

JOHN H. KNAPP
Fort Madison, Iowa
1862 Diary

Transcribed by Marge Kunkel
UW-Stout Archives Assistant

Wednesday, January 1, 1862

The year opened pleasantly. Weather cool & clear. The times are so hard & the country being involved in War that there is no gaiety – no business – no life & animation at the beginning of the New Year

Thursday, January 2

Ther. 20 degrees at 7 oclck A.M. William came over the river and brought 80\$ from McCaul to be applied on note of R. Merritt.

Friday, January 3

Sleeting all day

Saturday, January 4

Weather mild. Paid M. Case amt. his bill \$5.45. Paid Mr. Fuch's for making shoes for mother 1.75 & for Willie & Effie 2.80 mending Harry's boots .45 in all \$5.00 Gave Dr. E. J. Toof (?) order ck K.S. & Co. for 12.50. In the evening the concert & elocutionary entertainment for the benefit of the Poor came off at Sanzer's Hall. Salted beef

Sunday, January 5

Snow fell to the depth of 5 inches. No church today in consequence of the snow in the forenoon.

Monday, January 6

Took Vallie the children, Mother Almeda & Sophronia sleigh-riding in the afternoon

Tuesday, January 7

This morning the thickest & most beautiful hoar frost I ever saw covered the trees
Weather clear & cool.

Wednesday, January 8

Settled mortgage I hold against I. P. Harper's house & lot for 2500\$ & int. by taking 1048.78 sans(?) land in paper Co & lot in Council Bluffs.

Thursday, January 9

Rec'd 25\$ from Lyard. Cold & foggy. Took Vallie sleigh-riding in the afternoon

Friday, January 10

Ther 10 degrees at 7 oclck A.M. A sudden change I took Mother, Mrs. Rinehart, Will Adams, & wife in my sleigh out to Jona's to dinner. There were also there Mr. & Mrs.

Beck, Mr. & Mrs. Eaton, Valie could not go – We had a nice dinner Roast Pig Turkey &c &c.

Saturday, January 11

Ther. 14 degrees at 7 oclck A.M. The weather moderated some during the day. I took Vallie & Willie Effie & Henry out to Jona's where we took dinner. The sleighing never was better

Sunday, January 12

Steady cold weather Ther 12 degrees at 8 A.M. Mr. Taylor preached in the forenoon, I taught Sabbath School.

Monday, January 13

Ther. 12 degrees below zero at 7 A.M. which is by 22 degrees the coldest weather we have had this season. The river was blocked by ice for the first time this season at 7 A.M. Barometer 30.6

Tuesday, January 14

Cold snowing Ther 6 degrees below 0 at 7 ½ A.M. In the evening snow commenced falling

Wednesday, January 15

Snow fell last night to the depth of 6 inches. I took my gun and took a walk through the woods for about two miles—No game about except rabbits

Thursday, January 16

A pleasant cold winter day Ther 6 degrees below 0 at 7 oclck a.m.

Friday, January 17

Made brine & put on our hams. Snow fell last night to the depth of ¾ to 1 inch Attended the funeral of old Mr. Sample from Pres. Church. He died on Wednesday night. In the afternoon took Vallie & Willie & Effie out to Jona's & back for a sleigh ride.

Saturday, January 18

Sent 2\$ to pay for my subscription to Berks(?) & S Journal Wrote to W Hamxhurst Esq
Wrote to T B W & Co
Wrote to Charles Nunn

Sunday, January 19

Weather mild and thawy

Monday, January 20

Today at about noon Vallie gave birth to a little daughter our third child. Sent a dozen bottles of wine to the sick Iowa Soldiers Packed a box full of wine clothing jellies canned fruit books &c &c donated by different persons for Hospital one among the Iowa troops.

Tuesday, January 21

Weather mild. Took Effie & Willie out to Jona's for a visit. Brought Rebecca Smith in from Mr. Briesly's for a Nurse for Vallie. Sleighing fine.

Wednesday, January 22

Ther. 26 degrees at 7 ½ A.M. Paid John Sands \$13.50

Sunday, January 26

In the evening heard an excellent sermon from Rev Winters an aged minister, Subject "Resurrection" Cold day Ther 12 degrees at 7 A.M. 22 degrees at noon.

Monday, January 27

Turned warm last night & snowed about an inch and to day it has thawed all day. Vallie has some fever this evening.

Tuesday, January 28

Rained nearly all night with some thunder & lightning. Vallie is better this morning.

Wednesday, January 29

Attended Prayer Meeting in the evening. Weather very cold.

Thursday, January 30

Ther. down to zero at 7 A.M. Settled with Tanmus(?) amt his bill against me \$27.09

Friday, January 31

Cold day. In the evening Vallie had fever & had to call in the Doctor.

Saturday, February 1

Settled with Jonas his a/c of last year 150.60. My credits for amts I had paid him were \$48.12. I paid him the balance \$102.48 by Ch. on State Bk. Vallie had a poor night last night & I staid with her all day. She is better this evening.

Sunday, February 2

Heard Rev. Winters preach a good sermon in the Court House. Weather cold & steady. Vallie is much better to day.

Monday, February 3

A beautiful sunlight day Paid Mary 4\$ Kathie 2\$ Pd Mr. Fuch's bal. I owe him for making shoes for the children &c. Saw Mr. Heston (?) of Big Mound & agreed to give him 35 c per Gall for some sorghum in 10 Gall kegs. Also 2 ¾ cts for smoked shouldered & 3 ¾ for hams payable all in lumber.

