

John H. Knapp  
Menomonie Dunn Co Wis  
Jany 1<sup>st</sup> 1877

This Diary presented to me by Terhume Esq. of the firm of Jansen Mclurg & co. Chicago Ill.

Transcribed by Robin Sweeny

Monday, January 1, 1877

The New Year opens with a bright morning and a temperature of 4° below zero & a favorable report that Capt Wilson my partner who has been seriously ill for 3 weeks is improving & hopes are entertained of his recovery. Recd two letters from J.H.D & wrote to him. TBW, Capt T- & Mr. Hunt came to my office at 7 P.M. on business.

Tuesday 2

Ther 3° below zero at 7 A.M. Clear & tolerably cold bright day. Sent Drafts for 50\$ & 100 recd from WR C? & Jacob Lay to 1<sup>st</sup> Ntl BK Chicago. Dr. Gates brought in his bill for past 2 years & paid up his note of 200\$. Vallie is complain-ing of not feeling well. Capt W reported about same.

Wednesday 3

One inch of snow fell last night. Ther 20° below 0 at 7 ¼ A.M. Called to see Capt. W – Did not see him but heard he was better – Signed SDMc ? bond for postmas-ter. Settled with Geo ?. Dr. Galloway called at my office this afternoon. He recommended Iodofirm for my nose.

Thursday, January 4, 1877

Milder Ther 6° above zero this morning. Have been busy in my office all day. Hersy Roach called in the eveg & paid 20\$ on Amt due me for hay cut on Otter Creek. He agrees to pay bal 15.56 on or before April 1<sup>st</sup> next

Friday 5

Mild & cloudy. Hans Lund turned the front door of my office & hung it the inside out so as to present its binding. Have been busy looking up Ft Madison tax recpt. We had first load of ice for our ice house hauled.

Saturday 6

Cloudy & warmer Ther showed about 30° at noon. Busy all day looking up tax recpts & c. Commenced putting ice in our ice house.

Sunday, January 7, 1877

Colder Ther 3° below zero this mrng. Went to Ch & S School this mrng. Mr. McMaster preached or spoke mostly of the death of PP Bliss & his wife which occurred a few days ago in the Great R.R.

disaster at Ashta-bula Ohio, where one iron bridge gave way & the whole train was wrecked & burned & great loss of life ensued.

Monday 8

25° below zero at our house this morning & 29° at the store. Had ice house nearly filled with clean hard ice of best quality. Vallie has been in bed to day – has been filling ill for some time. Ther 28° (this eveg.) below.

Tuesday 9

Cold day – but not so cold as yester day. Completed filling ice house this forenoon & filling the old smoke house for the first time. 19 loads were put in the ice house & 4 loads in smoke house.

Wednesday, January 10, 1877

8° below zero this morning. Sent JH W? & Co. bal of their acct. Recd Draft from AB Campbell NY for \$625 amt loaned him in Aug.

Thursday 11

Busy in my office all day

Friday 12

Steadily cold – no change in our winter weather.

Saturday, January 13, 1877

6° below – Bright day & warmer towards evening. Put in a full days work in my office – writing letters attending to accts & etc etc

Sunday 14

Rev. A. McMaster preached to a larger congregation than usual this morning from text "Come let us reason together"

Monday 15

Cold & windy – Called on Capt Wilson & found him getting on well & can soon be out. Will & Johnny commenced to recite in Latin arithmetic algebra & c.

Tuesday, January 16, 1877

Cold & Cloudy Ther 8° below zero at 7 A.M.

Wednesday 17

8° below zero – Weather milder during the day. Went to church in the eveg. Masquerade at skating rink & our children being there kept us all up late – went to bed about 12 P.M.

Thursday 18

7° below 0 at 7 ½ A.M. Headache & bad feelings to day. Could not do much. Settled with Oberle for wood – Tried ? our colt Felona & had a little run away in the barn yard – Vallie & I went to church in the eveg.

Friday, January 19, 1877

8° below zero this mornng & pretty cold all day not withstanding we had a bright sunlight day.

Saturday 20

8° below 0 this mornng - & steadily cold all day. The mercury did not rise over 8° above zero at any time during the day. Have staid in my office all day & worked out acct with 3<sup>rd</sup> Nat Bk Chicago. ? cash a/c & land memorandum & c.

Sunday 21

Mrs. Blair wife of the old gentleman was buried to day & Rev. A. McMaster preached the funeral sermon. Joint or Union service in Cong Ch this eveg. Rev. Benedict Methodist Minister preached - audience about 160.

Monday, January 22, 1877

Vallie was taken sick in the afternoon with severe headache – Usual routine of letter writing & various business duties to day.

Tuesday 23

8° below zero at 7 ½ A.M. Fair weather. Vallie is better to day & came down stairs. Have not felt very well myself owing to being up so much last night. Met Wm Best of Chicago & learned from him the good news of several old acquaintances being ? in the ? & ? meetings.

Thursday, January 25, 1877

12° below 0 this mornng but a bright sunlight day followed & moderate temperatures in the afternoon. Went to Methodist ch in the eveg. Union meetings are being held in that ch this week. Charley got a young white cow from the farm to day.

Friday 26

Mild & beautiful day. Thawed most all day being the first thawing day this winter. Ther stood at 44° at 2 ½ P.M. – Went to the Union meeting at Methodist Church this eveg.

Saturday 27

Ther 18° this mornng & 48° at 2 ½ P.M. – Horses taken out of barn. They have been in 6 weeks & 2 days.

