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 had been beneficial, so far as his brother Irish are concerned.— Love to all

Affectionately Yours
D. L. Hough