Tuesday, February 4

Took Almeda John & Potlis (or Pattie?) & Archy Douglass & Effie & Willie sleigh riding to Williams

Thursday, February 6

Went to the meeting of the Literary Union & took part in the debate on the Question Resolved that agitation is productive of reform.

Friday, February 7

John Douglass & I rode out to Griffiths to see a fat ox he wants to sell- The Day is a cold one – sleighing fine.

Saturday, February 8

Ther 4 degrees above zero at 7 A.M.

Sunday, February 9

Heard an excellent sermon in the forenoon by Rev. Winter from 1st Tim. 1st & 11th.

Monday, February 10

Weather turned warm.

Tuesday, February 11

Rec'd 1 cord Hickory wood of Silas Gregg. Weather warm & thawy – snow melting fast. Sent Joe Christy out to Franklin with team & sleigh to take Katie Weil home

Wednesday, February 12

Weather continues warm. The snow is melting fast. Ther 36 degrees at 7 A.M.

Thursday, February 13

Willie was taken quite sick called in Dr. Rinehart – He was much better by evening. Weather changed this morning & from warm spring like weather ther at 38, it fell to 10 degrees before bed time. The sleighing still remains good ? ? ? several days of warm weather.

Friday, February 14

Cold this morning Ther 6 degrees below 0.

Saturday, February 15

Willie had intermittent fever again to day.

Sunday, February 16

Warm and thawy day – wind from south.

Monday, February 17

Turned colder.

Tuesday, February 18

A cold day. Vallie came down stairs to dinner to day. The first time since she was taken sick. Willie is better but very cross. Settled with William & took his note for amt due me \$1422.73 payable one year after date. News rec'd to day of capture of Ft. Donelson(?)

Wednesday, February 19

On Geo P. Eaton's offer to give or take the Zinpe Fisapertz(?) which has cost us about 3500\$ on our Bk Stock amounting to 2500\$ & 240 Iowa Lands at cost & bal of amt to make 3500\$ to be paid in on K & E's indebtedness – I took the Bank Stock &c &c He took the Zinpe(?) property.

Thursday, February 20

A steady cold day. This is Mothers birthday. She is 70 years old to day & continues well and active attending every day to the superintendess(?) out of the kitchen and household affairs while Vallie is sick or unable to take charge.

Friday, February 21

Warm & thawing fast. Took Vallie out sleigh riding this P.M. The first time she has been out since she was taken sick. Snow going off fast.

Saturday, February 22

We had a celebration of Washington's birthday at Pres. Church, where in the forenoon we had the singing of National & patriotic hymns & songs Prayer by Rev's Williams & Taylor. I read Washington's farewell address. In the evening Rev. G. J. Johnson lectured at Pres. Church on the character of Washington. The Church was illuminated &c.

Monday, February 24

Weather milder though freezing in the shade all day. Rec'd a letter from Capt. Wilson & answered it. Have been working up my a/c books to day.

Tuesday, February 25

Weather mild & pleasant. Ther. 40 degrees. Have been at work writing up my small a/c books.

Saturday, March 1

Cold raw windy day – with some attempts at rain & sleet – Ther. 30 degrees. Teams still cross the river on the ice with loads.

Sunday, March 2

Heard Mr. Taylor preach in Pres. Church

Monday, March 3

Cold windy weather with some snow. Almeda & I went to the supper in the basement of the Baptist church.

Tuesday, March 4

Very blustery, cold windy day Ther ranging about 20 to 28 degrees.

Wednesday, March 5

Wrote to H. L. Stout Geo Pomeroy K. S. & Co. Geo Williams Supt Ft D & M RR Edw Kilbourne of Mt. P. R.R. & to Capt Wilson Ther. at 7 oclk am 20 degrees & continued cold & very windy all day. Jonas and I went out to Grahams in the afternoon to look at some stock.

Thursday, March 6

Weather moderated

Friday, March 7

Mild pleasant day. Ther 34 degrees at 7 A.M. Went down to see our fat cattle this morning & this afternoon taking off a Balance Sheet of my books.

Saturday, March 8

A warm thawy day. Wm Douglass took dinner with us & promises to pay the amt due me as early as practicable.

Sunday, March 9

Went to Church in the forenoon. Sermon by Rev. C. P. Taylor. Studied & read a portion of Jacobus? Commentaries in first Chapter of John

Monday, March 10

Wrote to T. B. W Co. C Nunn & to E. A. Gibbs. In the afternoon went down below town about two miles to see if I could get a shot at some wild ducks-none there.

Tuesday, March 11

Handed Geo P Eaton cash ?? note 5000\$ one do \$5500 dated Feby 15/62 signed by Wm Adams John H. Douglass & Wm D Knapp. The above notes were signed by the parties for my accommodation & I had them disct to settle my share of the indebtedness of the old firm of Knapp & Eaton at the Ft M. Brch State Bk Iowa.

Wednesday, March 12

Wrote to Mr. Stout.

Thursday, March 13

Rec'd letter from Mr Stout containing certificates of deposit on Ellen City Bk New Hanson for \$5389.87

Friday, March 14

Cold, foggy & disagreeable weather. Rained very hard last night attended with very heavy thunder &c. Bought the "Norwood Buggy" of Jonas for \$140. Paid Jonas 77.70 Bal due him on the Hancock Land matter

Saturday, March 15

Very cold & raw in the forenoon Afternoon pleasant. Vallie came down stairs again to day after a lapse of over a week confinement to her room up stairs.

