

John H. Knapp
Menomonie, Wisconsin
1872 Diary

Transcribed by Narda Gordillo
UW-Stout Archives Assistant

Monday, January 1 – Saturday, January 13

No entry

Sunday, January 14

23 below zero- Went to Sunday school & church in the forenoon.

Monday, January 15

No entry

Tuesday, January 16

County Board of Supervisors met to day – As chairman of the board it was necessary to be there though I am not in condition to be out in cold weather on account of my nose still being sore.

Wednesday, January 17

Board met again to day.

Thursday, January 18

No entry

Friday, January 19

No entry

Saturday, January 20

No entry

Sunday, January 21

Superintended S.S. this A.M. Cold day. Rec'd piano stool by express. Insured in home & Etna Ins. Co. the store & Ware House.

Monday, January 22

No entry

Tuesday, January 23

No entry

Wednesday, January 24

Cold day. Ther. 10 below 0. Wrote letters nearly all day.

Thursday, January 25

Very cold. Ther. 19 below. Remained in doors nearly all day. Wrote to L. H. Walters(?), Carrolton(?), MO.

Friday, January 26
Cold

Saturday, January 27
Cold

Sunday, January 28
Ther. 10 below 0 & remained all day nearly the same say about 7 below. It may be called a cold Sunday. Rev. Wainwright preached in the morning from the text "What shall it profit man &c & in the evening from text "Follow me"

Monday, January 29
Capt. W. started for Madison. Mr. Seely's child 5 weeks old buried this P.M. Insured some of the paintings at Rice Lake, Praire Farm, Washburn Farm, & Home farm with G.W. Wainwright agt.

Tuesday, January 30
Very cold Ther. 25 below zero at sunrise. G.W. Wainwright preached on the divinity of Christ.

Wednesday, January 31
Cold again today 12 below 0. Fine weather. Rev. Gill of River Falls preached to night.

Thursday, February 1
18 below zero this morning beautiful sunlight days we are having now. Considerable religious interest now in our church. Commenced putting on my nose a plaster recommended by Rev. E. Harris who has cured many persons of cancer.

Friday, February 2
Rev. Gill preached again. Cold & clear weather.

Saturday, February 3
Still & cold. Indication of some change in the weather.

Sunday, February 4
Very cold. The interest in our meetings continues. Rev. Gill preached this A.M. & P.M. Text this P.M. "Come & take of the water of life freely"

Monday, February 5
Ther. 15 below zero at sunrise.

Tuesday, February 6
2 below zero at sunrise.

Wednesday, February 7
The treatment of Rev. E. Harris for my nose is very severe. I suffer excruciating & agonizing stinging pain from 4 to 6 hours every time it is applied. It should be applied every day.

Thursday, February 8

No entry

Friday, February 9

Weather became warm & thawed a good deal. Commenced putting up ice. Had 3 of Co. men to help to day.

Saturday, February 10

Very thawy again to day. We had to haul ice this P.M. in the wagon. The snow has melted away very fast. Our religious meetings continue with interest.

Sunday, February 11 - Monday, February 19

No entry

Tuesday, February 20

This is my mother's birth day she is 80 years old to day.

Wednesday, February 21

Fine weather. Rev. G.W. Wainwright is preaching during the meetings of this week in the Cong Ch. The revival is one of great interest to me and to all our people. Deep religious interest. Rec'd a beautiful affghan as present from Mrs. Tainter, Mrs. T.B. Wilson, Mrs. Mary Wilson

Thursday, February 22

The plaster I put on my nose to day does not hurt nearly so much as heretofore & the signs of healing are very evident. Thanks be to God who doth bless.

Friday, February 23

No entry

Saturday, February 24

No entry

Sunday, February 25

No entry

Monday, February 26

Painful day for me as the plaster took such a strong hold on my nose.

Tuesday, February 27

Sent Henry Drft. \$6000. Sent Rev. H.A. Wentzl(?) \$50 for Cong. Ch. at Vermillion(?) contribution to its erection. Put gasoline in church exrometer(?).

Wednesday, February 28

No entry

Thursday, February 29

No entry

Friday, March 1

No entry

Saturday, March 2

Suffered greatly with pain from the plaster put on my nose.

