March 1891

Sunday March 1st

6:25 in cave. (Sampson's Palace Route, 1 trip)

At 1:00. P.M J.M. Moore arrived from Hot Springs. At 3:20. P.M M.A. Moore, Father & I started in the Cave with the intentions of getting some geode & crystalized box work. We went the Monte Cristo's Branch of the Sampson's Palace Route. At Monte Cristo's Palace we stopped about an hour & got some fine geodes. (on our way in). At Maund Builders Last Resting Place we got some good pieces of Crystalized Box work We got out of the cave at 9:45. P.M

Monday March 2nd

Elmer has been getting wood today & I have been trying to keep the stove warm. J.M. & M.A. Moore left us for Hot Springs about 10:00. A.M. this morning. Capt. Willard made us a visit this afternoon & reports stock looking well

Tuesday March. 3rd

9:40 in cave (Monument Hall Route 2 trips)

At 6:00 o'clock this morning I come well nigh freezing up, I dont know how cold it was but imagined about 40° below zero Farienhight. At 9:20 a.m Father & I started in the cave to do some blasting between Roes Misery & Red Hall on the Monument Hall Route. We put 1,10 inch hole in with sucess & by the time we got it cleaned & got out of the cave it was 1:30. P.M. At 2:25 Father & I started in the cave again to work in the same place as in the forenoon We put in 1,11 inch hole with success & found a beautiful crystal with both calsite and quartz in it. After cleaning out the first shot we put a 1 foot hole in the rock just through the crevice from Roes Misery. We got out at 7:45. P.M

Wednesday March 4th

2:5-0 in cave — (Monument Hall Route ..... 2 trips

Today is inauguration day. Elmer found a stray calf in the barn this morning & I guess it belongs to us. At 9:00 a.m. I went in the cave to load & shoot the hole that Father & I drilled yesterday afternoon. I lit the fuse and went off & left it, when I returned I found but very few pieces of rock in the way. After I built about a rod of path Father came in to help me & we drilled a hole about 14 inches in the first rock that was in our way (being within about 2 feet of our last shot). The shot shattered the rock in good shape but left plenty of work to do with the sledges. We come out of the cave for something to eat at 1:30 P.M. At 2:25 P.M I started in the cave to work out the remainder of the shot that we put in this forenoon. After I worked out the shot I dug out the path at this end of Red Hall as much as I could with the pick & shovel & then fixed about 4 rods of path (or less) in Red Hall. Elmer came in & told me it was about time to go out and get some supper. When we got out of the cave I was surprised to see that it was 7:30 P.M

Thursday March 5th

2:5-0 in cave
2:35- in cave — 5:25 — (Monument Hall Route ---- 1 trip
(Sompson's Palace Route ----- 1 trip.

At 2:15 P.M. I started in the cave with the intention of fixing the path in the Post Office Which I did after 2½ hours of hard work with the sledges. I saved four specimens of basket work & one calcite crystal which I laid up for somebody else to carry out as I didn't want to bother with them. I arrived at the entrance at 5:05 P.M. After supper Father & I made up our minds to go in the other side of Sompsons Palace and get his large specimen of box work that I discovered on the 6th day of August 1890 at the same time that I discovered the Sompson's Palace Route.

at 7:40. P.M we started in the cave to get it. We took a short piece of board about 12 x 36 inches with a strap nailed on each end for a handle & the board was none to long for we bruised our hands a little on each end of the specimen coming out. We packed it for the voyage as follows: first laying a grain sack on the board, then two newspapers on the sack, then three more newspapers on the first two. We then laid the specimen on the packing & put two sacks over it, tying & strapping the packing to the specimen & the specimen to the board. We had but very little more trouble getting it out than any other load of its weight. We got out of the cave at 10:25 P.M