Sunday, March 16

A beautiful pleasant day The ice in the river next the Iowa shore has started down stream

Monday, March 17

Took Vallie out riding & afterwards the children. Paid M. Williamson & Co per O. H. Wilson one of the partners \$1236. N.Y. Exchg on K. S. & Co Note of 2336\$ not yet due

Tuesday, March 18

Took Vallie out riding.

Wednesday, March 19

Weather has become rainy & foggy. Had a settlement with Geo. P. Eaton in regards to many of our old banking matters.

Thursday, March 20

Cold foggy & windy day Geo W. Douglass W A Thurston & I went over to Kitchell(?) Island to shoot ducks this afternoon. They were very scarce. I got one Mallard Geo one & Thurston none Recd the Goods memoranda from Reads Ldg & Menomonie.

Friday, March 21

Paid Schneider Jeweller amt I owed him in full 1\$.

Saturday, March 22

First boat came up "Northerner"

Took Vallie out for a short ride in the buggy this forenoon Weather clear & cool but roads very muddy. Afterward took Millie & Effie on short ride.

In the afternoon Heath & I rowed the "Lone Star" over to the Niota Island. I shot four ducks & old Dive (?) brought them out of the water H. did not kill any. This Effie's 4th birth day.

Sunday, March 23

Went to Pres. Church in the forenoon & in the evening heard Rev. Fuller preach in the basement of the Baptist Church It has recently been fitted up for preaching & is now very comfortable. Weather continues cool. Snow is still lying on the side of the bluff.

Monday, March 24

Took Vallie out riding this forenoon. Have been feeling somewhat ill all day. Recd from Caltenmole(?) 50\$ for about ½ acre land out of the N. E. corner of Lot 1134 in Ft Madison. Gave him a warranty deed.

Wednesday, March 26

Heath Thurston & Geo Wm Douglass & I went to Green Bay to day in the sail boat "Lone Star" for a duck hunt. Came home late tired & found but little game. Mild day

Thursday, March 27

Weather growing warmer. Took Vallie out riding this forenoon. Pruned pear trees. Getting my affairs in shape so that I can start to N York next week.

Friday, March 28

Quite warm to day Vallie quite sick to day.

Saturday, March 29

My birthday. 37 years old to day. Had a few friends to dine with us. Dr. & Mrs. Rinehart Geo & John Douglass & their wives Jonas & Mary & Will Adams & wife Weather very warm Ther. 82 degrees on our north east Porch at noon.

Sunday, March 30

Cooler to day yet a very pleasant day. Staid at home with dear wife all day. Se is suffering severely from inflamed breast.

Tuesday, April 1

Rained very hard more or less during the day. Vallie is much better

Wednesday, April 2

Vallie is still improving rapidly—

Friday, April 4

Agreed with Man Creps & Co to do all the carpenter work on inside & out side of dwelling house for me at Menomonie, Wis. excepting bath and water closet wood work & ventilating flues setting registers & the wood work of chimney. I to pay them 912.65 ½ as work progresses ½ two years after completion of building Int @ 6%

Sunday, April 6

Communion to day at Pres. Church. I had the blessed privilege of being present & being a partaker.

Monday, April 7

Agreed with Giles that he should paint the dwelling I contemplate erecting at Menomonie at his prices for work as per his estimate 335\$. To pay him ½ in money & ½ in property. Very rainy weather.

Tuesday, April 8

Mother, John H. Douglass & I left home at 11 a.m. on Strm Kate Capell en route for New York. Took Ferry boat Flint Hills at Burlington & were ferried across the prairie above Burlington till we landed along side the cars near Oquawka Junction 8 miles East of Burlington

Wednesday, April 9

Arrived in Chicago 6 a.m. & left for Detroit on M.C.R.R. immediately. Arrived in Detroit 6 P.M. We stopped at the Biddle House which has been lately fitted up & is in first class order.

Thursday, April 10

Left Detroit 6 ½ A.M. Took cars on Great Western Railway through Canada at 7.05 from Windsor. A few miles beyond London C. W. (?) we found the track obstructed by two freight locomotives that had run off the track tearing the track up &c We were detained there 2 or 3 hours Arrived across Susp. Bridge at 10 P.M.

Friday, April 11

Left Susp Bridge at 8.50 this morning & took the cars 2 miles to Niagara Falls. Took carriage & Mother John Douglass & I rode over to Goat Island & around to various points of view about the Falls. Left for Buffalo @ 1.40 P.M. John & I took a walk around through the principal part of Buffalo & left there at 6.45 P.M.

Saturday, April 12

Arrived at Elmira at midnight or about 1 oclk a.m. Stopped at Brainard House. During the day took a ride around the city & took mother up to cousin Zerviah Maxwells Called on Cousin Elizabeth Vail, Jesse Cooley accompanied us on our ride around Elmira. We find Cousin Levi J. Cooley sick in bed with lung fever.

Sunday, April 13

Went with Jesse L. Cooley & John H. D. to the Congregational Church in Elmira. Thos K. Beecher pastor. Prayer was offered giving thanks for our Union victories as per order of the President. Afterwards the Lords supper was administered. I called to see Cousin Levi who is quite sick.

Monday, April 14

Mother & I left for Oxford Orange Co in the 10 clk A.M. train Arrived in Oxford about 11 oclk Found our friends all well. John took train from Elmira in the morning to go north to visit his grandfather in Skansateless(?) (possibly Schenectady?)

Tuesday, April 15

Left Oxford at 7.35 arrived in N.Y. 11 ¼ A.M. Whole expense a/c since leaving Ft. M is \$129.33 Mother remained in Orange Co

Wednesday, April 16

Called on some business acquaintances & getting posted in regard to the market &c for goods. Shipping rates &c &c Was introduced into some new houses (Hardware & Boot & shoes) by Arch. Young Esq.