Sunday, January 28, 1877

Warm & thawing Ther 20° this mornng. 62° at 1 P.M. 48° in the eveg. Went to Church twice & to S. School. Beautiful day & beautiful moonlight this eveg.

Monday 29

Ther 9° this mornng Thawing all day. The piers for the new bridge are all up & Mr. Fletcher has commenced putting up the first span next the East side of the river.

Tuesday 30

Rained some & windy – thawy to day. Tried to get a settlement with JH Edwards. Rain commenced to fall quite heavily at 5 P.M. & was raining at bed time. Dr. Galloway & Eliza W. called. Have been suffering with head ache all day.

Wednesday, January 31, 1877

Warm & thawing all day. Vallie & I made a visit to Rev. A. McMasters. Many holes in the ice making the crossing bad. First span of the bridge is up except floor joist & floor.

Thursday, February 1

Warm. Thawed greater part of the day.

Friday 2

Still mild & growing warmer.

Saturday, February 3, 1877

The thaw continues. Tried to get settlement with J. F. Edwards. J.H. Douglas arrived about 6 P.M. - Mr. Stout also. Second span of the bridge is up.

Sunday 4

Went to hear Rev. McMaster preach this mornng on the subject of the Grace of God. Mild & cloudy & towards eveg thawing more. Ther 35° at bed time.

Monday 5

Thawed all night an unusual thing in this northern climate. Ther 34° this mornng. Tried to get settlement with J.F. Edwards – Got the books and will look them over. H.W. Roach paid me 3.75 on account of hay cut on my land on Otter Creek.

Tuesday, February 6, 1877

Members of the firm met to day at my office to talk over business affairs of the firm. Present Capts Wilson, Tainter & H.L. Stout, J.H. Douglass & myself. Mild & thawing day.

Wednesday 7

Very mild & pleasant day – We met at the Co's office to day. Ther rose above 54° to day. Effie is getting ready to start to Milwaukee female college to-mor-row.

Thursday 8

Effie left for Milwaukee where she expects to stay until June at Mil. Female College. Weather bright clear & mild.

Friday, February 9, 1877

Another bright mild day. Visited at Capt. Tainter's with J.H.D., Mr. H.L. Stout Jas Stout & T. B. Wilson. In the eveg. we all took tea at Capt. Wilson's. This is his 70<sup>th</sup> birth day.

Saturday 10

Ther 29° this mornng. Mild & pleasant day.

Sunday 11

Colder Ther 28° this mornng & ran down to 16° at bed time. Went to church twice. Crossed the bridge on some loose planks.

Monday, February 12, 1877

Ther 8° this mrong. Left home at 1.28 P.M. for a trip to Florida. Arrived at Madison at midnight – stopped at Park Hotel.

Tuesday 13

Called on Gov. Ludington this forenoon. Went into the Legislature Halls to see what was going on there. Met Senator's Flint, Scott, Downs HInse Fifield, Tate, Bellows, McCord & c. Met Prof Butler – called to see Capt Black who was sick & cannot attend to Legislature duties – Left for Chicago 12.45 P.M.

Wednesday 14

Arrived in Chicago at 7 A.M. Took passage for New York at 8.30 A.M. Fare 15\$ sleeper 3\$ to Rochester.

Thursday, February 15, 1877

This morning 7 A.M. finds the train at Rochester N.Y. & there I changed trains. Sleeping car to day coach Breakfasted at Syracuse. Arrived in New York 7 ½ P.M. & put up at 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. Hotel.

Friday 16

Went over to Brooklyn in forenoon & to the Aquar-ium in afternoon. Left for Philad at 4 P.M. – met Bro Henry Van Reed & Geo Van Reed at the Continen-tal & we all started for Washington at 11.30 P.M.

Saturday 17

Arrived in Washington this mornng 7 oclk – Stopped at Willards Hotel. After breakfast went to the Capitol visiting the Senate House where we heard some debates on the Presiden tial questions. Went to other points of interest. Had a call from Senator Guthrie & JF Knapp.

Sunday, February 18, 1877

Went to Metropolitan Church. Heard a very fine sermon by Rev. Dr. Newman. Text "To the Unknown God". Saw the President U.S. Grant as he was walking home from church. He lighted a cigar & walked modestly up Pa. Avenue.

Monday 19

We left Washington at 1.55 A.M. for Rich-mond – where we arrived at 7 A.M. Stopped at the E? Hotel, then hired a carriage & rode out to Fair Oaks, Seven Pines, Libby prison, Union Cemetery & the Capitol & c & c. Left for Wilmington at 11 P.M.

Tuesday 20

Arrived in Wilmington N.C. about 12 –M – It is rather handsomely loca-ted & has a trade in Rosin Turpentine & cotton. A large cotton factory & a turpentine still & c. Left for Charleston on the night train.

Wednesday, February 21, 1877

Arrived in Charleston early this mornng – Stopped at Charleston Hotel rested most of the day as I did not get a good rest last night. The city has a livlier & more busi ness like appearance than when I last saw it. Left for ? this eveg. for Savannah.

Thursday 22

Arrived this mornng in Savannah, feeling almost sick from a bad cold in my head & from the bad night in a hot sleeping car. Savannah is less business like & less life here than two or three years ago – Left at 4.45 P.M. for Florida.

Friday 23

Arrived in Jacksonville, Fla, at 11 A.M.

Saturday, February 24, 1877

Warmer bright sunlight & dreamy atmosphere. Went out with Mr. Camp-bell to see the property he purchased for me (27 acres) known as the ? Brick Yard property.

