

# Kansas Memory



## Elam Bartholomew diary

### Section 3, Pages 61 - 90

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 settled in Rooks County, Kansas, in 1874. He was born in Pennsylvania and his family moved to Ohio and then Illinois. In 1873 he became engaged to Rachel Montgomery and returned to Illinois to marry her in June 1876. They returned to Kansas in September of 1876. The Bartholomews lived on their farm on Bow Creek until 1929 when they moved to Hays, where he served as curator of the mycological museum at Fort Hays Kansas State College. He died in 1934.

Creator: Bartholomew, Elam

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In the evening went again to the school house to hear Mrs Peckham preach. She took for her text - the last clause of the 1st verse of the 18th chap of Luke - "Men ought always to pray and not to faint." Her demeanor was not very forcible but her exhortation was candid and earnest.

Saturday, 29.

About one half of the jury was dismissed from further attendance upon this term of the Dist-Court, about 9 o'clock A.m. and I being one of the dismissed started home with Mr. Guthrie, who had been in town over eight, at about 10:30 o'clock and arrived here at 1 P.m., and spent the remainder of the day principally in reading, being well pleased with my weeks sojourn in the county seat (with the exception of witnessing such a great amount of drunkenness) acting in the capacity of petit-juror.

Up and out morning in the garden.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

May in Sunday 30 in 1880

Attended S.S. at 10 a.m. as usual and returned at 1, and about 3 was taken with a very violent attack of the sick headache lasting until night when it about cleared.

Monday, 31

Still not feeling very well spent all day in reading and writing.

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# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> 1880

Went down to J. A. Hebrew in the morning on some school business and from there went to the school house to pay the school an official visit. Remained from the time school took up in the morning until recess and found Miss Hattie Markham our teacher to be one of the most proficient teachers that I have ever met. Came home and after dinner went up to Rockport and getting back about 3 P.M. spent the remainder of the day working in the garden.

Wednesday, 2.

Cut and hauled up a load of wood in the a.m. and spent the p.m. in working about at a little of everything.

Spent the morning in the garden.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

June, Thursday 3. 1880

One of our horses having quit a  
sore shoulder and not wishing to work  
<sup>buy</sup> for several days I went out in quest  
of one to take his place, going to Thos.  
Allen's, O. P. Cojo, J. A. Hebrews & Father's  
but did not succeed in getting a horse  
so returned home about noon and did  
not do much of anything the remainder  
of the day owing to the high winds &  
threatening rain.

Friday 4.

Went over to Father's in the morning  
and getting his cultivator worked all day  
at cultivating corn, horse's shoulder being  
rather bad but still able to work.

Mercury 105 in the shade from two  
to four P.M.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup>

Owing to the high wind and it being disagreeably chilly and rainy did not do much of anything in the a.m. but in the P.M. worked a flowing ground on which to sow millet.

Sunday, 6.

Attended S.S. at 10 o'clock and preaching by Rev. W. J. Thomas at 11. Mr. T. took for his text the two first verses of the 11<sup>th</sup> chap. of Hebrews, delineating the Christian race and preached a very instructive sermon. Got home at 1:15 and spent the remainder of the day in reading and writing.

Monday, 7.

Continued plowing all day on millet-ground

Spent the morning in the garden.

Spent the afternoon in the garden.

# Kansas Memory



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## Elam Bartholomew diary

June. Tuesday, 8 in 1880.

Worked till 1 o'clock at harrowing  
the ground plowed yesterday & Saturday  
and spent the remainder of the day in  
plowing.

Wednesday, 9. 1880

Birth-day age 28. Plowed in  
the a.m. and harrowed in the p.m.  
having plowed 5 acres since Sat. even  
and harrowed it over twice. The ground  
is now ready for sowing on the millet-  
seed which will be done as soon as it  
rains & out before then.

Thursday 10

Cultivated corn.

Friday 11 & Saturday 12

Cultivated corn. Extremely heavy soaking  
rain Saturday evening.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Sunday, 13.

Attended S.S. at the usual hour of 10 a.m. and got home at 12:30 o'clock, spending the remainder of the day in reading.

