

JOHN H. KNAPP
1848
DIARY

Transcribed by Marge Kunkel

Time flies swiftly; but by noting the chief incidents of our brief lives as he sweeps on with lightning speed o'er the endless space of eternity, we may lengthen our existence a half by repenning the Past. A minute, or memorandum of each days observations & transaction, serves to refreshen frail memory & the data whence to eke out a longer existence.

October 22 1848 Jno. H. Knapp

Daily Journal!
Commenced Aug. 9th 1848

Wednesday Aug 9th left Fort Madison at 1 o'clk A.M. (by the way the usual time) on my 3rd trip to the Pinery this season. The evening of the 8th I had been taking a very pleasant walk on the bluff with some young ladies: it was late when I retired & I had got into an unquiet kind of sleep when I was awakened & apprized that the long looked for Steamer Senator was coming. I was soon dressed & with the assistance of one of my men who had come to inform of the appearance of the steamboat I carried my trunk down to the wharf-boat I had some cattle to ship up (8 head) but the boat could not take them. They took what freight I had stored at the wharf-boat & a horse for me The boat was literally jammed full of passengers & some even at that late hour were busily engaged at cards preferring to gamble to laying on a mattress on the crowded cabin floor. I called for a place to sleep when A. C. Monfort Clerk & also Capt for the trip gave me a berth in the engines room where I immediately turned in. Breakfast time found us at Burlington. Stopped at Oquawka & collected balance due from S. S. Phelps on lumber in the evening arrived at Bloomington settled with G. S. Branham for a band of lumber left with him on our downward trip also for 24 m lath. Lumber at \$11.50 for M. Lath at 2.25 for M. Recd his bill in same of a shipment for S. B. "Highland Manz" of 207 Bush Corn & Cash \$100.00 bal of \$63.96 dolls he gave me his due bill for.

Thursday morning crossed the upper rapids & read & slept during the day by turns to pass away the time.

Friday morning we were in Galena, where I bought 50 Bbls I. F. Flour at \$3 5/8 pr Bbl & 10 Do. Mess Pork at \$8 3/4 of Ias. Carter & C. Also a bill of sundry articles of Campbell & Smith & c & c Called on Dr. Branch: saw Mrs B. & Mrs. Mason Left Galena at 12 oclk M. boat towing her barge. Stopped at DuBuque about 6 o'clk; had not time to go up in town much to my disappointment. Wrote a line to Mr. Rico.

Saturday at 10 o'clk arrived at Prairie du Chien Saw Mr. Lockwood administrator of Black's Estate The estate will not be settled until after the fall term of Court is held in which some suits are pending in relation to it Court will be held in October or November not yet decided which. Passed through Coon slough before I went to bed.

Sunday Morning at Bonnells Place. Read during the day in the Bible & in Paradise Lost & gave a cursory perusal to "Fowler on Matrimony" which I borrowed from a gentleman on the boat About dusk arrived at Nelson's Landing Lake Pepin Musquitoes thick at eve. When I got off the boat had my freight landed Found the boat from the mill there with 2 men who had brought it down (Ward & Ping)(?)

Monday Morning early had the boat loaded up & started then up Chippewa I ___(?) my horse across the Chippewa along side of a canoe, got my feet wet by the operation & like to have mired the horse in the quicksands After riding Twenty minutes I was attacked violently with Flatulent colic which put me in the most complete misery for & hour & a half. Jno. Gilbert & his men were going up Chippewa at the same time after another raft of lumber for me. He staid behind with me & built a fire. I dried my self by it a little, got better & then we started on & took trains riding the horse throughout the day. Got as far as the "An Gallette Mills" by dark where we staid over night at Mr. Eaton's one of the Proprietor's. distance to day 25 Miles.

Tuesday morning: had a comfortable nights rest last night & good breakfast this morning Started for home (the Upper Mill) where I arrived about about 3 oclk P.M. distance 18 miles. Found everything going on smoothly. Mill cuts faster & better since it has been repaired.

Wednesday looked about a little & rested from the fatigues of the trip. The potatoes this year are the finest I ever saw & bids fair to be a thousand bushels at least. The Garden looked well. There will be a thousand heads of cabbage & as many bushels of turnips There had been good many shingles made in my absence.

Thursday Looked over books, made out lumber a/c &c Went down after dinner & helped the boat over the rapids

Friday Settled with men that were going down the River, paid them off &c Wrote an Article of agreement between Wickham & Wilson & one also between Blacks Knapp & Wickham & Wilson in relation to supplying them to carry on the manufacturing of shingles

Saturday morning 8 ½ oclk started with the boat to the Lake; on board Ward & Wife, Morrison, Snyder, Rupely, Taylor & Mrs. I. Gilbert Sr. & child. Stopped at the mouth of the Menomonee a few minutes Paid Colbom Bal on Note held by him, \$54.96 Left the mouth about 2 o'clk P.M., expected to get out to Lake Pepin by dark, But with all our hand rowing dark overtook us about one mile above Plum Island. We ran on about 4 miles when it began to rain & become so dark I could not see to steer the boat in the channel & for fear some accident might happen we concluded to camp on a dry sand bar

or rather a wet one as it rained pretty hard all night. With difficulty we got a little fire started, we cut some boughs from a tree by the light of a torch & made a kind of frame for a wigwam out of them which we covered over with some gunny bags which we happened to be taking down with us; this wigwam answered to keep the rain partly off the women. I then spread a few Gunnies on the sand & wrapped a blanket around me & laid down & slept taking the rain & muskitoes until morning I did not mind it myself inasmuch as it was the means of initiating some of the company into the pleasures of the Pinery

