

DIARY FOR JOHN HOLLY KNAPP II

1860

Transcribed by Marge Kunkel, Archives Assistant

Sunday, January 1, 1860

This New Years day finds us all (i.e. our family) in the enjoyment of the rich blessing of health. Effie not entirely well yet she can play around the room. Partook of Communion at Pres Church. Heard Rev Glen Wood preach twice to day. Attended Bible class in the afternoon. Very cold weather ther. 14 below 0 at 8 oclk A.M.

Monday, January 2

Meeting of Stockholders of Branch State Bk. P Viele elected Prest. J H Knapp Vice Prest Geo P Easton Cashes.

Tuesday, January 3

Took a sleigh ride on the river. The ice is 14 inches thick. Thermometer 30 degrees above 0.

Wednesday, January 4

Vallie and I went out to Jona's in my sleigh & made a visit. Weather very cold.

Thursday, January 5

Jonas & I went over to Williams. Very cold-- Wrote to Thos Wilson & to Will Adams. Gave them my note 1 year date for 75\$ for cash he loaned me this day—

Friday, January 6

Weather mild & rainy – The ground this morning covered with sleet. Thermometer 38 degrees above zero

Saturday, January 7

Wrote to Moore Henzey & Co Read Henry Ward Breechers sermon preached on the text “As thy day so shall thy strength be”

Sunday, January 8

Heard Rev Morgan Edwards preach two good sermons in the Court House

Tuesday, January 10

Has been mild weather for several days. This forenoon the wind shifted to the North Ther 19 degrees above. Rec'd 250 lbs. beef from Jonas being ½ my cow “Fanny” which he fattened for me. Rec'd letter from Will Adams

Wednesday, January 11

Wrote to Will & to Cruikshank & Son

Friday, January 13

Took Vallie & Effie over to William's sleigh riding. The sleighing on land is poor: on the river good

Sunday, January 15

Heard Mr Taylor preach in the forenoon.

Monday, January 16

Went over to the Niota(?) Island in the forenoon to select a place to cut a channel through so as to shorten the distance of ferrying to Niota.

Tuesday, January 17

Mrs Col Stewart Mr & Mrs Gibbs Jonas & Mary, William & Almeda took dinner with us. Weather mild. Snowed some this evening. Rec'd drft from Keokuk or rather a certificate of Dep for \$100 from A. C. Clauson

Wednesday, January 18

Went over to Niota in the forenoon to look out a place for Mr Lawrence to put up a Mill on. Wrote to Will in the evening & to Moore Henzey & Co.

Thursday, January 19

Settled with Jonas S. Knapp. Amt his a/c 168.17, Amt my Cr's 33.24 = \$134.93

Pd by ck 34.93

Endorsed on Note 100.00 = 134.93

Friday, January 20

Rec'd letter from Capt. Wilson & one from Will Adams, J. Wills &c

Saturday, January 21

Wrote to Wm Adams, Lind & Bro, J. W. & W. D. Gilbert, A.C. Clauson, A. S. Martin, J. Wills

Sunday, January 22

Heard Mr Taylor at Pres Ch in forenoon. Attended Choir meeting at 2 P.M. Bible class at 3 1/2 P.M. Went to hear Rev Mr Brierband from Madison Wis. Baptist

Monday, January 23

Sent 1000\$ State Bk Iowa notes to the Mill. Weather has been very mild for about a week Thermometer ranging from 34 to 55 above zero. Bought a fine fat wild goose of Albot ? Killed to day over the river. Rather remarkable that Geese should winter so far north

Tuesday, January 24

Sent 500\$ State Bk Notes to K.S. & Co Menomonie to insure our mills. Sent drft to Mip Lind Bro & Co Philad \$ 1559.93 to take upon (K.S. & Co.) note due 28th inst. Exch on same @ 3 1/4% - 50.69 dolls. Heard lecture on India this eve'g by Major Constable

Wednesday, January 25

Wrote to Capt. Wilson. Busy at my a/c's.

Thursday, January 26

Sick headache all day Snow fell to depth of ten inches last night. Vallie & I took a sleigh ride this afternoon

Friday, January 27

Took Mip Van Deventer out sleigh riding. The sleighing is good.

Saturday, January 28

Almeda Vallie Henry Effie & I took sleigh ride out to Jona's. Took dinner & returned in the afternoon

Sunday, January 29

Heard Mr Taylor preach in the forenoon.

Tuesday, January 31

A very cold day. Ther did not very during the day over 6 degrees. At 7 A.M. Therm stood at 6 above at noon 5 degrees at 6 P.M.-- down to zero.

Wednesday, February 1

Wrote to William Adams & sent Power of Atty to transfer 10 shares Mech. Bk Stock. Vallie is sick with sore throat & bilious attack cold &c &c Weather more moderate

Saturday, February 4

Wrote to I. K. Howister (?) & to Mieps Bryant & Stratton. Wrote in my books and arranging a/c's nearly the entire day

Monday, February 6

Finished writing up & Journalizing my books for 1858 & 1859 Thermometer at 7 A.M. 40 degrees above 0 & at 6 PM 40 degrees.

