

think it will do to neglect of
improving the chance

as I doubt whether you can read
this or not I will not impose
upon your too generous nature
longer Good bye for this time

Yours truly W D Johnson

to L S Burrill

writes soon of all of the news
the folks are all well

W D Johnson
to L S B

July 22, 1860

Morrison Whiteside Co Ill

Cousin Lewis you
must pardon me for not writing to
you sooner, we are very busy ^{ing} harvest
season now & I have not had time to
write before, the crops are first rate
here this season, the farmers calculate
that the wheat will average from 25
to thirty bushels to the acre

I left Morgan county 2 weeks
ago last Monday, I worked my time
out for Alfred Williams, and as I
could not get any work to do there
I thought that I should go where
there was something going on
I started from Jacksonville on
Tuesday night, then went to Quincy
to take the boat up the Mississippi

I took the boat Wednesday morning & reached Fulton City on Monday night, I was one week looking about four hours & going 325 miles, when I also came in up the boat stopped at Keokuk City, that is one of the southern ports in Iowa. I got off to see the place & the boat went off and left me, well you can as well believe that I was in a pickle but as there was a train of cars going up I took that to get ahead of the boat, they had to go over some rapids & it got past on them.

I thought it was a judgement on the damned thing for going off leaving me, but when I got within about four miles of the place where I was going to take the boat the engine ran off the track down amongst the rocks &

smashed it all to thunder. It so happened that the coupling of the tender parted from the cars & left us on the track. There was not any one hurt but some pretty well scared, the ~~conductor~~ paid me back my fare & I chartered a small boat & once more got on board of the 'Key City' the boat I started on, while coming up the river I met Ole Groenow & came from Middlebury.

I have sharked five days in charmer at \$1.50 per day and probably still have at least a week longer to shark before we get through.

Well I must finish this as I want to go and see a schoolmarm to night we have got a plucky pretty one here, & as Billy Boyler says I have had an invitation to her I do not

R R V



Mr Lewis J Burrill
Bridport

Addison Co
Vermont