

Diaries and Letters of Jephtha D. Vawter

Jephtha D. Vawter had a record book in which he kept a diary and other odds and ends. It has been handed down to his descendants through the line of his son Henry Clay Vawter. Jephtha Vawter was born and lived in Todd County, KY until about 1847-1848.

The following was found in the back of the diary.

“1838 was the dry year

March the 17 Bellona calved

March the 4 1840 Frederic was calved he was siard by Barkers imported Boreous”

The above was followed by the following.

“take one pound of powdered logwood boil it in a sufficient quantity of water untill all the substance is out of it then take about halfe a gallon of the liquor and dissolve one ounce of verdigriss and halfe an ounce of allum in it boul your yarn in the logwood water one hour stiring it and keeping it loose”

This entry is inside the back cover of the diary.

“Rec ----d for Polly Roach 1843 of William M. Terry	one note on William Harlan
for \$266.60	one note on Reubin Grady
for \$140.00	one note on Robert Grady
for \$ <u>32.25</u>	
433.85	

Paid over to Polly roach in 1843 the \$8000 that Terry paid \$3200 Robert Grady paid and \$30 Robert Grady Paid and in 1845 \$200.00 more from Harlans estate”

On the inside of the front cover from the Diary of J. D. Vawter, date unknown, is possibly written about the time that Jephtha moved from Elton, Todd County, Kentucky to east of Tremont in Tazewell County, Illinois. These people may have bought items at his Kentucky closing out sale. Be sure to note the copy of the sale bill at the end of this work.

“Randol	\$20.50
Sebre _____	5.00
Terry chairs 4.50 Janes 12 yards	17.00
Dickerson _____	3.00
graves _____	1.50
B Smith _____	<u>47.00</u>
	94.00

gold	<u>11840</u>
paper	<u>345</u>
	<u>46440</u> ”

This letter, passed down through the descendants of Henry Clay Vawter, postmarked “CHICAGO ILL OCT 25” and is addressed to “Mr J. D. Vawter” was written in 1847.

Tremont
Tasewell County
Illinois”

It reads.

“Chicago
Oct 25th 1847

Dear Brother

I have just received a letter from father, dated Oct 9th 1847- No news of importance accept that it imformed me that Sister Nancy was married-

Father said he had rcd a letter from you a few days since, and you informed him of her marriage &c, which news I was glad to hear-

I hope you will write to me soon and let me know all about it all our folk in Ky are well and I expect they are doing well-

I hope you will not fail to write to me immediately. I have writen second letter to you lately and have rcd none in answer- Bro Presley will leave tomorrow for your place-

Nothing more I am yours
Affectionately
J. G. Vawter”

This following letter is one of a collection of letters and diaries in the possession of Clarence Vawter of Carbondale, Kansas. He is also a descendant of Jephtha D. Vawter. He loaned his collection to the Kansas State Historical Society, where they were microfilmed February 5, 1975. The film is #14177 – Roll 1.

The postmark on this first letter is difficult to read. It looks like “---ENVILLE ILL FEB 13”

Bond County, Ills

Feb 13th 1848

Dear Brother

yours of the 30th January came to hand yesterday and perrused with interest as it informed me that you ware all well which I was glad to hear and can inform you that through the mercy of a kind providence we are all well and and the health of our country is generally good as it respects the news of the country

I have nothing new to communicate As it respects our beef I am beginning to feel some uneasiness about it I have had no news from it of any kind what wis Since it left Buffalo which I informed you of in my last but assoon as I get any you shal hear from me nor neither can I hear any thing from the money I have due me in Wisconsin which I left with John to attend to for me the last letter I had from John he said not one word about it any way. I received a letter from Father the yesterday they ware all well and doing well no news of interest As it respects myself and my own affairs I hardly no what to say to you but would give any thing if I could be with you to night to consult with you as the Death of Father Floyd has broke into my calculations and I shal be compeled to make some different arrangement for my children My school will be out the last of March when I shal come to soome conclusion I sometimes think of Mooving them and myself up in to your country at all events as soon as my school expires I want to come and see you and it may be necessary that I should go to the Territory

you named in yours that you would like for me to hire you a young man I do not think of one at the moment that would suit that could be got I will look round and see if one can be goot and ifso will rite you immediatly write me on the receipt of this and let me know what time you would want one to commence Give my love to all your children Sally and Nancy and all inquiring friends and accept the Same yourself Your affectionate

Brother

J.D. Vawter

P.G. Vawter”

The next letter also seems to be written by P.G. Vawter and is also on microfilm #14177 – Roll 1 of the Kanas State Historical Society.

“Clinton Co August 28th, 1848

Dear Brother

I received your kind letter the day before yesterday which gave me much satisfaction as it had bin a long time since I had heard any thing from you I have bin quite uneasy for fear that something was the matter your letter found us through the mercy of a kind providence all well and I hope these lines may find you and yours still enjoying the blessing of health I also received two other letters at the same time one from John & one from Father they ware all well at the date of their letters which was the 18th of Aug you stated in your letter that you was afraid I had put too much confidince in Colcord I am sory to have it to say that your fears are not unfounded for he is about four hundred dollars behind hand with me and that he was solvent when he went into the speculation but it was not known and instead of puting in the amount of money he was to put in he bought the cattle on credit and gave our note for the money and I now have to bear the brunt for when we came home there was some six or seven hundred dollars to pay that I new nothing off and now we fall behind some eight hundred dollars on the shipment which is more than I am able to pay When I last wrote you I had just heard from our beef but had not had time to examine the bill only to see that there was a considerable loss I have since examined the bill and find some charges in it to which I cant see into in the first place they have charged interest on every cent of money paid for trasportation from the time of paying up to the time of making out the bill whether that is rulable or not and there is also charges for storage at ralroad depos now why it should be stoped whin on the railroad and put in store I cannot see through you wish me to give you an account of the transaction from beginning to and which I will try and do as nearley as I can and to begin after We disolved partnership with our Wisconsin partners we had 300 head of cattle of the plower of the drove 2 company horses 1 waggon and our camp equipage and money enough that had bin taken in to pay the expenses of driving up to that time say about 250 dollars and we after sold 47 head of our inferior cattle such as would not do for beef for some 600

dollars more When we dissolved Waht we had was at a cost of 3327.50 and we ware to pay all the expenses that had accrued so now I will aim to present in such a shape as I think you will understand it

Cost of cattle	\$3327.50
expenses driving & herding until kild	575.38
packing Beef	<u>845.25</u>
whole cost	\$4748.13
Amt of cash received for cattle sold for on foot including what was sold for cash before we desolved partnership	\$875.50
Cash for hides	631.13
“ “ Tallow	615.30
money advanced	2500.00
the 2 horses	90.00
waggon & camp equipage	<u>74.00</u>
whole amt received	\$4785.93”

This is another letter on microfilm #14177 – Roll 1 from the Kansas State Historical Society. The envelope of this letter was postmarked “Nov. 19 ELKTON KY.” It was addressed to “Mr. J. D. Vawter tremont Taswell Cty Illinois”

“monday night

Locus grove todd county ky nov. 13, 1849

Dear brother & sister I have sit down to write you A few lines to let you know my self & family are in good health hoping these lines may find you & yours the same, Franklin & family are also well, Robert & his family are also well, & Tandy & his also, yet we all have the fever here my self & family has the illinois fever & martha, but Franklin has the Salem fever, I believe Robert & maria is willing to stay where they are, there is a talk of Mr Foster & old Mr Mills swapping Salem land for his & Robets too & if so then they are to go to James Standards Farm, if I can sell my land I want to come to illinois as soon as practicable I told Mr Standard yesterday that my land was now for sale but he did not seem to have his mind made up whether he would buy more land or sell out him self, I would like to move next spring if I could make it suit my arrangements but I Want your judgment on that point, if I move in the fall I would be on expenses all winter & doing no work, I thought I would get 2 more two horse waggons & then I could bring nearly all my gourds (goods?) withme so I would have but title to buy when I gotthere even to my cows, as I expect thy sell very high with you I do not wish to close a trad for my land untilihere (until I hear) from you again as I would not know whether it would be to my interest to promise possession in the fall or spring I would like to visit you very much before I move but in the Spring I have to plant a crop & in the summer workit & in the fall getherit so there is notime for me to visit new coutrys but in the winter & that is not a

tuesday night

Suitable time to travel nor to judge good land I want you to write to me what land generally sell at per acre such as have good water & good timber & good buildings & I wish you to write what 2 horse waggons are worth withyou & the price of cows & sheep & mules, I would like to know how much corn you raised this year & how much pork you are Fattening, I can say I think I raised about 125 barrels of corn & I am fattening about 35 to 40 hundred pounds of pork & I raised about 4000 pounds tobacco, So you will see we are not likely to starve there, but as I wish to do the best I can for my family I think they can do better in a free state than they can here, we have been very much flattered with illinois lately, A Mr Millen & wife that lives in Morgan county they have been with us lately, & Squire of Lowery & wife has been to visit old david Scott this fall & just returned they intend moving next fall, I want you to write me what you think bristoes land is worth pr acre that liez near versailles & how far from Town & infact a bout every thing to my interest, it is warm enough here at this time for sept & extremely dry the tobacco suckers are green yet, I now have 2 plowboys & 2 more comeing on & 5 daughters 3 that can spin & weave, I want to know how you like the Society with you & what kind of preaching & whether you have any game with you or not Corn is \$1.00 pr barrel delivered pork dull at 2 1/2 wheat 75 to 100 flour 3.00 pr hundred tobacco \$5.50 to 6 dollar round, write as soon as these lines comes to hand & let me kow how to be making my arrangements a bout moving

wednesday night

I rec a letter from old virginia the other day which informs me that my old Father & Mother is still living, there is a negro man in jail here to be hanged on 7th of december for murder he belong to willises ayres & is under the controle of samptolireer, the negro man he killed belonged to Frank Edington, Justas made his lick in the wheat the standing just behind him cut him through the hind parts with his Scythe so he saunk to the earth & expired in A few minutes, I would like to know what kind of money is the most current with you I want you to excuse these blotted lines if you can for I have to gether corn all day & write at night, You will discover that my eyes are failing some I am now the rise of 50 years of age though I have not began to use spectacles yet tell John Washington and Benjamin that all their cousins are very anxious to come to come to illinois where they can raise corn corn with out plowing it five times, Write to me as soon as these lines comes to hand & give all the news a bout the country that is interesting & all the information a bout fixing to move, I want to continue writing to you for council until we see eachother, I want you Sally to Stimulate Jane all you can consistently for fear she kocks under when she finds maria will not a gree to go & Martha cannot get the chance, Charles would like to come if mary would a gree to it though I have not seen her lately

Mr. J. D. Vawter Peyton Simpson

The next few lines are written inside the back cover of Jephtha's diary below the money dealings for Polly Roach. This is the book that belongs to the descendants of Henry Clay Vawter.

"December 12th 1851 money on hand this day

288 in trees

181 in gold

19 in silver

126 in other bills

614.00

583 95

31.05"

There are a number of figures on the very inside of the back cover but it is difficult to determine what they were for. The following recipe for colic is written under the yard boiling recipe

"Jan 1853 29 Receipt of cholice

one ounce ext Dandalne two ounces ext gentian a half ounce red Percoon a half ounce ext sassaparilla

List of taxable property 1853

the amount of assesment \$350000"

This letter is in the possession of of the Kansas Vawters. It was not on microfilm. It was copied by Janis Lee in the late 1980s when Betty Vawter visited Illinois.

"Graves County (Kentucky) by Marche the 18th 1855

My Dear Sone & Daughter it was with pleasure that we Received your last letter of the 26th of february I had Been looking a long time for aletter from you & was very fearfull of your delay in riting &c But we ware all much pleased to learn from your letter that you ware all in good helth & prosperety I can in form you that we are all in the Best of helth with the Exception of you Mother She is declining slowly But she is as harty & has as good an appetite for her food as any of the rest of us I have no news to rite you that would Be interesting to you times are hard in this County & all throught this Cuntry in Consequence of the scarcity of food Both for Man & Beast & there Are a grate Many pore people that have not the means to By With there is no Corn to Be Bought nier her than twenty miles of this place & the price there is four dollers pr Barrel in money there has Been two hard Crop years to gether in this Cuntry Provisions having hertofore having Been so plentifull in this Cuntry that the people had Become Cearless & had no thought of Such a time Coming; the weather is now Cold & if we have A late Backward Spring there will Be a grate los of Stock By Stare vation: I do hope that threw the Blesing of an all Beneficent Ruler of the universe we shall Make out to live until we rais a Crop & after that & hope that we shall have plenty &c I can in form you that we are all yet well pleased with our new home from the Best infirmation that I Can git &c from the looks & Complexion of the people I Believe this County as helthy as any part of kentucky; we have pure freestone warter to drik & there has never Been a case of Callery in this section of Cuntry unless Brought her from some steam Boat &c W Holmes has two hundred & thirty acres of land her that we are living on & I would not this day give it for W Smiths farm that he lives on & he asks seven thousand dollers for his W Holmes is Making all the Nessenasery priperation to Make a good Crope this year how

he will succede is yet unknown: But if we keep our helth & the season is good I have know doubt of the result I come Now to say something a Bout lucindays (Lucinda Holmes, Elliott's daughter) Situation She has good helth & has as able & as good A servant to wait on her as ther is in kentucky She has not to wash nor Cook Brakefast nor supper nor do do any kind of drudgry; all tho her relations ware so opposed to her mariage She Remembers your kindness to her with gratitude & desires me to give her Best love to you both & all the members of your family &c I have not yet said a word a Bout myself we have not Been her quite five months yet & I have Built me a shop with W Holmes assistance & have got me a small stock of timber & have put to gether some twenty dollers worth of Cheers & Could Sell as fast as I maid if people had money to give for my work but it takes all the money that the peple has to By food with that not my Shop work; But if I live I shall Continue to work as it is Congenial with my helth &c if you could send a thousad Bushels of your Corn Bound to paducca By the first of June I have no doubt But what you would Be able to sell for a Doller per Bushel &c you will pleas rite to me often I think you are More neglectfull than you ought to Be. I will as long as I am A Ble to rite I will rite to you give my love to Every member of your family & My Respects to you Nabours &c I should Be glad to visit you once if I had the necessary funds to defray my Expenses: But that I have not yet: nor dont know that I Ever shall have you will look with an Eye of for giveness over the Bad spelling & Blunders in this letter & compute it to my old age & infirmity I remain you affectionate father

Elliott Vawter

JD & Sally Vawter

NB you Requested me in my letter to say something A Bot Wm Bradly he moved to Missouri a Bout forty miles from her Be fore we mov her he has raised seven Children five of them are Maried: he has Been to see us he sistains the Carecter of an up rite honest truthfull religious Man & is in my credit where he is know & has done well for his family'

Jephtha Vawter wrote this letter when he and his wife Sally Foster Vawter visited her family and their friends in Elkton, Todd County, Kentucky. It is in the possession of the descendants of Henry Clay Vawter. The letter is addressed to Jephtha's daughter, Lucinda Caroline Vawter.

"To L. C. Vawter

Tremont Tazewll County Illinois"

It is postmarked "June 9 Elkton, Ky."

J. D. Vawter to his Children in Tremont, Illinois

Father Fosters. Monday. June the 8. 1857

we arrived here my Dear children safe and sound yesterday at noon after a tegious but other

wise avery pleasant trip have found all of our friends in good health and spirits, so far as I have seen them I expect to go to Elkton to day it is cort day and I expect to see many friends to day &c Caroline My Dear daughter you have great responsibility on you and I feel confident that you will discharge it with honor to your selfe and proffit to this family my Dear Daughter if we should never reach home guard as you woud your life a gainst the least and every avinue to slander of every sort a gainst you sefe or family and do all in your power to make all happy a bout you &c be sure that you are right in all things and be as firm and sollid as the ever lasing hills are on the macinaw and you will retuain the blessing of a Father that is ready to die if nessary for the honor and virtue of his Daughters &c, your grand Mother adn Father Sends ther love to you all in a spacial manner so do all the rest Black & white I remain yours affectionately and Truly

To all my Children J. D. Vawter

A number of the first few pages of Jephtha's diary were torn out. This is the first page. There are X's over these items which were evidently put there when these debts were paid.

"February the 4, 185 8

Due John W Vawter on settlement two hundred & sixty four Dollars and fifty cents Paid 264.50

J. D. Vawter

Due Henry C. Vawter on settlement one hundred and thirty Dollars

Paid 130.00

J. D. Vawter

Due John W. Vawter fourteen Dollars Paid 14.00

Henry Clay

J. D. Vawter

Henry clay Vawter

Due Henry c. Vawter forty Dollars Paid 40.00
 J. D. Vawter
 Paid John W. Vawter 27.40
 J. W Vawter by cash in Deposit 418.00
 note on hayward Paid 48.00
 Due John W. Vawter one hundred & sixteen Dollars on settlement Oct the 23 – 1858 Paid in full
 116.00

J. D. Vawter
 January the 14 – 1859 Due henry C. Vawter Paid
 Due Henry C. Vawter Paid 50.00

H. C. Vawter J. D. Vawter
 January the 20 – 1860 Sarah Lavina (Ed. Note: Some of theses entries may have been written by Henry C. Vawter because the name Sarah Lavina is written over some of the entries in a different hand. Henry married Sarah Lavina in 1865.)

Due Henry C. Vawter on settlement this day \$100.00

March 20 - 1861 J. D. Vawter

Due Henry C. Vawter on settlement this day \$90.00

Vawter J. D. Vawter

January the 8 – 1863

Due Henry c. Vawter on settlement \$106.00

J. D. Vawter

J. D. Vawter is due H. C. Vawter \$125.00 Due Henry C. Vawter one hundred and fifty Dollars on settlement for his part of sales. Since our last on farm products I am also Due him on other settlements one for \$ one hundred Dollars one for ninety Dollars an other for one hundred and six Dollars this June the 29 – 1863 J. D. Vawter

Henry and I had a settlement this January the first day 1864 and he owes me 250 Dollars that I Paid Ben for him on Bens land Paid in full

Sept the 23 1864

had a settlement with Henry C. Vawter

this day I owe him five Hundred and fifty Dollars Paid in full

J. D. Vawter

E. D. Davis New note \$10.03

Judys new note 6.00

George Pattersons new note 5.91

J. Boughers new note

(This was followed by a number of figures and some land and tax information.)”

This letter is on microfilm #14177 – Roll 1 filmed by the Kansas State Historical Society.

“Winterset Iowa

April 10, 1859

My dear Bro

I received a letter from you some time ago and intended to have answered it immediately, but the press of business and one thing and another prevented me from doing so-

The Hard times have pressed hard before me, but I am still going along & if times do not get any worse, I think I will be able to struggle through.

If the Kansas & Nebraska gold mines prove to be as good as we may have reason to expect times will greatly improve in this region of Country

On the third day of December last my wife was confined and presented me with a pair of boys One lived ten days & the other Seventeen, & Just one week after the other died We lost our little girl Jannie which left us with only one child. My wife cures now, near going with the rest one week previous to her confinement She was taken with a severe sore throat & the children all died of same disease.

If I can possibly spare the time I will make you a visit on My way east for funds (?) - If I was out of crisis(?) I would come to see you and stay two or three weeks –

I wish you would come out and see me – If you can spare Henry Clay & want him to learn my business & will send him out immediately I will give him an education that will do him good. I must a young man now, John Elliot has gone to the Peak I let him go on account of his health. He was not stout, rather consumptive & I think one or two years in the mountains may renew his health

I have given him a good education and a good out fit to the mines

I must a young man that I can depend upon If Henry is such a man as John Washington was when he was out here, he will wuit me to a scribe

I have thought of Wash a good many times & if he was a single man I would try to get him but being married he would not suit for the reason that I would want him to be at the store night and day – I think Henry Clay will suit me if he will Come he will do as I may direct him & I find him to be true as steel Honest truthfull active industrious accomadating good habits keep good company never misrepresent but always upon alloccasions do right. I will give him good wages from the start & if I do not brake down will leave him finally in a good situation,

Write to me immediately if you please & if Henry can come let me know I will not engage the service of any other until I hear from you

Give my love to all your Children & to my much esteemed Sister Sally

I am yours affectionatly

J G Vawter

PS It is now raining The Roads are nearly impassible, if it rains much more I do not know what will become of Ioma or his inhabitants

J.G.V.”

Next on the Kansas microfilm is a contract of some sort.

“Articles of Agreement made and entered this 25th day of September 1859 by and between the Trustees of the Indiana town Association for the Directors of said Association of the one part and Frances Goebel all of the City of Louisville and State of Kentucky of the other part, Witnesseth, the said Trustees and Directors hereby agree, by virtue of their office, to give to said F. Goebel for services to be hereafter named the following amount of money and property. viz. _____

One hundred dollars in cash. A ander(?) of One hundred dollars on Mr. Harris of Richardson Post Office. K.T. to be paid in farming tools and Provisions Also, one full share of Indiana town Association, to be transferred to him bona fide It is also agreed that the Association will brake up twenty acres of land for the use and benefit of said Goebel.

For the above consideration said Frances Goebel agrees to remove with his familie to the forementioned townside. viz Indiana town in Kansas Territory and remain ther on at least for the space of two years take care of the property and report all proccess to the Secrety of said association at Louisville, Ky.

A Luecky ? Trustees
C Kock(?) &
Th Leonard Directors

E. Merkley President
C Shru----- Secretary
John B. Sirmsr(?) Treasurer
Adam Frey Director

Franz Goebel”

(Names are almost impossible to read. Also some writing in this area on document.)

