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Letter, 1856. Call Number, River Falls SC 73

Hodges, William

[s.l.]: [s.n.], [s.d.]

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Rusk River Pierce County Wis

Rusk River Pierce County Wisconsin June 11th 1850

Mr James Corner

I have taken off your Dear Sir after a long time
~~I have taken my pen in hand to answer your letter~~
and inform you that we are all well at present
hoping these few lines may find you all enjoying
the ^{same} blessing. I have nothing of much interest to write
at present we have had a tremendous hard winter &
a very late spring we finished sowing wheat on the
21st day of May and finished sowing oats on the 28th
day and I planted five acres of corn and the prairie
Squirrels took all that come up and I am going
to sow the ground in oats ~~for~~ ten rows
of corn of the seed brought out with me it come
nice and looks fine it is now knee high wheat
and oats looks fine we have had fine growing
showers this spring ^{and} we have ^{seen} hard
times since you left here what I call hard weather
we was glad to see spring come our cattle what
is left of them looks well now we turned them
out to the woods for to shift for themselves the
first of April our horses work good as well as we
had very hard plowing to do this spring and
we had to harrow it so often to get it in good
order we harrowed our ground three times once
before we sowed the grain and twice after
Jasewell Old letter 1900

I Rec^d a letter from Levi Hodges on the eighth
of this month which give us great satisfaction
to hear that you was all well he also writes that
your grain market is down and nothing doing
of consequence in the grain market
~~our market has come down since the southern~~
produce has Ben shifted up here. Pork is worth from
18 to 19 Dollars per Barrel wheat 1.25 per Bushel Corn
from 60 to 65 cents per Bushel oats 65 cents per Bushel
Sack included potatoes 60 cents per Bushel Flour 6.50 to
\$6.75 per Barrel corn meal two Dollars per 100 pounds sack
included Butter from 20 to 25 cents per lb. pork retails
at 10 and 12 cents per lb. we still continue ^{to} have as
good appetites as ever we can eat every thing before
us yet in the spring of vitals we will have an
abundance of wild fruit here this summer such as
plumbe^r, Sarves Berries Strawberys Black Berries Raspberys
goose Berries any quantity from Bushels to wagon loads
And the game is plenty Deer comes in to the river in
sight of the house the Bear is coming in here this
Spring right plenty there has Ben some six or eight
Ben seen in our Neighborhood and they have killed
a couple of days Dr. Phillips killed two Deer this morning
before sun up in the river opposite my field
elk was plenty last winter we have plenty of
fish this spring I made a little trap in the river
opposite the house and caught lots of fish Trout and
Duckery chubz &c

I also Rec^d a letter from William W.
Anderson on the 13th of May Stating that his
Mother was quite uneasy about me tell her
she neednt be alarmed about me if any thing
Serious should happen she would here it immedi-
ately every month I stay here the better I like the
Country and if I can work through and get my
place paid for money would hardly tempt me
to sell it, there is a great many emigrants
coming here this Spring and a general rush for
land, the land office is shut at this time on account
of the rail Road and will continue so till the Rail
Road lands is selected land is raising in value
very fast and all near to the settlement is taken
up I forgot to mention any thing about cattle and
horses the prices is about as they was when you
was here the health is good we dont hear of any
Body scarcely being sick there has been but one
death that we have heard of in the neighborhood
since we come here and that case was said to be
coleramerbus I want you to write to me as soon
as you get this and give me a full detail of every
thing from a needle to an anchor the prices of
things generally and who got the place I left
the hats and so on deaths and Marriages &c tell all
the rest I will write by turns if it is slow you all
live close together and when ^{one} hears from me you
all can hear, it is the ^{reason} why I havnt wrote oftner

I must confess that I am too neglectfull
about writing But that is no reason why you should
Be so I want you all to write every opportunity
When you write Direct to River Falls Pierce County
Wisconsin as we havent got any Post office on Rush
River yet when you write I want to hear how many
is coming to our country next fall if none of you
mooves here I want a lot of you to come and take a
hunt there will be plenty Deer and Bear and bring
a good gun a please Dont bring Popguns or you will
kill no game we have only seen one party of Indians
since we come here and that was a war party of the
Sues they had been out on a scout after the Chipawags
The two parties met near Holmans Station about
5 miles north of us and there took a Batttle killing
Several on both sides we saw them returning home
to Minnesota after the Batttle 50 or 60 in number
I am getting near the Bottom of my paper and will
have to come to a close By Requesting you to write to
me soon we send our Best Respects all