Sunday, March 3

This has been a day of refreshing in our church. Mr. Wainwright preached both morning & eveng. In the A.M. on the Resurrection of our Savior. We had communion & 14 new added to our church. Effie among others was taken in as a member.

Monday, March 4

Cold. Ther. 2 below zero at 9 A.M.

Tuesday, March 5- Monday, March 11

No entry

Tuesday, March 12

Dr. George from Harvard, Ill came up to day. He helps to still the pain on my face caused by the plaster which Father Harris put on to kill the cancer. He calls it a bone cancer.

Wednesday, March 13

The plaster hurt me very much to day. It is now 6 weeks since I commenced its use & I have suffered a world of agony & pain in that time from its severity.

Thursday, March 14

Henry returned from Ripon this P.M. He is 21 years old to day. I gave him a fine gold watch for his 21st birth day present. Cold day.

Friday, March 15

Ther. 2 below zero. This has been a cold month. The snow fell last week about one foot deep & lays on quite well.

Saturday, March 16

No entry

Sunday, March 17

Rested to day – but could not go to church.

Monday, March 18

Had a terrible pain in my head caused by the plaster on my nose. This has been a terrible day to me.

Tuesday, March 19

No entry

Wednesday, March 20

No entry

Thursday, March 21

We have had continuous cold weather this week. To day Ther 12 below 0. Yesterday Ther. 5 below 0. Suffered a good deal of pain to day. Barometer 30.75.

Friday, March 22

Dr. George left for home – paid him \$85

Saturday, March 23

No entry

Sunday, March 24

Rested to day – did not apply the plaster. It was so stormy that I did not venture to go out to church.

Monday, March 25

Henry started for Ripon this P.M. 3 ½ oclk.

Tuesday, March 26

No entry

Wednesday, March 27

No entry

Thursday, March 28

No entry

Friday, March 29

My 47th birth day – I suffered quite severely to day with the plaster on my face. Weather is moderating a little. March has been a cold month this year.

Saturday, March 30

No entry

Sunday, March 31

No entry

Monday, April 1

The month opens with pleasant weather.

Tuesday, April 2

Phoebe & Maria Irvin left for home. Their sister Mary Ellen takes Phoebe's place – Willie went with them to stay a day or two.

Wednesday, April 3

No entry

Thursday, April 4

No entry

Friday, April 5

No entry

Saturday, April 6

No entry

Sunday, April 7

No entry

Monday, April 8

Rain (first this spring) fell to day in large quantities. Some hail in the afternoon. Put a barrel of gasoline in to the carburetor. Had a great deal of pain in my nose to day.

Tuesday, April 9 - Thursday, April 18

No entry

Friday, April 19

I walked to the store to day & did not know before how weak I was. Weighed 138 $\frac{1}{4}$ Capt. W. & I hired Henry Brunelle at \$65 per month. Clark at \$75 per month, Seely at \$75 per month. Board themselves - goods at cost. Fine weather.

Saturday, April 20

I rode over in town with Vallie being a fine day - & I much in need of out door exercise. This is my first ride in what seems to me long time.

Sunday, April 21

No entry

Monday, April 22

Find myself very weak & that the plasters now becoming daily more obnoxious to me.

Tuesday, April 23

No entry

Wednesday, April 24

Weather very warm. 84 in the shade to day.

Thursday, April 25

Painted my boat & got ready for a ride up creek. Warm day again.

Friday, April 26

Vallie & I rowed up Wilson Creek. Caught $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen trout. Cooked some for our dinner on the bank of the creek. Returned at 5 P.M. Had a pleasant time & I felt stronger for the trip.

Saturday, April 27

Fine morning over the country. Very dry time.

Sunday, April 28

No entry

Monday, April 29

Heavy rain last night & to day.

Tuesday, April 30

Had considerable pain to day. Weather cooler. John set out the shrubbery that came from T. G. Gould, Beaver Dam.

Wednesday, May 1

Snowed more or less during the day.

Thursday, May 2

No entry

Friday, May 3

Goodman commenced work at putting up gate &c this P.M.

Saturday, May 4

Growing warmer with wind strong from S.E. Had considerable pain to day. Mr. Warren took 4 of my calves home with him for which he is to pay me \$8 each.

Sunday, May 5

Very warm to day with strong S.W. wind.

Monday, May 6

John Schneider commenced work at \$1.00 per day & board.

