

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>

I started over to Stillwater  
went by the way of  
Mc Hattys left my Match  
planes for Davis to lay  
Mc Hattys Floor

Went on to Stillwater

Stayed at Mc Rusick's

Sold him 18 bushels Beans  
at \$ 3.00 per bushel

and an acre at \$2.00

The Beans are to be delivered  
by the 1<sup>st</sup> of February

Mc Rusick is to sell the  
articles at cash prices  
or the cash as soon as  
he gets a Return from a  
Rapt in the Spring

Thursday the 25<sup>th</sup>  
Christmas day.

I started from ~~pon~~  
Stillwater came to  
Mc Hattis found Davis  
had layed, Mc Hattis Floor  
Came home found Vail  
had been here want  
a copy of Quimtons  
Bill of Sale Recorded in  
the Registers Books, or Rather  
it is a Deed of Trust

Friday 26<sup>th</sup>

Haskell & I went to  
Fort Snelling took my pork  
Brot home my Flour 2  
Barrels, 4 Barrels Beans  
7 Bushels Corn

Bought a Buffalo Rob  
at \$ 2.50 bought 40 lbs of  
Harnes leather for Charley  
at Sibley, learned  
of Steel that the Black  
& White cow of the Lar

Cattle that I sold ~~was~~  
to F. Steel, <sup>weighed lighter than</sup> 400 lbs,

Bought 7 Bushel Beans  
of Lieutenant Granger  
paid \$1.50 per Bushel

Took a Receipt of him  
arrived at home at about  
7 o'clock, found John  
McCattie had been here  
with his Steer & 2 horses  
brought over 3 of the Middleton  
girls on a Visit

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>  
Haskell & Charley went  
to Fort Snelling Haskell  
got an account at Steels  
for one  $\frac{1}{2}$  bushel  
Cranberries.

Harrison & I hauled  
Haskell's freight up off  
of the Ice to Hopkins  
Stam.

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>  
Haskell went home to-  
day. Charley went over  
with him.

Harrison & I went  
down to see John Brown  
but he was not at home

Monday 29th

Harrison took over for  
Haskell to his house  
a load of Flour & Beef  
I am assisting Ford to  
make a Train.

I went over at Huskells  
Request and bot a  
Backskin at 2,25 with  
the privilege of returning  
it provided it does  
not suit Haskell

John Brown was here  
& invited us all down  
to his meeting on

New year's day  
I bot a neck compressor  
at Hopkins for .62 1/2

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>

Harrison returned today  
and took over a load  
consisting of 4 Barrels of  
Pork & 5 of Flour for  
Mr Haskell, I sent  
over the Buck Skin to  
Haskell, he kept it.

Brisette sent an order  
by F. McCoy & Amab  
for the Steer I sold  
him but we have had  
no settlement I decline  
sending him until  
B. & I settle, I sent him  
the Balance of 3 lbs of  
Candles, I sold him some  
time since,

Wednesday 31st  
Charley came home today  
from the Lake, says  
Harrison has gone to  
the head of the Lake  
with <sup>the</sup> teams for Hoskell  
Mr. Pond came down  
today preached at Mr. Hottans  
Bush & White happened  
along just in time to hear  
I this day settled with  
Brissette & took his  
note for the Balance due  
on which was \$14.50  
I am still assisting Ford  
with his Train  
Mr. Pond stays with  
us over night

January 1st 1846

This is the first day of  
the year 1846 how time  
flies. We came here  
in 1841

Mr Sand left for  
Redwing Village &  
Harrison went down  
to John W. Brown's  
wedding I married  
them, saw Lucy Prescott  
and Sam Larrott,

we stayed until 10 in  
the evening & came home  
White & Bush stayed over  
night with us Bot, & Bush,  
Beans & J. W. Butter paid for  
them, left early, before day

Weather very warm all the time soon

Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>

Last evening the wind changed  
toward in the North grew soon  
colder & snowed a little.