Sunday. In the morning about 4 o'clk I was around by "Mr. Knapp don't you think we had better start the muskitoes are so bad," from some of them that thought camping out rainy nights was not just the thing Especially on Chippewa several miles from human habitations. I told them it was too dark yet & layed down before the fire to dry myself & sleep a little more In about an hour after we started & got out to Nelsons Landing by breakfast time. After breakfast I wrote a few letters & attended to some other matters Then went to bed, slept two hours when I was awakened by the announcement that that a S. Boat was coming down the Lake & would soon be there It proved to be the little Penal Some half dozen of us were soon on board & away for "down the river" We were "going below"

Monday 12 o'clk landed at Prairie du Chien Hired a horse & rode down to see Esq. Brunson, get some advice &c &c Went to the Probate & to the Recorder's office, subscribed & paid for the "Prairie du Chien Patriot" for six month About 6 o'clk the Dr. Franklin came down, I took passage for Galena where we arrived on the next (Tuesday) morning about breakfast time. Called on Mr. Maughs in relation to Lumber & to buy his demand against the estate of B-- said he would take 40 cents on a dollar Concluded I would wait & see him again about it. Lumber can't be sold in Galena at this time The Market is glutted & no cash on hand to buy with I stopped at the "American House" stepped over the way bought this book for a journal & a pocket inkstand, a very neat contrivance, & now that I have caught up to date with my Journal in copying from my memorandum book I shall endeavor to keep up in journalizing even with the dates until this book is finished when if I am satisfied that it is beneficial I will continue the practice. Have been reading "Alice" to day an interesting novel by Sir E. S. Bulwer more interesting perhaps to me as it is a "Sequel to Ernest Maltraven" which I read some years ago, and now as my room door stands ajar the melody of sweet sounds from some fair lady in song, with Piano Accompaniment is wafted to my ear & compels me to lay aside the pen for the evening.

Wednesday. Immediately after breakfast engaged my passage to Du Buque in stage Started at ¼ to 8 o'clk arrived at Dubuque 12 ½ ocl'k; stopped at the Maples House. In the afternoon had an interview with Mr. Langworthy in relation to lumber, I think the chances of making sale of a large quantity here is very poor indeed, unless on half is given to induce them to buy the remaining half. About 5 ocl'k called on Mr & Mrs Rice walked out on the bluff just back of their house where a beautiful view of the city & adjacent hills is to be had. Took tea with them, spent the evening until church time very pleasantly. Conference is being held here now & there is meeting every evening at the

Methodist Church in consequence. I attended but the preacher commenced so faintly I soon became sleepy & with difficulty could keep my eyes open during the rest of the evening; he closed loud enough however to suit the most fastidious in favor of boisterous preaching. Have looked over a little book of "Latin Parsings" by Prof Goodrich of Yale which I got at the mill; have some notion of taking a lesson in it every day. I believe I can obtain a pretty good knowledge of Latin without a teacher – if I try.

Dubque Thursday Evening August 24th 1848

To day visited the Telegraph Office where I was agreeably entertained for an hour by Mr Coriell. Called on his wife during the forenoon. Went to the Surveyor Generals Office to see a Map of Upper Wisconsin according to surveys made last summer but no connected map has been made as surveyors are not allowed to make any imaginary maps only those of the lines they run (?). Purchased at a Book Store here the 1st Vol. of the "Best on (or Boston (?) Melodian" an excellent collection of Secular music by E. L. White. I miss the company of my flute very much now as I could practice a good deal every day if I had it at this time. Such seasons don't often occur—seasons of genteel, & quiet, leisure. Called at Mr Rice's this evening staid to Tea It rained very hard during my stay there; tolerably muddy getting to my Hotel

Friday 25th Went to the Methodist Church where Conference is held for a short time A resolution in relation to Secret Societies was the subject before the body & as some of the ministers were members of Secret Societies the discussion was quite warm. Mr. Smith of Burlington a very easy & lucid speaker was one of the champions of the secret institutions

Bought a "Whig Almanac" to day which contains many interesting Statisticz. I purchased also a copy of the "Handbook of Fashion" this afternoon which I have read nearly through. Many of the views of the writer in regard to fitting ourselves for the world are decidedly erroneous while he suggests many things that go far to form the very elements of good breeding. I have finished the first vol. of Alice, & when that novel is finished I shall not read any more of them for some time especially "Bulwers"

Saturday 26th

Passed the fore part of the day in reading. Saw Mr I.(?) P. Farley in relation to Lumber. It is doubtful about disposing of any here at all. This afternoon visited at Mr. Coriell did not expect to stay to tea but Mrs. C pressed me so warmly to stay & it rained so as to make it impudent to make other calls therefore remained to tea & during the evening in agreeable converse

Conversation is one of the nicest arts & one of the most rational & improving method, if rightly managed of spending time When it is used to complain of everything & as a medium of dissecting by minute analysis the character, position in society, physical & mental conformation, manners & habits of individuals not present then, generally speaking, it is as great an evil proportionably as it is a great good when properly & intelligently used

Sunday, August 27th

Went to church this forenoon at the Presbyterian Church & heard a discourse delivered by a Methodist Clergyman. In the evening the Methodist Church was so crowded that I went with Mr. Rice to the stone church owned by the Campbellites but a Methodist preacher had it for the time being. There are so many of that denomination attending Conference & all wanting to display their abilities to the Citizens before leaving that the other sects give way to them. The preacher I heard this evening was a large fleshy man better calculated for almost any thing else than a preacher. His discourse was disconnected & betrayed a considerable degree of ignorance in the speaker. He had the requisite & indispensable qualification of noisiness. I discover that when there is a lack of brain to make up a sound & intelligent discourse they endeavor to make it up in noise & excitement. The more hollow the head or any simply closed(?), the more sound

