

John H. Knapp
Fort Madison, Iowa
1861

Transcribed by Robin Sweeny

Tuesday, January 15.

After balancing private accounts I have bal. cash on hand \$29.20. This includes 10\$ six 20 pieces of Vallie's

Sunday, 20.

The funeral of J.L. Robinson took place to day. After a funeral sermon was delivered at the Episcopal Church the Masonic brethren buried him with the usual ceremonies of the order. He was married about three months ago to Kate Albright.

Monday, 21.

Weather cold – 6° above 0 at 8 oclk A.M. – Sleighing pretty good.

Thursday, 24.

Very cold Ther. stood at zero at 9 A.M. Jonas & Mary & Vallie & I took a sleigh ride to ? Point & paid Col Stenat a visit.

Saturday, 26.

The weather moderated from the severity of past few days. I took Vallie ? Effie & Kate Eaton sleigh riding on the river.

Sunday, 27.

Rev. Tomas preached for Mr Tainter to day in the Pres, Church.

Monday, 28

Therm 40° at 12 M, wrote to (left blank)

Wednesday, 30.

The coldest day this year by far. Ther 7° below 0, at 8 ¾ A.M. Capt Wilson & wife arrived from Menomonie

Tuesday, 5.

Capt Wilson & wife Thos Hale Jr. & wife, Mrs Beccie Robinson, Mrs P. Hale Sen. Dr. Rinehart & wife Almeda dined with us & spent the afternoon with us.

February, Wednesday, 6. 1861

Warm & thawing fast all day.

Thursday, 7.

Turned very cold early this morning & remained so all day ther ranging from 2° above zero to 5° below 40° colder than yesterday at least.

Friday, 8.

Very cold in the morning & warm in the latter part of the day

Saturday 9,

Very soft & thawing weather

Sunday, 10.

Heavy rains during the day Every prospect of a break up.

Monday, 11.

Turned cold this morning snowed & blew all day. I started to Burlington The coaches could not cross skunk river so I returned.

February, Tuesday, 12. 1861

Tuesday pleasant clear day

Sunday, 17.

Rev. Thomas (Methodist) preached an excellent sermon in the Presbyterian Church from Rom. 6, chap 22 verse

I lead the Bible Class at 3 ½ P.M.

February, Monday 18. 1861

Wrote H.S. Stout for S. Guthrie to have him give G a recom-mendation to Wm Madison Mem ber of congress from Dubuque district to enable him to get clerkship in some of the Government Departments at Washington

Tuesday, 19.

Vallie & I went to the Public School exhibition in Millers Hall. A crowded audience & a fair entertainment by the school children teacher & c.

Wednesday, 20.

Put up an ? venti-lation on our chimney that goes up from our sleeping room – cold raw day.

February, Thursday 21. 1861

Turned warm. Roads very muddy, wild geese com-menced going northward.

Friday, 22.

Did not freeze any last night very warm all day. Wild ducks commenced going north Had a severe sick head-ache. Effie sick with the croup.

Saturday, 23.

It rained last night & turned cold after the Thun-der Storm was over The 20° at noon – mailed letter to W Ham-hurst containing draft on ? son & co N.Y. – for \$200 I sent it to him to pay Carrie Eno's passage from California.

February, Sunday 24. 1861

Cold weather – High wind.

Monday, 25.

Weather turned warm – the ice in river broke up – To all appearance spring is speedily coming or is here. ? returned Saturday & has procured a Charter for “? ? ? company” for 20 years from the expiration of the Gray Charter or 23 years all together!

Tuesday, 26.

Wrote to Capt. Wilson

February, Wednesday 27. 1861

A steamboat that had been wintering above went down stream. Weather very mild.

Thursday, 28.

Weather very warm. Steamer Menomonie came up to day. Rec'd Telegram from Thos B Wilson & answered immediately – consider-able ice moving in the river.

March, Friday, 1.

Wrote to H.S. Stout Weather excessively warm – Ther 70° at 6 P.M. Will Adams started for Alexandria M. to recover the barge "Swan" belonging to Harper Adam & co. It was carried off by the ice when the ice broke up.

March, Saturday 2. 1861

Warm South wind. River clear of ice. Rec'd letter from T.B. Wilson

Sunday, 3.

Weather turned cold Ther. 20° above zero at 8 A.M.

Monday, 4.

Cold day, This is the day on which Abraham Lincoln will be inaugurated Pres-ident of the U.S. & it is hoped he will make a much better President than his predecessor & that under his administration peace and harmony may be restored to the country.

Saturday, 9.

Rec'd from Bank to start East with cash for Expenses \$50.

2 drafts for 25\$ each	\$50
3 " " 50\$ "	\$150
4 " " 100\$ "	<u>\$400.</u>
	\$650

Rec'd load Hay from August ? 1420 lbs – paid him 2\$ Getting ready to start east Cold day

Sunday, 10.

