

month from St. Louis, but brought no letters or papers. I have not heard from my family since I left the Saline. And have not rec'd *one letter* from below this place since we parted. *From this*, you will readily conclude I am quite uneasy. If it is not imposing too much upon your goodness I should like, at a leisure moment, to get a few lines from you. I feel some anxiety to hear also from Washington City, whether my appointment has been confirmed. Kane¹ promised to write me, and perhaps has, but as I before remarked, we get nothing from any place except Fever River and St. Peters. I have no newspaper from Washington, and until I can get a paper sent on, I would acknowledge it as a great favour, if you would send me on one of your W. papers after reading it. Or the Richmond *Enquirer*, after you have retained it one week to read, it will be *very new here then*.

Is it not astonishing that we have been all this time without a mail? The Postmaster-General has been quite accommodating towards us, and directs all the money arising from our post-office here to be applied by the Postmaster to carrying the mail.² The deputy informed me that during the summer the mail was mostly carried free of expense by steamboats and that the whole fund of the summer was untouched, and would pay for carrying the mail during the winter. Yet the Postmaster, who left here last July and

bago disturbance. Fowle was a native of Massachusetts and entered the army as second lieut. in the 9th inf., April 9, 1812; captain, June 10, 1814; transferred to 5th inf., May 17, 1815; brevetted major June 10, 1824, for ten years faithful service in one grade; major 3d inf., March 4, 1833; lieut. col. 6th inf., Dec. 25, 1837; killed April 25, 1838, by steamboat explosion.—ED.

¹ Elias Kent Kane, then United States senator from Illinois. Kane was born in New York, but emigrated to Tennessee at an early day; afterwards (1814) settling as a lawyer at Kaskaskia, Illinois. He was elected secretary of state in 1818, and in 1824 was sent to the United States senate; he was reelected in 1830 and died in Washington, Dec. 12, 1835. Governor Reynolds, in his *Pioneer Hist. of Ill.*, writes: "His career in Illinois was brief, but elevated and conspicuous."—ED.

² In *American State Papers (Postoffice, xv., p. 210)*, it is shown that "the net amount of postage accruing" for the year ending March 31, 1828, at Prairie du Chien was \$49.81.—ED.