Monday Aug 28th

Took a walk up town called at some of the carpenters Shop to see if a lot of lumber might be disposed of; could make no engagements. Read "Mr. Clays Lexington Speech" of Nov 13th 1847 a speech fraught with sound views & in good keeping with the greatness of the man. Finished the 2nd and last volume of "Alice on the Mysteries". The moral or rather lesson to be learned from it is to be careful of the follies of youth & not let the feelings of Misanthropy enter into & keep hold on our minds but rather lay aside the ideal imaginings of what we think the world out to be in our sanguine youth & prepare to receive it as it is. A disgust & contempt for the sordid employments, views & feelings of the mass of mankind engendered & held in our minds for a series of years is ruinous to the happiness of the individual & a wrong to society in general. In this book is shown that a long succession of intrigues and a want of moral honesty although apparently successful for awhile, in the end dire retribution will follow. Error committed in youth may be atoned for by long years of suffering & anxiety; that it may have a right to hope, as the reward of submission to its sufferings-----

Sufferings tend to purify and exalt the human affections & faithfulness in love has its reward.

Tuesday 29th

Walked up to "Eagle Point" with Mr. Hand (?) this forenoon to see if my raft had arrived. It is about 3 miles up there & no raft to be seen after we had got there but the exercise paid well for going besides we took a bath while there which was refreshing indeed. Finished reading Paradise Lost, commenced some time ago. Took tea and spent the evening very pleasantly at Mr. Rice's.

Wednesday August 30th, 1848

Bought some books today among which was "Across the Ocean or Letters from a Traveller" by S. M. Bowman Esq of St. Louis Mo, which I have been reading today. They are written with great vivacity of style; wit & humor abounding; an easy and faithful description of what was seen during a "flying Trip" to Europe by the author. The author _____ (?) of English character well & well repays (?) by some thumbs (?) the ungentlemanly & untrue "American Notes" written by Chas. Dickens after his last hasty tour through the United States. Visited Mr. R's school & dined with the family &

and excellent dinner we had too. Called at Mr. Hetherington's this forenoon & was invited to tea but could not except (accept). The Raft arrived this afternoon which I have been waiting for & I shall leave to morrow morning.

Thursday August 31st

I thought this day would find me floating away down the river on my Raft, but the wind rose early this morning and has blown very nearly a gale all day. The Steam Boat DeKalb came up this morning bound for St. Peters but she is wind bound also. This has been a remarkable summer in the way of rains. It seems to have rained nearly or quite one half the time. It has rained almost every night & some of the days too since I have been in Dubuque. The season is remarkably healthy thus far. Every person apparently, that I meet, is enjoying good health. No disease prevails and all this excellent good health must I think be attributed to the increasing rains which have tended to purify the air, cleanse the earth & keep the atmosphere at an agreeable temperature. Finished reading "Letters from a Traveller" to day & have bought Ollendorfs system of learning German—the next thing is to study it

Friday September 1st 1848

Left Dubuque in a skiff about 10 ocl'k overtook the raft about a mile below, got on board & laid under the shanty in the shade, taking the day easy. Read some in a novel by G.P.R. Ianies(?) called the "Convict" & studied my German Book some & this will be about the sum of every days operation while I am on the raft. Internal commune on various subjects & imagination unrestrained go far towards filling up the time which otherwise would pass rather dull and unpleasantly. We run twenty miles to day; landed at night at Smiths opposite the Mouth of Fever River

Saturday Sept 2nd 1848

We started out early this morning although there was considerable fog. The wind blew nearly all day. We landed after dark awhile by a bar at the foot of an island 3 miles above Savanna, making only 21 miles today

Sunday 3rd

Very windy all day. Ran to Lyons making in all 23 miles today. Went out to a Mr. Burls(?) farm about a mile from the river to see him in relation to some lumber which I sold him last year. He was not at home so a very pretty girl, his daughter I suppose, informed me. I went down to the store in the village where I found him. He said there was a small balance due say 8 or 9 \$ which he would leave with Mr. Phelps of "Fulton City" to give to Mr. Carson for me who would pass up in a few days.

Monday 4th

Wind blew very hard so much so that we were compelled to take out our cable & lay to for the day just above New Albany. Went down to the town, bought a yoke of cattle for 50\$ of McIlvaine & Happer (?) Paid him 9 M shingles & 9.200 lath shingles or 3\$ & lath or \$2.50 per M

Tuesday Sept 5th

Left Albany at daylight & run down to the head of the Rapids by 2 ½ ocl'k p.m. The pilot thought it best to lay by until morning at LeClaire as we would not be enabled to get over before & out if we kept on then. I concluded to go on before & try the chance of sale at Davenport & Rock Island. Waited in a large clumsy skiff at 4 ocl'k P.M. & by constant rowing got to Davenport about 8 ocl'k making the 18 miles in 4 hours. I stopped at the LeClaire House Kept by Mr. Pitkin formerly of the Madison House, Ft. Madison. I called for supper & after waiting nearly & hour, a long time to a hungry person, the supper was announced when myself & three other persons partook of a very hearty meal which consisted of a considerable variety of dishes nicely prepared.

Wednesday 6th

Got up early this morning could find no one in Davenport that wanted to buy lumber After breakfasted, rowed over to Rock Island. Saw two or three men that wanted a little lumber; rowed back to D___ & waited till 1 ocl'k when the raft came along. We landed at R. Island where I sold 4 cribs lumber & 5M shingles; Rec'd pay for the shingles & 120\$ on the lumber, the balance to be paid when I go up by Mr. Barrett & Purinton. Left R. I. 5 o'clk—run until the fog arose—landed 1 ocl'k a.m.

