

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

Date: January 1, 1881-December 31, 1881

Callnumber: Elam Bartholomew Coll. #272, Box 8

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 211574

Item Identifier: 211574

www.kansasmemory.org/item/211574

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Monday 20 = Having had very few idle moments in the past two months, I spent today almost entirely in rest.

Tuesday 21 = Went up to Rockport on miscellaneous business at 8 o'clock a.m. & getting home at 10 spent the time until noon in reading & in the p.m. worked at plowing & cultivating some trees & about 5 o'clock went to sowing millet & sowed $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres before night, which completes the day's work.

Wednesday 22 = Worked until about 3:30 p.m. at harrowing in millet & did not do much of anything the remainder of the day.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Thursday 23 = Worked all day at taking the old roof off and putting a new roof on the dugout which I made in the fall of 1876 and which has been used since that time for a general storehouse for every-

(thing)

Friday 24 + Sat. 25 = Worked both days as above, completing the job in good style.

Sunday 26 = Attended S.P. at the usual hour of 10 am and prayer meeting immediately thereafter & got home at half past 12 o'clock spending the remainder of the day in reading and rest. (Comet

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Monday 27 = Went to Stockton
on miscellaneous business very early
in the morning & got home at 1 p.
m. spending the time until 5:30 o'clock
in knocking about at little odd
jobs & then I took Rachel and
the children & went over to brother
Phineas & from there went to
mother's & from there we came
home shortly after sunset.

Tuesday = 28 = Cultivated corn in the
a.m. & the weather being very hot I spent
the p.m. principally in reading.

Wednesday = 29 = Went down to C.C. Foster
in the morning & he just having returned
from a month's visit to Colorado stopped
with him awhile when we went down to Mr.
Samuel Hebrew's etc. & from there went
to Jas. A. Hebrew's timber claim where
the boys were at work heading grain

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

& after staying there a short time and securing their promise to commence cutting our grain tomorrow afternoon I returned to Old Law Hebrews where I spent an hour or so in pleasant conversation with Jim Foot & after partaking of dinner come up to Matthew & staying there awhile went over to John's & then came home at three o'clock & spent the remainder of the day in knocking about at a little of everything.

Thursday.

30-Went up to Rockport - after the mail to the at 8 o'clock A.M. & getting home at 10 spent the remainder of the day until 6 o'clock in knocking about at odd jobs of all sorts & from then till eight worked at cutting & putting up our wheat. Dad Ed. John & Frank help me.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Friday July 1st 1881
Worked at splitting up wheat after
the header all day cutting about
25 acres.

Saturday 2 = Finished cutting
wheat - about 8 o'clock a.m. Not
doing much of anything & the
remainder of the day until noon
but in the p.m. worked over at
mother's stacking wheat. In the
evening Geo. A. Barton of Stockton,
S.S. Missionary, came to our house
& put up for the night. He having
come over for the purpose of organ-
izing a Sab. school at Rockport
tomorrow at 10 o'clock a.m.

Sunday 3 = Accompanied Mr.
Barton to Rockport where he
succeeded in organizing a Sab. school.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

at 10 o'clock a.m. Got home again
about half past 12 o'clock and
at 3 p.m. attended day school S.S.
at the school house, Mr. Barton
going with us to visit our school.
At 4 p.m. listened to an instruct-
ive discourse by Mr. Bracken on
the subject of the revised version
of the New Testament. At the close
of the services we learned from Mr.
Bracken the startling intelligence of
the attempted assassination of
President Garfield which send a
thrill of sorrow & profound regret
to the hearts of those who were present.
as to wounds received it was be-
lieved would prove fatal in a
short time. Mr. Bracken, wife
& three children came home with
us and put up for the night.
Mr. Barton returned home to Stockton
after church services.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Monday X = At 7:30 A.M.
Mr. Bracken & family left us &
we at once started to Stockton
& attend the celebration to be
given there today. We took Georgie
along but left Elbert & Lizzie
with mother. We got to Stockton
about 10 o'clock A.M. remaining
until about 6:30 P.M. when we
started for home, arriving about 9
o'clock. The weather was fine and
the concourse of people assembled
was the largest ever seen in Roots
county. Calum Reasoner and R. S.
Osborne of Osborne county were the
speakers of the day. A Washington dis-
patch of 8 A.M. stated that the Pres.
was failing fast & could not survive
until night but a later dispatch
which came to hand late in the
afternoon stated that he was recov-

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

lasier with very faint hopes of re-
covery. On account of the sad state
of affairs at Washington a gen-
eral sadness pervaded the assembly
in general and went far toward
marrying the otherwise pleasant oc-
casion. While in town met and
held pleasant conversations with the
following named gentlemen A. L.
Patchin, J. H. Mitchell, M. J. Coolbaugh
A. J. Davis, W. H. Barnes, S. P. Boggs,
Rev. F. E. Sherman, Geo. A. Barton.
and a large number of others. and
but for the above stated cause the
occasion would have been or even
enjoyable one indeed.