Thursday, April 17

John arrived this morning Rec'd letter from Mr. Stout. Examined groceries at Kent & Lowlers & Hardware at Albert Jewetts & Clark Wilson & Co.

Friday, April 18

Bought groceries for K. S. & Co & T. B. W. & Co of Sackett Belcher & Co.

Saturday, April 19

Purchased our bills of Hardware of Albert Jewett, Chambers St. John Douglass & I left N.Y. at 3.30 P.M. via N.Y & ERR for Oxford Orange County where we arrived soon after 6 oclck P.M. Found Mick Wick home with rheumatism

Sunday, April 20

The weather was fine all last week but to day or rather during the night it rained.

Monday, April 21

John & I returned to New York in the forenoon & commenced buying goods

Sunday, April 27

John H. Douglass & I went to hear Rev. Chapin preach in the forenoon and in the evening

Wednesday, April 30

For over a week I have been very busy buying the various kinds of merchandise needed by T. B. Wilson & Co & Knapp Stout & Co Collected bills to day and got ready to leave New York on the 11 P.M. train for Philad.

Thursday, May 1

Arrived in Philadelphia about 3 A.M. Stopped at the Continental Hotel. Paid Dr. D. Jayne & Son 76.35. We left Philad. At 11.30 A.M. for Pittsburgh.

Friday, May 2

Arrived in Pittsburgh about 3 A.M. Bought a bill of glass glassware & coal oil of Wm. M. Cully & Co. Refined coal oil for burning 20 c per gallon. Bought bill of Nails & Iron of Zug (?) & Painter. Left P—at 2 P.M. for Chicago by Ft. Wayne's C R. R.

Saturday, May 3

Arrived in Chicago at 11 A.M. John & I went around to the stock yards. Found that Wm. Had arrived yesterday & sold the fat cattle & gone home. Bought some grind stones & c of Jewett & Butler. Put up at the Sherman House a new & good hotel.

Sunday, May 4

We went to Pres. Church this forenoon & heard Rev. Patterson preach from John 16 Chap 32 verse. Left Chicago for Ft. M. at 9 P.M.

Monday, May 5

Arrived in Burlington about 10 ½ A.M. Hired a carriage to bring us to Ft. M. for 4\$ Left Burlington about noon & arrived at home about 4 oclk P.M. Found Dear Vallie & children all very well & John finds his family all well.

Tuesday, May 6

At home & glad to be at home "sweet home There is no place like home"

Wednesday, May 7

Weather fine and very dry

Thursday, May 8

Vallie the children & I took a ride in the afternoon to Jonas.

Friday, May 9

A warm day. Favorable news from our army on the Potomac. They have whipped the rebels at Williamsburgh Virginia.

Saturday, May 10

A very warm day. I put on a linen coat for the first time this season. Made some garden.

Tuesday, May 13

Had Black mare Flora(?) shod & engaged H. Kimball to drive her & train her @ 2\$ per week.

Wednesday, May 14

We commenced work at home cleaning house taking out stoves &c. John Douglass started for St. Louis.

Friday, May 16

Planted dwarf peas.

Saturday, May 17

Finished getting carpets down & c to day. I am heartily tired of the domestic work of house cleaning. Some rain to day weather fine & growing.

Sunday, May 18

Weather cool. Heard Rev Griffith preach in Baptist Church.

Monday, May 19

John returned from St. Louis Mr. Hatch was down from Muscatine to see about lumber &c. Getting ready for a start to Menomonie.

Tuesday, May 20

Very cool backward rainy weather. Ther. 53 degrees.

Wednesday, May 21

I have everything ready for a start to Menomonie on tomorrow morning. Cash drawn from Bank for Ex 200\$ Do(?) in pocket 2.50 = \$202.50

Thursday, May 22

Strm "Hawk Eye State" came along about 8 oclck A.M. & I took passage for Reads Landing. I take as freight 22 head of fat cattle that average between 1200 & 1300 lbs. each. Mr. Man Mr. Mamcoy (?) & Mr Winter go up to Menomonie with me to do the carpenter work on house I am going to build there. Beccie Adams goes up to see her parents at Dunnville.

Saturday, May 24

Arrived at Reads Landing about 10 oclck PM. Paid Hawk Eye State for frt on 22 head cattle for K S & Co \$81.00

1 head for Frank Malcom 4.00

Frt for J H K 50 cents

3 passengers Do 24.00 = 24.50

1 Do for Will Adams (wife) 8.00 Total \$117.50

Sunday, May 25

Went to Church in Reads Landing. Heard Rev. Morgan preach.

Monday, May 26

Pail L Bullard for board for 3 carpenters for self 4.50

Paid Dr for K S & Co (Ex) 1.25

Paid Dr. for Will Adams 1.50

\$7.25

Left Reads Landing on board Strm Chippewa Falls at 9 ¼ A.M. Arrived at Dunnville at 4 P.M. and in Menomonie at about 10 P.M.

Tuesday, May 27

Weather cool. Spent the day in looking around the mills.

Wednesday, May 28

Commenced work on my home by laying off the cellar & having lumber hauled on the ground to build shop for the carpenters.

Thursday, May 29

Getting lumber for house I find it difficult to get the right kind of seasoned lumber

Friday, May 30

Mr. Stout Capt. Tainter Thos B. Wilson & I went to Elk Creek to catch trout. Only caught 30 all told.

