Battey, Thomas C. Papers, 1824–1897. .33 foot.
Teacher. Battey’s diaries (1872–1884) and correspondence with family members (1873–1874) regarding his experience as a teacher of Indians, along with a book (1876) by Battey entitled Life and Adventures of a Quaker Among the Indians, containing substantial manuscript revision. The collection also includes newspaper articles (1897) regarding Battey, and copies of Sac and Fox treaties (1824-1868) with the United States.

This collection is available online at the University of Oklahoma Libraries website.

Box 1

1. Andres Martinez to Debra C. Battey, March 30, 1897. From Methvin Institute expresses appreciation to Battey for Battey's work among the Indians.


Vol. II August 1887
Topics discussed:
- To those receiving papers
- An open letter to President Cleveland
- Dear Brother…
- Extracts from Essay by Harris Knight
- A Superstition
- Have Patience
- Christians pray more
- A letter from Jamaica
- Indian ideas of property
- Our trip south
- Good things; from Bro. Howard's Diary
- Gathered thoughts
- Children's page: "Killing Tom" by Sara R. May
- Other random "filler" material and notices

Pages 3-6, no Vol., no date (1888?)
- Educating the Indian
- Why didn't you strike back?
- "The Mistake of Today," by Rev. B. B. Howards
- Waste of Brave Lives
Experience

Vol. 12, January 1888

- To Those Receiving Papers
- The *Day-Star's* Mission (poem)
- From the Altar to the Ranks
- A true Peace Man
- Children's Page
- "Experience in Faith work," by A. F. & D. R. Foster
- Jesse Lee; A Methodist Minister and Peaceman
- An Even Balance
- Neighborhood Talks
- Mystic Grove Meetings
- "The Quaker & Indians" by T. C. Battey
- The Bible and War

No. 58, 1890
- An interesting experience
- The Story of White Wolf, A Comanche Chief

No. 59, 1890 Remainder partially bound
- "A Hundred years to come," by Ruth S. Clendenon (poem).
- The Colored Orator Speaks.
- Historical Sketches Ch. III, "Thomissy and the Kiowas".
- Selected Extracts from: Advocate of peace, woman and peace.
- Children's page; How neighbors fought; two foxes

No. 60, 1890
- We are encouraged
- Burning Words
- Historical Sketches, Ch. IV, "The Peace Commissions and the Modes".
- Children and Peace

No. 61, 1890
- A Fighter Converted
- What do you say? (poem)
- What Friends Believe
- Historical Sketches, Ch. V, "The Unwelcome Message".
- "What Polly said," by Margaret Sidney
- A Remarkable Shepherd Dog
- Conversion of a Drunkard
- A Doctor's Testimony
- A Doctor's Experience
- What Tobacco did for one young man

No. 62, 1890
- For young people
- Grand Cove Meeting, Mystic Conn, August 27-29, 1890.

**Introductory Chapter:**
Treaties with Indians; treaty defined; obligations of treaty signers; treaty with Cherokees in 1828; Treaty with Creeks and Seminoles in 1856; Whites not Indians first to break treaties; government yields to pressure of Whites to remove Indians; Poncas moved in 1876; 1878 Northern Cheyennes moved; N. Cheyennes escape from reservation-captured; Annexation of Texas infringes upon Indian Territory; Indian (Comanches) resist-put down by troops; Delawares moved four times in Century; Hardship of Delawares; failure of government to make full appropriation payment; causes of Ute Indian war; failure of government to provide adequate Education; Indian Wars result of government breaking treaties; Discovery of gold in Colorado upsets Indians; Cheyenne Sand Creek massacre by Col. Covington; (pages 12 & 13 have been partially pasted over with additional
material) General Custer massacre of Cheyenne at Ft. Cobb in 1868; Conflict between Bannock Indians and US Troops in Wyoming; Testimony of Army Generals that Indians were not first to break treaties; Society of Friends meet with President elect U.S. Grant, request appointments as Indian agents; orthodox friends assigned as agents to the Kansas and Indian Territory Area; Friends executive committee made recommendations of Agents, teachers, to President; Orthodox friends served as agents for the Southern Cheyenne, Arapahos, Kiowas, Comanches, Apaches and affiliated bands of Caddos, Wichitas, Keechis, etc.; Thomissy was recommended by Executive Committee to serve as teacher and was appointed by president to work with Kiowas-Comanches; book to be written as historical fiction.