Tuesday 5 - Worked all day at
another stacking wheat.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Wednesday 6= Worked over at mother's ^{Helping} stacking wheat for brother John (he having down 8^{1/2} acres there) until about 10 o'clock a.m. & then went up to his place where we worked till noon which finished up all our harvesting for the year 1881. It p.m. Henry exceedingly bad did not do anything Learned about noon of the death of ^{last night at 10 o'clock} Isaac Pearce who lived about 3½ miles N.E. of here & who was one of the first settlers of Boro creek.

Thursday 7= Attended Mr. Pearce's funeral at 10 a.m. at the residence of his son-in-law Frank Lovee and listened to a very instructive sermon by old Father Cummings. On our return we stopped at C.C. Root's took dinner, & stayed till late in the p.m. when we came home

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Friday 8= Went to Stockton on miscellaneous business & got home at 8 p.m.

Saturday 9= Spent the day in knocking about at a little of everything & not much of anything after all.

Sunday 10= Attended S.S. at 10 and prayer meeting at 11 a.m. Got home at 1 p.m. & spent the remainder of the day in reading & rest.

Monday 11= Not feeling very well did not do much of anything all, spending a portion of the time in reading & writing

Tuesday 12= Went to Stockton after some corn & to attend to other business & got home at sunset.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Wednesday 13= Spent the day in doing a little of work much of anything.

Thursday 14= Went up to Rockport- after the mail at 8:30 o'clock & getting home an hour later spent the remainder of the day in reading, writing & rest.

Friday 15= Took Rachel and the children & went down the creek about 3 miles, in the morning to the Pearce pond & spent the time until one or two P.M. in fishing & boating, caught a good "ques" we went from there over to J.A. Southards where we spent the remainder of the day in social visiting, getting home about 8 o'clock in the evening.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Saturday 16 = Went up to Rockport on miscellaneous business at 8 A.m. & getting home in from later spent the time until noon in reading and after dinner racked up a small patch of quiller hay which I had Sam Hebrew cut yesterday P.m. which took me about an hour afterwards the remainder of the day until evening was spent in reading principally & then Ed. & I loaded in the hay.

Sunday 17 = Attended S.S. at 10 A.m. & at 11 listened to a sermon by Mr. Bracken from Psalm 97-1-2. We then took dinner at mother's as did also Mr. B. getting home at 3 P.m. spending the remainder of the day as usual - in reading & rest.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Monday 18= Spent the day in knocking about at a little of everything & eat much after all.

Tuesday, 19= Spent the a. m. in hoing weeds out of the garden & the afternoon was spent in trying to keep cool. it being one of the hottest days I ever saw the mercury getting up to 106 averaging full 100 from sunrise to sunset.

Wednesday, 20= Spent the day in working out my poll tax on the section line west of our place under James Hebrew sr. Road over so. Today was I believe the hottest day that I ever saw the mercury standing at 111 in the shade & 122 in the

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

sunshine & as a brisk S.W.
wind was blowing the greater part
of the day the consequence was
that the corn crop was almost
annihilated being scorched badly.

Thursday 21= Went to Rockport
after the mail at 8:30 o'clock &
getting home an hour later spent
the time until noon in reading
& at 2 o'clock went over to another
on an errand & got home at 5
o'clock which wound up the proceed-
ings of the day.

Friday 22= Went to Stockton
on miscellaneous business & while
in town met & held pleasant
conversations with Senator Patchin,
Judge Denny, Co. Clerk Mitchell, Register
Mullen, Asst. Clerk & others. Got
home about 7 p.m.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Saturday 23 = Went up to Rockport after the mail at 8 a.m. & getting home at 10:30 o'clock spent the remainder of the day principally in reading.

Sunday 24 = Attended P.P. and prayer meeting at 10 and 11 o.m. & getting home at 1 p.m. spent the remainder of the day as usual.

Monday = 25 = Worked until 10 a.m. at making a crossing over the creek near the N.E. corner of our place to be used as a shorter road when going down the creek. Sam O. Hebrew helped thereat - for an interest in the road. Spent the remainder of the day in scraping down some banks of earth to house a short distance.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Tuesday 26 = It being wet and rainy spent the time until about 3 P.M. within doors reading &c, and worked the remainder of the day at sowing & harrowing in two or three patches of turnips.