This morning cloudy & has  
the appearance of snow,  
10 o'clock cleared away and  
became very warm & pleasant  
threwed fast.

Harrison took the waggan  
and went down to the  
Island for six bbls of  
lime we measured up  
18 Bushels of Beans  
for Mc Kusie of Stillwater  
Harrison Reports the Ice  
weak across the Slough

Saturday 3rd

Harrison & I hauled our  
load of hay on the waggon  
for John A Ford

and one for ourselves

It was so warm that  
it was unpleasant to  
work.

After we had started  
home with last load

I was taken with a  
pain across my bowels  
a very severe pain indeed  
so much so that I  
could not walk home  
A Mr Howe stays with  
us tonight,

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>

Morning cloudy & noon  
cool than we have had  
Have left for St Paul

Monday 5<sup>th</sup>

Finished Ford's Train,  
Started for Stillwater  
went as far as Haskell's.  
found the Road icy & bad

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>

Left Haskell's for Stillwater  
Road being icy, arrived  
there at 3 o'clock P.M.,  
delivered McRusick 6 bbls  
Linn & 13  $\frac{1}{2}$  bushels Beans

These Beans I sold Mc TE,  
for \$ 2.00 per Bushel  
the time I hauled up  
from Hazen Movers for  
Mc Kusick.

I got my waggon  
repaired at Mc TE's Shop  
started home on

Wednesday 7th

Got as far as Haskell  
Stayed all night with  
Haskell. Start home  
in the morning

Thursday 8th

Came home by the way of  
Rockwoods plain

got of Rockwood  $6\frac{1}{2}$  bushels  
corn, came to Esq. Harris  
took dinner then  
then saw Ham, Renfro,  
Jackson & Vail.

Came home J. G. Davis  
came over & received his  
Fees on the Bifulle &  
Cummings suit.

found the Mail had  
arrived.

While at Stillwater I bot.

1 pair coarse boots \$3.00, 1 table  
cloth 60 cents 1 pr pants  
for C. Caviler \$3.00  
2 lbs Salenatus .37 $\frac{1}{2}$   
1 small chisel .25

Friday 9<sup>th</sup>  
yesterday it snowed about  
1 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches, but this morn,  
is clear & pleasant.

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>  
Harrison & I hauled  
a load of hay on the sledge  
our ladders broke & let  
our load fall off.

We then took the sled but  
found it hard on the cattle  
and hauled another load

Sunday had the afternoon  
snow all day.

Monday 11th

Started early for Huskells  
arrived there at sunrise  
Stopped at Mc Hatties  
saw Robertson there  
John invited me to his  
wedding on Thursday next  
Haskell & I started to  
Marion Mills in his old  
Jumper had but little  
snow so we went up the  
Lake, Stopped at Stillwater  
toose Dinner at Greelys  
Saw Miss Greely for the  
first time also Mrs.  
Harris, was well pleased  
with them on first sight

We went on to Mason Mills  
arrived there after sunset  
they are making great  
improvements there.  
in the evening they had  
a dance. They appear to  
be preparing for a  
party that is to come off  
there on Thursday next  
There were 4 young Ladies  
there.

Tuesday 12th

I settled May & Cavillers  
Lumber Bills & took  
their Receipt.

also I settled W.B.

Havan an other account

with the Masine Co,  
and Received of them an  
Kevananghs account  
in goods \$ 6,00 at My  
Request Haskell bought  
two Mill Saws one at \$ 6,  
the other at 3,50

I bought Mr a new Cap  
at 7,00, Martha a clothes  
Basket at 1,25, 4 lbs  
alum 50 pint Sher  
pegs 12¢, 4 pers small Butter  
40. 2½ gals flannel 1,62  
Martha pair shoe 1,25  
and some other little articles  
We started home stopped at  
still water took supper at  
Suebs house

There saw Mrs Fair for the  
first time. She appears  
to be very fond of Gaming  
Was playing at Back Game  
& Cards taking her by & large  
I was not much pleas  
with her, I the Ladies  
at still waters are rather  
straining a point to appear  
Refined.

