Mar the 29th 1877

Commanche [Comanche] Co lex [County]

Mr Johnson dier sir. I take my pen in hand to ansen [answer] your letter whitch I [receiv?]ed yesterday [.] I was glad to hier [here] from you and to hier [here] that you was all well [.] this leeves [leaves] us well + [and] [*sic*] I hope it will find you in joying [enjoying] the same hand of god’s blessing [.] lige[*sic*] I have not heard from pa + [and] [*sic*] uncle Ans sence [since] I com [came] from thar [there] [.] when I was up thar [there] tha [they] was all in so mutch [much] troubel [trouble] that I couldent [couldn’t] find out nothing A bout [about] thaw [them] [.] tha [they] liked the country[.] dow [Dow] was wishing that [he] was back in Lolano [?] [.] uncle Ans swore that he was going to the pacos river [Pecos River] befoar [before] he staped [stopped] [*sic*] [.] pa talks like he was A going tae [to] the bilar [?] fork of the Brasos [Brazos River] to look at it to see how he liked it + [and] [*sic*] if he dident [didn’t] like~~d~~ it he was going to By [buy] land in Stephens Co [county] Lig [Lige] iam [I am] going to pillopinto [Palo Pinto} Co [county] + [and] [*sic*] if I don[‘]t like thar [there] nae better[any better] than I doe [do] hear [here] iam [I am] going to Jack Co [county] [.] lige times is [are] harder hear [here] than iever [ I ever] saw them [.] I can[’]t get work to do half the time [.] work is onley [only] worth 75 sents [cents] A day [.] corn [is] 15 sents [cents] A bushel [,] Bacon 11 ~~15 to~~ [?] sents [cents] [,] Buffalo beef [6] sents [cents] apound [a pound] [.] Lige [,] we have had bad luck with ~~w~~ our cows [.] the too [two] best ones has died [.] this spring now I have onley [only] 7 head left [.] grass is getting prettey [pretty] good now [.] our Horses is in [are] in prettey [pretty] good fix now [.] Lige [,] Joe has not neven [written] to me at all [.] idont [I don’t] know what to think A bout [about] him [.] he saied [said] he would rite [write] to me shon [soon] [.] [Illegible word] soe nae [sic] [Illegible word] at present [.] Write as soon as you get this [.] from J L Ervin to E S Johnson

Ervin, Jonas Lafayette. *J.L. Ervine to E.S. Johnson, March 29,* 1877. Letter. From Abilene Christian University: Center for Restoration Studies, *Ervin Family Papers*, *1877-2000*. Transcribed by Sarah Dannemiller (September, 2014).