Sunday, June 1

Methodist quarterly meeting was held in Menomonie at Knapp Stout & Co's hall. I partook communion with the Methodist brethren.

Thursday, June 5

This evening Mr Tainter & I rode out 2½ miles on the Hudson road & fished for trout in Gilbert Creek We did not commence until 7 oclck P.M. I caught ten nice trout & Tainter caught five. He bought a young deer of O. Flanagan which we brought home in the buggy

Friday, June 6

Looking up material for building my dwelling home

Saturday, June 7

Tainter & I went up the mill creek this afternoon to fish for trout. The canoe struck a snag & upset giving us a thorough soaking in the creek. We went up 4 or 5 miles by water & had very poor success in fishing. Musquitoes up on the creek were very bad

Sunday, June 8

Heard Mr. Canfield preach

Tuesday, June 10

Capt Wilson & I went to Eau Claire & examined the various saw mills there.

Wednesday, June 11

Today I hired a stone mason in Eau Claire. A Mr Marcy(?) to lay cellar to my house at \$2.25 per day. We looked into Chapman & Thor's Mills on Eau Claire river. We left for home at 6 P.M. A very heavy storm came up about time we arrived at Mud Creek & we stopped at Mr. Hollers(?)

Thursday, June 12

We left Mr. Hollers after breakfast – got to the Mill in the forenoon.

Friday, June 13

Commenced getting ready to start home. Received a load of lime for laying cellar wall & two masons began to make preparations to lay stone tomorrow

Saturday, June 14

Capt Wilson & I left Menomonie for Reads Landing at 8 oclck A.M. Left Dunnville at about half past ten & arrived at Dead Lake at 1 oclck to dinner Arrived at Reads 5 ½ oclck P.M. Left Reads on "Key City" at 6 P.M.

Sunday, June 15

Arrived at Dubuque at 7 P.M. Went to Mr. Stout's In the evening went to hear Rev. Holbrook preach.

Monday, June 16

To day looked about Dubuque Business on the improve. Lumber seems to be going off pretty briskly. Purchased a Washing Machine to take home with me. Huffers(?)Patent. Rained this evening pretty heavily.

Tuesday, June 17

In Dubuque waiting for the "Sucker State" to come down She came in about 10 oclk P.M. I took passage for Ft. Madison.

Wednesday, June 18

When I got up this morning we were near Belleview. Crossed the Rapids about 6 oclk P.M. Saw John H. Douglass at Davenport waiting for our raft. It has been very windy to day. Boat took a large lot of freight at Davenport. Left Rock Island about 10 o'clk P.M.

Thursday, June 19

The "Sucker State" took in a large lot of freight at Keithburg & thus I am detained here by hours when I am very anxious to get home to see Vallie & the children after a four weeks absence.

Saturday, June 21

Settled with Mr. Heitz. My 1/3 of strawberry crop is 20.00 For which he accounted as follows: Strawberries for family use 2/3 bushel

Amt to say(?)	8.00
Cash	8.00
28 fence posts	2.00
Trimming vines	.50
Wine to Joe Christy	1.50

Sunday, June 22

Heard Rev C. P. Taylor preach

Tuesday, June 24

Heavy rain this morning

Wednesday, June 25

Heavy rain last night and all the forenoon. Paid H. Kimball balance \$3. for driving my mare Flora(?).

Saturday, June 28

Packed up some native wine and sent to Capt Frank Hatch La Crosse Wis who was wounded at Bull Run and is still an invalid from effect of wounds there received

Sunday, June 29

A warm day. Heard Rev. Taylor preach in forenoon at Pres Church & Rev Williams in the evening in the Methodist

Monday, June 30

Sold Mr. Berneson of Quincy a lot of joist & 18,800 laths from yard.

Wednesday, July 2

Raft No. 3 arrived here at 6 oclck P.M. having 46 cribs all of which we take into yard here-

Thursday, July 3

Heath Thurston & I rigged up the sails on the sail boat "Kona Star" & took a sail this forenoon. Slocum & his raft crew started up River to day at 11 oclck A.M. on the W. L. Ewing.

Friday, July 4

This morning the news from our Army before Richmond was so unfavorable that it depressed my spirits so much I could not celebrate but in the afternoon the reports from the Army were quite favorable. I rode out in the evening with Vallie & the children.

Saturday, July 5

A very hot day. Vallie was taken last night with sore throat & Willie was sick & had to take some medicine.

Sunday, July 6

Willie is pretty well to day but Vallie's throat is quite bad. The Dr. torched it with caustic. Very hot again to day—

Monday, July 7

Another hot day – The warmest of the season so far—

Tuesday, July 8

A very heavy rain fell last night – Mr Block(or Black?) of Warsaw called to day to see about purchasing 300 M ft of lumber

Wednesday, July 9

Rained all day to day & last night nearly all night a steady rain which will bring out the crops of all kinds.

Saturday, July 12

The past week may well be called the rainy week

Monday, July 21

Agreed with the Mayor & Aldermen this afternoon that from & after to day we should pay 75 c per day for loading rafts & lumber at & on the stone levee & 50 c per day if we draw in the hollow above town. Very warm

Tuesday, July 22

Very warm forenoon & has been very warm for some days. It turned cooler this evening.

Thursday, July 24

I took Vallie & the children out in the country about 7 miles on the road to Franklin.

Saturday, July 26

A very pleasant day. Wm & Deborah were here to see us to day. Finished hauling lumber from the landing to day.

Sunday, July 27

Heard Rev. C. P. Taylor preach in Pres. Church this forenoon. This P.M. at 4 went to Choir meeting.

