

**DOCUMENT 18 – LETTER FROM D.S. HOUGH TO DAVID LEAVITT CONCERNING HIS
DUTIES AS TIMBER LAND AGENT**

September 16, 1845

TRANSCRIPTION

La Salle– Illinois

September 16. 1845

David Leavitt Esq

Dear Uncle

Enclosed I send you

Jeremiah Crotty's note. – A portion of his goods were on the Orleans, which boat was sunk in nine feet water. – What damage they sustained he has not heard. – I sent you, a few days since, a letter, in which I wrote with reference to the purchase of a buggy. – That letter I suppose you have by this time rec'd. – If the buggy has not been purchased yet, I would add to what I have before written, that I should like to have the running gear quite strong, the tire broad

As to the rest it might be made in a lighter manner

I am now at Mr Hardy's, & he requests me to say that he is getting along very well with his work. – He has much the largest force upon the line.

There is a great deal of sickness all along the route. – Gen Fry is but just recovering, from a severe attack of fever. – I am well, & progressing slowly in my work. – There are some anti-renters with whom I expect to have trouble. – An Irishman, the other day, because I saw fit to enter my protest against his stealing coal & stone, when I spoke to him drew his spade upon me & threatened to batter my brains out. – He, however, had sense enough not to strike, but swore if I troubled him any more he'd give me a whipping. – Upon that I had

a warrant issued for him, & caused him to be bound over to answer for stealing. – It completely cowed the scoundrel. – He begged my pardon a dozen times, & dealt out any quantity of Irish blarney to me. – The effect I think has been beneficial, so far as his brother Irish are concerned. – Love to all

Affectionately Yours

D.L. Hough