They came on down to  
Haskell's & stayed all night  
next morning started  
home Crosby came  
along & stayed over night  
with us. Got of me one  
Barrel Flour at 8.00 to  
be paid early in the Spring

also am guster of Beef  
I went up to the Store  
and bot a few Sundries  
amounting to 1,250,  
got Ford to make me  
a pitch Fork.

Charley & Harrison had  
gone Fishing Harrison  
dropped Charley and  
through the Ice, they  
came home with 8 fish

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>

Our Horse was among the  
missing consequently Martha  
cannot go to the Wedding I  
promised Crosby I would take  
his Churn over to McHattie's

place in the Lumper, but  
as the horse was gone I can't  
take it. Harrison & I  
went over to the Wedding on  
Foot. Had a very pleas-  
-ant time. They had  
Liquor & drank of which  
I disapproved. They indulged  
in the simple plays usually  
played on such occasions  
I hope the day is not far  
distant when such things  
will not be countenanced by  
the better sort of people  
We started home at 2 o'clock  
at night. I saw Mrs Andy  
McCay for the first time  
I think her a good Woman

Friday 16th

I went out to look for the  
Horse I expected he was with  
the Indian Horses so went  
up to the Lodges to find out  
when their horses were found  
they were below our horse  
came on down here found  
a man by the name of

Seaser here waiting to see me  
he wanted a warrant for a  
Frenchman by the name of  
Kenoin for an assault with  
intent to kill, but it appears  
that they have had a general row  
so I declined having any thing to  
do with the affair at all  
so Seaser left,

Before Pearce got of sight  
Venain, appeared wanting  
a Warrant for Pearce  
Was as Ready of the others  
to swear his life was in  
danger &c but I decline  
acting in the matter at  
all so he left.

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>

Weather continues pleasant  
No snow on the ground  
I have not seen such a  
Winter in this country, such  
fine weather and no snow  
I went up & tried to get the  
axe out of the Lake thru  
Harrison dropped in for Charley

I found the Water 12 1/2 feet  
deep I could not feel the use  
at all, I got an Indian  
to fish for it but he could  
not get it, so gave it up  
and came home,

Passed Capt. Holcomb  
at the House, he Recored some  
papers, administered the  
Oath of Office to me as  
Deputy Register of Deeds  
and paid me 1,750 for Recording  
one deed a conveyance from  
Purinton to Withwell of  
St. Louis The Capt left  
about sunset for Esq Morris's  
place, I settled with J. A.  
Ford this evening he Receipted

his account in full & I think  
he was in my debt \$ 3.32  
he paid me the money,

Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup>  
Davis J. S. was here  
today he left an account  
against Dr. Carli to  
be collected.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup>  
I worked in the shop  
today made 2 fork  
kates, Harrison & I  
ground our axes &  
my plane Bispeth  
sent today for his Bed  
cord,

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>

Harrison & I hauled hay  
3 loads 2 of them the  
first & the last slipped  
off before we got home

The weather is remarkably  
warm & pleasant,

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>

Warm & pleasant, Cloudy  
has the appearance of snow

Harrison & I hauled hay  
3 loads finished just at dark

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>

Harrison & I hauled hay for  
Ford, 3 loads at .125 = 375  
Mr Harris of Still Water Staged

over night, with us, was looking  
out a claim. I sent him down  
to see the prairie just below  
my claim

Friday 23

I sized out a set of harness for  
Mink, Harrison Choper Wood

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>

I borrowed J. A. Fords train  
and went to Fort Snelling

bot. 1 Barrel Beans @ 3.50

Bot cloth for 2 vests one

for myself & 1 for Harrison

Bot  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a Bushel firm Satt

took up to Mr Prescott a jar

of Butter, found the Ice

Very bad. Stayed over night

with Mr Prescott,

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>

Came home from the Post  
for Bad, Rockwood came  
over & Bro't 2 wedges,

Martha & I went over to  
see Mrs Flattou she being  
sick; Weather so warm  
that the water is running  
in the Ravines along the  
Road.