Tuesday, May 7

Mother & Effie started for St. Louis. I sent them in our carriage to Dunnville. Rev. J.C. Sherwin, G.W. Wainwright & Elijah Harris with Willie Knapp, Willie Sherwin & I left Menomonie at 9:00 A.M. for hunters retreat. Arrived there 5 ½ P.M.

Wednesday, May 8

Rain fell heavily last night & some to day and the creek to day is out of the banks & spoils the fishing.

Thursday, May 9

Rained again last night. Creek high – Mister S. & W. went up the creek 2 ½ miles & worked hard & caught only 11 trout. I planted potatoes, lettuce, radishes, & onions. Harrowed the ground & ploughed some.

Friday, May 10

Rainy. We started home & found Hay River out over the banks near the bridge so that we could not cross. Mr. Sherwin rode one of the horses on the road to see if we could cross & the horse got in where it was swimming. Mr. S. got off & very wet of course. We went to Washburn farm very wet. All of us more or less wet.

Saturday, May 11

At 12 ½ oclk. after dinner we left Washburn farm for home. The water came into or up to the wagon box at Hay River Bridge. Got home 6 ½ P.M.

Sunday, May 12

Put on a plaster & remained at home. Had a severe sick headache.

Monday, May 13

My nephew Stewart Knapp, Jonas son, came to day. Have not seen him for 9 years.

Tuesday, May 14

Cool & pleasant. Took Stewart out in the country for a ride.

Wednesday, May 15

Rainy & cool. Had a painful day of it, my nose hurt me so much from the effects of the plaster I put on.

Thursday, May 16

Heavy rain this A.M. Stewart Knapp left for New York on the 12:40 noon train. I suffered intensely to day. My nose is healing.

Friday, May 17

I got along better to day. Weather fine. Took Vallie out riding. We rec'd a letter from Effie giving the tidings of her & grandma's safe arrival in St. Louis on Tuesday last.

Saturday, May 18

Rained a little this P.M. Took Vallie to Ladies Benevolent society. Am getting stronger every day. Concluded to leave off the black plaster & try to heal my nose.

Sunday, May 19

Went out to church for first time in 2 ½ months. Showery all day.

Monday, May 20

No entry

Tuesday, May 21

No entry

Wednesday, May 22

Vallie & I started for Hunters Retreat at 10 ½ A.M. Arrived there 3 P.M. Beautiful day. This is Vallie's first trip up here. Drove Flora & May before my old buggy.

Thursday, May 23

Cloudy – commenced to rain a little before noon & kept up. Drizzly rain remainder of the day.

Friday, May 24 - Thursday, May 30

No entry

Friday, May 31

Rev. E Harris left here for Lake City. He has been here with us since 1st Feby. My nose is about healed.

Saturday, June 1

No entry

Sunday, June 2

Communion day in our church. Mr. Sherwin preached. Vallie is quite sick to day with acute bronchitis. Called Dr. Howitt.

Monday, June 3

No entry

Tuesday, June 4

Quite warm & sultry to day. Repaired roof on our wood house roof

Wednesday, June 5 - Sunday, June 9

No entry

Monday, June 10

John Kreiser & Johnny went up to Hunters Retreat to plant some potatoes & some rutabagas

Tuesday, June 11

John & Johnny ret'd to day.

Wednesday, June 12

Left home for St. Paul on 9:55 train. Arrived in St. P about 2 ockl. P.M. put up at the Metropolitan Hotel. Saw Misses Baldwin Hummbird. Frank Clark is on business. Cpts. T & W. came over with me & met ___? from St. Louis.

Thursday, June 13

Mr. Thompson the Prest. of 1st National BK showed T. & I around among the prominent business firms. T & I left St. Paul for Mankato about 4 P.M. arrived 9 P.M.

Friday, June 14

Left Mankato, Minn. at 2:30 P.M. & travelled West & S. West on the Sioux City RR over a rich prairie without timber to Worthington. Arrived at W - 10:15 P.M. This a new prairie town 8 months old.

Saturday, June 15

Left Worthington 3 ½ A.M. for St. Paul. Arrived 5:15 P.M. Put up at the Metropolitan Hotel kept by Gilbert Dutcher.(?)

Sunday, June 16

In company with Mr. Mead Hiland, Tainter &c went to Episcopal church. Rained heavily this afternoon.