Wednesday, February 8

Went to the "Methodist Supper" in the Evening. Mother accompanied me. Ther. at 11 P.M. 44 above zero. Drew up a power of Atty. to send to Capt Wilson to sell lots in Menomonie Dunnville North Pepin Lakeport & Johnstown

Thursday, February 9

Weather changed suddenly last night & this morning the thermometer indicated 15 degrees above zero. Wrote Capt. Wilson

Friday, February 10

Weather cold. Ther 6 degrees above 0 at 7 A.M. Took a skate on the river

Monday, February 13

Vallie Effie & I went out to Jona's for a ride Weather mild Ther 50 degrees. Wrote to T.B.W. & Co Geo. P. Eaton. H L Stout & Wm. Adams.

Thursday, February 16

Mr. Heitz took two Suffolk Pigs given me by Jonas to keep for 12 months for 1/2 their increase

Saturday, February 18

Our little Effie & Willie both sick & Vallie not yet well but so as to be about Weather mild. Therm 22 degrees at 7 A.M.

Sunday, February 19

But very little sleep that either Vallie or I had last night & so it has been for several nights on account of Effie & Willie

Monday, February 20

Ther 36 degrees above 0 at 7 ½ A.M. 54 degrees at Noon. The ice started opposite town to day & made an opening 100 yds wide half way across the river.

Friday, February 24

Mrs. Isaiah Hale died at 7 P.M. She died a happy Christian death.

Sunday, February 26

Went to Methodist Church Mr. Thomas preached the funeral sermon of Mrs. I. Hale. A large concourse of people were in attendance.

Monday, February 27

Wrote to Capt Wilson & to Wm Adams. Ice running pretty thick in the river to day – the river has risen three feet & still rising.

Tuesday, February 28

Ferry boat Niota Belle made her first trip this season. The Clara Hince(?) the first boat this year came up today. Thurston & I went hunting below town this afternoon but I did not get a shot The Ducks have not come this far north in large numbers yet this spring

Wednesday, February 29

Recd letter to day from Will saying he had cleared out the last of our lumber in St Louis about 150 M ft to Mr Roffey(?) & Co @ 12\$ per M Time(?) 6 mos.

Tuesday, March 6

This afternoon W.A. Thices(?) & I went in skiff with Wm Hendelberger(?) to Cardo (?) Island duck hunting Camped out on the island

Wednesday, March 7

Killed only two ducks caught some cold sleeping out on the ground last night Returned home at noon tired out & tired out hunting too.

Thursday, March 8

The Northern Line packets are running from St Louis to Rock Island—3 ½ to 4 ft water on the Rapids—

Sunday, March 11

Will returned from St. Louis

Monday, March 12

Getting ready to go to New York.

Tuesday, March 13

Getting ready to start East. Take with me drfts to amt 925\$ Cash \$75
Weather warm – delightful

Wednesday, March 14

Left Ft Madison at 3 ½ P.M. on Strm. “Fred Lorenz” for Burlington. Arrived at 7 ½
Stopped at Barret House. Bad head ache continues which has troubled me for several days more or less. Bought ticket to Chicago 6\$ Ex & fare on Strm F. Lorenz 1.60

Thursday, March 15

Barret House bill 1\$. Left Burlington at 8 A.M. bound for N.Y. Weather the most delightful I have ever witnessed(?) in March & has been very dry & fine since 1st March. Our whole winter has been a remarkably fine one

Friday, March 16

Left Chicago at 6 A.M. on MC RR. Bill at Richmond House 2.25. Ticket to N.Y. 24\$
Arrived at Detroit 6 P.M. Left Windsor on Great Western Rail Road at 7.15 P.M. –Took berth in sleeping car – Expenses Meals – berth &c 1.50

Saturday, March 17

Arrived at Suspension Bridge at 4.30 A.M. Left S.B. on N.Y.C.RR. immediately & arrived at Albany 4 P.M. Took cars Hudson River R.R. & arrived in N.Y. at 10.15 P.M. Stopped at Metropolitan Hotel

Sunday, March 18

Wrote to Vallie—to I. G. Mecky(?) California & to Jesse L Cooley Went to hear the celebrated English preacher at the Academy of Music in the evening.

Monday, March 19

Made some calls on business men of my acquaintance this forenoon. Commenced buying Hardware bill this P.M. of Norton & Jewett

Tuesday, March 20

Finished buying of Norton & Jewett. Bought bill of saws(?) of Hoe & Co – Gold St –
Bot Bill of Belting of N.Y. Belting Co Park Row & Bill of Hardware for T. B. Wilson Co
of Mooney Cohn & Co. Park Row

Wednesday, March 21

Commenced buying clothing of A. Young & Co. Bought K.S. & Co. bill.

Thursday, March 22

Bought bill clothing for T. B. W. & Co. of A Young & Co—Mr. French came to day.
Visited Metropolitan Lodge No. 273 F.A.M – in company with H.D. Ormsbee Esq.

Friday, March 23

Commenced buying our dry Goods for K. S. & Co. of Graydon McCreery & Co-

Saturday, March 24

Buying dry goods. Commenced on T. B. W. & Co Bill. Left N.York at 3.30 on N.Y. &
Erie R.R. & arrived at Oxford at 6 PM—Found Uncle Wicks Siely & family all well.

Sunday, March 25

Cold & windy – Went to the Depot in the evening and heard a pretty good sermon by a
young minister

Monday, March 26

Returned to N.Y. – leaving Oxford at 8 oclck & arrived at Jersey City 10 ½ A.M. Bought
T. B. Wilson & Co Bill Dry Goods. Ordered 7 tents made 6 to ship to the Mills & one
for myself On pressing invitation from Mr Albert Jewett went over to his home in
Brooklyn to stay all night

Tuesday, March 27

Paid A & G A Arnoux Tailors Broadway 43\$ for suit clothes for myself – Paid them 50\$
Drft. Recd bal 7\$.