This now starts the actual “Journal of Jephtha Vawter. It is in the possession of descendants of Henry Clay Vawter.

“Journal for the year 1862 of J. D. Vawters current business

January the first day

we cut up our hogs that we killed yesterday and salted the meat and rendered part of the lard the day was cold Henry went to town got pair of horses shod &c

Thursday the 2

cloudy with some snow Henry went to help W. Hindman kill hogs I finished rendering lard we have two turces of it the women have made the sausages have several hundred pounds of it the hogs averageged over two hundred a piece 15 head

Friday the 3

last night an to day it snowed and sleeted Henry helped Ben kill a beef &c
 Saturday the 4
 cold & cloudy I went to Tremont got Bob Sleds and some store goods Henry and wash are making road
 up the hollar

Sunday the 5
 A Snowy day

Monday the 6
 it snowed this morning the snow is a bout four inches deep I went to Tremont got Sled stroped and got
 some goods

Teusday the 7
 Henry hawled some wood and grass I went to Wm surlens paid him the Borrowed money it was very
 cold

Wednesday the 8 1862
 a sleety damp day I hunted killed four crows & eight Rabbits the evening was warm and thawy

Thursday the 9
 warm and thawy the snow is gitting pretty well melted it is very sloppy we cleaned out the ice house
 and boiled our hogs heads &c

Friday the 10
 cold and very slptry ice nearly all over the ground we worked on the road up the hollar

Saturday the 11
 a cold day Henry Hauled several loads of wood I made loose sides to wood shed

Sunday the 12
 a cold day

Monday the 13
 the coldest day we have had the themometer was ten below zero this morning run up to two above
 Henry went to help walter kill hogs

Teusday the 14
 it has moderated some I went with walter and Henry to Peoria contracted my beef cows three of them to
 a butcher at two cts live weight I Bought two coats one twelve Dollars the other four Dollars & 25 cts
 and a hat at \$2.25 &c

Wednesday the 15
 it snowed last night and some to day the is a bout five inches deep we are doing nothing to day

Thirs day Jan the 16
 a very cold morning the the mometer down 12 below zero Henry went to help charles hiner kill hogs

Friday the 17
 more moderate it snowed last night a bout one inch we commenced getting ice to day put two courses up
 washes wife had a fine boy

Saturday the 18
 still moderate sleeted some last night we are still gitting ice two coarses to day I recived a letter from
 Brother John Vawter”
 The letter he received from his brother John Gray Vawter is on microfilm #14177 – Roll 1 at the
 Kansas State Historical Society. The actual letter remained in the possession of the Clarence Vawter
 Family.

Winterset, Iowa
 January 9th 1862

Dear Brother

I can inform you that I arrived home from Denver on the 2nd Inst. and find My family & friends all well.
 I left Denver 24 Dec. & came through by stage

I looked for a letter from you for a long time before I left, and not getting any I am some times lead
 tobelieve you did not receive My last,

I have great confidence in the Rocky Mountain Mines and I think if you and I live 20 years longer, We
 will within that time see a Pacific Rail Road finished & We will see one Million of Miners at work
 Between the eastern Base of the rocky Mountains and Easter lines of California and you will see the trade
 of the Chinese Empire all crossing over our Continent on the great Pacific Road and you will see these
 United States the Greatest nation upon the Whole of the earth You will also see the Greatness of England
 very much noticed if her goverment is not intirely wiped from the Face of the earth,

Enough on that Subject, I will be glad to know What news you get from Kentucky. Do hear from our cousin James Roach I had letter from him last spring, but can not hear of him since, Please write me what you know of Father & Holmes or any of the rest

I was absent from My family ten months – was in Denver all the time. did a very good business, better than last year and I hope to be able to do still better this next season being better acquainted will have better facilities for doing business I may possibly go to Marengo to see Mr Lansing on business, if I do I will come back by your place and make you and yours a visit. I will be glad to do so if I can, Neily our oldest child is now 10 years old past Nov 7th last

He weighs 75 lbs goes to school and is the best Scholar in his class John Gray V. was two years old on 3rd Decr last is stout and hearty, Has large Black Eyes is very Sprightly. Write me as long a letter as you can

John Elliott Vawter our nephew is in Denver and is doing a good business He will make a good reliable business man He is also a member of the Common council of the City of Denver and makes a respectable good Member _____

He also stand very fair in his business relations with other merchants

Give my love to Sister Salley. I often think of her and with great pleasure too and also of her interesting and intelligent family _____

Give my love to them all they are all my favorites

I am affectionaly,

J.G. Vawter

Write, write long.”

The diary continues.

“Sunday the 19

it misted rain last night and is thawing some to day

Monday the 20

some cooler and snowed some this morning I went to Pekin to see a bout getting my hogs packed sold some eggs and Butter Bought sugar Henry cleaned the horse lot well out

Teusday the 21

the weather fine al went to Mackinaw town to Parmle & Miller they promist to pay me in two weeks some 250 Dollars on their note the boys are fixen to kill hogs

Wednesday the 22

a cloudy moderateday we killed 51 hogs james gillen sent two hands F. Vincen. C. hiner. A. Bright I. Mobley. W. C. Hinman helped us kill we got dome in good time and order

Thursday the 23

a moderate day we carred our hogs to Rankin & Risengers porke house in pekin to pack for us they are to cut pack and render the lard and sell the aful and render account for it and they are have twenty cents on the porke per hundred on the pork they so work

Friday January the 24 1862

a fine moderate day I went to Pekin with our gut lard there were 627 pounds Henry got Prince & Jule re shod and helped fix for killen wash & Bens hogs

Saturday the 25

a fine moderate day I went to Souressig to see if he intended to pay me any money soon the chance is very poor he may pay some of the interest next fall & Henry hawled four loads of wood

Sunday the 26

Some colder and appearance of snow

Monday the 27

it snowed last night and this morning I helped John I----- man drive two cows that I sold for beef at two cents per pound live weight 2310 pounds they weighed

Teusday the 28

it rained all last night and to day the ground is all flooded in water I came home from Peoria to day got quite wet

Wednesday the 29

very cold to day and slipry Mr Lemuel Allen staid here last night and visited our school to day there were very few schollars in school

Thursday the 30

cold and cloudy we helped wash and Ben killed their hogs 48 head we got a long finely in killing

Friday the 31
the wind south and very cold the boys carried 40 hogs to Pekin &c the macinaw is out of its Banks
some our mild cattle are water and ice bound so they cannot get home
Saturday February the first 1862
very cold river still rising Henry crossed over on the ice and milked and fed the cattle
Sunday the 2
cold the river has fell a bout 2 ½ feet last night and to day there are appearance of a storm to night
Monday the 3
snowed some to day we got twelve loads of ice that filled the ice house we got the cows home
Teusday the 4
a clear nice day Ben killed fifteen hogs and cut them up
Wednesday the 5
a damp frosty day we have been tending to the cattle to day cutting the ice a way so they can get water
Thursday the 6
it rained last night and this morning and turned very cold at night I went to macinaw town tended
macinaw masonic loge had good time
Friday the 7
cold morning fine day snowed at night some we had a calfe to come to day
Saturday the 8
a very cold day the Boys and I went to Pekin to buy some goods &c
Sunday the 9
a fine day thawed some
Monday the 10
it snowed some Henry got some wood &c
Teusday the 11
it snowed some Henry helped gillen & graham kill hogs I went to tremont paid my taxes 136 & 73 cts
Wednesday Feb the 12 – 1862
it snowed some and has thawed some every day for several days Henry cut some wood
Thursday the 13
it turned very cold in the evening Henry has been cleaning out and hauling the manure from the stables
Friday the 14
a very cold day Henry finished ceaning out the stables Bloom and an other man staid here last night I
sold some hids (Ed. Note: kids?) to him &c
Saturday the 15
more moderate Henry cut some poles for fence we have three young calves
Sunday the 16
a fine day thawed some
Monday the 17
appearance of a thaw and rain Henry got up some wood
Teusday the 18
a very cold morning Henry and I went to Pekin and staid I staid all night he got some coal dust for the
hogs
Wednesday the 19
cold and damp I paid gregg & smith 33 Dollars & 55 cts for wash and Jake for Ben 47 Dollars & 50 cts
Henry put four loads of corn in the sheep crib
Thursday the 20
it snowed last night we hunted Rabbits this morning killed twenty they have been Barkink our apple
trees I tended macinaw lodge at night Henry got the calves from the upper field home
Friday Feb the 21
fine moderate wether I went to Tremont after news papers Henry helped wash cut wood over the river
Saturday the 22
a cloudy and warm Ben F. Vawter ows me on settlement eight Dollars and fifty cents
Sunday the 23
a damp day and thawing
Monday the 24

clear and cold with some snow last night I had a settlement with wash paid him off for his porke in full to day and bought a crib of corn of him

Teusday the 25

I went to Pekin with wash he got bedstiad and cradle Henry got some wood

Wednesday the 26

we killed our beef it weighed a bout 800 pounds it thawed lots yesterday and to day and the creeks are up bank full

Thursday the 27

it turned cold last night and snowed some to day I let Oliver Newkirk have 220 pounds of beef to be paid back next summer in small parsels at a time &c

Friday the 28

cool and clear to day

Saturday March the 1 -1862

a cool damp cloudy day Henry got some fire wood &c

Sunday the 2

a misty sleety day John P serrepsig staid here last night

Monday the 3 March 1862

a cold snowy day J. W. Hayward was here to settle with me he run backe of our last settlement eight Dollars I allowed it tho I am prety sure it was paid I had to let him have part of the place he lives on he is to repair and put the fence from the north east corner of the ground that he cultivated last year in good complete order a round South and west to the Board fence next to his house is allowed to fence in a small lot a round his stable at his own expense is to cultivate the ground that he did last year cultivate in good order plant and save in good season and order the corn all to be gethered by the fifteenth of December next and the field to be delivered up by that time he is to crib one third part hudked and put up in good order J.D. Vawter finding a crib for it near the place J. W. Haywards is to pay one third part of the small grain as it thrashed from the mashene in good order he is here by notified to leave the a bove place when his time is out in good order and condition the field in December as above and lot and houses the first of march eighteen hundred and sixty three

Teusday March the 4 - 1862

cold and snowy Henry carried some hay up tothe upper field to the cattle every is covered in sleet and it is very bad getting a bout

Wednesday the 5

a very snowy stormy day I went to Mrs. Hiners to see a bout getting stalk fied &c George Hiner paid me two Dollars on lumber

Thurs day the 6

it thawed a good deal I went to Penfields Tremont &c

Friday the 7

a thawy day we carried our catle over to Mrs. Hiners in the morning the Boys helped wash fan and sack his wheat in the evening

Saturday the 8

a fine day Henry fixed some calfe troughf and hung our beef up to smoke I went to tremont there was a military funeral Dudley Holmes that was killed at fort Donalson

Sunday the 9

very windy last night and to day with rain this evening the snow and ice is nearly all off the ground

Monday the 10

a fine day henry salted the cattle at hiners 71 head I went to Tremont got a letter Brothe John Vawter

Wednesday the 12

a fine day henry filled up the sheep crib and hawled some wood the river in out of its Banks

Thurs day March the 13 = 1862

a fine day henry sowed timothy seed over the new meadow

Friday the 14

a rainy night last and all day to day henry faned some wheat to day

Saturday the 15

the rain has turned to a sleet has lasted nearly all day to day

Sunday the 16

a tolerable good day

Monday the 17
a heavy frost this morning ground froze Henry has been fencing to day I have been laid up for some days with risings under my arms and from present feeling will for some time to come

Teusday the 18
a fine day henry has got the fense ready for staking be twen here and bens

Wednesday the 19
a rainy day not much done rained hard at night

Thursday the 20
a cloudy damp day Henry got the cattle home from Hiners

Friday the 21
it snowed last night and to day the snow is a bout shoe deep

Saturday the 22
cloudy and is thawing some

Sunday the 23
a snowy day

Monday the 24
a cloudy day other wise a very good day henry plowed the hill side and harrowed smooth

Teusday March the 25 ----- 1862
a fine day I went to Tremont to present a slough Brige ac count Henry went to mill with 10 bushels of wheat and hauled some wood

We dnes day the 26
a fine day Henry has began to sow spring wheat to day

Thursday the 27
a fine day Henry is at wheat sowing

Friday the 28
a fine day I went to the mill got our grist a good turn out Henry is at the wheat

Saturday the 29
a fine day the Boys finished sowing spring wheat

Sunday the 30
a fine day

Monday the 31
a fine day I went to Pekin got some shoes &c

Teusday the first of April 1862
a rainy day and rained last night we all went to Town meeting to day we highered a man by the name charles to worke for us this spring and summer if he suits us

Wednesday the 2
extremely winday to day with some rain the Bos are fencing my highered man set in worke to day

Thurs day the 3
a fine frosty moring the Boys have been fencing

Friday the 4
it rained some the Boys shelled some corn and done some fen sing

Saturday the 5
Ben got his sheep a way eleven head the Boys cut and split piecies to go under the fence and cut some wood

Sunday the 6
a frosty morning and cloudy day some appearance of rain

Monday the 7
a rainy day Henry cleaned some timethy seeds and sheled some corn

Teusday the 8
Henry went to mill and chopped some wood

Wednesday the 9
Henry cut wood and made rails and postes

Turs day the 10
Henry set fence post and made some fence it has rained some every day this week

Friday the 11 of April 1862
Henry cut wood and made some railles I fixed the yard fence and hung a door for the cuppen

Saturday the 12

Henry sharpened some fence post and hawled them up to haywards and some ground chunks for fence &c

Sunday the 13

it rained all last night hard good part of the time with thunder and lightning to day is cloudy and more pleasant

Monday the 14

a fine day clear in the fore noon looks like rain this evening the Boys set fence posts up at Haywards and reset some fence north of Haywards house I nailed the boards on the post fence South of haywards house

Teusday the 15

a showry day the Boys set some fence I mad and hung a gate at cow shed

Wednesday the 16

a stormy day with heavy hale the wind blew down some of our fencing the Boys put it up

Thursday the 17

a rainy evening the Boys hawled rails in the morning I went to tremont got twelve grape vins paid 15 cts a piece

Friday the 18

a fine day the ground has dried finely to day we worked on our cow shed and filled our ash hopper that I made yesterday

Saturday April 19 1862

a cloudy day slight rain Henry hawled some wood cleaned up a bout the lots I made and hung a gate at the horse lot and fixed some fence and set out some fruit trees mulbery and black haws

Sunday the 20

a cloudy day and rained a bout all night

Monday the 21

a rainy day and snowy day we worked at the Barn fixed for putting a good upper floor in part of it we have a goody many lambs comming it seems like the cold rains will kill half of them

Teusday the 22

a fine clear day slight frost this morning we have turned our stock cattle to shift for them selves we have 37 head of yearling some are very good ones we have 18 young calves I donot how many we have of other kinds there must be a bout 81 head of them

Wednesday the 23

a cool cloudy day the Boys hawled some rails and fire wood i Made and hung a gate at the horse lot a small one to pass to the Barn

Thursday the 24

it rained Blowed and snowed last night and this morning the Boys hawled some fire wood and and put up some fence I made and hung a gate at the yearde fence

Friday the 25

a fine frosty morning the Boys are repairing fence &c I have been working the road up the hill some

Saturday April the 26 1862

a fine day the Boys gardened to day I went to Tremont and Mr Bennets with Sally

Sunday the 27

a fine day some appearance of more rain

Monday the 28

a fine day the commishenors of highways were here to locate a private road for me to day the boys began to plow for corn to day there was some rain last night

Teusday the 29

a fine day Henry got three plows sharped to day and plowed the or chard the others are plowing for carn

Wednesday the 30

a fine day the Boys are plowing for corn I went over the river and fixed pasture fence and

Thursday the first of May 1862

the Boys are plowing and laying of corn ground for planting

Friday the 2

a fine day we began to plant corn to day Henry and I are planting wash and the rest are plowing

Saturday the 3

a fine day we finished planting our first piece of corn wash raked stocks the others are plowing

Sunday the 4

a fine day

Monday the 5

a fine day wash finished raking stalks to day the others are plowing Mr. Kellogs and Mr. Allen Surveyed and located a private road from my house out north to the main road for me and Mr Kellogg surveyed forty a cres of land west of the Broy Hill farm for me I paid him five Dollars for his surveying an platting and report

Teusday the 6

a fine day the Boys finished Braking ground at the upper field to day and began in the lower field I fixed the river fence at the marshall ford in good order there has been frost for several days has don very little damage

Wednesday the 7

a fine day frosty morning the Boys are plowing and laying off corn ground

Thursday May the 8 1862

a fine day I went to pekin carried some butter &c paid tax on the land that I Bought last year at the land tax sals it was 163 Dollars 90 cts the Boys are planting corn to day I ordered a sommony on John Ranney to cause him to make a settlement on John Bright estate as gardian for Marthy & Amy Bright &c

Friday the 9

a fine day the Boys are plowing I went to the mill to see if the fish are shoaling &c

Saturday the 10

a fine day the Boys are plowing I finished laying poarch floor that I commenced yesterday and went to Tremont got some shoes

Sunday the 11

a fine day the fruit trees are mostly in full Bloom Red Buds are

Monday the 12

a fine day with with a nice rain at night with a good deal of lightning the fish are shoaling we got some the Boys are plowing and laying off corn rows

Teusday the 13

it has rained some to day the Boys finished plowing for corn to day Louisa and I went to Tremont we got a prcel of dry goods &c

Wednesday the 14

a fine day we are planting of corn to day James is harrowing the corn that we first planted to M. Trout altered four colts for my selfe and Boys

Thursday the 15

a fine day we are planting corn

Friday the 16

a fine day with a very heavy rain at night we finished planting corn to day &c"

Jephtha Vawter must have received the following letter about the 16th of May because he wrote a letter to his cousin John Vawter about the 16th according to a letter he received from John Vawter written the 25th of May. This letter is on the same microfilm at the Kansas State Historical Society as the others.

"Jephtha D. Vawter Morgantown, Indiana

7 May 1862

Dear Sir

Enclosed is a letter, I sent you in September last, Sent to the Dead letter office, in Washington city, and Back to me, under Cover, with double postage, charged to me, Not being able to account for the matter, on receipt of my letter to you, I sat down, and wrote your Brother John, At Denver city, To know if you were dead, orhad a removal away, from your place of Residence, where I was at your House, in 1855 – He immediately answered my letter, which letter, come to hand, by mail yesterday, dated 23rd April 62, In which he stated you, were living at the same place, when I was in our State, But I havemissent or misdirected my letter. To day I wrote a long letter to John G. vawter in answer to his, also one to your Father, Were I shurer you did not get the Minute, of our Baptist, Association, I sent you, in Sepr. last I would send you another copy. At the request of my 2 Brothers William & James Vawter, all my Fathers children that were living, met in Vernon (Ed. Note: Indiana) my old redidence, on the 2nd day of April last, The Birth day of my two Brothers, Both were were present and there wives, All very feeble. also my sister Sally (Wido of Thomas T. Stribling)and Abner Moncrief and my sister ann, She is the youngest child, Achillis Vawter who was living, when the arrangement was made for the meeting & in Vernon, with a view

to the accomodation of him, as much as nay other one, died in march last. He was the younges of the Brothers. His widow was with us in our meeting, it was truly a meeting of old people, myself, the oldest, All were early ___

settlers in Indiana my 2 Brothers were that day 79 years old. We met and Dined With Williams son D. Vawter you cosin & Took Ted with my Son, Col Smith Vawter, I have 3 children living then, 2 here, and one in Indianapolis, John Allen Vawter my own youngest Son is with the 33rd Indiana Regiment The last letter that come here from him, stated he was well my wifes, 2nd Son, Thomas Allen Pearce is in the 22 Indiana Regiment in Missouri, or Arcansis, He was in the Pe Ridge Battle, and so were 2 of my nephews, Kings by name, Then Col Hendricks , was killed, they all escaped with the skin of theer Teeth. Your Aunt Franky, is very deaf can hardly hear any sound is almost a skelleton for want of flesh on her Bones, Both your Uncle and Aunt, are able to read without glasses, There eyesight has returned, I cannot read or do any writing &c &c without glasses, I have faile more in the last 12 month. Thin in the same length of time, in my past life. And I know my days are nearly numbered & I do labour to leave whenever the Summons comes. It is a great comfort to me, to visit old friends and relations. And I must confess, I was at a loss, to account for your not answering my September letter, Until it come back to me. Should you get this do reply, And let me know how you all do, and the relations as far, as to you, is known, When at leisure and well enough I am writing the Ups & downs, of my life. And it may be that before I am half through, all that I propose to write. I may go down to the grave. And then will be an end of writing, Ups & downs, of my mortal life. My ___

fmily consists of 4 persons my wife, her youngest son, a little girl, I have taken to raise & myself. My wifes oldest Son Served 6 months in the U.S. Service in Virginia, is now in Frank ---- a Drugstore, owned by my grandson, John T. Vawter. The 2nd is in the Service in the west somewhere. I will now close, for fear, I weary you, & my paper is nearly used up. Respectfully your friend & Relative John Vawter

P.S. We are all moderatley well & So are my children & friends here and at Vernon. Fare well.
John Vawter”

The diary of Jephtha continues.