Monday, June 17

Looked around St. Paul to day.

Tuesday, June 18

On invitation of Col. Becker, Prest. of St. Paul & Pacific R.R. we went out on said road to its terminus at Breckenridge 216 miles N.W. from St. Paul. There were on the Prest's car Mrs. Becker & son Mr. & Mrs. Tainter, Thos. & Eliza Wilson, Mr. & Miss. B __?, Mr. Patterson, Mr. James Ed Evans & wife & myself.

Wednesday, June 19

Took stage from Breckenridge to Moorhead 50 miles north from Breckenridge. Mr. & Mrs. Tainter, Thos. & Eliza Wilson, Mr. Patterson & myself composed the party.

Thursday, June 20

Left Moorhead for Duluth at 7:30 A.M. Arrived in Duluth 7:30 P.M. Difference 252 miles. Put up at the Clark House. Duluth is a city of great expectations.

Friday, June 21

I left Duluth at 10 A.M. for Bayfield on steamer China. The other members of our party left for St. Paul on the St. Paul & Lake Superior R.R. Pleasant day to Lake Smooth. Time to Bayfield 6 ½ hours.

Saturday, June 22

Went down to Ashland on steamr __? belonging to J.H. Knight. W.H Stephenson & wife were on board & I found them pleasant people. Returned to Bayfield 7 P.M.

Sunday, June 23

Left Bayfield for Duluth on Propeller Arctic this morning & fearing my family was sick I left for home on 8 P.M. train for St. Paul. Cold rainy weather.

Monday, June 24

Left St. Paul for home at 9:20 A.M. on West Wis. River. Arrived home 2 P.M. found to my joy that all were well.

Tuesday, June 25

Returned to St. Paul to meet Bro. Henry Van Reed. We spent the afternoon in looking at lots on Summit Avenue.

Wednesday, June 26

We went to Minneapolis. Put up at Nicollet House.

Thursday, June 27

Returned to St. Paul & this afternoon bought two lots in Woodridge, addition to St. Paul. The lots are 7 & 8 on Summit Avenue \$3500. Bro. Henry Van Reed also bought two lots. Price 1750\$ per lot.

Friday, June 28

We left St. Paul at 9:20 & arrived at home between one & two o'clock P.M. Hot weather.

Saturday, June 29

No entry

Sunday, June 30

Mr. Sherwin preached this morning for the A.H. Mission Society. Collection taken. Rainy & hot weather.

Monday, July 1

Bro. Henry Van Reed left for home today at noon.

Tuesday, July 2

No entry

Wednesday, July 3

No entry

Thursday, July 4

We intended having a ride to Elk Lake & have a picnic but owing to rain we have been disappointed & remained at home.

Friday, July 5-Monday, July 8

No entry

Tuesday, July 9

Stone mason commenced on foundation for shed & worked ½ day.

Wednesday, July 10

Mason worked 1 day. Louis & Tendes.

Thursday, July 11

Masons worked ½ day. Willie & I went up to hunters shanty today.

Friday, July 12

Hot weather continues. Willie & I returned today.

Saturday, July 13

Louis finished on shed foundation. ¼ day today for them.

Sunday, July 14

Very warm 93 in the shade. Mr. Sherwin preached from the text in Psalms "No man cared for my soul"

Monday, July 15

Very warm to day in the forenoon 92. Cool in the evening. Wrote to J.H.D. ___? & Co., ___? Baker & Co., etc., etc. Drove out with Mr. Harris to see one of his patients, Miss P____?

Tuesday, July 16

Geo. with help of two men commenced hauling manure from stable. Hans Lund raised part of the new shed.

Wednesday, July 17

Cooler to day. Ther. 60 this morning at 7 oclk.

Thursday, July 18

Cooler still & fair to day. Ther. 58 – 7 A.M. quite a change from the hot month just past.

Friday, July 19

No entry

Saturday, July 20

Mr. Sherwin & I rode over to Elk Lake.

Sunday, July 21

Cool & pleasant. Could not go to church because the plaster on my nose was so painful.

Monday, July 22

No entry

Tuesday, July 23

Had much pain to day. Hans Lund had a carpenter from the mill to help on shed. Rev. Mr. Sherwin & Rev. Mr. Smith called this evng. I agreed to pay \$500 to support a collection in Dunn & Barron Counties this year.