Wednesday, March 28

Bought Bills carpets of E. S. Higgins & Co

Thursday, March 29

Paid C. H. Tyler 25 E Broadway Bal. on bill of tents & cot bedsteads 103.50 having
previously paid him 10\$ 13.50 is for tent for myself Drft 766. for 100\$ let him have Got
25\$ Drft cashed by Graydon McCreevy & Co. Bought Groceries of Kent &Lowber

Friday, March 30

Paid Jns. M Thosbum & Co. N Johns St 3\$ for Bhl prime Albet(?) potatoes to be shipped
to Menomonie. Bought bills of stationery of A. S. Barnes & Bun 51 John St. Bought Bill
Leather of M Armstrong & Son 17 Ferry St. Bill Paid of Lemis & Brown for which I
paid Cash \$49.75 Drft for 100 cashed. No 767

Saturday, March 31

Drft No 768 – 100\$ for Coal Oil Lamps as follows: TBW & Co Bill \$39.62 – Geo W. Douglass Bill 50.67. rec'd Bal in change

Sunday, April 1

Went over to Brooklyn Mr. French accompanying me & heard Rev. Henry Ward Beecher preach in forenoon at Plymouth Church. In the evening we went to here Rev Chapin 585 Broadway.

Monday, April 2

Drft 765 50\$ paid for Mrs. Wilson _____(?) & 2\$ additional- Paid Metropolitan Hotel Bill 18\$ Left New York via H.R.R.R at 4.30 P.M.

Tuesday, April 3

Arrived at Susp Bridge about 11.45. Left on G.W.R.R. about 12 Noon. Arrived Det. 9.30 P.M. Left Detroit on M.C.R.R. at 11 P.M.

Wednesday, April 4

Breakfasted at Michigan City Arrived in Chicago at Noon having been detained one hour by flue of this locomotive bursting. Bought shrubbery 3\$ & Wilson's Albany seedling strawberry plants (200 plants) 3\$-- Left Chicago at 11 oclk PM—

Thursday, April 5

Arrived at Burlington at 9 A.M. Left for Ft. Madison at 3 P.M. on little Strmr Fannie. River very low. Arrived at home 6 P.M. & found all well. God in his Providence has taken care of me & mine & great cause have I for thankfulness

Saturday, April 7

Worked in the Garden preparing ground & setting out Wilson's Albany seedling strawberry plants. Very warm day Thermometer 103 in the sun. Weather very dry. No rain for several weeks.

Monday, April 9

Heavy thunder shower this morning – with some hail

Wednesday, April 11

Bought 25 Bbls. Mep Pork for T.B.W. & Co of H & A Clattermoh (?) @ 16.50 per Bhl & 4 Bhls Lard @ 10 c. Bought of P. Miller & Co 3 casks Ham @ 9 c, 4 ? shoulder 7c for K.S. & Co

Friday, April 13

Shipped 25 Bbls Pork 4 Lard to T.B.W. & Co & 3 casks Ham & 6 casks shoulders to Knapp Stout & Co. All shipped on board "W. L. Ewing" at 75 c per Bhl & 25 c per 100 lbs pr frt. Traded my interest (500\$) in Rev G. J. Johnson Home & lots & my interest in \$429.00 note on I. P. Harper & 70\$ on John Atlee claim-- for G. P. Eatons int in Mortgage K & E on Harper House

Saturday, April 14

Ordered lot of Forks Hoes & Rakes Cradles(?) &c of Winterbotham & Jones for T.B.W. & Co.

Sunday, April 15

Beautiful day. Dwarf pears cherries, & apple trees in bloom. Strawberry plants coming into bloom.

Monday, April 16

Intended starting to the Pinery (Menomonie) to day with part of my family, but little Effie was quite sick with fever last night & we deferred starting until she gets better.

Wednesday, April 18

Left home at 3 P.M. on Strm Sucker(?) State taking with me Vallie Effie & Willie & servt girl Dinah. Almeda also goes with us. Effie had quite a high fever soon after we started and until 12 oclck P.M. Shipped on same boat some cattle Pigs & other frt for Reads Ldg & to be taken to Menomonie

Thursday, April 19

Dull day – Had but little rest last night on account of the children being very troublesome & Effie being sick.

Friday, April 20

Arrived at Galena about 7 A.M. Dubuque 2 P.M. Mr. Stout joined us there Left Ddubuque at 3 ½ P.M. Weather too warm for comfort.

Saturday, April 21

Arrived at Reads Landing about 11 oclck P.M. Very cold rainy disagreeable day. Effie quite sick & fretful

Sunday, April 22

In order to get up the Chippewa on a Steamboat we had to start this morning much against my inclination. Were comfortable on board “Chippewa Falls” & run up to Dunnville by 7 PM-about 8 hours from Reads Ldg. We stopped at Tainter House

Monday, April 23

Sent my family in a carriage to Menomonie & Mr Stout & I went up in a light spring waggon. Stopped at Capt. Wilson’s house. All of us tired & nearly sick with bad colds &c

Tuesday, April 24

Laid up with bad cold.

Wednesday, April 25

Went down on a raft with Capt Wilson & Mr. Stout to Downsville – to see about getting rafts over Down's Dam. It is a great obstruction to the passage of rafts.