Wednesday 27 = Spent the A.M. in hoing & mowing weeds about the place & the P.M. in hauling out manure from the stable to the field.

Thursday 28 = Finished hauling out manure in the A.M. & in the P.M. went over to Johns & finding no one at home went down there to mothers & them home going up to Rockport after the mail about three o'clock & got home at -5-

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Friday 29= Worked in the A.M.
at - mowing weeds about the farm
& in the P.m. at 2 o'clock attended
our township caucus, at Farnsworth's
the usual place of holding such
meetings, & was then chosen to
attend the county convention, to-mor-
row, in Stockton which convention
meets for the purpose of choosing 9
delegates to attend the Judicial con-
vention which meets at Millbrook
Graham Co. Aug. 17, 1881, C.C. Foot
was also chosen a delegate. Got home
at 4 P.m. spending the remainder of
the day in knocking about at
several little odd jobs. A heavy
soaking rain fell this morning
about sunrise which was one of
the greatest blessing imaginable to west-
ern Kansas as a few days more of
dry weather would have completely ruined the corn crop.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Ott. Sat. 30 = Went to Storckton
to attend the county convention
and to attend to quit an amount
of other business not getting home
until 7:30 o'clock P.M.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

July - Sunday 31st Attended the Rockport Sab. school at 10 a. m. as vice president of Farmington Twp. for the county S.S. Association. Said school being superintended by J. L. Barnes. Found the attendance small, about 12 or 15, & rather poorly managed principally on account of the school being held in a very small & poorly arranged room. Got home about 1 o'clock after leaving listened to a loud sounding harangue by old Father Trout of Ash Rock Twp. which he denominates preaching. At 3 p.m. attended our own S.S. after which we had the pleasure of listening to a good sermon by Mr. Bracken from 1st Tim. 2:5 An unusually large number of people were out at both S.S. and meeting. Got home about 6 o'clock.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Aug. Monday 1st = Commenced plowing ground on which to sow winter wheat - working thereat all day. All plowing done in the future for some time to come will be of the same character unless otherwise specified

Tuesday 2 = Plowed in the a.m. and C.C. Foot & wife, H.E. Williams & wife, Mrs. D.A. Duff and Mrs. Wm. Belford of Kirwin and 7 or 8 children included having come here on a visit - about 10:30 o'clock I spent the time after dinner until 4:30 in social visiting & the folks going home at that time the remainder of the day was spent in plowing

Wednesday 3 = Plowed as above. Rachel had for visitors today Mrs. O.S. Cox, Mrs. M.J. Beck, Mrs. John Shibley, Mrs. Sam. A. Hebrew and mother

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Thursday 4 = Plowed, and in the evening we went down to D.A. Saffer to attend a social party & ice cream supper. After spending a moderately pleasant time came home between 12 and 1 o'clock at night.

Friday 5 = Plowed, and in the evening in company with Sam. A. Hebrew & wife we went down to H. E. Williams to attend another ice cream party. Had a very good time & starting home about 11:30 o'clock we came as far as J. A. Southards where we stopped for the night thinking that if we went further we would be caught in a rain storm, one heavy rain having fallen at about 2 o'clock.

Saturday 6 = Came home about 6:15 o'clock this morning. Spent the day in plowing.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Aug. Sunday 7= Attended Sab.
school & prayer meeting at the usual
hours of 10 and 11 a.m. & getting
home at 1 o'clock P.M. passed the
remainder of the day in reading & rest.

Monday 8; Tuesday 9 + Wednes. 10=
Plowed each successive day.

Thursday 11= Plowed in the a.m. and
in the P.M. at 2 o'clock attended our
annual school meeting at the school
house, acting as clerk of meeting. Got
home at 5:30 o'clock.

Friday 12 = Plowed in the a.m.
and spent the p.m. in knocking
about at little odd jobs of
all sorts.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Saturday 13 = Plowed in the
a.m. and in the p.m. went
over to the school house and
at 3 o'clock listened to an
excellent sermon by Mr. Bracken
from the 2nd Cor. 7:1. After
the sermon, met with the Church
Session & W.E. Thomas & Mrs. D.A. Duff
coming before the session were ad-
mitted into the church, got home
at 6 o'clock.

Sunday 14 = Attended S. S.
at 10 o'clock & meeting at 11.
Mr. Bracken spoke from a mixed
text-as follows= Isa. 53:5, Mat. 1:
21, Heb. 9:28. After the sermon par-
ticipated in our communion service
getting home at 2 o'clock & spend-
ing the remainder of the day as
usual.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Aug. Monday 15th Went to Stockton on miscellaneous business & while there met & held pleasant conversations with Rev. F. E. Sherman, Hon. A. L. Patchin, Treas. G. M. Stewart and others. Got home at 6 P.M.