Thursday 7th

Stopped at Bloomington 1 ocl'k P.M. Got some dinner at the Iowa House Sold Eli Stewart 8 M shingles at 3\$ to be paid over to G. S. Branham for me so that I can get it on my return Sold 3M shingles & 1M lath for Cash in hand \$11.25 Sold G I. Branham 2 cribs lumber about 14M & 12 ½ M's shingles & 12 ½ M's Lath. The lumber at 11\$ in the water, Shingles a 2.87 ½ lath at \$2.25 Am to receive 150\$ on the same at Choteau & Valle's, St. Louis in ten days from date. The balance he thinks will be ready for me as I go up I sent a dispatch by Telegraph to Quincy but the wires got out of order so that I could get no answer. Sent another to Burlington was answered in a few minutes. After the raft left I went up & took tea with Mr. Branham after which he took me down in his buggy along the river about two miles when I got on board of my raft again. Stopped for the night 6 miles below Bloomington

Friday 8th

Pulled out early this morning & ran to Oquawka by ½ after 8 ocl'k P.M. distance 36 miles—It has been a very calm pretty day for running. Steamboats moving briskly on account of the rise which the river has taken. We enjoyed ourselves very well to day. Had a considerable amusement with one of the hands After we landed for the night some of the boys went out in town & got 5 large melons which we eat for a supper dessert

Saturday 9th

Went up to the Pioneer home (Oquawka) & got some breakfast; then went down to Phelps Store. Saw Mr. Osborn & Mr. Patterson in relation to selling some lumber Mr. Phelps was not at home & they hesitated about buying Finally sold them six cribs about 40.M. feet at 11\$ pr M & I pay one half the expense of drawing & measuring. Sold Mr. Moir one crib at \$10.50 pr M He draws it & I pay the measurement. Rec'd from Moir on the same a draft on Thos Webster St Louis for fifty dollars. The remainder I get on my

return. Mr. Phelps is to send me a draft to St Louis to Crow, McCreey (?), & Bunkedale next week Sold 5 M shingles for cash a 3\$ & 30 M to McKinney & Adams for \$2.75 Recd a draft for same of \$82.50 on Peake & Baker of St Louis The Kentucky came along about noon got on board & arrived at home about 7 o'clk p.m. just a month from my departure

Sunday Sept 10th 1848

Attended Episcopal prayer meeting at the Presbyterian Church at 9 oclk. Went to hear Mr. Clark at 11 ocl'k He delivered a very good discourse. The singing was but poorly attended to. After dinner I rode out to Jonas with Buffan(?) Stewart in a buggy. Jonas treated us to ripe peaches watermelons &c after which we returned to town.

Monday 11th

My raft got along at noon Tried during the afternoon to make sale of it to Atlee & Williams was unsuccessful. Will try again to morrow & if I can not sell, will have it drawn out. Sold 10,700 lath a \$2.50 & 6,500 shingles at 3\$ (error of 1 M lath) This evening made a call at Mr. R's A very pleasant evening call indeed Company all agreeable. Tomorrow must make some sales & arrange matters for leaving for St. Louis on Wednesday to purchase supplies &c

Tuesday 12th Sold my lumber today to Williams & Atlee a \$10.75 in the water pr M & my shingles & Lath to I. B. Stewart 50 M shingles a 2.75 & 20,400 lath a \$225 for M. Settled with Harris & Ward pd Harris \$177.25 & pd Ward 170.50

Wednesday 13th

It rained very hard all the forenoon in fact nearly the whole day. At noon Mr. Freeman & Lady & myself got in the stage at Mrs. Douglass & arrived at Keokuk through mud & rain same evening. Mr & Mrs Freeman had come down from St. Paul the day before & had stopped to make us a visit. At Keokuk we stopped at the Rapids Hotel took supper & in three hours the Eder Bates came up & we got on board & soon were going down stream.

Thursday 14th

Went up in Quincy saw Mener Dickhut & Benneson. Boat took in large quantity of freight at different points

Friday 15th

Just after breakfast we landed at St Louis. Mr F invited me to stop at his house I did so. Called on some business men during the day also at Gen Wilburns to deliver some letters to Mr M---- one a letter of introduction for myself from the daughter Miss Elizabeth Richards Mrs M—I found to be very pleasant & good looking lady & reminded me very much in her looks of her fair daughter Left some letters at the ?lantess(?) House & then walking (?) up to Mr. F's to tea after which Mr. Freeman & myself went to the theater to see The Lady of Lyons played & the Youthful Queen or Christine. In the Lady of Lyons Mr. & Mrs E L. Connor took the principal parts as also in the after piece

Saturday 16th

Bot a Bill Hardman of Shapleigh Day & Co Examined goods at different Houses preparatory to purchasing on Monday Took lunch at the White Mansion Restaurant. Had Turtle Soup very nice. A draft which I expected from Mr Phelps of Oquawka had not arrived so I took measures to prevent its being paid to any one else in case of it being lost. Spent the evening very pleasantly at Mr F's (?). A torch light celebration was held in favor of "Old Zac" I believe A fine band of music entered the procession while hundreds of torches lighted up the street for nearly a mile

Sunday 17th

Went to Church in the afternoon with Miss Freeman Heard a very good sermon preached by Rev Mr. Bullard. After dinner Jno Brewster called & I went down and took tea with him at his boarding house corner of 4th & Elms streets After tea we went to the St. Georges Church – a new Episcopal Church & a very fine one for this City too.

