

# **THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES**

**1871, 1872, 1874, AND 1875**

Barry County, Michigan  
Newaygo County, Michigan  
Lancaster County, Nebraska  
Nuckolls County, Nebraska

Transcribed by  
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June-July 2000

## 1874/1875 NEBRASKA LOCATIONS

Belvidere	Thayer County; post office established July 17, 1873
Edgar	Clay County; post office established November 25, 1872
Elkton	Nuckolls County; post office established December 18, 1871
Fairfield	Clay County; post office established January 25, 1873
Hebron	Thayer County; post office established ?? [trips there in 1875; wrote letter to H. Journal Feb. 20, 1874]
Kiowa	Thayer County; post office established July 14, 1870
Nelson	Nuckolls County; post office established January 26, 1874
Ox Bow	Nuckolls County; post office established by October 30, 1873
Scandinavia	Harlan County; post office established June 18, 1874 [May 17]
Spring Creek	Thayer County
White Rock	Settlement in northwest Republic County, Kansas

## FAMILY MEMBERS

[writer]	Joy, George	Would marry Elizabeth Ella Templin March 12, 1876. She had been a pupil of his when he was teaching school.
George	Winslow, Geo.	Writer's brother-in-law. Married Lenora Joy October 5, 1873 [January 29]
Nora	Winslow, Lenora	Writer's sister [February 3]
Orisa	Joy, Orisa	Writer's aunt [February 16, March 20] purchased millinery store at Edgar [April 27, 1875]
Mother	Joy, Betsey	Writer's mother, wife of Lucius Joy [died February 3, 1874; buried at Mount Zion Cemetery but no funeral described]
Bert	Joy, Albert	Writer's brother. Wife, Mary.
Mary	Joy, Mary	Writer's sister-in-law. Married Albert Joy November 20, 1870. ['had a girl' August 22--likely daughter Lena Louise previously thought to have been born in August of 1875]

## DIARY DESCRIPTIONS

1871

black leather cover with flap on front; "DIARY" in gold on flap, vertical to cover

dimensions: 3" x 6"; pages 72mm x 150mm; edges marbled

title page: Diary for 1871. Published Annually for the Trade.

diary pages: three days per page

entries: mostly pencil; some ink, including purple

contents: calendar, 1871; difference of time [tables of local time for Boston, New York]; complete table of stamp duties as approved March 26, 1867; detailed monthly calendar with sunrise and sunset times for Boston and New York; similar monthly calendar pages with Chicago times; following diary pages are several "Memoranda" pages; Cash Account pages [two per month]; followed by additional "Memoranda" pages

1872

black leather cover; "DIARY" in gold, horizontal on center of cover; label affixed to upper right corner of cover: DAN'L. E. SOPER & CO., Booksellers & Stationers, Newaygo, Mich.

dimensions: 2 7/8" x 5 7/8"; pages 70mm x 147mm; edges gilt

title page: Pocket Diary 1872 Published for the Trade.

diary pages: two days per page

entries: combination of ink and pencil; some purple ink

contents: inside front cover: "Patent Erasible Surface" patented October 24, 1865, "use a soft pencil, and erase with moisture;" calendar, 1872; difference of time [tables of local time for Boston, New York]; complete table of stamp duties as approved July 13, 1870; detailed monthly calendar with sunrise and sunset times for Boston and New York; similar monthly calendar pages with Chicago times; following diary pages are several "Memoranda" pages; Cash Account pages [two per month]; followed by additional "Memoranda" pages

1874

black leather cover; loop of black cloth on back cover to be used to hold cover

dimensions: 3" x 5 7/8"; pages 72mm x 146mm; edges gilt

title page: Excelsior Diary for 1874

diary pages: three days per page

entries: ink, some in June in purple ink

contents: calendar, 1874; difference of time [tables not identified as to place]; table of wages by the week; interest tables; domestic postage; populations of states and territories, 1870; presidents of the United States; following diary pages are several "Memoranda" pages; Cash Account pages [two per month]; followed by "bills payable" and "bills receivable" pages for each month

1875

black leather cover with flap on front; "DIARY" in gold on flap, vertical to cover; flap quite worn along fold

dimensions: 3" x 4 7/8"; pages 72mm x 120mm ; edges marbled

title page: Pocket Diary for 1875 Published for the Trade.

diary pages: three days per page

entries: most in ink, a few in pencil

contents: calendar, 1875; interest tables; value of foreign gold and silver coins; rates of postage; detailed monthly calendar with sunrise and sunset times for Boston and New York; similar monthly calendar pages with Chicago times; following diary pages are several "Memoranda" pages; Cash Account pages [two per month]; followed by additional "Memoranda" pages

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1871

Geo W Joy

Maple Grove

Barry Co.[MI]

- January
- 1 At Uncle Bill's. Weather pleasant. Went from there to the Directors.
  - 2 Warm but windy. In the schoolroom 21 scholars. Every thing all right. Girls went to dance at Wayland.
  - 3 Stormy in the morn. Pleasant towards night. In schoolroom 20 scholars. Wrote a letter to A Hall
  - 4 Weather pleasant. School as usual. Paul, Jimmie and Arthur got into a fight. 24 scholars.
  - 5 Weather stormy & warm. Kept school with a severe head ache. 27 scholars. A letter from Albert which I answered. Went to the store in the evening.
  - 6 Weather moderate & a little stormy. In school with 25 scholars. Wrote a letter to A Hall. Staid at home.
  - 7 Weather pleasant. In school which was rather dull. 12 scholars.
  - 8 Commenced snowing last night & did not stop until this morning. Snow 20 inches deep. Went with Dell and the girls to their Uncle's in Allegan County. Pleasant all day.
  - 9 Warm but stormy part of the time. 28 scholars with two new ones.
  - 10 Very warm so that it thaws considerable. In school with 30 scholars. Commenced reading the American Conflict by H. [Horace] Greely.
  - 11 Thawing just like fun. the snow most gone. Commenced protracted meeting by Elder White. that night rather bad time for meeting. 23 scholars to day. Almost sick to day with sore throat.
  - 12 Still a thawing. Sleighing all gone. 28 scholars. went to meeting in the evening. Ward of Coldwater done the preaching.
  - 13 Pleasant in the morning but noon changed to rain. 26 scholars. Wrote a letter to C Mack.
  - 14 Stormy. a regular sleet from the N. E. all day. Sick with a most an awful head ache. been to the store most all day. received a letter from S. M. M.
  - 15 Still a storming. Was surprised by see father & mother coming to see me. Wrote a letter to Albert in regard to that farm whether we should keep it. \$2100 Wrote a letter to S. M. M. Went to meeting in evening.
  - 16 Pleasant. In school with 26 scholars. In evening went with Rob. & girls over to N. Beals. had good time.
  - 17 Pleasant. In school with 27 scholars. I am puzzled in Algebra but will work out some time I guess.
  - 18 Weather Pleasant. School progress in finely. 28 scholars to day. Went over west to spelling about 2 miles. It did not amount to much.
  - 19 Weather Pleasant. In school with 26 scholars. Spirits good or not much trouble.
  - 20 Warm & pleasant. thaws a little. 25 scholars to day. making some

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- calculation on going home to morrow night but rather doubtful.
- 21 Weather cold looks like a storm. Feeling frustrate. Visitor at school Mr. Buxton. Wrote a letter Nora. 22 scholars.
- 22 Quite cold. begins to snow in the after noon. Went to Uncles. Saw cousin Alvina for first time.
- 23 Snow quite deep. cold Thermomiter [sp?] degrees above zero. Not but 18 scholars to day. Wrote letter to S. M.
- 24 Weather pleasant. A good amount of snow on ground. received seven dollars of M. Bassett on order from Dist. 22 scholars to day. almost sick. feel better towards night.
- 25 Clear & cold. Better than I was yesterday. Wrote a letter to father in which I put \$5. 20 scholars to day
- 26 Pleasant. Had to stay at the school house until dark most sick. 24 scholars to day.
- 27 Continues pleasent. 28 scholars all getting along finely. Went down to Martins in the evening. Rob broke through the ice.
- 28 Sleighing first rate. Little warm so as to thaw some. Went Rabbit hunting but saw nothing.
- 29 Thawing & little stormy towards night. Was to home all day except started to go over to Urv's but came back before I got there. Made some salve of beans & lard.
- 30 Rains all day but not hard. Went to a show. It was no go. He got cents ten. He gave back them. I might have been light. But it was not right. 28 scholars to day.
- 31 Rained quite hard in the morning & warm but grew colder towards night. In school with 26 scholars. Went to P.O. but found no mail. Wrote to the [following phrase crossed out in pencil.]
- February 1 Thaws some but cold towards night. 25 scholars. A clover huller tipped over near har but righted up with out breaking any thing.
- 2 Cold & windy. 21 scholars to day. Would be right glad to hear from home or from some one else.
- 3 Thaws quite a bit. Nearly Sick to day with head ache. In school with 23 scholars. went to the store & down on the lake in evening.
- 4 Weather pleasant colder towards night. Feeling considerable better than yesterday. Only 17 scholars to day. Received 4 letters to day from Albert, Nora, Chas. M. and S. M. Went to Uncles in evening.
- 5 Weather colder. Made Urv's folks a visit. from there to Mr. Younges & then home in after noon. Wrote letter to Nora Albert & Sarah.
- 6 Thermometer at zero in morning but warmer towards night. In school with 24 scholars. Went down on lake. skating evening. Most sick with headache caused by billious stomach.
- 7 Weather mild. Had the ague most all day & kept school with 21 scholars.
- 8 Warm & pleasant. Feel some better. Sleighing remains good. Went with Rob't over to A Spragues in evening. Sent to Plank for some ague medicine [sp?].

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- 9 Colder & snows a little. In school with 23 scholars. Got India Chalazonzer [sp?] for ague. cost \$1.50
- 10 Quite cold. In school to day with 23 scholars. Another weeks work is done.
- 11 Weather steady. helped saw wood in the forenoon. most Sick in after noon went to P. O. & bought 7 envelopes with stamps.
- 12 Pleasant & sleighing good. Went to Wayland for a ride. Wrote a letter to S. M. M. Feel a little bit home sick to day.  
Wrote a letter to S. M. Feel a little bit homesick today.
- 13 Warmer. Snows a little. In school 22 scholars. Made set dominoes for Irving.
- 14 Clear & pleasant. School progressing finely 24 scholars.
- 15 Warm & cloudy. rain towards night. In school 24 scholars.  
Davis P Arithmetic Page 266 Ex 2=418.068 Page 316 Ex 73=42333
- 16 Thawing but pleasant. 23 scholars to day.
- 17 Snow most all day. went down to J Deans in evening & stil a snowing. 24 scholars
- 18 Quite pleasant. In school with 19 [?] scholars. Two letters received one from Sarah & one from Nora.
- 19 Weather unchanged. Went over to Uncles & to Urvins. Wrote a letter to Sarah & Nora.
- 20 Snows a considerable. Am very cold. In school to day with 21 scholars.
- 21 Warm & pleasant. In school with 21 scholars.
- 22 Weather cold but pleasant. Am getting tired of this work & want a restin spell. 21 scholars to day.
- 23 Growing warmer & the snow is going. Business dull. to day 21 scholars.
- 24 Still a thawing. Not much going on here now days. 20 scholars.
- 25 Sleighing played out. Very pleasant. Only 17 scholars. feel quite lonesome. Received a letter from Albert.
- 26 Some colder. Commenced mowing this morning & kept it up until bed time. I guess we will have more sleighing.
- 27 Cloudy & snows a little. rather cold. 18 scholars to day. Wrote letter to Albert. Went to Mr. Bowens.
- 28 Growing warm very fast. the snow will go about as fast as it came. 21 scholars. Ed Mallory was here to night. Rained little just at night.
- March 1 Some colder than yesterday but thaws a little. 22 scholars. A flurry of snow came in evening.
- 2 A plenty of thunder & lightning to day with a hard rain toward night. 19 scholars. most sick with head ache.
- 3 Pleasant to day. 22 scholars. My school closes to day & right glad be I.
- 4 Very pleasant. Mr. Sampson brought me to Middleville & I took cars for home. Father was at Nashville waiting for me.
- 5 Pleasant & warm. Staid to home all day with Sarah. Wrote letter to Esther.

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- 6 First rate sap day. Went over to M [sp?]es they commenced tapping.  
Cleaned up wheat in the morning.
- 7 Spring is here in all its sugar wether. Babcock's mill burned up last  
night.  
Had a talk with W German. went to Aunt Marie's & eat warm sugar.
- 8 Warm & cloudy with a dry wind from the South west. Went to B. C.  
[Battle Creek] horse back. Paid for my watch. Most awful tired when I  
got home. Rained in evening.
- 9 Made all straight with Ruggles about my oats. he threw off a dollar.  
Rained in the morning. Went down to Stantons & Fords in afternoon.
- 10 Pleasant. Chopped wood part of the day. ciphared some.  
Wrote a letter to Albert. Sent father \$8.75.
- 11 Snowed last night. Father gone to Charlotte. Tinkered round home.  
Commenced a stand with register. Tried to get Ford's  
team to go to necktie social but failed.
- 12 Pleasant. Went to the church to hear Dr. Palmer speak  
& to Mr. Moody's in evening.
- 13 Found about two inches of snow in the morning. Went to the Center.  
Eat dinner with J. McIntire. Went over to see S in after noon & eat  
warm sugar.
- 14 Rain all day. Worked in barn part of the time & laid a bed the rest of  
the time. Father paid me \$8.25.
- 15 Rain in the morn. Worked at my book case. Dell Sweet here to night.  
Ciphared some.
- 16 Rained a little all day. Worked in the barn in forenoon. Went to see  
about school. J. McIntyr cut my hair. Spent the at Mr. Swifts.
- 17 Clear & Pleasant. Run all day to get a way to get to B. Creek.
- 18 Very Pleasant. Arose early & went to B.[Battle] Creek with Mr. Mailo  
and arrived there in time to take train for Albion & there found U'l  
George with team to take Nora & I home with him. Found the folks all  
well.
- 19 Some cloudy. Frank & George with the girls & my self to Vets [sp?].  
Had a good visit and I stayed over night.
- 20 Looks like rain. Mary & I went over to Aunt Thankfuls. Rained before  
we got there. Frank & the girls came there with Garrett Vanbrn [sp?]  
We found the folks all well & I went back with Frank.
- 21 Quite cold. George & I went over to Vets in afternoon & staid in  
evening. Mary gave me a mess of Aickergnes [sp?--acorns ?]
- 22 A little warmer & cloudy. Stait to Uncle Georges. Went to school in  
after noon which paid me well.
- 23 Cloudy with a little rain. Went with Geo. to get gum. The young folks  
came in & we had quite a party. fell in love with them all. I mean the  
girls.
- 24 Very pleasant. Started for home. When I arrived all safe & sound.  
Had my pictures taken Albion.
- 25 Warm & Pleasant. Put my book case together. Went to caucus & went

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to Martins to settle with him but could do nothing but get mad all around.

- 26 Warm & pleasant. Staid at home most of the time. Went to meeting. Tried to find out the [??] that Martin has told. Sarah is to home.
- 27 Cold & windy. Went to B. Creek & found out what I could do with Martin. Sarah went with me. Took dinner with Mr. Waller. Mr. Conner staid with us to night.
- 28 Weather same as yesterday. Went to J. Norris'es Auction. Paid \$2.50 for threshing. Made out mortgage on the Martins cow. Will Smith took it & had it recorded. Will Wheeler got 831 lbs of hay \$10 a ton
- 29 Warmer & more pleasant. Worked at my book case.
- 30 Warm & pleasant. Feel most sick. Still to work at my book case what I am able. Carver took the last of his things to day.
- 31 Weather Pleasant. Got out the legs for my stand. German was up after a load of goods.
- April 1 Pleasant. Still to work at my stand. Made a bargain with Cy Wheeler & sold him 10 bu. corn for \$5.00 am to shell it for 25 cents extra.
- 2 Warm & cloudy with a little rain towards night. Staid at home most all day. Went to A. Babcocks in evening. Sarah went back to Swifts to work.
- 3 Cloudy with a little rain. Town meeting. Had quite a time drinking cider. Aunt Orisa came here to day. Let father have \$9.00 of Buxtons money.
- 4 Warm & pleasant to work at my book case. feel most sick. Father & mother & Aunt Orisa went over to Moses. partly bargained for a horse with Dr Lampman.
- 5 Pleasant until evening when it rained a little. Bought horse of W Harris for \$45.00 & 25 cords of wood. Went with Nora to Mr. Cadarts. Made door for my book case.
- 6 Cloudy & foggy in morning. cleared off towards noon. Took Nora to B Creek. Went with W. Lennham [?] up to Elder Phelps's. Came back to B Creek & brought horse home with me. got home at 11,30 at night.
- 7 Pleasant & most awful warm. Hauled manure in the forenoon. Shelled corn & worked at my book case in afternoon. Frank commenced plowing this after noon.
- 8 Warm & pleasant. Finished my book case. Shelled corn for A. Wheeler. Will Pratt came here. Horses work first rate.
- 9 Clear & warm. Staid at home & kept hoos. Sarah was here. The northern lights shone quite bright. Sarah let me have \$2.00 to pay for her dress.
- 10 Rained nearly all day. staid in doors & read & studied Algebra. Went up to Smiths & spent the evening.
- 11 Cold & cloudy. snows towards night. Have not done much of anything. Spent the evening at A. Babcocks.
- 12 Pleasant in the morning. rain in evening. Worked at the bench. Went over to Dr Lampmans to see his carpenter but was not there. bought a



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- file at the store for 15 cts.
- 13 Pleasant. Went to B Creek with a load of wood for Elder Jenkins. Walker took it. Bought a half pound of tobacco for father. got twisted 40 cts. [tobacco?] Father sold P Burt 1/2 bu corn for me. [added along margin:] Sent to Vic's [a seed supply house] for garden seed.
- 14 Pleasant. Tinkered around all day. Sold Mr. Buck 12 bu corn @ 60. Let 12 go on fathers acct. Put \$4.75 away for Buxton.
- 15 Pleasant. Still a tinkering. Mr. Babcock was down to look at the place. Offered \$2500 for it. Charles Mack came over just at night. Received a letter from Mary.
- 16 Weather same as yesterday. Charley & I went to look at the other place in morning. Sarah was to home. Went down to Fords in evening.
- 17 Pleasant. Not doing much of anything for I am most sick. Wrote a letter to E. at Middleville. Played backgammon with Frank.
- 18 Pleasant. Went to Nashville to see if I could get work. ate supper with E. M. G. staid over night with J Young. could not find anything to do. Saw Buxton. he is rather hard in the mouth.
- 19 Rainy & wet all day. Came from N ville a foot. Bogt 1/2 lb starch & 1 paper con-tion powder at Center. Came to Swifts in after noon. staid in evening.
- 20 Weather same as yesterdy. Went to J Buckinghaus to Auction. Laid around home all the afternoon.
- 21 Still a raining. Went to B Creek to see Uncle Myron. tried to get him to come home with me. found Sarah at home when I got there. Got mother 1/2 lb tea 50 cts. G. W. Joy
- 22 Stormy in morning but pleasant towards noon. picked stone. Mr. Buxton was down here but we did not make out any thing with him. put it off until week after next to meet him at Hastings. Extra. Sammie H. Came. Rec. seeds from Vicks.
- 23 Weather fine. Was at home all day. Sarah had the ague. Mamma Rigg staid here last night. went to Mr Palmers to day
- 24 Pleasant. Went to Bedford to see about mort. on Martins cow. did not find out much. Took Cutting box to Dr Watson & \$15.00 Eat dinner at C rots [sp?] Fixed Dunhams roller.
- 25 Warm & cloudy. Sowed one piece of oats. Rec'd a letter from Mary. They were well but having trouble about their pay.
- 26 Pleasant in morning but rain towards night. Frank finished draging in oats. Sowed grass seed & worked in garden. Wrote a letter to Albert & Mary.
- 27 Showery. Father & Mother went to B Creek. Opened potato hole. Had a turtle for supper. Rather unwell.
- 28 Pleasant in morning but rain towards night. Picked out stone. Father got home little after noon. then I went over to Moses after Aunt Orisa. Sarah wrote to Esther.
- 29 Cloudy with some rain. Forked [sp?] over potatoes & picked stone.