Wednesday, May 9

Left at Mill 500\$ Ft Madison Brch State Bk Cy.

Thursday, May 10

Preparing to leave Menomonie for Ft. Madison. Cash in Pkg \$90 Whitfield Cy \$40 Easten 1035.45 Drft on N.Y.

Friday, May 11

Heard the strm Chippewa Falls was broken at La Crosse by Steam Golden Eva & would probably be detained some time so we have concluded to wait till she comes up. Vallie Eliza Mary Wilson & I took a ride on horseback to the head of Elk Creek

Sunday, May 13

We rec'd information this morning that the Chipp Falls would be at Downsville at 12 oclk to day & we must be there to go down on her. Left Menomonie at 10 A.M.

Monday, May 14

The steamboat did not arrive until to day 11 A.M.- we left Dunnville at 1 oclk P.M. & arrived at Reads Ldg 4 P.M.

Tuesday, May 15

Went over to Nelson's Ldg to look at the lumber &c Ias Sloan is putting together a large raft for us & will start within two or three days

Wednesday, May 16

This day 3 oclk A.M. left Reads Ldg for Ft M—on board Strm Hawkeye State. Capt R. C. Gray, Vallie and I Effie Willie, Sister Almeda & our servt girl Dinah constitute our family that is on board & Mrs William Wilson & daughter Mary accompany us.

Friday, May 18

Paid fare on Hawkeye State for my family 28\$

Saturday, May 19

Hawk-eye State landed us at Ft M—at 3 a.m. Found Henry, Mother well.
Mem of Cash-

Monday, May 21

Left Ft Madison for St. Louis in the evening train cars to Keokuk & _____ (?) for Strm. Die Vernon

Tuesday, May 22

Had 3 hours in Quincy & same time in Hannibal to look into the Lumber market while the boat lay at those points Market very dull—

Wednesday, May 23

Arrived St. Louis 7 ½ A.M. Bought groceries—cordage &c &c

Thursday, May 24

Purchased oil paints &c. Called on some of the lumbermen. Rushed through with all my business & left St Louis at 4 ½ PM on Strm Die Vernon-Thermometer 95 degrees in the shade

Friday, May 25

Arrived at Keokuk 6.45 P.M. Found John Douglass & Will Adams there. Will sick at Billings House. Our raft had passed down. Arrived at Ft M- by R.R. at 9.30 pm

Wednesday, May 30

Will Adams started this evening to meet Raft No. 4 at Dubuque. Gave him 10\$ for Exp. Weather cold

Saturday, June 2

The heaviest rain & wind storm we have had for many months visited us this afternoon

Monday, June 4

Mrs. Wilson left for Menomonie per Stmr Sucker (?) State

Tuesday, June 5

Went out to Jona's. Took Mother Henry & Effie out. Settled lumber yard a/c against P Niels Geo P. Eaton Knapp & Eaton &c

Wednesday, June 6

Sent lumber to planing Mill for flooring &c for my house—1st load – 79 pc 1 x 6 – 16 ft long & 20 pc 1 x 6 14 ft long

2nd load – 114 pc 1 x 6 x 16 ft long

3rd load – 10 ps 1 x 6 x 16 165 ft B M

“ “ -- 5 ps 12 61 ft “ “

3rd “ -- 30 ps 1 x 6 x 16 ft

“ “ -- 1 ps “ “ “ x 14 “

Monday, June 11

Man, Creps, & Styner commenced repairing my house. The old roof was first torn off. The brick gables taken off & commenced preparations for a new shaped roof – quite different from the old one

Tuesday, June 12

Rained very heavily last night. Mother Dinah Vallie & I had all we could do to keep the water from going through to the 1st floor. I did not get to bed until 4 A.M.

Wednesday, June 13

Busy putting on new roof to my house Rained at 5 oclck P.M.

Thursday, June 14

Ritter quit work at noon – Rained last night – long & steady. The tarpaulins protected the house pretty well

Friday, June 15

Made a bargain with Giles & Berry to paint for me at 2\$ per day Fine weather carpenters at work shingling our house

Saturday, June 16

Fine day. Giles painting 1 ½ hours this P.M. Priming cornice Paid Man & Creper (?) 10\$

Thursday, June 21

Getting Bal sheet of our books & statements of our business generally down the river ready to transmit to Menomonie.

Saturday, June 23

Jonas starated up to the pinery (Menomonie) to take up 1 yoke cattle & 2 horses for K.S. & Co “Hank ez estate”(?) came along about 7 oclck

Sunday, June 24

Rev. Thomas – Methodist clergyman preached two excellent sermons in the Pres Church to day.

Tuesday, June 26

Had trenches dug for the foundations to our new room.

Wednesday, June 27

Stone mason Geo Miller commenced razing foundation for an additional room to our house

Thursday, June 28

We had a very violent rain storm in the afternoon. I was out in nearly the whole of it. Miller finished laying foundation this forenoon. It made by measurement 6 3/5 perches for which I paid him for laying 45 c per perch or 3\$ for the whole by order on lumber yard.

Friday, June 29

Had Buck run off a slack 10 bushels lime for brick work.

Saturday, June 30

Chris Funche (?) & John Green commenced laying up brick on room in, rear of our present sitting room. Recd 200\$ from A C. Clauner (?) of Keokuk on lumber to be delivered. Gave Rev. Morgan Edwards 5\$.