Weather very cold Ther 16° at 8 A.M. – clear & pleasant

March, Monday, 11. 1861

I left home at 9 A.M. for Philad & N York – Mrs. WG Albright Chas Bremston & EG Wilson go also So I have plenty of company Took Steamer Luzierne to Burling-ton Left Burlington at 630 P.M. Took berth sleeping ? from Galenburgh

Tuesday, 12.

Arrived in Chicago at 5.15 A.M. I took a carriage & rode to the "Briggs House" where I got my Dz Good Memorandums that had been mailed there for me from Reads Landing – I then went to Pitts, Ft Maysers & Chicago Depot & we all went on in the cars together

Wednesday, 13.

Arrived at Pittsburgh at 2.30 A.M. - & Harrisburgh at 12.40 noon At 1.40 took cars on the Lebanon Valley RR & stopping at ? 3.15 P.M. to visit Mr Ferguson & family.

March, Thursday, 14. 1861

Came down to Reading in the morning train & stopped to see Henry Van Reed & family A snowy, cold day.

Friday, 15.

Left Reading for Philad. At 10.45 A.M. Arrived at 1.25 P.M. Stopped at the Continental Hotel In the afternoon bought a few goods of Abbot Johnes & co.

Saturday, 16.

This is a cold day. Bought some goods for TB Wilson & co of Abbot Johnnes & co. Having a sore throat & in consequence not feeling well. I did but little business in the afternoon. I went to see a Physician Dr. Donacht & he gave me a prescription for some pills for the affliction of the throat.

March, Sunday, 17. 1861

At 10 ½ A.M. went to hear Dr. Wadsworth preach in the Arch ? Church (Presbyterian) above tenth.

Monday, 18.

Purchased K.S. & Co. & TBW & Co Bills Hardware of Minps ? Bro & Co. A cold day Ther 14° this morning

Tuesday, 19.

In the forenoon went with Mr. ? to the saw Manufac-toring of Henry Disston Nos 67 & ? Laurel H.

March, Wednesday, 20. 1861

Buying goods, very cold disagreeable weather

Thursday, 21.

Buying goods in Philad.

Friday, 22.

Snow fell deep enough for sleighing last night – Left for N. York in the 11.30 train from Kensington Depot – arrived in N.York at 4 P.M.

March, Saturday, 23. 1861

Bought bill of Belting saws, Lamps, Books & stationary & Leather, paid for NY Inde-pendent & stopped it – Also paid for NY Evangelist up to May 1862

Sunday, 24.

Went to church twice – Very cold and sore throat troubles me a good deal.

Monday, 25.

Bought Groceries of Kent & Low-ber 54 Broad ft

March, Tuesday 26. 1861

Buying Clothing & some smaller bills to day – Rec'd a letter from Vallie this morning also from John

Wednesday, 27.

A rainy and disagreeable day. Bought bill of Hats n Cape of Atwood Brenes & co. Looked at Boots & shoes at Patten Lane & Merridan 41 Murray St & at Lyman Lears & Co ? st – Gathered up some bills I had purchased before in order to leave for Philad. To morrow if possible.

Thursday, 28.

Bought Bill Boots & shoes of Patten Lane & Meriman. Settled up every thing as far as possible. Did some shopping & left N.Y. for Philad in the 6 P.M. train from Jersey City. Arrived in Philadelphia at about 10 P.M. Stopped at the "Continental Hotel" chest-nut St on 9th

March, Friday, 29. 1861

Bought Bills ? for TBW & co K,S. co of Kilgon & Wilson Settled up bills at different firms I had purchased of before going over to N.Y. – Bot a sewing machine for Vallie of Mr Darling Agt for Ladd Web ster ? st – Bought some things for Vallie & the children in the evening at Aldrige & co & left for Pittsburgh in the 11.50 PM train.

Saturday, 30.

Arrived at Altoona to Break fast at 8 oclk - & at Pittsburgh at near 2 oclk P.M. to dinner bought a bill of Glass – Glassman Coal oil is of Wm McCulley & co. for K.S. & co. & TBW & Co. Glass 6 ? ? oil cash on their sending the bills to Ft Madison.

Sunday, 31.

Stopping at the Monongahela House. Mr Watson of firm of Wm MCully called at the Hotel for me at 10 ½ A.M. & I went with him to the Episcopal Church. After church I took a walk for exercise across the bridge & on to the high bluff on the other side of the river opposite the Mo-nongahela House.

April, Monday 1. 1861

Left Pittsburgh at 1.40 A.M. for home via Cleveland – arrived at Cleveland 8.40 A.M. Left immediately on Toledo & co. R.R. – arrived at Toledo to dinner – Left T- at 12.40 P.M. arri-ved at Chicago at 11. PM Left at 11.45 P.M. on Burlington Road.

Tuesday, 2.

Arrived at Burlington at 10.30 A.M. Got on board steamer Dr. Kane & arrived at Ft Madison at 3. P.M. Found all at home pretty well – I feel grateful to my Heavenly Father for his kind care & protection over me & my family.