Wednesday, July 24

Put bitter sweet salve on my nose to day. The larger place open is about size of 10 ct. piece. Mr. Cavanagh commenced work on the stone steps. Louis Skampfer worked with him to day.

Thursday, July 25 – Wednesday, July 31

No entry

Thursday, August 1

Willie & I went to St. Paul.

Friday, August 2

Rode out with Gov. W.R. Marshall to see some land he has for sale between St. P. & St. Anthony.

Saturday, August 3

Returned to Menomonie

Sunday, August 4

Suptd. Sunday school. Mr. Smith preached for Am. Tract Socy.

Monday, August 5

No entry

Tuesday, August 6

Mr. Sherwin, Rev. Marcus, W. Smith & J.H. Edwards went with me to Hunters Retreat. It was a very hot day. Mr. Sherwin killed a deer about 1 mile east of camp. Went with team & brought it in.

Wednesday, August 7

Heaviest thunder storm of the season occurred during last night & this forenoon. This afternoon about 4 oclk. I shot a fawn about 1 mile east of my camp. Excessively hot.

Thursday, August 8

Musquitoes very bad. Heat oppressive. We returned home. Arrived in Menomonie about 3 ½ P.M.

Friday, August 9

Weather turned cool this noon.

Saturday, August 10

Cool

Sunday, August 11

Cool & pleasant

Monday, August 12

Went to St. Paul. Tainter went with me. Purchased bill nails of 100 kegs of Nichols & Dean.

Tuesday, August 13

Purchased 65 Bbls. sugar, 15 bags coffee & some articles of McQuillan. Returned to Menomonie on the 9:30 A.M. train.

Wednesday, August 14

No entry

Thursday, August 15

Mr. Cavanagh completed setting the stone steps in front of our house.

Friday, August 16 - Saturday, August 31

No entry

Sunday, September 1

No entry

Monday, September 2

Meprs. J.H. Woolsey & Co. of St. Paul have agreed to put in steam heating apparatus in our house for between 1300\$ & 1400\$. Their men commenced work to day. Slater Bricklayer & his son commenced tearing down brick work of furnace.

Tuesday, September 3

Slater & son & Gillespie worked in the cellar to day & John Kreiser also at clearing away the brick, making mortar, laying wall etc. Mr. Osbornee came over from St. Paul to superintend the steam heating work.

Wednesday, September 4

Mr. Stout, B. Tainter & I went out hunting this P.M. Result was only 4 grouse & 2 ducks.

Thursday, September 5

The Tainter club turned out this evening well uniformed & in torch light procession and marched to the grove East of Cong. Ch. & there an audience of 500 listened to a good political address by Col. J.H. Davidson.

Friday, September 6

Weather very hot. Yesterday 95 in the shade. Today cloudy with some rain.

Saturday, September 7

No entry

Sunday, September 8

Cool day. Wore my over coat to church in the evening. Quite a contrast with the temperature of a few days ago. Rev. Page of the Episcopal church preached in the Cong. Ch. this evng.

Monday, September 9

Cool & rainy

Tuesday, September 10

Got up steam on our new union steam heating works just put in our cellar for heating our house.

Wednesday, September 11

We had a fine 11 pound baby boy born this morning at about 5:35 A.M. Dr. Gates & Mrs. Prinelle & Mrs. Barwise were in attendance.

Thursday, September 12

Took Dr. Jackson out 5 or 6 miles East of Menomonie for a little hunt for prairie chickens. We got 5.

Friday, September 13

Mr. Cavanagh, Slater & son, ___? & Hans worked for me to day.

Saturday, September 14

Same men worked for me to day as yesterday. The steam heating men are setting radiators. John Kreiser worked on the road for me. Vallie was quite sick to day. Mr. Cavanagh finished the stone cutting.

Sunday, September 15 – Sunday, September 22

No entry

Monday, September 23

Very warm day.

Tuesday, September 24

Grandma, Effie, Jonas & Mary arrived to day. Warm & rainy.

Wednesday, September 25

Windy & cool. Ther. 29 at 8 oclk. P.M. Gale blew to day.

Thursday, September 26

Very heavy frost last night. This is the first frost to do any damage this season. Our grapes are not thoroughly ripe nor watermelons & all the vines are killed.

Friday, September 27

Pleasant day. Took Mary, Grandma, Effie & Herbie out riding.