Monday, 14

Cultivated a small piece of ground in the a.m., (which had been sown last fall to wheat but was killed out) on which to sow millet and in the P.M. worked at harrowing in millet on the ground prepared last week. Had father sow it.

Tuesday, 15.

Finished putting in my millet about 2:30 P.M. and spent the remainder of the day in knocking about at little odd work in the garden.

# Kansas Memory



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## Elam Bartholomew diary

June m Wednesday 16 m 1880  
Worked in the a.m. at hoeing and cultivating corn, potatoes and melons & spent the P.M. in planting 2½ acres of sod corn on that amount of ground which I hired brother George to break for me, which he did yesterday and today.

Thurs. 17, Friday 18 & Sat 19  
Cultivated corn each day, it taking that time to go once over our 16 acre field of corn. On Thursday evening we were called upon by A. L. Robinson of Ash Rock Twp. Census Enumerator for the territory comprised in Flamingo & Ash Rock Twp., who remained with us all night and having made such arrangements also staid with us the following night. I went to Rockport on Sat eve at 8 o'clock and got home an hour & a half later.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Sunday 20

Attended S. S. at the usual hour  
of 10 a.m. and at 11 listened  
to a sermon by Mr Bracken who  
took for his text - the 1<sup>st</sup> verse of the  
3<sup>d</sup> chap. of Proverbs. "My son  
forget not my law, but let thine  
heart keep my commandments."

After church went over to father's  
where we took dinner and got home  
at 4 p.m. spending the remainder of  
the day in reading, as usual.

Monday 21

In the morning went down to J.A. Hebrews to see  
about getting the Hebrew boys to cut our wheat crop, which I  
expect will be ripe sometime next week, but they being up at  
Rockport I returned home and went over south west about  
two miles to Mack Marshall's to buy some pigs, but he was  
not at home so I went from there to Rockport where I saw  
the Hebrew boys who agreed to cut out 27 acres of wheat for  
75¢ per acre with the header. Got home at 1 p.m. and after  
taking of dinner and spending an hour in reading worked the rest  
of the day at hoing in the garden. Mr. Robinson again put up with us all night.

# Kansas Memory



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## Elam Bartholomew diary

June 22nd Tuesday 22 June 1860

Spent the time until 3:30 P.M. at working in the garden but it being rainy the remainder of the day the time was spent in reading. Mr. Robinson having completed this portion of his census work left us for good this morning. During his stay of three nights - with us I find him to be a good sociable, companionable, Christian man.

Wednesday, 23.

Went over to Father's in the morning and hauled from there a load of wood and poles for brother John up to his place and then went down to C.C. Foster's timber and hauled him up another load of wood &c, &c, getting home at noon.

Worked till 3 P.M. at breaking some ground on the hillside N.W. of the house on which to plant trees next year, and the remainder of the day did not do much of anything.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Thursday 24.

Spent the a.m. in cutting some large weeds out of our wheat, and in the P.M. at four o'clock went to Rockport, getting home about 7, spending the remainder of the day in reading.

Friday 25.

Cut weeds until 10 a.m. and from then till noon plowed as on the 23d and in the P.M. went over to the school house where I met with J. L. Gaillon, Director & J. A. Hebrew, Treasurer, to fix our school an official Dist. Board visit. Remained until recess and were very much gratified at the progress Miss Marshall is making with the school. Then we adjourned to the outside of the school house where we held a board meeting looking toward the raising of the deficit in the teacher's salary. Got home at 4:30 and plowed from then till supper time.

# Kansas Memory



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## Elam Bartholomew diary

JUNE 26 Saturday 1880

Cultivated weeds out of the wheat in the  
a.m. and in the P.m. at 1:30 went up  
to Rockport after some groceries and  
the mail and getting home at 3:30, hauled  
up a load of wood, after which the  
day was about completed.

Sunday, 27=

Attended S.S. at the usual hour of  
10 a.m. and got home at 1 o'clock  
spending the remainder of the day in  
reading and rest.