Friday March 6th

4:00 in cave (Monument Hall Route 1 trip

Elmer hauled up three or four logs with the horse this forenoon & I sawed them up as I had nothing else to do but always manage to keep busy at something. At 6:25 P.M Father & I started in the cave with the intention of exploreing the latest discoveries of the Monument Hall Route but we failed to carry out our intentions after 3 hours of dangerous climbing I got a fine quartz crystal between The Bells & Red Hall on our return trip & a curious gem in Snow Ball Room. I discovered on this trip (to my sorrow & disgust) that (somebody) that the head of the petrified Swan was broken off. I felt like having a settlement with some one because the petrified Swan was the only attraction of the room that contained it We named the latest discoveries of the Monument Hall Route the "Potter's Shop" because of the shape of the sediment crust. In this room a person can find stone in almost any shape the they want it some of the vessels being large enough for watering troughs. We got to the entrance at 10:25 P.M.

Saturday March 7th 1891

Elmer went to Hot Springs about noon & does not expect to get home tonight as Moore's folks will probably come out here from that place tomorrow.
I have not been in the cave today because I could not think of any thing to go in after.

Sunday March 8th

5.10 income

Sompson's Palace Route Trip

after noon an hour or two J. F. Moore, M. A. Moore & Elmer came up from Hot Springs. a 3:25 P.M. J. F. Moore, Father & I started in the cave to get some specimens. We went the Monte Cristo's Branch of the Sompson's Palace Route. We went around the large rock in Moor's Palace and come to the conclusion that it would weigh more than 3 ovo tons. at Monte Cristo's Palace we stopped to get some specimens and got some fine geodes in the extreme North end. We left our coat and sack in Monte Cristo's Palace and went to Mound Builder's Rest. at the North end of this room I accidently discovered a beautiful quartz crystal, Father found some good sized geodes & a curiosity (a petrified bat) in the South end of Mound Builder's Last Resting Place & we all got a good load to take to our transporting implements. We loaded up and made our way towards the entrance, arriving there at 8:35 P. M. And plenty hungry for we had a heavy load to carry out all around M. A. Moore accompanied us as far as Sparkin alley on our way in where I told him that there was a block formation & likely to quartz crystals When we got out he told me that he found plenty of the formation but very few quartz &

Monday March 9th 1891

8.45 in cave
1.35 in cave
10:10
Sompsons Palace Route 1 trip
Snow Ball Route 1 trip

I got at 6.30 this morning (an uncommon incident) at 9:00 a.m J. F. Moore, M.A. Moore, Elmer & I went in the cave to get specimens & explore the Geode Hall Division of the Sompsons Palace Route. When we got onto the other side of Dolphin Alley M.A. Moore climbed up in a crevice after his hammer and chisel which he left at that place last night. When we got to Rat Mizzy J. F. Moore stopped to get a load of calcite crystals which I & Potter had left at that place for whoever might think that they was worth carrying out. When we had passed the Brant end of summer avenue about 150 feet & got into our first climb I discovered a fine ledge of blind Cave Marble the first that has been discovered in that division of the Route. When we arrived at the second room of any note we read the following inscription:

Tallen Flats Sompsons Palace Route

T. L. McAdam
Robert McAdam
A. F. McDonald
Discovered this room on the 25th day of October 1890

Geode Hall Branch

this being the date that the way was discovered around the Giant Conservatory (then known as the fall). When we got into the next room I left M.A. Moore & Elmer while I went on an exploring trip for my own benefit. Going to the left of this room I came into a place that there were a great many geodes and plenty of mud. I left the place intending to explore it further at some other time. We got to Geode Hall in good shape but had ("bad luck"), finding Geodes that were filled with mud, Elmer soon left M.A. Moore & I to make his way out of the cave.

We soon struck several good geode and after loading up we started for the entrance and arrived there at 5:45 P.M.
At 7:25 M.A. Moore & I went in the cave to try to find some quartz crystal. We went on the Snow Ball Route but not until we got to the Post Office, turning to the right at the end of the Robin. We discovered quartz crystals at the top of a cave in nearly over the Fair Maid pathway but they were imbedded in the rock so that it is nearly impossible to get them out. We gave it up however and started out of the cave, arriving at the entrance at 9:20 P.M.