Sunday 25

Went to Pres. Ch. & heard a good sermon by Rev. Carries. Wrote to Vallie & Effie.

Monday 26

Left Jacksonville for St. Augustine at 9 A.M. on Steamer Hampton. Took cars at Tocic 15 miles to St. Augustine arriving there to dinner. The town has improved a good deal in past 3 years.

Tuesday, February 27, 1877

Left St. Augustine at noon for Tocic & there took Stmr Hampton for Jacksonville arriving there at 7 ½ P.M.

Wednesday 28

We bought tickets through to N Orleans via R.R. to Fernandina – steamer Florence to Brunswick Georgia. R.R. from there about 8 p.m. for Macon. Took breakfast at Macon & dinner at Columbus Ga. Tickets to N.O. 32.90.

Thursday, March 1

Breakfasted at Macon. Dinner at Columbus Ga. Rained heavily to day being first rain of any consequence since I left home. Took supper in Montgomery Ala.

Friday, March 2, 1877

Arrived in Mobile this morning 5 ½ A.M. – Took a good look at Mobile. Hotel Battle House. Left at 5.45 for Ocean Springs where we staid all night at Ocean Springs Hotel kept by Col. F.H. Stout of Maine.

Saturday 3

Left Ocean Springs at 7 ½ A.M. for New Orleans where we arrived about noon. Put up at H James Hotel on recommendation of Mr. Gilfillan & did not find it as good as we expected.

Sunday 4

Went to hear Dr. Palmer preach in Pres. Church & went out to the cemeteries which are very curious as burials are made in tombs above ground the earth being to flat & filled with water to near the surface.

Monday, March 5, 1877

Bro Henry Van Reed Geo Van Reed Mr. Gilfillan of St. Paul & I took a ride to different parts of the city & to the ? Legislature. I went to see Dr. Crancour a English physician in regard to my face. He says the disease is Lupus or Epithelial Cancer & no cure has been known which is makes it very sad for me.

Tuesday 6

Went to see the Packard Republican Legislature which is mostly composed of Colored or black people. Went on board some of the steamer lying at the ? Looked into the sugar market some. Bought tickets north via Louisville & left N Orleans at 5.20 P.M.

Wednesday 7

The country north of N.O. for many miles is flat & subject to overflow. Saw many deserted sugar plantations. Northern Mississ-ippi is Redish clay under-laid by whitest sand & washes into gullies by heavy rains. Tennessee is better soil. Arrived Cave City 12 P.M.

Thursday, March 8, 1877.

To day we rode out 9 ½ miles to the Mam-moth cave of Ky – Rain fell in torrents going & returning – Took guide & went short route through or in the cave which took 3 ½ hours time & in which we traveled 7 or 8 miles – it is very grand and the colored guide William explained & called attention to its many beauties.

Friday 9

Left Cave City this mng at 8 oclk A.M. for Louisville. The ground is white with snow & frozen pretty hard. A winter day & which I feel very sensibly after traveling so long in a mild climate. Arrived in Louisville about noon. Left at 7 P.M. for Chicago. H Van Reed & Geo V R left for Reading Pa.

Saturday 10

I arrived in Chicago this mornng – found J.H.D. & Mr. Marks at the Grand Pacific Hotel. Concluded to visit until 9.30 to mor-row eveg – before starting home. Took Turkish Bath which helped my cold somewhat.

Sunday, March 11, 1877

Took another Turkish bath on account of a very bad cold I have. Left Chicago at 9.30 P.M. for home. Snowing tonight.

Monday 12

Breakfasted in Elroy. Snowing this mornng. Arrived home about 2 P.M. found Roll sick & Vallie worn out with watching & caring for him.

Saturday, March 17, 1877

Took additional cold in my head & am feeling badly.

Monday 19

Snow fell last night to depth of 6 inches but it is so light it will not lay long.

Tuesday, march 20, 1877

Still ailing from a bad cold & my face is much inflamed & worse. Have not been well since I came home & for some days before.

Friday, March 23, 1877

Commenced taking Dr. Gates Pres. Lycopodium twice a day. Grappphite twice. My face is in bad condition but somewhat better than two days ago.

Saturday 24

Ther 8° - Had visit from Rev. JC Sherwin this A.M.

Sunday 25

Thawing rapidly.

Tuesday 27

Mild weather. Herbie has taken with fever this eveg.

Wednesday 28

Mild weather I still keep in the house closely.

Thursday, March 29, 1877

This is my 52<sup>nd</sup> birth day. I can hardly realize that I am so old. If my face was sound & well I think I should be as able to attend to business & enjoy life as ever.

Friday 30

Sat up with Herbie part of the night last night & have a hard sick headache. Vallie is worn out with taking care of Herbie for 3 days & nights.

Saturday 31

Got over to the office & store to day. Am troubled with Rheumatism in my right foot. It is the result of the terrible cold I have had.

Sunday, April 1, 1877

Cold with rain, snow & high wind. Commenced taking Homeopathic sulphur in tincture 2 drop doses

Monday 2

Pleasant Sunlight. Wrote over in my Greenhouse office to day.

Tuesday 3

Cloudy – blustery cold windy & c. This is election day for electing town officials. Judge & c.

Wednesday, April 4, 1877

An April day – sunshine & storm alternating.

Friday 6

Rode out to Rusk Station with Capts W & T – to meet Gov. Davis on the cars & from there came on train to Menomonie.