Tuesday, July 3

Brick masons finished laying up brick for our new room

Monday, July 9

Wm Michaels & Winters commenced lathing our new room The carpenter man Creps & Co commenced tearing off the roof of Almeda's house preparatory to putting on a new roof

Tuesday, July 10

Plasters finished plastering for first coat

Saturday, July 14

Michaels worked this afternoon at plastering rooms up stairs where patches of plastering was off Stevens got the down spouts put in.

Monday, July 16

Berry painted ½ day

Tuesday, July 17

Berry painted half day young man whole day Almeda had 24 lbs nails 18 ft weatherboard

Wednesday, July 18

Berry & Geo Willard painted all day.

Thursday, July 19

Berry painted whole day West & Stevens put up 117 ft lightning rod @ 12 ½ cts per foot & 2\$ for points Their bill amts to 17.37. Paid—

Friday, July 20

Buy & send to Wm & Jas McKahan 2. 160- acre land warrants They wish to use them by 20th August Berry painted whole day & Giles from 10 A.M. until 4 PM. Plasterers commenced putting on skin coats Avery hot day—Ther. 92 ½ @ 5 oc'lk P.M.

Saturday, July 21

Buck worked ¾ day. Michaels finished plastering our room. Paid Man & Crepes 10\$. Berry painted

Sunday, July 22

Down sick with pain in the face-something like Neuralgia.

Monday, July 23

I was very sick to day from the most excruciating pain in my face caused by cold settling on a nerve Also nervous sick head ache—The most painful sick day of my life

Tuesday, July 24

Relieved somewhat last night by Morphine taken every two hours. Better today though in much pain.

Wednesday, July 25

Gathering like a boil broke in my nose-much better to day. Giles finished G---(?) dining room & hall today. Berry was laid up to day.

Thursday, July 26

Received by hands Mr Gibbs from A. C. Clauson on his note to K. S. & Co 105\$

Friday, July 27

Giles painted all day. He put 2d coat on 2/3d the East side & the front of the main building in 4 ½ hours – from 2 ½ to 7 p.m.

Saturday, July 28

Giles painted all day. To day has been a very hot day. Ther 90 degrees at 5 P.M. in the shade.

Wednesday, August 1

Getting ready to start to Menomonie

Thursday, August 2

Left home at 3 ½ A.M. in hack for Burlington. Mr. J. F. Edwards accompanying me. Arrived in 3 hours in Burlington. Left Burlington at 7.40. Arrived at Dubuque 7.45 P.M. Cash taken with me 255.25

Friday, August 3

In Dubuque, I find Mr. Stouts oldest daughter Jeanie very sick & will not probably recover We left Dubuque at about 10 P.M. on board Strm Key City

Saturday, August 4

Found ourselves at Prairie du Chien this morning where we lay until 10 ½ A.M. Arrived at La Crosse at 8 PM. – Lay at the Depot until 11 P.M. waiting for the cars to come in. Meantime heard a good Republican speech by Mr. Williams of Rock County

Sunday, August 5

Arrived at Reads Ldg. 9 1/2 A.M. Read most of the afternoon in Dr. Cummings “Great Tribulation”

Monday, August 6

Capt Tainter thought of trying to take the steamer Chipp Falls up the Chippewa but water was too low so we did not start for Menomonie. Went out back of Reads Ldg 3 miles. Killed some prairie chickens

Tuesday, August 7

Took Thos Wilson's horses & light waggon & accompanied by Mr Edwards & Eliza Wilson drove up to Dunnville Left Reads at 8 A.M. – took dinner at Eckler's – Dead Lake & arrived in Dunnville at 7 P.M. Stopped at Tainter House over night.

Wednesday, August 8

We left Dunnville for Menomonie at 8 A.M. Stopped at Elk Creek about one hour Mr Edwards & I tried fishing for trout. We each caught three. Arrived at Menomonie 12 M.

Thursday, August 9

At the Mill looking around

Friday, August 10

Capt Wilson Mr. J F Edwards & I rode over to the farms & out on the Prairie a mile or two Took our guns along. I killed 3 prairie chickens & 2 hawks flying. Mr E. killed one chicken

Sunday, August 12

I took Mr E- & Mrs. Kelsey (?) to Mr Tubbs grove on Mud Creek where Quarterly meeting of Methodist Church is held Elder Hobart preached in the forenoon. After he was through the Lords supper was administered. Prof Wilson of Hamline University Red Wing Minnesota lectured for the benefit of S. School children

Monday, August 13

Had Jones a surveyor run out a piece of land of about 6 ½ acres that I have chosen near the Mills for a site to build a house on for a summer residence for my family.

Tuesday, August 14

About 15 or 16 persons myself among the number left Menomonie at 8 A.M. for an excursion to gather whortleberries – catch trout – hunt &c We had 3 waggon loads of persons & camping arrangements. Travelled north up Hay River about 35 miles & then East about 8 miles & camped for the night

Wednesday, August 15

We did not find any berries to day. Went on East course about 4 miles & camped I caught a nice string of trout – Broke down one of our wagons. In the evening another team arrived from the Mills bringing Mr. Goodhue of Cincinnati Ohio

Thursday, August 16

Took our back track about 3 miles & turned to the right & found near the banks of Pine Creek plenty of Whortleberries—I caught 15 large sized trout in about 2 hours. Hitched up & went to our Pinery farm & camped Had 55 trout cooked for supper

Friday, August 17

Left for Menomonie. Got there in the evening Teams & Ladies & gentlemen all being very tired from the hard 4 days jaunt

Saturday, August 18

Attended to various business matters preparatory to a start home on Monday

Sunday, August 19

Went to Sabbath school in the new school house Most of the prominent families or heads of family went to Falls of Menomonie to attend the funeral of O. Gilberts little daughter who was drowned Saturday evening

Monday, August 20

Mr. Edwards & I left Menomonie at 10 AM. Took dinner at Dunnville & reached Reads Ldg at 7 P.M.