“Saturday May the 17 1862

a cloudy day with some rain we repaired some Bord fence in the Big slough and trained our Bird colt som to the wagon the Boys planted some sweet Potatoes sprouts and water mellons yesterday and our sougram Sunday the 18

a very cool day

Monday the 19

a fine day the Boys harrowed on the corn Henry cut stalks on the wheat

Teusday the 20

a fine day the Boy finished harrowing corn and helped henry cut stalks on thewheat I went to Pekin with Sally collected 105 Dollars

Wednesday the 21

it rained last night and this morning we fixed and laid some floor in the Barn shed I got a letter from Mr. Holmes yesterday

Thursday the 22

a fine day it has been very cold for several days past but warm to day I went with wash to day to day I went with wash to day to Peoria he got seventy cts for wheat the boy marked the calves and sheep

Friday the 23

Sally and I went to see cal the Boys replanted corn &c

Saturday the 24

I went to Tremont got Mak & Printer got shoes put on in front the Boys replanted corn

Sunday the 25

it is quite cool yet the children as usual have gone to chirch

Monday May the 26 1862

I went to mill with wheat 13 bushels got good flour and a good yeald of it and I repaired the fence next to the mill the Boys worked the garden &c and sheered 15 sheep

Teusday the 27

there was a tremendous rain to day the boys sheered 12 sheep and washed the Ballance to Shear for sale and set some sweet potatoes sprouts out

Wednesday the 28

wash and I went to Pekin to see some thing a bout getting corn sheller &c the Boys cut down the corn stubs on Bens wheat

Thurs day the 29

Sally and I went to Mr. Benzens and to Macinaw Town &c the Boys got some straw to go on the ice and got some wood and Broke up the orchard and worked the garden some

Friday the 30

a fine day we helped wash shell some corn for market

Saturday the 31

a fine day we went to Pekin for wash with corn Charles & James replanted corn

Sunday June the first 1862

a cold damp rainy day

Monday the 2

a cold damp day I went to mill got four sacks of corn ground the boys fanned some wheat and worked the garden &c

Teusday the 3

cool day we went to Pekin for wash with corn charles & James replanted corn”

Jephtha should have received the following letter by about this date. It is on microfilm at the Kansas State Historical Society.

“J.D. Vawter Morgantown Indiana

Dear Sir 25 May 62

Yours of the 16th instant come to hand by mail on yesterday. It done me good to hear from you. Your family & children. Accept my Sincere thanks for your early reply to mine. With the cheering information of your being side by side with me & all of our name as fair as my knowledge extends In air of the U States Government And for Putting down the Rebellion Your Brother John G. is Sound on the Gvos.(?) We are continued correspondents He Promptly answers all my letters. I wrote him and your Father about the same time I wrote you. No answer from either as yet. There has not been time for a reply from either. I did attend the Inauguration on the 3 or 4th March 1861 - Enjoyed myself there and back equail to many of the young men .Was the first among all who went from this vicinity to get Home. Others Stayed behind to See more. To look at what has been done by the Lincoln – Administration within the last 13 months Will appears incredible in a few years hence. And even looks So at first view now. Please write me in your next How near you live to a rail Road. And what Depot or Stopping place is neares to your residence Give me the name. I may take it in my head, some day. If I have health & means to call on you again. And look over your beautiful farm. and take you all by the hand who are Present. But I Image the Wind work is now done. I cannot name a time for coming if ever. I rejoice in your prosperity & that your children Who are named are doing well & settled near you. I am at my leisure writing the ups & downs of my life. Perhaps before I get through. I will be done writing and gone down into the Grove. My 3 oldest children all live in and near Vernon Indiana Where I did live upward of 30 years- I have 3 others 2 live here, and one at Indianapolis. All have families – My Eldest Daughter 3 Sons in the army in Missouri & Arcansas. My present wife as a Son and I have 2 nephews all in the army of the west & were at the Peas Ridge Battle in Arcansas. I have one Son John Allen Vawter in the 33rd Regt Indiana Volunteers at Cornberleniel (Cumberland?) Ford near the Tennessee Line

I took a severe cold 31 march 1861 from which I hve never recovered Hence, I have failed more in the last 13 months Then I even did in the Same length of time to my recollection Since I have been on the Stage of action. And it seems as If cannot recover from it. The rest of my family are in usual heath although my wife has not enjoyed good heath for 7 or 8 years past My children here and at Vernon at last accounts with their children were all well or as well as is usual for families to be. Now I do intend to write to you once a year at least as long as I live. and have the ability to do so For I love the name of Vawter. And do desire to hear from all of them especially those with whosover I am now acquainted you – will greatly oblige me by a line informing how you do And the family condition generally &c &c Respectfully your friend and relative. I hope of a Blessed immortality.

John Vawter”

Jephtha’s diary continues.

“Wednesday the 4

a cold cloudy day some rain wash & I went to Peoria with wheat & wool to have carded the boys are shearing sheep to day

Thursday the 5

very cool I went with wash to Pekin with corn the Boys finished shearing sheep to day there were 121 head of them

Friday the 6

it has got warm to day Henry & I went with wash to Pekin with corn for him Charles & James are replanting corn to day

Saturday the 7

a fine day I wrote a letter to old cousin John Vawter and went to Tremont got two letters for Louisee Vawter the Boys prepared for plowing corn to day &c

Sunday the 8

a fine day three men were here from Peoria to day

Monday June the 9 -----1862

a fine day the Boys are plowing corn in good earnest I went to Macinaw got 500 Dollars of George Miller went to Tremont and deposited in Banke Pettes & Ingles

Teusday the 10

a fine day the nights have been very cold for several days the Boys finished plowing corn to day at the upper field an have commenced plowing the lower field

Wednesday the 11

a fine day I delivered fifty sheep to a Peoria Bucher to day he paid me 115 Dollars for them the Boys are plowing corn

Thursday the 12

a fine day the weather has got warm I went to the school house to attend meeting of Directors spent fore noon &c the Boys are plowing chorn

Friday the 13

a very warm day wash & I went to Peoria with wheat 81 Busels sold at 45 cts went to the wool carding mashene got our rooles and a barrel sugar 232 pounds and some wool sacks the Boys are plowing corn

Saturday the 14

very warm I Barricaded the Pond to keep the hogs out the Boys finished plowing the near peice of corn over for the first time

Sunday the 15

a fine day

Monday June the 16 1862

a very warm day with showers of rain late in the evening the Boys are plowing at the upper field the corn the second time I have been out to day electionneering a gainst the new proposed constitution

Tuesday the 17

a very rainy morning and heavy rains last night we all went to the election and voted a gainst the new Contitution Tremont gave eleven vots majority for the new contiturion

Wednesday the 18

a very cool day the Boys are plowing corn I went to Tremont with Sally she got some store goods I settled with John Marc for Black smithing in full up to date I got 15 pounds of Beef of newkirk

Thursday the 19

very cool yet I went to carding mashene with our mixed wool and got Hinmans & gains rools paid. 2.17 for them more than they sent to pay the Boys are plowing corn

Friday the 20

a fine day very cool morning I went to Pekin with wash the Boys are plowing corn

Saturday the 21

a rainy morning the Boys packed up the wool and plowed in the evening I went to Tremont in the evening Bought Buggy wagon &

Sunday the 22

warm and cloudy morning

Monday the 23

a fine morning heavy rain and hail in the evening I went to Pekin land tax sales Bought some titles the Boys are plowing

Tuesday June the 24

a pleasant day I tended tax sales to day the Boys are plowing I received on my porke of Tankin 333 Dollars

Wednesday the 25

a damp Drizely morning I tended tax sales to day i have bought some titles do not know how many yet as I have gave in struction to let all that will pay do so with out any proffit to me I got a draft on new yorke in Don Maus name for him to pay for forty acres that he has bought for me of murdoch deed at powels Peoria that he is to get and pay with the draft I got for him two hundred and thirty seven Dollars & 30 cts the Boys plowed corn the most of the day

Thursday the 26

a rainy day the Boys greesed the harness

Friday the 27

a rainy morning we fixed for putting sown some more foor at the Barn the Boys finished plowing over the upper field the third time to day

Saturday 28

a fine day slight rain the Boys plowed I went to Pekin got wheat fan and deed for the Murdoch land and left it to Be recorded I got some cer tifficates for tax titles

Sunday the 29

a fine day with slight rain

Monday the 30

a fine day with slight rain I went after mixed wool roals the Boys are plowing corn at the near field

Tuesday July the 1 ----- 1862

a fine day the Boys are plowing corn

Wednesday the 2

a fine morning rain in the evening I went to Pekin got some land tax certifficats of Sale a mounting in all to 467 Dollars 58 cts the Boys are plowing corn

Thursday the 3

a fine day I see some few have began harvistind to day I went with wash to Pekin to day he got a little halfe spring wagon I paid don Maus for buying Murdoch land for me the boys finished plowing corn to day

Friday the 4

a fine day henry and charley worked the sweet potatoes the girls and I went to the Pervines spring to a celebration had a very good time of it

Saturday the 5

a fine day Henry and I went to Peoria with wheat got fourty two cts per Bushel for it Bought four chairs and three Barrels salt

Sunday the 6

a very warm day the thememeter got to one hundred degrees to day harvest has began in some places

Monday the 7

a viry warm day we began to cut washes wheat this evening

Tuesday the 8

a very warm day we had a very heavy rain last night and this morning we cut wheat for wash this evening a gain

Wednesday the 9

warm and rainy all day we fixed shed with troft to hold water to cool the milk

Thursday July the 10 ----- 1862

a cool damp morning we finished cutting wahses wheat to day and began on ours

Friday the 11

a fine day we cut our forrowed spring wheat to day done a good days worke

Saturday the 12

a fine day we cut on our fall wheat to day

Sunday the 13

a wet morning we cut wheat in the evening

Teusday the 15

a fine day we finished cutting all of the fall wheat that we couldcut the crop is a poor one winter killed badly the grain tolerable good

Wednesday the 16

a very heavy rain last night the Boys went to Pekin to day for corn sheller got of hains paid two hundred and twenty Dollars for it

Thursday the 17

a wet damp morning we cut on our spring wheat to day

Friday the 18

a very warm day we done a very good days worke cutting wheat to day

Saturday the 19

we had a tremenderous rain last night the ground is all flooded this morning so we have don very little to day

Sunday the 20

a fine day

Monday the 21

a fine day we finished cutting our spring wheat to day and began on washes the county Fair commitee were here to look at our farm to day &c

Teusday the 22

it rained last night and this morning some the river is out over the Bottom some this morning I have writen a letter to franklin Foster we cut wheat for wash

Wednesday the 23

a fine day we cut wheat for wash and wrote a letter to James roach in answer to got yesterday from him

Thursday the 24

a fine day we cut wheat for wash to day

Friday the 25

a fine day we finished cutting washes wheat

Saturday the 26

a fine day we tore up part of the Barn floor and down a closs floor and we all went and got some cherries &c

Sunday the 27

a fine day

Monday the 28

a fine day I went to Pekin Bought a mower of Barber & Hawley for one hundred Dollars cash the Boys are cutting grass to day done a very good days work

Teusday the 29

a fine day it rained last night some made the grass too wet to cut for some time in the morning we put our mower to gether and tried it it worked pretty rough the boys cut and got some grass in to day I went to James Robinsons and got some cherries

Wednesday July the 30 – 1862

a fine day we cut and got in hay to day

Thursday the 31

a fine day we cut and got in hay to day I Broke the driver of the new mower and had to go to Pekin get an other

Friday August the 1 ---- 1862

a fine day we cut and put up hay to day

Saturday the 2

Some appearance of rain to day we cut and got up hay to day thirty loads in all this week 30

Sunday the 3

it rained some I let Frank Vinson have a fresh cow for to milk this fall

Monday the 4

a very warm day thretning rain we cut and got up hay

Teusday the 5

a tremendous rain last night with some little to day we have not done much to day I went to mill and got some wheat ground and got 46 pounds of beef of Newkirk

Wednesday the 6

a wet day we got some wood and worked the road some

Thursday the 7

a fine day we got up hay and I went to Pekin to get the mower fixed the nuts keek comming off and paid for the mower got 100 \$ollars Aydelott on taxes

Friday the 8

a fine day we got up hay to day frank vincen helped after dinner

Saturday the 9

we had a heavy rain last night our friends from Kentucky M. F Bristow Dr. Mack Runnels Pascal Garth J. G. Roach I was very glad to see them in deed

Sunday the 10

a fine day

Monday August the 11 --- 1862

a fine day I went to Pekin with my friends the Boys got up hay to day

Teusday the 12

a fine day I showed my friends my farm to day and we all went to Tremont Sally got some goods the Boys got up hay

Wednesday the 13

a fine day I went with my friends to peoria McRunnels and Roach left for home the Boys are getting up hay

Thursday the 14

a rainy morning my friend James G. Roach left with me some six thousand Dollars to in vest in some safe manner for him and John Roach his Brother the money is in newyork Drafts

Friday the 15

a fine day I started with garth and Bristow to springfield we traveled not less than fifty miles stayed at elk hart the Boys got up grass

Saturday the 16

a fine day we got to Springfield half after ten o clock we formed some acquaintances &c the Boys worked at the hay

Sunday the 17

some slight rain we all attended church and took tea with Ninian Edwards he showed us some of the finest places in the city

Monday the 18

a fine day we road out to the Barret farm and a round the surburbs of the city garth & Bristow left on the evening train for Jacksonvill I visited cousin wickleff Taylor stayed all night

Teusday the 19 --- 1862

a fine day I went to see a cousin agnus crafford I believe a daughter of aunt molly chaffin I must try and go to see her a gain the Boys cut and got up hay yesterday and to day I started home a bout nine o clocke

Wednesday the 20

a fine day but very warm I got home before five oclock stayed last night at Doctor Woods took Dinner at Mounts the Boys are getting up hay

Thursday the 21

the Boys got in some hay this morning before it rained we have some little more out yet I Sold my wool to day at fifty cents per pound there were 395 pounds of it

Friday the 22

it rained last night we faned some rent wheat this morning and henry went after stry steer

Saturday the 23

a fine day i went to Pekin the Boys put some hay and plowed the orchard

Sunday the 24

a fine day I went to Pekin to attend good Harts funeral in masonac honors he was killed by Rebels

Monday the 25

a fine morning I paid charley Bowlie for his sorke sixty dollars he has gone to the army o this horrible rebellion is cosing two many good men we have been getting ready for thrashing our grain from the shock

Teusday the 26

a fine day we began to thrash our wheat to day got 184 bushels white whiat thrashed

Wednesday the 27 1862

thretning rain we got 48 bushels of fall wheat of rent and wash 98 bushels and Ben got some thrashed

Thursday the 28

a fine day Ben got his grain finished this morning and began on washes again

Friday the 29

a fine day looked a good deal like rain we got washes thrashing done this morning and began on mine a gain got 124 Bushels thrashed the weather has been very warm &c

Saturday the 30

slight rain to day we got done thrashing this morning we had 418 bushels of wheat Wash had 271 Ben had 168 the total expence of thrashing it besides our own help and the Board of hands was 73 Dollars and 28 cts Washes part is 25 dollars and 4 cts Bens part is 14 Dollars and 28 cts mine is 35 Dollars & 53 cts Ben has paid seven Dollars on his

I sold and Delivered 25 head of 2 & e year old steers to Winters for 680 Dollars

Sunday the 31

a rainy morning

Monday September the first 1862

a fine day I went to Pekin caused the norises to complimise their law suit Henry went to mill got some wheat ground

Teusday the 2

a fine day I went on south prairia to see serresip henry plowed the orchard &c

Wednesday the 3

a fine day Henry and I mended the river pasture fence where it was spoiled by the high waters

Thursday the 4

a fine warm day I went to Peoria with Some wool that I sold some time ago I Bought four coats and some other dry goods paid out over forty Dollars for them Henry reset fence east school house

Friday the 5

a goodeal of rain and very warm Henry and I went to look at some steers that I Sold to a Mr Winters we find there is some mistake in the momber only 24 head in stead of 25 head we must try and get it rited somehow or other

Saturday the 6

it Rained some I went to Pekin Wash & Henry mended the fence east of school house

Sunday the 7

a rainy morning

Monday the 8

a fine day i put a frame round the house will and laid some floor by it Henry made some fense posts

Teusday the 9 -- 1862

a fine day I went to Mac clain county to re deem some land that was sold as John serrepic that I hold a mortgage on Henry & wash made some board fence to get some rails to fence straw ricks

Wednesday the 10

we had slight rain to day the Boys fenced straw ricks and got up some wood I wrote a letter to j. G. Roach in answer to one I got from him and carried it to the office

Thursday the 11

a goodeal of rain to day we put 48 head of our out cattle in pasture field there are four head out side yet we put rocks at the corner of the Briggs fourty acres of land &c wash ows me 5.92\$ on settlement to day

Friday the 12

a very cool day the Boys fixed a shed to make molasses under &c

Saturday the 13

a fine day I went to Pekin got some Barrels for sider and molasses the Boys worked on their shed making furnesses in it

Sunday the 14

a fine day I went to Tremont and Brought home with me Ben Mc Runnels and Frank Bass young men from Kentuck

Monday the 15

a fine day I went to Tremont got slab of sheet Iron to make a Boiler for Molasses Henry & Walter made the Boilin pan

Teusday the 16

a fine day I went to Macinaw in the morning Henry and Ben got some cain ready for grinding we had rain last night

Wednesday Sept the 17 -----1862

a very rainy day and hard rain last night

Thursday the 18

a fine day the Boys are making molasses i helped wash make two slough Briges one in the lane this side of jesse Bennets the other the other side

Friday the 19

a fine daay I went to serrepic to get a mortgage of him to secure one in 560 Dollars the boys are making molasses

Saturday the 20

a fine day I went to Pekin the Boys are making molasses I paid Roney for a Bell vice and Screwbolts &c

Sunday the 21

a fine day

Monday the 22

a fine I went to Tremont got some sider made the Boys worked at there molasses

Teusday the 25

a fine day with rain at night I went to Macinaw Town got some Bricks 500 and some store goods the Boys are making molasses

Wednesday the 24

a fine cool day I went to Serepsig got a mortgage on some land of his changed so as to get a claim on the home stead the Boys are at their molasses Henry is cutting some prarie grass

Thursday the 25

a frosty morning fine day I went to Pekin the Boys are making molasses I got two Barrels for molasses

Friday Sept the 26 ----- 1862

a fine day I went to macinaw Town got thirty pounds of fethers and pair of Boots the Boys are getting a long well with their molasses

Saturday the 27

a fine day Henry has cut and put up some Prairia grass the Boys are at the molasses

Sunday the 28

a fine day

Monday the 29

a cloudy day with rain last night Boys got five loads of wood and worked at their molasses I killed nine ducks to day

Teusday the 30

a rainy day the Boys made some molasses

Wednesday October the 1 – 1862

a rainy day

Thursday the 2

a very warm day the Boys worked the road up the hollar I went to macinaw town

Friday the 3

a cloudy day with light rain we went to see uncle bill bayhill the Boys worked on mollasses for Brooks

Saturday the 4

a fine cool day the boys worked on their molasses I went to Pekin Bought \$16.20 worth of goods of Burgstassen &c and have not paid for them yet

Sunday the 5

a fine day we have had a house full of company to day &c I let Martin Climpson have fifty dollars that he is to pay back this winter some time

Monday the 6

a fine day I I went with Mr Eaton for a steer I had sold by mis take to Winters the boys are at worke at the molasses

Teusday the 7

a fine day i went to Wattermans to see a bout renting out the Bright place and to Tremont in the evening got sack of flour the boys are at worke at their mollasses

Wednesday the 8

cloudy with hard shower I helped Henry get in his sugar cane to day the boys are at worke on the molasses

Thursday oct the 9 ---- 1862

a cloudy day with a good deal of rain in the evening late I went to Tremont let Ingle have 2000 on New York for treasure notes the Boys are at their molasses they broke the mill to day had to mend it

Friday the 10

cold and cloudy I worked on the road up the hollow the boys are making molasses &c Henry is getting some wood

Saturday the 11

a frosty morning I went to Pekin to make some arrangements for storing lumber the Boys are at their molasses

Sunday the 12

a frosty morning Henry and I started to Chicago wash went to the river with us

Monday the 13

a frosty morning we got to Chicago early this morning we went round among the lumber yards and over the city some

Tuesday the 14

a cloudy morning and windy having declined to buy any lumber we spent the day looking over the town and started home at nine o'clock at night

Wednesday the 15

a frosty morning we got to Peoria early this morning and got home early in the evening the boys have let the sheep go under previous contract for \$399 Dollars fifty seven is Ben's part he has got ten Dollars of it &c

Thursday the 16

a fine day I went to Pekin

Friday the 17

a fine I went to see Caroline Henry gathered some corn &c

Saturday oct the 18 1862

a fine day I killed some ducks and went to Tremont Henry gathered some hazelnuts

Sunday the 19

a fine day we have had frost for the past week every morning &c

Monday the 20

a fine day the boys gathered apple I killed some ducks

Tuesday the 21

a fine day we have had two heavy frosts Henry gathered load of corn and gathered apples

Wednesday the 22

a fine day Henry got two Barrels of cider made paid one Dollar & 25 cts I went to Macinaw town to hear speaking by Sweat for congress

Thursday the 23

a fine day I went to hear Sweat speak in the evening at Tremont the Boys got some fire wood

Friday the 24

a cloudy cold day I went to Pekin bought two Pekin city bonds for 750 Dollars their numbers were 71 & 72 Henry made some molasses for Dick gains it snowed some to day

Saturday the 25

a cold raw day I hauled 478 bushels of Bran from the mill to feed the cows on this winter Henry got some wood and gathered load of corn to feed hogs on

Sunday the 26

a fine day

Monday the 27

a fine day I went to Tremont let snow have jar of butter 53 ½ & 17 ¼ pounds Henry dug potatoes

Tuesday the 28 ---- 1862

a fine I went to Pekin I bought three notes 600 Dollars each one two & three years to run at ten per cent per annum for 1774 Dollars and one for 333 Dollars and 94 cts and one Mason County Bond for 750 Dollars the Bond 1000 Dollars No 98 the whole cost is 2847.94 I also got mortgages to secure the payment of them Henry is gathering corn

1774

323.94

750

2847.94

Wednesday the 29

a fine I went a visiting Henry has commenced to crib corn to day

Thurs day the 30

a fine day I have been doing up churs Henry is cribing corn

Friday the 31

a fine day I worked on the roads Henry is gethering of corn

(Ed. Note: The following figures are at the bottom of the page.)