Monday, July 28

Busy all day. Mr. Gibbs was down to see about continuing business at Mt. Pleasant on changing location.

Thursday, July 31

Shipped Black Kit & Colt & a span of horses for Dick Bermet(?) to day on board Strm "Denmark" in charge of Wm(or Mr.) Copp – who is to take them through to Menomonie

Saturday, August 2

Getting ready to start up the river – John D. returned to day – having sold the raft in Alton.

Sunday, August 3

Vallie & I went to Methodist Church. Rev. Williams preached. The meeting altogether was an edifying & refreshing one. Heavy rain this forenoon

Monday, August 4

Got ready to go to Menomonie, Wis. Strm Henry Clay came along about 4 ½ oclck P.M. & I took passage for Reads Ldg. J. F Edwards & his wife & Mrs. Claypoole are also going up on some boat I did not like to leave home very much because Willie was not well

Tuesday, August 5

Heavy storm last night which came upon us just below Burlington. We made slow progress & arrived at Davenport about 5 oclck P.M. The boat laid at Rock Island all night for repairs—

Wednesday, August 6

Left Rock Island this morning at 7 oclck – Heavy thunder storm last night again-

Thursday, August 7

A warm day. Still on board the "Henry Clay"

Friday, August 8

Arrived at Reads Landing at 5 P.M. Took a walk upon the hill back of Reads.

Saturday, August 9

Left Reads at 7 ½ A.M. on the little Steamer Monitor Arrived at Durand at 2 ½ P.M. Took our Hack on the opposite side of the river & rode up to Dunnsville to dinner at 4 oclk. Left Dunnville after dinner & arrived at Menomonie at 9 P.M.

Monday, August 11

Enlistments for the army are progressing here rapidly—

Friday, August 15

Louis Runk (?) & Chris Lorchman commenced laying up brick chimney in my house at 4 P.M. Blair commenced to make the guttering this afternoon.

Saturday, August 16

Went out for about 2 hours this afternoon to shoot Prairie chickens. I killed eleven.

Sunday, August 17

Heard Revd Canfield preach a very good sermon in the school house.

Tuesday, August 19

We hired a new trimmer & he commenced putting in the gutters on main part of my house

Saturday, August 23

Rec'd a letter from Vallie I learned to day that Will Adams was elected Capt of a company of volunteers raised in Fort Madison J. W. Giles arrived last night & is going to paint my house.

Sunday, August 24

Heard Rev. P Canfield preach an excellent discourse on the war to day – He paid a handsome tribute to the memory of Capt Wm Evans. This is quite a cool day and a lonely Sunday to me. I would like to be at home with my dear family.

Monday, August 25

Getting ready to start home to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, August 26

Left Menomonie at 8 oclk A.M. homeward bound. Dr. Claypool & lady, Mrs. Bullard & Mary Wilson accompanied me We took dinner at Dunnville & came on to Durand & got on board the little Monitor arriving at Reads at 5 ½ P.M. Stopped at Thos. Wilson's.

Wednesday, August 27

Left Reads Ldg at 8 A.M. on Strm Milwaukee for Dubuque Fare \$5.75

Thursday, August 28

Arrived in Dubuque 6 ½ P.M. Stopped at the Julien(?) House

Friday, August 29

Took a ride with Mr. Stout & Capt Markell up to the Military Camp Two regiments are nearly full & drilling daily. Left Dubuque on Stm Denmark at 3 ½ P.M.

Saturday, August 30

Our boat crossed the Rapids early this morning. She took on a large lot of freight at Davenport & did not leave until noon.

Sunday, August 31

Arrived at home at 5 ½ oclk A.M. Found all of my family looking much poorer than when I left.

Monday, September 1

Will & Beckie staid all night with us. Will Adams is now Capt of Company E 19th Regiment Iowa Vols. The Co. has been raised since I left home & Will & Charley Gibbs our two lumber yard clerks have both enlisted Will is Captain & Charley orderly Sargeant.

Tuesday, September 2

Lumber is going off briskly from yard. John Douglass is very busy in the yard.

Wednesday, September 3

Vallie & I went to Keokuk in the 3 P.M. train to bid good bye to Will. The 19th Regt in which he is now Capt of Co. E. leaves to-morrow morning for St. Louis. We returned at home about 8 P.M. Very hot & dusty to day.

Thursday, September 4

Warm & sultry this forenoon & about 5 oclk a heavy rain set in – much to our relief as it is very dry & dusty.

Friday, September 5

Sultry rainy day.

Friday, September 12

I took Almeda Effie Vallie & Henry over to brother Williams to make a visit. I took my gun along & Albot (or Albert?) & I went out on the prairie south of Williams about about 5 or 6 miles where we found some chickens. I killed 5 & 2 quails—Albot (Albert?) 2 prairie chickens – The coldest day for Sept I ever knew.

Saturday, September 13

Cool & clear but not so cool as yesterday. Shipped sash for my house at Menomonie – also pump for saws – 2 Bhls. Sorghum(?) & lot of baskets for K. S. & Co

Sunday, September 14

Vallie & I attended Church in the forenoon Mr Taylor had a very good sermon. Day warm – our baby “Katie” still continues quite sick – Effie & Willie are quite well again.

Monday, September 15

Vallie is worn out with watching & running & nearly down sick & so am I Little Katie don't seem to get any better. Weather warm & sultry

Tuesday, September 16

Our little baby “Katie” still keeps quite sick.

Thursday, September 18

Heath & I went over to Kitchell Island to day to shoot some Ducks. I killed & brought home 11 Teal 11 Wood Ducks & 2 Mallards in all 24 Ducks Also killed a pelican.