Saturday, April 7, 1877

Took cold yesterday & had to remain in doors to day.

Monday 9

Weather fine. Shingle Mill started up. The Big ? commenced running in the large Water Mill to day.

Tuesday, April 10, 1877.

Bright spring weather. Steamer commenced running.

Wednesday 11

Warm & spring like. Rode over in town on business.

Saturday 21

Hans Lund put additional supports in cellar to support main floor of our house where it had settled.

Sunday, April 22, 1877

Went to church twice Weather fine.

Monday 23

Hans Lund & Ivar Ingebratzen put up moulding in East front room – up stairs this afternoon.

Tuesday 24

Ploughed our orchard lot.

Wednesday, April 25, 1877

Mark Cummings com-menced work spading ground in orchard & garden – Weather fine. Hans Lund changed the door leading from the upper hall into office room. Took Vallie out riding over in town being first time she has been out since she was sick.

Thursday 26

Settled with Hans Lund for all work done for me to date.

Friday 27

Snow & rain with high cold wind from the north. Mark quit work middle of afternoon on account of the storm.

Saturday, April 28, 1877.

Snowed all day with heavy north wind. Snow mel-ted fast as it came.

Sunday 29

Storm still continues with wind north – snow 3 or 4 inches deep. Ther 32° this mornng. Remained at home all day on account of the weather. A third touch of winter weather since last fall with warm intervals of weeks.

Monday 30

Sunlight mornng. Ground froze some during the night.

Tuesday, May 1, 1877

Hard frost last night destroyed some tomato plants in the hot bed. Day clear bright and pleasant. In the afternoon Will & I went up to the head of the pond to look for Ducks. I killed 3 ducks & a muskrat. This is the first hunting I have done in 1877.

Wednesday 2

Bright clear weather.

Thursday 3

Fine weather.

Friday, May 4, 1877.

Got Wills boat up. August put out early cabbages now over 1 foot high – rained in Green house – Capt Tainters Garden came for Verbenas we wintered over in our greenhouse for them. Mrs. Hudge came to day & will help Vallie in care of the household sewing & c.

Sunday 6

Went to Ch & Sunday School in the mornng & Union Temperance meeting in the eveg.

Monday, May 7, 1877

Busy day. Fine weather. Vallie & I rode out this afternoon. Blackberry & Raspberry bush & strawberry plants (???) came to day from E.P. Roe. They have been a week in the way from Cornwall, N.Y.

Tuesday 8

Went to St. Paul. Stopped at Merchants Hotel.

Wednesday 9

Rode out with Mr. A.M. Radcliff Architect about the city of St. Paul to see some of the buildings he planned & c. Bought carpet at Mathies & co. – Busy all day.

Thursday, May 10, 1877

Left St. Paul at 10 A.M. for home. Weather bright warm very dry & windy. Grapevines (5 lots) came from Peter Henderson N.Y.

Friday 11

No change in the weather. Fires burning generally through the country.

Saturday 12

Very dry. Fire burning over the country. Will & I rode out east of home farm to try the young dorkent(?) or snipe for the first time. Did not find any.

Sunday, May 13, 1877

Went to church twice – Warm day. South wind & high wind.

Monday 14

Morning clear - strong wind - Clouded up about 11 AM – Rained a little scarcely enough to lay the dust.

Tuesday 15

Grandma & Will started today for St. Louis by RR via Chicago. Warmer day & very dusty roads.

Wednesday, May 16, 1877

Hans Lund commenced work at dormer window this afternoon. Charley went over this forenoon & brought Hans chest of tools. Rained in the morning.

Thursday 17

Gale of wind blowing nearly all day.

Saturday, May 19, 1877

Cloudy & sultry with a sprinkle of rain.

Sunday 20

Rained heavily in the afternoon.

Monday 21

Showery & cooler

Tuesday, May 22, 1877

Cool morn'g. Had fire in the furnace. Went around to the mill in the forenoon. Surveyed line running North from Sec Cor back of my barn – N between Sec 22 & 23, Tom Parker & Webster were with me.

Wednesday 23

Gillaskie Slaty Rittlesdorf & helper stone masons commenced work on foundation for addition to west side of our house A M Rad-cliff of St. Paul Architect of Addition. Hans Lund & Harmon are cutting ? roof over kitchen for Dormer window.

Monday, May 23, 1877

Foundation to addition to house was finished to day except the foundation to chimney which was half laid. Hans Lund & Harmon got through with Dormer window over kitchen except inside finish. Com-menced taking down Bay Window of Library.

Tuesday 29

Joe Gillaskie & worked repair of cellar floor, gravel walk to greenhouse office. Mounting Bay Windows of Library to Bed room on each side of house.

Wednesday 30

Started to La Crosse to meet E A Gibbs at 1.28 PM – Bay window was moved around to East side house by noon of to day. Joe Gillaskie finished walk to Green house & foundation for brick chimney – about 6 P.M. the train came near pulling through a burning bridge.

Thursday, May 31, 1877

I was delayed yesterday eveg by a burnt bridge over a small river 2 or 3 miles north of Menomonie & came near being a very serious accident. Staid at Camp Douglass over night. Reached La Crosse at 8.45 A.M. found Mr. Gibbs there at Robbins House. He arrived yesterday.

Friday, June 1

Left La Crosse at 8.45 A.M. & arrived in St. Paul 3.35 P.M. Saw Mr. Radcliff about building items. Saw Osborne about repairing furnace in our house & left at 7.30 P.M. for home & arrived at home about midnight.