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May

- Mother went to Center.
- 30 Pleasant. Sarah went to Nashville. Been around to the neighbors.
- 1 Warm & pleasant. Worked about home. Father & Mother went to B Creek on business. had supper ready for them.
- 2 Weather fine. Went over to Mrs Bullins to pay her \$20.00 Worked on an ox yoke & then spoilt it. Father plowed in the garden.
- 3 Stormy. Down to Mr Germans & staid all night to Mr Knapps
- 4 Rained all day. Staid & had a visit with Em. she is as good natured as ever. Stopped at W Germans. he could pay me nothing but made a promise to do his best.
- 5 Cloudy. Went to talk with Buxton but come to no conclusion. from there to Nashville. saw Sarah. Had mort. filed. Staid over night with J Young.
- 6 Quite pleasant. Staid around Nashville until noon & then went to Harwood [sp?] school house to meet with the board of inspectors & then home. Found Mother sick.
- 7 Pleasant. Mother is better in morning but worse at night. Went to Charley Macks.
- 8 Packed my valise & started north. Left Mother sick. Went to Nashville a foot. Made Sarah a call. took the 3 oclock train and arrived at G. R. [Grand Rapids] at five. Put up at the Bridge St. House by Boxheimer. Took a survey of Canal St. bought 4 handkerchiefs for 50 cts.
- 9 Pleasant. Left G Rapids at 10 oclock for Howard City. left there for Big Prairie on foot. to supper with Dr. Trask. arrived at Freyers at 8 oclock PM.
- 10 Pleasant with a frost. Most awful tired & lame. Staid around Freyers most of the day. Went & saw my cousin Mrs. Grovenstein. Wrote a letter to father.
- 11 Another frost. Sent for my satchel. went up in the woods where A C was to work & back to Freyers.
- 12 Pleasant. Helped Freyer plant corn. Broke my truss but fixed it again so that I can wear it. Wrote a letter to S. M. & to Nora. Albert came home sick. Agreed to work for S. Utley.
- 13 Pleasant. Planted corn in forenoon. went with Al over to Thompson. Albert hired out to D. Swain for 35 dollars a month
- 14 A shower in the morning but clear in time for meeting at 11 oclock. Heard a very good sermon. The more I see of the country the more I dislike it. Made a visit to J Grovenstein
- 15 Pleasant with a frost. Planted corn for Freyer a part of the time. A Utley fixed my truss for me. Had a chance to hire out to Mr. Gibbs
- 16 Shower in morn. Commenced work for W. S. Utley. Planted corn. Put in 3/4 day.
- 17 Pleasant. Planting yet. Albert & Mary gone to the Shantries [sp?]
- 18 Pleasant. Planted beans & fixed the fence.
- 19 Pleasant but most awful warm. Splitting rails.

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- 20 Some what warmer than yesterday. Still to work at the rails. Put a floor in the cellar.
- 21 Rainy. Went to Freyers. the boys & I went fishing. Wrote a letter to father.
- 22 Pleasant. Drawing manure.
- 23 Showery in morning. Drawing manure & sand.
- 24 Hot & pleasant. Split fence posts & built fence. Jud Freyer came near breaking his arm.
- 25 Work same as yesterday. Received \$5.00 of Mr Utley.
- 26 Pleasant. Plowing corn. Received a letter from Nora.
- 27 Pleasant. Still to work at the corn.
- 28 Awful warm. Jud & I went to the Shanties to see Albert & Mary but it was most to warm for comfort.
- 29 Warm with some clouds. Grubbing. Sent by Jud to get some cloth.
- 30 Hot with a little rain. To work at the grubs. Mr Utley paid me \$6.00
- 31 Pleasant. Had a horse went to Croton but my truss has not come yet. Bought my shoes. Went to dance in evening. Paid out \$5.23. Wrote a letter to Sarah.
- June 1 Weather hot & pleasant. Grubbing & plowing corn.
- 2 Warm with rain towards night. Plowing corn. Received a letter from Uncle Myron in regard to my truss.
- 3 Warm & pleasant. Pulling grubs with horses. Broke my truss.
- 4 Pleasant. Went over to see Aunt Diantha & there were a number of cousins there & had a good time.
- 5 Pleasant. Was drawing grubs & chopping wood.
- 6 Rainy. Worked 1/2 day in the garden & then went to Croton. made up my mind to stay all night. Wrote letter to Nora. Utley paid me \$1.00
- 7 Cool & pleasant. Laid around town until my truss came & then went home. Agreed to go into partnership with Dr. Trask.
- 8 Pleasant. To work at the Begga ground. A frost this morning but it did not do much damage in this place.
- 9 Weather unchanged & work the same.
- 10 Rainy in the morning but clear the rest of the day. Chopping wood.
- 11 Pleasant. Read a letter of Abs from Aunt Orisa. Went to meeting & wrote three letters: Father Charles and Emma.
- 12 Cool & pleasant. Hoing corn. Utley drove a lot of cattle off his oat lot.
- 13 Weather fine. Went up east & split rails to day where the musquitoes are most awful thick.
- 14 Good time to work. Business unchanged.
- 15 Cool & cloudy. Cyrus & I to work at the fence up east.
- 16 Warmer. To work on the road. Expected a letter but it did not come.
- 17 Rainy most of the day. Cultivated corn in forenoon.
- 18 Pleasant. Staid at home most of the time but sent to sabath school.
- 19 A shower in the morning. hoeing potatoes. Utley brought me two pairs of socks at 30 cts a pair.
- 20 Another shower. Hoeing potatoes in forenoon. went up east & fixed

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fence in after noon.

21 Pleasant. To work at the fence. the oxen broke through last night where it was stakes & rided..

22 Pleasant. Finished up the fence around oat field.

23 Rained all day so that I did not work any. Received a letter from Nora & one from Sarah. The last of which I answered.

24 Cloudy but no rain. made fence around begga [rutabaga] patch.

25 Pleasant. Homer & I went up to shanties to see Albert & Mary.

26 Pleasant. I finished the fence around begga patch & then went to hoeing. billy went to Croton.

27 Pleasant. The corn is dreadful weedy but it is persevere & I will accomplish.

28 Nothing new to record.

29 A heavy frost this morning which hurt the corn a little. Albert came down home yesterday. he is done work in the woods.

30 Cloudy with a little rain at noon. Received a letter from Sarah & one from Em Knapp.

July

1 Pleasant with a high wind from the south & west.

2 Weather pleasant. Went to Sabbath school & over to pond swimming.

3 Warm with rain in evening. Hoing corn. Received \$2.15 of Mrs. Utley. Utley went up the river.

4 Rain in morning. Went to Croton with a span of bones [sp?]. stopped & took dinner at T. Howlands. Rather dull for a forth of July. Expenses \$15

5 Pleasant. Choped wood & hoed corn.

6 Rain in morning. Choped wood.

7 Pleasant again. Hoeing corn. Utley came from up river.

8 Showery. Commenced harvesting. Wheat rather poor. Wrote a letter to W S Hyde.

9 Sprinkles in the morning. Went to Sabbath school & meeting. Wrote letter to S. M M

10 through 14 [no entries made]

15 The weather has been fine all the week. Have cut & drawn in 20 acres of wheat in good order.

16 Pleasant. Went to Sabbath school as usual. The school is doing finely. took dinner at Mr Swains. Wrote to E. Knapp.

17 A good working day. Threshed out some wheat to keep from starving.

18 Pleasant. Digging grubs north of orchard. Sydney went to Croton.

19 Rain just before dayl. Grubbing in forenoon & raking rye in after noon.

20 A little cloudy. In the rye field. Cyrus raking the wheat stubble.

21 Pleasant. Finished the rye & then threshed wheat in barn. Received a letter from Sarah & from W S Hyde.

22 Pleasant. Still to work in barn.

23 Pleasant. Went to sabbath school & wrote a letter to S M.

24 Warm & Cloudy. Went berring & saw a deer for first in long time. fell in love with old blind squaw.

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- 25 Pleasant. Grubbing. Feel most awful tired & not very well.
- 26 Pleasant. Still a grubbing.
- 27 Looking for rain. Grubbing in fore noon. Helped George thresh in afternoon.
- 28 Cloudy. Chopping wood until I hurt my neck at 3 oclock. Received a letter from Nora & one from C Mack.
- 29 Pleasant. Went berring & then up to J Grahams. Staid all night with Aunt Diantha.
- 30 Shows signs of rain. Went Sabbath school & then down to Dr Trasks to stay all night.
- 31 Went to Howard. Rain a little.
- August 1 through 5 [no entries made]
- 6 I got home Tuesday & been visiting ever since & had the ague too sick to day with Chill fever. It has rained most of the time for the last week.
- 7 Pleasant. Feeling some better. Dr. Lampman here to day.
- 8 Warm & pleasant. On the gain. was up to the Babcocks. The folks went Black berring.
- 9 Pleasant. Went down to Fords & Stantons.
- 10 Pleasant. Started for the north. Staid all night with Unc [Uncle] Garrett
- 11 Rain this morning. Took the 8 ockock train for G Rapids & from there to Howard. Dewitt stoped here & found work & I went to Freyers.
- 12 Pleasant. Laid around syck all day. Found a letter from Sarah here.
- 13 Pleasant. Went to sabbath school. Wrote a letter to Sarah. Had an increase at Utleys & staid at J Freyers.
- 14 Not warm but hot. Cutting oats. They are most to green.
- 15 Weather unchanged. Rakeing up the oats. Geo. W Joy Big Prairie Mich.
- 16 Rather cooler. Drawing the oats & fixing for threshing.
- 17 Warmer. Threshing. Grain did not turn out as expected.
- 18 Cool & pleasant. Grubbing up east. Most to dry for business.
- 19 Pleasant. Cleaning up wheat & cut a little wood. Feel rather lazy to day.
- 20 Looks like rain but no rain came. Went to S. S. [Sabbath school] Wrote a letter to Albert & one to Sarah. Stoped to Cousins.
- 21 No rain. Up east grubbing.
- 22 Work the same a yesterday. Sydney got his Draft to day. Wrote to Albert.
- 23 Syd. gone to [Grand] Rapids. he agreed to put \$40.00 [sp?] in to a letter to Albert.
- 24 Nothing of importance. Sarah.
- 25 Still grubbing. A letter from Dewitt.
- 26 Sprinkeled rain in fore noon. Still at the grub.
- 27 Pleasant. Went to Sabbath school. The library came to day. Wrote a letter to C. Mack.
- 28 Rain just at night. Went to Croton. Cyrus let me have \$11.00 [?] Bought a bottle of Old rye bitters & some paper & envelopes. Syd went

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- up river.
- 29 Showery. Choped wood. Cyrus came from Howard.
- 30 Showery. Choped in fore noon & cut brush in after noon.
- 31 Cloudy. Cutting brush.
- September 1 Pleasant. Cutting brush.
- 2 Cloudy with rain just at night. Cutting brush. Received two letters from Sarah. Albert, Mary & Sarah came to day.
- 3 Warm & pleasant. Went to sabbath school & meeting. Wrote to father.
- 4 Warm & pleasant. Cutting corn. Jud Freyer to work with me.
- 5 Business same as yesterday. Syd. came home to day.
- 6 Pleasant. Picking brush up east. Big Prairie.
- 7 Every thing about the same as yesterday. Went cooning.
- 8 Pleasant. At work alone up east. Sarah.
- 9 Pleasant. Jud. & I cut rail cuts up east. Went visiting with Sarah up to Aunt's. Quit work at 5 1/2 oclock.
- 10 Cloudy. Had a good visit & back to Grovesteens. Geo. W Joy Big Prairie Newago Co Mich.
- 11 Pleasant. Worked up east. picking grubs.
- 12 Pleasant. Set over corn shocks & took my stints sowing clover seed.
- 13 Weather fine. Dug 4 bu potatoes in all day. Syd went to the Rapids.
- 14 Cold & Coudy [sic]. Choped wood. Wrote letter to Nora.
- 15 Pleasant. Dug 5 bu. potatoes in all day.
- 16 Cloudy. Split rails.
- 17 Pleasant. Running around all day. Cy let me have \$2.00
- 18 Tries to rain. Split rails.
- 19 Cloudy. Work same as yesterday. Syd came home from Rapids. Brought me a pair boots @ \$6.25
- 20 Pleasant. Split rails again. Syd paid me \$2.00
- 21 Heavy frost. Cut buckwheat.
- 22 Pleasant. Husking corn. Rec'd a letter from Cha's Mack & one from Frank the last of which I answered.
- 23 Pleasant. Husking. Most sick.
- 24 Pleasant. Went up to J Grahams & staid at Uncles all night. Had the Ague.
- 25 Rains a little. Husking in the barn. Not very well.
- 26 Showery. Syd & Cy gone to Newaygo. Husking in Barn. Geo. W Joy
- 27 Cold & cloudy. Cy brought me a bundle of cloth @ \$3.70 Drawing and husking corn.
- 28 Pleasant. Husking. Syd came home.
- 29 Pleasant with a frost in earnest. Dug 5 bu. of potatoes.
- 30 Pleasant. Done the same as yesterday.
- October 1 Pleasant. bob Sewell & I went to E. Hights. Syd will not let me off for two weeks.
- 2 Pleasant. Digging potatoes. Made out to get 4 bu.
- 3 Nothing new from yesterday. [signature written backwards]
- 4 Husking. Sydney gone to Newaygo. Wrote to C. Mack.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- 5 Smoky. Husking. Syd home a gain.  
6 Cloudy. Husking. Syd gone up river.  
7 Pleasant. Husking. Oct 7th 1871  
8 Weather fine. Staid around Freyers all day. Sarah is going to work for G. Utley.  
9 Pleasant. Husking. The wind blew the stalks over the field.  
10 Rain in morning. Pounding out Buckwheat.  
11 Fresh. Husking. Syd back from up river. Chicago burnt up.  
12 Pleasant. Cleaning B. Wheat & drawing corn.  
13 Fires all over the country. Husking in the field. No letters.  
14 Rains all day first time in a long while. Husking in barn.  
15 Pleasant. Laid around all day not feeling very well. Oct. 15th 1871  
16 Cool & Pleasant. Went to Croton. Had the Ague. Syd paid me \$2.00  
17 Rain in fore noon. Laid still & staid with Aunts folks at night. G W Joy  
18 Pleasant. Went to mill & then into the town of Ensley & took a school for \$30. a month.  
19 Weather fine. Cut wood & went up to Freyers in evening. Sarah agreed to work for Syd's folks.  
20 No change in weather. Killed pig & drew stalks. Received letter from Nora & one " [from] Frank.  
21 Warm & pleasant. Drew some stalks & then went to Croton. Am to commence school in two weeks from next Monday.  
22 No change. Wrote to Nora & to Esther. Sarah went to Syd's with me.  
23 Pleasant. Cleaned well & tore down fence.  
24 Some smokey. Went out to Mr. Altons to be examined but he had resigned the office of supt of schools & I must wait a while. Staid at Newago over night.  
25 The smoke continues. Went home most tired out. Frank Snyder was here.  
26 Rain in morning. Getting wood part of day. Had the ague.  
27 Pleasant. Cutting wood up east. Rec'd letter from Chas. Mack.  
28 Weather fine. Cutting wood. Had a little of the ague.  
29 Stormy in morn. Went to meeting.  
30 Pleasant. Built fence in forenoon & had the ague in after noon. Dr. gave me some salts.  
31 Rain all day. Do not feel very fine.  
November 1 Cool & pleasant. Met Frank in the road & was surprised to see him. We went to Newaygo with Syd & back with A. Haight.  
2 fine. Helped Freyer butcher. Broke truss.  
3 Pleasant. Syd paid me \$10. Started to go to Ensley to see about school but found a man at Croton to tell me all about it.  
4 Warm. Laid around in fore noon. Had my truss fixed in afternoon. Went with Sarah to J Bartons in evening.  
5 Rather unpleasant. Sarah gone to Bob Fishers camp to work. Staid with Aunts folks over night.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- 6 Pleasant. Helped Freyer move.  
7 Weather fine. Chopping out north.  
8 Pleasant. Sawing wood.  
9 Rain part of time. Sawed wood & went to inspection. Got wet a little.  
10 Found snow on the ground this morning. Settled with Syd. he owed me \$21. & paid me \$6. Packed up & went to Freyers & wrote C Mack.  
11 Pleasant. Went down to Mr Buchanans to commence school.  
12 Pleasant. Staid at Mr Buchanans all day & read a novel through.  
13 Cloudy with rain in afternoon. Started out & found the school house in the woods. Commenced school with 14 scholars.  
14 Raining yet. Mr Buchanan & I cleaned stove pipe. All well & three new scholars.  
15 Pleasant. Two new sch-rs to day. Wrote to Sarah. Boarding with Robert Holmes this week.  
16 Cold & clear. All right in school time.  
17 Nothing new. Wrote to father.  
18 Cold & clear. Worked for R. Holmes in fore noon & went up to Buchanans in afternoon.  
19 Rained a little all day. Went with Mr Buchanan to Bordens tavern & back.  
20 Misty with some signs of snow. Feeling firstate. Stoping with Mrs Cobine [sp?] this week. Let Mr Buchanan have \$5.00 this morn to get me a pair of D.  
21 Pleasant. Went to Meeting in evening.  
22 Colder. Hillman boys down in evening.  
23 Found snow on the ground when got up. Every thing passing off pleasantly. Wrote to F Hall.  
24 Snow. Staid at Mr Buchanan. Went to meeting.  
25 Thaws a little. Helped Mr Buchanan saw wood. expected a letter but it did not come.  
26 Raining a little. Started to go up to Mr Hillmans but came back & began a work box. Went to meeting in evening.  
27 Pleasant. Put up black board. Every thing passing off pleasantly.  
28 Snows all day. it is about 8 inches deep at night. Stoping with Mr. Kinney this week.  
29 Cold & pleasant. Rather lonesome with 11 scholars.  
30 Little warmer. Wrote to Sarah. Feeling first rate & not much to do.  
December 1 Pleasant. School doing fine. Rec'd letter from C. which I ans. Eugene Hillman Ensley.  
2 Thaws some. Cut wood & got most awful tired. Bought 3 deerskins for \$5.00  
3 Pleasant. com'ced snowing just at night. Went over to Mr Hillmans & staid over night.  
4 Cold & blustering. Did not get to school until 9 oclock & had but 8 scholars.  
5 Continues cold but no more snow. 8 scholars.



## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- 6 More pleasant but awful cold. Stopping with Mr Depung [sp?] this week.
- 7 Stormy with some rain.
- 8 As pleasant as can be expected. Rec'd letter from Nora.
- 9 Fine. Cut wood in fore noon & went hunting in after noon.
- 10 Pleasant. Worked in shop all day. Wrote to Nora.
- 11 Thaws a considerable. The prospect looks better for school than it did a week ago. 14 scholars.
- 12 Still thawing. Agreed to have spelling school some time next week & commenced to learn apeace [sp?] Downfall of Poland
- 13 Our thaw has caught a cold & so have I. Stopping Mr Wilson this week.
- 14 Mild & pleasant. Nice weather for school teachers.
- 15 Pleasant. Nothing new. No letters to answer this week.
- 16 Stormy in morning. Sawed wood all day & got most awful tired.
- 17 Pleasant. Hate to say it, but worked all day. finished a box & work off some deer skins.
- 18 Sprinkles snow & a little colder. Commenced the week with 17 sholars. Went to Mr Lawlers & found him drunk.
- 19 Still colder & snowing a little. Nothing new except I went to meeting in evening. They have commenced protracted meetings again.
- 20 Dreadful cold. Spelling school. had good time. Got the school down on the word ciye [sp?]. some dispute on pronunciation.
- 21 Still cold as ever. Nothing extra going on. Cut out my gloves in evening.
- 22 Warmer & snows all day. had letter from Chas M. Was disappointed most happily by F. & Mother coming to see me.
- 23 Rained all night last night & most of time to day. Wrote to Chas. M. We went to [Big] Prairie in afternoon where we found Albert & Mary.
- 24 Froze a little so as to make bad walking. Went to B Fishers.
- 25 Pleasant. stoped at Uncles & went to river with Frank.
- 26 Cold & stormy. Drove Uncles team to river in forenoon. Up to Freyers & had my gloves stitched in afternoon.
- 27 Cold. Took Mother up to Fishers camp. Staid at Uncles over night.
- 28 Good winter weather. Went over to John Grovesteen's camp & broke whiffletree & cutter.
- 29 Little warmer. Mended up & then went to Syds visiting & got an order on J F. Gaumeilers store of \$15.
- 30 Weather fine. Went into woods with Frank. Went to Croton & to spelling school. Staid at Aunts.
- 31 Thaws quite a bit. Went to John's in after noon & staid over night. The old year is gone.

memoranda page:

Photographer & Artist / Minkler / Hastings Mich

Eye Water / Sulphate of tin 15 gra

# THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

	"	of Morphine 3 "
Sugar of lead		10 "
Soda Water		6 oz

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

1872

- January 1 This book is vacant up to the 22nd of Feb. except as it is used for a Memoranda. There has nothing occurred of much importance to record up to that time.
- February 22 Clear & cold. Taught school in fore noon. Went to Newaygo to attend an Institute in afternoon. In evening the Association was called to order by Supt Scott & the Rev. Mr Angell Elected to the chair. Every thing passed off well. [in margin--] Drew \$20.00 on order of the district.
- 23 Thawing fast. Every thing passing off finely. Read my Essay just after dinner. Bought my presents for last day of school. Am stoping at the Brooks House. Wrote to Nora.
- 24 Thawing with some rain. Organized a permanent Association Called the Newaygo Co. Teachers Association. Adjourned a 4 oclock & then went home. Stoped at Mr. Hillmans & stayed over night.
- 25 Our thaw has caught a cold & so have I. Stayed at Mr Hillmans all day then went home & went [to] meeting in evening.
- 26 Cold. Commenced school again with but 14 scholars. There has so many of them become good over to the meeting & have to attend that instead of school that it comes very near playing school out. It is hopeful that it will be a lasting good.
- 27 Cold but thaws in middle of day. Some of the scholars are awful sleepy to day being up so late at meeting last night. 15 scholars & I feel most sick. Stoping with Mr Conovers folks this week.
- 28 Pleasant. Had a letter this morning from T Wilson. 17 scholars to day. I begin to long for the last day of school
- 29 A good sap day. Nineteen scholars. I am about used up with the piles.
- March 1 Most to good weather to stay in school. Getting somewhat lonesome but will soon be on my way home. Stoped at Mr. McCutcheons & went with the boys down to Miss Swain's spelling school. Had a good time.
- 2 Pleasant. School s rather small to day. Looked for a letter but it did not come except a dead letter from Washington that I wrote to E. Millard. Bought watch chain of C Buchanan.
- 3 Snows a little. Tried to smoke my deer skin but burnt it up instead. Wrote to Frank & then went up to Mr Hillmans for a little while. Went to meeting in evening. Saved my deer skin.
- 4 Clear & cold. In school with but a few scholars which makes me feel lonesome. Staid at Mrs Cobins over night.
- 5 Cold but pleasant. Nothing of note going on. I wish was as free as Miss Langcom [sp?] is to night from school. Went over East to meeting. They formed a class & I hope they will hold out faithful. Staid at John Kenney's.
- 6 Weather fine. Staid to R Holmes
- 7 Warmer & Cloudy. Feeling rather under the weather. Only fourteen scholars. Sent to newaygo for the last of my spres [sp?]. Stopping with

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- Mr McCutcheon.
- 8 Windy & Stormy. 20 scholars to day which makes it more pleasant. Rec'd 2 letters from Nora. She is going to teach this school the summer term. I wish her success.
- 9 New snow is about 5 inches deep but it storms some yet. This is the last day of school & we had a good time. The going was so bad that there was not many out. Rec'd of District \$101.00 Bought mortgage of Ed of \$53.33 due April 24, 1873.
- 10 Cold. Staid around Eds all day not feeling very good.
- 11 Pleasant. Got up at 2 oclock & started for home. Ed came to the Rapids with me. Bought me a new coat in \$11.00 Left the Rapids at 12:30PM. Came to Sheridan & got home at 5 PM where I took them all by surprise.
- 12 Pleasant. Staid about home feeling rather tired. Everything looks natural enough.
- 13 Weather fine. Went to Nashville to mill & had to wait until 7PM for the grist & did not get home until 11 oclock. Paid T Ball what I owed him.
- 14 Pleasant in morning but snowed before night. Went to Battle Creek after Aunt Orisa & she did not know me. The Colts are all right & are worth \$400.00
- 15 The storm has cleared away & it has become pleasant. Went to Mr Moodys visiting in after noon & to Hiram Babcocks in evening to party where we had a good time. The young folks have grown so that it is hard for me to tell who they are.
- 16 Cloudy & Cold. Went over to D Babcocks to Auction which was a regular fizzle.
- 17 Pleasant. Staid about home until two oclock & then went to M E Church to meeting where I heard a good sermon. Nora wrote to A E Calkins. Rufus & Bell was here.
- 18 Stormy. Nora & I went down to Aunt Amelias & staid over night. found her away to Mr Eatons taking care of the sick.
- 19 Cold with some storm. Had a first rate visit & went home in after noon. Was at Mr Mailes in evening.
- 20 Cold & pleasant. Dewitt took me down to Bill Germans & tried to get some money but failed. I went from there to Mr Knapps where I had a good visit. Jared & Emma. the old folks being away from home.
- 21 Cold. Staid at Knapps until noon then went to Bellevue & took the cars for Lansing where I arrived at 6.30PM. Nearly 1 1/2 hours behind time. Walked from there to John Joys in evening.
- 22 Pleasant. Staid [at] J Joys all day & did not get acquainted with all then.
- 23 Snowed & blowed most awful bad. John went with me over to Mr Calkins & in after [noon] Eugene & I went over to Esthers school. In evening went over to Byrons where I saw Horace Joys folks.
- 24 Pleasant. Eugene & I went over to H Joys in morning & to J

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- Greenmans in after noon. I stoped over night with Byron.
- 25 Pleasant in morning but rain toward night. Eugene & I went to Lansing. Had some pictures taken. Went through the State Capitol. In afternoon I went over to Horace's where I staid over night.
- 26 Warm & pleasant. Esther & I went to the College. Visited with the girls & looked through the buildings. The Green House & Museum are worth seeing also the barns. Took dinner with them. Staid over night with Eug.
- [with this entry the writer switches from pencil to an ink that has faded but not as bad as that used for an extended time starting with June 23]
- 27 Pleasant. Went to Lansing. Took the 10.35 AM train for B C [Battle Creek]. Sammie went down with me from Olivet. Stoped over night with Uncle Myrons folks.
- 28 Pleasant. Walked home from B. C. & arrived there at 2 oclock in after noon most tire out. found Bill Smith there. One of the Colts is most awful lame.
- 29 Another pleasant day. Sap begins to run some & I am glad of it. Stoped in to Maries & from there over to Moses Aldriches. Dr Lampman & people were over in evening.
- 30 Cloudy with sleet towards night. Came home in forenoon. Uncle Randolph & Dewitt gone to B. C. had fine time to come home through the storm.
- 31 Storm in morning. About two inches snow. Went to Mr Knapp by wading in the water. And I got all I went after but under very bad feelings.
- April 1 Pleasant over head but awful muddy. Went from Knapps to town meeting & from there home. When arrived most awful tired. Heard from Albert & Frank by way of Mr Hyde.
- 2 Pleasant. Staid around home expecting C & E Mack over but they did not come. The Hall boys came in afternoon. Drove Billy single.
- 3 Weather fine. Father & Mother went to the Creek & made out deed for their farm. Went up to Bells to eat warm sugar in after noon.
- 4 Pleasant. Went with father over to J. S. Stevens & then he took me part way to Sheridan. I went Middleville & staid over night with Albert Dowling. Father let me have \$5.00
- 5 Went to Depot but was 1/2 hour to late so went back to Uncles & staid during the day. Went to a dance at Hastings at night Where we had a good time. Weather fine.
- 6 Warm with rain toward night. Left Hastings on the 6 oclock train for G Rapids & from there to Maple Hill on the 2 PM train. Then I had to foot it from there to Buchanans & get letter from Mary.
- 7 Cloudy with some rain. Took a horse & went up to the Prairie where I found the folks all well but Frank. he had gone to Newaygo to work on the R Road to get money to go home with.
- 8 Awful warm with thunder & some rain just at night. Went to J Grovesteens until after dinner then went back to Buchanans. Got some

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- money of Dr Trask for Ed. Wrote letter to Father.
- 9 Quite windy and threatens rain. Commenced work for Ed Buchanan by cutting wood with Mr Robb so that when night came I was tired enough to quit. Wrote to E. O. K.
- 10 Pleasant. Still at work on the wood & rail dicker.
- 11 Fair & windy. Am feeling rather old. Nellis raised his barn & I did not get an invitation. Sent for the Tribune \$1.00
- 12 Stormy in the morning but fair toward night. Worked around the shop in forenoon. Ed had ague. In afternoon cut wood alone. Heard from the Supt but there is not time [to] get Nora here for inspection.
- 13 Most awful windy. could not keep my hat on. Robb & I worked alone for Ed feels the effects of his dose that he took last night.
- 14 Pleasant. Wrote two letters one to Nora & one to Eugene. Went over to Mr Nellises in after noon.
- 15 Snowed all day hard. it fell to the depth of eight or ten inches. Shelled corn & run the turning lathe the rest of the day. Was some what tired at night.
- 16 Warmer with out storm. Girdled timber in fore noon & had the Ague in afternoon rightsmart. Expected to go to inspection but could not. Frank was here.
- 17 Pleasant. Lying around the house. think can go to work in morning. Ed is making soap.
- 18 Pleasant. Fever came on about midnight & lasted until noon. feel better in afternoon. Wrote to Supt Scott & to C Mack.
- 19 Weather fine. On the gain. Wend down to Mrs Cobines & staid in fore noon. Over to Mr Nellises in PM. Helped Ed draw two loads of wood. Expected letter from Barry but did not come.
- 20 Pleasant with rain just at night. Ed sowed his grass seed & I dragged it in. The old gent went to the Cedar. Mrs. Cobine & sister spent the after noon here.
- 21 Snows a good share of the day. Feeling most awful lazy to day. Would be right glad to hear from some body. Wrote to Lucy Hall.
- 22 Pleasant over head. snow does not all go off. Choped up stuff on corn field & then cut brush which is rather hard work.
- 23 Weather fine. Cutting brush. Ed is plowing for oats.
- 24 Weather begins to act more like spring. Finished cutting the brush. Feel most used up for it is most awful hard work & I am glad it is done.
- 25 Warm. Picked up brush on corn ground. Feel some like the ague.
- 26 Weather continues fine but had a little April shower just at night. Still picking brush. Our paper came to day. Rec'd letter from A. E. C.
- 27 Pleasant. Cut fence blocks a while & then Ed had to go away & I run the plow until toward night then we drew a load of hay. Signs of rain just at night.
- 28 Pleasant. Staid about home. Hillman boys were down here. Went down west but found no one at home.
- 29 Weather fine. Picking brush & laying over fence. Begin to feel first

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- rate again.
- 30 Signs of rain with little showers just at night. Plowing & laying up fence. Had to wait most to long for my supper. E O Knapp Assyria Barry County
- May 1 Pleasant. Finished fence & then picked brush. Not much going on about these times.
- 2 Rain a little & quite windy. Cleaned harness & greased it in fore noon & in after noon Ed sowed oats & I dragged them in.
- 3 Windy. Finished dragging oats one ways & picked up meadow. Ed worked in shop. Rec'd letter from E. K.
- 4 Pleasant. Went over to the station & found father & Nora. then layed still & visited in afternoon. Ed sowed grass seed.
- 5 Shower in morning but pleasant toward night. Wrote to A. E. C. & E. K. Took father most to the Thomas school house & when I came back stoped at Mr Hillmans. went to meeting. Heard from Bert.
- 6 Pleasant. Picking up in oat field. Ed finished dragging & rolled the ground. Nora commenced her school.
- 7 Pleasant. At work in the corn field. Ed commenced plowing for corn.
- 8 Shower just before day & then cloudy all day. Worked on the fallow. Had the ague so that did not do but 3/4 days work.
- 9 Another shower & then cloudy. Work same as yesterday. Nora wrote to A. E. C. Ida & Frank.
- 10 Cloudy with spots of rain. We sowed plaster in forenoon & I chopped in afternoon. No letters to day.
- 11 Rained all day. Did nothing but tinker about the house.
- 12 Pleasant. Nora & I went to meeting. Ed & I went down to corners in PM. Went skylarking in evening.
- 13 Pleasant. Chopped in forenoon. Draw hay & cleared track around fallow in after noon.
- 14 Pleasant with signs of rain. At work on the fallow.
- 15 Rains nearly all day. Choped on the fallow until I got wet through then went into shop to work. Figured up log seat for B Ensley. Wrote to H Babcock. Finished reading Astronomy.
- 16 Pleasant. Broke strip around fallow after fixing plow irons over which took most of the time.
- 17 Weather fine. Choping as usual. Rec'd letter from Frank & one from Supt Scott. Burnt the fallow.
- 18 Cloudy in A.M. & rained P.M. Picking up on fallow which will be my work for some time to come I expect. Worked in shop while it rained.
- 19 Windy & some colder. rain just at night. Ed & I went over [to] the Muchler farm. Wrote to Frank & Uncle Geo. Set watch head twenty minutes.
- 20 Cloudy with some rain. Working on the fallow. Not much going on to keep up spirits except work & study.
- 21 Pleasant. Work on the fallow for a while & then drawing manure. Lookout for rain.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- 22 Rains all day. At work in shop making a wheel over which to bend  
fellies for buggy rake. This is pleasant birthday.
- 23 Another pleasant & warm day. Thermometer 76° Drawing manure.
- 24 Rain again part of the day. Work on the fallow in the shop & cutting  
seed potatoes. Rec'd letter from A.E.C. & would have been glad to  
rec'd another.
- 25 Pleasant. Thermometer 72°. At work on the fallow & in the garden.
- 26 Changable. Had my hair cut & went to sunday school in morning.  
Staid about home the rest of day. Had quite a hail storm.
- 27 Tried to rain in after noon. Dragging on corn ground. Rec'd of Ed  
\$10.00 Set watch ahead 15 minutes. Ed planted corn in orchard.
- 28 Pleasant. Dragging. Ed is making steam box.
- 29 Pleasant till toward night then it rained a little & hard all night.  
Dragging yet.
- 30 Cool & cloudy. Planted potatoes & commenced on the corn. Geo. W  
Joy
- 31 Looks like rain. Planting corn. Thermometer at 76° at noon. Rec'd  
letter from Lucy Hall & C Mack.
- June 1 Cloudy with rain just at night. Finished planting. Cooler.
- 2 Pleasant. Wrote to A.E.C. & to Mother. Went [to] S School & in after  
noon Nora & I went over to Mr Nellis'es.
- 3 Pleasant & most awful hot. P.M. picked up grubs on cornfield. A.M.  
Logging.
- 4 Looks like rain in morning but pleasant the rest of day. Logging.
- 5 The warmest day of the season so far. Thermometer 88° at 11 oclock.  
P.M. Logging finished. A.M. Picking grubs. Wrote to Lucy Hall.
- 6 Cloudy with rain in afternoon & evening. Burning log heaps. Tried to  
burn grub heaps. Ed went to Newaygo.
- 7 Sprinkles some of the time. Picking up on the fallow. No letters to day.
- 8 Pleasant most of the day but thunders at night. Picking brush. We  
went [to] rake stuff to day.
- 9 Cloudy & warm. Nora & I went to S. School & to Meeting. Wrote to  
C Mack. Went over to Mr Nellis'es in evening to see about the  
Mathews' farm.
- 10 Rain in the morning. At work on the fallow. Cain helped Ed lay the  
shear to plow.
- 11 Dreadful warm with indications of rain in after noon. Picking up on the  
fallow. Hope this work will be done some time. Ed went to Newaygo  
on lawsuit.
- 12 Pleasant with wind from west. P.M. Picking up. AM Burning the  
brush & had more fire than I wanted.
- 13 Rain in fore noon. AM. Picking brush. This is a tire some job. I would  
like to hear from home.
- 14 Pleasant. Finished picking brush. Expected letter but it did not come.  
Ed not home yet.
- 15 Cloudy. Girdled over trees in fore noon. In after noon made beetle &



## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- split wood. Ed came home. he got beat on suit.
- 16 Warm & Pleasant. Nora & I went to Mr Hillmans & to meeting twice. Wrote to E. O. K.
- 17 Cloudy. Drew stone off of Mr Haskins field in fore noon & in after noon at work on the road. Wrote to father.
- 18 Hot & pleasant. Work on the road. Ed is most sick.
- 19 Most awful hot. Thermometer at 90°. Drawing stone again.
- 20 Warm as ever. Drawing stone in fore noon. At work on fallow in after noon.
- 21 Most as hot as ever. Cool wind from north. Was surprised by seeing father in corn field. He is out to see about Berts winter wages. Plowing corn. No letters.
- 22 A little cooler. Plowing corn.
- 23 Warm & pleasant. Went to S School twice & to Prayer meeting. Worked on fork for P. Ensley.
- 24 Hot. Finished corn & then went to plowing on the fallow.
- 25 Hotter. Thermometer at 92°. Plowing on fallow though it is most awful warm work.
- 26 Hottest. Thermometer at 100°. Plowing yet.
- 27 Not quite so warm but it will roast eggs yet. Plowing. Father came back from the north & went over to the station expecting to go home in the morning.
- 28 Warm & looks like rain in morning. Recd letter from E O K.
- 29 Most awful warm. Finished corn & tinkered getting ready to go to Haying Meadow. Wrote to B. Freyer.
- 30 No cooler. Studied my Bible lesson & went to S School in A M. Prayer meeting in evening. Scalded my arm. Wrote Aunt Orisa.
- July 1 Thermometer at 90°. Commenced haying but my arm hurts most awful bad.
- 2 Looks like rain. Robb worked in fore noon.
- 3 Cloudy with rain after noon. Finished drawing hay that we have cut. Went after anvil to celebrate the 4th.
- 4 Cloudy. Used two pounds of powder. Wrote to Albert. My arm [??].
- 5 Pleasant. Mowing. Rec'd letter from L. M. Hall
- 6 Weather fine. Getting up hay.
- 7 Warm & pleasant. Staid at home. Wrote to A. A. Elliott of Texas. Arm on the gain. Went to S School.
- 8 Hot. finished haying & then resumed the breaking.
- 9 Hot & cloudy with rain at night. Termometer at 92°. At the breaking.
- 10 Cloudy but warm. work as yesterday. Wrote to E. O. K.
- 11 Most awful warm with a little rain in afternoon. Breaking.
- 12 Hot. Ther-ter 96°. Breaking. Received no letters this time.
- 13 Hot & Sultry. Splittin rails which I find most awful hard the timber is so tough. C. B. went to the Cedar.
- 14 Hotter. Ther. 98°. Went down to lake. Stoped at Mrs Warrens for dinner. Axel Johnson was here.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- 15 Weather at flood heat. Helping the Finland boys cut their wheat.  
Thunder shower in afternoon.
- 16 Little cooler. Rained quite a bit last night & some this afternoon.  
Plowed in PM. Cut little wheat & run the turning lathe in AM.
- 17 Pleasant. Cutting wheat. Most sick in morning. Met Pip.
- 18 First rate weather to work. Finished cutting the Finns wheat. Eugene  
Calkins Lansing Michigan.
- 19 Cool & pleasant. Cutting wheat at home. Received letter from A. C.  
Calkins.
- 20 Cloudy & looks very much like rain. Wheat is ripening very fast. We  
came nearly two thirds through. Ed paid me \$10.00
- 21 Fine day. O Johnson & I went swimming & to J Onsleys. Went to  
Sunday school & to Prayer meeting.
- 22 Weather fine. Cutting wheat.
- 23 Sprinkles rain. Finished cutting wheat & then went raking.
- 24 Hot & Cloudy. Breaking all day.
- 25 Looks like rain. guess it will be a while [sp?] Drawing & stacking  
wheat. Hope to go home.
- 26 Rain is played out. Warm & pleasant. Finished the breaking & then  
went to the last day of school. Recd letter from Bert & Mary.
- 27 Pleasant but awful hot. We started for the cars in the morning but were  
a little to late. But we arrived at home in due time, where we found the  
folks all well.
- 28 Awful warm. Hired Mr Steven's [sp?] buggy & went to Mr Knapps.
- 29 Still warm. Went over west to school. the rest of the day staid at home.  
C Smith came down in evening.
- 30 Some rain. Bid the folks good bye in morning. Left Hastings at noon  
for the Rapids where I arrived just in time to take the train for the north.  
Got home about dark.
- August 31 Pleasant. Ed & the old gent gone to the Cedars & I am splitting rails.
- 1 Weather fine. Pounding at the rails & they split most awful hard.
- 2 Pleasant. Split out 131 rails to day & had to work most plaguy [sp?]  
hard too. No letters to day & had not expected any.
- 3 Rather warm. 144 rails is my portion to day.
- 4 Dry & warm. Raining all over the neighborhood. for I was feeling  
quite lonesome. Wrote a letter home.
- 5 Hot & sultry. Finished the rail dicker & then commenced business by  
picking up grubs & Oh how it makes my back ache.
- 6 Warm. Picking grubs is slow work. I have enough to last me all  
summer or less.
- 7 Pleasant. The grubs are in my way & I am trying to remove them.  
Every thing is drying up.
- 8 Looks some like rain. Commenced cutting the oats. they are short &  
not very well filled.
- 9 Looks still more like rain. Oats to day. Nothing by mail but a paper.  
will look for a letter next week.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- 10 Rained a little last night. Cutting oats. Cloudy all day.  
11 Cloudy & sultry. Went to two S School & one me [meeting]. Wrote to Albert. To prayer meeting.  
12 Exceedingly warm. Finished cutting the oats & then went to binding.  
13 Rained in morning so that I had to pick grubs.  
14 Rained a very little this morning. just enough to stop binding oats. Picking grubs.  
15 Weather warm & pleasant to day. Bound the rest of the oats.  
16 Like rain soon. We stacked the oats to day. No letters. Ed & I settled up & he paid me \$83 & I quit.  
17 Commenced to rain just at night. Looked around for work & found it at J J Ensleys for 10/ a day. Wrote to Nora.  
18 Warm & cloudy. Went to Mr Hillmans. Wrote to L. M. Hall & to C H Smith Freyer  
19 Rained in the fore noon. Went to the Rapids & at night walked from Presson [sp?] to J Ensleys. Bought me some clothes tools & a book.  
20 Most awful warm. Commenced work by logging. Went over to the Center to mass meeting.  
21 Hot enough to roast an Injun which makes it hard work to log.  
22 A little cooler. Helped Ensley draw his oats.  
23 Quite comfortable. Logging.  
24 Pleasant. Loged in fore noon. Started to draw oats for Alverson but it rained. then we cut rail cuts. I quit at supper time & went to the Center to lecture by Prof.  
25 Most awful warm. Went up to Eds & wrote to Frank & to the Editor of the Pioneer at Big Rapids. Got letter from A.E.C. Have not heard from home since I came from there.  
26 Quite a rain. Went & helped Ed Buchanan to thresh.  
27 Pleasant. Logging.  
28 Looks like rain. Simcoe & [I] shingled on Jakes Granary.  
29 Pleasant. We finished the Granary but had to work most awful hard  
30 Pleasant & a good working day. Helped Simcoe saw [sp?] on his fallow. Wrote to H Babcock.  
31 Pleasant. Logging again for Jake. in evening went to mill & had row with Al Knowles. Let Jake have \$60 & drew a note for \$70.00  
September 1 Pleasant. Went to P O & found letter from Nora Mary & C H Smith. Went to Eds & wrote out school report for Nora. Wrote to Nora & to Supt Scott.  
2 Pleasant. Helped Simcoe saw.  
3 Weather fine. We logged on the fallow. Jake & I went up to store in evening.  
4 Warm & pleasant Logging went off fine to day.  
5 Rather warm. Still logging.  
6 Pleasant but windy & awful hot. Alverson did not come, so Jake & I went to turning & punching up heaps. Threshing machine came just at night then I had to look after hands. Went to P. O. but there were no

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- letters.
- 7 Weather fine. Threshed for Jake & McCutcheon. Wheat turned out good.
- 8 Some rain & warm. James Nellis jr was buried to day. he died with typhoid fever. Wrote to A E C & commenced a letter to Albert.
- 9 Rain part of the time. Cut corn in fore noon & helped Simcoe thresh in P M. Rain all night.
- 10 Pleasant. Helped Caywood thresh in A.M. & went to mill P.M. Just about good as sick. Jake paid me \$1.00
- 11 Rain in afternoon. Logged until it rained then wrote to Albert.
- 12 Rain part of time. Chopping on fallow. E O K
- 13 Pleasant. Chopping A M. P.M. Logging until I got hurt by a hit from the end of a log.
- 14 Weather fine. Grunted around the house awhile & then went to work helping Jake log.
- 15 Pleasant. Staid about the house all the fore noon & after dinner went to see a number baptised & then to the P.O. where I found a letter from Nora & one from Frank. Now for Nebraska. Wrote to Father & to C. H. Smith.
- 16 Pleasant. jake & I logged alone all day & went up to Bens in evening.
- 17 Rain some. Loged awhile then picked beans A M. P M went to cutting buck wheat. My bruises are getting some better.
- 18 Showery. Cutting buck. w. it goes a bit tough. Went up to Westgates in evening & to E Buchanans & let him have mortgage to get it transfered.
- 19 Cloudy. Finished cutting B. wheat & then worked on fallow. In evening Jake & I settled up. He paid me \$21.00 & there is 27 cts yet my due.
- 20 Cloudy in mor but pleasant the rest of the day. Left Jakes in morning at 4 oclock for the Rapids but was to late for train & waited until 9 oclock. Went to fair where I found every thing nice. Left the Rapids at 6 P M for home. Got home at 12 P M.
- 21 Pleasant. Surprised my folks. Father, Mother, & myself went to Nashville & saw Nora. found her well.
- 22 Weather fine. Went up to H Babcocks & to Aunt Marias. Wrote to Uncle Randolph.
- 23 Threatens rain. Father & went to Hasting. Had our auction bills struck off. Ordered a new harness. I stoped over night at the National Hotel over night.
- 24 Rain some. Took the 4 oclock train for the Rapids. Took breakfast at the Mich house. Left there for the north at 9 oclock. Got to Jakes just after dinner. Albert came here. Recd letter from A E C & Mary.
- 25 Rain in morning. Split rails.
- 26 Weather changable. Helped Jake clean wheat & then split rails. Wrote to A.E.C.
- 27 Cool & pleasant. Went to Mrs Westgates & got my coat. Got mortgage

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- of E. B. Went to Howard City with Mr. Hillman. Left mortgage & note with Squire Haskins for collection. Recd letter from S. F.
- 28 Cool & fine in morning but cloudy toward night. Started just at day light for the cars & arrived at Hastings at 2 oclock P.M. Albert did not come down. Found father & mother there after me.
- 29 Rain most of the time. Staid about home. Very near sick. Was up to Mr Hydes in morn.
- 30 Showers. Settled with H Babcock & with J Stevens. Took mother to Mrs Cadarts.
- October 1 Showers A M. Pleasant P M. Settled with A Campbell. Made box to pack goods. Mr Buck & wife were here.
- 2 Rainy in morn but soon cleared off. Dewitt & I went to B. C. Sold potatoes for 65 cnts a bu. Made arrangements to freight our goods next Monday for the west. Took dinner with Aunt Adaline.
- 3 Pleasant. A.M. Picking up stuff for the Auction. Bought gun of M. Angel for \$8.00 P.M. Auction. every thing went for a good price. G. D. Babcock Auctioneer & he did well. The sale amounted to about \$250.00
- 4 Pleasant. Packing goods for the west. Uncle Ran staid all day but Uncle Geo. went last night. No news from Albert yet.
- 5 Pleasant & warm. Nearly finished packing. Albert came home & father went after Mary but their box did not come. Went down to Mrs Barkers & staid all night.
- 6 Rain part of day. Stopped at home & at Aunt Marias all day & with Ed Moody at night.
- 7 Pleasant. Finished packing up for Nebraska. Sent to Hastings for box, but did not. Staid with H Babcock over night.
- 8 Pleasant. Went visiting in Assyria. No box to day. Stopped at A-t Marias over night.
- 9 Cool & pleasant. Staid about home if I may say this I have a home. Put chaff into barn for Maria & staid there over night.
- 10 Cold. Albert & I went to Hastings before four oclock in mornng but found no box. Telegraphed for it & found it to be at the Rapids. Staid over night with Mrs Parmater.
- 11 Cool & fine. Staid for box until 2 oclock PM & it did not come. Left it to be sent to Lincoln Neb. Stopped with A-t Maria over night.
- 12 Pleasant fall weather. Went B. Creek & ordered a car. Stopped to the Jolification meeting. left for home at 11. PM where I arrived 4 AM in Sunday mornng. But we had a fine time you bet.
- 13 Pleasant. Staid about home most of the time. Went to Mr Mailer in evening where I had a good visit. Stopped with Aunt Maria over night.
- 14 Another fine day but a little cool. Loaded our goods in the morning & made a start for the west. Took a bill of them & paid \$30.10 as freight. Bought tickets & left B Creek about seven o'clock P.M. The colts did not like the ride much.
- 15 Cool & pleasant. Arrived this morning about two oclock where we

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- staid until ten being blocked in by trains. Then made our way west to Chicago by ten at night. We staid at the Burke house by paying \$3.00 for the two of us to sleep.
- 16 Fine weather. Run about town until they transfered our car just after noon. About three we were on our way a cross the prairie. Arrived at Aurora just at dark where exchanged cars & on we went with out any delay.
- 17 Pleasant. Day light found us nearly to Gales burg Ill. where we again changed cars & at noon we were in Burlington, Iowa but it did not take long to transfer there & on we went all right except the colts are a little tired.
- 18 The weather could not be beat. Changed cars again this morning & at noon found us at the Pacific junction where we were switched off & another Engine took us to the Missouri R Crossing on the ferry boat & at nine oclock at night we were in Lincoln Neb all safe & sound.
- 19 Warm & windy. Started out for a house but did not look long before finding one. then bought a wagon. At noon the rest of the family came & moved over to the house & commenced living. Night found us all in a mass & nearly tired out.
- 20 Good weather. Fixed up a little & then laid still the rest of the day. Wrote to H Babcock & to Aunt Orisa. No fault to find about the west.
- 21 Weather fine. Fixin up about the house. Payed gent for one month. bought a set of chairs for \$15.00 Went over to Mr Horns in evening.
- 22 Pleasant. Loafing about town A.M. P M Bert & I went to take a ride. Dewitt & Frank hired out to Mr Riddle a \$15.00 a month. Wrote to Uncle Ran.
- 23 Weather as I expect it will be most of the fall. Nora & I went to see about school. Set fires about house.
- 24 Fine. Fixed up a stable for horses. Wrote to E Hillman.
- 25 Pleasant. Fixed up this morning & started for the west. One o'clock found us at Crete having driven over some most awful rough country, but leavin C-te for Dorchester we found better land & road too.
- 26 Dry & pleasant. Left Dorchester quite early taking a couple of imgrants [sp?] & driving over some first rate land. Arrived at Fairmont at noon where we took dinner. Then drove through to Sutton & stoped for the night 70 miles from Lincoln.
- 27 Quite windy & dusty. We fell in company last night with J. W. Cherry & took us into Nuckles Co. to look for land. Going south from Sutton we pass over some most awful nice land. Took dinner with some people from Wis. & stoped over night with a Mr Fletcher near Elkton 24 miles from Sutton.
- 28 Cloudy with some rain. Went to look for land & found it on Sec 28 of Town 3 N of R 5 W. A little after noon we started toward Beatrice & on our way we encountered a gale which nearly upset out wagon & the lightning came very near hitting the horses, striking about 4 rods ahead of them.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- 29 Cold with some rain. Stopped over until noon. Hired to teach school in Thayer Co. for \$35. a month & board my self. In after noon made our way to the little Sandy. Awful bad driving.
- 30 Pleasant. Started at 8 oclock & drove 30 miles to Beatrice by two oclock. Homesteaded our land finding things allright.
- 31 Pleasant. Father left Beatrice for Lincoln about 8 o'clock & I left immediately after for Hebron to be inspected as a teacher. I found it awful hard walking & night over took me only twenty eight miles from town & nearly tired out. Stopped with a man that was keeping bach [sic--bachelor].
- November 1 Cloudy in morning. Started again feeling quite sore. Went [out] of my way twice. got into the Big Sandy & found my self at Hebron just at sundown. Put up at the Proctor House.
- 2 Fine day this. Went over to school house & was examined getting through just at night. Found Mr Knox in town & rode home with him. Heard they had another teacher hired.
- 3 Cold & Cloudy. Went over to Mr Bucks & he wants to back out of bargain. he is a perfect no body. Mr Knox & I went to see Supt. he will grant me a certificate [to teach].
- 4 Pleasant but cloudy. Rode down to Hebron & got my Certificate then tried to get Mr Buck to make out contract but he would not. Staid to Mr Knoxes over night again.
- 5 Weather fine. Started for home afoot. Walked 34 miles to Fairmont where I arrivd just after dark. nearly played out. Put up at the Gaylord House.
- 6 Pleasant. Left Fairmont on the cars at 9 oclock & arrived home at noon. most sick rest of day. Rec'd letter from Aunt Orisa & one from Uncle Randolph. Wrote to Aunt O J & to A. E. C.
- 7 Another pleasant day. A. M. Took Bert & Mary away to work. P. M. Father & I went & picked corn on Mr Riddles place. Wrote to Mr Haskins.
- 8 Pleasant. Picked corn in forenoon & would have picked in afternoon but Rock ate so much corn that he stiffened himself & we had to doctor him all the afternoon & even'g.
- 9 Dreadful windy. Went down town with colts. bought 1/2 ton of coal. Wrote to Uncle Ran.
- 10 Weather fine. Was around home all day. Had visitors. Went to meeting in evening at the Baptist Church. Wrote to N Nellis.
- 11 Somewhat windy. At work for Geo. Winslow picking corn & threshing.
- 12 More wind. Threshing but it is rather disagreeable work for the wind blows so.
- 13 Most awful windy. Threshing what we could but it like to took our eyes out with the dust.
- 14 Most awful cold & blustering with some snow. Staid about the house in forenoon & after dinner went home & found father sick with head ache.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- 15 Weather same as yesterday. Staid about home & wrote letters to U. George, James Bryant & to C Mack. Rec'd one from E. W. Hillman.
- 16 Cold but not much wind. Went over to Geo. Winslows & got 4 bu oats & in after noon down to Mr Riddles & got load of wood. Horses ran away but did not go far. Frank came home with me. Rec'd letter from Uncle Randolph.
- 17 Cold & pleasant. Stopped at home. Bert Mary & Go Winslow were over. Geo & I went to Sund School. Wrote to E H Hillman
- 18 Rather cool. Staid about home in fore noon & in after noon went to Geo Winslows & husked corn.
- 19 Cool & Pleasant. A.M. Helped Geo Winslow husk corn & clean oats. P.M. Went to town with sod [sp?] corn. There was some snow this morn. Rec'd circular from E A Calkins.
- 20 Quite cold. Around town in morn & payed rent. In afternoon helped G Winslow thresh Barley. rather cool & dusty work.
- 21 Little warmer. Picked one load of corn. then went to town with three loads of corn & got 20 cts a bu.
- 22 Fine weather. Picked corn in fore noon. then threshed oats. I think it about time I had a letter from Mich again.
- 23 Weather extremely good. Finished in forenoon. went home in after noon.
- 24 Cold with wind in north. Fixed up & went to meeting with Geo Winslow & then home with him to dinner. We all went to meeting in eveng. Wrote to C Moody.
- 25 Quite cold wind f west. went down town in morning. Got load of straw. Staid at home rest of day. Wrote to J Lampman.
- 26 In morning pleasant but in afternoon the wind blew a perfect hurricane from the n. west. Drew a load of straw in fore noon & went down town towards night. Received letter from A. W Babcock.
- 27 Cold & clear. Went over to Geo Winslows in morn & in after noon Bert & I went down to Mr Riddles & bought a yoke of cattle for \$120, & are to take them in the spring. he is to give us time if necessary. Rec'd letter that I could not get school. Wrote A. W. Babcock.
- 28 Extremely cold. Went over to Geo. Winslows & took dinner & from there [went] down town where I found a letter from Aunt Orisa. then went back [to] Georges & staid over night.
- 29 Pleasant. Laid about house in forenoon & in afternoon husked corn but it was rather cool work.
- 30 Pleasant. Husked corn all day quite comfortably except the wear of my hands. Went over south to a debate in evening.
- December 1 Pleasant. Came home most sick. Father went after Nora. Went to concert in evening.
- 2 Weather fine. Started to go to Geo Winslows to work but met him going to town after medicine for horses. Father took Nora back. Riddle wants the boys to quit or work for \$10.00 a month. Wrote to Uncle Myron.



## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- 3 Pleasant. Went over to Geo W-. & got 12 bu oats. Bert & Mary came home with me. Took some stuff from town up to culvers place. Dewitt came home from his work.
- 4 Continues pleasant. Around town all day. not feeling very good. Frank came home from his work having found a place to work for 75 cts a day.
- 5 Pleasant. Down town in morn. Frank & I went to work for a Mr Crouch.
- 6 Cloudy. Husking. nothing of importance to write. Nearly sick.
- 7 Weather fine. Husking. Went to debate in evening. Had a good time.
- 8 Cold & windy. Went to M E Church in morning & in evening to Presbyterian [sp?]. Wrote to Aunt Orisa.
- 9 Pleasant. Drawed manure for Mr Dexter for \$2.00 No news from the east.
- 10 Some colder. Hauled manure from town for 20 cts a load. delivered 5 loads.
- 11 Quite cold. The boys hauled two loads of manure in forenoon & in after noon I made trip to the brewery for 75 cts. Bought load of coal & some pork.
- 12 Pleasant. Hauling saw dust from the cars to the Brewery at \$2.50 a day. I will work at it for two or three days more.
- 13 Pleasant. Drew three loads of saw dust & took one load of beer to town. Rec'd letter from E Moody & one from E W Hillman
- 14 Wind north & blowing a perfect gale. Bert & Frank went with team in forenoon & I in afternoon. Wrote to E Moody. Received \$5.00 for work.
- 15 Clear & cold. In morning went to Unitarian Church to meeting & to Episcopal in evening.
- 16 A little warmer than yesterday. Took load of beer to town the went after load of sand. in afternoon drew a load of sawdust.
- 17 Pleasant. Beer, sawdust & lumber has been my loading to day. Commenced a letter to E Harmon.
- 18 Pleasant. Hauling saw dust & beer.
- 19 Cold with a little snow. Bert & Frank with the team until noon. Got horses shod in after noon.
- 20 Clear & cold. Hauling wood. Bert with the team. Frank had a letter from F Smith.
- 21 Extremely cold. Mercury at 17° below zero at 7 o'clock in morn. Hauling wood & took Barley over to mill. Received \$5.00 for work. Went to debate in evening & from there to Geo. Winslows.
- 22 A little warmer than yesterday. Went down town & back. To S. School in after noon & to the M E Church in evening.
- 23 Mercury down to 25° below zero during the night. Not doing anything. Froze my ear.
- 24 A little warmer than yesterday. Went over to G. Winslows & got 10 bu oats. Went down town to see Mr Kluested [sp?] but did not find him.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- 25 This is Christmas. Rather cool & snows some. Had a roast turkey for dinner. Went to Christmas tree in evening. Will work tomorrow if nothing happens.
- 26 Mercury down to 28° below zero during the night. sometime grew warmer toward night. Hauling wood for the Brewery. Bought a load of coal. Received \$10.00 for work.
- 27 A little warmer. Hauling wood. Nothing new going on.
- 28 Quite pleasant. Hauled wood in fore noon & in afternoon had the Horses shod & took a load of Manure to Mr Dexter. Went to Debate in evening.
- 29 Pleasant. Went with George to Baptist Church in morning & to S School in after noon at the Antelope school house & to meeting in evening.
- 30 Weather fine. Hauled four loads of manure for Dexter. Went to Meeting in evening at the Antelope.
- 31 Pleasant. One load of manure. Dexter paid me \$5.00 Went down to see Nora in evening. Fire in town at night. the Land Office block burned down. Wrote 58 letters Rec'd 31

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

1874

January

- 1 Thawed a considerable. Happy New year to all. Hope to gain in goodness.  
Mr Comstock & Mrs Blush spent the day with us. Bought 7 bu of wheat of J Harmon.
- 2 Pleasant. In school. Snow & ice most all gone. Went to Mr Brookes. staid over night. Sent for a sample of wheat.
- 3 Wind changed & it got awful cold & the snow flew at a fearful rate. In school.
- 4 Pleasant after the storm. Went up to the upper school to meeting but there was no preacher. stayed to S. S. then went below to S. S.
- 5 Weather fine. Mary sick. Dewitt went to Edgar & had the horses shod forward.
- 6 Pleasant. Nothing of note. Had an arithmetic school. a good turnout. Frank Whitman came to dig well.
- 7 Warm & some cloudy. Went up to Montgomery's to see about land for G.P.U. he wants \$100. down & five years to pay the rest. Stayed over night at Moores.
- 8 Pleasant. In school. 14 scholars. The well is down 46 ft & to water. Whitman gone to Edgar after tubing.
- 9 Some cloudy but warm. In school. Nothing to record.
- 10 Pleasant. Found Rock sick when we got up. I guess he will not get well. Went to Grange. quite a crowd. Rec'd two spelling books from Hebron.
- 11 Pleasant. Rock died toward night. his kidneys were torn loose. went below to S. school. Elder Pew preached above.
- 12 Warm & pleasant. Feeling quite lame & sore. No letters to day. In School. Talk of taking Mr Montgomerys farm for the next year.
- 13 Cold & windy, blowing from the north. Stopped over night with Mr Brooks. Did not have an Arithmetic school on account of weather.
- 14 Cold in morning but pleasant toward night. School full. Went to Mr Galbraith to stay over night & north to Spelling school at Kiawa.
- 15 Cold & pleasant. Not much of note to record. Will go to Kiawa & have reading match some time.
- 16 South wind but cool. 16 scholars. Spelling school good time except a fight afterward.
- 17 Cloudy with indications of a storm. Went to school. meeting House is to be 22 x 40 feet Siding 4 1/2 [sp?] in to weather. shingles 4 1/2 in. double floor, wall papered & every thing to be of the best material.
- 18 Cloudy in A.M. Cold with N wind P.M. Went below to meeting but no preacher came so we stayed to S. school. It seems as though our school ought to prosper
- 19 Cool but cloudy. In school 13 scholars. The board fixing up the fight of Friday night & I do not like all their rules.
- 20 Cold & stormy. In school. Did not have an Arithmetic school. Staid over night with A Comstock.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- 21 Pleasant. singing school in evening. Mr Nesbitt was down to see me this after noon. Frank Whitman came over to dig well.
- 22 Cool & pleasant. Nesbitt was to see me again. spoke well of my school. Went to Kiawa to debate.
- 23 Pleasant. Nothing of note to record.
- 24 Weather fine. Went to Mr Lemons after pony & down to Mr. Hills. Went up to Mr. Childs & staid over night.
- 25 Pleasant. Went to Sabbath school & to meeting. Wrote three letters.
- 26 Warm & pleasant. In school. No Mail.
- 27 Rains a little. In school. Had an appointment for Arithmetic school but no one came.
- 28 Pleasant. In school. All well. Frank went to dance at Mallocks.
- 29 Weather fine. Not feeling very well. Geo. Winslow came from Lincoln.
- 30 Cold. Expected to go to Kiawa but the weather scared me out.
- 31 Still cold. Geo has not looked about for land yet. Child & wife & Mary were here visiting. I went to Childes & staid over night. snowed just at night.
- February 1 stormy in morning but clear toward night. Went to S School & to meeting. Dr. Glenns folks have a boy. Mother came home sick.
- 2 Pleasant. Mother can not speak from the effects of a dose of morphine given by Dr. Glenn.
- 3 Pleasant. Started for Sutton a 3 o clock AM. after Nora & got back at 1 1/2 next morning. Mother died soon after I went away in the morning.
- 4 Clear in morning but snowing toward night. Oh it is sad to part with our Mother in this manner. O that such Dr's might be exterminated from the face of the earth.
- 5 Storming most of the day. snow eight inches deep. A few of our neighbors came & helped cover the body of our Mother from our sight. O that I may live so as to meet her in the world to come.
- 6 Clear & cold. Staying about home doing nothing.
- 7 Pleasant. Doing nothing all day. Went to Grange & took fourth degree. (Farming) is my occupation. Husbandman.
- 8 Pleasant over head. went to the upper school house to meeting but the preacher did not come so had S School. then I went below to a S School.
- 9 Pleasant over head. In school. no news from Mich. Hard walking to school & back.
- 10 Quite warm so that it is sloppy toward night. Bert sawing wood at the river.
- 11 Still warm. Business same as usual. Went to Kowa to Debate in evening. stopped over night with Mr Moores folks.
- 12 Windy & cool so does not thaw much. Frank cut his foot. Bert sawing wood.
- 13 Pleasant. In school in fore noon. Went to Kiowa to Reading match in

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

afternoon. had a good time

- 14 Windy but pleasant. Went to Nelson to the Council of the Order of Patrons of Husbands [sic--Husbandry]. Went home with Br Parker & stoped over night.
- 15 Quite Pleasant. Came from Ox bow down to S Sabath school. Stoped at Mr Comstocks & took supper. Mrs Child very sick. Was up there in even'g.
- 16 Exceedingly pleasant. Mrs Child died this morning at 2 oclock. Frank went to Fairfield after Minister. Aunt Orisa's paper came.
- 17 Pleasant. In school. Not feeling very well. Went to Mr Child's & sat up with corpse
- 18 A fine rain to day which makes it very unpleasant. Mrs Child buried under the Order of P of H. Elder Pew stoped over night with us.
- 19 Cool & pleasant. Not much going on. Wish I was through the school. Stoped over night with A Comstock.
- 20 Pleasant indeed. In school. The Kiowa school came up to read against us & we beat them. Wrote piece for H [Hebron] Journal about Mothers death.
- 21 Cold & stormy with heavy north wind. Started for school but backed out & stayed at home. Father sick a bed. Bought hog of A comstock for \$16.00 yesterday.
- 22 Little warmer than yesterday. Stoped at home until toward night then went to A Comstocks to stay over night.
- 23 Cool & pleasant. In school with but nine scholars. Father not much better. Boys not home yet. It seems good to have the privilege of reading N. Paps [papers?].
- 24 Awful cold and school small. Went to Mr Brooks over night.
- 25 A little warmer. Went to Mr Bucks & from there to the Debate. had a good time.
- 26 Warmer. The school a little larger. There was a sing at the School House but I did not go.
- 27 Quite Warm. Pleasant indeed. Bert & Frank fixed a pig pen & got hog home from Comstocks.
- 28 Weather seems like spring. Frank was to Mill. Went to Grange, put F Yaw though one degree. Signed petion [sic--petition] for P.O. at Comstocks.

March

- 1 Pleasant. Went to two Sabbath schools & to meeting.
- 2 Warm & Muddy. In school. Most sick. Stoped over night at Mr Comstocks. he is at Nelson.
- 3 Pleasant. Weather Muddy. In school which is most out. Went to Mr Hollingworth's to meeting of Committee.
- 4 Sowery [sic--showery]. In school. went from home to Mr Comstocks after chickens. Frank hired out to him for \$18.00 per month.
- 5 Weather fine. Rock pony to school. not feeling very well.
- 6 Windy & stormy. This is last day of my school & I am glad of it. No visitors on account of storm. stay with Mr Comstock.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- 7 Pleasant. Most sick. Went home & went to digging. guess will get better.
- 8 Pleasant. Went to S. School. Saw Mr Wiley about working for him. he promised that he would let me know in three or four days.
- 9 Weather fine. A.M. Working at hen coop & talked over matters with Geo. P.M. Went to look at Herbert Child's claim. Seeds from Vick's [a seed supplier].
- 10 Cold & windy. Working on Berts Stable. Got things ready for Edgar.
- 11 Quite cold. Geo. & I went to Edgar. Got six bu. seed wheat & brought 40 more at 94 cts. Bought suit clothes for \$7.00
- 12 Cold. Geo & Bert went after seed wheat. Aunt Orisa & I went to Mr Mallock's. Hollingworth went to Edgar & got tight.
- 13 Cloudy & cool. looks like a storm. Got timber & finished Berts stable & put oxen into it. Went to Mr Comstocks to see about straw.
- 14 Rainy most of the day. Deat & I drew a load of hay & a of straw. Did not go to the Grange.
- 15 Cloudy with some rain. Staid at home all day.
- 16 Some rain to day. Dug on cellar & went to P.O. at Elkton. Wiley agreed to hire me but nothing was said as to price. Heard from S. H. Corwin.
- 17 Cool & Cloudy. Started for Edgar but did not go. Husked corn. Went to party in evening.
- 18 Cool & cloudy with wind from north. Went to Edgar & got B. [sic--breaking?] Plow & Harrow from Wm McCaig. cost \$30.02. Let Child have \$11.20 to get Harrow.
- 19 Pleasant. Butchered two hogs. One weighted 364 lbs the other 235 ". Went down to see Wiley. he is to pay me \$20. per month & am to commence within two weeks.
- 20 Pleasant. Digging on cellar. Bert & Mary went to Edgar. Started the plow for wheat. Aunt Orisa moved to her dug out.
- 21 Pleasant in P.M. It was rainy in morning. Digging on cellar. Went to Grange in evening.
- 22 Pleasant. Went to S. School.
- 23 Cool & pleasant. Over to Seeleys & got my boots fixed & to Post Office. No letters. Boys plowing in afternoon & I digging on cellar.
- 24 Froze in morning. Brought home a load of the old dug out S. House & a load of hay. Digging on cellar & boys plowing in afternoon.
- 25 Pleasant. Boys plowing. I put teeth in Harrow & made cupboard for A Orisa. Went to Comstocks in evening to work for him. found a part of my money.
- 26 Froze quite hard in morning. Plowing & dragging. Comstock started for Iowa.
- 27 About two inches of snow in morning but it went away toward night. Frank & [I] each plowed two acres. I was rather tired at night. Went to Brooks' after rest of money.
- 28 Cloudy. Sowed five acres of wheat in A.M. Digging P.M. Went to

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- Grange in evening. Horse fell & hurt J. Dudley.
- 29 Snow in morning all gone toward night. Went up home & to Sunday School.
- 30 Snow & sleet all day. Our folks all down here to Comstocks. I bought Billy with the harness & wagon at \$200.
- 31 Snowing in the night & nearly all the forenoon. Went home after dinner & up to Berts a visiting. Our folks have not sowed any wheat yet.
- April 1 Pleasant. Paid \$80.00 & am owing him \$26.00 more to go for hay & corn. Geo. went over to Montgomery's & bought 80 acres of RR land. paid \$100.00 down.
- 2 Pleasant over head but awful muddy. Commenced work for Mr Wiley by choring & harrowing.
- 3 Pleasant & not quite so muddy.
- 4 Awful cold, the ground did not thaw out in all day. Could not harrow except where the boys plowed to day.
- 5 Pleasant. Went home after my trunk & to Sunday School. Comstocks horse sick.
- 6 Cloudy. My work for to day is harrowing.
- 7 Changeable. work same as yesterday. Wiley went to Nelson to look for oats, but found none.
- 8 Pleasant. No change in work. Wild geese on the field yesterday & to day.
- 9 Pleasant. Harrowing. Mick went to Spring Creek. had plows sharpened & got load of corn.
- 10 A nice summer day. Same old work
- 11 Weather fine. Nothing new.
- 12 Pleasant. Went to S School & up home. Wiley's folks went to Spring Creek
- 13 Cloudy with some rain. Harrowing. No news from Mich.
- 14 Pleasant. Still at the Harrow.
- 15 Heavy winds from N.W. Harrowing.
- 16 Windy. Harrowing & hauling hay & went up home after wagon.
- 17 Pleasant. Helping Wiley dig & fix an asparagus bed. Boys went to Spring Creek after corn.
- 18 Warm & pleasant. Grubbing. Went to Smiths to see about roller. Nora went home to see her Uncle.
- 19 Cloudy with rain in after noon. Bert came & got a cow to keep this summer. Went to S. School.
- 20 Cloudy in morning but pleasant in after noon. Harrowing on corn ground. Wiley went to Hebron.
- 21 Cloudy with snow in after noon. Harrowing A.M. Shot a brant [a goose] at noon. P.M. Did nothing. Wiley came home.
- 22 Warm & muddy. Harrowing.
- 23 Pleasant. Fixing for the party all day. The party was a success all having a good time.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- 24 Weather fine. A.M. was spent in takin dishes home. P.M. Dewitt took my place & I at home to sleep on homestead.
- 25 Pleasant. Planted a few potatoes & burned Berts place over. Went to Grange.
- 26 Pleasant. Doing nothing.
- 27 Weather fine. Rolling the wheat ground. The well dry nearly. Had to take steers to river to water.
- 28 Pleasant with wind from the south. Rolling.
- 29 Weather fine. Work same as yesterday. Wiley went to Edgar. J. Kirkman commenced herding.
- 30 Cloudy. Harrowing in forenoon & rolling in after noon. neils went & got a load of corn from C Uphinger [sp?].
- May 1 Still cloudy. Rolling. broke roller & fixed it again. Boys finished plowing for corn.
- 2 Cloudy with rain just at night. Harrowing. neils to Spring Creek after corn.
- 3 Windy with some rain. Neils & Nora gone to Spring Creek to a wedding.
- 4 Pleasant. Shelling seed corn. Boys went to planting. Wiley to Edgar.
- 5 Weather fine. Harrowing in orch. Wadom [sp?] over to see about digging well.
- 6 Pleasant. Shelling Seed corn & taking brick out of old well.
- 7 Pleasant. Shelling seed corn & digging on the well. Boys finished planting.
- 8 Hard wind from south. Got to sand in the well. Neils hauled a load of corn there. he & will went to Hebron.
- 9 Windy with some rain. Work at the well.
- 10 Pleasant except the wind. Went up home.
- 11 Weather fine. In fore noon found water in the well at 24 feet & had to quit & wait for him. digging on hog lot.
- 12 Pleasant. Sunk the well 3 [sp?] feet & commenced bricking.
- 13 Some rain. Working at the well.
- 14 Rain just at night & in evng. Finished the well. Wiley went [to] Edgar.
- 15 Pleasant. Cleaning up about the house. Wiley to Nelson.
- 16 Pleasant. Wiley & I down in Kansas after corn. found some at 50 cents a two miles north of White Rock.
- 17 Cloudy in morning. Started for home & found river up & could not cross [on] the ferry & had to go to Scandinavia to cross on bridge. Stopped over night with Dunlap with out supper.
- 18 Weather fine. Came into Neb. for breakfast. Got home about two o'clock. unloaded corn & took Georges wagon home & found father sick a bed with piles.
- 19 Pleasant. Feeling most awful sore from my poison. Fixed 17 calves then hauled hay rest of day.
- 20 Rain in morning. Started the breaker. Burnt Prairie.
- 21 Some rain. Breaking. Wiley went to Edgar.



## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- 22 Pleasant. Breaking. Nothing new. His new breaker does not work good.
- 23 Hot & no wind. Breaking. Will went to shop to get plow sharpened. have to take to take plow back. S House sold for \$40.00
- 24 Windy & warm. Went to S. School at Monts [sic--Montgomery's]. Down to Comstocks. S Johnson came last night.
- 25 Warm & pleasant. Breaking Prairie. Wiley went to Edgar. An agent up to fathers to sell reaper.
- 26 Pleasant. Breaking. Johnson went home.
- 27 Weather fine. Breaking. Father & Geo. went to Nelson to see about a homestead. Bert went to Edgar.
- 28 Warm & windy. Breaking in forenoon & planting in P M. Wiley went to Saline County.
- 29 Still windy. Planting. Wiley back again. did not look for him till tomorrow.
- 30 Rain in Morning & in after noon. Planting. Wiley went to Edgar after corn & could not get over bridge.
- 31 Warm & pleasant. Went up home.
- June 1 Pleasant. Plowing hedge row for corn. No letters.
- 2 Weather fine. Plowing in A.M. Went to Yeltons with Jennie in AM. Tried to work Granny & she balked. Broke a little Prairie.
- 3 Hot & clear. Plowing in A.M. Loaded hogs & took them to Station. Got back at two in the morning.
- 4 Cloudy with rain in afternoon. Plowing. Wiley & Will took steers to Station.
- 5 Pleasant. Finished plowing & Will & I planted corn with planter.
- 6 Heavy rain in the night & the water is all over to day. Broke Prairie.
- 7 Pleasant. Went down to river then up home.
- 8 Awful hot in forenoon. Planting sod corn.
- 9 Some cooler with a little rain. Work same as yesterday.
- 10 Pleasant. Planting yet. Not feeling first rate.
- 11 Quite cool. Planting in A M. Plowing corn in P.M.
- 12 Cool & pleasant. Plowing corn all day. Will with the breaker.
- 13 Rain in morning. Went to Edgar & bought a Buckeye Reaper & mower with selfrake. cost \$200.00 one half the first of Oct. & the other in a year.
- 14 Warm & pleasant. Went up home. All well.
- 15 Weather fine. Replanting sod corn.
- 16 Pleasant. Went to Edgar & got Reaper. Roads awful muddy.
- 17 Cool & pleasant. Planting sod corn.
- 18 Weather all right. Planting & hoeing in the garden. Went over to Yeltons.
- 19 Pleasant. Commenced herding to day. do not like it much.
- 20 Warm. Not much variety to my work.
- 21 Hot & dry. Went up home & put Reaper to gether.
- 22 Looks like rain a little. Herding. No letters.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

July

- 23 Pleasant Except wind from south. Herding is rather dull business.
- 24 Still windy & I am still at the herding.
- 25 Rain North of here in the night but did not reach here. Herding. Wiley went to Edgar.
- 26 Hot & windy. Herding. Went over to Yeltons with Doll.
- 27 Weather fine but warm. No change in work. Went to Grange in eve.
- 28 Hot & clear. Went to S. School. Frank came home with me & I went to Comstocks with him.
- 29 Weather fine. Herding.
- 30 Showery with heavy rain down river. Herding.
- 1 Clouds flying & hot. Herding. Father & Child went to Edgar.
- 2 Hot with wind from south. Herding.
- 3 Pleasant. Herding.
- 4 Weather fine. Went up home & we started the reaper in Child's rye. it run first rate. Went swimming.
- 5 Pleasant. Went to S. School & to Meeting.
- 6 Weather clear & hot. Herding. Will to Edgar & Wiley to Nelson.
- 7 Clear & hot. Herding. Will went to Hollingworth's to bind wheat.
- 8 Looks like rain. Herding on Turtle Creek.
- 9 Rain little last night & in after noon & evening. Herding. Wiley & Will over to Yelton's Harvesting. The boys cutting for Simonton.
- 10 Warm & pleasant until toward night when it looked like rain. Herding.
- 11 Commenced to rain about one oclock AM & rained until after nine. Herding. Wiley went to Edgar.
- 12 Pleasant. Went to Meeting S. School & up home. Boys are doing well with Reaper. Wiley let me have \$15.
- 13 Hot & Sultry. Over to Yeltons binding oats. Oats are most to ripe.
- 14 Hot & windy. Looks like rain. Binding oats in fore noon & in after noon binding wheat for Abe & Jim Chinnewith.
- 15 Cloudy most of day & rather cool. Bound wheat fore noon & back at the oats in after noon.
- 16 Weather about at yesterday. finished the oats.
- 17 Pleasant. Cutting Wileys wheat. put up about 14 acres of it.
- 18 Warm with some wind. Finished wheat & commenced oats A M. The boys came with our machine & went to cutting.
- 19 Warm & pleasant. Up home. Went swimming. Sent for bolt for the reaper. Johnston is out.
- 20 Pleasant. Working in the oats. Boys work until noon then went to Child's. My boils hurt like the old harry.
- 21 Pleasant. Mowing the oats. I am making barley forks in AM. Hauling oats in P.M.
- 22 Quite warm. Quit work for Wiley on account of my boils. Up home & run the reaper in fore noon in the oats.
- 23 Hot. Boys finished the oats & commenced stacking wheat. I am doing nothing.
- 24 awful hot & windy. wind from south. Boys stacking in AM. to hot to

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- work after dinner.
- 25 hot & sultry. Work same as yesterday. I fixed the machine into a mower & tried it. works first rate. Settled with Wiley & he paid me \$65.00
- 26 Cool & pleasant. Heavy wind with some rain last night. Grass Hoppers are thick enough to cut with a Knife. Good bye corn.
- 27 Pleasant. Stacking with two teams. Hoppers are thick.
- 28 Weather fine. Work same as yesterday.
- 29 Looks like rain with heavy wind from south. Stacking in A M. In after noon had to quit on account of wind.
- 30 Hot & windy. Tried to stack but quit & went to Edgar.
- 31 Windy. Stacking. Geo. & Deat cut some hay in P.M.
- August 1 Looks like rain. Finished stacking & drew two loads of hay & put reaper rake away.
- 2 Pleasant. Frank up home. Went to Church. Grass hoppers most all left.
- 3 Indications of rain in morning. Haying all hands.
- 4 Weather fine. Windy in after noon. Haying. Hay rather light.
- 5 Looks like rain but none came. Geo commenced mowing on his place in PM. G-s Hoppers flying thick.
- 6 A mist of rain in fore noon. Haying most of day. Father went to P O.
- 7 Rain in morning. Haying P.M. The women folks went to river after grapes.
- 8 Quite a shower in fore noon. Geo. & I went to shoe shop. I had my foot measured for a pair of boots.
- 9 Hot & sultry. Went to church & to S School. Down to Comstocks in evening.
- 10 Awful windy. Tried to hay it but could not draw. Bert & Deat went after a load of wood.
- 11 Indications of rain. Hauling hay for Comstock & the Boys hauling hay at home.
- 12 Weather about as yesterday. Mowing for Comstock.
- 13 It tries hard to rain. Working in the hay for Geo. Father went to PO but the mail did not come from Nelson.
- 14 Windy with a spatter of rain. Went to Edgar. bought 500 ft of Lumber for granary.
- 15 Windy. Drew two loads of hay in morn. Machine cutting for us. Child brought George's wagon home broken.
- 16 Warm & pleasant. Went to S. School. Our folks went to Roe's visiting.
- 17 Clear & windy. Went [to] special election, for the purpose of voting bonds to build bridge on Republican river. lost. 3 for & 29 against. Fire out on North side of river.
- 18 Windy. All hands in the hay.
- 19 Awful windy. Quit haying & went to river after willows in forenoon. George sick at night.
- 20 Some windy. Hauled two loads of hay in morning then cut & put up

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- until toward night then hauled two loads more.
- 21 Hot & pleasant. Hauled three loads of hay. had to quit & on account of Mary.
- 22 Sprinkles rain in morning. Mary had a girl last night. Went to caucus. Was elected delegate to County Convention.
- 23 Hot & looks like rain toward night. Went to Sabbath school & down to Mr Comstocks. Mr Comstock sick. Fire south east of us.
- 24 Pleasant. Went to Nelson to County Convention. Kemmerer was nom [sic--nominated?] for commissioner. Shell for J [Judge] of Probate. Hammond for Survey [sic--surveyor]. Frank quit work for Comstock.
- 25 Weather fine until toward night when it looked like rain. All putting up hay. tried to finish but did not quite.
- 26 Hot & windy. Bert & I went to river after a load of wood. Commenced wheat bin.
- 27 Rather windy. Bert & I hauling hay in fore noon. working at wheat bin in after noon.
- 28 Pleasant. Working at the wheat bin. Father went to see the threshers. if nothing happens will be here on Monday.
- 29 Weather fine. Finished wheat bin then dug potatoes. they are not turning out very well.
- 30 Hot. Went to S School.
- 31 Pleasant. Finished digging potatoes. Looking for threshers but did not come.
- September 1 Windy & cloudy just at night. Lightening struck on Deats place & set the grass on fire but rain put it out. Threshers came this morning.
- 2 Wet in morning. cloudy all day & some rain just at night. Finished our wheat. had 269 bu. commenced for Geo.
- 3 Rainy in fore noon. Finished threshing. Started the stiring plow.
- 4 Pleasant. Helping Geo on Dug out in fore noon. Took two loads of wheat to Kinkade in afternoon.
- 5 Weather fine. Went to Nelson. was examined & got a certificate. The Republican Bridge Bonds smashed up.
- 6 Pleasant. Went to Meeting & to S. School. Down to Comstocks in after noon & to meeting in Evening.
- 7 Pleasant. Helping Geo on his house. finished sodding & got some of the timbers. Father & Deat went to Mill.
- 8 Showery. Working on house in fore noon but rained to much in after noon. Father home from Mill.
- 9 Some rain. Finished up Dugout & moved the stove into it.
- 10 Cloudy. Helped Geo move & went to the river after plums. It has rained enough to plow easy.
- 11 Pleasant. Most of the folks went to Edgar. I was tinkering about home. Deat plowing.
- 12 Weather fine. In fore noon, hauling manure. In afternoon went [to] river after stick for ox yoke & load of wood.
- 13 Cloudy with rain toward night. Down to Comstocks & to Brooks where

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- I was rained in & had to stay over night.
- 14 Cold & Cloudy. came home & put oats into granary. Made Berts' folks a cradle. Geo came back to a dry place for his dug out leaked.
- 15 Cool & pleasant. Commenced the ox yoke. Father mowed for Child in after noon.
- 16 Pleasant. Helping wash work on yoke & putting up hay.
- 17 Warm & pleasant. A little cloudy toward night. Hauling hay. Geo & Frank got ready to start for Wis. in the morning.
- 18 Rain in night & some during day. Geo & Frank started for Wis. & I started out for a school. Went to M Connolly's, Lemon's. Staying over night with Knox.
- 19 Cloudy & cold. Made application for Hackney school but could not get it. Stayed to a law suit. Went to Grange in evening.
- 20 Pleasant. Went to Sunday School but Holly had key in his pocket. Down to Mr Comstocks & back to sing. Tried to get up to and to go [to] institute.
- 21 Weather fine. All hands of us went to the store & after plums.
- 22 Pleasant. Down to Buck in morning after syms [sp?]. Went to Hebron to the Institute. Prof McKenzie spoke in evening. it was first rate.
- 23 Weather fine. The Institute is going on nicely. every body is well satisfied. The different topics are being ably discussed.
- 24 Warm & pleasant. The institute still continues fine. I do not hear of a school.
- 25 Stormy. Started out to hunt for a school & found one two miles north east of Belvidere at \$35.00 per month. Came home in eve. [Note: school was district #22, in the northwest quarter of section 34]
- 26 Weather clear but some windy. I am feeling pretty lame & sore. Worked fixing my dugout a little.
- 27 Pleasant & windy. Down to Mr Comstocks after the Mail.
- 28 Pleasant. Forenoon Plowing. Afternoon Helping Montgomery thresh. Grain is badly spoiled.
- 29 Weather fine. Threshing all day.
- 30 Pleasant. Threshing forenoon. afternoon sick & doing nothing.
- October 1 continues fine. Fixing up my Dugout in fore noon & in afternoon Went & measured stubble ground of Mrs Simonton & Allen [sp?]. 1st had 24 3/4 acres. 2nd had 15.
- 2 Pleasant. Measuring ground for Child. 23 1/3 acres. Fixed the cellar & got ready to go to my school.
- 3 Air feels like a storm. Started at three oclock for the station & had to wait for the cars. Found a boarding place for a while.
- 4 Cloudy & warm. Went to S. House & over to Harvey Morgans & wrote contracts.
- 5 Pleasant. Commenced school with eight scholars. Not feeling first rate & the school goes rather lonesome.
- 6 Stormy in morning but cleared off before night. Most sick with a hard cold. Two new scholars.

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- 7 Pleasant. Some of the people started for Mich. Feeling some better. Eight scholars.
- 8 Some cloudy & windy. Not feeling just as I would like. Am afraid my school will be a failure.
- 9 Clear. In school. do not feel first rate.
- 10 Pleasant. Doing nothing in fore noon. Went to town in P.M. Took supper with Mr Graves.
- 11 Weather fine. Stayed about the house all day.
- 12 Clear & cold. Froze ice. Feeling some better. In school.
- 13 Still cold. Nothing new to record.
- 14 Some what warm. Have some fresh meat to eat. School is improving.
- 15 Quite smoky. Feeling first rate. Show at the School house in evening. not much of an attendance, nor a very big show.
- 16 A considerable [amount] of fog & smoke in morning. Some trouble in school.
- 17 Warm & pleasant. Down town all day. Heard of the murder of Whitaker by Bill Pruett, which surprised me.
- 18 Clear & windy.
- 19 Pleasant. Mr Graves visited my school. all quiet. Wrote a recommend. [sic--recommendation] & the board signed it & I quit school.
- 20 Still pleasant. Settled with the Dist & got my pay. Hired to Director of Dist No. 5 for 3 months at \$35.00 Took the eveng train for home.
- 21 Windy. Feeling quite sore. went to Mr Comstocks & to Mr Hill & paid him \$4.50 for lumber. staid over night with Bert.
- 22 Pleasant. I am doing nothing. Bert went to Edgar & paid the Glazier Boys.
- 23 Weather fine. Fixing calf pen in fore noon. Nora had quilting & I staid in the house & visited.
- 24 Awful windy. But went to river & got load of wood A.M. P.M. I went to Wiley's after pig. Down to Comstocks & to the Grange.
- 25 Not quite so windy as yesterday. Fixing up to go to my school. went as far as Galbraiths & stoped over night.
- 26 Wind from North. The train changed time & I did not get to the Depot in time so had to wait for the freight at 2 oclock. Got to Belvidere just before night.
- 27 Pleasant in Morn but rain in afternoon. Commenced school with eight scholars. Will board with Mr Mark at \$2.00 per week.
- 28 Pleasant with cold wind toward night. Went up to Belvidere to a Grange, but was not a quorum present.
- 29 Cold & windy. Had to put on more clothing. In school with nothing of note.
- 30 Clear & cold. In school with nine scholars. Sup't Barger to visit me this after noon. The first snow of the season fell from a passing cloud to day at noon.
- 31 Cold but pleasant. Feeling first rate. In school with 6 scholars. Am much better pleased than at the end of first week of the other school.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- November
- 1 Pleasant. Wrote out contract & went over to Mr Heaths & had him sign them in the evening.
  - 2 Not very cold. In school with ten scholars. Nothing of note occurred.
  - 3 Rather windy. Went up to Belvidere in evening to the Debate. They adopted a constitution & elected officers. rather a poor start.
  - 4 Warm & pleasant.
  - 5 Weather fine.
  - 6 Quite windy but warm. School passed off pleasantly.
  - 7 Extremely windy. The wind blowing harder than at any other time this season from the S.W. Went to town toward night. Borrowed two dollars of David Mark.
  - 8 Warm but some wind. Mr Wards folks were over to Mr Marks.
  - 9 Pleasant. In school with two new scholars. I begin to look for a letter from some where.
  - 10 Weather fine. Every thing passes off pleasantly. Went up to town to the Lyceum in evening. Had a good time.
  - 11 Rather cool but pleasant. Mr. Bemenderfer & Miss Johnston were here to visit the school with I enjoy first rate.
  - 12 Cold & cloudy with some flakes of snow & the wind from the north. begins to look like winter. I feel rather lame & sore.
  - 13 Cloudy in morning. Hard wind from south. In school with 12 scholars. Would have went to Town 4 lyceum if it had not been for the wind.
  - 14 Not very cold but windy. Went up to town. Mark went to the Blue after wood.
  - 15 Pleasant. Staid about the house until toward night then went up to Mr Murray's. I am feeling first rate & am growing fat.
  - 16 Raining some early in the morning & cloudy all day. spits snow. not very cold in school.
  - 17 The ground froze for the first time this season. Pleasant during the day.
  - 18 The ground is white with snow. Quite cold during the day. In evening, went to town to the Grange but it was so cold that there didn't enough come for a quorum.
  - 19 Snowing quite this fore noon. stoped about two o clock. about 5 1/2 inches deep. Looks very much like winter. Every time passes off pleasantly.
  - 20 Cold in morning but a little warmer toward night. After school went up to town with Mr Mark. No news.
  - 21 Thawing some with signs of rain towards night. Helped Mark kill hog just at night. Made out report to Director.
  - 22 Cloudy with cold wind. About home doing nothing.
  - 23 Pleasant. Thaws some. Went to debate in evening. Ques. Resolved that capital punishment is wrong & ought to be abolished. Decision for the negative.
  - 24 Weather fine. Received an order yesterday dated to day by Miss Lake, but there is no money in the Treasury to pay it so will have to wait.
  - 25 Pleasant. Every thing is lovely. Went to Grange in evening. Have no