Monday 28, Tuesday 29  
Cultivated corn both days

Wednesday, 30

Cultivated corn in the a.m. but was  
prevented from working thereat in the p.m. until  
about 5 o'clock p.m. on account of the rain, at  
which time I again went to cultivating.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

July 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday 1880.

Finished cultivating corn for  
the season, in the a.m. and in the p.m.  
Rachel, Em, and George & Elbert and I  
went up to Rockport - and got home  
at 5:30 which wound up the proceedings  
of the day.

Friday, 2.

Having a rather serious bilious attack  
and general weakness remained in  
bed nearly all day, not eating anything  
until about 5-p.m. when I felt a  
great deal better.

Saturday, 3.

Remain sick again from 1 a.m. until  
about 7 with acute pains in the stomach, when  
I felt somewhat better again. At 11 I went up to  
Rockport, horseback to see Dr. Fuller getting home at  
half past 12. After dinner hauled up from the creek a small  
load of wood and from 4 o'clock till night plowed on  
the side hill north west of the house as on the 28<sup>th</sup> ult.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Saturday Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> in 1880  
Spent the time until 2:30 P.M., <sup>in reading &c &c</sup> and then went over to the school house to attend S.S. at 3; it being changed to that hour on account of Mr Bracken's appointment being at 4 o'clock. On account of high water on the North Solomon Mr. B could not meet with us. Got home at 5 P.M.

Monday, 5<sup>th</sup>

Plowed all day on the hillside for trees.

Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup>

Our wheat crop of 27 acres being ripe and having engaged the Hebrew boys to cut it with their header Bill and Sam came along in the morning and we got to work thereat. Had Mr. Mellon and brother John each run a header box while I did the stacking. Cut during the day 18 acres.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

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Wednesday 7

Plowed hillside in the a.m.  
and cut weeds out of the wheat  
in the P.M.

Thursday 8

D. A. Duff and Bill Hebrew came  
along this morning and we went  
at it to cut the remainder of  
our wheat. Had Bro. Jim & George  
run the wagons while I slackened, On  
account of several <sup>machine</sup> delays did not  
get through until about 3 P.M.

Shortly after getting through I took one  
of the header wagons down to Jas. A.  
Hebrew, which completed the day.  
In the evening went up to Rockport after  
the mail and received a card from Father  
Montgomery of Farmington, Ill dated the 5<sup>th</sup> inst.  
informing us that himself and wife would make  
no a visit in the course of two or three weeks.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Early in Friday, 9. m. 1880  
Helped brother John in the a.m.  
at working on the completion of a  
small sod house which he is building  
on his claim and into which  
he proposes to move in a few days,  
working thereafter on a more commodious  
stone house which is now under process  
of construction. In the p.m. worked at  
and finished the hillside plowing, previously  
spoken of which was commenced  
on the 23d ult.

### Saturday, 10.

Had brother George help me and  
spent nearly all day in covering  
our four wheat-ricks (each 80 feet in  
length, 8 foot base & 10 feet high) with  
willows 6 to 8 feet long which we cut  
at the creek and weighting the same down  
with heavy stones and wires.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Sunday 11.

Attended S. S. at 10 a.m. and got home at 12:30 p.m. spending the remainder of the day in reading and rest. Rachel and the boys did not go on account of her being well.

Monday 12.

Went over to Father's and cut weeds out of his wheat in the a.m. and then coming home spent the P.M. cutting weeds in the garden and other places.

Tuesday 13.

Spent the a.m. in doing a small amount of breaking on the hill east of the house and after dinner went up to Rockport to take up some mail and getting back at 3 o'clock cut weeds out of a patch of sweet & pop corn the rest of the day.

# Kansas Memory



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## Elam Bartholomew diary

July 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 1880  
Went to Stockton to meet  
and to attend to other miscellaneous  
business, and while there received notice  
of my appointment as a member of the  
Rooks Co. Republican Central Committee  
from Farmington I. by A. L. Patchin,  
Chairman of said committee got home  
about 7 o'clock in the evening.

Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup>

Worked in the a.m. at replowing  
a hedge row broken on the west-line  
of our place, last year, from the N.W.  
corner 60 rods south, also plowing to  
cultivate a row of trees 50 rods long  
on the N. side of the orchard & doing a  
little breaking on the hill E. of the house  
In the P.M. worked for father running a  
header box to cut his wheat. Cut 11  
acres & finished about 6 o'clock.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Friday 16.