Monday 26<sup>th</sup>

Wind in Northwest blowing quite  
fast has the appearance of a  
change in the weather.

Tuesday 27

Clear & pleasant, cut some  
wood & piled over the Potatoes  
holes to keep the Cattle

up about it

from scraping the dirt off  
Ezr Harris came over brot  
over the county books & left  
them here, paid me his  
Marriage Fee, I promise  
to make him some doors  
& Window Frames for his  
new house sold him the  
B. Kovananghs Lash, at 10¢  
per light, for the work that  
I do for him he is to let me  
have some grain & pork next fall

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>

I started for Stillwater & at as  
far as Haskell's stayed over  
night commenced raining at  
7 o'clock in the evening, rained  
all night,

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>

Very foggy looked likely for  
Rain did Rain some through  
the day. I stayed at Hasbells  
all day in hopes it would  
clear away so that I might  
go to Stillwater the next  
day.

Friday 30<sup>th</sup>

Wind in the north cold had the  
appearance, of a great change  
I arrived home in the morning  
I came home, left My Beans  
for Hasbell to take up to  
Stillwater, stoped at John  
Mc Hatties got some Boards  
to make him a cupboard  
came home, & hauled 2 loads of

wood one for Charles, &  
one for the House.

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup>  
Clear & has the appearance  
of fair weather again  
Harrison & I Chopped wood  
to haul to the House

I & Martha over hauled  
our Pickles took them  
out of the Liquor they were  
in, washed them put them  
in Vinegar, since which  
they look well,

February Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>

Wind day all day.

Harrison went over to see  
Esq Norris was well pleased  
with Visit.

Russell presented an order  
from the Department for what  
Post Office Money I had  
on hand I paid him 35, dollars

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Harrison Chopped wood  
I worked in the shop.

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>

Harrison Hauled Wood  
I worked in the shop.

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>

Hay, & went out with the waggon  
to look for some good oak  
timber <sup>for</sup> gates Harrow &c  
we got some good white  
Oak. H. found a Bee tree  
the first he ever found in  
his life he feels quite lifted  
<sub>up about it</sub>

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>

Harrison commenced threshing  
the oats, takes the job at 6 $\frac{1}{4}$   
cents per bushel,

Packed down about 300 lbs  
Beef in Barrels & made a  
pickle to preserve it

To every gallon of water  
I put 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs Rock salt  
1 oz Saltpeter & 1 gill of  
Molasses Boiled & Skimed  
& let stand to cool.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup>

I finished setting down  
my beef found that 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  or 8  
gallons brine was sufficient  
for a Barrel. Harrison  
continued threshing

Saturday 7 Harrison

went to Post for the Mail I  
received a letter from Joseph  
my Brother also one from  
the P. O. I. Stating I had been  
Reported by the Contractor  
as having refused to pay  
over the Balance due the  
P. O. I. The contractor  
has Reported me falsely.

Sunday 8 the Clear &  
pleasant. I answered Jo's  
letter also the one from  
the P. O. I. wrote to the  
Contractor Dausman  
wrote to H. S. Stewart P. M.  
Chicago Requesting him  
to use his influence in having  
the Mail stop at this office

Monday 9th Clear & pleasant  
Harrison threshed oats.

Tuesday 10th Harrison  
& I hauled 3 loads hay  
found Huttons cattle had  
destroyed some considerable

Wednesday 11th H. Threshed  
oats. I prepared to go over  
to Huskells but some man  
came from Still Water  
with an order from Vail  
for a copy of a Deed  
of Trust from James  
Purinton to John H.  
Ferguson, which detained  
me until it was too late  
to start over to  
Huskells

Thursday 12th Huskell  
came over, brot over Fords  
Sleigh & our Candles & rods  
I went over with him in  
the evening got over there  
after dark went by  
Bipells place and got  
Huskells wind Mill.

