

Feb. 15. 1899.

To day is Bright and clear and warm and look just like Spring. It snowed last night but the snow is going of very fast. It seems very curious weather to me to see it down 28 degrees below zero and in 24 hours after it is warm and thawing. the newspapers gives reports of suffering and cold in the Northern States that was never known before.

Feb. 16. 1899.

It is cloudy again this morning and looks like it would storm any time. the folks are all gone to school to day but me and cousin Sadie is home alone

we have been talking about all of our folks at home and she has been wishing she could see them all and have a visit with them. I thought to day I would get a letter but I was disappointed, but perhaps I will get one tomorrow. I would like to know if it has been as cold out home as it has here. I dont think it has. Well I am still having a good visit with my folks they are kind good people too, as you will ever meet but my visit will soon be over and then I must return to my labors where ever I may be sent. I have written to Chicago for instructions and I expect to day or tomorrow all is fine and nice to day.

Feb. 17, 1899.

This is a beautiful day
Clear and Balmey and just
like Spring and I have
done nothing but sit in
the house and write my
Journal. at noon I
got a letter from Chicago
and in the evening I got
a letter from one of
my dear old companions
Andrew Petersen with great
Pleasure I read it and
enjoyed it very much
There is not much to
write as every thing seems
the same here in the city
So here I sit writing my
Book. I enjoy my self
very much there's visiting
with my folks. I expect to
go a way soon but I got
a letter from Chicago telling

me I could use my own
Judgement about whether
I go to labor and if I thought
it good to labor here in
this Port - all right -

Feb 18, 1899.

To day has been about as
usual not very much
new I went down town
and had a walk around
town and saw some of
the best and nicest homes
and residences in the city
The City of Ottumwa is
built on a awful steep hill
& inset Edna she had
three letters for me and
they were all from my
wife I was awful glad
to hear from home
she sent me 10 dollars

Feb. 19. 1899.

Today is Sunday. the Bpt minister came here yesterday and left a special invitation for the Jones family to come out to meeting but we did not go we were at home all day. The weather is lovely and warm and just like spring

Feb. 20 1899.

To day I am going to Eldon again and now I am going to pack my traps at 10³⁰ I got on the train and was soon at Eldon a distance of 12 miles I was met at the depot by John Goder they had almost given me up because I never came back sooner but they were all glad to see me and my Cousin Elvira had

been sick but was feeling some better and almost the first thing she wanted me to do was to take the bible and talk to her on the gospel so I sat down and took her bible and talked to her about the gospel and she seems awfully interested in it

Feb 21 1899.

To day is warm and pleasant like spring. I went to the P. O. and got a letter from my brother Jonathan and mother also I went to one of the stores and got me a new hat costing 2⁵⁰ the folks says it just looks fine to day I took my own bible and read for about 2 hours to the folks they seem more interested than ever

Feb. 22, 1899.

To day I have not been feeling very good I have a bad cold and I feel sick at my stomach I have been laying on the sofa all day and have not eaten anything in the after noon I got 2 letters well to night I feel a little better the weather is not so cold and it looks like storming again

Feb. 23, 1899

This morning I feel a great deal better but still have a head ache the weather is soft but snowing a little having kept myself in the house for several day there is not much news to write and it seems like one day is almost like the one before

Feb. 24, 1899

There is nothing to write to day there is nothing going on in town, I don't feel able to get around yet very much & it is snowing some to day. nothing unusual to write about - I have been out with my cousin and made several calls.

Feb. 25, 1899.

To day is storming quite hard and a miserable day it is I have been in doors all day and I have written five letters and sent and took them to the P.O. it has been raining and snowing all day and the side walks are so icy one can hardly walk along them. There is nothing much to write so I will only keep up my Journal

Feb 26 1899.

To day is Sunday and a very stormy day it is so we have neither been out to meeting or any where else although we had a fine dinner Roast-Beef roast Potatoes Pic sauce Pinios and Sweet Potatoes so now here I sit writing up my old Journal which will soon be done and then I will send it home and get me another.

Feb. 27. 1899.

To day has been as usual The weather is not cold but very cloudy and looks very much like storm with a cold wind from the north I have been reading in the bible all day and Explaining it to my Cousin Elvira

Feb 28 1899

I have been marking my Cousins bible to day so they can read all the different Passages of scripture, on the different Principles of the Gospel. we generally have an hour or two each day and read the bible on all of the Points of Gospel The days all pass very much the same the weather is not fit to travel out in the country so I am going to stay here at my Cousins until the weather is fit then I will get a companion sent to me and we will go out traveling and holding meetings the prospects are very favorable for doing a gospel work here in this county and I shall remain here all summer

March 1st 1899.

This is the first day of March it is cloudy and looks very much like rain but it is warm enough to thaw, and it is quite wet and getting muddy along the streets. Last night I went to a Theatre myself and cousin Elvira and Delah and Fred. The play was Entitled The American Soldier, but I thought I had seen many Theatres at home just as good, from home Talent. This after noon I went with Ed Goder out one mile from town to the coal mine to order a load of coal but the man that owned it was not at home so we did not get any coal is very abundant here

There being plenty of coal found all through this part of Iowa, many of the farmers own their own coal Banks 3 miles from here they mine on a large scale the coal town is called Lockdale, it is not a nice coal as we have out-home there is nothing new to write today

March 2, 1899.

To day has been as usual I have been doing nothing the weather has been getting colder again, and now it is snowing again with a cold wind from the north west but the weather here is always very changeable which makes it very unhealthy.

March 3. 1899.

To day is a little warmer
I went up to the P.O. and
got 3 letters. It is somewhat
lonesome but as soon as
the letter weather is so I
can go out in the country
I will get a companion
and travel then it will
not be so lonesome

March 4. 1899.

As there is nothing to do
and the weather is cold
I have been in the house
all day reading the bible
I always enjoy reading the
Bible but for a man to
read all the time get very
tiresome. Especially when
one is alone. but I enjoy
my labors as a missionary
very much

March 5. 1899.

The time moves along about
the same. almost everyday
I get a chance to talk with
some body on the gospel. well
to day the weather is much
warmer and it looks like
spring. the winter has seemed
a long one to me already
I have not seen another
Elder for two months and
then my last companion
was the only one I had seen
for 4 months before that
so I have not seen any Elders
but my last companion since
the 31 of Sept - a little over
six months ago. but I
feel well in my labors and
I enjoy them very much
but I expect soon to have
a companion and start out
in to the country then it will be
better

March 6, 1899

This morning I took my Kodak and went down the River and Mr John Godes went along and we took several Snap shots. and I got one of my self and when I came home I ~~de~~ developed it, and it is a good one too. To day is nice and warm and looks like Spring. I had a letter from my wife and little ones and it makes my heart rejoice, to know they are well and getting along all right. but I never since I came away from home have I ever fretted about my affairs at home. I believe if I do my duty the Lord will Bless me and my family that I have left at home.

March 7, 1899.

Today has been very quiet and each day is almost alike and when the times are dull there is not much to write and I never go out in town only to the P.O. or to the store to buy some little thing O. yes. I went to a Theatre last week and took Cousin Elvira and Leola and Fred we had a nice time and enjoyed ourselves very much.

March 8, 1899.

Well it is just one year and three months to day since I left my home and my wife and little ones. and came out in to the world to do what good I could to my fellowman. for which I am very thankful and I feel