Monday 18th

Bought several Bill. Goods today. In the evening called on Miss (?) took her to the Theatre where we saw enacted the beautiful play of Evadne (?) & the laughable afterpiece of the Weathercock on love can fix him

Tuesday 19th

Bot Bill Groceries & Sundries of McCartney & Butler (??)Levee In the forenoon made some calls In the afternoon called on Gen Milburn's Saw Miss R & her sister Mrs. Osborn. In the evening went to the Theater where Mr. & Mrs. Connor appeared in H P Willis play of "(?) the Usuries"(?) Some parts of the play were strikingly beautiful. After which the new after piece of of "My Wifes Come" which I do not consider as being exactly proper on the stage that ought to boast of considerable refinement Theaters, if well conducted, may be a source of improvement as well as amusement but if badly managed have a tendency to corrupt the taste & give an immoral flow & bluntness(?) to the finer feelings of mankind.

Wednesday 20th

Called on Miss R. Gathered up my bill, drew balance due me at the Brokers Office, settled my bill at the Monroe House ordered my baggage to the Steamer Kate Karney & at 5 oclck I was leaving St. Louis bound for Ft. Madison to have my freight then ready for the Steamer Senator

Thursday 21st

The Kate made good running this trip arrived at Keokuk about 5 oclck P.M. passed the Ocean Wave & Edw Bates just above Hannibal they are running against one another & a reduction of passage is the consequence. Saw Ben Harper as I passed Tully said he would like to have about 100,000 ft of lumber at 10\$ per M.

Friday 22

Took stage this morning for Ft Madison where I arrived at 12 oclck found our folks eating dinner. Almeda gone to Galesburg & Elizabeth keeping house again. Made some calls during the afternoon & evening

Saturday 23rd

Had a settlement with Alter & Williams, took their note for \$238.20 due 15 March at 7 pr ct interest from date went out to Jona's & he & I drove in the oxen (4 yoke) so as to be ready for the boat I bought 2 kegs lard 3 of butter some straps, lashes, &c packed up & took a bath before going to bed & considered myself ready to depart for the Pinery at short notice. Paid Anthony Smith 48.75 & 50 \$ for 1 yoke cattle.

Sunday 24.

Went to church Mr. Clark preached a very good sermon from the text Do unto others as you would they should do unto you. Just after dinner the Senator have in sight, as usual on Sunday. Had the cattle taken on board--were at Burlington 8 oclck p.m. -- arrived a Oqauwka 12 oclck at night Went up to Phelps Store roused up the Clarks & rec'd 100 \$ on lumber they said they had sent a draft for 300 \$ to me in St Louis care of Crow McGreevy & Barksdale. I left the bundle for McK & a letter for Almeda to be sent out in the morning in the stage to Galesburg. Bot a barrel of sugar at 6 cents to be sent to Almeda first opportunity.

Monday 25.

Saw Branham at Bloomington settled with him for the lumber I left there. Stewart had not paid over to him the 24 \$ for 8 M shingles which he was to have done, left it for Branham to collect. Rec'd of B 143.86\$ gave him his note for 63\$ Got to R Island about dark I went up in town & had a settlement with Mr. Barret for the lumber I sold him Rec'd \$135.73 pd 28\$ for 2 boxes Whites Axes The boat left me & I had to cross the river to him in a skiff.

Tuesday 26th

Stopped at New Albany got my yoke cattle on board which I bought as I was going down. In the evening bought some hay to feed with off from a wood flat which the boat took in tow.

Wednesday 27.

Got into Galena just after breakfast & left there 11 ½ oclck. There had been an extensive fire in Galena this morning & the streets were piled full of rubbish & goods & wares of various kinds presenting a scene of confusion & destruction of property such as I never before witnessed. Paid my a/c at Campbell & Smiths (\$45.35) & a note for Brown & Vance to McCloskey for \$28.54 Exchanged about (200\$) in paper with Campbell & Smith for sovereigns for their accommodation Bought a (?) of double harness for \$17.00 Hired a boy to go up & work for me at 14\$ pr month during the winter When we got to Dubuque I went up to see Mr. Rice & family they were not at home

Thursday 28th

Arrived at Prairie du Chien after dinner. The boat off a large quantity of Government freight together with 25 head of mules for the same. After dark we run over to the landing for Ft. Atkinson where an squad supply for that Station was discharged.

Friday 29th Bought some hay to feed my cattle with Hired a young man to work during the winter a 14\$ per month Isaac Walters by name.

Saturday 30

Arrived at Nelsons Landing about noon Had my freight put off there & cattle landed up above on the lake shore Took a bark canoe along in which Gilbert & myself came back to Nelson's Left the boys with the cattle to keep them from running away during the night

Sunday October 1st

Started for the mill I led the way & the boys brought up the rear with the cattle &c Camped about one mile at one the spring at Dead Lake

Monday 2nd

Reached the lower mill via of the Gap route where we got some supper & were so tired concluded to stay all night

Tuesday 3rd

Bright & early Green & myself started for the Mill Got there by 8 ½ oclk Found every thing going on about right Jno. Gilbert's had started with the raft & the boat was just ready to leave for the Lake to get a load of Supplies. The Mill was doing a very fair business The garden vegetables such as potatoes turnips, cabbage &c &c are the finest I ever saw. Turnips measured 22 ½ inches around Cabbages were a foot in diameter.

Wednesday 4th

Caught a couple of trout & killed some ducks

Friday 6th

Made out lumber a/c &c Settled with some of the hands & others that we were owing & got ready to start for the Lake

Saturday 7th

Left the Mill early in a wooden canoe Levi Vance along with me. Met the boat 3 miles below the Mouth of Menomonee. Got my trunk off Sold Newcomb my watch for 25\$ Arrived at the Lake after dark a while & had not lost much time from paddling on the route. Took some supper went to bed & had not got to sleep when they cry of Steamboat caused me to leave the comfortable bed (which seemed doubly so on account of the fatigues of the day) & dress myself. The boat proved to be the Franklin coming up I went on board saw a good many persons with whom I was acquainted among the rest Mr. & Mrs. Freeman & daughter.

