

7 bottles done and
has returned

Concord Lake N. H.

May 1st 58.

My Darling Sister

I doubtless
looking somewhat anxiously for a
line from me by this time and
it is my will that she shall
receive one forthwith due to it -
therefore ye carry mail carrier
and incident of. No: that ye do
your duty faithfully as I am
doing mine

I must not refuse however dear
Eun on I shall have ^{from her} little else.

I received two letters from you
while in Jackson Co Iowa and
I believe wrote you once which

I presume reached you shortly after
The last one I received from you was
mailed consequently they must have
closed. I requested you to write me
at St. Paul but found nothing
there from you, but one from Ansel
and another from Chas. both
^{which} were there awaiting you were very
acceptable and compensated some-
what for the non receipt of yours.

I hardly know what to write
to you or at least where to begin
I have to write to ^{write} you. I have no
doubt you would feel interested that
I presume I fill a whole sheet
and write nothing. I left Jackson
about the last of March went
to Duquette where the Surveyor resides
in whose employ I am at present
He is a very fine old gentleman
is County Surveyor of Dubuque Co.
and United States Surveyor of public

Lands. I had previously obtained
his promise of a deputyship, ^{part} this
earn which he faithfully redeemed
soon as I presented myself I worked
for him two or three weeks in Dubuque
while he was absent in this Territory.
By making arrangements for our
new work and soon after his return
home I came up here and of my
journey my present situation and
prospects I can inform you in a
few words. I took passage on the
Steamer Northern Light at Dubuque
for Saint Paul arrived safe
by a pleasant ride of a
day and a night from St. P. to
Henderson. Minnetonka River on the
North Star a fine little Packet
arrived ^{on a pleasant} Sunday morning I am here
down to Comelians Lake a distance
of eighty miles I traveled alone and
on foot and here I am tonight

My week work done and improving the first favourable opportunity I am writing to Sister Anne

The beautiful view on the border of which we are camped to night is one of the loveliest sheets of water that eyes ever beheld

You know I have always spoken highly of the beautiful ^{scenery} of the west but my observation has hitherto been confined to Iowa alone and now I can say of Minnesota that it surpasses in loveliness and beauty every thing I have seen yet

I shall remain here but a short time longer as our work in this vicinity is nearly completed. After leaving here I shall probably be within from twenty to sixty miles of Fort Ridgely from which place letters will reach me. This will be carried to a post office by a traveller who is stopping with us to night. no more for now a ~~change~~ ^{change} me next time in red