Friday, September 19

Our little Katie continues quite sick.

Saturday, September 27

This morning at 2 A.M. the sweet spirit of our little baby – our dear little Katie – took its flight to God who gave it and this afternoon at 3 P.M. the funeral took place at our house. It is a sad, sad, day with us – for our dear baby was a sweet little angelic creature & we loved her so dearly. God has taken her to himself. He doeth all things well.—

Sunday, September 28

This is a sad and gloomy day with us. Vallie is nearly broken down with watching & anxiety which has been constant for several weeks.

Tuesday, October 7

Rec'd Telegram at 9 ½ A.M. from Thos B. Wilson that he would meet me in Chicago on Wednesday 8th inst.- Left home for Chicago at 2 ¼ P.M. cash 81\$ Took cars at East Burlington at 7.45 P.M. Took sleeping car from Galesburgh

Wednesday, October 8

Arrived in Chicago at 6.30 A.M. Put up at the Sherwin House. Thos B. Wilson arrived at 7 ½ P.M. – He is going East for our goods & I expect to return home to to-morrow. Gave Thomas a Drft on N.Y. for \$166.25 to pay mothers expenses home &c.

Thursday, October 9

We purchased lot of sugar of Hempstead Norton & Co. & did some shopping. Thomas Wilson left for N.Y. at 7 ½ P.M. & I left for Ft M- at 9 P.M.

Friday, October 10

Arrived in Burlington at 8 oclck. Dr. Walker & Mr & Mrs Caternicoli(?) took a hack there for Ft M- where we arrived at about 1 P.M. Expenses to Chicago & back 21\$

Saturday, October 11

Busy to day. Getting my business affairs in shape to go to meet raft No. 8 on Monday morning. – Wrote to Capt Wilson Mr. Stout Hempstead Norton & Co. -- & c Last night there was a heavy frost the first of any consequence this season

Sunday, October 12

Rev. C. P. Taylor preached a good sermon in Pres. Ch. Vallie is improving - She came down stairs to dinner John Douglass arrived from up river with raft No. 7.

Monday, October 13

Left home at 8 ½ A.M. and took passage on Strm “Jennie(?) Whipple to go up to Muscatine or Davenport to meet Raft No. 8. Cash 35\$.

Tuesday, October 14

Found on arrival in Davenport that the Raft had passed yesterday so I took cars at 7.40 & came to Muscatine by 10 ¼ AM Raft arrived about noon. Did not succeed in making sale of it. Let Hatch & Fullerton have two cribs in Exchange for lumber 2 inch seasoned 2nd clean(?) For Ft M – Lumber yard—

Wednesday, October 15

Left Muscatine at 8 A.M. Slocumb & I went in advance of the raft with the skiff & shot 3 geese 4 ducks & a snipe – We landed the raft at New Boston at 4 P.M. – Sold 18 cribs to Emmerson & Rescie(?) & 2 Do to Mr Mardock (?) @ 10\$ per M 8 % off solid measure

Thursday, October 16

Left New Boston at 9 oclck & landed at Keittsburgh(?) before noon – Sold D. B. Ellet (?) 11 cribs lumber @ 10\$ except 4 Downs lumber @ 9.50 & c – few lathes @ 1.50
I left Keittsburgh for home at 5 ½ PM in the “Jeannie Whipple” – Arrived at Ft M- at 11 P.M.

Friday, October 17

Slocumb arrived late this evening with remainder of Raft No. 8 –

Saturday, October 18

We sold about 100 M ft to day to Bown & Wittenman(?) of Hamilton at 10.50 in the water

Monday, October 20

John H. Douglass started down to overtake raft & sell it & to settle with Brown & Witteman – Mr. Gibbs has gone to Mt. Pleasant & I am taking care of the yard – sales brisk

Tuesday, October 21

John advises me that he has closed out the Raft to Hill Knox & Co Wausaw @ 10.50 3.25 for “A” shingles & 2.50 for No. 2 & 1.50 for lath & 9.50 for pickets.

Tuesday, October 28

A small party consisting of R H Heath W A. Thuston & myself started up the river on a hunting trip We took Geo Hammer along for cook. We took two boats & 3 dogs-- The boat landed in about 3 miles above Port Louisa at 11 P.M.

Wednesday, October 29

Hunted on the Illinois shores saw a large block of wild turkeys. Killed several ducks

Thursday, October 30

Moved camp down to the large island – about 1 ½ miles our camp is above Port Louisa. Heath & I rowed the skiff over to the town & found Geo Douglass there who joined us & we came back to camp about noon.

Friday, October 31

Hunted on the Island to day. Game rather scarce

Saturday, November 1

Moved camp to Muscatine slough – about two miles above the mouth

Sunday, November 2

Remained in camp. Snowed some to day—

Monday, November 3

The game which appeared remarkably plenty & tame yesterday (& owing to last night being cold & freezing the ponds) has nearly all left & makes it slim hunting to day

Tuesday, November 4

Left Muscatine slough after dinner & was down to 2 miles below New Boston & camped on the Iowa Shore.