6. Additional Statements: Concerns Indian Agent J. M. Haworth (of Kiowa-Comanche) and his high regard for Thomas C. Battey and his service as teacher among the Kiowa and Comanche Indian. Includes extracts from certain monographs and Commission Reports.

7. Article: "The Musquakie Indians". Commentary on an article by name that appeared in No. 30 and 31 of Friend magazine. Writer says article has errors. Writer takes exception to statement in the article that Masquakie Indians are in worse moral condition than they ever were twenty years ago. Author points to advancements made by said Indians blames white man for introducing "vices that hurt Indians, retarding their Civilization". Author takes further exception to statement in article that "Sac and Fox Indians united as Kinsmen." Author then explains relationship between Sac, Fox and Musquakie tribes. Author also explains why government Treaties were made with Sac and Fox Tribes as confederated Nations, further explains provisions of Treaty. Another error in the article, the author believes, in the statement-"they are unwilling to learn any trade or use modern machinery in farming". Author points to Agent reports and reports of Committee of Ohio verifying Indians use of machinery. Author also makes defense of Indian's educational abilities.


Treaty between the United States and the Tribe of Sac and Fox Indians of the Mississippi. Concluded February 18, 1867. As ratified by the president, October 14, 1868.


12. Letters of Thomas C. Battey (manuscript)

12. Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, November 1, 1873. Written from Kiowa Agency, Ft. Sill, Indian Territory. Contains: Had mild illness; doing office work for "Howard" complains of poor teachers at the reservation school. Shearon girls employed at the school; recovery of stolen horses; Comanches and Cheyennes raiding reports of some Kiowas with them; Kicking Bird good influence to tribe; feels touch of homesickness; good pecan crop; comment on weather; Agent ordered ambulance for Battey's use.

13. Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, November 21, 1873. Written from Kiowa Agency, Ft. Sill, Indian Territory. Contains: Mortgage to B. A. Hall; visited Indian camp; illness continues ask to be relieved of position because of illness; tells of visit to the camp; much livestock stolen from Kiowas; white men from Texas disguised as Indians raid reservation.

14. Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, January 30, 1874. Written from Kiowa Agency, Ft. Sill, Indian Territory. (ink very light). Contents: Land tax problems; plan return trip to camp; Caddo school closes; Kiowas raid in Mexico; panthers killed; sends part of pay check home; work hinders personal correspondence; work is demanding; strong influence with Indians.

15. Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, February 17, 1874. Written from Anadarko, Wichita Agency. Contents: Health improves; opposes turning Kiowas and Comanches over to Military authority; presence of soldiers disturb Indians from acting civilized; day of reckoning coming for treatment of Indians; comments on Wichita agency, good school; directs comments to children.

16. Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, March 25, 1874. Written from Kiowa Agency, Ft. Sill, Indian Territory. Contains: Illness shortens trip; Indian wars do not affect Kiowas; plan to research problem of Indian-White relations; discover Sulphur Spring; letters home have been opened; Indians gather in large bands; mentions old Indian Pajah.

17. Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, March 18, 1877. Written from Kiowa and Comanche Agency, Indian Territory. Contains: Comments on weather; goes to White Wolf Comanche Camp; Talks of great spirit; change in nature of the Indians; comments on school; delay in getting farm implement for Indians; office work keeps him busy. Also includes a single unrelated page which may go with another letter.
Letters of Thomas C. Battey (typescript)