April, Thursday, 4. 1861

Straightening my accts & c at home.

Monday, 8.

Left Ft M – at 3 ½ P.M. for St. Louis John D. accom-panying me Took car to K- & waited there several hours for the packet – Meantime went up to see Clausen's Lumber Yard & visited Masonic Lodge. As the Packet did not come we left K- at 10 ½ PM on Hawk Eye State.

Tuesday, 9

John stopped at Louisiana I arrived in St. Louis at 10 ½ P.M. stopped at ? Hotel.

April, Wednesday, 10. 1861

John arrived this mor-ning by ? ? I looked through the markets & tried to make some collections of money from V Reis & Ivan & R Reid Jrs John went to East St Louis & collected amt due from I.C. Sapulding

Thursday, 11.

Bought Groceries Iron nails Queensware wooden jars & c & c

Friday, 12.

Getting ready to start home Completed purchases collected my bills Mdse Holmes ? his note of 1200\$ due in 30 ds for which he gave me 1190\$ Rct which I deposited at State's Accts John went to Alton by RR & I took Stmr WL Ewing for home at 5 ½ P.M.

April, Saturday, 13. 1861

On board the W.L. Ewing Heard to day the exciting news that Fort Sumter had been attacked by southern troops.

Sunday, 14.

Arrived at home at 3 ½ oclk P.M.

Monday, 15.

Heard Fort Sumter had survi-ved – Major Anderson made a good defense & was forced to surrender by the fire in the barracks & the want of provisions.

April, Tuesday, 16. 1861

Exciting War news are spreading over the country & Civil War with all its horrors seems about to be opening out upon us.

April, Monday, 22. 1861

I met with several prom-inent citizens at the R.R. office this evening to take into consideration the best means of raising money to purchase ? to equip one or two military companies for home protection & to serve our country if need be – A very warm day.

April, Thursday, 25. 1861

Made garden to day Weather clear & warm

Tuesday, 30.

Market House was opened for the first time.

May, Wednesday, 1. 1861

I left Ft. M- on Stmr Grey Eagle Capt D.S. Harris, at about 6 ½ AM. Frank Malcom goes up with me to Clerk at Menomonie for us in our store there. I talk along 38 ? & pieces ? Beef & lard 3 casks & 1 Bbl Bacon? & shoulders 1 box dr'd beef 31 head sheep 21 lambs

Thursday, 2.

Arrived in Galena about 7 P.M.

Friday, 3.

I took cars at 6.55 AM from Galena to Dubuque – Called at Mr. Stout's & took dinner at his home. He got ready to go with me to Menom-onie & at 2 P.M. we got on board the Grey Eagle & about 3 ½ P.M. were off up stream.

May, Saturday, 4. 1861

Reached LaCrosse at 8 A.M. & Winona at 12 M - & arrived at Reads Landing 5 ½ P.M. – On arriving there meet Capts Wilson , Tainter Hale & c & c Took tea at Thos. B. Wilson's

Sunday, 5.

This morning the steamer "Man-kato City" was going to Dunn-ville & Eau Claire & as this was the only chance there would be for some time to get up the Chippewa by boat Mr Stout & F Malcom Capt Wilson & Eliza & my-self took passage – We left Reads at 10 ¼ A.M. Arrived at Dunn-ville 5.00 P.M. & at Menomonie 9 P.M.

Monday, 6.

At Menomonie – Mr Stout & I took lodgings at our boarding house kept by Mr. & Mrs. L. Bullard. Weather cold & rainy. A large union meeting was held at the Hall. I was called upon to speak & responded to the call as well as I could.

May, Tuesday, 7. 1861

Capt Wilson Mr Stout & I went up the Menomonie on the East side via of our farms to look at the barge above Menomonie falls & see how the log drivers were coming on –

Wednesday, 8.

I have a bad sore throat. It is inflamed almost all the time.

Thursday, 9.

Capt Wilson & I left the mill for a few hours and rode on horseback five or six miles up the pinery road to near the falls – looking for the log drivers.

Sunday, 12.

Heard Rev. Canfield preach a very good sermon.

May, Monday, 13. 1861

The weather still continues cold & rain – altogether it is the most backward spring I ever saw in this country.

Tuesday, 14.

We left the Mills at 1 P.M. Mr. Stout Capt. Tainter & myself in the Hack for Dunnville – We stopped at Elk Creek a little while & tired to catch some trout Mr Stout & I caught 3 each Had them for supper – Staid in Dunnville all night.

Wednesday, 15.

Left Dunnville at 4 ½ A.M. on the little Steamer Magnaoketa? City She belongs to our firm Arrived at Reads Landing at 9 oclk having stopped two or three times on the way down – taking on ? & passengers – Mr Stout & I left Reads Ldg at 6 PM on the “Golden ?”

May, Thursday, 16. 1861

Arrived at Dubuque at 4 ½ P.M. – Met John H Douglass there.

Friday, 17.