202

500

1632

541

3000

468

549

563

302

946

8302

115

197 2

Saturday Nov the 1 1862

a fine day I went to Peoria to hear Rev Brownlow speak Henry gethered corn

Sunday the 2

a snowy morning

Monday the 3

a fine day I looked some for three steers we have strayed of henry is gethering corn

Teusday the 4

a fine day we went to the election for state and county representatives &c

Wednesday the 5

a slight rain to day I killed some ducks Henry is gethering corn

Thursday the 6

a fine day I went to Pekin &c Henry is gethering corn

Friday the 7

a cold raw day I went to macinaw town to attend old Mrs Millers funeral and went to Hindmans and got our James

Saturday the 8

a fine day I worked on the road up the holler the boys are gethering corn

Sunday the 9

a fine day I went to Pekin got return of my porke it brought clear of all expenses a bout 3.80 three Dollars and eighty cts per hundred

333.00

408.28

741.28

Teusday Nov. the 11 1862

it has rained the most of to day moderately we faned and sacked a bout 40 bushels of wheat and sheled two sacks of corn &c I had a settlement with Ben to day paid him all his sheep money

Wednesday the 12

a fine cool day I went to mill with wheat & corn 21 of wheat four of corn the Boys are gethering corn

Thursday the 13

a fine day I went to mill got our flour & meal the Boys are gethering we killed a small beefe yesterday

Friday the 14

a fine day I went to Pekin the Boys are gethering corn

Saturday the 15

a fine I worked on the road up the hollor the boys are gethering corn
 Sunday the 16

a very rainy day
 Monday the 17

a damp cloudy day Henry and I hunted for our steers that have strayed off we could not find them
 Teusday the 18

a cloudy damp day with rain in the evening and at night the Boys gethered corn
 Wednesday the 19

a damp cloudy day with some rain I went to macinaw town to get a coat made for my selfe and James
 Henry went to Tremont got shoe put on printer and hawled load of wood the the schoolhouse &c
 Thursday the 21 Nov 1862

a fine day I gave J. W. Hayward notice that he must leave in march the Boys got home black steer from
 Nathan millers
 Friday the 21

a fine day the Boys are gethering corn
 Saturday the 22

a fine day I went to see Jacob Slobbord and got him to go to Tremont and renew his note for the Brights
 heirs and confess Jugement on it and order an execution on it so that his crop of corn might be sold gourth
 with for the benefit of the Bright heirs &c
 Sunday the 23

a fine day
 Monday the 24

a fine day the Boys gethered corn for wash
 Teusday the 25

a fine day the Boys gethered corn for wash
 Wednesday the 26

a fine day the Boys gethered corn for wash
 Thursday the 27

a snowy evening the Boys gethered corn fore noon got some fire wood in the evening
 Friday the 28

a cloudy day with snow in the evening the Boys gethered corn
 Saturday 29

a cloudy day with snow in the evening the Boys gethered corn in the evening
 Sunday the 30

a cloudy morning the Snow has only got a bout one inch deep yet it thaws some every day
 Monday December the 1 ----- 1862

a cloudy cold day I went to Pekin bought halfe Barrel fine sugar and some wash tubs and large Jars the
 Boys are gethering corn I mailed a letter to John Vawter and one to James roach
 Teusday the 2

a cold day the Boys are gethering corn I made a pen up at haywards to put corn in
 Wednesday the 3

the Boys are gethering corn
 Thursday the 4

the Boys are gethering corn wash finished his to day and we went to Macinaw town to attend Masonic
 Lodge and our horses broke loose and run off with the wagon and tore it all to pecies &c
 Friday the 5

the Boys are gethering corn wash and I went to Macinaw and gethered up the pecies of his wagon and
 brought home
 Saturday the 6

the Boys are gethering corn we have had a weeks good weather but it has been cold
 Sunday the 7

a fine day Henry put our cattle in the upper field to day
 Monday the 8

a fine day the Boys are gethering corn
 Teusday the 9

a fine day the Boys finished gethering corn to day a bout 6000 Bushels

Wednesday the 10
a fine day the Boys gethered corn for Frank Vincen to day

Thursday Dec the 11
a fine morning rain in the evening Henry went to Pekin got load of coal dust for the hogs I worked the road up the hill

Friday the 12
cloudy with some rain henry hunted stray steers some

Saturday the 13
cloudy with rain at night Henry hunted steers all day with out hearing any thing of them

Sunday the 14
a cloudy day with some rain

Monday the 15
a cloudy day morning it has thawed out quite muddy

Teusday the 16
it has turned cold I carried off cal's Butter to Tremont got 15 cts per lbb

Wednesday the 17
cold roads very rough

Thursday the 18
more moderate

Friday the 19
Some colder I went to Pekin carried halfe Barrel of Butter 13.7 pounds 28Doz eggs Henry got up Some fire wood he has been making a stable this week

Saturday the 20
Some warmer I went to Tremont to attend sale of some corn I had sold for the benefit of Martha and Amy Bright as their guardean

Sunday the 21
it rained some last night and is cloudy to day and muddy

Monday Dec the 22 ---- 1862
a cloudy morning Henry worked on the stable

Teusday the 23
a cloudy day with some rain

Wednesday the 24
a fine day

Thursday the 25
a very rainy day and rained all last night

Friday the 26
it rained last night with a cloudy day to day the ground seems fool of water Henry helped wash ditch his seller to day

Saturday the 27
a very fine day the nacinaw is pretty well over the Bottom has broke the fence in a good many places lacks some two feet of being as high as it has been several times

Sunday the 28
a fine day the river is fawling some I hope has not done very serious damage

Monday the 29
a fine day Henry went to Tremont I worked the road up the hollow some wash helped me

Teusday the 30
a cloudy day with snow two inches deep that fell last night we killed some rabbits

Wednes day the 31
a fine day ground frosee nearly hard enuff to bear up wagons and teams we killed eigh hogs for our meet

Thursday January the first 1863
it has been windy to day and has nearly thawed out with prospect for rainy to night as it has began to rain this evening we cut and salted our meet and rendered the lard cut Sausages meet &c

Friday the 2
a wet rainy day with fair propect of high waters

Saturday the 3

a cloudy day with heavy thunder and lightning at night with heavy rain Henry worked the Road above the Barn and worked at his cow stable

Sunday the 4

a most beautiful day Just cold enough to be pleasant

Monday the 5

a pleasant day cloudy in the evening and turned cold in the night we worked the road up the hollow and prised up some rocks at night Henry and I went hunting killed four Rabbits and five turkeys

Teusday the 6

a cold raw day the river began to fall to day it did not get quite as high as it was a week ago

Wednesday the 7

more pleasant Henry worked on his cow stable yesterday and to day

Thursday the 8

a fine day cloudy in the morning Henry & James got five loads of fire wood to day it thawed some this evening but seems like it will freeze hard to night

Friday the 9 Jan ---- 1863

a fine day I went to Pekin drew one hundred and eighty Dollars out of Bank Henry tended to the cattle

Saturday the 10

there was some rain and snow last night the ground is covered this morning I went to Tremont got two hinge hooks for Henry's stable heavy thunder last night

Sunday the 11

a fine day some appearances of rain

Monday the 12

a fine day Henry helped kill hogs for John Molley Vincen I was a bout laid up with bad cold

Teusday the 13

a rainy day I drew of some notices for land that I bought for taxes in 1861

Wednesday the 14

it turned cold this morning the ground crusted some the thermometer stood at 28 above all day Henry fixed cover on our cribs at Haywards and hawled some wood for Ben

Thursday the 15

the thermometer this morning down to 20 sunk 2 degrees lower through day it has been cloudy all day with some snow with prospect of a regular snow storm to night

Friday the 16

cold cloudy day with some snow Henry went to Tremont

Saturday the 17

cold in the morning pleasant day the snow a bout inch deep the Boys hunted rabbits killed a bout twenty eight

Sunday the 18 ----- 1863

a fine day thawed the most of the day

Monday the 19

a rainy Snowy day Henry hawled wood the most of the day

Teusday the 20

a cloudy day and thawed all day and all night I went to Tremont payed Doctor Cole & Pa Cliver for the Bright children 48 Dollars

Wednesday the 21

warm and cloudy Sally was taken quite ill to night Doctor Case came to see her to day She was better when he came I was summoned to attend court as guardian of Marthy and Amy Bright

Thursday the 22

a warm cloudy day with some rain Jame Gillen paid me 80 Dollars I lent him last month &c Henry got a young Boar of Watermyer paid seven Dollars for it

Friday the 23

warm and rainy to day Sally is a good deal better

Saturday the 24

a pleasant day Henry collected the rails and stacked that washed off

Sunday the 25

a pleasant day

Monday the 26
 it thurned cold to day Henry helped Ben kill hogs
 Teusday the 27
 cold to day ground freezing Henry & Wash fixed for killing hogs in part
 Wednesday the 28 Janary 1863
 a fine day Henry mended the fence in six places that the river had broke
 Thursday the 29
 a changable with high wind some little snow Henry helped James gillen & graham kill hogs
 Friday the 30
 a fine day Henry hawled a load of porke for James gillen to Peoria I went to Tremont for mail mater
 Saturday the 31
 a fine day I went to Pekin to attend to some law Business brights heirs the Boys fixed to kill hogs
 Sunday February the first (1) 1863
 it has turned cold to day the themometer has been sinking all day it was 36 derees a bove Zero this morning

Monday the 2
 a cold windy day the themometer five (5) a bove this morning raised to (13) wash killed his hogs I went to Tremont got pair shoes set on printer paid my taxes \$160 Dollars 90 cts

Teusday the 3
 a cold clear morning the themometer down below Zero (5) degrees Henry went to Peoria with washes porke

Wednesday the 4
 more pleasant to day Ben killed his hogs to day the Boys helped him

Thursday the 5
 the themometer (20) Zero a bove this morning the snow one inch deed with appearance of much more cleared off in the evening with very little more snow than fell last night

Friday the 6
 cold clear morning the themometer two degress below zero this morning Henry got some wood for killing hogs

Saturday the 7
 a warm thawy day the snow pretty near melted off Serrepsic brung load wheat 29 Bushels Henry hawled some fire wood &c

Sunday the 8
 Snowy morning rain in the evening

Monday the 9
 a rainy morning cloudy all day snow a bout all gone mud two inches deep in places

Teusday the 10
 a moderately cold I went to Pekin Drawed three hundred & 96 Dollars tresure nots and contracted pork at 4 ½ Dollars per hundred if I get it delivered the 12 Henry has fixed for killing

Wednesday the 11
 a cloudy day with some rain we killed 46 head of hogs to day got done by one oclock the themometer between 30 and 38 degrees a bove with prospect of its turning cold wind has got north east

Thursday the 12
 a cludy with some snow it rained last night and then snowed the ground covered a bout four inches of wet snow we carried our pork to Pekin to ward there was 15481 pounds of it it come to \$693.15
 the weight of our hogs

380	339	360	304	298	324	310
335	303	399	326	375	311	245
383	327	350	371	387	329	428
420	360	361	289	339	325	345
<u>443</u>	320	<u>352</u>	348	283	365	330
1961	<u>350</u>	1829	<u>310</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>267</u>	<u>293</u>
	1999		1948	2007	1921	1949

305	1868	15481
290	1949	<u>4 ½</u>

352	1921	7740 ½
295	2007	<u>61924</u>
328	1948	69664 ¼
<u>298</u>	1828	<u>3.48</u>
1868	1999	69316
	<u>1961</u>	
	15481	

Friday the 13

a pleasant day. thawing some little Hery got up some wood I got a news paper and letter from James roach

Saturday the 14

a riny morning and very sloppy with high wind &c Henry hawled wood in the evening it is a fair evening

Sunday the 16

a hard frost and a beautiful day

Monday the 16

a frosty morning and cloudy evening I rendered our gut lard there were over 6000 pound in the rough Henry helped me and done other things

Teusday the 17

a fine day we rigged up our corn sheller &c it is cloudy to night a gain

Wednesday the 18

a cloudy day we sheled a bout 250 bushels corn the sheller done very well

Thursday the 29

a drizzily morning with some rain last night a rainy evening

Friday Febuary the 20 ---- 1863

a fine muddy day I went to tremont got some store goods mail matter &c

Saturday the 21

a cold stormy day Henry and I fixed some troughs for feeding the calves in &c

Sunday the 22

Snow a bout four inches deep it fell last night

Monday the 23

a nice day Henry has been cleaning the stables out to day

Teusday the 24

a fine day I went to the mill Loucius Parmle paid me ten Dollars in currency Henry is at worke cleaning out the stables got it done

Wednesday the 25

a cloudy and moderate the snow has mostly melted off I ropped the most of my young apples trees Henry has been repairing fence it has set in to a rain this evening

Thursday the 26

a damp raw day I went to tremont got a letter from amy Bright Henry has fixed stable for his mare

Friday the 27

a fine day Henry worked at the fence south where the river Broke it

Saturday the 28

a rainy day Henry got his mare from James Cottonhams

Sunday March the first 1863

a pleasant day cloudy part of the day

Monday the 2

a good March day with showers of snow and some little sun shine Henry re moved Some currents in to the orchard

Teusday the 3

a stormy snowy day the Boys reset fence at south side of the upper field

Wednesday the 4

a stormy snowy day the Boys reset fence at same place

Thursday the 5

a stormy day the Boys fenced at south side of the of the medow field were the water washed it a way Wash was raised to the degreee of Master Mason at Macinaw lodge last night

Friday the 6

a fine day I went to Tremont Sold some cheese for ten cents per pound
Saturday the 7
a fine day with three inches snow on the ground that fell last night we hunted some killed a few Rabbits
Sunday the 8
Snowed last night a gain but it has nearly all melted as it did yesterday
Monday the 9
a cold morning ground hard froze in the morning Henry reset north string of fence upper field
Teusday the 10
a fine day Henry hawled load of wood and we went To Mrs. Hiners where Ben was making sugar
Wednesday March the 11 ---- 1863
a fube dat we went to Mrs. Hiners to get some sugar that Ben is making and fixed for thrashing our rye I
went to get helpe
Thursday the 12
a windy raw day we thrashed rye to day George Hiner done the thrashing it come to 13 Dollars James
gillen george gillen Robert McClure Matty graham helped us
Friday the 13
a cloudy day we finished thrashind to day before noon there were 326 Bushels of it we had the same
helpe that we had yesterday
Saturday the 14
a fine spring like day I let Jack Pervines have two hundred Dollars
Sunday the 15
a fine spring like day I tended Terrels Funeral
Monday the 16
a fine spring like day I went to mill for wash got a fine turn out at out laws mills the boys are plowing
for spring wheat
Teusday the 17
a fine day some little rain I went to Pekin the Boys are plowing
Wednesday the 18
a raw cloudy windy day I came home from Pekin I Bought a wagon and various other things to the
amount of 116 Dollars in all the Boys are plowing seding in wheat &c
Thursday the 19
a very rainy and stormy night with snow and hail and avery rainy day
Friday the 20
a damp misty day
Saturday the 21
a fine spring like day I went to see caroline &c
the Boys cleared of the farden &c
Sunday the 22
a damp cloudy day with some rain and heavy thunder
Monday the 23
a stormy rainy night with heavy hail was last night it has been a misty day
Teusday the 24
a pleasant morning cold cloudy evening I went to Tremont got eight apple trees and six cherrys trees
cions paid three Dollars & 40 cts for them
Wednesday the 25
a clody and cold day some little snow all through the day I wrote two letters one to James Roach the
other to Frank Foster
Thursday the 26
the ground froze this morning the Boys plowed in the evening the Day was fine
Friday the 27
a fine day the Boys are plowing and sowing wheat I worked the road up the hill
Saturday the 28
a fine day the Boys are sowing wheat
Sunday the 29
a fine day
Monday the 30

a fine day I went to Mackinaw the boys are sowing wheat
 Teusday the 31

a very cold raw day with some snow I went to caleb Brights the Boys are sowing wheat
 Wednesday April the first 1863

a fine day the Boys are sowing wheat
 Thursday the 2

a cloudy Blustry morning and cold I went to macinaw town in the evening to look at parmleys calves
 did not like them the Boys are sowing wheat
 Friday the 3

a fine morning the Boys got all the ground sowed at the hayward field that is dry enuff to plow I Bought
 a large roler to day for to rowl over our wheat
 Saturday the 4

a fine day Henry has been roling over the wheat to day I went to pekin and left a list of land to be
 advertised that I bought for taxes &c
 Sunday the 5

a fine day with slight rain and appearance of more
 Monday the 6

a fine day I went Macinaw Town for wash carried ten Bushel of Sweat potatoes got fifteen Dollars for
 them Henry is Roaling over the wheat
 Teusday the 7

a fine day we all went to the election
 Wednesday the 8

a fine day Henry helped wash hawl hay from Keefers and then helped him worke his Sorrel colt to the
 wagon
 Thursday the 9

a fine day with some appearance of rain the Boys have been plowing for oats to day I wint over the river
 and repaired the fence where the river Broke it I also set out some appletrees and peachtrees I lent A. J.
 Kinsey 75 Dollars and ten Dollars also
 Friday the 10

a rainy morning I went to Tremont in the evening got two letters from Mr Holmes giving me a statement
 of fathers death he died on the
 March 1863 nearly 81 years old the other letter was from Doc. Mc J. A. Runnels of Elkton Ky
 Saturday the 11

a very windy evening the Boys have been at work at their wheat and oats
 Sunday the 12

a cold cloudy morning fair evening
 Monday the 13

a fair day and cold I went to mill at or by macinaw with 6 bushels wheat and 4 of corn got it ground the
 Boys finished gettin in oats
 Teusday the 14

a coolday with rain in the evening I went to Pekin the Boys fixed the fence where the river Broke it
 Wenesday the 15

a damp morning the Boys worked at the fencing &c
 Thursday the 16

a fine day Henry and I went to Peoria with our lard we sold it Ingles & Co for 8 ½ cents per pound
 there were four barrels weighing 370 373 275 350 lbs we got four horse collars three hats and 16
 Brooms &c
 Friday the 17

a fine day we fixed some fence and worked Henrys colt to Tremont and got some strawberrys plants
 Saturday the 18

a blusterday day I went to Pekin Henry fenced where the river Broke it up next to the mill and we still
 have some more to do yet
 Sunday the 19

a fine day Houston Preached at macinaw to day
 Monday April the 20

we have let G. W. Ingles & Co have chees to the a mount of 640 pounds at ten cents per lb 6400

I went to hopedale to give notices the those that I Bought their land at tax sales

Teusday the 21

a fine day I went to C. Nofsingers to five him notice of land sales the Boys have been plowing and Braking down stalks yesterday and to day

Wednesday the 22

a drizeley rainy day I fixed a brige a cross the Branch betwen the ponds in our meadow field and we caught some fine fish to day

Thursday the 23

a fine day the Boys are plowing Henry and I made some Board fence up at the spring in upper field there are some more fencing to make in the sloughs where the water has Broke the fencing

Friday the 24

a fine day I cut some roads over the river the boys are plowing

Saturday the 25

a fine day the Boys got our first piece of ground Broke for corn to day and w caught a few fish

Sunday the 26

a fine day

Monday the 27

Some rain to day the Boys are plowing

Teusday the 28

a rainy day we caught a few fish to day

Wednesday the 29

a fine I went to Pekin to see if I could get a corn planter the Boys plowed in the evening

Thursday the 30

a fine day we began to plant corn to day the are plowing for wash this week

Friday may the first 1863

a fine day I helped plant corn in the for noon laid of corn rows in the evening henry planted corn with hand planter some little rain this evening

Saturday the 2

a fine day I laid of corn rows Henry planted corn James he has been harrowing over the corn we have got our first piece planted

Sunday the 3

a fine day

Monday the 4

a fine rain last night with some to day I helped Henry plant Beans potatoes rosten ear corn pop corn sugar corn &c

Teusday the 5

a cold cloudy day with some rain last night the Boys are getting washes ground ready for planting

Wednesday the 6

a cold day with forost this morning I have been taken medicine the Boys will get washes corn ground ready for planting

Thursday the 7

a frosty morning the boys are planting corn for Wash James is Harrowing ours

Friday the 8

a fine warm day I went to mill with wheat and corn got my grinding and a scrapper of D Bakey the Boys got washes corn planted to day

Saturday the 9

a fine day the Boys got the salks raked and Burnt on our east field and we caught a lot of fish Henry helped Ben plant corn to day

Sunday the 10

a fine morning

Monday May the 11

a fine day I went south of Delavin to see James Ryan to give him notice that i had Bought his land for taxes &c the boys are planting corn