Saturday 2

Busy all day at home. The bay windows put up & fastened to the house all right. It can be completed on Monday – weather cool.

Monday 4

Sent Drafts to following persons   W.H. ? 77.50  
                                                  C. S Fiornan 26.74  
                                                  AM Harvey 35.00

Tuesday 5

Hans Lund & Harmon com-menced work at noon on the addition to the house.

Friday 8

Gave August Walter an order on K.S. & Co. for 10.00. Frost this mornng.

Saturday, June 9, 1877

Cold & showery. Light frost this mornng – We can have no fire in the furnace because of a leak in the boiler & c. Have fire in my office. Three men commenced digging about the reservoir on hill in order to make repairs as it leaks.

Sunday 10

Cold day – cloudy with sprinkle of rain in the eveg. Went to church twice & also to Sunday School.

Monday 11

Mr. Wright commenced work on resetting or rather taking down the steam boiler in cellar for repairs. Have Billy Bresna this afternoon to help him. Mark Cum-mings is tearing down the brick work around furnace – cement ordered for reservoir.

Tuesday, June 12, 1877

Exciting day in town on account of a vote of the citizens whether additional tax should be levied to build a bridge across the river 300 to 400 yards below where we live. We opposed the tax but were beaten by 48 votes. Frost last night. Read letter from JHD saying mother was better.

Wednesday 13

Warmer to day with welcome sunshine. The building progresses very slowly. Commenced putting on the outside sheathing.

Thursday 14

Heavy wind to night accompanied by lightening rain hail & c. Considerable damage done along Knapp Station on the R.R. Water tank blown down & house. Some persons hurt (over)

Friday, June 15, 1877

Last night the damage was mentioned on foregoing page.

Saturday 16

West commenced work.

Tuesday 19

Chris Conrad Slaty & Ernest Price ? commenced laying stone wall under Bay Windows which joins our bed room.

Wednesday 20

Congregational Dist Convention held its session in the Cong Ch to day. Rev Williams of Mondovia & Rev. Chamberlain of Bloomer stopped with us. Rained last night.

Thursday, June 21, 1877

Prayer meeting eveg. Vallie & I went. Weather pleasant.

Friday 22

Effie returned from Milwaukee to day. She has been away 5 months at school there at Milwaukee College.

Saturday 23

Chris Conrad & Slaty finished laying up brick wall for fur-nace room in the cellar. Wright has nearly completed the steam fitting. Warm & pleasant day. Bought the first huckleberries of the season.

Sunday, June 24, 1877

Went to ch twice & to s. School Day fine.

Monday 25

Chris Conrad & Slaty completed stone work under bed room bay window & laying tile drain from same to carry the rain water from roof to dry well that was built in 75 to take drainage of bath room which adjoins our bed room down stairs E side of house. Commenced Chimney in the afternoon.

Tuesday 26

Wright got up steam in Furnace & found his work light. Took down the stack of radiators under the parlor floor to stop leaks in same.

Wednesday, June 27, 1877

Wright finished steam work this mornng & this afternoon commen-ced laying some gas pipes into new part. Chris & Slaty have Chimney to 2 story floor joist. Rained some this after-noon about 4 P.M. commenced shingling a little.

Thursday 28

Worked to day in try-ing to forward work to others. Effie & I went to Prayer meeting in the eveg.

Friday 29

Rained some this mornng. & heavily to night. Put trim around chim ney. The work goes slow ly on the building.

Saturday, June 30, 1877

Very violent thunder storm last night. Ernest Price the tender for the masons laying chim ney was severely injured by a board blown in to his head & shoulder while mixing mortar. Finished chimney. Shingling  $\frac{3}{4}$  done. The day was cool – showery & very high wind.

Sunday, July 1

Went to Ch in forenoon & heard an excellent sermon by Rev. H. McMaster from Hebrews V. Attended temperance meeting at Methodist Ch in eveg. Day warm.

Wednesday 4

Soldiers reunion – parade & c. near 300 veterans & a large number of county people in town more than were ever in Menomonie on one day before. The day was a warm one.

Thursday 5

No work done to day. The ladies gave the soldiers a dinner in the lots adjoining the Cong. Ch.

Saturday 7

The hottest day of the year & the hottest I ever experienced in Menomonie. Heavy rain in the eveg. We have had thunder showers & rain nearly every day for some time. This has been a season of storms.

Sunday 8

Cooler & more pleasant. Had two good ser-mons from Mr McMasters.

Monday, July 9, 1877

Went before the board of review to get the Co's assessment reduced. Went to School meeting in the eveg. Was elected school director for the ensu-ing year.

Tuesday 10

Very pleasant day. Went to Board of Re-view again.

Wednesday 11

Started at 1.28 PM (noon train) for Stevens Point to see Cranberry Marsh & meet Mr. Gibbs & Mr. C P Haseltine. Train had been delayed on Green Bay RR so kept on to Valley Junction staid there all night – no train before morng.

Thursday, July 12, 1877

Left Valley Junction at 7.13 A.M. on Wi Valley R R & arrived at Junction City about 10 AM – Had to wait there until 5.20 PM for train on Wis Central to go to Stevens' Point only 11 ½ miles from the Junction. Met Mr. Gibbs & Mr. Haseltine at Curran House Stevens Point.

Friday 13

Went out to see the Cranberry Marsh in com-pany with CP Haseltine Esq. There will be between 100 & 200 ? (Bshls) he esti-mates. Left Stevens Pt at 12.30 P.M. by Stage to Plover 5 miles & thence by Green Bay RR to Merillan arriving there at 5 oclk P.M. & took train at 11.15 P.M. on west Wis RR for home.