Friday 13th  
Came home from Huskell  
Brot over Sam Deers  
hair for Charles & I  
Brot over the 8<sup>d</sup> nails  
H. had borrowed of  
Mr. J. J. Davis was  
here left a Deed to be  
Recorded.

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>

Harrison & I winnawed 60  
or 70 Bushels of oats brot. home  
about 30 bushels & put them in  
my shop, Mr Lead A. Jr, and  
E. Faylan came down to have  
a deed acknowledged &  
Recorded.

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>

Wind in the Northwest getting  
cold snowed  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch  
had the appearance of cold  
weather;

Monday 16<sup>th</sup>

Harrison hauled wood half  
of the day, I commenced  
making a set of wood ladders  
morning quite cold, at noon  
more pleasant,

just night the Hurkint  
Caw had a heifer calf

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>

Harrison hauled wood on  
the sled until noon, after  
which he took the Waggon  
& hauled 3 loads of Wood  
for Ford, I finished the  
Wood Sadders,

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>

Sold Laclare 8 lbs of  
Butter at 25<sup>¢</sup> per lb  
on credit, Mail arrived  
received a letter from  
the Department stating  
we were to have the  
Mail. Harrison hauled wood  
for Ford, Haskell came over  
to assist thresh our Oats

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>

Haskell & Harrison tramp  
Oats. I made a door  
for the Hen, House & put  
up Pigeon holes for the  
Hens nests. } Hattar got the waggan  
to go to Mill

Friday 20<sup>th</sup>

Baronnet Hottans Mare  
to tramp oats, Haskell,  
Harrison, & I all worked  
at the oats, tramped  
out 1200 Sheaves with  
4 horses. } I returned Hottans  
Mare

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>

Hottan Returned the waggan  
Haskell Harrison & I finished  
threshing the oats.

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>

Haskell left for home  
brought 6 lights sash for  
James Parker & 6 for himself  
&  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb putty.

Monday 23

Harrison & I winnowed  
oats it was very windy &  
cold for that kind of work

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>

Very cold so much so that  
Harrison & I concluded not  
to winnow oats, did not  
do much of any thing.

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>

Very cold did not do any  
thing, John Movers was  
here took Dinner with us

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>

Harrison & Charley took a  
bee tree got a good deal of Honey  
I walked up to the Fort to see  
Mr Steel, but he was gone  
over to St Croix sold Finley  
one hundred Bushels of oats  
at 60 cents per Bushel  
Bot. 1 paper of Gun powder  
1 Bottle Indelible Ink  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  lb white linen Thread

Friday 27<sup>th</sup>

Took 46  $\frac{1}{2}$  Bushels oats  
up to steel, bot. 10 lbs  
Cherry Bot down 3 lbs  
damaged Beans at 1.25 per  
bushel, found my oats  
weighed 33 lbs to the Bushel  
Weather stormy.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>

Weather Moderate, started  
to the Fort with 57 $\frac{1}{2}$  bushels oats  
got to St Pauls & sold my load

to Ferris took an order an  
H. H. Sibley for 28,75 - dollars

Bot. Ferris 3 yds Sheep grey  
cloth for pants 1,25 = 3,75

Sold him my whip @ \$1,00

Bot. of Simpson 10 lights

glass, 50, 1 tin cup 18 $\frac{3}{4}$  = 68 $\frac{3}{4}$

Went with A. N. Pe<sup>o</sup> Lead to

Fay~~lin~~ falls to take the Ackno-  
-wledgement to a Deed.