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- school to morrow by order of Director.
- 26 Warm & cloudy with signs of snow towards night. Went to Miles Heaths in day time & staid to dance until mid night. had good time.
- 27 Cool & pleasant. In school, the scholars & I feel quite sleepy.
- 28 Weather fine. About the house. fixed Mark's clock. then went to town after mail & up to Mr Heaths in evening. he signed my order for \$30.00
- 29 Pleasant. Did not fix up any, nor did I go any where. A man stoped here going to Missouri from Clay Co.
- 30 Pleasant. Feeling first rate. Mark went to the Blue after wood.
- December 1 Could not ask for better weather at this time in the year. The express has changed time. East 5 A.M. West 9.30 P.M. Went to Debate in evening.  
Ques. Resolved: that fictitious writings are more beneficial than injurious. decided for the affirm.
- 2 Thawing all day. It is so a person could plow. hope the boys are at it. Rec'd \$6.35 on order last night.
- 3 A little cooler than yesterday, but pleasant. Feeling tip top. Went to Grange in evening. They iniated [sic] in the second degree. Br. Way was up & gave them some instruction.
- 4 Cloudy in morning but pleasant toward night. In school with thirteen scholars.
- 5 Warm & pleasant. Fixed up & went to Mr Stanards where I took dinner. then to Mr Johnston where I spent a pleasant hour & then went up to town & stayed until after mail.
- 6 Pleasant. Had oysters for breakfast. Went to Mr Wards visiting with the rest of the folks.
- 7 Weather fine. Nothing of note to record. In school.
- 8 Cool & pleasant. In school. Took supper at Mr Johnston's & went to Lyceum. not many out. Ques. Resolved: that men of thought have been more beneficial than men of action. Decides for Affirmative.
- 9 Weather fine. Woke up this morning with a severe cold. do not feel much like being [in] school. Mark finished burchering oxen. two days at it.
- 10 Begins to threaten a storm.
- 11 Looks very much like a storm. Had a visitor this after noon. Miss Woodard & little brother were here.
- 12 Clear in fore part of day but cloudy toward night. Kept school to make up for next Friday when I will attend Teachers Association.
- 13 Pleasant. Went up to Mr Brocks & to Heath's. Wards folks were over here. Will be glad when this week is gone.
- 14 Weather fine. In school with 14 scholars. Hurt my back going home from school which makes me quite lame. Mark went to Blue after wood.
- 15 Cloudy with some rain & quite a storm of snow in the evening. Three men stopped over night here from Fillmore Co.



## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- 16 Every thing looks dubious. The wind blowing the snow. about three inches of snow fell. Had to fan [sp?] the wind to school. Took supper with Mr Stanard & went up to S House to the Grange.
- 17 Pleasant over head. the snow is in drifts. To day ends the second month. Went up town after school.
- 18 Pleasant. Visited Miss Hole's school in the forenoon & the Teachers Association in the after noon. Took the evening train for home. found Bert with a horse after me. Got home at Midnight.
- 19 Thawing some. Went over to Elkton & to Holly's & was sworn into the office of Judge of Election. Went to Grange in evening. was elected Overseer. G. H Galbraith is our Master for the ensuing year.
- 20 Weather fine. About home most of the day. took dinner with Bert & staid over night.
- 21 Warm & cloudy. Started for school. stoped at Comstock's a few moments. When I got down here found that Mark & Hurd had a fight last Saturday & Hurd got the best of it.
- 22 Pleasant. It seems rather good to be in the school room again. Feel most to bad to go to the Lyceum.
- 23 Weather fine. In school. Ellsworth will not be so as to get to school any nor. Attended Grange. had a good supper.
- 24 Weather warm & pleas. Feel rather old yet In school. I am doing chores for Mark.
- 25 Pleasant. Rather a dull Christmas. Fixed the Clock. Made out report for last month. I went to town but found no mail.
- 26 Pleasant. In school with but six scholars for the most of them went after some thing to wear. Mr Tanner distributed clothing that came from Boston.
- 27 Good winter weather. About the house all day. Am feeling better. Mark is rather hard up with his hand.
- 28 Pleasant. In school with 12 scholars. Ellsworth is better.
- 29 This was the coldest morning of the season & the wind from the south. Went to debate but there not being a quorum, we adjourned sine die.
- 30 Still cold: but clear & wind blowing from the east. Not much of note to record.
- 31 Snowing from N. East but not very hard. Mark came to school & agreed to hire me for another month. He was well pleased with the school. not feeling very well. This ends the old year. I hope to be better off at the end of another year that I am now. Fare well 1874.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

1875

- January
- 1 Happy New Year; to all. cold & stormy. In morning went to Mr Fishers & rec'd \$10.00 on school order. Went up town & back to Mr Murray's to supper.
  - 2 Pleasant. At home in fore noon. In the afternoon up to Heaths, Brocks & c. Heard of the death of Gerrett Smith.
  - 3 Cold. North winds & some snow with it. About home all day. Mr Fisher was here looking after the interests of the Grass Hopper Sufferers.
  - 4 Clear but awful cold. In school with only ten scholars. My watch is nearly played out. Mark went to Hebron.
  - 5 Some warmer than yesterday & cloudy. fourteen scholars. Watch is running again.
  - 6 Pleasant. Not feeling first rate. Mr Fountain was over to Marks & brought in four books from P. O. Swintons Language Series. In school with 14 scholars.
  - 7 Some cloudy & some cold. In school.
  - 8 The coldest day of the season with heavy wind from the north. Did not get out doors much & then could'nt keep warm.
  - 9 Thermometer 20° below zero this morning. The wind has gone down. Cut some wood & then went to town & paid Mr Hole \$5.00 for Barley.
  - 10 Thawing some but it is chilly. Doing nothing except writing a letter to the Hastings Banner on the subject of G-hopper.
  - 11 Cloudy & not very cold. In school with 15 scholars.
  - 12 Cold & windy. Sixteen scholars. Mr Fisher paid me the balance on order.
  - 13 The thermometer must be 15° below zero this morning but some warmer towards night. In school.
  - 14 A little warmer. In school with 11 scholars. Took supper with Mr Johnston. Went up to town & paid Mr. Hole for Barley.
  - 15 Weather on the gain for the better. In school. Deat came down for me. Went up to Mr Fishers & drew fifty dollars of my school money & paid mark twenty of it for board.
  - 16 A considerable warm. Bought 11 bu. & 40 lbs. of wheat a 65/c per bu. Took dinner with Mr Knox. At the Grange in evening. Installed the Officers. A. H. Jones gave me an order for a set of books.
  - 17 Pleasant. At home all day. It looks rather tough how the people are going to live until after harvest.
  - 18 Quite chilly. Visited Nora's School. found it rather small & a little out of order.
  - 19 Weather fine. Visited Mrs. Blushes which I found rather noisey. Took dinner with Mrs. Brooks. Went to S. School in evening but there was none. Stayed over night at Comstocks.
  - 20 Thawing some. Visited our own school. Teacher is trying to do his best.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- 21 Pleasant. Staid at home all day & with Bert over night. It is rather doubtful whether Mrs Simonton will get well or not.
- 22 Weather fine. Started for my school. Stopped & visited Mr Bemenderfer & school. found every thing in tip top order. Staid with him over night.
- 23 Pleasant in morning but soon clouded up & quite chilly wind from north. Footed down to Hebron & from there up to Marks. Sent to W. H. V. Raymond for 1 set of Swintons Language Series & Language P. & S. [?].
- 24 Pleasant. Did not get up early & did not feel much like stirring about. Hurd has left the country. Mark rather got the better of him.
- 25 Growing warmer. In school with 12 scholars. The pupils seem to take hold with new zeal & it encourages me.
- 26 Cloudy but thawing quite a bit. Have not heard of much to record. Raining a little at bedtime.
- 27 Cloudy, cold and snowing some in evening. In school with but nine scholars. Went to Grange. Not a quorum present. adjourned until tomorrow night.
- 28 Not very cold, but some floating clouds. In school. this is the first day of last month. The Grange did not meet. Mr. & mrs. Standard were at Marks.
- 29 Pleasant with slight N. W. wind. In school. Feeling in first rate spirits.
- 30 Cold. North wind. In school with 10 scholars. Up to town after school. Nothing going on.
- February 31 Not very cold. Wind south. At home writing letters.
- 1 Rather lowery, but not very cold. In school.
- 2 Cloudy in morning. wind raised during the day & the [snow] drifted from the north & by night it was rather tedious to be out. In school.
- 3 Extremely cold with north wind. In school with nine scholars. Every thing passes off lovely yet.
- 4 Not quite so cold. Can not think of much to record.
- 5 Thawing quite a bit. Rec'd order for \$15.00 which pays me up for the three months school.
- 6 Thundering cold again. Got money on order. Went to hebron to Examination. Got a certificate. Rode over with Mr. Stanard. Am to write Essay on Geog. for Association.
- 7 Pleasant. Staid at home & wrote two letters. Folks went visiting & I got supper.
- 8 Some flying clouds but not very cold. In school with 13 scholars. Went up town after school but every thing seems dead.
- 9 Raw east wind with some clouds. Every thing passing off pleasantly. Out of wood.
- 10 Weather about as yesterday. Not much to record.
- 11 Pleasant. Full school to day. Most sick. will not have anymore school this week.
- 12 Thawing considerable. Went down the creek to visit Miss Johnstons

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- school. took dinner & supper with Geo. Hole. stoped in the evening.
- 13 Extremely pleasant. Went over to hebron. had my boots tapped. The Aid Society distributed a quantity of Army clothing.
- 14 Pleasant. Staid at home all day. The folks went up town to meeting but the preacher did not come.
- 15 Cloudy & rather cool. In school again. Went up town in evening. Every [thing] is dead.
- 16 Cold yet. Mark went to town & got a box of goods from N. Y. which had quite an amount of clothing in.
- 17 More pleasant. Went to Grange & helped install the officers. had a pleasant time.
- 18 Cloudy in morning but cleared off & was clear & fine toward night. Paid Mark \$10.00 for board.
- 19 Some snow in morning. Most sick with a hard cold. Mark & wife gone to Murrays to see the sick & I will got to bed & take a sweat.
- 20 Stormy in morning but cleared off as usual. But I do not clear up very well. Mark gone to Hebron while I stay at home sick. The State is taking orders for seed grain.
- 21 Cloudy & rather cool. some snow on the ground. Went up to Brocks to have watch fixed.
- 22 Cold & cloudy with some snow in the evening. Went from School to Mr Fishers & stoped over night with him.
- 23 Snowing like fun all day & I have but 8 scholars. I feel almost sick. Mark went to Fairbury on Dist. business. I had to call for more wood.
- 24 Storms some but not so bad as yesterday. This day winds up my school for this term. I almost hate to quit. Went to Heaths in evening. Trains blocked.
- 25 Thawing a little. Settled with Dist. & got my pay. packed my trunk & got as far as Edgar on my way home.
- 26 Cold North wind. Hollingworth came done from Hastings on the train & he & I walked out home. My trunk is among the missing. Holly did not make out much.
- 27 Pleasant. Find ever thing all right at home. Went down to Mr. Bunns & spent the afternoon & to Grange in the evening. Conferred the 2nd degree on Mrs. Roy.
- 28 Thawing until toward night when it turned cold. Went over to Mr. Garlicks in after noon.
- March 1 Cold & Storming. Doing nothing. Would like to it [sic] thaw up.
- 2 Pleasant. Bert went to Edgar & put his name on the Reaper note. Fletcher was here & assessed our property. Not very well.
- 3 Weather fine. Went over to Elkton which took most of the day. Did nothing rest of the time.
- 4 Cold with wind from S. E. Helped Bert fix chimney, cut brush, & chop wood.
- 5 Pleasant. Hauled load of hay & a load of wood from the river. Father went to P O at Elkton

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- 6 Weather fine. A.M. Hauled load of wood. P.M. Sold oxen for \$99.00  
Then looked about some for a horse but found none. Went to Grange.  
had to act as Master.
- 7 Most Pleasant day of the season so far. Doing nothing. Mr. Devoe  
here.
- 8 Pleasant. Started out looking for a horse. found one in Edgar but the  
man backed out. put up for the night at F Whitmores.
- 9 Another fine day. Rode with Mr Candy [sp?] from Edgar to his place  
then went on to Hebron where I found a number of horses for sale. will  
take my choice in morning.
- 10 Cool & windy. bought horse of Procter & Coon for \$100.00 Then in  
afternoon went home.
- 11 Weather fine. Most sick. Hauled wood & Manure. The ice is going  
out of the river.
- 12 Pleasant. Hauled manure in fore noon. Went to Comstocks & got ten  
bu. wheat. to dance in evening. like to got stuck in river. Father went  
to P. O.
- 13 Exceedingly warm for the season. Father went to Edgar. went over to  
Yeltons to see Sutton about wheat but he wanted to large a price for it.  
went to meeting.
- 14 Cold North wind. Went to meeting. The Sermon was firstrate. Up to  
Bunns in evening.
- 15 Weather same as yesterday. Doing nothing
- 16 Weather unchanged & also my occupation.
- 17 Pleasant for a while in morning but soon clouded up & was cold &  
disagreeable all day. Took wheat into the field but did not sow any.  
Cut some wood.
- 18 Extremely cold & windy. Brought wheat from field. Bert & [I] went  
to Hollys. I down to & bought fifteen bu wheat & to P. O.
- 19 Warmer than yesterday. Father & Bert went to Elkton. I cut wood &  
went to Mr Hills.
- 20 Pleasant. Went to Hebron to Convention. Nominated J. Garber for  
Delegate to State Constitutional Convention. Got home in time to  
attend Grange.
- 21 Pleasant. Not feeling first rate. Went over to C. Roes visiting.
- 22 Warm but windy. Sowed a little wheat in morning & in evening.
- 23 Pleasant with some wind. Sowing wheat.
- 24 Pleasant. Sowing wheat most of the day.
- 25 Quite warm all day but windy just at night. There was a heavey squall.  
Folks all went visiting at Mr. Hills & I did not come home on acct of  
storm.
- 26 Still & pleasant. Sowing wheat in forenoon. In afternoon put up more  
wheat & took to field. Geo came home in evening. Prairie fires in all  
directions
- 27 Weather clear & windy. Geo, Nora, & I went to Edgar. Georges trunk  
or Fathers barrel did not come.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

April

- 28 Warm & pleasant. Went to Church.
- 29 Rather windy. Commenced work on Georges well.
- 30 Rainy. Worked on the well a little in the morning. had to stay in the house rest of the time.
- 31 Snowing with the wind blowing a perfect hurricane. Did nothing.
- 1 Pleasant. Working on well at night. it was seven feet deep.
- 2 Weather fine but some snow left. Sunk the well to 17 feet & found sand & had to stop. Traded watch for gun with John Dudley. Father went to P. O.
- 3 Pleasant. Bert & Geo. went to Edgar after lumber. I did not do much.
- 4 Clear & windy. At home all day writing letters. Dewitt came home.
- 5 Weather same as yesterday. We sunk the well ten feet through the sand. but no water. did not go to S. Meeting.
- 6 Raining all day. Went to election. 18 votes cast. ten for Garber, 6 for F. Holly, & one each for J. Moore & J. D. Kirkman.
- 7 Heavy Showers. Digging at well between drops. put it down 4 1/2 feet & no water. Steve & Anna Culbertson over in P.M.
- 8 Pleasant but cool. Bert went to Edgar & got barrel of goods. Geo & I put well 7 feet & found water.
- 9 Cloudy in after noon. Sowed wheat in morning then finished well at 42 feet. Most awful tired.
- 10 Cloudy with snow in evening. Went to Belvidere after a school. Took supper at Mr Johnstons & staid over night at Mark's. Found most of them sick.
- 11 Storming most of the day. Went up to Mr Heath's. Cannot hear of a school but what is taken. Back to Mark's for the night.
- 12 Stormy in morning. Called at Mr Stanards & at Mr Johnston's. up town in after noon. stopped over night with Geo. Frink. Freight train off track.
- 13 Pleasant until toward night when it clouded up. Started for home by way of Casten [sp?]. Took supper with Mr Buck. I stopped for the night with Bob. Shelly.
- 14 Pleasant. Got home in morning. Sowed barley then planted potatoes. Old Queen sick just at night.
- 15 Ground frozen in morning. cold & windy all day. Went to Nelson to see about school & to pay taxes. could not get school. Father got flour & beans of Carlon.
- 16 Ground frozen again. Took breakfast with Geo. Harrowing. Bert & father making garden. George's oxen work first rate. All gone & left me alone for the night.
- 17 Warm & pleasant. Working the Garden. Bert finished the wheat & Barley. Went to Grange. had to act as master.
- 18 Pleasant. Begins to look & act like growing weather. Went down to Comstocks where I found the whole tribe.
- 19 Weather fine. Commenced sowing oats. Plowing with oxen rather slow work.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- 20 Weather & work same as yesterday.
- 21 Still continues pleasant. Work the same. Dewitt came home from work
- 22 Warm & pleasant. Harrowing to day & Bert plowing. Father got 25  
peach trees of Chas Roe @ 5cts.
- 23 Warm & wind south. threatens rain in evening. Geo & Nora here &  
got some hens. Borrowed \$10.00 of Geo. to buy corn.
- 24 Weather changed. light rain most of the day but snow in the evening.  
Went down to Comstock after the Mail. agreed to go to Edgar after  
corn to morrow if pleasant.
- 25 Cloudy in morning but cleared off toward night. Went to Edgar after a  
load of corn for Comstock.
- 26 Pleasant in morning but cloudy toward night. Brought another load of  
corn. they gave me 10 bu by my paying the freight.
- 27 Pleasant. Bert went to Edgar. Aunt Orisa bought the Millinery store. I  
broke plowlay & had to go to Ribers to have it fixed.
- 28 Pleasant. Harrowing part of the day. Most sick. Finished oats on my  
place. Boys sowing on Berts.
- 29 Weather fine. Father sick abed. Helped Aunt Orisa wash. then went  
down to Georg & helped him plant potatoes. Boys finished oats.
- 30 Another fine day. Geo. & I finished planting potatoes. then shelled  
corn for a grist. Dewitt commenced plowing for corn.
- May 1 Pleasant. Bert took Aunt Orisa to Edgar & he bought 5 bu. corn. I  
helped Geo. make cupboard & put in a window.
- 2 Cloudy with a few sprinkles of snow. Staid at home all day. Of the  
undivided wheat Geo. has had 99 1/2 bus & we 69 bus.
- 3 Pleasant. Helped Geo on his cellar. Bert went to mill but did not get  
back.
- 4 Looks like rain. Went to Nelson. Paid Geo.s taxes on land. could get a  
school at \$25 per month but would not take it.
- 5 Warm & pleasant. At Nelson yet. Got home in evening. It is about  
which & tother which is the best commission.
- 6 Hot wind from the south. Helped Geo. Get roof on his cellar. Deat was  
with me.
- 7 Warm & pleasant. Took calves over to Montgomery's herd. Geo.  
planted his corn. Old Queen about played out.
- 8 Weather fine. Helped Geo. put in west window & cupboard & hauled  
dirt from in front of his door.
- 9 Cloudy with some loud thunder & a little rain. Went to meeting. Took  
dinner with Mr Simonton.
- 10 Heavy south wind in fore noon. plowing. Geo. & Bert digging in after  
noon. marking corn ground for Bunn. Rain just at night.
- 11 Wind blowing a perfect hurricane from North West. Planting corn for  
Bunn. Bought a pair of boots of him for two days work.
- 12 Quite pleasant after the blow. Planting for Bunn in fore noon. In after  
noon commenced on ballot box for Grange. Boys finished plowing.
- 13 Pleasant. Working at box. Dewitt finished the harrowing then went to