Saturday, September 28

Rain all day.

Sunday, September 29

Rain again to day.

Monday, September 30

Jonas, Mary & Willie started for Ft. Madison this afternoon 1 oclk. Pleasant day.

Tuesday, October 1

Mr. Sherwin & I went up to Hunters Retreat. John Kreiser went along & dug the potatoes. We saw 3 deer in the evening. Mr. S. shot one but did not get it.

Wednesday, October 2

Hunted for deer to day. Caught 3 trout at noon for an addition to our lunch. Saw no game. Quite warm day.

Thursday, October 3

Came home to day. Shot a few prairie chickens & grouse on the way home. Left Hunters Retreat at 11 A.M. arrived home at 6 P.M. Warm to day.

Friday, October 4

We bought 1009 acres pine land near ___? Lake of John Dacy of Michigan. Price \$6000 for the tract.

Saturday, October 5

Political meeting at the Wignam in the evening. We had an excellent address from Dr. J.W. Hugh of Madison, Wis.

Sunday, October 6

Good Sermon from Rev. J.C. Sherwin. New choir sung for first time. Took Vallie out for short ride. She is getting better. Day fine.

Monday, October 7

No entry

Tuesday, October 8

Effie, Ida Sherwin & I went up to my shanty to day. Jno. Kreiser went along to take care of team.

Wednesday, October 9

Hunted for deer some & after dark went over on Otter Creek & camped on section 22 East branch of Otter Creek. Very windy & cold wind from N.W.

Thursday, October 10

We went up on the bluffs where we could look over the country. Could see Menomonie about 16 miles away & Washburn Farm to N.W. 8 or 9 miles from us. John Kreiser got lost & finally came in & we started to Washburn Farm.

Friday, October 11

Came home. We left Washburn Farm about 8 oclk. & arrived home 12 ½ oclk. noon. Attended the funeral of Wm. McKahan in the afternoon.

Saturday, October 12

No entry

Sunday, October 13

Hard freeze last night.

Monday, October 14

Pleasant but cold. Ther. 12 above zero at 6 ½ A.M.

Tuesday, October 15 – Sunday, October 20

No entry

Monday, October 21

Mr. Sherwin & I started for the woods to spend two weeks deer hunting. Arrived at Washburn farm about 4 P.M.

Tuesday, October 22

Went up to Prairie Farm & to Tim Harrington's camp 9 miles above there to dinner. Hunted around there in the afternoon. Saw no game.

Wednesday, October 23

Hunted this forenoon west of Harrington's camp. Weather very fine. Saw no game. Applied the black plaster on my nose this afternoon & suffered great pain. Returned to Prairie Farm.

Thursday, October 24

Fine day. Hunted East of Prairie farm. Took dinner at a German farmer's House. His name is Hainisch. Saw 6 deer – could not get a shot. Very noisy & dry. Indian summer weather.

Friday, October 25

Hunted East from Praire farm – saw no game. Went to Washburn farm after dinner & hunted some near there & saw nothing.

Saturday, October 26

We saw some deer to day but it is so dry & noisy walking we could not get near them.

Sunday, October 27

Applied the plaster on my nose again & suffered much pain.

Monday, October 28 – Thursday, October 31

No entry

Friday, November 1 – 3

No entry

Monday, November 4

Cold & windy. A little snow commenced falling this evening.

Tuesday, November 5

First snow. Presidential elections to day. Went out about 2 ½ miles west of our house & shot a deer just north of A. Flanagan's place. Returned to dinner & to vote. Went out in the afternoon with the wagon & brought the deer home. Young buck.

Wednesday, November 6 – Monday, September 11

No entry

Tuesday, November 12

Left Menomonie for Ft. Madison at 12:50 P.M. arrived in Chicago at 6:30 A.M. Put up at Sherman House. Bought some goods.

Wednesday, November 13

Left Chicago for Ft. Madison at 10:15 A.M. Arrived in Ft. Madison about 8 P.M. Jonas met me at Depot & took me out to his house.

Thursday, November 14 – 16

No entry

Sunday, November 17

Attended Pres. Church.

Monday, November 18

Took dinner at Judge Beck's. Jonas & Mary were also there with Willie & I. Very cold.