Tuesday, August 21

Spent the day at Reads Ldg. Trying to make a settlement of old a/c's with F. J & L Richards. Left at 7 pm per "Key City". Homeward bound.

Wednesday, August 22

We got aground in the afternoon two miles below Guttentburgh & lay there until 10 P.M.

Thursday, August 23

This morning finds us in Dunleith. I gave a man 1\$ to row me across the river to Dubuque & wait for me an hour & bring me back again Went to see Mr Stout & to my great surprise found his daughter Jeannie still alive & better than when I last saw her. Left Dunleith in the cars at 7.45 A.M. arrived in Burlington 6.30 P.M.

Friday, August 24

Luzerne laid on a sand bar just below Burlington all night & grounded again in the morning. I left her in a skiff & went to Dallas & soon the Canada came along & I got on board & arrived at Ft M- 10 at M- found all well – Expenses of the trip 35\$

Saturday, August 25

Our repairs on our house are all completed & everything about house is very pleasant.

Sunday, August 26

This evening Vallie & I went to Methodist Church & heard a very good discourse from Rev. Thomas.

Monday, August 27

Preparing to go to St Louis Wrote to Capt Wilson Took Vallie Effie & Willie out riding to Jona's this morning Left my Buggy at March's for repairs.

Tuesday, August 28

Left Ft. M- at 6 P.M. for St. Louis.

Rec'd of John H. Douglass 40\$

“ “ Lumber yard 25\$

Gave Vallie \$20

When I arrived at Keokuk I found our raft No. 6 still fast on the Rapids or part of it 15 cribs amt. started with \$61.75

Wednesday, August 29

Left Keokuk at 6 A.M. on the Strm Des Moines. Fare to St. Louis 4\$. While the boat was lying at Hannibal I called on Cruikshank & Sons & Fuller & Ammidonn Lumber Dealers.

Thursday, August 30

We were fast on a bar above Albon 3 miles all day. Arrived in St. Louis 8 ½ P.M.

Friday, August 31

Paid D. A. January Ck. on state savings a/c \$106.16. Went around to see the lumber dealers & try & sell some lumber

Saturday, September 1

Engaged to Robert Holmes Raft No. 7 to arrive at 12\$ per M laths @ 2\$ Terms 1/3 cash 1/3 90 a/s 1/3 6 mos. Sold him about 60M now on the bank in St Louis @ 12\$ cash. Recd of him 500\$ on same & deposited that amt at W. H. B & Co Left St Louis at 4 P.M.

Monday, September 3

Left Keokuk at 6 ½ A.M. & arrived at home at 9 A.M. Expenses for trip to ? firm 15.00 Expenses to self 23.75 Cash on return 23.00 Amount started with \$61.75

Tuesday, September 4

At home -- Paid Buck(?) for 29 ½ days work & for Myers 1 day hard work & repair wheelbarrow 25 cents – in all \$23.13

Wednesday, September 5

Attending to business at home. Paid Jno Marsh for making spring bed 17\$ & repair of buggy 1\$

Thursday, September 6

Very hot and sultry. In the morning beautiful Aurora Borealis were to be seen in the North

Friday, September 7

Very sultry Thermometer 97 degrees in the shade

Saturday, September 8

Rained very heavily last night and to day it is much cooler.

Sunday, September 9

Cold of all like. Thermometer 63 degrees in the shade A very sudden change from Friday.

Monday, September 10

Weather cool. Will returned from Hannibal – having ____? out 39 cribs 163 M balance Raft No. 6 to Mep Fuller & Ammidown.

Tuesday, September 11

Jonas & I went to Big Mound 25 miles -- to take my young dog “Nix” to Mr. Scott the Dog trainer

Wednesday, September 12

Very rainy cold and disagreeable weather.

Thursday, September 13

Looking up wagon men &c to send with a drove of cattle we have purchased for beef for our milling establishment in Wisconsin. Rec'd letter from Capt Wilson

Saturday, September 15

Republican Map (mass?) meeting in Ft Madison. Five hundred “Wide Anokes”(?) in attendance Gov Grimes spoke in the Upper Public Square for 2 ½ hours.

Monday, September 17

Started drive of 81 head cattle for the Mills at Menomonie Wis. Four men – 1 waggon & 1 horse. Gave Cyrus Bartholomew, the Head drover 90\$ to pay their expenses on the way up.

Tuesday, September 18

Rec'd the Goods Memorandums from Reads Ldg & Menomonie.

Thursday, September 20

Started for Philad. & New York at 9 a.m. in stage coach. Took cars at Burlington at 7.30 P.M. Ticket to Harrisburgh 25\$

Friday, September 21

Left Chicago about 7 a.m. on Pitts. Ft Wayne & CR.R.