Saturday 14

Arrived home between 3 & 4 oclk A.M.

Wednesday, July 18, 1877

Much cooler.

Thursday 19

Had fire in furnace. Chris Conrad white washed furnace & part of cellar.

Friday 20

Fine weather. Getting dry & dusty. Mark Cummings worked on road ½ day.

Saturday 4

Have been busy – very busy for these many days & too busy building & c to even make an entry in my dairy.

Monday 6

Started to Bulter Co Iowa to meet Mr. Stout on his farm & have a “chicken shoot” with him.

Tuesday 7

Left St. Paul 6.05 A.M. arrived at Clarksville on Cedar Rapids RR about 3 PM & was met there by Frank Stout with team to convey me 10 miles west to Mr. Stouts farm. Arrived there about 5 P.M. & after tea we took a little hunt for grouse.

Wednesday, August 8, 1877

Weather very fine dry & warm. Shooting rather light on account of Chickens being scarce & the dog's being poor.

Thursday 9

We went shooting to day.

Saturday, August 11, 1877

Went out this mornng & shot some ?. Left about noon for Dubuque. We went south about 12 miles to Parkersburgh on Iowa Dev. Ill Central where we took cars & arrived in Dubuque 8.40 P.M.

Sunday 12

Heard Dr. Bingham preach in Cong Ch. Dubuque. It was an excellent sermon on progress to be made in spiritual life.

Monday 13

Rode out with Mr. Stout in the forenoon & with Mr. S & Mr. Huff in the afternoon. Visited some mills & c.

Tuesday, August 14, 1877

Left for home 8 oclk A.M. by C. D. & M. R.R. Took dinner at Lansing. Arrived in La Crosse 3.30 P.M. & had to wait until 11 oclk PM for train for St. Paul.

Wednesday 15

Arrived in St. Paul 6 ½ AM & at home about 2 PM. Vallie met me at Depot – with horse and buggy. Found all well at home.

Wednesday 22

Started for a trip to my cabin – Took with me for the trip Rev. Washington - ? & son Fred – my boy Johnny – Pete Nelson went along with his team & took I. W. Hunt & Will Evans. Went to cabin to dinner – hunted East.

Thursday, August 23, 1877

8 of us & 2 dogs slept in my cabin last night – Left for Wash burn farm. Hunted East of Wash burn farm in the afternoon.

Friday 31

Will left home for Exter N.Y. where he is going to attend the Phillips Academy.

Thursday 6

Vallie & Johnny left at 1.28 P.M. for Chicago. Johnny is on the way to Franklin N.Y. to go to school & his mother is going to Ft. Madison, Iowa to bring Grandma home. I went to school board meeting & to Prayer Meeting.

Monday, September 10, 1877

Effie got her bed room carpeted & so she could occupy it for first time since we have had new addition up. Weather exceedingly dry & dusty & has been so far a long time.

Tuesday 11

To day Effie's dressing room was carpeted & completed except setting the register & case of ? in closet. Men commenced to take down old balustrade on front porch preparing to putting up new.

Wednesday 12

Very warm dry weather.

Thursday, September 13, 1877

Very hot

Friday 14

Rain heavy rain after a long continued dry spell.

Saturday 15

Grapes ripe in the Garden Concord Delaware & Dracuts Amber Went out to home farm to look for grouse – got none.

Monday 17

Cool weather. Slight frost this mornng for the first this fall.

Tuesday 18

Harder frost last night yet not much damage to plants or vines & none to the grape vines. Vallie & Mother arrived home to day. Mother is much more feeble than when she left home this spring.

Wednesday, September 19, 1877

Vallie & I went this eveg. To see the Magic Lantern or sun pictures of Europe in Concert Hall. Eddie went with us. Delightful moonlight night. Delightful fall weather.

Sunday 23

Mild bright pleasant weather. Altogether we have had a most beautiful summer & fall so far. It has been indeed a remarkable season for grain crops which ranging in yield from 20 to 37 bushels per acre.

Tuesday, September 25, 1877

Started with Capt. Tainter to Rice Lake. Took "Kent" along & hunted "Chickens" on the way. Staid all night at 22 mile of ford.

Wednesday 26

We started late on account of weather being showery & went to Chetek to dinner. I went up Rice Creek & shot 15 coots & ducks

Thursday 27

Went to Rice Lake taking the road via sumner. Shot some chickens on the way.

Friday, September 28, 1877

We went to Bear Lake shot a few ducks. Saw Bear Lake for the first time. On the way back from our landing at foot of bear lake we found it so dark that we could not find the trail but finally by the aid of birch bark torches we found our way.

Saturday 29

Clear day. Went to Rice Lake by different & better road.

Sunday 30

Remained in Rice Lake to day. Rainy.

Monday, October 1, 1877

Remained in Rice Lake. Rained all day.

Tuesday 2

We went to Red Cedar & visited three logging camps – One at the head of Pokegema & one on the creek above where the new dam is nearly completed. Returned from the camp below outlet of Red Cedar Lake to Rice Lake after dark.

Wednesday 3

Started after dinner & notwithstanding rain & wind we got through to Prairie Farm 6 ½ P.M.

Thursday, October 4, 1877

Came home by Middle of the afternoon.

Friday 5

Last night was the first heavy frost of the season.

Monday 8

Vallie & I went to St. Paul. Capt Tainter accompanied us.