Harrison went over to Huskells

Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup>

Warm & pleasant

Monday March 2nd

Harrison returned from Huskell's  
& cleaned up & hove a load of  
Oats he & Charley. I went up to

the Fort & carried up 40 1/2  
bushels of Oats. Stebb was well  
pleased with them they were  
clean & the grain well filled  
I took to St Pauls 9 doz  
Eggs & sold 2 doz to La Roche

@ 37 1/2 per doz = 75 - 7 doz  
to L. Robert @ 37 1/2 = 262 1/2

Bot. at the Fort 51 1/2 lbs Pork

at 8 cents per lb = 4,127. and

one bushel Peaches @ 1,50

got 2 Rings & staples at  
Robinet's & paid him the Balan-  
due on them

Presented a draft on H. H. Sibley  
from David Ferris which  
was accepted and delivered  
a Quit Claim deed from  
Mr. Dargass to J. McLeod  
of St Pauls to ~~the~~ Sibley he  
paid my fees.

Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Ford & I went up to St Pauls  
I took up some Butter sold  
8 lbs to La Roche @ 25 per lb  
which together with the Eggs  
I sold him the ~~day~~ before  
paid the Balance I was owing  
them of \$ 2.75. I let L.  
Robert have the Balance of  
the Butter & settled with him  
and found I still owed him  $3\frac{1}{2}$  cents

I bot Martha a pair of  
Irnell Shoes of Ferris  
at 1.50 for which I still  
owe him, I bot of Jackson  
one Morticing Chisel .25-  
bot 10 light glass & one  
Tin <sup>Drum</sup> cup of J. Simpson  
all amounting to .75-cents  
which was a Balance due  
me. Wednesday March 4

Harrison & I went down in  
the Bottom to haul out Rails  
hauled out about 220

at night the Prairie was an  
Fire Charles Harrison &

I went out to fight fire  
found it was coming to B. W.  
Kovanang's house so we fired

around his place & left found  
the fire had done no damage on  
my claims,

Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup>  
We found that a Tree had  
Burned down & fallen across  
the place we had burned.  
around B. W. T's place & set  
the soap on fire again  
and had burned most  
of his Rails - had run  
around & under his house  
But had not burned it.

Harrison & I hauled out  
Rails 2,20 The Ice in the  
River started down today  
Mr E. A. Biffell was here  
today but I did not see him

Friday March 6th

H. & I hauled out the Balan-  
 of the Nails & got some good  
 Timber & Sticks Bore  
 in the <sup>ice</sup> through the  
 Ice had our Timber to  
 unload. <sup>to</sup> Edg Jackson was  
 here today. I saw him not.  
 Harrison & I moved our  
 Bess <sup>and</sup> goods today found  
 the old <sup>ice</sup> had been  
 kept too warm most of  
 them <sup>to</sup> melt.

Saturday March 7th

Harrison took up a hole  
 of Turnips & done up some  
 little Cheres about the house  
 cleaned out the Shop & &  
 gained up our axes & &  
 Ice run pretty smartly today

Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup>  
Very warm & pleasant  
This day completes my 30<sup>th</sup>  
year, What 30 years old  
and no grace, wicked as ever  
yes Truly it is so.

Monday March 9<sup>th</sup>  
~~Harrison & I went down in  
the Bottom to sawt house  
Logs to build a Cabin on the  
Claim cut 33 logs 15 feet  
long. The Ice went out  
of the River today.~~

Monday March 9<sup>th</sup>  
Harrison took Hassells  
Windmill Horn,  
I fixed up the Old Kitchen  
for Martha

Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup>

Harrison & I went down in  
the Bottom to look for Cabbin  
logs to build a Shanty on the  
Claim, Cut 33 logs 15 feet long

The Ice went out of the  
River today, Raining a  
little in the evening.

Charley Killed 4 ducks &  
2 Partridges;

Wednesday 11 March

Rained all day the first  
rain this spring, I worked  
in the Shop Made a 9 light  
Sash for the Old Titcher  
also a Transom sash  
for Haskell & lights

Filed up the old Crosscut Saw  
moved Morhas stove out in Titcher



From the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society: William R. Brown Papers.

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society, and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.

[www.mnhs.org](http://www.mnhs.org)