I left Dubuque for home at 6 ½ A.M. on Ill Cent. RR John went with me as far as Galena. Arrived at Burlington at 10 P.M. having to ? via ? on account of that water being over the R.R. opposite Burling-ton.

Saturday, 18.

Left Burlington on Kali - ? at 8 A.M. – arrived at Ft M about 10 ½ A.M. Found all well at home – Weather pleasant & everything looks beautiful to and after the long cold & disagreeable weather I experienced on my trip to the Mills.

May, Sunday, 19. 1861

I did not go to Church to day on account of the great pain I have in my hand & arm from a blood boil on my left hand which has been coming on & troubling me for 8 or ten days.

Monday, 20.

Rainy & kept in doors almost all the time

Tuesday, 21

Weather very fine – my had much better

May, Wednesday, 22. 1861

Hatch came to see me this morning & announced Raft No. 1 or Bal of it 28 cribs is near here & will arrive in an hour.

May, Tuesday, 28. 1861

Sold F. Whittrock & Co. 17 cribs lumber out of Raft No. 1 – 11 cribs out same raft taken into yard here.

June, Monday, 3. 1861

John started this morning to St. Louis & points ? to see about prospect of selling lumber. Rec'd of ? for Dr. on K.S. & Co. accts Gilbat Ck 1538.76 Eastern Bills 18\$ BK Stats ? 13\$, 4,800 3,035 Iowa Ft. M Bank 10\$ Ft. M \$?

Tuesday, 4.

Raft No. 3 arrived this forenoon

89 cribs

403,800 laths

222, 750 shingles

Paid for moving same as follows

Cash 295.00

Cr on TBW & Co acct 150.16

800 Lath shoot 100

Retained percentage 20% 111.54

\$ 557.79

Wednesday, 5.

Sold or engaged 100 M ft of Raft No. 3 to Brown & Witterman of Hamilton @ 9\$ per M & 60 M laths @ 1.25

June, Sunday, 9. 1861

John Douglass returned from St. Louis – on Hawk Eye ? at 5 PM, 24 hours from St. Louis

Monday, 10.

Started Hatch with about 100 M lumber & 60 lath to Hami-lton for Msp Brown Witterman

Tuesday, 11.

I went to Keokuk by R.R. & took part in the procession formed there by the people & 3 Regiments of Infantry to do honor to the memory of Stephen A. Douglass of Ill who died a few days ago in Chicago.

Thursday, 13.

Had John H D- start up the river to meet raft No. 4 at Douglass

Friday, 14.

Settled with Wroslerbotham & Jones	
Paid them for TBW & Co	159.68
“ “ “ KS & Co	224.87
“ “ “ I H K	<u>1.30</u>
By Lumber Yd a/c 54.72	\$385.85

CK on State BK	331.13
Settled with Hesser & Hale	
Paid them for T.B.W. & Co.	34.35
“ “ “ K.S. & Co	48.99
“ “ “ I. H. K.	<u>185.42</u>
By Lumber 186.53 ½ BK int 5.65(?)	\$268.76
“ Cash 74.08 frt on (?) 2.50	

June, Saturday, 15. 1861

Sold James Bigle of Hancock Co Ill 2 cribs 16 X 40 – 12 deep whole amt 14708 ft for \$145.00

Sunday, 16.

Weather cool – Attended Bible Class went to hear a stranger preach at the Baptist church which now holds its meetings in the Court House.

Monday, 17.

Sent letter to Mr. Stout making him a proposition in regard to the price of land the Company bot of him in Dubuque for a yard.

Sunday, 23.

Raft No. 4 arrived 5 strings & 4 cribs.

June, Monday, 24. 1861

NY Draft recd per John	50.00
? “ “ from bk	200.00
?	25.00
Drft on ? ?	50.00
? ?	50.00
Draft on St. Louis from yard	50.00

Ive Christy commenced work driving team at 13\$ per Month

Tuesday, 25.

Left home for St. Louis (via car to K J steamer Hannibal City from thence) at 9 A.M. left K – at 2 P.M.

Wednesday, 26.

Arrived in St Louis at 6 ½ A.M. Tried to collect some money of V. Reis & Son couldn't get a dollar Did some shopping.

June, Thursday, 27. 1861

Bought a two horse ? for a family carriage \$252.52 Also an Easy chair & various items for home use. Left St. Louis on stmr Hawk Eye state at 6 oclk P.M. Weather cool - ? have prevailed northward Engaged 100 ? ft lumber @ 10\$ to Hansen of Bellville & 100 M Lath

Friday, 28.

Arrived at Ft M 8 ½ PM – Paid out for self in St. Louis	295.00
“ “ “ K.S. & Co.	8.25
Dep at State ?accts for ?	75.00
Paid out for Wm Adams	<u>11.75</u>
	\$390.00

Saturday, 29.

Returned K.S & co. N.Y. Exch	50.00
??	<u>4.00</u>
	54.00

Our new team made 5 day trek for the lumber yard this week

June, Sunday, 30. 1861

Heard Mr Taylor preach in the forenoon. Went to Bible Class in the afternoon Weather fine clear & cool

July, Monday, 1.