Went over to father's in the morning to remove brother John's household effects from there up to his place as he now has his house ready for habitation, but a slow rain being the order of the A.m. did not do anything until after dinner when the rain having ceased proceeded to the business in question and hauling two loads thereof which completed the job got home at 5 p.m.

Saturday 17.

Worked until 10 a.m. at finishing the breaking on the hillside east of the house and then went up to Rockport after the mail and got home at noon. Had a late dinner and at 3 p.m. attended church at the school house, Mr. Bracher preaching the preparatory communion service and taking for his text the first clause of the 12 verse of the 6<sup>th</sup> chap. of First Timothy. After the sermon the church session met and after a short session took a recess until after communion tomorrow. Got home at 5 p.m.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
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## Elam Bartholomew diary

JULY 19 Sunday 1860

Attended S.S. at 10 a.m. and church at 11, after listening to an able discourse from Mr Bracken delivered from a text taken from the 2<sup>nd</sup> clause of the 16<sup>th</sup> verse of the 3<sup>d</sup> chap of First Timothy

"God was manifest in the flesh." participated in communion services and the evening meeting again after a short meeting adjourned. Got home at 1:15 P.M. spending the rest of the day as usual until 5 P.M. when Rachel & I and the two little boys took a wagon ride up south about two miles on the prairie being gone until 6:30 o'clock.

Monday, 19.

Commenced plowing on a 36 acre piece of ground on which I expect to sow fall wheat. Worked thereat during the day

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Tuesday 20.

Plowed as above and in the evening at 8 o'clock went up to Rockport after the mail and got home an hour later.

Wednesday 21.

Went to Stockton with George & son on miscellaneous business. Called on Rev F. C. Sherman with whom I took dinner. Got home at 7 P.M.

Thursday 22.

Plowed in the a.m. and in the p.m. helped brother John harvest the 8 acres of spring wheat down on our place. Drove team to Leader boy.

Friday 23.

Plowed.

# Kansas Memory



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## Elam Bartholomew diary

July Saturday 24. 1880.

Went to Rockport in the morning to get a plow sharpened and to attend to other business but on account of having to wait a long time on my work at the blacksmith shop did not get home until 1:30 P.M. Had dinner shortly afterward and then plowed the remainder of the day.

Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup>

Attended S.P. at the annual home of 10 a.m. and got home at ~ 1 P.M. spending the remainder of the day in reading.

Monday 26.

Plowed.

Tuesday 27

On account of the ground being too dry quit plowing at ~~#~~ 11 A.M. and after dinner went up to Rockport on miscellaneous business getting home at 4 P.M. spending the remainder of the day at hoing in the garden.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Wednesday, 28.

Spent the day at a little of every thing, such as hoeing in the garden, cutting and hauling wood and knocking about at numberless other odd chores preparatory to making an early start for Kirwin tomorrow evening to meet Father & Mother Montgomery who are to arrive there on the noon train from the east.

Thursday, 29.

In accordance with arrangements of yesterday, Rachel, Georgie and I started for Kirwin at 6 o'clock a.m. arriving there at 10:30. About an hour later we went to the depot and in a short time the western bound express brought in our visitors with whom we started for home shortly after noon and got here at 5 o'clock.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

July - Friday 30 - 1880

Father Montgomery and I spent the A.M. in social chat and in walking about over the Fair viewing its many points of excellence. Father & mother having come over to take dinner with us the P.M. was spent in social visiting to all hands.

Saturday 31

Having taken quite sick yesterday evening from an overdose of Greenbackism administered by Father Montgomery, did not get about much until after dinner when he and I took a ~~the~~ trip up to Rockport getting home at three o'clock passing the remainder of the day in reading and social conversation.

# Kansas Memory



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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Sunday August 1. 1880  
We all attended Sab school at 3 p.m. and listened to a very good sermon at 4 o'clock by Mr. Bracken who took for his text - the last clause of the 18<sup>th</sup> verse of the 1<sup>st</sup> chap. of Colossians - "That in all things he might have the preeminence". (In the evening father Mr. and I took a walk over to Fathers and returned about noon). Mr. Bracken came home with us and staid all night.