Do not more at present But
Still Remain Yours With Respect

To

James & Angenora Comer

William & Rachel Hodges

Mr. William Hodges
Rush River-Pierce County, Wisc.
June 11, 1856

Mr. James Corner

Dear Sir:

After a long time I have taken my pen in hand to answer your letter and inform you that we are all well at present hoping these few lines may find you all enjoying the same blessing. I have nothing of much interest to write at present. We have had a tremendous hard winter and a very late spring. We finished sowing wheat on the 21st day of May and finished sowing oats on the 28th day and I planted five acres of corn and the prairie squirrels took all that come up and I'm going to sow the ground in oats few rows of corn of the seeds brought out with me it come nice and looks fine. It is now knee high wheat and oats look fine. We have fine growing showers this spring.

We have seen very hard times since you left there what I call hard scratching. We was glad to see spring come. Our cattle, what is left of them look well now. We turned them out to the woods for to shift for themselves the first of April. Our horses don't look well. We had very hard plowing to do this spring and we had to harrow it so often to get it in good order we harrowed our ground three times once before sowed the grain and twice after. ~~~~~
(farewell old letter 1900) I received a letter from Levi Hodges on the eighth of this month which gave us great satisfaction to hear that you was all well. He also writes that your grain market is down and nothing doing of consequence in the grain market.

Our market has come down since the southern produce has been shipped up here. Pork is worth from 18 to 19 dollars per barrel, wheat 1.25 per bushel, corn from 60 to 65 cents per bushel, oats 65 cents per bushel. Sack included potatoes 60 cents per bushel. Flour \$6.50 to \$6.75 per barrel, corn meal two dollars per 100 pounds, sack included butter from 20 to 25 cents per lb. Pork retails at 10 and 12½ cents per lb. We still continue to have as good appetites as ever, we can eat everything before us, yet there's the stripe of vituals we will have an abundance of wild fruit here this summer such as plums, sarve berries, strawberries, black berries, raspberries, gooseberries, and quantity from bushels to wagon loads and the game is plenty (during) or see - in to the river in sight of the house. The Bear is coming in here this spring, right plenty, there has been some six or eight been seen in our neighborhood and they have killed a couple of boys. T. Phillips killed two during this morning before sun up in the river opposite my field. It was plenty last winter, we have plenty of fish this spring. I made a little trap in the river opposite the house and caught lots of fish. Trout and suchers chub, etc.

I also received a letter from William W. Anderson on the 13th of May stating that his mother was quite uneasy about me. Tell her she needn't be alarmed about me. If anything serious should happen she would here it immediately. Every month I stay here the better I like the country and if I can work through and get my place paid for, money would hardly tempt me to sell it. There is a great many imigrants coming here this spring and a general rush for land. The land office is shut at this time on account of the railroad and will continue so till the railroad lands is selected, lands is raising in value very

fast and all near to the settlement is taken up. I forgot to mention anything about cattle and horses, the prices is about as they was when you was here, the health is good. We don't hear of anybody scarcely being sick, there has been but one olath that we have heard of in the neighborhood since we come here and that case was said to be coleramorbus. I want you to write to me as soon as you get this and give me a full detail of everything from a needle to an anker, the prices of things generally, and who got the place I left, the oats, and so on, deaths, marriages and tell all the rest I will write by turns if it is slow. You all live close together and when one hears from me you all can hear it is the reason why I haven't written often. I must confess that I am too neglectful about writing but that is no reason why you should be so. I want you all to write every opportunity. When you write direct to River Falls, Pierce County Wisconsin, as we haven't got any Post Office on Rush River yet. When you write I want to hear how many is coming to our country next fall. If none of you move here I want alot of you to come and take a hunt. There will be plenty deer and bear and bring a good gun and please don't bring Poptguns or you will kill no game. We have only seen one party of Indians since we came here and that was a war party of the ones they had been out on a scout after the Chippewas. The two parties met near Holmans station about 8 miles north of us and there took a battle killing several on both sides. We saw them returning home to Minnesota after the battle, 50 or 60 in number. I am getting near the bottom of my paper and will have to come to a close by requesting you to write to me soon. We send our best respects to all.

So no more at present but still remain yours with respect.

To

James and Angenora Comer

William and Rachel Hodges