Teusday the 12

a rainy day we caught a fine lot of fish

Wednesday the 13

the Boys altered and marked the calves and planted some corn
 Thursday the 14
 a fine day weplanted corn and caught some fish let william gillen & Brayhill have them
 Friday the 15
 a fine day the Boys are planting corn
 Saturday the 16
 a fine day the boys finished planting corn to day and went a fishing with J. Robertson and others
 Sunday the 17
 a cool day
 Monday the 18
 a frosty morning no damage by it we got up some and wood rails from the river and fixed slough fence in
 one place
 Teusday the 19
 Some frost we mended fence in the slough and a crows it and barricaded a crssing place on the river
 Wednesday the 20
 a fine day we made a fence a crows slough south at the saltonstall pond sill has a fine colt this morning
 Thursday the 21 1863
 a windy day we went with 3 loads of rye to Peoria got 73 cents per Bushel
 Friday the 22
 Some appearance of rain the Boys thrashed corn for Mrs Vincen and we faned and sacked some rye
 Saturday the 23
 cold and cloudy in the morning slight rain we went to Peoria with rye got 70 cents Henry planted some
 sweet potatoes sprouts
 Sunday the 24
 a fine day
 Monday the 25
 a fine day we carried two loads of rye to Peoria Sold for 70 cents James has been replantin corn Some
 rain
 Teusday the 26
 a fine day we sheled for wash and put out some sweet potatoes sprouts rainy evening
 Wednesday the 27
 cloudy with light rain we hawled two loads of corn for wash to Pekin he got 40 cents
 Thursday the 28
 a heavy hail and rain in the morning and in the evening thunder showers we faned some rye in the morning
 and then shelled corn for wash some 500 Bushels
 Friday the 29
 we had heavy rain in the evening and at night the Boys shelled corn for James gillen Ben & Dick
 Macrunnels were to see us
 Saturday the 30
 damp rainy day the Boys faned some rye and went a fishing got a good many fish
 Sunday the 31 day of may 1863
 a very fine morning
 Monday the first day of June
 cold we hawled corn for wash circuit cort is in session
 Teusday the 2
 we hawled corn for wash
 Wednesday the 3
 we hawled corn for wash I Bought plow 5.50
 Thursday the 4
 the Boys are plowing corn
 Friday the 5
 the Boys are plowing corn
 Saturday the 6
 it rained some the Boys plowed corn I have been tending court this week as a Jurior have not sit on a
 single case the Stats attorney excepted me as a Jurior in every case and the Defendents counsel re jected
 me in every case they were criminals cases

Sunday the 7

cold an cloudy

Monday the 8

a cold with some frost the Boys are plowing corn

Teusday the 9

a fine day we went to Peoria with rye got 70 per Bushel

Wednesday the 10

a damp rainy day we mended fence where mud creek broke it

Thursday the 11

a fine day the boys are plowing corn the weather has got warm

Friday June the 12 1863

the Boys are plowing corn I went to Pekin

Saturday the 13

a fine day the boys are plowing corn

Sunday the 14

a fine day

Monday the 15

a fine day I went to Peoria with rye I have got all the old rye off Some one has stole four sacks of rye from us the Boys are plowing corn

Teusday the 16

a fine day I went to Peoria with rye the Boys are plowing corn

Wednesday the 17

a fine day it has been very warm for several days I came home from Peoria some fine furniture the Boys are plowing corn

Thursday the 18

a fine day the Boys are plowing corn I had a settlement with wash he paid me all acounts only for one Barrel of salt

Friday the 19

a fine day I went to see cal the Boys are plowing corn

Saturday the 20

it has turned very cool the boys are worken the garden

Sunday the 221

Slight rain and cool

Monday the 22

cool morning the evening warmer I went to Pekin the Boys are hoeing potatoes &c

Teusday the 23

cool Henry mowed weeds out fence corners James cut stove wood

Wednes June the 24 1863

the Boys are plowing corn the weather is cool

Thursday the 25

cool with some little rain I went to Tremont with Sally she got some table furniture the boys are plowing

Friday the 26

warmer the Boys are plowing

Saturday the 27

warmer the Boys finished laying by our farrowed corn to day with the plowing

Sunday the 28

some rain this evening

Monday the 29

a fine day the Boys are hoeing the garden to day

Teusday the 30

the boys are hoing corn our forward corn is a bout shoalder high I had a settlement with Henry I am owing him in cash four hundred and fourty Dollars he is to have one sixth part of all the cattle hogs and sheep and one sixth part of all the sales of grain after expences have been paid for highered helpe &c (Ed. Note: "440 Dollars" is written in the margin.)

Wednesday July the first 1863

the boys are hoeing corn

Thursday the 2

I went to Pekin we got 72 pounds sugar and some other goods Henry went to cal's to help fix for a fourth celebration James plowed

Friday the 3

it has been very warm for several days I took the stove down and tore up the floor in several places to find what was dead under the house

Saturday the 4

a fine day our young folks all went to the celebration

This letter is also on the Kansas State Historical Society microfilm. It was probably received by the 15th of July. There doesn't seem to be any mention of Jephtha's receiving it. A very interesting fact is that less than a hundred years later Jephtha Vawter and Captain William R. Lackland share common great grandchildren through the marriage of Jephtha's great grandson, Don Gillan and William's great granddaughter Alice Becker.

“Youngs Point La July 4th 1863 8 o'clock AM

Mr J D Vawter

Dear sir yours of the 23 of June come to hand 1st ins and was read with pleasure This is a beautiful morning and one welcomed by many a heart the sun has arisen and seems to shed a greater degree of light than usual and as I sit in my little canvass house I see the stars and stripes flouting from every Boat and tent which causes the mind to revert back to the days of old when I used to gather around them under different circumstances When I behold the stars and stripes which represents that it was purchased at the price of much Blood and then think of the lives of the brave soldier it has cost to transplant it where it now waves I hold it if possible more sacred than ever before The siege of Vicksburg still continues how much longer the Rebs can hold the place remains in the future but I do not think it will be long The firing is very heavy News has Just been received that Johnson had crossed the black River but not credited We are prepared to repulse any force that he can bring and hold the city besides The destiny of the Rebellion is fixed in this part and traitors are gasping their last although they die hard the fate of Vicksburg is sealed The army have great confidence in General Grant and will go where ever he direct He deserves great praise for the maner in which he has conducted this campaign Never has an army endured more than the army of the Missipi and even after crossing the River which took place on the 30 of Aprile fifty miled below the city and marching over one hundred miles in sixteen days only drawing four days rations from Goverment fighting almost every day and that without even a murmer

You said in your letter that you had heard many things concerning me I am aware that has been the case Why should all this be and for what purpose who is the most injured and who expects to be the most benefited The question is very easy settled in my mind doubtless you are aware that I am in a Regiment where the Democrats are largely in the majority and as you well know that as a party they are somewhat like the Jews were in the days of Christ advent into the world The Jews thought that no good thing could come out of Nazareth so they think that no good thing can be accomplished by a republican and many have doubtless tried to prejudise the mind of the People at home for Political gain fearing popularity I have stood by the Administration all the time and believe he has conducted this war as wisely as any other man could have done in this Nation I have been called an abotianist and a negroe worshiper sibly because I wished to have the negroes armed I have been called a factionist becuse I was opposed to a peace convention and in favor a vigerious prosecution of the war I have told them and I say it to the world that I am in favor of sustaing the Government at all hazards and if the Negroe can be of any service inso doing use him yea and if I had a Jack ass and he could kill a Rebel I would turn his tail toward them and set him to kicking regardless of the unpopular mode of warfare I have often touched the heart string when I spoke deparageingly of valanding (balanding or balancing) him (ham) and that secess sheet the Chicago Times I am also aware that I occupy a station that is hard to fill There being so great a difference between civil and military law and there are so many that do not undertand this of times find fault for the want of a better knowledge Another great trouble men are more apt to become Immoral than moral in the army seem to loose all restraint and even forget the solem vows they mad to God while at home and erased from their memory of those lessons of council given by a mother or father who to day are waiting anxiously their return I have endeavored to lead a Christian life although perhaps have come far short of it but my desire is to do my duty to my country my men and my God This Rebellion has become an extensive thing and we want men to rule with a decision of character and I believe that the day is coming and that not far distant when we as a Nation will be rid of some of our national evils and stand on a firmer basis than ever

before Slavery with all its concomitant evils must go down the Majority and not the minority must rule My health is good as I could expect considering the duty we have to do There is several sick in the company Lewis Beal and John Sherman are considered dangersly Elmore Brem died on the 25 of last month The weather is very warm during the day and cool nights causing a great deal of chills and fever Duty calls and I will have to close with these few but hastily witen thoughts and hoping that you will attribute the errors to the head and not the heart and that health may be yours and your famlys although we are many miles a part I trust that we may be guided by the same God so if we meet not a gain on the shores of mortality that we may meet in those bright climbs above Trusting you will not fail to write for it does one good in the army sho has left a home and famly and the private vocations of life to hear from old friends and neighbors often Remember me to all the good union friends and also say to the Copperheads that there is a time comeing when this great and mighty army is disbanded that they will be brought to an account for some of their acts and speeches

Your in haste Capt William R Lackland

Since writing the within Vicksburg has fallen Our forces took posesion to da at ten oclock A.M. I was among the first that entered the city all is excitement Prsinors are down in the mouth the city is prety badly toren to pieces

Sucess to the Union yours

Capt William R Lackland”

Jephtha's diary continues.

“Sunday the 5

a fine day

Monday the 6

a fine day graham cut our wheat on the hill the Boys are I went to Tremont put two letters to mail one to James Roach the other to Charles Beaulieu the Boys are plowing

Teusday the 7

a fine day we got the wheat tied up and pulled the flak &c to day

Wednesday the 8

a fine day we stacked wheat this morning and the Boys plowed corn

Thursday the 9

a fine day the boys plowed corn I hoed in the garden

Friday the 10

cool and foggy I went up north to arterberrys to look at a header the Boys worked the potatoes

Saturday the 11

a cool smoky cloudy day I went to pekin got four four Dollars on land tax &c the Boys fix things a bout the farm

Sunday the 12

a cool fine day it has been cloudy for three day with fog and smoke

Monday the 13

a fine day wash and I went W. Huesters for a heading harvester we got this side of Tremont with it I paid ninety Dollars for it Henry began to cut hay to day

Teusday the 14

a fine day Henry cut grass fore noon we got our header home this morning the Boys got up grass this evening

Wednesday the 15

a fine day the boys are gatting up hay

Thursday the 16

a fine day we had frost this morning to show on the corn and vines in many places I have been fixen Boxes to hawl the headed wheat in &c

Friday the 17

a fine day we began to head our wheat to day it took the fore noon to get things in running order

Saturday the 18

a fine day we got a good day heading wheat to day Ben helped us

Sunday the 19 of July 1863

a light rain this morning

Monday the 20

a fine day I went to Pekin with Robbert Smith the Boys finished heading our forrowed wheat and Mathy graham & N. Henshaw helped the Boys then got up some oats
Teusday the 21

a fine day I cut grass the Boys got up hay
Wednesday the 22

a fine day I cut grass the Boys got up hay Mathy graham and A. Broyhill helped us
Thursday the 23

a fine day I cut grass the Boys got up hay Mathy graham and A Broyhill helped us
Friday the 24

a fine fore noon I cut some grass the Boys got up hay A Broyhill helped us we had a fine rain this evining more than we have had for eight weeks
Saturday the 25

a fine day I went to Tremont had a settlement with Ingels &c I took note for near sixty Dollars the boys mowed some and took up the hay that I cut yesterday
Sunday the 26

a fine day the little macinaw younsters were here
Monday the 27

a fine day the Boys cut wheat and stacked graham helped
Teusday the 28

a fine day the boys cut wheat and stacked graham & hammond helped
Wednesday the 29

a rainy day the Boys cut a few loads of wheat before it rained graham & hammond helped
Thursday July the 30

a fine day after the splendid rain we had yesterday we all went to the election in the morning cut wheat after dinner graham helped
Friday the 31

a fine day I cut grass in fore noon the Boys cut wheat and stacked fore noon graham helped in the after noon the Boys helped
Saturday August the first 1863

a fine day the boys marked our shoats covered the wheat ricks with grass and made fence cross the Pond and fenced hay stacks
Sunday the 2

we had quite a good rain to day Mager owings and Waggoner & his sister were here last night
Monday the 3

a very warm day I finished cutting grass to day
Teusday the 4

a fine morning Henry put up the fence at our upper field so we can get our stocki in it
Wednesday the 5

a fine day the Boys topped of our wheat ricks and finished getting up hay
Thurs day the 6

a fine day we all went to meeting in according to the Presidents proclimation to render thanks
Friday the 7

we had some rain this morning the Boys got up their oats
Saturday the 8

a fine day we went to Peoria with two loads of wheat sold at sixty cents per Bushel and Bought 93 pounds fine sugar 16 ½ cts and fine pair of harness at 35 Dol
Sunday August the 9 1863

a rainy evening
Monday the 10

a rainy morning Henry & James began to Brake up our stuble ground up at the hayward field to day I loaded the wagon with corn that was wasting
Wednesday the 12

a fine day the Boys are plowing I loaded a wagon with corn that was waisting by being on the ground by the crib bursting and letting it run out
Thursday the 13

a fine day I lett Mr watermier have 2000 feet of flooring for curch he paid me fifteen Dollars I gave 1000 feet the boys are plowing

Friday the 14

a fine day the Boys plowed

Saturday the 15

a fine day we all worked on the road and fixed the Brige west of gillens

Sunday the 16

a fine day

Monday the 17

Some little rain we cleaned some flax seed and got some wood

Teusday the 18

a fine day we shelled some corn for market

Wednesday the 19

a fine day we carried off two loads of corn 93 bushels

Thursday the 20

a fine day we shelled corn the weather has been very warm for some time

Friday August the 21 1863

a fine day we went to Wesley city with corn we had 143 bushels Sold at forty cents

Saturday the 22

Some appearance of rain I went to tremont with Sally she got some things

Sunday the 23

a viry warm day we had light rain last night

Monday the 24

cloudy and very cold the Boys shelled some corn I went to Pekin to attend tax sales

Teusday the 25

a frosty morning wash & Iwent to Wesley with corn we had 97 bushels Henry tended to getting our rent wheat of Hammond we got 90 bushels

Wednesday the 26

a frosty morning we went to Wesley with four loads of corn Patton hawled 47 bushels we had 193 bushels

Thursday the 27

cloudy some appearance of rain we sheled corn Patton halped us

Friday the 28

a fine cool day we went to wesley with six loads of corn 187 bushels Patton carried 45 bushels

Saturday the 29

a fine cool day we had some rain last night we finished shelling the corn that I Bought of Martin Hayward we have a bout eight good to carry off yet

Sunday the 30

a very fine day we had a frost this morning that has bit corn severly I think the crop will injured one half in yield

Monday the 31

a fine day frosty morning we carried six loads to Peoria Patton carried 48 Bushels

Teusday September the 1 ---- 1763

a fine day I went to Pekin got 371 Dollars 161 on land tax 220 on copons Pekin city Bonds the Boys got up some wood and fixed fence at the hayward place and carried two sacks corn to mill

Wednesday the 2

a fine day Henry and I went with in five miles of Springfield to day james got up wood I 1198 Dollars and 2600 Dollars

Thursday the 3

a foggy morning Henry and I went to Springfield early this morning looked over the town a goodeal and I went to the fair ground saw a great croud of people and heard parts of ten speaches with much enthusiasam a mong the people

Friday the 4

a fine day we got home a bout two oclock to day found all well

Saturday the 5

a fine day had a heavy shower last night I to Tremont Henry got stile Block and some wood

Sunday the 6

a fine day

Monday the 7

a rainy morning we got up some drift wood for to make molasses with

Teusday the 8

a fine day we got rock for a foundation of our granary

Wednesday the 9

a fine day we place the rock for the foundation of our granary

Thurs day the 10

a fine day we got logs logs for the founation of our granary

Friday the 11

a fine day but very warm we got more timbersfor our granary

Saturday the 12

we had a fine rain last night cloudy to day we went to macinaw to hear D.L Puterbaugh speak on his conversion

Sunday Sept the 13 ----- 1863

a foggy morning

Monday the 14

a fine day we worked on our ne Barn Dic gains & walter heoped after Dinner

Teusday the 15

a fine day we worked on our Barn the same helpe

Wednesday the 16

a fine day with rain at night it has been verry warm for several days we worked on our Barn Same help I went to Tremont got some nails

Thursday the 17

a rainy morning and cloudy day we worked on the Barn we have got it ready for sheeting same helpe

Friday the 18

a very cold day I went to Pekin got 4500 shingles and some siding & joist Hinman & gains worked on the Barn Henry & James helped them and they killed a beef

Jephtha received a letter from his brother Presley Vawter about this time. The letter is on microfilm at the Kansas State Historical Society.

“Bond County Ills

Sept 10th 1863

Dear Brother

your dind and welcome letter came duly to hand and ought to have been answered some time ago but I have been so very busy and having a number of letters to write is the reason why I have not wrien sooner I was very glad to hear of your good health and prosperity hoe you may continue to enjoy health and prosperity through life this leaves us all in tolerable good health at present you say that you think I have better brake up and change my residence as to what I shal do I am not determined on yet I am still keeping house with my children and I gues we get along as well as could be expected under the circumstances but think next fall if I live to make different arrangement for my business is such that I cant get away from here sooner I have the business of quite a large Deceased estate on my hands that will take until this time next year to get wound up after which I think I will leave this Country you also wish to no if I can hold possession of this place I can if I wish and my three children in cosiquence of the Death of my step soon that was killed in the battle of Stone river tennessee heirs about 40 acres of the land and if I chose I can hold my wifes interest while I live, We have had a very dry season this year and cosequently crops will be short but then will be a plenty for the demands of the country We had a frost on the night of the 29th of august but done nodamage to crops only the killing of sweet potatoes and othe vines We have had quite an amusing time lately with the Copperheads who went to the Vandalia raid fromthis County and who came home faster than they went to get away from Uncle Sams men their courage is completely broken down and all try to deny being there and now go in for abiding by and enforcing the laws of the land though previoys to that they were going to take things in their own hands and siston the constitution that Lincon had violated and trampled under foot to its original purity great Constitution savers they are for had not the soldiers got to Vandalia Just as they did there is not dout but they would not only have violated the constiturion but disgrced Civolized Society bot on the appearance of the soldiers discretion

proved the better part of valor and they concluded the quicker they got home the better no more at present
remember kindly to your family and write assoon as covienint
your truly and affectionately
J D Vawter P G Vawter”

Jephtha's diary continues.

“Saturday the 19
a fine frosty morning we got our Barn covered an floored with some siding done
Sunday the 20
a fine day
Monday the 21
a fine day we worked on our new Barn Dic gains helped us we went to Macinaw town in the evening
Teusday the 22
a fine day we worked on our Barn
Wednes day the 23
a cloudy damp day we worked on our Barn
Thurs day the 24
a cloudy cold damp day I went to Peoria with wheat for wash henry graded up the ground the upperside
of new Barn
Friday Sept the 25 1863
a very fine day Henry graded up the ground on the upper side of new Barn and gethered load of corn I
have been at worke on a small smoke house
Saturday the 26
a fine day I worked on the smoke house Henry gethered two loads of corn
Sunday the 27
a fine day
Monday the 28
a fine day we began to thrash wheat to day Samuel Myars is the thraser
Teusday the 29
a fine day we are thrashing to day
Wednesday the 30
a fine day we finished thrashing to day we had 620 of wheat and 167 of oats wash had 190 Bushels of
wheat Walter had 84 Bushels of wheat Ben had Bushels of oats Robert McClure and Charles Hiner
and Oxberger & son helped us I paid 32 Dollars for the thrashing and to the hands it began to rain a bout
five oclock this evening just after we got through thrashing
Thursday October the 1 ----- 1863
a cool damp morning we put up a shed from over our new Barn and weather boarded up the end
Friday the 2
a fine day henry striped his sugar cane i worked our new smoke house
Saturday the 3
a cold damp day Henry gethered some corn and fixed up his furnices for making malasses I shingled our
new smoke house
Sunday the 4
a cold cloudy day
Monday the 5
a cold cloudy day I went to Pekin got some lumber Henry & James dug the Potatoes & gethered some
apples
Teusday the 6
a cloudy day with fine rain in the evening I hung two doors an covered the shed over the Barn door the
Boys gethered some corn and striped sugar corn
Wednesday the 7
damp cloudy day with some rain the Boys striped cain and gethered some corn I went to the fair and
entered some stock and other things
Thursday the 8
a damp cloudy day we all went to the fair we took premiums on all the horses we exibited
Friday the 9

cool day we all went to the fair it lasted till dark and then ad Journed untill Monday

Saturday the 10

a fine day the boys gethered some sugar cane and some corn &c

Sunday the 11

a fine day cool morning

Monday Oct the 12 1863

it rained all night last night and all day to day I had a settlement with wash he ows me on settlement 34.22 thirty four Dollars and 22 cts (Ed. Note: "\$34.22" is written in the margin)

Teusday the 13

a cloudy damp day I went to Pekin Bought three united stats fifty Dollar Bonds five twenty No 2105 and 2111 and 2112 paid \$150 Dollars for them Henry began to make molasses to day

Wednesday the 14

a cloudy day Henry made molasses I went to Pekin to attend convention to nominate county officers a harmonious meeting I bought eight US Bonds three for fifty Dollars each No 2106 2107 2108 and five for one hundred each No 31056 31057 31058 31059 21060

Thursday the 15

a fine day I hawled some fire wood Henry is at his molasses

Friday the 16

a fine warm day I have felt quie unwell since yesterday Henry wound up his molasses business to day

Saturday the 17

the Boys gethered some corn an went to stiles sale it was a rainy evening and a stormy night

Sunday the 18

a windy day

Monday the 19

a cool day I went to Tremont got a Barrel of sider made Henry gethered walnuts

Teusday the 20

a cloudy damp day the Boys gethered some corn

Wednesday the 21

I got up two loads of wood henry gethered some corn

October Thursday the 22

it snowed all the evening I got some flat peices and fixed a crows the spring branch up next the mill in the field

Friday the 23

a cold cloudy day the snow a bout inch deep I braced the posts under grain shed fixed fence and gate up at the spring Branch Henry gethered some corn

Saturday the 24

a cold damp day I went to Pekin and deposited \$4528 Dollars and 65 cts in Bank and Bought a Bout 50 Dollars worth of goods Lue went with me

Sunday the 25

a fine day

Monday the 26

a fine day I put carpet down upstairs and went to town Boys are gethering corn

Teus day the 27

a fine day I helped the Boys gether corn and hawled one load of wood

Wednes day the 28

a fine day I went to Pekin and got a load of coal Slack for the hogs got nine united stats bonds for for five hundred Dollars each mumbered as follows 21009 and 21010 and 21011 and 21012 and 21013 and 21014 and 21015 and 21016 and 21017 the Boys gethered corn

Thurs day the 29

a wet rainy day I went down to the J. Bright farm and walterman and my selfe measured the farm land made his part 78 Dollars and five cts Amys part 31.20 and marthys part 12.75

Friday the 30

a stormy day I went to Tremont henry got up the cattle

Saturday the 31 of Oct 1863

a very nice day over head I went to Pekin Henry got up the cattle

Sunday November the first 1863

rather cloudy

Monday the 2

a rainy day and rained last night”

It appears that the rest of the pages for the year were torn out. The next known diary kept by Jephtha is for 1866 on microfilm #14177 - Roll - 1 at the Kansas State Historical Society. It is transcribed here.