Attended funeral of James Castlwater Ordered Ag Implements for TBW & Co. of ? & Jones. Gave Mrs Malcom 25\$ on acct of her husband

Tuesday, 2.

Tried the new ? ? brought from Menomonie

Saturday, 13.

Quite an impressive cere-mony the presentation of a beautiful flag to Capt Harper Co took place before the Court House steps this evening Mr Green presented the banner on the part of the ladies of Ft M- & Capt Harper responded in an appreciative manner.

Sunday, 14.

Attended Baptist Church – in Bible Class in the afternoon. At 6 ½ P.M. address were made to the volunteers of a patriotic & religious character & National & religious hymns & anthems sung.

July, Monday, 15. 1861

Capt Harpers company of Infan-try left this morning for the rendezvous of the Independent regiment at Burlington. At least 1000 persons went to the wharf to see them off. Williams boy Henry volunteered in the company to day.

Wednesday, 17.

Mr. Hatch left this P.M. for ? to take charge of his brothers business there. It is now over three years that he has been engaged for our firm of Knapp Stout & Co.

July, Thursday, 18. 1861

Weather turned much warmer after having been quite cool for sometime. Nearly ever since the month came in.

Friday, 19.

Rev. Timothy Stearns died this morning. He was a devoted Christian minister.

Saturday, 20.

Funeral of Rev. Timothy Stearns at 4 P.M. was attended by a large num-ber of persons – Rev McClellan of Mt Pleasant preached a very powerful & excellent funeral sermon.

Monday, 22.

Rcd out at Raft # 6 at Ft M-

34# shingles –

221# pickets –

4 cribs 12X32 – 12 deep ?

1 “ 16X32 – 17 ?

11 “ “ “ 12 boards

1 “ 16X40 – 12 dz

Paid ? & Stone 71.25 by ck on State Bk-

July, Tuesday, 30. 1861

This is the hottest day I have experienced this year, thermometer at noon 97° in the shade.

August, Thursday, 1.

Very dry hot & dusty Ther 100° in the shade

August, Friday, 2. 1861

Ther 100° in the shade

Saturday, 3.

Very hot Ther 101° in the shade.

Sunday, 4.

To day is the hottest day of the year 102° in the shade

August, Monday 5. 1861

Ther 100°

Tuesday, 6.

7th Rgt I. volunteers went down the river this P.M. bound for Jefferson Barricks on the Jennie Whistle – 1st Regt Cavalry also came down from Burlington “en route” for St. Louis. The citizens fed the Reg’t liberally at the Union Warhouse – they took cars in the evening for Keokuk.

Wednesday, 7.

Major Thale Lindsley gave the pupils (24 of us) of his military the second drill this morning from 5 to 7 oclk & the 3rd drill at 7 to 10 oclk He is to drill us for one month for 100\$

August, Thursday, 8. 1861

Had some rain – the first in many days.

Friday, 9.

Mother Vallie & I with the children spent the day at Jonas

Saturday, 10.

Weather much cooler.

August, Sunday, 11.

Rained more or less all day – Weather quite cool woolen garment necessary for comfort Ther 66°

Monday, 12.

Cold rainy morning.

Tuesday, 13.

Thermometer at 5 oclk A.M. 58°

August, Tuesday, 20. 1861

Vallie Effie & I went over to brother Williams in the carriage – staid all night I went out in the evening to hunt some prairie chick-ens but did not get a shot.

August, Friday, 23. 1861

I went with Ed Lagton & his brother & J to Edmonds to Green Berg hunting prairie chickens – I killed five chickens & one quail.

September, Saturday, 7. 1861

Preparing to start on Monday for a trip to Dubuque and to Menomonie on business of the firm.

Sunday, 8.

Vallie & I attended church Mr Taylor preached a good sermon.

Monday, 9.

Paid Mr. Hertz all I owed him \$463.75 He loaned Geo. W. Douglass \$450\$ of the amt & I went Georges security. I left home in my own carriage at 1 oclck P.M. for Bur-lington en route for Menom-onie Wis – Found Raft No 8 at Burlington John had sold 7 strings to Gilberts & 8.50

September, Tuesday, 10. 1861

Took cars this morning at 6 oclck for Dubuque via Mendota – Fare from B- to Dubuque 9 ½ P.M. Found Thomas B. Wilson was there. He arrived from Reads Ldg, this morning –

Wednesday, 11.

Paid W. J. Burr for sail boat “Lone Star” 25\$. Mr. Stout took Thos & me out to Camp ? this afternoon to see the Camp & the Regimental Parade.

Thursday, 12.

We got through with our business matters & Thomas Wilson left for New York in the 6 P.M. train.

September, Friday 13. 1861

Left Dubuque at 8 ½ & Dunkith(?) at 9 ½ oclck A.M. for Reads Ldg on ? steamer Key City – Capt Warden

Saturday, 14.

