

George Spahr Diary, p. 374 entries for February 7, 1863
Transcribed by Mary Z. Rose 11/16/2017

7th. Night cold. Morning same, clear. B. light.

We put up a “lean to,” before the fire, and slept very comfortably under it till about four, when we were roused by the reveille. We were on the march soon after sunrise – in the rear as usual. Our progress was slow, owing to bad roads. We reached West Plains a little after dark.

The service and country were disgraced today by numbers of the 4th Mo. Cav., as they have frequently been, by the robbery of nearly every house along the road, of everything worth taking, and many things not worth taking. One of them today, backed by many others, and encouraged by one of their officers, robbed a poor woman of her last meal and provision, and struck her, like the coward that he was, because she tried to save it to feed her little children. If we had been strong enough some of that thieving set would have been hurt, but fifteen have a poor show against a hundred or more. Oh, that justice may overtake the guilty in due time. What makes the matter worse is, they had no need whatever of the provisions they took. They had plenty of good rations of their own along at the time. It was pure meanness.

Day cool – rather pleasant. Snow most gone. B. light.