Tuesday 16th Worked in the A.M. at cutting off corn fodder and spent the P.M. in mowing weeds.

Wednesday - 17th Jas. Hebley, sr. Sam. A. Hebley, wife & child, Rachel & children & myself started out on a pluming expedition at 7 o'clock a.m. and went over about a half mile S.W. of Stockton where we passed the day very pleasantly. Sam & I went up into town a few minutes about 11 o'clock after some littlenick cracks we gathered about 3 bu. of plums & got home at 6:30 P.M.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Thursday 18 = Spent the day in working land at Knocking about at a half dozen kinds of labor.

Friday 19 & Sat. 20 = Worked both days at plowing, a heavy rain having fallen Wed. evening which fitted the ground in fine condition for such work.

Sunday 21 = Attended Sab. school and prayer meeting at the usual hours of 10 & 11 a.m. and after stopping a short time at another's job home at 2 o'clock p.m. spending the remainder of the day as usual - in reading & rest.

Monday, 22 Tues. 23 & Wed. 24th
Plowed each day. Finished plowing & wheat Tuesday at 4 p.m. & then continued on plowing wheat stubble ground on which to plant corn next year. (Rev. Sherman & Miss Markham ^{Weds} called)

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Aug. Thursday 25 - Went to Rockport in the morning after the mail & from there went up south about three miles to John D. Dawes to see at what time Mr. Cummings boys would be along to do our threshing & gettng their horses & he has some time Saturday I come home at noon & spent the afternoon in plowing.

Friday 26 - Plowed till 4 p.m. & from then until evening worked at hauling up a load of wood from down at the creek.

Saturday 27 - Sumner Southard and his mother Sam A. Hebrew & wife Rachel & children & myself went over on the S. fork 3 miles west of Stockton after grapes & plums & after getting a goodly number or quantity went down to Stockton where we stayed about half an hour & after gathering a few more plums a short distance N.W. of town we came home getting here at 6 o'clock having had a good time.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Sunday 28 = Went up to Rockport
to attend Sab school at 10 a.m.
but J.L. Barnes & enft. being the
subject of a scandal case originating
last week & so not being present
& the school all having refused to
come out no services were held
so I came home at noon & at
3 p.m. attended our own S.S. &
at 4 o'clock listened to a good
sermon by Mr. Bracken from John
3:14,15. After the sermon Mr. B.
announced to the congregation that
the probabilities were that his labors
in this field would come to a close
in October as he was about to
accept a thrice repeated call from
the Presbyterian church of
Iowa. Got home at 6 o'clock.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Monday 29th - Spent the a.m. at Knocking about at not much of anything but as the threshers arrived at noon the p.m. was spent in taking care of the wheat as it came from the machine.

Tuesday 30th - Finished threshing at 8 a.m., only getting 157 bu. from 3½ acres of ground. Went immediately over to Brothers and spent the remainder of the day there helping thresh. Got done at 5 p.m. & while on the road home met C. J. Davis of St. Louis, candidate for Co. Clerk who came home with me & then we went down to C. C. Foster to see him on political matters, & got back home again at 7 o'clock. Mr. Davis staying all night with us. I find him to be a very genial man & one whose chances for nomination are very good.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Wednesday 31st Worked all day
for S.R. Guthrie, threshing, getting
home at 6 p.m. Mr Davis went
with me to Guthrie's & from
there to Rockport & thence on west.

~~Thursday July~~

Sept. - Thursday 1st - 1881

Did not do much of anything in
the a.m. but worked in the p.m. for
J. M. Swallow cutting off cornfodder.

Friday 2nd = Spent the day principally
in reading, with the exception going
to Rockport after the mail at 3 p.m.
& getting home about an hour &
a half later.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Elam Bartholomew diary

Sept.

1881

Saturday 3^d Cut-off corn
fodder in the a. m. & in the p.m.
did not do much of anything.
Sam Hebrew & wife came down in
the evening to eat watermelons with
us & we had a very pleasant time.

Sunday 4th Attended Sab. school
& Prayer meeting at the usual
time & place & getting home at
1:30 o'clock spent the remainder of
the day in reading & rest.

Monday 5th Went over to mother's
in the morning & from there down
to C. C. Froelich to have a talk on
county politics & got home at 11
o'clock. Cut-off corn in the p.m.
until 3:30 o'clock when a rain
coming up stopped work for the
remainder of the day.