Saturday, September 22

Arrived in Pittsburgh 2 A.M. – Left immediately & arrived in Harrisburgh at 1 P.M. Left there on Lebanon Valley road at 1.20 P.M. - & arrived in Reading at 3.30 P.M. Came back as far as Robesonia in the evening train

Sunday, September 23

At Mr Ferguson's house at Robesonia Furnace. Wrote to Vallie. Expenses from Ft. M-- \$31.50 Beautiful day and I mip the privilege of hearing a good sermon preached

Monday, September 24

Left Robesonia at 10 A.M. for Reading. In the afternoon Henry Hermit (?) & George Van Reed and I went out to Jno Van Reeds – I remained – they returned to Reading

Tuesday, September 25

John Van Reed & I went to Reading & up to the Fair Grounds, where we saw many interesting things. Rained some In the afternoon Harriet & Geo. Van Reed went up to the fair grounds with me

Wednesday, September 26

This morning I visited Berks Co Fair for about an hour and then took cars for Philad. at 11 P.M. Arrived at 1 P.M. Stopped at the New Hotel the "Continental" which is large and commodious Cor 9th & Chestnut – Bought some goods this P.M. at Lind & Brother Market Street

Thursday, September 27

Buying goods to day of Lind & Bro & large bill of Groceries of Kilgore Wilson & Co.

Friday, September 28

To day purchased bill of Abbot Johnes & Co.

Saturday, September 29

This morning Mr. S. M. Anderson of firm of M Williamson & Co went out to Pomelton(?) to visit Philad. Co. fair & to purchase some Chester Co. pigs – I saw some good stock – among the stock was a thorough bred Arabian Horse (imported) "Caliph of Cairo." –

Sunday, September 30

Woke up this morning with a very hard head-ache. Went to Episcopal Church on 8th St. in company with Mr & Mrs Taggart who called for me at the "Continental"

Monday, October 1

Bought bill of dry goods or rather completed purchase of Bill for TBW & Co of Mep M Williamson & Co. Also bought bill of Queensware of Boyd & Stroud and made various purchases of items.

Tuesday, October 2

Bought bill of dry goods of M Williamson Co for K S & Co - Got drft for 50\$ cashed by Lind & Bro.

Wednesday, October 3

Bought Hats & Caps of C. H. Gallers (?) & Henderson Southward (?) & Co Paid H. S. & Co on furs 50\$ Drft on N.Y.-

Left Philad. for N.Y. at 6 P.M. Arrived in N.Y. at 10 P.M. Stopped at 5th Avenue Hotel.

Thursday, October 4

Purchased Belting & Stationery & Coal Oil Lamps.

Friday, October 5

Purchased Clothing, Leather &c

Saturday, October 6

Purchased two bills of boots & shoes of Lyman Sean & Co & finished buying clothing.

Went to see several Insurance Companies in regard to insuring our Mill property

Sunday, October 7

Went to Madison Sq Church (Pres) went home with John C Phelps to dinner

Monday, October 8

Bought oil. Collected bills &c &c. Left N.Y. at 6 P.M. for Philadelphia where I arrived about 10 P.M.

Tuesday, October 9

Collecting bills – settling a/cs &c preparatory to leaving for home to morrow evening

This is an exciting election day in Pennsylvania Foster Democrat & Curtin Republican are candidates for Governor. Had 3 fine Chester Co Pigs sent home by Exp. Paid 21\$ for the three

Wednesday, October 10

To day settled bills. Bought a few articles to take home In the afternoon went to Point Breeze Park where I saw Albert Edward Prince of Wales a good looking youth about 19 years old. The Duke of Newcastle & other members of the Prince's suit men there Left Philad for home at 10.45 P.M.

Thursday, October 11

Breadfasted at Altoona. Arrived at Pittsburgh at 1 oclk PM – Not well to day. Took supper at Alliemae (?) Was detained 30 miles west of Crestline all night by a fr't train in advance of our train having been thrown off the track by running over & killing 5 horses.

Friday, October 12

Owing to the detention last light did not arrive in Chicago until 5 P.M. – Left on the Burlington Road at 9.15 P.M.

Saturday, October 13

Arrived at Burlington at 7 a.m. Met John H. Douglass there. We took coach for home where we arrived at 1 o'clock P.M. Found all my family pretty well – Effie has been quite sick.

Sunday, October 14

Was quite unwell last night myself and kept closed to the house all day—

Tuesday, October 16

Left home at 6 P.M. for St Louis to finish or complete purchases of our fall & winter stock of goods for our stores in Wisconsin & Minnesota. I am tired of being absent so much from home. Went on board Strm Die Vernon at Keokuk at 8 P.M.

Wednesday, October 17

On board Die Vernon. Met with Mr. Bunneson of Quincy on board. Saw John D__ at Hannibal where he has sold a raft for us 5% at 11.80 cash for lumber & 2\$ per M for lath.

Thursday, October 18

Paid Barnard & Co \$369.87

“ Reed & Markham \$371.55

Friday, October 19

Paid D A January & Co. by Ck on State Savings Ap for my a/c of May 25/6 \$77.15

Monday, October 22

Busy all day in gathering up & paying Bills – completing purchases &c &c preparatory to my going home-- Left for Ft Madison at 4 PM on “Warsau”. Harriet returns under my charge having been on a visit for two months to her Uncle Charles Stewart

Wednesday, October 24

Arrived at Ft M__ 9 ½ a.m. Met I. C. Robinson & lady – (recently Miss Kate Albright) just married (yesterday) & on their way to St Louis for bridal tour

Cash in pocket on return \$63.00 cash

Gold 10.00

Silver 3.15

Total \$76.15

Monday, October 29

Settled with D McConn & paid him all K.S. & Co owed him \$668.53.