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- marking.
- 14 Warm & pleasant. In fore noon & part of after noon planting with hoe. the [sic] we got a horse planter.
- 15 Rain in morning so we could not plant until afternoon. Went to Grange. had to act as Master which I do not like.
- 16 Cold & threatens rain. We finished planting corn. Went to church & S School. There will be a S. S. picnic in Mr Simonton's grove on the 3rd of July.
- 17 A heavy shower of rain a couple of miles to the east of us but no rain here. Planted sod corn for Bunn. Bert plowed for sorghum.
- 18 Hard rain in the night & cloudy most of the day. Father & Deat. went to Edgar. Mary went to Hills to a sewing bee. Bert & I planting sorghum. Went to school house in evening.
- 19 Warm & pleasant. Commenced tearing down Berts dugout in order to build it over. Burned prairie.
- 20 Extremely hot. Finished tearing down Berts dugout & commenced rebuilding it. Rain a little just at night.
- 21 Pleasant. Putting up sod.
- 22 Hot & sultry. Laying sod in fore noon. Went to ball play [sic— apparently a baseball game] P.M. To Grange in evening. There was a peck of corn & 1/2 potatoes given to each member.
- 23 Weather fine. Went to church & to S. School. Took dinner with A. Comstock.
- 24 Warm without any wind. thermometer 95° in the shade. Planting sod corn for Bunn. He went to [sic--sentence not finished]
- 25 Some cooler. Still planting for Bunn. Agreed to work the rest of the week for Moore.
- 26 Pleasant. Planting sod corn for Moore. Went in swimming.
- 27 A.M. Pleasant. P.M. Some rain. enough to stop planting. Went down to Comstocks & from there home.
- 28 Cool & pleasant. Replanting corn for Moore.
- 29 Weather about like yesterday. AM. Planting sod corn. P.M. I went to ball play. do [sic--ditto for "to"] Grange & conferred the second degree.
- 30 Windy with sign of a heavy rain toward night. Went to church & to S. School.
- 31 Indications of rain. Commenced work for A. Simonton at \$20 per month working on the road. Expect Bert moved into his Dugout.
- June 1 Looks some like rain. working on the road again. Plowing out potatoes just at night.
- 2 Warm & pleasant. Went up to Elkton Bridge to work.
- 3 A small shower during the night. Went up to Bridge again but there were to many hands, so I came back & went to plowing corn.
- 4 Another small shower. A.M. working in the garden. Simonton down to A. Comstocks & got two sacks of Meal. P.M. Plowing corn. Father went to mill.
- 5 Showery all day. A.M. Plowing corn. P.M. Went to Ball play. We



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formed an organization with 19 members. Oscar Ware & family came out.

- 6 Pleasant. Not feeling firstrate. Went to Church & to S. School.
- 7 Weather fine. Plowing corn & potatoes. Bert is working on the road.
- 8 Wind S. East. First heavy shower of the season just at night. Working on the road. Mr Reynard had team & went to Spring Creek.
- 9 A. M. Pleasant. P. M. cloudy with signs of rain. All the creeks are high. Breaking prairie. Bert to Edgar. Sent for Reaper repairs.
- 10 Pleasant. Finished breaking prairie. Simonton gone to Beatrice & I will have to Bach it. [sic--be a bachelor]
- 11 Weather fine. Plowing corn.
- 12 Pleasant. Plowing corn in forenoon. Went to Ball Play in after noon. To Grange. acted as Master. Confered third degree.
- 13 Weather fine. came from Jim Dudleys then went to Meeting & to S. School. Down to Bunns & stoped for the night.
- 14 Boiling hot. Plowing corn. Most sick. All went a courting. Thermometer up to 111° in the shade.
- 15 Not any cooler. Spliting wood & plowing weeds. Quit work. Stoped for the night with J. Johnston.
- 16 Looks some like rain. Fixed clock for Bunn & played lazy rest of day.
- 17 Still looks like rain. Cleaning out the house for father.
- 18 Cool & pleasant. Plowing corn. Not feeling firstrate.
- 19 Weather about as yesterday. Bert & I went in the morning to help clear ground for Picnic. P.M. at the Ball Play.
- 20 Pleasant. Went to meeting S. School & to sing in evening.
- 21 Hot & dry. Went to Elkton with Bunn.
- 22 Still hot & dry. Plowing corn. To hot to do much.
- 23 Weather same as yesterday. Cleaning out down home. Sow had 7 pigs.
- 24 Extra hot. Went up to Bunns expecting to go to Edgar but did not. Doctoring sow.
- 25 Hot & looks like rain. Went to Edgar with Bunn.
- 26 Showery in fore noon & a heavy rain just at night. Helping Mary in A.M. Went to B. Play in P. M. To wet for Grange.
- 27 Rain in fore noon. At home all day. A few G. Hoppers on wheat.
- 28 Pleasant. Fixing up mower. Went down to M. Connolly's.
- 29 Pleasant most of day. Went to Edgar with M Connolly. Staid over night with Bunn.
- 30 Rain most of A.M. P.M. Putting Reaper rake together. Raining at bed time.

July

- 1 Hot with a few clouds. Went to Smiths & had sickle pitman fixed. River raising. Barbering all P.M.
- 2 Showery. Fixing for the Picnic. Father went to P. O. But no mail was there.
- 3 Heavy shower in the night. Hot all day. River bank full & still raising. Went to Picnic. had good time, but like to have got drowned.
- 4 Hard rain last night & this afternoon. River up so it can not be crossed

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

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- with a team. Our folks all over to Moores. Geo. Winslow came home.  
5 Rained until noon to day. River the highest I ever saw it. it  
commenced going down about three oclock. Doing nothing but chores.  
6 Pleasant. I guess rain is over with. Doing chores & cooking. Bert was  
over home & got some clothes.  
7 Weather fine. Folks all across the river home, but Bert & the team.  
Made some pies for the first time.  
8 Fair weather. Bert got home with team. Let Moore take reaper to cut  
his Barley.  
9 Heavy rains during last night. It raised the creek here as high as any  
time before. Doing nothing.  
10 Hot & Muddy. Finished cutting Moores barley but it was to wet.  
Father & Mary went to Elkton.  
11 Clear & warm. Went with Bunn over to his wheat. The rest of the  
folks went over to Pews.  
12 Warm & looks like rain. Tried to reap barley but it was to short & we  
had to mow it. Made a pair horse blankets for Bunn.  
13 Raining all the fore noon. Father, Bert & Mary went to Elkton & I after  
a hired girl but did not find one.  
14 Pleasant. Cut some hay & finished cutting barley.  
15 Another pleasant day. Drew in the hay & put the barley in to bunches.  
Helping Mary sew on the machine.  
16 Looks like rain. Folks all went to Edgar & Aunt Orisa came home with  
them.  
17 Cloudy with a light shower a bout noon. Cut Oats & wheat for Bunn &  
my white wheat. Reaper runs firstrate.  
18 Cool & cloudy. Staid at home. the rest of the folks went for a girl to  
work.  
19 Pleasant. Cut our China Tea Wheat.  
20 Pleasant. Shocking wheat. The rest went to work for Bunn.  
21 Looks some like rain. Finished cutting Bunns wheat then cut on our  
until noon. Stacked his wheat in after noon.  
22 Warm & pleasant. Cut wheat at home & broke sickle just at night.  
Went & borrowed sickle of Jim Moore.  
23 Looks like rain in morning. Went to Edgar & had sickle fixed.  
24 Pleasant. Finished cutting wheat & stacked loose stuff.  
25 Looks like rain in morning. About home all day. Hills folks were here.  
26 Pleasant. A. M. Tinkering. P. M. Stacking barley.  
27 Cutting wheat for Bunn. [accidentally the July 21 entry was written  
here and then crossed out]  
28 Weather fine. Finished cutting Bunns wheat & put two loads in the  
stack.  
29 Pleasant. A. M. Tinkering. P.M. Stacking wheat for Bunn.  
30 Wind with indications of rain. Bunn & Bert went to Edgar. I fixed  
barley stack & c. & c.  
31 Weather fine. A. M. Moving hog pen & pulling wild buckwheat.

## THE GEORGE W. JOY DIARIES

Transcribed by Russ Czaplewski

- August
- 1 P. M. Stacking wheat.  
Pleasant. Went to meeting & to S. School. Bert & Mary trying to find a hired girl.
  - 2 Rain during last night. Bert went & took girl home & looked for another. I pulling wild Buckwheat.
  - 3 Drying weather. Bert looking for a girl again. Pulling Bunch [sic] wheat. Most sick.
  - 4 Pleasant. A.M. Topping out wheat stack. P. M. Helping Bunn stack. Not feeling very well.
  - 5 Looks some like rain. Stacking wheat.
  - 6 Pleasant. Finished stacking & put hay on stacks. No mail.
  - 7 Weather fine. Father went after girl but did not get one. Oats are ready to cut. Went to Georges.
  - 8 Hot & windy. Bert found a girl. Went down to Geo. for dinner.
  - 9 Rain during last night. Went to cut oats for Bunn but broke machine & Bert went to Edgar. got it fixed. Geo. & I went to work for Yelton.
  - 10 More rain last night. Working for Yelton 1/4 day. Took machine home just at night.
  - 11 Rain last night & this forenoon. Cut oats 3/4 of day. Most dead with the piles.
  - 12 Pleasant. Cutting oats all day.
  - 13 Weather fine. Had to lay abed most of the time. They finished cutting oats about middle of after noon.
  - 14 hard rain in after noon. Deat went & helped Bunn stack oats. Geo. & Bert bound & shocked oats.
  - 15 Pleasant. Stayed at home all day.
  - 16 Wet & rainy. Father, Geo. & I went to Edgar & got all wet.
  - 17 Pleasant. Doing nothing as usual. Bert & Geo. went to Saw Mill after lumber. Deat finished putting oats in shock.
  - 18 Weather fine. Cut hay in fore noon. I raked it & Bert got a load of wood after noon.
  - 19 Pleasant. Stacking oats. Geo. helping.
  - 20 Weather & work same as yesterday. Went to Geors for dinner.
  - 21 Pleasant. Stacking in forenoon. went to caucus in after noon. Borrowed 20 bushel of oats of Fletcher.
  - 22 hot & pleasant. At home all day. Mr. Morris & family were here.
  - 23 Looks like rain. Stacked one load of oats & put hay on stack in forenoon. Cut hay in P.M.
  - 24 Looks like rain.

## Nuckolls County Pioneer At Rest

George Warren Joy was born at Battle Creek, Michigan, May 22, 1847, at the age of three years and moved with his parents onto a farm in Berry county, Michigan where he made his home until the fall of 1872 when the family moved to Nebraska, living at Lincoln the first winter, then coming to Nuckolls county, where he has made his home ever since.

In February, 1865, he with his brother Albert enlisted in their country's service for one year or during the war. They were mustered out November 11th, at Memphis, Tenn. He made his home with his parents until coming to Nebraska, working on a farm in the summer and teaching school in the winter. He also taught several terms in Nebraska.

March 12th, 1876, he was married to Miss Elizabeth E. Templin of Thayer county, to which union were born seven children, four girls and three boys, all of whom except Minnie, the oldest, survive to mourn his departure to a better world.

In the winter of '79 and '80 he and his wife were converted and joined the M. E. church at Mt. Zion. Later they transferred to the Methodist church of Oak of which he was a member at the time of his death on August 28th, 1929, aged 82 years, 3 months, 6 days.

Those left to mourn are his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth E. Joy, the children: Mrs. Edith Avers, Edgar, Nebr., Mrs. Elmina Corman, Superior, Nebraska, Warren H. Joy, Campbell, Nebr., George C. Joy, Lincoln, Nebr., Ralph A. Joy, Ruskin, Nebr., and Miss Nellie, at home; also twenty-five grand children and four great grand children, one brother Mr. Frank Joy of Arnold, Nebr., and one sister, Mrs. Lenora Winslow of Fargo, No. Dak.

Funeral services were held at the Oak Methodist church Sunday at 1:30 p. m., Rev. A. C. Bates of Davenport, in charge, and Rev. Priestly assisting. Burial was made in the Edgar cemetery. The American Legion of Edgar, had charge of the services at the grave, and presented the family with the flag which draped the casket. XX

## Celebrate Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Joy, of Oak, Neb., celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary with a dinner at their home, March 12. Sixty guests were present.



Mr. and Mrs. George W. Joy.

Mr. and Mrs. Joy are pioneers in the vicinity of Oak, Mr. Joy having homesteaded 160 acres three miles southeast of Oak nearly sixty years ago. For several years he taught school in Nuckolls county.

The tables were decorated in gold and white! All of Mr. and Mrs. Joy's children were present, including Mrs. E. H. Avers, Edgar, Neb.; Mrs. W. A. Corman, Superior, Neb.; W. H. Joy, Campbell, Neb.; George C. Joy, Lincoln, Neb.; R. A. Joy, Ruskin, Neb., and Miss Nellie Joy, Omaha.

Twenty-three grandchildren and one great-grandchild were present. Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Joy, Mr. Joy's brother and wife, Arnold, Neb.; Mrs. Anna Otto, Davenport, Neb., and Mrs. Clara Joy, Oak, Neb., sisters of Mrs. Joy, were present.

Others present from out of town were Mrs. H. M. Harvey, Burchard, Neb.; Mrs. John Aldrich, Superior, Neb.; Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh Joy, Gandy, Neb.; Mr. and Mrs. J. Hamel, Bostwick, Neb.

## GEORGE W. JOY DIES AT HIS HOME IN OAK

Early State Pioneer and Civil War Veteran Succumbs There Wednesday Night

George W. Joy, eighty-two, one of the early pioneer residents of Nebraska and a veteran of the Civil war, died Wednesday night at his home in Oak, Neb., according to word received in Lincoln by his son, George C. Joy, Lincoln contractor.

Mr. Joy was a resident of Lincoln for a short time fifty-seven years ago. He was a native of Michigan. Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p. m. Sunday at the Oak Methodist church. Burial will be at Edgar.

Mr. Joy was born at Battle Creek, Mich., on May 22, 1847, and at the age of three moved with his parents to a farm in Berry county, Mich., where he made his home until the fall of 1872 when the family moved to Nebraska. They settled at Lincoln the following year, then moved to Nuckolls county where he has since made his home.

In February, 1865, Mr. Joy, with his brother Albert, enlisted in the army and served through the Civil war. They were mustered out at Memphis, Tenn. After coming to Nebraska he made his home with his parents, working on the farm in the summer and teaching school in the winter. On March 12, 1876, (Continued on Page 5.)

he was married to Miss Elizabeth E. Templin of Thayer county. To them, seven children were born, four daughters and three sons, all of whom, excepting one daughter, survive. Mr. Joy and his wife became members of the Methodist church in 1879.

The survivors: George C. Joy, Lincoln; Warren Joy, Campbell; Ralph Joy, Ruskin; Miss Nellie Joy, Oak; Mrs. Arthur Corman, Superior, and Mrs. Emil Avers, Edgar.

## Funeral of Mrs. Joy Held at Oak Monday



Mrs. Elizabeth Ella Joy, 73, widow of George Warren Joy of Oak and a resident of Nebraska more than fifty-five years, died at her home in Oak Sunday afternoon. Funeral services were held at 1:30 o'clock Monday afternoon at the home.

Mrs. Joy was born in Warren county, Ohio June 1, 1853. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Ella Templin. At the age of six years, with her parents, she moved to Iowa, and nine years later settled near Klamath, Neb. She was united in marriage to George Warren Joy of Oak on March 12, 1876.

To this union were born seven children, four girls and three boys, all of whom survive except Minnie Joy and George C. Joy. Her husband died two years ago.

She is survived by her children, Mrs. Edith Avers of Edgar, Mrs. Elmina Corman of Superior, Warren Joy of Campbell, Ralph Joy of Ruskin and Miss Nellie Joy of Oak. Twenty-five grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and five sisters, Mrs. Laura Jones of Wheeler, Wash., Mrs. Clara Joy of Oak, Mrs. Addie Applebaum of Kansas City, Kas., Mrs. Emma Ringer of Davenport and Mrs. Millie Hoffman of Atchison, Neb.

The pallbearers at the funeral services were six grandsons, Harvey Avers, Earl Corman, Raymond Joy, Robert Joy, Oliver Bergman and Charles Williams. Interment in Oak cemetery.

Omaha newspaper

Mar 3?