

1865

## [12] Jonathan Wetherbee Parker, letter transportation

*Let us know how access to this document benefits you*

### Copyright

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scholarworks.uni.edu/his\\_iadocuments\\_sp2022](https://scholarworks.uni.edu/his_iadocuments_sp2022)



Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

"[12] Jonathan Wetherbee Parker, letter transportation" (1865). *Spring 2022 Iowa Documents Class Projects*. 10.

[https://scholarworks.uni.edu/his\\_iadocuments\\_sp2022/10](https://scholarworks.uni.edu/his_iadocuments_sp2022/10)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the History Class Projects at UNI ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Spring 2022 Iowa Documents Class Projects by an authorized administrator of UNI ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@uni.edu](mailto:scholarworks@uni.edu).

**Offensive Materials Statement:** Materials located in UNI ScholarWorks come from a broad range of sources and time periods. Some of these materials may contain offensive stereotypes, ideas, visuals, or language.

J. W.  
Parker

J. W. Parker  
J. W. Parker

Free

Parker J. W.  
Harewood P.O.  
Des Moines Co.  
Iowa



J. W.  
Parker

J. W. Parker letter  
May 26 - 1858

Jonathan W. Parker.  
1810-1852 Iowa Terr. legislator  
Mayor of Des Moines



Davenport May 26th 1838

Dear Father

On the Morning of the 21<sup>st</sup> instand  
I went down to the shore of the river to see a  
Steam Boat land. I soon discovered it to be  
the "Fayette" a strange boat here and as it  
approached I thought perhaps Mother and the  
rest of the folks were on it and so! & behold!  
they were. It was almost two weeks sooner  
than I expected them. Squire Barkley & the  
rest like the Country and situation of things  
well, but felt a little disappointed in the Cli-  
mate - They thought it too Cold - To be sure it  
has been since March, rather unpleasant. Cool  
winds from the north & from the East have been more  
than usually prevalent this Spring. The weather is  
very fine now. Our Springs are generally  
unpleasant but the summer & Fall make it all  
up in their pleasantness.

Mr Barkley for the sake of having something  
to do until he selects him a place, has taken  
our Tavern to keep one year. He will, I  
think make money out of it

Our Folks are comfortably situated. Mr  
Bennett is with them now. Next Tuesday he goes  
into another. Mr Barnett & Mr Barkley bought,  
each of them, a stone in Pittsburg for about



40 Dollars a piece. They are splendid cooking stones and have a great deal of good furniture attached to them. Such stones would cost here near a 100. dollars. I am sorry Mother did not buy one. I have bought a small second hand one for 25 which can be made to answer our purpose until you come when you can get a similar one to Parkleys in Pittsburg and bring it with you.

Mother travelled under so much fear after the accident on the Portage Rail Road and after hearing of the explosion of the "Noselle" that it affected her health so that she is quite unwell but will be better after resting a while.

There has been a great demand for potatoes this spring. 1000 ds of Bushels have been bought up here at 50 Cts per Bushel - taken down to Burlington, St. Louis &c & sold for \$1.25 & \$1.50 per Bushel. For some reason or other good potatoes cannot be raised below, while here, we have as good as can be found in the world. One man above this <sup>3</sup> miles raised 3000 bushels. From the preparations that are making I think we shall have in this region of Country next fall abundance of Corn, potatoes &c. Corn is one dollar now. Flour 9 \$'s per bl. and other things in proportion.

Our folks say they want you to keep almost every thing they left and bring it with



when you come.

It may be well enough for you to stay where you are until next Spring if your business is good because there is not much to be done here in the winter.

The Cabin passage of our Family from Pitts'g to this place was 22 \$s a piece and they came for three — extremely cheap! The freight cost about 8 7/16 Cts to a 100 lb from Pittsburg "Cheap as dirt"! Ills. & Ind.<sup>a</sup> Money was, I am told, 10 per Ct. discount at the east. Had they bought that they might have made their passage almost clear by the exchange because that was par in the west. "Bank of Wisconsin at 90" is par now; but suffers a great discount at the east. In fact, I believe it is quoted "no sale".

Please give in your next a list of such articles as are left that I may tell you which you ought to bring. The desk that was sent is totally ruined by the crush received on the rail way.

Have I mentioned in any letter to you the price of lumber here, and what you might do with Uncle Francis' proposition?

I send this letter, by a Lady, from this Town to Cincinnati where it will be mailed.

Please give the respects of the Family to Mr. Volz.

Yr. All post of another letter next week.

J. Parker B.W. }

Your Son  
J. W. Parker