judge Juel Holt of Beloit presided. The docket was very slim so court adjourned for the term at 3 o'clock p.m. Having considerable other business to attend to I remained in town over night putting up at the home of Sheriff John Russell.

Tue. 23 Remained in town all day attending to business connected with the clerk of the Dist. Court's office and put up for the night at the log Hotel owned by Joe McNulty.

Wed. 24 Finished my business at noon and came home at 3 o'clock p.m. spending the rest of the day at miscellaneous work.

Th. 25 Spent the whole day in Knocking about at little odd jobs of all sorts.

Fri. 26 Went to Rockfort after the mail & putting home at 11 o'clock spent the a.m. in miscellaneous.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Elam Bartholomew diary

27

Sat. 27 Knocking about at miscellaneous work and sowing several acres of rye. In the evening with several of the neighbors went up south three miles to fight prairie fires returning home at one o'clock at night.

Sab. 28 Spent the day at home in reading & rest.

Mon. 29 Spent the day in knocking about at miscellaneous work.

Tu. 30 Worked for neighbor J. A. Barker at helping him in the building of his new stable.

Wed. 31 Worked for Mr. Barker in the a.m. at husking corn and in the p.m. at his stable again.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Elam Bartholomew diary

28

Nov. 1877.

Thur. 1<sup>st</sup> The a.m. being rainy the time was spent within doors. In the p.m. worked for neighbor <sup>Barker</sup> at his stable.

Fri. 2 Went up to Rockport after the mail in the a.m. and worked again in the p.m. for Mr. Barker on his stable.

Sat. 3 Continued work for Mr. Barker in the a.m. on his stable and in the p.m. at helping him haul in hay out of the shock.

Sab. 4 Spent the day at home as last Sab.

Mon. 5 Spent the day in knocking about at this, that and the other and in holding interviews with several candidates for county offices and others who seem to be very anxious about the election tomorrow. A. L. Patchin candidate for Co. Attorney and H. L. Dunham for coroner, on the Republican ticket and Tunis Bulis for the Democrats made calls.

Tues. 6 Attended the county election at the Rockport post office and acted as one of the judges of election. Came home at 8 o'clock p.m.

Wed. 7 Worked at husking corn in the a.m. but the p.m. being rainy the time was spent in reading.

Thur. 8 The weather being disagreeably cold the day was spent in reading.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Elam Bartholomew diary

29

Frid. 9 Spent the entire day, with many others, at fighting prairie fires and burning fire guards North of Bow Creek and over in the south edge of Phillips Co.

Sat. 10 Miscellaneous work.

Sab. 11 At home in the a.m. but in the p.m. with wife went up to neighbor J.A. Baileys to visit the two John Hastings sick children, who, with their parents, are staying at the Baileys for the present. Came home at 6 o'clock.

Mon. 12 Knocked about at miscellaneous work.

Tue. 13 Worked all day at hauling up and stacking our prairie hay, finishing the job.

Wed. 14 Spent the day knocking about busily at burying potatoes, beets, etc.

Th. 15 Worked both of these days with wife

Fr. 16 at papering the house - 2 rooms.

Sat. 17 Worked for neighbor Jacob Shell at helping to haul in and stack his prairie hay.

Sab. 18 Spent the day in reading and rest.

Mon. 19 A dull rainy day. Knocked about a little or nothing.

Tues. 20 A counterpart of yesterday. Did some interior house repairing.