

Okara, Illinois
April 5th 1860

My Dear Father

This is not my usual day for writing and something very "unusual" for me to be writing on any other day. I can assure you but as I have something of interest to tell you I will make an effort to write you a short letter today. Mr. McLean received a letter from you on last Saturday, March the 31st - that March the 9th you directed it to Coler County and it was sent to a man in Coler County by the name of John McBlain and Saturday he brought it to Mr. McLean. So hereafter I think it would

is safe to direct your letters
to Douglas County. I have
got the back lot ploughed
and I am only waiting to
get it harrowed up to begin my
fencing operations. I have got
some of my garden laid off
in ^{beds} and a good many of my
suds up. Ma is just preparing
for a visit over to Grandmas
for all day. Johnny Spawm is
nearly as big as caddie and
he laughs and crows and
tries very hard to talk. But
he can't come it yet. Yesterday
afternoon about three o'clock
the wood pile down at the
Depot took fire from the passen-
ger train and no one dis-
covered until it was too late
in flames and from that

the Tank, standing by it-
took fire and it was the
Grandest scene I ever wit-
nessed the flames would
play nearly across the street-
and they had very hard
work to save the stores, it was
so intensely hot that the men
could not remain on the
roofs and they had to make
fortification of Boards and
wagons between them and the
fire, and keep the stores wet-
all the time, it was so hot-
that some of the men's clothes
took fire on them. Dr Henry
removed all of his goods.
And by almost Superhuman
efforts they were saved, it seems
almost a miracle, The town
is up in arms against the

Rail. Road Company for pulling
wood in the town and they
say they are going to incite
it for a nuisance and if
they cant get clear of it one
way they will another. Write soon

Your obedient
son

George A. Spauld