Arrived at Reads Landing at 3 oclck P.M.

Sunday, 15.

Heard Rev. Morgan preach at the school house on the side of the hill in Reads Ldg.

September, Monday, 16. 1861

Mr. Thos Nunn our book-keeper at Read – Mr. M. W. Watson of Pittsburgh PA & I went hunting Prairie chickens on sand prairie 15 miles below Reads Ldg

Tuesday, 17.

Went over to Nelsons Landing to look at our Raft #9 – which will leave for a market in a two or three days. Shot nine pigeons while I was on the river.

Wednesday, 18.

Left Reads at 9 oclck A.M. on stmr Chippewa Falls – arrived at Dunnville at 9 P.M. – ? a ground on Flower Pot bar 1 ½ hours. The wind blew a gale all day & very hot.

September, Thursday, 19. 1861

Rode from Dunnville in our hack this forenoon & arrived in Menomonie 10 ½ A.M.

Friday, 20.

Rained last night & to day – Weather cold & wet – Everything going on well at the mill – went to School examination this afternoon. Mrs. Massy teacher.

Saturday, 21.

Burnham Tainter went over to Houses farm at 3 oclk & came back after dusk having killed a good many prairie chickens or grouse – We brought home 16 & many we lost in the grass not having any dog.

September, Sunday 22. 1861

Rec'd a good letter from Vallie to day & answered it immediately. Rev. Canfield was not well enough to preach to day & Mr McMaster read one of Henry Wad Beecher sermons – This is a beautiful mild day & I thank the Lord for his many & great mercies to me.

Monday, 23.

Capt Tainter & I left Menomonie for a trip up to our logging camps in the prairies. Started from the Mills at Noon in a two horse spring wagon & arrived at our prairie farm 35 miles from the mill & on the north fork Hay River at 8 P.M.

Tuesday, 24.

Tainter & I mounted the horses we drove yesterday & rode 17 miles to head of Turtle Creek to see a dam erected there by Washburn for the purpose of facilitating log driving. We returned about sundown to our farm.

September, Wednesday, 25. 1861

To day joined by Burnham Tainter we went on horse-back to Jones Camp 20 miles distant on Vermillion river – Looked for a place to erect a dam on South Fork of Vermillion.

Thursday, 26.

Left our Logging Camps & walked about 4 miles & took a canoe then down the Vermillion. We had sent our horses back to the Mill. Mr. L. Jones & a Frenchman by the name of Corbean poled the canoe. When we got to the Mouth of Vermillion along Yellow River we poled up the Red Cedar to Grover Camp 21 miles.

Friday, 27

This morning we took two canoes & two ? additional to our party & went to the large Rice Lake about 5 miles above the Grover Camp. Explored there awhile & returned to camp to dinner & then about 2 oclk started down the river & camped within a mile of the mouth of shetek river.

September, Saturday, 28. 1861

We had left one canoe with James to take up yellow river & our party now consisted of Andrew & Burnam Tainter & Corbean & myself – we went to day up to Rice Lake & shetek, stopped for dinner at Barkers Shanty – Camped two miles below Barkers.

Sunday, 29.

Laid in camp all day. A quiet & beautiful day. There is a small lake ½ mile long by ¼ wide within a few hundred yards of our camp. This is a great resort for wild geese.

Monday, 30.

To day is pleasant & I wanted very much to start homeward but the others with me wanted to remain and hunt geese in the Lake near by. We hauled the canoe across from shetek river into the goose pond & disguised it with spruce boughs & sat in it in the morning on the pond to watch for geese.

October, Tuesday, 1. 1861

Got no geese last night & to day it rained so hard & all night last night that we have had to remain in camp. I am very impatient under this delay as I wish much to be at home with my family & where my business is.

Wednesday, 2.

Rained to day but notwithstanding as I was anxious to start the rest consented & we struck ? & poled our canoe down stream. We killed 3 geese & several ducks to day. Camped for the night ¼ mile above "Big Eddy" on the Red Cedar or Menomonie River.

Thursday, 3.

To day rained heavily - shot dome ducks. We took our dinner in a heavy rain storm at 18 mile creek – I got tired of canoeing it in the rain & left the canoe at Capt Moores place 10 miles from Menomonie & got Capt M – to send me to the Mill in a buggy.

October, Friday, 4. 1861

Rained & misted all day. Capt Wilson proposes to accompany me to the Lake (Reads Landing) if I will remain until to morrow.

Saturday, 5.

We did not get started until 4 P.M. – Capt W- & I arrived at Dunnville at 6 P.M. – Stopped at the Tainter House kept by Mr Heller. The "Chippewa Falls" arrived about 11 PM

Sunday, 6.

Left Dunnville on Steamer "Chip Falls" rather than remain here concluding to go up on her to Eau Claire. Arrived at Eau Claire 3 ½ P.M. Capt Wilson went along.

October, Monday, 7. 1861.

