

that if the Black Republican Government at Washington is as determined as we are, then I say to you goodbye.

Now I will ask of you to write to me and let me know how it stands out there, give me a full account, etc.

I remain your brother and well wisher,

J. W. THATCHER.

P. S. I have 75 acres of wheat and 25 acres of barley which I sowed last fall and it looks very well.

I sowed 20 acres of oats this spring and have planted 25 acres of corn, and 25 acres to plant yet, just half done.

I have one hundred and twenty-four head of sheep at this time, I sold 7 head last week for 31 dollars after I sheared them.

I have 11 head of hogs and 34 head of cattle.

I am farming besides my own land, which is 343 acres, my sister-in-law's and brother-in-law's 260 acres which is over 600 acres, and you may judge whether I have much time to idle away.

J. W. Thatcher to Samuel Thatcher.

My best love to you and Emily.

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The Fourth of July was celebrated in this city most agreeably. A large procession of citizens, headed by the city band, after parading the streets, marched to the courthouse where the Declaration of Independence was read by Warner Lewis, Esq., and an oration delivered by George Greene, Esq.; after which about 200 citizens (including ladies) sat down to a dinner prepared by Mr. Fanning on the ground in front of the courthouse.—Dubuque, *Iowa Transcript*, July 12, 1844. (In the newspaper collection of the Historical Department of Iowa.)

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THAT BUFFALO.

There will be a shooting match at Dudley on Christmas day next—first match for the Buffalo. Ye Knights of the Rifle be on hand; much sport may be expected. So clean up those old guns and pick your flints.—*Fort Des Moines Star*, November 23, 1849. (In the newspaper collection of the Historical Department of Iowa.)

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