18. Photostat copy of Thomas C. Battey to Agent Hunt regarding a request for position as an agent, October 10, 1882.


Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, April 1, 1874. Written from Wichita Agency. Contains: Anticipating large gathering for Indian Council; doctor gives him medicine, suggest a change in diet; mention several individuals working with the Indian tribes; needs clothing; witnesses marriage; Indians farming; Agent out of supplies fears Indians will leave reservation.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, April 8, 1874. Contains: Returns from Indian Council; Kiowas did not attend Council; plans trip to Caddo; plans to pay Pect's note; still has stomach sickness; civil advances of Caddos and Wichitas; Caddo women equality; school at Kiowa Agency doing poorly.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, April 17, 1874. Written from Kiowa and Comanche Agency. Contains: Tells of trip to Caddo; A. J. Standing with Apaches; health continues uncertain; words of admonition to family.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, April 22, 1874. Contains: Gets leave of absence; plans to gather information among Indian tribes to use after leaving work; tells of George Dickenson's work with Indians; no agent with Kiowas presently; newspaper reports Lone Wolf on war path, false; Lone Wolf mourns death of son.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, April 25, 1874. Contains: Comments on religious meeting- cautious against too much emotion; comments on favorable weather; health unimproved.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, May 7, 1874. Contains: Anticipates coming home in July; tells of visit to Indian camp, White Wolf, Kicking Bird, Comanches raid Kicking Bird camp steal bows; Battey goes with search party; describes Wichita Mountains; Cheyennes and Comanches on war path, Kiowas refuse to follow; rations low fear Indians will leave reservation; health improved; fears traveling alone-Comanches.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, May 11, 1874. Contains: Kiowas and Apaches refuse to join Cheyennes and Comanches on War Path; Comanches raid camp; Kiowas blamed; for raids done by Cheyennes & Comanches; Cheyenne and Comanches lead soldiers to Kiowa Camp- Kiowas take them prisoners.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, May 20, 1874. Contains: Several bands of Kiowas move near Agency to avoid Cheyennes and Comanches medicine man;
Kiowas adjust to reservation life- but plan raid in Mexico; Kiowas change from savage to follow peace; restlessness of Indian forces postponement of leave of absence.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, May 25, 1874 (?). Contains: Health improved; dispute between Kicking Bird and Running Wolf- upset whole camp. Indians (Comanches) attempt to capture Shearon sisters.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, June 1, 1874. Contains: Scarcity of supplies and rations; Mexicans import whiskey to Comanches and Cheyennes; Indians kill son of Dr. Holloway; longs for home; received kindness from Kiowas; Indians like to exchange gifts.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, June 7, 1874. Contains: Comments on health; plans to talk with Kicking Bird; Big Bow ask Comanches and Cheyennes to be at peace with White man; received letter from Shearon sisters; Kicking Bird fears for Battey safety at Medicine Dance camp.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, June 15, 1874. Contains: Anticipated returning home; Kicking Bird fears trouble at Medicine Dance Camp is visited by J. Richards and J. D. Hoag; warned of raid on Agency by Comanches and Cheyennes; friendly Indians warn whites to take safety precautions; plan to begin trip home next month.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, June 22, 1874. Contains: Some Indians still pose danger; Kiowas began Medicine Dance. Comanches raid Kansas border; Wichita Agency under threat of attack; white desperados increase their activity; began final preparation for trip home.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, June 30, 1874. Contains: Health unimproved; plans to take trip to Wichita; will take train to Wichita; will stop at Wichita and Lawrence, Kansas; Cheyenne and Comanches raiding Kansas border; Young Kiowas threaten to join Comanches after Medicine Dance; Kiowas peaceful since Battey came to work with them; Kiowas hold two white children captive; Battey disappointed at lack of schooling and civilizing influence among Indians.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, July 5, 1874. Written from Wichita Agency, Anadarko. Contains: Trip home delayed; Indian trouble prevent stage, trains, from running; trip may be rerouted to Caddo; Cheyenne and Comanches divided- Cheyennes north to Kansas, Comanches south to Texas. Kiowa Medicine Dance over; new (mail) contractors not carry passengers. Wichita Agent has unwelcome guest, Isaink Worth.

Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, July 8, 1874. Anadarko. Contains: Indians wreck and burn train on route to Wichita; soldiers come to protect Cheyenne Agency; health some improved; Kiowa Medicine Dance over; Kiowa peaceful except for small band under Lone Wolf; friendly Indian suffer for acts of raiding; takes route to Caddo.
Thomas C. Battey to wife and children, July 16, 1874. Wichita Agency. Contains: Trip to Caddo delayed; health poor; Indian attack party of whites; expecting train from Caddo; Indians spy on Agency; (top part of letter is missing) speaks to Caddo Indians.

Hattie and Enna Shearon to Lucinda Battey, June 14, 1874, Wichita, Kansas. Contains: Expressing gratitude for Battey's help to them while working with the Indians.

**Published Material**

20. Battey, Thomas C. *The Life and Adventures of a Quaker Among the Indians*, Boston: Lee and Shepard, 1876. Has numerous revisions and additions written in longhand and posted between appropriate pages. Also has a number of pictures, hand sketched in pencil, of various Indian villages, Agency, etc.

21. Mason, Otis T. “Papers Relating to Anthropology. The Ray Collection From Hupa Reservation,” pages 205-238 with twenty-six plates of Indian Artifacts following the printed text.

**Ledgers**

22. Ledger of Thomas C. Battey, Vol. 2. September 1, 1872 to June 19, 1873. Note: Pages from October 4, 1872 to November 23, 1872 have been pasted over with eye examination reports by Dr. Battey. End of this ledger has an English-Comanche and English-Kiowa vocabulary list.