Left Eau Claire early this morning. Arrived at Dunn-ville about 10 oclk A.M. Left there at 12 ½ M on the Chipp Falls & arrived at Reads Ldg at 5 ½ P.M. – I took pass-age on the ~~Golden~~ Steamer Ocean Hans at 11 PM for Dubuque

Tuesday, 8.

On the Ocean ?

Wednesday, 9.

In Dubuque to day Left at 6 PM and Ill C.R.R. for Burlington & home Changed cars about midnight at Mendota & took the Chicago B & I. R.R. to Burlington.

October, Thursday, 10. 1861

This morning left Burling-ton in stage for home. Arrived at home at 2 ¼ P.M. Found all well & glad to see me & I am glad to be at home once more. Rained all day – Amt cash returns of \$28.15

Friday, 11.

Busy about town. In the afternoon went with John Wilson down to Cash Island to look at a lot of cattle he wants to sell me.

Saturday, 12.

Vallie & the children and John Douglass & I rode out in the carriage to Jonas.

October, Sunday, 13. 1861

Vallie & I went to hear Rev Williams preach at the Methodist Church. Fine weather – warm

Monday, 14.

Beautiful warm day. Very busy all day. Started for St. Louis at 4 ½ P.M. – Cash \$160.

Tuesday, 15.

Left Keokuk at 7 A.M., on Stmr ? ?

October, Wednesday, 16. 1861

Arrived St. Louis early this morning. Stopped at Barnums Hotel. Purchased bill of stores of Bridge Beach & co. Purchased bill of iron & nails of Rud & Markham.

Thursday, 17.

Purchased Queensware bills of E.A. & S.R. Filles & Drugs & Medicine of Richardson Miller & Co. Went over to Belleville Ills. On the cars at 5 P.M. Stopped at the Prism House Saw Joseph Hansen in regard to amt he owes K.S. & Co. He said he had remitted the amt to me in a draft on N.Y. two days ago.

Friday, 18.

Left Belleville for St. Louis at 7 ¼ A.M. distance 12 miles. Purchased Bill of Oils of ? Angler to day & made many small purchases.

October, Saturday, 19. 1861

Getting reday for a start home. Went out to Benton Barracks in the forenoon. Visited General Custer at his Headquarters. Paid ? ? & Co bill of stone castings 17.55 Paid on bills of oils to ? Employ – 104\$. Left St Louis at 5 P.M. on Steamer Canada.

Sunday, 20.

On board Steamer Canada we our making slow time. The boat took on board 1500 barrels of Apples at Clarksville.

Monday, 21.

The Canada arrived at Keokuk at noon & as she had to lighten her freight to get over the rapids I concluded I would get home quicker by taking the cars which I did at 2 ½ P.M. & arrived home at 4 P.M. Cash returned \$25.25

October, Tuesday, 22. 1861

At home nearly all day with a very severe sick headache. The weather for sometime has been very mild & no frosts have yet arrived to make any mark on vegetation.

Wednesday, 23.

Heavy frost last night. The first of the season that has made any impression on the most tender plants.

Thursday, 24.

Heavy frost again & beautiful days. Rec'd letter from Dr. W. W. Hall N.Y. in regard to my sore throat.

Sunday, 27.

Vallie & I went to Pres Church & heard a good parochial sermon by Rev. Thomas

October, Monday, 28. 1861

Vallie Almeda & I went to Burlington in the carriage. Found our raft had arrived there & made sale of some to J.W. & ?

Tuesday, 29.

We left Burlington at 11 A.M. & came home in 3 ¼ hours. It blew a hurricane all day & has blown heavily for 36 hours.

Wednesday, 30.

I am having a corn crib & ox stable built down at the vineyard for the accommodations of feeding 60 head of cattle for beef.

October, Thursday, 31. 1861

The remainder of the raft about 22 cribs arrived about noon. Wrote to Dr. W.W. Hall & enclosed 5\$.

November, Friday, 1.

Paid JF Edwards Ins agt ? for K.S & Co. TBW & Co. & Cap't Wilson in all ? 502.25

Saturday, 2.

Getting ready for a "Duck Hunt" up the river.

Monday, 4.

W.A. Thurston R.H. Heath & myself I started on a hunting trip – We took our boat & dogs guns provisions & c & c on board the “Pomeroy” & left home about noon & landed about 2 oclk at night 4 miles above Port Louisa on the Ill shore.

Tuesday, 5.

Hunted ducks in the sloughs close by within a mile of our tent. Killed a few ducks – Game wild

November, Wednesday, 6. 1861

Moved camp about a mile down to the head of the large Island. We found there were so many hunters on the Island & that wild fowl had been shot at so much that there was a very poor chance for us. Heath shot a Turkey & I got some ducks.

Thursday, 7.

I had a chill about 2 oclk this morning & was feeling very badly all day. We struck tent & left for muscatine slough. I stopped at Port Louisa & took stmr Jennie whistle for home at about 6 PM Brought along 38 duck's & one trophy.