Wednesday, October 31

This is the anniversary (5th) of Vallie & my marriage. We invited our friends to supper and had a pleasant time. There were present Jonas & Mary(?) Dr Rinehart Wife, I M Beck & wife, Almeda, Callie, Geo Douglass & wife, Douglass Norwood, Mip Roud (?) & Mother—

Thursday, November 1

Rained nearly all night & cold & rainy in the morning. John H. Douglass returned this evening from Alton.

Friday, November 2

Cold raw day – showery

Monday, November 5

Ice made for the first time this season last night. Attended Bank Directors meeting. We declared an annual dividend of 10% Loaned Harrison Shoemaker 23\$ to buy leather with to enable him to open shop here. Loan is for 30 days without interest

Tuesday, November 6

This is the day for electing a President of these United States. There are four sets of candidates in the field Lincoln & Hamlin Republicans – Breckenridge & Lane Pro Slavery Democrats, Douglass & Johnson Democrats & Bell & Everett, Union men.

Wednesday, November 7

Commenced building an addition to my stable. Man Creps & Stynar are the carpenters.

Thursday, November 8

R H Heath and I went hunting up to Green Bay. Found but very little game. Went also partly to look for a safe harbor to lay up a raft this fall. John went up to meet Raft No. 13.

Friday, November 9

Returned in the afternoon from hunting I killed 8 ducks – Heath killed one.

Saturday, November 10

Weather beautiful & mild

Sunday, November 11

Heard Rev. Morgan Edwards preach both in the forenoon & evening. Text in the evening was “I will give thee the morning star”

Monday, November 12

Man Creps & Stynar still to work on the addition to my stable – Let State Bk have a draft on State Savings open(?) for \$3000. Weather mild & balmy.

Wednesday, November 14

Sent A C Clausen 3 cribs lumber 16 x 40 – 12 deep

3 cribs lumber 16 x 40 – 10 deep

30 M shingles

24,200 laths

224. (16 bundles) Pickets

Thursday, November 15

Getting read to go on a hunting trip.

R. H. Heath Phares (Duqumeas)?

J. F. Edwards (Architect) & W A Thurston & myself started up the river on the Ferry "Niota Belle" to be gone a week hunting ducks, Geese & c.

Left Ft M - @ 10 oclck P.M.

Took 2 skiffs 4 dogs & a cook.

Friday, November 16

Landed 3 miles above Port Louisa on the Ill shore at 1 oclck P.M. Rowed down the river behind a large island lying nearly opposite Port Louisa camped about 1 ½ miles below where we landed off the "Niota Belle"

Saturday, November 17

I killed 5 duck mallards and one goose—

Sunday, November 18

Staid in camp all day. In the evening saw the prairie on fire which was about ¼ of a mile from our tent. The grass was tall & dry & the fire lit up the country for miles around most brilliantly.

Monday, November 19

We hunted on the Island in the forenoon & I killed 8 mallards. In the afternoon we got a team to haul our skiffs & baggage over to Loosa (or Luca) lake where we camped.

Tuesday, November 20

Hunted in the vicinity of Luce Lake but with poor success. The ponds are beginning to freeze over and the ducks consequently to larger lakes & open water

Wednesday, November 21

We went down Suck (?) Lake into Cupperas Creek & into Sturgeon Bay. Hunted in the afternoon then rowed & towed & dragged our skiffs down the bay by moonlight. Got into the Mississippi at New Boston by 9 oclck P.M. & in about half an hour there after camped 1 ½ miles below

Thursday, November 22

Snowed today & poor hunting in consequence of the ponds being frozen over. We concluded to return home. About 4 PM the Strm Luzerne came down & we got on board with all our traps & were landed at Ft M. 12 P.M. Weather turned very cold

Friday, November 23

Our last raft for the season that will come a _____(?) this arrived last night run by A. S. Martin Weather today cold and windy

Saturday, November 24

Find our raft frozen in & heavy ice running-- All made in one night

Sunday, November 25

Quite cold Ther 7 degrees above 0 at 8 A.M.

Monday, November 26

Weather moderate & thawing with some snow & sleet

Sunday, December 2

Snowed nearly all day

Monday, December 3

Snowed nearly all day

Tuesday, December 4

John D & I went up to Green Bay to shoot prairie chickens. Cold & windy.

Thursday, December 6

This portion of the river this side of Kitchells Island blocked by ice last night.

Friday, December 7

River opposite closed by ice. Weather mild.

Saturday, December 8

Effie quite sick—

Sunday, December 9

A very snowy & wet day raining & snowing alternately

Monday, December 10

Weather turned colder towards night

Tuesday, December 11

Thermometer 14 degrees at 8 oclk a.m.

Friday, December 21

Laid up with sore throat

Saturday, December 22

Confined to the house Weather cold Ther 2 degrees below zero at 8 a.m.

Sunday, December 23

Staid indoors all day Doctoring my neck for sore throat.

Monday, December 24

By the newspaper reports it seems that South Carolina is bent upon seceding from the Union. This is treasonable & if persisted in will break up the Union & involve the whole country in Civil War & perhaps destroy the best form of Government ever devised by man – Heavy fall of snow to day

Monday, December 31

A beautiful day. Spent most of it indoors owing to a sore throat with which I have been afflicted for ten days past. The year closes gloomily on account of the political and financial affairs of our beloved country. Secession & Dissolution of the Union is the common talk of the day.