“1866

Monday, January 1.

a fine cold day James gathered two loads of corn I went to Charles Hiners in fair Henry he went to Macinaw Town to buy table furniture Ben he moved to his new house”

January 2 and 3 are not on the film. They were written because they bled though on January 1 and January 4.

“Thursday, January 4.

a fine cold day we have got our ice house nearly full

Friday, January 5.

a fine day has thawed lots to day we finished putting up ice went to mill got our grist of 24 bushels of wheat gathered load of corn for the hogs

I went to Tremont Bought of George Ingles one pair of Boots for Sabrina pair of shoes for Harriet, Soda and needles skain silk 655

Saturday, January 6.

a fine warm day I have been quite poorly to day James has been getting up wood we will have got six chord when we finish the one we have broke

Sunday, January 7.

a fine cold day I wrote a letter to John Roach to day &c

Monday, January 8.

a fine cold day I went to Tremont mailed three deeds for John roach to sign and acknowlage and send back to me also a letter to him the Henry gathered load of corn for the hogs and got load of straw to cover the ice James Harriet and Sabrina started to school to day I let Pettis & Ingles have 310 Dollars 25 cents in seven thirty copons to collect for me

Tuesday, January 9.

a fine morning but chilly i went to macinaw Town and to Henry went to Tremont to get things for housekeeping he paid Alfred Dean 370 cents for me it began to sleet Just at night

Wednesday, January 10.

it sleeted a bout all night and it sleeting all day every thing is very heavy with ice to day

Thursday, January 11.

it is still sleeting but the sleet has falen of all the timber and seemes to be softning some to day the ground is very slick with ice the the water is running profusely I cleaned out the ditches up the hollow road as well as I could got out the most of the leaves so if thaws they will keep open

Friday, January 12.

a fine day but muddy in many places an inch or so deepe in places for it rained last night and the ice is nearly all gone I worked on the road up the hollow by cleaning out the ditch as th the water is running freely and the sids have thawing considerable and sliding in I got them very well cleaned out for the present

Henry has moved home has got very snugly set up for housekeeping bids fair to get rich

Saturday, January 13.

a cold cloudy day the Boys gathered two loads of corn James and I went to Macinaw Town I got my coat and vest James got pants cut out and measure to get coat and vest made I got ash bucket at tin shop the river has raised pretty flush out of the Banks in places

Sunday, January 14.

a cold raw cloudy day the river has fallen several inches

Monday, January 15.

it snowed last night and sleeted to day it rained the most of the day

Tuesday, January 16.

it turned cold last night very high wind through the night col to day Henry and Selestia went to Tremont I got up some wood and corded up some at the river Henry fixed to kill hogs Mr. James West was here to get his daughter Schedule fixed up I allowed her 77 Dollars &c

Wednesday, January 17.

a cool cloudy day we killed our porke hogs for home use ten head weighing 1830 pounds meat Walter killed five head Ben killed eight head we got ours and Walter cut out the weight of ours are as follows

234
194
182
168
166
166
170
154
<u>142</u>
1830

Thursday, January 18.

a cool cloudy day I salted the meat and went to Tremont got sausage stuffer one gallon lamp oil 425 Dollars worth coffee got lights put in lanturn Walter hawled two loads of fire wood &c Robert R Smith paid me three hundred and fifty five Dollars on note

Friday, January 19

a cool cloudy day I put the horses in the middle field at the straw stacks cut the ice in several places Walter hawled two loads of fire wood I got planke and covered Roaches corn

Saturday, January 20.

a cold clear day it sleeted snowed and Blowed thundered and lighened last night I went to Tremont got on united stats seven thirties copons 309.75 lent John March three hundred Dollars

Sunday, January 21.

a fine day

Monday, January 22.

a cloudy day with heavy snow in the evening wehauled on corded wood at the river an brought home four loads over three chords walter an Henry helped me Louisa has goneto stay several days

Tuesday, January 23.

a snowy day nothing done

Wednesday, January 24.

a fine day the snow is a bout ten inches deep I went to Tremont for mail mater

Thursday, January 25.

a fine day I went to Pekin collected fifty Dollars for cows and one hundred of mathy graham on note

Friday, January 26.

a snowy day I had a settlement to day with Robert MacClure he paid me fourty eight Dollars and five cents I paid my taxes 12021

paid Henrys taxes	<u>2766</u>
paid for Walter	<u>1399</u>
paid for Roach	<u>2790</u>
in all	18976

Saturday, January 27.

a very fine day we got up a bout ten chords of fire wood and fixed a place for the stock to get water at the upper field by putting straw on the banks to keep the stock from slipping

Sunday, January 28.

a cloudy gloommy day and thawy

Monday, January 29.

a fine day we fixed for killing our hogs got up some wood Hohn Harpham has set in to worke one monthfor us at eighteen Dollars

Tuesday, January 30.

a fine day we killed our hogs ee heah got done by noon I went to Pekin to see how much I could get for them ten Dollars and 35 cents was the best offer

sold one hog to John Davis of Tennessee formadable for ten Dolars and 25 cents per hundred weighing 250 pounds come to \$25.62

cash 5 0
30.62

Wednesday, January 31.

a fine day we went to Peoria with our hogs sold for then Dollars and sixty cents per hundred Milo guard carried a load the ballance we carried ourselved they weighed 10,121 pounds come to one thousand an seventy two Dollars 69 cts our part was \$912.38

Walters was 131.22
Washes was 28 76
1072 36

Walter has had 116 00
Bed ticken " 11.70
Doctors bill 5 00
132 70

Thursday, February 1.

a fine day we got up wood I had a settlement with Henry to day on all things that we could recollect i owe him Just one hundred Dollars I owe Ben twelve hundred and fifty Dollars with some interest on it

Friday, February 2.

a cold windy day and some sonow inthe morning I went to Tremont we carried thirty seven and a halfe pounds of butter at 30 cents per pound John worked for walter in the morning hawled some wood in the evening I paid E Johnson for thrashing of grain twenty five Dollars and fifty cents

Saturday, February 3.

a cold clear day we got five loads of wood cut halfe of it Mr Jacop oxberger paid me 34 70 for rent for Amy Bright I paid him for nowys helping us thrash our grain one Dollar and fifty cents I had a settlement with C.W. Hinman he paid me fourty six Dollars as a full settlement except his porke money I let him hav \$116 00 I still have some of his money I can pay him any day the ballance

Sunday, February 4.

a very cold day the themometer was below ten degrees in the warmest part of the day

Monday, February 5.

it has moderated to day the themometer has gone up to twenty degrees we got up three large loads of wood

Henry he cut wood on the ice he cut a bout two chords I gess

Tuesday, February 6.

a fine day I got wood fore noon went to tremont got some sugar and coffee an calico paid five Dollars some cents walter and henry are getting fire wood

Wednesday, February 7.

a fine day the Boys are getting fire wood i rapt upmy aple trees at the gillan place the Rabbits have eat them some I have let Robert McClure have the gillan place in part he is to have the lots up a bout the house and halfe of the fruit and is to hawl the rales and put up my parts of partishion fences in good order and is to pay me fifty Dollars I am to let him have land in upper bottom field for corn and wheat for one third part to be delivered in good order and in due season to me

Thursday, February 8.

a fine day the Boys are getting fire wood I went to tremont got eleven Dollars and 70 worth of goods for cal paid Nat Ingle my account up in full some fourty odd Dollars it snowed some two inches deep last night I paid John Harpham six Dollars on his worke

Friday, February 9.

a warm thawy day we got fourloads of wood thesledding is nearly gone Walter an Henry went to Pekin

Saturday, February 10.

a cloudy morning and some cooler it is sleeting and snowing this evening we got up three loads of wood

Sunday, February 11.

a cool cloudy day with a fresh coat of snow a bout two inches deep of heavy wet snow and thetimber ia all covered over

Monday, February 12.

a fine day Henry killed his porke hogs five weighed some 800 pounds we got up wood in the evening

Tuesday, February 13.

a fine day we got six loads of wood to day some appearance of falling weather
Caroline had a fine daughter this evening a bout five o'clock

Wednesday, February 14.

it snowed some three inches last night and has been very stormy to day and quite cold the snow blows and drifts a bout as though it was a snowing

Thursday, February 15.

a very cold day the thermometer only got four degrees above zero we cut some wood broke two axes

Friday, February 16.

one of the coldest mornings this winter so fair thermometer 22 below zero it has moderated some 40 degrees to day we got up two small loads of wood

Saturday, February 17.

a fine day and thawing we got up four loads of wood to day
this is the day for the commissioners of highways to meet to relocate a Road

Sunday, February 18.

a fine day and thawing it snowed last night a bout half an inch I have felt rather poorly to day

Monday, February 19.

a fine day we got four loads of wood and made a place for the stock to get water by moving the snow drifts so they could get to the spring

Tuesday, February 20.

a fine day we got three loads of wood and commenced cleaning out the stables and carrying the manure up to the orchard I went town got some domestic and lamp oil paid Doctor Perkins for medical services and paid for Walter his Doctors bill five Dollars for store goods Doctor bills on all ninety six Dollars 90 cents \$96.90

Wednesday, February 21.

a fine warm day it has thawed lots to day the water from the melting has run in sluices the most of the day Sledding is a bout over we got our tables cleaned out to day we put the manure a round our apple trees Henry helpt I mended the cupping pole of my wagon Ben helped Walter get wood

Thursday, February 22.

a warm day some appearance of rain I got one load of wood and one of chips went to Tremont carried nine dozen eggs to George Ingles got Sabrina boots mended paid 1.75

Friday, February 23.

a rainy day I ground three axes it took a bout four hours to do it

Saturday, February 24.

a fine day it turned cold last night and froze hard the river has rose all day is pretty well all over the Bottom has broke the fencing some we have been getting some rails and wood at the west end of the field in side of the fence

Sunday, February 25.

it froze hard last night and cold and cloudy to day the river has been fawling all day

Monday, February 26.

a fine day and thawing the river is still fawling some we have cutting the young timber at the west end of the field to make some rails and get some wood

Tuesday, February 27.

a fine day we cut poles and made some rails the west end of the field and I went to Tremont for the mail and got ten pounds of nails and a speller it is getting quite muddy

Wednesday, February 28.

a very good day but looks very much like rain the snow and ice is pretty near gone mud increasing I have couponed down for in gold 125 Dollars and in currant funds for 219 Dollars and mason count for eighty Dollars 80

125

219

424

36

8

468

Thursday, March 1.

a cloudy day John Harpham month is out he has left it is getting quite muddy I made some rails and went to tremont for mail mater got two yards calico and spool of thred at Nat Ingles
I got a letter from John Roach to day

Friday, March 2.

a sloppy muddy day I sold my Bird mare to Robert McClure he is to pay me 125 and five Dollars more if she has a colt and is to pay ten per cent interest untill it is paid the river is pretty well over the bottom

Saturday, March 3.

a fine day the ground has steeled a good deal and dried out some can get a round some I cut some timber for rails and poles we have some young pigs

Sunday, March 4.

a fine day But cool it frooze hard last night the river has gone down a good deal John Harpham was here after his cloths I paid him off and got his slay for my watch

Monday, March 5.

a fine day I went to Pekin carried 55 pounds of Butter Sold for 50 cents I let blossom have 125 Dollars in gold copons 80 Dollars mason county copons 1800 Dollars on in note on Bergestressen for to collect for me and buy National Banke stock in Pekin at Pair for me if he can I got some blanks for leas contract and got a letter from cousin Ellen Roach I mailed a letter to John roach to day I had a settlement with Davis for wood cutting paid him in full 40 Dollars in all

Tuesday, March 6.

a cloudy day with some snow I went to tremont with Less she got some goods at nat Ingles I let george W Ingles have 56 pounds of butter and some eggs 9 doz I believe and let Mr Pettis have in seven thirteen us copons to get cashed for me as soon as convenient 219 Dollars

Wednesday, March 7.

a fine day we hawled and put up fence from the pond sout a cross to the horse lot Louisa went to Tremont got some things I donot what at george Ingles

Thursday, March 8.

a fine day but some appearance of rain I helped Waltera bout some fencing in the fore noon in the evening I went to macinaw town got James cloths from the tailors poid fourteen Dollars and 60 cents got Bottom put in large tin pan paid 45 cts

Friday, March 9.

a fine day it snowed some last night melted off to day I made a few rails

Saturday, March 10.

a fine morning some rain in the evening I went to Tremont got two kegs of white lead 50 pounds and four gallons of oil halfe raw of george Ingles and a paper of needles got oil can of Neidemier paid one Dollar and 60 cents we hawled some rails and put up in the morning James went up on the little macinaw with the girls miss Brigs & Ireland

Sunday, March 11.

a cloudy day with some rain we had avery heavy rain last night the creeks and river is getting up

Monday, March 12.

a cloudy damp day with rain at night James E Vawter started to school a Tremong to day I think of letting him go all summer &c

I have enguaged Dvid Blair to worke for me for four months to set in on Monday next at twenty five Dollars per month

Tuesday, March 13.

a damp cloudy day with heavy rain at night Walter has be gan to paint my house this evening

Wednesday, March 14.

a cloudy damp day

Walter is painting to day

Thursday, March 15.

.a snowy morning Walter painted a halfe day and went to Tremont got two kegs of lead for me Robert Mack clure was here to sign his lease contract and give his note for a mare he bought of me for 130 Dollars I wrote out a deed for Henry and took his note for 2200 Dollars

Friday, March 16.

a cold stormy day with some snow wash came down last night got to henrys a bout nine o clock he has been bitting up his colts to day Henry and Walters has been helping him

Saturday, March 17.

a cold windy day the ground hard frooz the themometer in the morning ten a bove Zero I went to Tremont got lamp and 26 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds of tallow of george Ingles I got at Nat Ingles sugar coffee paid for it

Sunday, March 18.

a fine day we went to Bens on a vist they were all at home and well it snowed slightly last night

Monday, March 19.

a damp cloudy day and it thundered and lighning was vivid my highered hand David Blair came a bout nine o clock he has set to worked four months four months for one hundred Dollars he cut stove wood to day Walter painted

Tuesday, March 20.

a damp cloudy day with rain and hale thunder and lighning David worked for Henry to day walter painted I cut out a road part by the side of Henrys on hill side.

Wednesday, March 21.

a fine day it turned cold last night and froze hard Walter painted in the evening I cut on the road in the evening David helped henry

Thursday, March 22.

a fine day Wash started for home to day with his stock Henry and Walter are helping him David is at work for Henry I sold thirteen steers atthirty collars a piece to a man by the name of yule he is to take them a way in tow weeks or pay for keeping them

Friday, March 23.

a fine day I cut on my road beteen here and Henrys David cut and plit rails for Henry Walterwent to Tremont got some oil and he carried some eggs to gorge Ingles Doz 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 16 $\frac{1}{2}$

Saturday, March 24.

a fine morning but cool but clouded up and snowed like it was in earnest a bout it David split rails for Henry I put some Brush in the gully for Henry

Sunday, March 25.

a cold day the ground covered snow

Monday, March 26.

a cool day I helped Henry fence west of the Brayhill farm David split railes for him I received by mail from John Roach three Deeds one for B. F. Vawter One for C. W. Hinman one for my selfe

Tuesday, March 27.

a cold damp day with snow and rain at night I helped get off 13 head of steers that I sold to yule him and his son stayed with us last night I went to Tremont pieled accounts a gainst the Town four nine Dollars I suppose are allowed I also Receved of Pettes on my seven thirteen copons US 218 Dollars

Wednesday, March 28.

a cool damp day It it it snowed and rained last night I have been writing I wrote one letter to Johnroach one to Charles forrestall wrote eight nots &c

Thursday, March 29.

a cold damp day David helped Walters man split some timber &c I reviewed my cash account found it a bout right some thirty four thousand less ten thousand to cover my just debts

Friday, March 30.

a cold raw day wind South and it has got thawed some and muddy on top David has worked for walter to day

Saturday, March 31.

a fine day I helped James get up some fire wood and we mended some gaps in the fence that hte river had broke David worked for Henry

Sunday, April 1.

a fine nice day I went over the river and looked at some land the timber pretty good

Monday, April 2.

a changable day first warm then cold then very warm I went to Pekin carrie 95 pounds of Butter Sold for 35 Cents per pound left some businesswith Don maus to arrange its(?) tax deeds the boys are getting in spring wheat

Tuesday, April 3.

warm with slight rain I went to the election we had a very calm time of it I sold sixteen (16) Bushels of wheat at one dollar & fifty cents per bushel to Penfield & McDonald

the Boys got henrys wheat in good order to day

Wednesday, April 4.

a rainy day I mended my little wagon and Walters & Henry mad a Harrow frame

Thursday, April 5.

a tolerable good day we done some fencing I reviewed my new medowe find it very good

Sunday, April 8.

a very fine moring it has been quite frosty for the three last mornings

Monday, April 9.

a fine day I went to the Wilson land Sale the Boys made fencing a long next the big slough

Less Harriet & Sabrina started to school at Tremont this morning

Tuesday, April 10.

a damp rainy morning the Boys worked at the fencing I went over to Hiners Bought 20 acres of land for Henry of Ira Hiner paid one hundred and fifty Dollars on it drewed up three deeds for him and set out some Willow sprouts

Wednesday, April 11.

a fine day Henry and I went to Peoria with some dry hids and Butter sold ten Dollars of hids some some forty Dollars worth of Butter at 35 cts per lbs pounds I Bought Bed tick at seven Dollars Shoes at Twelve Dollars & 50 cents Sugar & coffee 6 six Dollars & 40 cts i sold furs for seven Dollars & 50 cts Wash caome down last night and Brought me his subs oil plow I pay hime twenty five Dollars for it

Thursday, April 12.

Some little rain in the morning I went to Tremont with wash he got some fruit trees and srubrery I paid george Ingles forty five Dollars on account got a plow sharpened I had a settlement with Wash to day I paid him thirty four Dollars as a full on settlement

Friday, April 13.

a fine day I went to Pekin with Butter Some fifty three pounds got 35 cents per pound I took in Washes note of Tomkins paid 107²⁵ Dollars for it

Saturday, April 14.

a fine day but cool the boys Sowed my oats and timethy to day Henry and I went to Tremont he worked his Bay filly she done finely

Sunday, April 15.

a fine day we went to Macnaw Town to meeting

Monday, April 16.

a fine day the Boys helped Walter get his oats sowed I set some gofer traps and mended the mud creek fence and caught three turtles

Tuesday, April 17.

a fine day very windy Henry he broke his stalks David hawled Rails and put them up forenoon afternoon he raked stalks of Henry

Wednesday, April 18.

a fine day very warm yesterday and to day I fenced some at the river Set gate posts and riged plow for subsoiling Henry helped me in the evening I set out five grape vines & David has raked stalks for Henry to day

Thursday, April 19.

A wet day I let Ben have 30 Dollars we shelled some corn for to go to mill and I the evening wetried our subs oil plow it does not scour yet tho it seems as it may doe very well when it gets to scouring

Friday, April 20.

a fine day David is plowing Henry ab and i have been hawling rails and fencing we have got the west cross fence complete

Saturday, April 21.

a fine day Davis is plowing James and I got up railles that were scatered a round by the river in fore noon after dinner Ben came over and we all went fishing we caught a fine lot of good ones after takin out all we wanted four our own uses I carried a sack to Tremont peddled them out for nine Dollars got six of it paid down,"

Sunday and Monday must have been too hard to read because they are not on the microfilm. It appears that a lot of ink bled through the pages making them difficult to read.

Tuesday, April 24.

a fine day I let Henry have 2 Dollars so Alfred Bright for season of mares to his horse (This part that he wrote for April 24, he crossed out. The following is not crossed out.)