Wednesday, November 5

Hunted in the woods to day in the forenoon & I went out on to the Prairies to some ponds there & I never saw Ducks more plentiful than they were just at evening—

Thursday, November 6

Concluded to move camp. We went down the river about 3 miles & camped little above Keithsburgh but on the opposite on Iowa side of the river

Friday, November 7

Did not meet with much success to day I rode out to a pond $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile after dark on a horse that was offered me by some men that were camped near us -- I shot a goose flying over & then returned to camp by moonlight—

Saturday, November 8

Moved camp early this morning. Stopped at Keithsburgh & got some supplies. Then ran down to Huron (?) Island & camped there I shot a turkey but did not get him—

Sunday, November 9
Remained in camp

Monday, November 10
Hunted on the Island but game that was plentiful Saturday evening seemed to be wild & comparatively scarce on Monday morning. Game however was plentiful on the river. Acres of water in the Mississippi was black with Ducks & geese

Tuesday, November 11
We broke up camp & left for home. Weather cold & very rainy. We rowed hard to day & arrived at home about 11 oclk P.M.

Wednesday, November 26

Almeda got from us:

1 Bbl 241 Lbs N. O. Sugar @ 11 ¾	28.31
6 lbs Y.H. Tea @ 1.15	6.90
4 “ Blk @ 1.00	4.00
50 “ A Sugar @ 14 ¼	7.13
Jonas Dr	
To 6 lbs. Y. H. Tea	1.15
8 ¼ Lagurpa(?) Coffee	30 c
10 lbs. A. sugar	14 ¼

Thursday, November 27

Vallie, Mother Willie Effie & I spent this Thanksgiving Day at Jona's where we had an excellent dinner. In the forenoon we went to church & had an excellent sermon by Rev. C. P. Taylor.

Monday, December 1

Hired John Slate to drive & take care of my horses & do any work about house or lumber yard at 21\$ per month He to board himself Weather cold & clear. John Douglass returned from St. Louis to day.

Tuesday, December 2

Clear cold & somewhat windy Ice running pretty heavily in the river & has been running for several days.

Sunday, December 7

The river closed last night with ice & this morning there is a bridge over the “Father of Waters.”

Tuesday, December 9

Took Vallie & the children out to Jona's this afternoon.

Thursday, December 11

I drove out to Denmark this forenoon. Stopped at Rev Morgan Edwards to see him in regard to going to Menomonie to preach this winter. Went on from there to Mr. Coopers where J. F. Edwards boards. He & I went out in the afternoon to hunt turkeys but did not find any

Friday, December 12

Rained last night. Returned home this A.M. in quite a shower. The weather being too unsettled to hunt any to day—

Monday, December 15

Description(?) of one acre land sold to Lyman Haughton by J. H. Knapp on 19th June 1849 One more land in the N. W. corner of the fractional part of lot 1135 in Ft Madison. Commencing at a stake at the aforementioned N.W. corner & on a line forming the eastern boundary of a fraction of each not deeded by John A. Drake to Emeline & Sarah French. Thence running due East 8 ½ Rods to a stake. Thence running due south 16 ½ rods to a stake thence due West until it strikes the line aforementioned forming the Western boundary of the Fraction of said lot owned by J. H. Knapp Thence following said line North Westwardly to place of beginning

Monday, December 22

Beautiful mild weather & has been so nearly all the month so far Ground is dry & not frost enough to prevent ploughing

Tuesday, December 23

To day a steady rain set in

Wednesday, December 24

Rec'd of Heitz bal on drive	5.00
Paid for Bible for Henry	1.75
“ “ Coral Amulets	1.00
“ “ Spoon glass	.75
“ “ Jewelry	3.00
“ “ Gloves	.75
“ “ Album 5.50 nuts(?) .25	5.75
“ “ Oysters	<u>1.95</u>
	14.20

Thursday, December 25

Rained very hard to day all day. We had Jona's family John & Geo Douglass families Mr Recks & Dr. Rineharts families to dinner & spent the afternoon with us – Also Miss Salter from Burlington A house full of children & all happy – so we had a Merry Christmas Notwithstanding the rain—

Friday, December 26

Settled the a/c with H(?) & Thurston on a/c of our hunting trip up the River & repair of the Lone Star

Balance I paid was 1.70

Paid old man Poland 20

“ for Vermillion for Giles 80

To day was so warm that we had the windows & doors open most all day – but little or no fire in the stoves.

Saturday, December 27

Rec'd of Lumber Yard 30.00

“ “ Do Amt

Sent by Thos H. Andrews 120.00

Rec'd of Geo. W. D. (27th) 10.00
\$160.00

Gave Mother \$10.00

Sunday, December 28

Fine mild day. Vallie & I went to hear Rev. C. R. Taylor preach in the Pres. Church—

Monday, December 29

I left Ft. M at 11 a.m. by Hack for Burlington – Arrived in B- 3 P.M. Fare 1.50

Bought ticket to LaX 1575

Hotel 50-

Left B- 7 P.M. Sleeping car 60

Arrived

Tuesday, December 30

Arrived at Chicago at 6 A.M.

Made sundry purchases for self amt. to 7.20

Do for J. F. Edwards 4.35

Hotel & omnibus 1.00

Supper &c 55 Sleeping car to cost \$1 1.55

Left Chicago 11.45 A.M.

“ Milwaukee @ 4 P.M.

Wednesday, December 31

Arrived in La Crosse 3 A.m.

Hotel & omnibus .75

Stage fare to Reads 5.50

Left La Crosse 9 AM

“ La Crescent 10 AM

“ Winona 4 P.M.

Arrived at Reads Landing 11 ½ P.M.

Hotels for dinner & supper 1.00

Found my friends at Reads Ldg all well. Thomas Wilson met me as I got out of the coach & took me up to his house where I have comfortable & pleasant quarters & hospitable entertainment. Sleep & rest after the fast jog(?) of the journey are very grateful

Thus ends the year 1862 Thank God for his tender mercies--