Sunday 8th

Was introduced to Miss Bishop & Miss Horsford a couple of teachers from St. Paul's & Stillwater formerly from the East sent out by Gov. Slade (?) & the enterprising Miss Beecher (?) who seems to take a great interest in the cause of Education in the west. In the evening were arrived at St. Paul where Mr & Mrs Freeman landed—

Monday 9th

When I went out on the grounds(?) of the boat to wash myself I found we were laying to under the battlements of Fort Snelling. Went up into the Fort & looked around a very pleasant situation indeed & well selected for an important Military post Left St Peter & the Fort at 10 o'clk in the evening we landed at Stillwater Going up Lake St. Croix the moon shone out with full brilliancy & made the scenery delightfully pleasing.

Tuesday 10th

AT Noon landed at Nelson's Landing & Wabashaw for passengers. In the evening at Reads place Had an oyster supper & went to bed about 11 ocl'k

Wednesday 11th

Were lying to in the morning for fog at the mouth of the Wisconsin. About noon overtook my raft. Got of the boat at Welles (?) Landing went over to Potosi to see what prospect for selling a lot of shingles. Could make no sale came back to Welles when I found my raft landed & waiting for me This about 4 miles from Welles to Potosi & I felt somewhat fatigued from my rapid walk else I should have paddled down to Dubuque in canoe to stay all night Slept on the raft very comfortably.

Thursday 12

Paddled on ahead of the raft to Dubuque Sold 150 M shingles to J. P. Fonley (?) at 262 ½ pr M to 35 M ft lumber at 10\$. Called at Mr. Rice's in the evening

Friday 13th

Had the raft start out early Bought some pork to be shipped to Lake Pepin for Senator (?) & several small items for Mrs. Brillig Paid Levi Vance for his shingles 137.500 which I had on the raft & go \$ for Geo Wilson as per order Engaged passage in stage to Galena Took dinner with Mr. R's family After we had got on the ferry (?) a loaferish (?) looking man by the name of Ross son of the former land office Register at Burlington Iowa professing to be a lawyer & out of money & c begged to borrow 10\$ lent him 5\$ to get rid of him Don't expect to see the money again & the borrower & all such fellows I never want to see again Got into Galena in the evening about 6 oclk Stopped at the American House

Saturday 14th

This should be the 13th according to my journal but they call it the 14th in Galena so I suppose I must be in error. Paid for bill of goods sent on the Dr. Franklin by B. H. Campbell Bought 2 bhls Cranberries to take home a 4.50 per Bhl. Bought "Satan Stoe"(?) by Cooper to read on my way down the J. B. Dubuque is expected to leave this

evening & I shall I hope be a passenger for I have staid here long enough Bought a 26 in circular saw & 1 noddle (?) Pin of N. Diwling (?) to be sent up for Senator In the evening the Dubuque came in & I took passage for Albany IW although the boat was very crowded I got a berth through the influence of a pilot of my acquaintance Shipped on Board of the Dubuque 2 Bbls Cranberries to be delivered at Ft Madison

Sunday 15

Landed before daylight at Albany Went to Church in the forenoon. Found it a dull place & miserable preaching

Monday 16th

The Raft got along during the night. Have sold to McIwain & Happer 5 cribs called 35 M lumber at 11\$ Rec'd inpay 20 Bbls flour a 4\$ pr Bhl to be sent to Lake Pepin & their note (6 months at 6 per cent) for 296.25 dollar Sold them 50 M Shingles a 2.75 per M & 14.800 lath a 225 per M Rec'd their draft on St. Louis (Berthold Ewing & Co for 170.80 dollars

Tuesday 17th

The Steamer Falcon came along about breakfast time got on board we got to Rock Island just before sunset. I tried to sell lumber & shingles in R. Island but without success I kept on down to Bloomington where I landed about daylight on Wednesday morning the 18th Stopped at the Iowa House Took breakfast. Read Satanstoe(?) by Cooper

Thursday 19th October

Rained all day The House is crowded with strangers mostly farmers bring wheat from the country I heard it said that eight thousand sacks of what had been shipped in the last 24 hours to St Louis The day passed away heavily & had it not been for the interest I took in the second volume of "Satanstoe" (?) I do not know how I should have got through the day Gilbert & myself took a dish of oysters at a new Oyster Saloon just opened They were nearly as good as if just out of the shell Called at Mr. Branham's. Went up in the upper part of town to see a lot which I think of of purchasing to secure a debt. It is lot No. 3. Block 150 on seventh street Town of Bloomington If I purchase it I will be buying what a don't really want to get that which I do want viz (?) the pays (?)

Friday 20th

The day passed slowly away in waiting for my raft to come floating but with all anxious looking & wishing it did not come I bought a town lot on seventh st (No. 3 in Block 150) & had the check made out for it & was acknowledged by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Iowa Received answer from Quincy pr Telegraph to my dispatch of yesterday No lumber wanted there was the answer

Saturday 21st

The wind blew some as usual today an getting impatient at the delay I rode up the river road in company with Mr. Branham to see if I could anything or hear anything of the before-mentioned raft of Pine lumber when lo! an behold! after we had rode about six

miles she have in sight with the wind right ahead making about two knots an hour They said they had laid two days at the Head of the rapids on account of wind.

Sunday October 22nd A D 1848

The raft landed about 9 oc'lk left to cribs of lumber & 55 thousand shingles for G. S. Branham Pulled out again just after dinner Took a walk with Branham on the hill where we had a fine view both up & down the Majestic Mississippi & around the adjacent country The "Montauk" went down at dusk of eve with some soldiers on board who as they sounded to & turned out from port beat martial airs (?)

