

Okaw Illinois

March 5th 1860

Dear Father

I have just cleaned out the hog pen and taken out the old stead and put new in. Aunt Sallie had left. Mary had taken her place. Gra went to Bourbon yesterday we had all the work to do this morning. The carpenters have finished their work on the new house and now the masons are at work. We have had delightful weather ever since you and everything looked like spring. It had been very muddy ever since you until a few days back and it had dried up very nicely. Mr McKraw and Aunt Fanny were here to tea last night and had all to themselves. the Pastor last night - Ma is just telling me to tell you what a splendid Boy John was she says he grows every day and every night. They held a meeting at the school house to take in consideration the incorporation of

of one town they will hold a
meeting there Wednesday night - to
vote for it. Mr McKean was at first
strongly opposed to it on the ground
that they would tax his land too much
and make him build too many plank
walks. But I believe they have coaxed
him over. Last Thursday they held a
church meeting at the school house
and some of the men got so exci-
ted that they called one another
liars and the meeting like to broke
up in a row. Every morning now the
fence and the yard is full of larks
and I take my gun out with me
mornings and shoot them. Cousin
Billey and Mr Campbell raised no
objection to my distributing those
Sunday school papers on the ground
that they would insure their sub-
scription and I consulted with
Mr Chickock about it and he said
it was no objection in his mind
at all, and if they make a fuss
inside I will distribute them out-
side. We received the letter and
the paper you sent - from

Memphis, and I took the paper
up and commenced to read it
and I thought ^{it} rather a strange
Sunday Paper until cousin
Billey threw some light on the
subject by telling me it was
in "New Orleans" on Sunday morning
I suppose it is a small specimen
of the place, Mr Bradbery is put-
ting up quite a large Bakery
on the corner by the Joshua store,
I am very glad to see it for I
think he will do well. There has been
no flour in town for some time
now in consequence of the war
and we are living on corn meal
Susan had been sewing and is
very much pleased with her, and
ma has been in high spirits for
the last two or three days and all
are getting on finely,

Your most obedient-
Son

George A. Sparrow

Give my love to
Ca. Sus. and
Sir. Taylor