Tuesday 9

Returned home on the evening train.

Monday 15

Started on the late night train for St. Paul.

Tuesday, October 16, 1877

Gov. Marshall joined me at the Depot this mornng in St. Paul & we went on a duck hunt to Morris on the St. Paul & Pacific R.R. arrived there about dusk.

Wednesday 17

Hunted south & south west of Morris to day. We got one wild goose 20 ducks & a jack rabbit.

Thursday 18

Hunted north of the R.R. – Killed about 20 to 22 ducks. Did not find it as favorable hunting as yesterday.

Friday, October 19, 1877

Shot a few ducks this mornng & left on 9 A.M. train for St. Paul & thence home. Arrived at home around 11 ½ P.M.

Wednesday 24

Henry & I went to Reads Ldg this PM to join James Stout Frank D Stout & Chas Clark for a duck hunt at West Newton 16 miles below Reads. Arrived in Reads at 11 P.M. Was met at the depot by Jas. H. Stout.

Thursday, October 25, 1877

Jas. H. Stout Henry & I left Reads at 10 A.M. for West Newton by Steamer James Wathon. The boat had 4 heavy barges in tow. When within 2 miles of Alma the boat having to make double trips over the bar, we continued our journey by skiff. Found camp & cook Rummel, Stout Clark & Dublin were out hunting.

Friday 26

All hunted ducks in the afternoon. This forenoon Henry left for home via skiff to Minneiska R.R. to Reads & Pete Wilson up Chippewa. But few ducks shot to day.

Saturday 27

Weather fine & but very poor duck shooting.

Sunday, October 28, 1877

Rained all day – Staid in tent & kept warm with blankets – Too wet to stay out by open fire.

Monday 29

Jas Stout Wm Clark & I left camp by skiff to Minneiska R.R. home. Frank D. Stout remained to try the Duck hunting another few days longer. Heavy frost last night. I arrived home 11 ½ P.M.

Tuesday 30

Ground froze some last night. Cold windy day with slight rain.

Thursday, November 1

Commenced laying sewer tile drain from West side of our house to a point over the bank near the smoke house. Rained so in the after noon that we had to quit work at 2 ½ P.M.

Friday 2

Finished laying drain this afternoon. Ground froze one inch deep last night.

Saturday, November 3, 1877

Completed gravelling the road & sodding on near of the new addition to our house & about the cellar door & c. Tried to get the new Radiator in the sitting room put up but the valve leaks steam.

Monday 5

Mr. Nichols of Kansas spoke to the people last eveg. in Concert Hall on the Greenback & financial question.

Tuesday, November 6, 1877

Election Day. Cool & raw weather. Republicans ticket carried by a respect able majority. The Mill Pond is frozen over this morning. Ther 14° above zero this mornng at 6 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Oclk a.m.

Wednesday 7

Election has proven this the Republicans are still ahead 246 votes in the county – about 8000 in the state & 85 votes in the town of Menom-onie & 4 tickets in the field.

Thursday 8

[see Nov. 1]

Friday, November 9, 1877

[Nov. 2]

Saturday 10

[Nov. 3]

Friday 16

Weather fine & warm. Have had light frost lately for several nights & bright sunlight days. It has been Indian summer for several days.

Saturday 17

The bridge was leased to day to the Town of Menomonie – Consider-ation \$5000 time 30 yrs. K.S. & Co. to pay the ? Bridge Co. all damages amts to 500\$ contract to affect 5 oclk P.M.

Sunday, November 18, 1877

1 ½ inches snow fell to day & last night. Weather mild. Excellent sermon by Rev. A. M. Martin – this mornng. Evidences of the Great God of the whole universe.

Monday 19

Went out to Home farm this mornng to look for deer. Saw none, came home to dinner. Thawing to day. Ther 33° this mornng. Dr. Gates is again quite sick.

Tuesday 20

Ther 29° this mornng. Thawing during the day. Horse Flora has been sick two weeks with what seems to be locked jaw & is no better.

Wednesday, November 21, 1877

Mild & rained last night nearly all night & more or less to day. Flora died last night. We could not dis-cover what ailed her. Buried her in the Gully where clay had been hauled out about & 1 rod N.E. of the section corner in back lot. Ther 40° this mornng.

Thursday 22

Thawy & warm. Ther 38° this mornng.

Friday 23

Froze a little last night Ther 32° this mornng.

Saturday, November 24, 1877

Mild again to day but cloudy Ther 38° at bed time.

Sunday 25

Ther 38° this mornng. Cloudy day. Had the back tooth on the right side of lower jaw taken out this noon by Dr. Branch Dentist. The tooth was sound but loose & the flesh of gum inflamed & ulcerated. The first tooth I have ever lost of my 2<sup>nd</sup> teeth.

Monday 26

Henry & I stated to Lawlers camp 6 miles E.S. E. from Chetek. Left home at about 1 oclck P.M. and in a cold driving rain reached 22 mile ford house at dusk. Found Dr. Pease & Bro S. J. Bailey & Bro & Mr. Ladd there also on the way for a deer hunt.

Tuesday, November 27, 1877

We reached Lawler Camp at 2 ½ P.M. The rain of last night turned to snow & now there is good hunt-ting. We went out for an hour & saw some fresh signs. Shot a prairie chicken.

Wednesday 28

Henry & I hunted this forenoon West from the Camp & between Beaver & ten mile creek. Saw one big buck. In the afternoon I went out with a young ?? Ole Hanson. We ran a small deer running on N side of ten mile creek.