The Indian summer has just commenced & I now prophecy—fine weather for two weeks. Running rafts on Sundays & being forced in consequence to be about the river & even to transact business instead of going to Church or spending the Sabbath in reading or quiet company is a feature of the lumber business which is not suited to my taste or to my ideas of what is strictly moral & proper.

Monday 23

It rained all day & the lumber was not all drawn out. I settled with Branham calling the amount sold to him 38,300 a 11\$ Took his note for 300 \$ for 2 months. Left with him for E Stewart 17.50 ft lumber---

Tuesday 24

Early in the morning got on board the "Red Wing" took passage to Oquawka where I landed at noon The raft got long about 2 o'clk. Sold two cribs to Moir at \$10.50 in the water. In the evening went up to the Court House where I heard a Mr Westfall preach on Universalism

Wednesday 25

Sold the remainder of my raft (12 cribs about 78 M) & 97 ½ M shingles. The lumber a 10.50 put on the bank & shingles a 2.75 M to take his note J.J. Phelps) for 500\$ due 1st April bearing 6 pr ct interest Settled with R. Scott & with Jno Gilbert. In the evening just after I had gone to bed the Senator came along & I took passage. Went to Montrose where I found my Over Coat on the Red Wing I left it on board when I left her at Oquawka Thursday. Engaged my passage in the stage to Ft. Madison but through the negligence of the Agent they went away without coming down to the boat for me I made them give me a horse & buggy to come home in Arrived at home about 2 oclk

Friday 27

It rained very hard & as I had a bad cold thought it better to remain in the house & write some letters

Saturday 28th

Called on Mrs. Leroy & at Dr. Claypooles & Mr Hale's this afternoon Spent the evening with some young acquaintances.

Sunday 29

Mr. Clark delivered a sermon at 11 o'clock in the Presbyterian Church from the text in Psalms "We are fearfully & wonderfully made." The discussion was scientific & good language was made use of in the various illustrations Many persons do not like such a sermon because on account of their paucity of scientific knowledge they do not comprehend it. In the afternoon attended Episcopal Church

Monday 30th

Rain Rain is the weather staple these days scarcely a day having without more or less of it being sent to water the earth & raise the rivers Mr. Em(?) went to Keokuk on some business for me & when he comes back I am off for Oquawka & Galesburg Spent the evening at home very pleasantly with young company

Tuesday October 31st 1848

The last day of Oct. is fast winging its way to the eternal rest of time Another month is to be erased from the passing calendar of 1848 & even old 48 will soon make his exit from the stage of time carrying with him the sweet memories of past incidents to some; the upbraiding of others. For myself I can say he has treated me kindly & I shall remember him with grateful affection. Thirteen years ago the 9th day of this month I for the first time set foot on the west bank of the "Father of Waters" & took up my residence in Fort Madison then containing but about four log cabins three of which were tenanted. Indians then made it a favored place of resort & encampment & a great many were that day to be seen passing in canoes. I saw my father again after about two years separation & so many new things were seen by me in that year as to mark it indelibly on my memory. In the afternoon took passage on the Steamer Time & Tide for Oquawka arrived there 10 o'clock P.M. Saw John Gilbert. He was coming to the boat to take passage up the river. Had been out to Galesburg &c I wrote a letter to Branham enclosing a 30\$ bill which I got from him supposing it to be counterfeit I told him to tell Branham to pay the amt over to the Senator. I found my lumber not drawn out on account of the laziness of the men that were to work at it. The weather had been so bad as to make it almost impossible to work at it even if they had been disposed. So the elements seem to conspire to detain me here

Wednesday at 10 o'clock on this the 1st day of Nov. I took passage in stage to Galesburg where I arrived in the evening about 7 o'clock I found Almeda & family all well I was surprised to find so many pretty looking girls about the home. They were members of the Academy & boarding there.

Thursday 2

Walked out to see the village of Galesburg which is very pleasantly situated in a high open prairie country. It is well laid out & built up with neat looking dwellings. Trees line the streets which must give it a very pleasant appearance in summer. There is a fine Academy building Two college buildings & a fine church for a place of the size.

Friday 3 November

In the forenoon went up to the Academy & heard a class recite in Algebra Was introduced to Mr. Bent (?) who is at the head of the Primary Department & also to Mr. Hitchcock one of the professors. In the evening Mr. Bent called for me and took me over to the college buildings where he showed me the various instruments for explaining their scientific studies of which they had a good collection. He also showed me the Library which is quite an extensive one for so young an institution.

Saturday 4th

Staid in all night at the Tavern & was off this morning in the stage before daylight. The weather was extremely cold for the season of the year & as it was prairie road almost the whole distance (35 miles) I suffered a good deal from cold Had the coach all to myself & pretty lonesome traveling it was Got into Oquawka between one & two o'clock P.M. Had a settlement with Mr. Phelps on the old lumber a/c received the balance due me \$10.65 cents The lumber was not drawn out yet on account of the inclemency of the weather Mr. Phelps gave me his note for 500\$ due 1st of April & cash 100\$ & said he would have the lumber out & measured as soon as possible & forward me a draft for the balance Moir promised the same

Sunday 5th November

Just before daylight I was awakened to go on board the Revenue Cutter We were all day in taking on freight & getting down to Ft. Madison I thought when I got on board that I should get home before Church time. Today as for several days past the wind blows a gale

Monday 6th

Nothing transpired to day worthy of notice Electioneering is the order of the day To morrow however will decide the fate of Presidents, for the next four years

Tuesday 7th

The Polls have been well attended and well watched today I voted for Gen Zachary Taylor for President & Millard Fillmore for Vice President Heard the Rehearsal of the Forrest Club in the evening.