Tuesday March 10th 91

4:45 in cave — Crystal Route 2 trips

We got up late this morning as we generally do when we are in the cave the most of the time the day before. Father & I got a box of specimens packed this forenoon & got started in the cave at 11:45 this forenoon. We went the Crystal Route with the intention of getting the crystals that I discovered on the 13th & 15th of February 1891. When we got to the second large room on the main passage I left M.A. Moore & Father & came out ahead of them in Crystal Palace by a private passage of my own discovery. When we got to the South end of Crystal Palace I discovered a fine quartz crystal similar to the "Fairie Palace". I worked out the most of the first division of the pocket & we loaded up & started for the entrance arriving there at 2:00 P.M. at 4:00 P.M. M.A. Moore Elmer & I went to the south end of Crystal Palace after a load of quartz crys

I worked the pocket out that we discovered this forenoon & M.A. Moore explored quite a while to find another one but failed to find it. While Elmer was packing his con with specimens M.A. Moore (& I) made a discovery of importance which connected the South end of Crystal Palace with the Old Stalactites Rooms by way of the Rope that we put in there two or three months ago. We got out alright at 6:30 P.M.

Wednesday March 11th 1891

(Crystal Route---2 trip)

7:05 in cave

at 7:35 a.m M.A. Moore & I started in the cave to get the quartz crystals that we left in the South end of Crystal Palace. We first worked out the large specimen that I left on the bank of stone near the pocket & got it in two pieces. We loaded up with quartz crystals & pulled out for the entrance, arriving there at 10:40 a.m with our specimens in good shape.

at 1:00 P.M M.A. Moore & I started in the cave with the intention of getting the remnant of the quartz crystals in the South end of Crystal Palace. When we got to the North end of the Palace we determined to explore for quartz pockets and did explore for nearly an hour without finding a quartz pocket but I found a small hole leading down to the North east of the North end of Crystal Palace and found lots of popcorn work as well as good signs of a main passage, Wind being the main sign which was coming out of the hole. Near the second lap at its South end of Crystal Palace M.A. Moore climbed up to the right and found a pretty (little) stalactite room. We got out of the cave at 5:30 P.M. Elmer & M.A. Moore started in the cave after supper.

— M.N.T.

Thursday March 12th 91

3:25 in cove — (Sampson's Palace Route ..... 1 trip
4:00 in cove — (Cataract route — 1 trip

At 11:00 A.M. M.A. Moore & I started in the cove after frost work and we went the Cataract Route. I found a passage leading South West of the further chamber of popcorn work that need exploring. We got out at 3:00 P.M. & found Mr & Mrs J.L. West here from beaver valley on a visit.
At 8:00 P.M. M.A. Moore & I started in the cove with the intention of getting some box work. We went to the side rooms to the left of the Sampson's Palace Route & near Sampson's Palace we got out at 11:25 P.M.

Friday March 13th 1891

3:05 in cove — (Sampson's Palace Route — 1 trip

At 10:40 A.M. M.A. Moore, Elmer & I started in the cove to get some box-work & went the Sampson's Palace Route, at the left of the second room on the other side of Sampson's Palace we crawled through a small hole and came into a room filled with box, lattice & bracket work of beautiful design. We got a load of specimens apiece & M.A. Moore & Elmer left me & started for the entrance but I caught up with them at the Church Steple. M.A. Moore & Elmer made 3d mother trip after box work & put a shot in the narrow passage just this side of the B side Chamber this after noon. I got out at 1:45 P.M. Father worked this end of Red Hall this after

80

— M[illegible] ...