Thursday 29

We left Lawler this mornng & drove to Wise-mans Camp 12 miles north & had a cold ride – Roads hard to find & very bad.

Friday, November 30, 1877

Left Wisemans Camp at daylight to return to Lawler's where we arrived before noon. I hunted on the north side of ten mile creek & West of the Camp in the afternoon. Saw nothing.

Saturday, December 1

This morning I started out with Tom Lawler & his man to go South East about 3 miles from his camp where he is going to cut some Norway pine. I went beyond there one mile & found & killed a buck. Went to Chetek in the afternoon.

Sunday 2

Spent the day at Chetek. Capt. Tainter came up to Chetek last night & went to Lawler's Camp & back to dinner & thence to Rice Lake.

Monday, December 3, 1877

We returned home to day. The hoar frost was on the bushes & made every thing look beautiful this forenoon. Took dinner at the 22 mile ford & when near the Moore farm saw a fine deer. Shot at it. 166 yards from the wagon & missed. Arrived home 5 P.M.

Tuesday 4

Loaned a stranger Mr. Geo A. Knapp of Franklin Co. N.Y. 45.00 to go home with he having been robbed at Kansas City while on his way home from Colorado. Warm & thawing with falling snow.

Wednesday 5

First sleighing of the season. Snowed 4 in. deep.

Thursday, December 6, 1877

Visited the High School to day & Grammar & Inter-mediate departments.

Friday 7

Colder Ther 12° this mornng.

Saturday 8

Beautiful bright sunlight day & not cold.

Sunday, December 9, 1877

Ther 19° - went to church twice & to S. School

Monday 10

Mild & Thawing all day. Henry & Charles went to the cabin on Otter Creek to divide the hay with Fred Yokes & Eno Johnson Amt cut is about 30 tons of which I have one third. They brought the cabin stove home with them.

Tuesday 11

Snow thawing & sleighing about & spoiled.

Wednesday, December 12, 1877

Ther 33 ½° this mornng. & wind East - Cloudy

Thursday 13

Mild day snow melting roads sloppy. The mildest Dec. I have ever known this far north.

Friday 14

Ther 28° this mornng at 7 oclk.

Saturday, December 15, 1877

Tried a new Centennial Model Winchester rifle sent me for trial by W.R. Bunkhard dealer in Guns & c. St. Paul. Any where from 55 ft up to 200 yards it did not hold up as well as my rifle model.73. See result on the Memorandum page of this book. Went to see Rev. J.C. Sherwin this eveg. At Mr. Brunnelle's

Sunday 16

Beautiful day – Ther 22° this mornng. Thawing during the eveg. Church & S.S. were well attended.

Monday 17

Ther 31° - Foggy

Tuesday, December 18, 1877

Rain & foggy all day.

Wednesday 19

Very mild with fog. Roads muddy. Rev. J.C. Sherwin & son Eddie left for West Salem & Texas to day. Ther 41 ½° at noon. Drizzling rain & fog this eveg.

Thursday 20

Ther 36° this mornng & foggy weather still continues.

Friday, December 21, 1877

Do not feel right this miserable foggy weather Ther 40° at 7 A.M. We have had no free-zing weather for some time. Cleared off at 9 A.M. sun came out. Clear & bright – our streets are covered with 3 inches of very thin mortar Ther 58° in the afternoon.

Sunday 22

Ther 47° Rained some growing warm. Went out this eveg. to hear Miss Susan B. Anthony lecture. Subject Honor of Women. Did not consider it a very able lecture though it was 1 ½ hours long. Saw a mosquito & a wasp today.

Sunday 23

Ther 53° this mornng. The sun shone bright for a short time this morning & then cloudy overcast the sky. Frost is about all out of the ground – Rained last night or early this eveg. Quite heavily.

Monday, December 24, 1877

Ther 42° Cloudy. Went out in the woods for two hours. Shot a grey squire-rel. Wrote in my office all the forenoon & had a hard headache – found relief by my time in the woods.

Tuesday 25

Ther 38° - Cloudy. Muddy roads the worse ever seen in Me-nomonie & cloudy weath-er do not tend to make a Merry Christmas out doors but within it is pleasant & all our family at least are happy.

Wednesday 26

Ther 36° this mornng. Cloudy – T.B.W. & wife star-ted for St. Louis. He & Capt Tainter are hav-ing a field below town sown with (Fife) Spring Wheat as an experiment of early sowing. Ther 39° this eveg. at 10 P.M.

Thursday, December 27, 1877

Ther 34° this mornng. – Cloudy with some storm. We have had no whole sunlight day for a long time.

Friday 28

Ther 35° this mornng. Cool Cloudy weather. Wrote to H.B. Camp-bell about selling the Brick-yard property 27 acres in Jacksonville. Attended School board meeting. Called on J.F. Edwards to get him to come over to morrow and settle.

Saturday 29

Ther 36° Cloudy. Herbie & Eddie both sick since yesterday. Dr. Grannis is attending them. Eddie has fever & Herbie chills.

Sunday, December 30, 1877

Frost last night. Ther about 20° this mornng. Bright sunlight day being the first one have had for many days. The whole fall has been of a rainy & cloudy character. A very unusual mildness though the month of Dec.

Monday 31

Ther 24° this mornng. Did not very much during the day. Roads ? otherwise the day was a pleasant one & so winding up another year. Another year's added to the many I have already spent upon the earth. Freely "we spend our years as a tale that is told".