“a fine day I split some rails for Walter and laid up some fence for him Henry has been helping him

Wednesday, April 25.

a cool cloudy morning I went to Pekin with Amy Bright for her to get some goods She got 19 Dollars and I paid five Dollars on a beuro for her and got a Bank Book and check Book and several other things for my selfe got some rice in Tremont of George Ingles and Brought home store account to look over I find several omissions in it

Thursday, April 26.

a fine day I went to Tremont to have my store account corrected come by gofer traps Henry mended Board fence at Saltonstall Pond

Friday, April 27.

a fine day I made a gate and hung it in the east cross string of fence Henry started to plow to Braking corn ground field next the river

Saturday, April 28.

a fine day I have a gate next to the river east David has been all this week subsoiling in the west field he has plowed eight days at it up to this time with four horses we have hitched up our Black coal rig as we call him he worked very well for the first time

Sunday, April 29.

a very nice day

Monday, April 30.

cool day slight rain I went to Tremont got subsoil plow sharpened

Tuesday, May 1.

a cold windy day I repaired Board fence in slough above the pond it took me all day to do it we have four sows that have some 30 pigs

Wednesday, May 2.

cool day Henry has began to plant corn today

Thursday, May 3.

a cool cloudy day I went to Pekin got a load of lumber for Henry also a beuro for Amy Bright paid 13 thirteen Dollars for it I also got some goods for the family

Friday, May 4.

a cool day with some frost in the morning I went to Pekin got some more lumber for Henry in all 132 boards and 32 narrow boards for my selfe Henry has got his first piece of corn planted of about 30 Acres Mathy Trout altered three colts for the Boys

Saturday, May 5.

a cool day I repaired fencing and had the Boys to go fishing with Sain we caught a plenty for one time the boys have got Walters first piece of cornland ready to plant

Henry owes me for the lumber I got for him and for pants

6.50

for nails

1.00

Henry had a very fine mare to die and leave a colt 14 day old

Sunday, May 6.

a cool day

Monday, May 7.

a fine day I went to Pekin for a load of coal slack

Tuesday, May 8.

a cloudy with slight rain we caught a fine lot of fish the Boys broke the corn planter in the evening

Wednesday, May 9.

a fine day alter and I went to Peoria to get the corn planter mended I gave in my income tax and

Bought some goods of George Ingles a bolt of Brown sheeting and some nails

I had a settlement with George Ingles and &c paid 100 Dollars & 92 cts

Thursday, May 10.

a fine day I went up to the mill and contracted my wheat for one Dollar and sixty Sents to deliver it as soon as convenient the Boys finished Braking corn ground today and began to Harrow the corn that was first planted &c

Friday, May 11.

a fine day I went to Tremont carried of 20lbs Butter and 15 ½ doz eggs let george Ingles have them and I went to mill carried load of wheat it weighed 2596 lbs I am to have one Dollar and 60 cts per Bushel for all my new crop except that it taks to do me for Bread an till harvest comes in Henry finished planting corn this morning he has a bout fifty acres

Saturday, May 12.

a slight rains in the evening I carried off two loads of wheat they weighed 2600 and 2371 the weight of bags less 64 pounds we caught a fine chance of fish in the evening I let Henry have five Dollars for Abner

Sunday, May 13.

a fine day James Robertson and family were here on a visit

Monday, May 14.

a fine day the Boys finished harrowing my subsoil as fair as is broke I went to Pekin with lou She got 31 Dollars worth of goods I paid Dean for Celestia for filling teeth 25 Dollars for lumber 25 Dollars for Bank Stock 1000 Dollars I sold 64 ½ pounds chees at 15 cts per pound

Tuesday, May 15.

a fine day Walter finished planting corn this morning and Ben be gan his and would have got it planted ony it rained Some in the evening James Robbinson came and we went a fishing caught a very good mess Wm Perviance gave me notice to bring Suit on a note i have a gainst him and John his Brother

Wednesday, May 16.

a rainy wet morning nothing done untill after Dinner we began on our subsoiling a gain and planting all that we had ready Broke of it a bout fifteen acres I sold James Robbinson Washes cow for 35 Dollars

Thursday, May 17.

a fine cool day frosty morning I went to Pekin to Bring suit on Perviance note got the money for Washes cow of Bergstressen Bought over 20 Dollars in goods the Boys panted all of my subsoiling ground that we had ready for planting David is Braking our subsoil I mailed a parcel of nots to James Roach for Him to carry to Kentucky to John Roach for a bout five thousand Dollars runing from one day after date up to four years on my selfe and Ben and walter Hinman

Friday, May 18.

a fine day i giked four fine fish we let george Ingles &c have 15 ½ pounds of Butter and o Dozen eggs

Saturday, May 19.

a fine day it has got very warm we went a fishing with Sain got a nice parcel of fish Henry finished planting of Bob Mac clurs corn to day the ground is so drye and hard that we cannot finish Braking our subsoiling we unfortunately Broke on the wrongside first we got the dry hard side to brake yet that has been tromped lika a horselot for years

Sunday, May 20.

a fine day

Monday, May 21.

a fine day wefinished planting of corn to day and the Boys are cutting of weeds on Henrys wheat I finished Delivering of my wheat to day. three loads making six in all the weights are as follows 2399

2247

2228

2375

2349

2579

61/14177\ 232

122

197

183

147

122

25\ 63

320

32

16

320

37173

Tuesday, May 22.

cloudy with slight rain i planted some Beans and mended pasture fence where it Joins the river and showed quiller Davis some land the Boys made some fence and cut weeds on the wheat

Wednesday, May 23.

cloudy day with slight rain i the morning I went to the mill had a grist of 12 Bushels for Walter and one of 8 for my selfe ground the Boys sheared the sheep and made some fencing I had a settlement with Richter he ows me 371 Dollars and 70 cts for the wheat he has got is to pay me Saturday evening

Thursday, May 24.

a fine day Henry is fencing in his pasture land David Blair late in the evening upset the wagon full of rails and got caight under them and was a gooddeal hurt I hop not serious

Fiday, May 25.

a fine warm day I helped Henry put up fence he has got the north and west part closed except staking and ridering it David Blair went to his Brothers to be gone several day.

Saturday, May 26.

a fine morning rain in the evening I mended the fence east next to the mill our foks washed the wool and Henry got his fence closed on the South part it contains 120 acres in it

Sunday, May 27.

a damp rainey day

Monday, May 28.

a cool damp day I went to Tremont got indigo and mader at nat Ingles Wibery paid me four Dollars for seed corn \$400 Richter paid me on wheat one hundred Dollars \$10000 I let Abner Dillon have one Dollar

Tuesday, May 29.

a fine cool day

I went to Pekin to a show spent about five Dollars

found the roads muddy below Tremont I carried some butter and eggs to nat Ingles about 18 lbs Butter 11 Doz eggs

Wednesday, May 30.

a fine cool day

Henry altered the calves and lambs

the Boys are tr planting of corn for Walter I let James have five Dollars to buy a hat

had a settlement with Henry paid him his part of sales in ful up to date thirty eight Dollars and sixty cents

Thursday, May 31.

a fine day I went to Tremont got three Dollars worth of sugar & coffee at george Ingles and let Henry have five Dollars to pay on a plow of stout

Friday, June 1.

a warm day fine rain in the evening more than has been since we began to plant corn

I mended the fence at the pond in the lane the Boys have replanted Henrys corn and Walters firs piece and have began on mine and have got all that is up replanted

I have copons due in June the 15 for 91 Dollars

and July for 80 Dollars

171

I have got them in my little packet Book

Saturday, June 2.

a fine day I had the orchard Broke up on the hill an planted in pumpkins and I cut a good many worms out of the trees and I have a good many to cut out yet Henry got his pasture staked and the Boys finished replanting my forroward piece of corn

Sunday, June 3.

a cloudy day but no rain

Monday, June 4.

a fine day some appearance of heavy rain we began to brake out subsoil sod a gain Henry has began to plow his corn i put our calves in Henrys pasture and worked at my apple trees cutting sprouts off and cutting out worms I let Ben have ten Dollars

Tuesday, June 5.

a cloudy morning and quite a rain in the corse of the day I went up to Roberts Mac clurs and cleaned a round my young fruit trees

Wednesday, June 6.

a fine day we finished planting corn to day and some pumpkins

Thursday, June 7.

a fine day we have been resetting the south string of fence

there was some rain in the morning I wrote a letter to my friend John Roach

Friday, June 8.

a fine morning but heavey rain in the evening we have been reseting fence on south string have got a good fence so fair as we have gone

Saturday, June 9.

a fine day I had the garden worked and I went to mill with corn and to Tremont got a plow for Henry at eight Dollars and a halfe paid five Dollars and 90 cents in surance on Barn

Sunday, June 10.

a fine day

Monday, June 11.

a fine morning rain in the evening I went to mill got my grist of corn three sacks and mowed the front yerd

Tuesday, June 12.

a fine day the Boys plowed on Walters corn I mowed the front yard and reviewed the crops I think the Boys will Soon get them in good order

Wednesday, June 13.

a fine day i went to Peoria with the wool it is to be carded by next Wednesday i got a dozen Brooms paid four Dollas for them I got 91 Dol on seven thirty copon

Thursday, June 14.

a fine day i went to Pekin got mower guards and Barrel sugar Barrel salt kit fish &c Wash and his folks came down to day

Friday, June 15.

a fine day I went to mill with Wash we caried 20 Bushels of wheat got it ground I let wash have three sacks of flour he has started home to day left the rest of them for me to carry home

Saturday, June 16.

a fine day i went up to the mill Richster paid me on wheat 173 Dollars his note for 100 Dollars I Betteed Some trees &c got Lize Shod in front

Sunday, June 17.

a fine day but cool I let Henry have Sixteen Dollars

Monday, June 18.

a fine day but cool we cleaned out the wood shed and henhouse and repaired the fence some crab was here to by my hogs we did not trade

Tuesday, June 19.

a fine day but cool we repaired fence south String the Boys have been plowing my corn to day for the first time I went to Tremont got Harry shod in front

Wednesday, June 20.

a fine day I went to Peoria for wool roals and some crockry ware the rools cost 12 Dollars and 60 cts two Dollars and 90 cotton yarn gour Dollars 85 cts coffee two Dollars shoes one Dollar

Thursday, June 21.

a warm day with a fine rain had a cow killed I suppose by lightning the Boys greased my Buggy Harness I fixed floor in henhouse

Friday, June 22.

a warm day with rain east of here I started home with Loise and Mrs White went up near bloomington and stayed all night

Saturday, June 23.

a warm day we got to Washes a bout one o clock found all things a bout right

Sunday, June 24.

a warm day

Monday, June 25.

a very warm day Lou and I went east of fairberry to see Mrs Dennis found her sick new cuntry and place all things looks fine and well withe them

Tuesday, June 26.

a rainy morning and warm day I went with Wash to a night meeting where the People met to make some arrangements for celebration on the fourth July

Wednesday, June 27.

very cold windy day Lou and I came home found all well There has been no rain here yet tho it has rained east twice since I have been gone I let Wash have one hundred and fifty five Dollars

Thursday, June 28.

a fine day I went to Tremont carried 19 doz eggs let George Ingles have them got one Dollars worth sugar at Nat Ingles got shoes put on Printer in front The Boys got the corn laid by to day with Plow there was frost this morning that bit the corn some in places

Friday, June 29.

a fine day we went to Peoria with wheat 8 five bushels sold for one Dollar and 75 cents per Bushel Bought James a saddle and a whip and fruit Jars paid 23 Dollars for all

Saturday, June 30.

a fine day I went to Pekin carried 11 Bushels wheat sold it for one Dollar and 75 cents per Bushel and engaged the Ballance we have at the same price i got three Barrels of salt an two for Walter paid fifteen Dollars and 15 cts for it our old Mare Lade that has been sick so long is dead

Sunday, July 1.

light rain this morning

Monday, July 2.

a fine day we went to Pekin with wheat we had 79 Bushels we got home and got two more loads ready to carry off

Tuesday, July 3.

we had a very nice rain last night we went to Pekin for Ben with wheat he had 67 Bushels Roach ten Bushels I am due Ben on his wheat 75 Dollars Roaches 17 Dollars and fifty cents I left in Bank 189 Dollars 26 cts and Mason county copon for the Bank to collect for me I let Walter have 21 Dollar out of Bens Wheat money

Wednesday, July 4.

a fine day I went Pekin with some cheese Sold for one bit a pound bought bought hat and some shoes paid \$8.90 cts I havemade a mistake in the day I went to Pekin the fifth we all went to the Pervine spring to the fourth

Thursday, July 5.

Friday, July 6.

a fine day but very warm I fixed up my cistern put in new timbers &c

Saturday, July 7.

a warm rainy day fine rain last night the best we have had since we began to plant corn I went to Tremont paid Nat Ingles off in full got shoes mended &c

Sunday, July 8.

a cloudy day and some cooler

Monday, July 9.

I went to Tremont let George Ingles have 22 ½ lbs of Butter and 13 ½ eggs got half a gallon lard oil the boys hav plowed corn for Walter Walter has began to cut his grass I took a package of papers out of the Bank to over look &c mailed my second letter to John Roach since I have got one

Tuesday, July 10.

a fine day we began to cut grass in our near field I went to Tremont got Bucket and Forke handle at George Ingles

Wednesday, July 11.

a fine day I have been cutting grass to day it is very warm the Boys are helping Walter get up his hay

Thursday, July 12.

a fine day I cut grass the Boys are getting it up I went with Less to Tremont she got some four Dollars and 60 cents worth of goods at George Ingles

Friday, July 13.

a fine day I cut grass the boys are getting it up Henry was sick this evening the Boy put grass in his Barn

Saturday, July 14.

a fine day I went to Pekin engaged H.(?) gather to Buy the Betheny Collage land for me if he can get it at nine Dollars per acre the boys are getting up hay for Henry they have filled his Barn and put up a nice rick for him

Sunday, July 15.

a fine day it has been extremely warm for several day the thermometer getting up to 100 degrees in the shade for the last three day

Monday, July 16.

a slight rain we have been getting Henry wheat cut and stacked it is very weedy so much so that it will certainly heat and spoil

Tuesday, July 17.

a nice shower of rain at one o'clock stop us from heading grain Henrys wheat was hot this morning one stack we tore it done and scattered it a bout and it has rained on it I got seven Dollars a ballance on some wheat of Mathy Gillan

Wednesday, July 18.

a cloudy damp day James plowed the orchard David mowed some weeds I worked the road some I lent Henry twenty Dollars to pay to Abner Dillan for his worke

Thursday, July 19.

a wet rainy day Les and went to Tremont with Butter and eggs six Sollars and five cents worth we owe 86 cents for goods we got over what the Butter paid for &c David cut stove wood Henry and Jame made some fence at the pond

Friday, July 20.

a cloudy day some rain in the morning James and I worked the road some David cut stove wood in the evening we helped Walter a bout his wheat got a goo evening worke done on it

Saturday, July 21.

a slight rain we got Walters wheat put up I think in good order Henry worked at his wheat in the evening I went to Macinaw town the horses broke my Buggy tongue in three piecies

Sunday, July 22.

a cloudy damp day

Monday, July 23.

a cloudy morning with a good deal of thunder and the heaviest rain in the evening of the season the ground was a perfect flood of water all over the ground the corn is a good deal beet down

Tuesday, July 24.

a heavy mornings rain I fixed a vridge a bove the granary in the evening

Wednesday, July 25.

a heavy rain this morning a gain the weather keeps extremely warm I went to mill to day got a very good turn out &c Richster paid the Ballance on wheat one hundred and one Dollars & 50 cts one of our hay stacks has turned over we are moving it this evening I paid David Blair one hundred Dollars for worke for me

Thursday July 26.

a sultry warm day we headed some grass for seed and our oats

Friday, July 27.

a fine day but very warm it has been extremely hot for nearly three weeks we headed grass

Saturday, July 28.

a very fine day but warm I went to James Robertsons got some cherries we carried 18 pound of Butter to George Ingles

Sunday, July 29.

a warm day with some rain

Monday, July 30.

a fine day more pleasant out I went to Pekin paid my in come tax 139 Dollars and 45 cts Bought some goods at nat Ingles that I have not paid for the Bys got up walters oats

Tuesday, July 31.

a fine day but warm I cut grass the Boys got up Henrys oats and some grass it rained at night some

Wednesday, August 1.

a fine cool day I cut grass the Boys got up grass

Thursday, August 2.

a fine cool day I cut grass the Boy got up Henrysoats fore noon grass after noon &c

Friday, August 3.

a Slight rain in the morning I cut grass the Boys got up hay we done a big days worke

Saturday, August 4.

a fine cool day I cut grass for Walter untill dinner then went to Tremont with eggs and butter let Nat Ingalls have it Some seven or eight Dollars worth got Rice and tumblers

Sunday, August 5.

a fine day some appearance of Rain

Monday, August 6.

a fine day I was sick last night. am not able to worke to day the Boys finished Walters hay and stacked his oats

Thursday, August 7.

a rainy morning I paid David Blair for helping us finishour harvisting and paid insurance on my house and Henrys house

Friday, August 10.

(Ed. Note: The day should read August 8.) a fine day I finished mowing weeds on the meadow wash has come down James has been quite sick to day Sabrina and Sally are quite un well Wash came down this evening

Saturday, August 11.

(Ed. Note: The day should read August 9.) a fine day some appearance of rain Wash and I went to Tremont I Drew out of Bank one hundred an ten Dollars on Lone Vawtters certificate of Deposit the sick ones are all Better

Sunday, August 12.

it rained some little this morning and evening the day has beenvery warm

Monday, August 13.

a fine day I went to Pekin to get my Buggy mended I got some flannel that I have not paid for I let Nat Ingles have 35 pounds of Butter

Tuesday, August 14.

a fine day I went to Pekin got my John C Perviance money on Jugement &c

Wednesday, August 15.

a fine day I went to Pekin carried my Buggy to get fixed up I got five yards flannel at 1 Dollar 75 cts per yard on time at commings store 14 yards in all I got five Dollars worth of coffee

Thursday, August 16.

a fine day I went to Tremont to attend Masonicks lecturs

(Ed. Note: The following is a letter that Jephtha received from John Roach from Kentucky.)

Todd County Ky

Mr J. D. Vawter August 11th 1866

My Dear friend

I received a letter from you while James and Ellin was to see us intended to answer it immediately but failed to do so can make no good excuse in that letter you sain you had Just finished planting corn which would make it the 6 of June if you are seasonable with your soil it will come in – my corn crop looks well at this time but will require another rain to make first rate crop I had some small grap lots this year that done tolerably well oats moderately good wheat very good but light yeald probably a little over half crop wheat little corn I had to spare I sold at 70 cents per bushell wheat at \$200 per bushel per 100 bushels and 2.25 for the ballance My tobaco Crop looks badly the season has not suited it was first too dry andthen too wet and it is too dry now I did expect my peach crop would be profitable to me but they have most all roted and fallen of the trees. worth at the railroad 1.25 to 1.50

I would like very much to go to see you this fall but I fear it will be out of my power Anns health is so bad i dont think she could stand the trip and I am unwilling to go without her she has not had a well day for 6 or 7 month some times she seems to improve alittle then worse again I am fearful she will never have good health again

we had a very pleasant visit from James and Ellin I am so sorry that you and Sally could not be here with them we would have had such a nice time of it and then it is time you and Sally was cineubg ti see ys any how most 2 years since you was here I cant say any thing about your relation havenot seen or heard from

them for some time except Tandy saw him once at church a few weeks ago Our county is very healthy at this time

I received the notes by James think they are all right have not compared them with your letters but I suppose you knew what was right and if it was possible for you to do me wrong I should have no confidence in man I do assure you I feel more safe with my interest in your hand than in my own so far you have done better by me than I have done by my self I feel you are more capable than I am as long as you live I feel that my property is safe in your hands and if either are us should die before a final settlement is made I am confident everything would be right feeling as I do I have no trouble about our matters

Give my best Love to Sally and the children to your Sons and Son-in-laws except to your self the best wishes of your & s please write often

John Roach

Sincere friend

Friday, August 17.

a fine day I got some timbers for the purpose of making slough Brige in the lane west of George Gillan &c

Saturday, August 18.

warm day with slight rain in the evening we all fixed the Brige west of George Gillans in the fore noon in the evening I went to Nathan Leanards to get Boar pig Henry went with me

Sunday, August 19.

a cloudy day

Monday, August 20.

a warm day slight rain in the evening we had a District School election I was elected Director I went over to Bens in the morning in the evening to the election

Tuesday, August 21.

a fine day Henry & I fixed a forde to cross the river to get to our timber in the fore noon after Dinner I went to Mr Kingmans to see about a teacher for our school &c

Wednesday, August 22.

a rainy day

a very rainy day

Thursday, August 23.

a fine cool day Henry and Walter have began to brake stubble land I went to Tremont with Less she got some things I got some shot ink and glue we carried 34 pounds Butter let George Ingalls have it we got our goods of him

Friday, August 24.

a fine day the Boys are Braking their stubble ground I had my shoats altered to day

Saturday, August 25.

a fine day I went to Pekin to day to carry our school assesment to have a tax collected for all school purposes James got home from Washes to day

Sunday, August 26.