Wednesday 8

Devore Parmer & myself started about noon in a skiff for Green Bay slough on a duck hunt we had a dog, guns, & equipments for camping out We got to our camping ground after hard rowing & poleing just as the sun was hiding himself behind the occidental horizon & as he disappeared the Oriental was illuminated by the pale rays of old Phoebus. There was every indication of a cold night. So instead of going out to shoot any ducks or geese we went to work & soon had a large fire burning against an old log We cleaned a squirrel & a duck put them on the coals to broil made some coffee & soon were eating a supper good enough for a King to enjoy. After supper we spread our blankets & buffalo skin on the ground and notwithstanding it was a very cold night we slept soundly & comfortably We awoke early in the morning got breakfast & went out to look for duck, they bay was entirely frozen over with ice an inch thick the game which

was so plenty in the evening had in consequence of the ice making so fast left & we had to huck our way with the boat for two miles through ice an inch thick before we could get out of the bay into running water where it was not frozen over We got home a short time after dinner satisfied with duck hunting for this season

Friday 10th

Settled with Jonas Rec'd his note for \$26 30/100 dolls. in settlement of our private account. Lumber a/c he expects to pay before I start east which I now think of doing before many days. The route I have laid out is via St. Louis, N.Orleans, Mobile, Augusta, Charleston, Washington Baltimore Philadelphia NYork to Boston where I intend to spend the balance of the winter & return home early in the spring. Spent the evening down town with some young men at Parmers Went up to the Forrest Club Room where they were rehearsing the play for next week called the "Loan of a Lover" together with an other interesting piece called "Uncle John"

Saturday 11th

This afternoon I went over to the "big island" on a hunting excursion with Thurston & Ed Layton we staid 'till dark. There was but little game of any kind to be seen I killed a quail an owl & a mink & Thurston killed a duck thus ended my second duck hunt since I have come home The weather has moderated & every person prophecies fair weather & a fine Indian Summer for a week or two. Rec'd a letter from G. S. Branham enclosing 30\$ being the amt. I sent him to be exchanged on account of a bad bill I rec'd from him.

Sunday 12th

Heard Mr. Clark preach this forenoon—the church was not warmed up & I in consequence as did many others suffered very much from cold. Heard Mr. Leach Episcopal Minister in the afternoon & in the evening Dr. Elliath of N.I.(?) delivered one of the most interesting temperance lectures ever given in this place

Monday 13th November

Const is sitting here I went in a time or two but nothing interesting to spectaton was before the const so I adjourned In the evening Dr Elliott lectured again on Temperance to a crowded house. The "Sons" came out in Regalia & sung some appropriate songs The Dr. interspersed his lecture with songs but taken all together I did not like his lecture this evening as well as on Sunday evening His wit and anecdotes were of to low an order to be long listened to without (?—can't make out word)

Tuesday 14th

Rec'd a letter from Mr Osborn of Oquawka, The lumber is not drawn out yet. He was then in Burlington trying to get hands to draw it out of the water. Went out to Jonas in Company with Mother & Mr. Eno & Lady to make a visit this afternoon Had a first rate dinner came in as eve went out, in Jona's Carriage I driving In the evening I went to the Forrest Club Exhibition with a lady This was advertised as the "last night of the Season" It was the first time I have gone to their Exhibition although a member of the Club for the very good reason that business of more importance claimed my attention The Performance went off as well as could be expected under the circumstances & was played before a large & respectable audience of Ladies & gentlemen.

Wednesday 15th

Nothing to day worth mentioning Have concluded not to start to St. Louis until about Tuesday of next week. Wrote a letter to Wm Wilson giving particulars of old Zack election Played a game of chess with Mr Eno (?) & beat him

Thursday Nov 16th

Wrote a letter to Pitman of Keokuk asking him to be ready to meet the balance of his due bill by the time I come to Keokuk "en route" for St. Louis Rec'd a letter from George Douglass yesterday, from Galesburg Mr. D. W. Kilbourne arrived at home from New York to day in stage This evening a Ball is to be held at Mr. Percy's(?) "Eagle Hotel."

Friday 17th

The Ball yesterday evening went off first rate We "broke up" about one oclock after having danced as much as we wanted. A very pleasant company was assembled. This evening got on board the Mondiana went up to Oquawki Arrived there 3 o'clk a.m.

Saturday 18th

Stopped at the Pioneer House. In the forenoon had a settlement with Messes Phelps & Co & W & I Moir & Co for the lumber I left there. It was not all out of the water yet but we averaged what was in by what was out & measured. Rec'd balance on settlement with I. I. Phelps \$227.54 & of W & I Moir & Co A Draft on T Webster & Co St. Louis for \$134.75 Left in store with Phelps one long Raft cable & one short Do(?) Went on board the steamer "Otter" about noon; stopped at Burlington. I concluded as did some others to stop at the Barrett House until morning & then take stage to Ft. Madison

Sunday 19th

Took stage this morning for Home where I arrived 12 o'clk M--- Began to arrange matters with the expectation of leaving for the East in the Morning on the Mondiana Called at L D Parmers in the evening found Devone(?) had already started for St Louis so concluded to wait until Tuesday noon

Monday 20th

Called at Mr. Reid's in the evening in company with the Misses Hawxhurst, spent the evening very pleasantly. Packed up my valuable papers & leave them with Mr. Kilbourne to put in his safe

Tuesday 21st

Packed my trunk and made arrangements this forenoon for starting to St. Louis. Rec'd a letter for Mr. Stripe from G. W. Pitman of Keokuk in answer to the one I wrote him the other day He sent me an order on Deusing(?) for 105\$ which I will hand over to I. F. Morrison for James Wilson in payment of an order from Wm Wilson of 100\$ on me