

# Milwaukee & Mississippi Rail Road

Ticket  
GENERAL FREIGHT OFFICE

Milwaukee, Wis. Oct 10<sup>th</sup> 1859

My dear Father & Mother,

It is now a long time since I have written to you, but you must not think that we have forgotten you or the old homestead, for not a day passes but that we are talking of you & all the friends we left in the East, but our daily cares & a spirit of procrastination has kept me from <sup>writing</sup> before. We have all been blessed with an unusual share of good health for the past year, Giles grows fast, is quite a large boy & says that next summer he intends to visit you all, I hope we shall be able to send him, so that he will not forget the pleasant home we once had in B. We are very pleasantly situated this year since May 1, we have a good brick house in a block of 5 houses, with neighbors a plenty, we have a front yard of 20 x 16 feet, just large enough for a flower bed in the center & will be turfed all around, in the rear we have a yard 20 by 130 feet with woodhouse, well, cistern &c, large enough for quite a garden, which we shall have made into one, if we keep it another year, we have to pay \$200. rent, this year, last year we had to pay \$250, & the house was not as good as this one, we are in hopes to get one next year for \$150.

1859

Frank

Rich

Milw

that is, if rents fall as much as they did last year,  
when I first came here it was almost impossible  
to get a house for any price, but last season they  
built some three thousand houses & this year as many  
more & the consequence is rents are continually falling.  
The crops are all very heavy with the exception of  
Potatoes, - they are worth almost as much as wheat,  
I pay for good flour \$4.50. for potatoes 50 cents per bushel.  
If I ever get able I shall send you some flour, so  
that you can see what kind of Bread we have in this  
country, the weather now, since we have got over the "Equinoctial"  
is very pleasant, the falls here are very pleasant, but the  
Springs are Mud, Muddy, Muddiest, of all places except  
Chicago, I have written Anson 3 letters to his one. I shall  
write him again next week, with love to all, not forgetting  
any one I am as ever your affectionate  
Frank W. S.  
Sarah says she is included in the signature,