Some appearances of rain to day

Monday, August 27.

a slight rain this morning our school has began Miss Amela Kingman is our teacher She is to have twenty five Dollars per month I made a gate at the corn cribs in the lane

Tuesday, August 28.

a fine day I went to Tremont Sold lize my grey mare to John March for one hundred and fifty Dollars payable in 60 days

Wednesday, August 29.

a fine day I made a garden gate and hung it went hunting killed a turkey &c the Boys have quit Braking Stubble land for the present the ground is too dry

Thursday, August 30.

a fine day we all went to help Waterman raise a barn &c James got printer shod in front James has been on the sick list for several days

Friday, August 31.

a heavy rain in the evening we all went and helped Waterman raise his Barn as we did not get it done yesterday

Saturday, September 1.

a rainy morning we cleaned up the Barn floor got some two Bushel of timothy seeds the weather is quite warm

Sunday, September 2.

cloudy with slight rain I lent B.F. Vawter twenty Dollars

Monday, September 3.

a rainy day

Tuesday, September 4.

a fine day the Boys tryed my pasture land to see if they could Brake it with our plows I went to Tremont drew sixty Dollars of Pettis on my coupons

Wednesday, September 5.

the Boys went to Tremont got thre plows sharpened. I went to pekin with Walter to get some money to let him have to pay John Dirkey for his worke

Thursday, September 6.

a cloudy morning the boys are plowing I fixed my stalls for the horses we had quite a rain in the evening

Friday, September 7.

a damp cloudy day the boy plowed there was rain at night I let Walter have 120 Dollars to pay his hand for worke

Saturday, September 8.

a very nice day with rain at night I went to Tremont got Plow sharpened with Coulters pointed carried Butter 42 lbs 9doz eggs got gallon cerozen oil

Sunday, September 9.

a rainy day ther has been some hogs in our fields for severl days we think we have got the last of them out this morning may be

Monday, September 10.

a rainy day

Tuesday, September 11.

a damp day with Slight rain I went to Tremont got plow sharpened and Boots halfe soaled for Walter

Wednesday, September 12.

a fine day Ire Davis is helping us plow

Thursday, September 13.

a fine morning but rain the evening I went to Tremont made adeed to the gillan land I sold it for 1850 Doll to Robert Flagil

Friday, September 14.

a fine day I fixed a tilt frame on the Waggon to haul gravel minur &c I killed two wild turkeys

Saturday, September 15.

a rainy morning and evening we tore the partitions out of the Barn &c the Boys finished Braking my pasture land all that I am a going to have Broke this fall

Sunday, September 16.

rain a gain to day

Monday, September 17.

a rainy evening we got up two loads of fire wood and done Some fencing

Tuesday, September 18.

a heavy rain last night and a rainy day

Wednesday, September 19.

a cloudy day with rain

Thursday, September 20.

a damp rainy day we went to the fair nothing was done

Friday, September 21.

a very good day we all went to the fair Henry took threer premiums one first two second on stock we had a heavy frost this morning

Saturday, September 22.

a very good day we all went to the fair we had heavy frost a gain this morning

Sunday, September 23.

a very good day

Monday, September 24.

a cloudy morning with rain last night the day has been very good I went to Mill and to Tremont to a primary meeting to appoint delegates for county officers &c the Boys have been fencing some Ira Davis has set in to day to work one month for twenty Dollars

Tuesday, September 25.

it rained last night and the fore part of to day Ira Davis cut stove wood to day it has cleared off this evening

Wednesday, September 26.

a fine warm day we all removed and put up fencing and gats

Thursday, September 27.

a fine day we put up Board fence at the pond East of the house

Friday, September 28.

a fine warm day we put up fence East of the house Mr Spece was here to see about the school &c

Saturday, September 29.

a fine day we finished our lane fence this morning and went to Tremont Speaking I had a load of corn gathered for the hogs it will shrink a good deal in consequence of the frost

Sunday, September 30.

a fine day the Miss Limis were here last night and to day Dick gains and his family to day

Monday, October 1.

a fine day we gathered corn for the hogs and apples to put up

Tuesday, October 2.

a fine day I went to Pekin the Boys gathered some apples and striped the sugar cane

Wednesday, October 3.

a fine day I went to Tremont got a shoe put on printer and got a list of the voters names south side of town the Boys gathered some corn for the hogs and helped Hinman Shell corn

Thursday, October 4.

a fine day I have been taking the Sences of school District and working the road the Boys have gone to Pekin with corn there are 87 children in the District 30 under Six years

Friday, October 5.

a fine day we all went to Pekin with corn I let Cummings have fifteen Dollars for electioneering purposes

Saturday, October 6.

a very foggy morning we went to Pekin with corn Henry and Ben Shelled the Roach corn

Sunday, October 7.

(Ed. Note: Nothing is written for this date.)

Monday, October 8.

a fine day Dora Stout and Marin Broyhill carried corn to Pekin for me I got off the Roach corn to day there was over 100 bushels it Brought one hundred and Eleven Dollars \$111⁰⁰
I have been sick for several days

Tuesday, October 9.

Henry got of corn to day

Wednesday, October 10.

Henry sent two loads to day

Thursday, October 11.

Henry got his corn all off to day

Robert McClure thrashed his wheat I I got 63 Bushels

Friday, October 12.

the Boys gathered corn to feed on

Saturday, October 13.

Henry and Walter got their wheat thrash to day

Sunday, October 14.

a fine weather

Monday, October 15.

Tuesday, October 16.

Wednesday, October 17.

the Boys have gathered the most of the apples to day

Thursday, October 18.
a very windy day the Boys are gethering corn to feed the hogs on &c

Friday, October 19.
a rainy day the Boys put my apples a way for me I still keep quite feeble

Saturday, October 20.
a rainy day Ben got his wheat thrashed the Boys helped him

Sunday, October 21.
a heavy rain through the night and a rainy day with some appearance of a brake off and clearing up

Monday, October 22.
it cleared off last night and turned cool a beautiful fore noon it has clouded up this evening

Tuesday, October 23.
a cool raw day I went to the election for rail road tax voted against tax the first time I have been from home for two week

Wednesday, October 24.
a tolarable good day the Boys gethered corn

Thursday, October 25.
a rainy day nothing done

Friday, October 26.
a tolerable good day the Boys gethered some corn

Saturday, October 27.
a cool damp day I sent the Boys over to Bens toget my Bull home the got him

Sunday, October 28.
a damp rainry day

Monday, October 29.
a cloudy morning clear evening with the appearance of some good weather &c

Tuesday, October 30.
a blusterday day I went to Tremont &c

Wednesday, October 31.
a fine day Ires Davis time is out to day

Thursday, November 1.
a fine day I went to Tremont Sally went with me made a deed for a Pekin lot quite claim to Becker I put it in the Post office to go to Pekin

Friday, November 2.
a fine day I looked over my cash nots Bonds and sofourth I find I have in Banks subject to my order five
twentys 6300 Dol

ten fourtys	5000	“
seven thirties	15200	“
compoun interest nots 1864	3860	
in dividual nots at enteres	1500	
Cash on hand	<u>600</u>	
in bank	32460	
stock at Pekin	<u>3000</u>	
	35460	

I owe John Roach of Kentucky 8601 Dollars
35460.00
8601.00
26859.00

Saturday, November 3.
a fine day the Boys went to Macanow Town to get some coats made

Sunday, November 4.
a fine cool day

Monday, November 5.
a fine cool day James mended up the horse lot fence I hung and fixed a gate to go in to the west field

Tuesday, November 6.
a fine cool day we all went to the election except James he has been gehtering corn he gehteres all most every day our hogs eat a load every day

Wednesday, November 7.

a fine day I went to Pekin carried 92 ½ pounds of butter got 32 cents per pound

Thursday, November 8.

a cloudy morning with some rain before day I went to Pekin with Walter he carried off some wheat got 2 Dollar and twenty cents per bushel

Friday, November 9.

a fine day wash come down last night we went a round some

Saturday, November 10.

a damp rainy day I went to Tremont with Wash he got some fruit trees

Sunday, November 11.

a fine day we had Ben and his family Cal and her family Wash and Dudley Henry and his family with us to day

Monday, November 12.

a fine cool morning ground froze some heavy frost I went to Pekin got 16 pound coffee ten and half sugar 11 ½ crushed \$8 I lent Collins two Hundred Dollars

Tuesday, November 13.

a cloudy with some rain I killed three ducks James gathered corn every day that is fit

Wednesday, November 14.

a very good day I had a settlement with Henry he owes me seventy one Dollars and twenty four cents \$71²⁴

Thursday, November 15.

a fine day I went to Pekin on no business I have let Henry have the Boots I got in Pekin for eight Dollars to be paid when convenient

Friday, November 16.

a cloudy nisty day I let Colonel Lackland have two Hundred Dollars

Saturday, November 17.

a fine day the Boys helped George Gillan thrash grain in the Evening I went to Mackinaw Town and to Tremont &c

Sunday, November 18.

a cloudy day with rain at night

Monday, November 19.

a fine day I went to Tremont paid George Ingles &c off in full 15 Dollars 40 cents paid Nat Ingles in full 19 Dollars 80 cents the Boys have been helping George Gillan thrash grain I got forty six bushels rent wheat from him and sixty three of R. McClure 46

63

109

Tuesday, November 20.

a cool damp day Carolin, Sabrina, and my self started up to washes we went some 30 miles and put up. after supper Discovered Sill my spotted mare was very sick we done every thing we could but she died a bout nine o'clock we were treated in the kindest manner possible by the Barnard family they done every thing they could for us

Wednesday, November 21.

a cool damp day by the help of our kind friends the Barnums we got up to Washes by dinner found them all well

Thursday, November 22.

last night was very windy and this morning was some snow with high wind I find the corn crop is very much injured in the north part of McClain county by the froist not over two thirds of a crop

Friday, November 23.

a cool morning we started for home Wash furnishing us a horse we came three miles this side of Bloomington staid all night

Saturday, November 24.

a fine cool day we got home a bout one o'clock found all well the Boys have gathered a fine chance of corn this week

Sunday, November 25.

a very fine day ground hard froze heavy frost

Monday, November 26.

a rainy morning I went to mill got twelve bushels of wheat ground Some 4000 pounds of flour

Tuesday, November 27.

a warm Blustery day I went to Tremont got a Pair of boots and a crain for the fire place

Wednesday, November 28.

a cool rough day I went to Pekin carried 85 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds of Butter for Henry got 30 cts per pound I got some dry good and sugar 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds

Thursday, November 29.

a cold day freezing all day and cloudy I mended the dining table and several things besides the Boys put the stock in our East pasture is good if the weather does not get too cold and kill the wheat and grass

Friday, November 30.

cool with skim of snow on the ground I went to Tremont for mail matter

Saturday, December 1.

a fine day I went to Tremont got gallon of lamp oil some postage Stamps got some Books of a pedler paid in all \$11 35/100 got a long letter from John Roach

(Ed. Note: The following is the letter that Jephtha got from John Roach.)

Todd County Ky

November 25th 1866

Mr J D Vawter

Dear Cousin

Yours of the 4 Inst is received and as I have been writing to James I concluded to take time and write you a few lines though I have nothing of special interest to write about you spoke of Dr Mc and family they have all moved back to Ky except Ben Mc he is engaged with James in the mercantile business in Decatur (?) he is at this time on a visit to his father in Elkton expects to remain only a few days I think he is well pleased with the Country and his prospects in business the Old Drs health is very poor tho he is able to practice in good weather Sue Mc married our cousin Finis Perkins they are living with their Father Jinny Mc is yet single you spoke of James not writing I have several letters from him in the course of the summer and fall he urges me to come and see him and we will all go to your house a thing I would like very much to do but as yet can fix no time to make the visit I think James is well pleased whether he is or not he is in a big business he has two fine stone houses one of them the best in Decatur (?) he thinks but not the finest the other I think cost him about \$6000 I think the rents are about equal to 10 percent Dr Mc I think is full partner in the houses he has one of them well filled with dry good and says he is doing a fine business and I have no doubt of it if he thinks so he has improved the house that he purchased when he first went to Decatur and made it a most comfortable and convenient dwelling James gave me an invitation to move out there and join him in the mercantile business but I feel that I am too old should like the business very much if I was some 10 or 15 years younger I am too old even to carry on my farm under the present free labor system the Negroes are the most unsettled unreliable creatures in the world I think not more than one in ten of the men are as well off as they were as slaves and the women and children are decidedly worse off I know several Old Negroes that will have to starve or freeze unless something is done for them and there is no body to do it I took one Old Negro woman and fed her through the summer she has left I do not know what has become of the old creature every hut that will shelter a human being is crowded with women and children while the men some are at work some are lounging about doing nothing the farmers suffering for their labor each and every one are trying to set up for himself - One month from today I shall have neither Negro nor boy unless I can hire I do not know what my boys are going to do I have offered them my farm but as yet they have not accepted it I should like very much for them to take the farm and let me be free I feel anxious that they should be doing something for themselves more than making a bare living I have a good farm and at one time was in a situation to make it profitable you say you get no letters from Ky either from friends or foes you do not know whether they are in the sulks from the effects of the war or from other causes I think they that is the Rebels are the best satisfied people among us they staked there all and lost and so far as my observation goes they submit cheerfully your personal friend or should be friend suppose you are a radical abolitionist and therefore are content to have nothing to do with you (I only write what I suppose not that I know any thing) I do not recollect whether I told you that old man Chesnut was dead in my last the old man made a will but I think not very satisfactory to his children the last I heard from the old lady she was in feeble health and Old Father Foster is quite feeble your old friend Leroy Taliaferro is failing but I hope he may live to see a good many years of happiness and prosperity the old man is farming in partnership with his Negroes and part of the balance he has turned loose to shift for themselves Our

Cousin Lucy McLean is in very bad health with a cancer she went to Louisville to see a phician he gave her no encouragement told her she had as well make her arrangements to die for she could not live long and was liable to die at any time

I pased by youre old farm the other day Smith is building a new house at Last – you spoke of John and Presly I wonder if I shall never get to see Presly again tell me where he lives and how he is getting along in the world if I can see him I would like to write to him

now Jep I will tell you something about my own affairs last winter as you know we was drivin from home and thengs went rong generally in the spring I had left on my hands two familys of unprofitable Negroes two men that could not get homes becaus they had been with the Small Pox circumstances made it proper that I should hiertwo more men I had John Mc and 3 other white boys Charley going to schol and 4 Negro men in all 8 hands and not over 150 or 60 acres of land to cultivate my crop will foot up for my part (the white boy got 1/3) about 1200 bushels corn oats and hay enough to feed 40 pork hogs 20 will do my family the ballance for sale 50 stock hogs and from 8000 to 10000 thousand pounds of Tobair (?) for my share so you will see I have made no big things

Now I will say something about money maters you said that you would like to be reducing youre indetedness to me if I was willing I want you to consult youre own interest in that matter the ballance of the fistnote yougave me for the land due one day after date and one of the Hinman notes will be due in march or aprile next Now you can make youre arrangements to pay part or all of them when the firs Hinman note falls due as for the gold note you can pay that at any time after the principal and Interest amoun to \$4000

Now Jeptha do as you pleas in the matter I would rather you wood keep the money untill next march or April and and if youwish to pay it then let me know some time before hand and i will try and come out I can use the money here but dont intend to put you to any inconvenience about it

Yours Truly John Roach

remember me to all the family and dont expect another letter for some tim Anns health is very Poore I am afraid she will never have any more health my health is good

good night

J R

Sunday, December 2.

a fine day South wind with some appearance of rain

Monday, December 3.

high winds last night with rain nearly all night and nearly all day today henry weighed some of my hogs they will average a bout 390 pounds

Tuesday, December 4.

a splended fine day I fixed the fire place in the house Back and Jams &c the Boys are gethering corn

Wednesday, December 5.

a cloudy day some rain in the evening I went to Pekin left with lenard & blossom of first national Bank six thousand three hundred Dollars in 62 five twenty unided states Bonds \$(6300) for to sell for me and buy 2000 in cholage land schrip and the Ballance in united stats seven thirties or cook county scrip at ninety seven cents on the Dollar having full confidence in the officers of the Bank I have taken no receipt for the Bonds but have left it all with them to do for me as they would for them selves

Thursday, December 6.

a cloudy damp day i went to Tremont let Mr Pettis have one (189) hundred and eighty nine Dollars in gold copons to collect for me in green Backs new yorke market I got a pair of shoes at Nat Ingalls I have not paid for I owe him for nothing else at this time

Friday, December 7.

a cloudy damp day with some rain

Saturday, December 8.

a very heavy rain last night cool and cloudy with some Snow to day I went To macinaw Town got James coat and some ten Dollars in goods

Sunday, December 9.

a cold night with some snow this morning on the ground about one inch deep to day has been cold

Monday, December 10.

quite cold the themometer twelv (12) degrees a bove Zero this morning got to a bout (20) the Boys killed two small Beevs one for Ben and the other for Walter

Tuesday, December 11.

a cold day I went to Tremont for my mail mater got five yards of muslin of george Inglalls on tim all that I owe him at this time

Wednesday, December 12.

Still a little colder this morning the Boy gethered corn yesterday and to day it thaws very little

Thursday, December 13.

a damp cold day and Snowed some I went to Tremont for my mail mater got a letter from wash he wants me to go to Kentucky for him &c

Friday, December 14.

a cool cloudy day Louisa and I left home early this morning for Ky got to cousin James Roaches in Decatur found his family all well &c

Saturday, December 15.

a blustery day I went to see cousin Maty gorin I hav suffered very much with corn on toe to day

Sunday, December 16.

more moderate to day it snowed some four inceies deep this morning and is snowing some to day

Monday, December 17.

a cool day we left Decator on the night train for Caro got through by fiv oclock AM paid 18²⁵

Tuesday, December 18.

a cool day we got a boat for Piduca early in the morning got to Piduca at four oclock in the evening paid five Dollars fair came out South at night to Wingo Station paid \$4.50 fair and staid at tavern at station all night Bill one Dol was good house to stay at

Wednesday, December 19.

Some rain to day walked out to Mr Holmes found all well and doing well sent horse and sadle for Louisa she got there to dinner

Thursday, December 20.

a cloudy damp day had James Bradley to spend the day with us

Friday, December 21.

a cool damp day I left Mr Holmes a bout four oclock for railroad station go to humbolt a bout four nex morning paid 8 Dollars fair staid thare untill nine o clock at night twok passage for clarksvill an then to tats station got out to Wash Kindalls by ten oclock nex day Sunday

Saturday, December 22.

a cool damp day got to humgolt at four this morning had to stay all day got of at nine at night

Sunday, December 23.

a cool day hard rain at noon we got to Wash kendalls a bout ten this morning got horses of him and went Nat Smiths Louisa staid thare and went to John Roaches By way of Burnley Smiths &c we have found our friends in very good health

Monday, December 24.

cool and cloudy I went to sam Talaferos to day John Mac Roach went to Smith four Louisa and we are at john roaches with all our Baggage to night

Tuesday, December 25.

a cool damp day we left Cousin John Roaches this morning and went to Mr Fosters found them all in good health

Wednesday, December 26.

cool damp day we went to Doctor McReynals gound him all well I also went to see cousin Loucy Mac clane found her in very poor health She has cancer the rest of her family were all well I staid with Doctor Macreynolds

Thursday, December 27.

I turned cold last night the ground hard froze this morning &c we staid untill after dinner then came back to Mr fosters it has thawed very little

Friday, December 28.

it was cold last night and snowed some and is cold to day i have been looking a round some to day went to Robs & Elaxanders &c

Saturday, December 29.

a cold day it snowed some we went to Williams Chesnuts took dinner there He showed me an inventory of the cash nots due to the estate of Samuel Chesnuts Deceased he think it will pay some 2000

ollars to the four girls each of them we then went to John Raches Lee Talafero came ther and staid untill Sunday evening I then went to Spot Smiths

Sunday, December 30.

a cold day I went to Spots Smiths

Monday, December 31.

a cold day I went to see lanson Tinsleys then to Charles Waghs then Back to Smiths &c
1867

Tues January the 1 first

a cold day I went to Jo Perkins to see Sarah Catharine Sabrina Tutts girl she has six or seven children I fear has a hard time of it I then went to JohnRoaches

Wednesday the 2

a fine day we went up to Mr Fosters found them all well

Thursday the 3

a fine day I got for wash 18225 in silver & gold paid David Chesnut 390 Dollars a very fine day

Friday the 4. 1867

a very fine day and week so fair i bid our foster friend good by for this time this evening and went to Mr. W. A. Chesnuts had a very pleasant time thare got an inventory of Samuel Chesnuts estate &c gave him a receipt for 400 Dollars and took an order for J. W. Vawter to collect that a mount on D. H Chesnuts land dues in Illinois and have the same for his use

Saturday the5

we went to John Raches

Sunday the 6

we went to John Moors and to Smiths

Monday the 7

we went to John Roaches the weather has veen very fine for some ten or twelve day

Teusday the 8

a fine day I or we went to Mr hopson in the evening and stout thar untill the cars came up from memphis in the morning

Wednesday the 9

this morning we took the cars four Louisville got to Louisville at one oclock went from thr direct to Indiananapolis Indiana from thare to Logansport got thare at three o clock

Thirsday Jan the 10 1867

we left Logansport at ten oclock for Washington Illinois got thar at seven oclock in the evening it snowed last night and to day some

Friday the 11

cold cloudy day we got home from Washington by eleven oclock to day found all in fery good health and all things favourable I sold my hogs to Winters to day fifty four head at 1325 Dollars to be taken on Wednesday next henry and walter Sold also

CASH ACCOUNT. JANUARY.

Date. J.D. VAWTER BOOK Received. Paid.

7 of B.F. Vawter on

open acount

14.25