Tuesday, November 19

Jonas took me to town in time to take 7:08 A.M. train for Burlington where I changed cars for Ottumwa & then again at noon for Des Moines. Stopped at Savery House, found J.B. Stewart. Went up to his house in the evening and staid all night.

Wednesday, November 20

Rode out around about Des Moines with J.B. Stewart esq. my old friend. Left there at 6 P.M. for Ottumwa where I changed cars for Clarinda via the B&M R.R.

Thursday, November 21

Arrived in Clarinda about noon. Saw about taxes on land. Had taxes for R.R. paid out of funds in hands of N.B. Moore. Amt. of R.R. tax \$184.20.

Friday, November 22

Rode out 5 miles went of Clarinda, Page Co. Iowa to look at some land I own there. Found it good rolling Prairie with creek running through it. Left Clarinda at 6 P.M. for Villisca thence to Red Oak where I staid all night at Tremont House.

Saturday, November 23

Went to Brownsville, Nebraska via Hamburgh & to Phelps. Thence stage 2 ½ miles crossing the Missouri River on steam ferry boat. Found Geo. P. Eaton & family there & all well. Pleasant weather.

Sunday, November 24

Went to Pres. ch. with Mr. & Mrs. Easton & heard a good sermon by Rev. Baird. Very windy & growing colder.

Monday, November 25

Left Brownsville for St. Joe at 8 oclk. A.M. Arrived in St. Joe at 1 oclk. P.M. Left there at 5:40 P.M. on H & St. Joe's R.R. to Osborn.

Tuesday, November 26

Rode from Osborn in a buggy with E.H. Brittan of St. Joe's to Mayerville County west of De Kalb Co. Went up there to see about some land I have in that county. Left the nos with Ira Brown esq. to pay taxes, sell &c. Returned to Osborn by 2 oclk. P.M.

Wednesday, November 27

Arrived in Ft. Madison this evening via H & St. Joe R.R. to Quincy. T.W.& W. R.R. to Keokuk via Clayton thence up to Ft. M.

Thursday, November 28 -30

No entry

Sunday, December 1

No entry

Monday, December 2

Settled with city of Ft. Madison in regard to R.R. Bonds which I hold against the city. Took 4300 in new ___?for the old Bonds & int. I took almost 39 cents on the dollar. Willie & I left for Menomonie at 6 ½ P.M.

Tuesday, December 3

We arrived in St. Paul to day at 1:30 P.M. As there was no train for Menomonie to day we had to remain over until Wednesday.

Wednesday, December 4

We arrived in Menomonie about 1 oclk. at Depot & home about 1 ½ oclk. P.M.

Thursday, December 5 – 9

No entry

Tuesday, December 10

Evenson commenced at digging well in stable yard.

Wednesday, December 11-19

No entry

Thursday, December 20

My nose is healing again but I have to remain in doors most of the time. One of the radiators in the furnace is leaking & I telegraphed to St. Paul for a man to be sent to repair it.

Friday, December 21

Very cold & has been for several days. 32 below zero this morning & about 18 at noon below with wind

Thursday, December 22

Very cold to day.

Friday, December 23

Very cold day. 32 below zero this morning & 20 below at midday & 31 below at 10 P.M. This may be considered the coldest day of this year. Though Saturday was nearly as cold. Wright worked at the furnace to day.

Saturday, December 24

Very cold. Colder than yesterday. One ther. of ours indicated 35 & 40 below zero at 8 A.M.

Wednesday, December 25

Not so cold. Snowed nearly all day. We spent a quiet Christmas within doors. The children had a merry time with their toys.

Thursday, December 26
Cold day

Friday, December 27
Cold

Saturday, December 28
A little let up in the weather. Only about 16 below 0 this morning. Took a sleigh ride with Capt. T. & T.B.W.

Sunday, December 29
Weather moderated some to day. Herbie was very sick last night & this forenoon but is better this afternoon.

Monday, December 30
Ther. 16 above zero to day. Herbie is quite smart. Wrote to Gov. Marshall that I would take 1/3 of the R.H. Jefferson tract of land near Minneapolis. The tract contains 45 acres. Price about 120\$ per acre. Sent him some U.S. Bonds. Wrote to ___?

Tuesday, December 31
Weather milder and the old year passes out quietly. I went out hunting & found hard travelling. Snow about one foot deep. Got pretty lost & it was dark by time I got to the Hudson road.