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>.

M. Montgomery, brother George & I went to Stockton on miscellaneous business, paying a visit to the High Bluffs south of town above the mill. Got home at 6:30

P.M. { While in Stockton today was appointed trustee of this (Farmington) township to serve until the next election in Feb. gave bonds & took official oath.  
name at 8 a.m. moving road a few yards back.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> - 1880

Mr. G. and I took a walk over W. and S.W. about a mile to visit some peculiar limestone formations and got home about noon, spending the time from then until about 3 P.M. in reading &c, &c, &c. and then went over to brother John's to look about a little and got home about 5:30 o'clock.

Wednesday 4.

Mrs. M. and Rachel and the little boys, and myself all went over to Father's about 9:30 a.m. spending the day there and when ready to come home, went around by John's to take Jim and May home getting back about 5 P.M.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Thursday, 5.

Spent the time until 3 p.m. principally in reading when Mr. Montgomery and I took a walk up to Rockport after the mail and got home about 5 o'clock.

Friday, 6.

Spent the day in reading & social conversation, Mr. M. and I taking a walk over to Father's about two o'clock getting home at 6.

Saturday, 7.

At 8:30 a.m. Mr. & Mrs. Montgomery, Mother, George, Em, Rachel and I started on an excursion up to the Sugar Loaf mound after grapes. Got there about 11 o'clock, climbed to the top of the mound, obtaining thereby a magnificent view of the country. Came down at noon for lunch, and went to grape picking. After gathering some about two bushels thereof we set out south to the divide road on which we came east making a tour of inspection getting home at 6 p.m. Having had a very pleasant time.

# Kansas Memory



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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Aug. 2 Sunday, 8. ~ 1880

Attended Sab. school alone at 10 a.m. getting home about noon, none of the rest of the folks going on account of one of our horses being sick which prevented us from taking the team. Said sick horse died shortly after sunset which fact leaves us without a team until another horse can be obtained.

Monday, 9.

Worked all day for J.M. Mellon stacking wheat on his timber claim one mile south of here, said wheat being cut with a header.

Tuesday, 10.

Went down to F.A. Hebrew's in the morning to see about buying a horse and got home at noon spending the p.m. in knocking about at a little of everything.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

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Wednesday 11.

Spent the time until about noon in reading and social chat with Mr. Montgomery when Father, mother and George came over accompanied by brother Elias of Lomaville who arrived at Father's last night on a two weeks visit. Had dinner at 2 p.m. after which Father, Mr. Mr. Elias, George, and I went up to Rockport on miscellaneous business and got home at 6 o'clock p.m.

Thursday 12.

Went to Sam Hebrews in the morning to tell him about cutting our millet and from there went to Theodore Allen's to get see about getting a hay rack and as not being at home I went to Mr. C.P. Bojo where he was and went from there to J.A. Hebrews and bought a horse, getting some about seven. In the p.m. at 2 o'clock Mr. Mr. and I attended the dist. school meeting which continued in session until about 5 o'clock. From the school house we went to Father's where Mrs. Mr. and Rachel & the little boys were and after partaking of supper got home about 6:30 p.m.

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## Elam Bartholomew diary

Aug. Friday 13 1880

Commenced cutting off corn for  
fodder in the morning, working there-  
until 10 o'clock when I went up to  
Sam Hebrews and getting his horse hay  
rake went to raking the millet hay  
cut yesterday, continuing until noon.  
In the p.m. Mr. Montgomery, brother George  
and I hauled in hay

Saturday 14.

Mr. M. & I hauled in hay until noon  
when Elias and George coming over  
we four went up to Rockfort to attend  
the Ig. Caucus to send delegates to the Co.  
Conv to send a del. to the State Conv.

Acted as Secretary of said caucus and  
was chosen a del. to attend the Co. Conv.  
to meet in Stockton one week from today.  
got home about 4 p.m. spending the remainder  
of the day in hauling in hay.