

and to see if he could borrow a pick somewhere in case the sand was frozen but he couldn't get one and I guess didn't need it. He couldn't find any gravel in the beach except some pebbles which Mr. Porter told him boys men had raked up after day, so Hank said quoting some Greek Scripture "First come first served" and they took what they wanted of that. Dad said it would have washed away soon any way as the lake was pretty high. They came around by town and got the storm windows and picked Frank up some where. I did chores all the after noon and got three eggs which is the most yet. Mrs M<sup>r</sup> Bride has been sick all day and half the night, blaming the pilotum, peckary ducks and a chicken and coming for night I printed pictures and had good luck. Dad said that this morning that instead of the cistern pump being out of order as we thought yesterday the cistern was dry, so will have to be cleaned out as this is the first time since we have been here that it went dry. ● Lovely day, froze last night but mild

Sater day, December 20<sup>th</sup>

I cleaned all the straw out of the hen house this morning and put fresh in. I had to cut a slice off the stave for straw. Dad started to put on the storm windows but found that Mr. Jones had hold the holes to close to the in side of the sash so the screws wouldn't catch the casing. He then cleaned out the cistern and it took about an hour, we pumped out what little water was in it and then Dad shoveled up quite a few piles full of black mud and pieces of cement. It is a brick cistern with a coat of cement all over the brick and some of the cement was off which caused a leak. so this after noon Dad went down and got a load of sand and some cement and saw Frank Alcomb who is coming over on Monday morning to fix it up. I did chores all the after noon. Frank went down town with Dad and cut wood this morning, he and Ed a wood block went back to the mill to night. Charlie Shand was in to night to see if he could trade off a turkey hen but I said he couldn't as he's was a mongrel, but Dad said he could have had a pulpy turkey. This was Liddum's first birth day anniversary. I suppose he will have to be Jim now. He was over all day and brought him a great line of books. Mache had also sent him a pair of overalls and a ~~hat~~ whip. We had a rooster for dinner which Mrs M<sup>r</sup> Bride cleaned and got a pretty fair crop of corn out of it. Beautiful day sunny and fine but comes to night.

Sunday December 21<sup>st</sup>

I drove Frank down to church this morning. He shaked to play the organ. Elva had to stay home to look after her mother who looks her ankle the other day. Frank went down to Sunday school and church, Dad stayed home to look after Liddum and Dick was in bed all morning. This after noon I went for a ride, I went out to the ponds first to tell them they could trade turkeys, all but Mrs Mrs Shand had gone to Sunday school. Mr. Shand said he would be in to market after noon with the turkey and Mrs Shand gave me some pecan nuts that her brother had grown in Virginia. I did stay long but went up to the corner and rode west to the next corner which is where the blue line crosses the fourth concession and down that road to where the new rail road comes out on Top Anderson's place. I rode down it as far as I could go but as there was a sudden drop and a piece at the end of it I had to come back and go down Ham Thompson's lane to his woods, then had to unwire a piece of fencing to get into his wheat field and a cross his way at to the gate opening on to the radical road, and home through town, and on the whole a pretty a very enjoyable after noon. Dick spent the afternoon down town and Frank plowling around the supper pond. Dad did the chores. Very mild this morning but turned colder and is freezing hard to night.

Monday December 22<sup>nd</sup>

Frank Alcomb came over this morning to plaster the cistern, he went over the whole thing as so much of it was loose and he thought he could make a better job, he will have to come back again in the morning as there are two or three places where the cement is put on thick that it doesn't stick very well to the brick. Dad had to watch it and help it plaster it up all day as Alcomb was only here for an hour so this morning. Frank went down town this after noon and Dad put on another storm window, he is putting them on now with wooden buttons. I did chores, read a good short story and helped him a little about 8 o'clock. Clark and Nellie came after him to go and see a sick cow so he didn't get home till dark. Mr & Mrs Shand came in with their turkey to trade and got there on their way back from town. Mrs