Friday, 8.

Arrived at Ft. Madison at 5 AM not feeling very well. I find Henry sick with measles. The other members of my family are well.

November, Saturday, 9. 1861

Henry to day is quite sick.

Sunday, 10.

Heard Rev. Timothy Lyman preach in the Pres. Church.

Monday, 11.

Have recovered from the indis-position of last week. Went down to see about the cattle stable Near ? & co are building for me. Vallie & John D – & wife & I rode down to Dr. Walkers & called on Mr.& Mrs. J.B. Stenart – called on Rev. T. Lyman & wife in the evening.

Wednesday, 20.

Effie & Willie are very sick with measles and it requires all the time & patience of Vallie & I night & day to take care of them.

November, Thursday, 21. 1861

I took Mr. Geo Pomeroy of N.Y. out into the coun-try riding to show him the appearance of the country – about Ft Madison – the day has been cold & blustery.

Friday, 22.

To day has been very windy & quite cold. Winter has indeed commenced.

Tuesday, 26.

Ice commenced moving to day in the river. Wrote to Capt. Wilson – attended the funeral of Andrew Fulcher who died from the scald & wounds received by the boiler explosion at I C Atters Mill. Sent 3 teams to Mr. Gibbs farm beyond West Point for Hay. Bot one 4 yr old steer of CH Burton. 1065 lbs @ 144 payable in lumber

November, Wednesday 27. 1861

Rec'd letter from Capt. Wilson. Wrote to Capt Tainter & to T. B. Wilson in regard to the Pomeroy ?.

Thursday, 28.

Thanksgiving Day – Heard a good sermon by Rev. G.J. Johnson.

November, Saturday, 30. 1861

Mr. Rail finished the well at the vineyard lots for watering cattle. It is 26 feet deep 3 ft 4 in. in di-iameter. I am to pay 75¢ per foot for digging & walling same – I furnished the stone.

December, Sunday 1.

Rev. Thomas preached in the Pres. Church. Snowed last night to depth of 2 ½ or 3 inches & winter has commenced in earnest.

Monday, 2.

At 7 ½ AM ther 4 ° above zero – A still cold day.

Thursday, 5.

The weather turned very mild. Vallie Effie & Willie & I rode out to Jonas in the afternoon.

December, Friday, 6. 1861

A warm day Ther 70°. Jonas & I rode out 7 miles on the Franklin road to see some cattle.

Saturday, 7.

Rained heavily during the night. Ther 62°

Sunday, 8.

Warm Day - No ice in the river

December, Monday, 9. 1861

A warm day Ther 56° at 7 A.M. – Weather is like the last of April or 1st May – I fear the fruit will be killed by this warm spell. Ther 68° to 70° at 2 oclk P.M. I never saw it so warm in Dec. River rose 2 ft in 36 hours.

Tuesday, 10.

Thermometer 60° at 7 o'clock A.M. Rained some in the forenoon & in the afternoon burned coal. Jonas & I went to Denmark to look at some cattle belonging to Mr. ? which he wished to sell Offered him 1 ¾ cents per lbs ? for 2-4 year old steers.

Wednesday, 11.

Froze pretty hard last night Ther 26° to day. Weather very fine & clear Barometer 30/30 On the 9th ? I promised to pay Tom Wilson for Frank Madison 100\$ in 30 days I forgot to make a ? of the agreement at the time.

Thursday, 19.

Jonas & I went out to 3 ½ miles beyond Primrose to see BC Bunt who is owing Knapp Stout & Co. \$61.80 note now part due 15 months – Did not get a dime out of him. Weather mild & roads good. We returned via Dover where we took dinner Mild day Ther 56° at 7 A.M.

Friday, 20.

Went to the Methodist Donation supper – Took Almeda. Has been a cold day Ther 19° A sudden change For over two weeks the weather has been exceedingly warm & mild.

December, Saturday, 21. 1861

Ice commenced arriving again in the river. Snow commenced falling in the evening.

Sunday, 22.

Snowed all day. Snow in from 8 to 9 inches deep Ther 26°

Wednesday, 25

In the forenoon I took the children & Callie Douglas sleigh riding out to Jonas & in the afternoon took Almeda, Mr. Rev Johnson & Beckie Adams out sleigh riding. Vallie & I took dinner at Dr. Rinehards. Our children are very happy in the enjoyment of a multitude of presents.

Thursday, 26.

Thawed very much last night. During the day the weath-er changed to very cold.

Saturday, 28.

Mild day – Sent our team to Burlington to get our corn crusher repaired.

Tuesday, 31.

Will Beckie & Mr. Hatch dined with us to day. We had a large Wild Turkey & plenty of oyster for dinner. So another year has rolled around & God in his great good-ness & mercy has spared our lives another year. My family are all well & we are greatly blessed. A year of plenty has closed & would have been one of peace if it had not been for the in-satiable ambition of fiery politicians at the south who have brought this war upon us. The weather is mild & thus far the winter has been mild.