Saturday March 14th

8:25 in cave (Sompson's Palace Route --- 2 trips)

1:55 in cave (Monument Hall Route --- 1 trip)

At 8:05 A.M. M.A. Moore & I started in the cave to get a load of boxwork on the Sompson's Palace Route. Just this side of the Brides Chamber we stopped to clean out the shot that Him and Elmer put in last night. It did not take us long to clean the shot out, for it did not bring down more than 250 lbs of rock, we got our box work in the side room near Sompson's Palace. We arrived at the entrance at 11:55 A.M. Elmer went to that Spring a 8:30 this morning

At 1:35 I started in the cave to put a shot in the narrow passage just this side of the brides chamber. The shot brought down about 1200 lbs of rock & I got out of the cave at 2:30 after cleaning up the loose rock. At 7:05 P.M. J. F. Moore, M.A. Moore, Father & I started in the cave after a load of specimens. We got our load near Crystal Spring & the dining room & got out of the cave at 11:40 P.M.

Sunday March 15th 8/9

Monument Hall ---- 1 trip

8:45 in cave (Sompson's Palace Route --- 1 trip)

O. B. Chesley a reporter of the Minnekata Herald Hot Springs come about noon. After getting our dinner & discussing scientific facts about Wind Cave we got started in the cave at 2:45 P.M. & Father went to Monument hall with us & after turning in the Sompson's Palace Route He went as far as Crystal Spring & then turned back towards the entrance leaving O. B. Chesley & I to go the rest of the way alone. We got as far as the Chamber of Bells & got out of the cave at 11:30 P.M.

Monday March 16th /89/

4:30 in cave (Crystal Route..... 1 trip)

at 10.30 A.M. C.B. Bleeley & I started in the cave with the intentions of going the Crystal Route. We meant the Crystal ~~Pallace~~ circle V.I.A. the old Stalctite Chambers & returning V.I.A. the "Main Passage". We arrived at the Entrance at 3:00 P.M. I was over to the "Wind Cave Ranch" this afternoon & Elmer has gone over to D. C. ~~West~~ at Beaver Valley this evening

Tuesday March 17th /89/

1:30 in cave (Monument Hall Route---1 trip)

at 3:20. P.M. I started in the cave to open Hard Scrabble as much as I could with the sledge hammer. after breaking out all the rock that could be taken out with the hammer I resolved to hunt up a certain chisel, that I have told some people that "I had no doubt but what it was going yet" because Father & I did not hear it strike the bottom of the crevice in which it dropped at this end of the Partition I went through a passage to the left that was similar to the Cave but not so long & found the crevice that I was in search of, at the other end of it, I found the chisel that I was in search of, after climbing down about 15-0 feet, & also found good specimens of lattice work. The passage still led downward when I left it and came back to the main passage I found an old string in the crevice, after I got down about 30 feet. I arrived at the entrence at 5:10. P.M. after I come out of the cave I took a stroll on the hills and unexpectedly met our neighbor Mr Gordan who presented a blacktail deer hide to me & I of course did not refuse it.

Wednesday March 18th /89/

0:40 in cove (Monument Hall Route) 1 trip

at 9:35 a. m I went in the cove to get some tools to work on the spring with, which situated just South of A. M. Willards spring, and went the Monument Hall Route. It is just one year since I made my first trip in the cove, going a little beyond the Orchard on the Bee Hive Route & thought I had seen the most of the Wind Cove but have learned better since that time The spring is getting stronger as one go further in the bank (to the North) but we had to put a shot in the rock in order to work it. The spring seems to come out of a crevice in the rock, that is filled mostly with lime & dead roots. We found some excellent potters clay while digging for the vein of water.

Thursday March 19th /89/

I put up the notices for two stone claims, down the gulch this morning & have 4 or 5 more notices to put up tomorrow, on the South end of the 40 acres right. When I got home & got my dinner eat, (a slim article in these days) Mr J. C. West of Beaver valley was here on a visit. I went home with him to look up some placer & found signs of placer gold. I got home about 3 O. P. M. cloudy weather

Friday March 20th /89/

I wrote several notices for stone claims & wrote a letter to grandmother this forenoon, Elmer went to town about noon & will stay in town tonight. I put up 5 notices for stone claims this afternoon. We have had a high wind from the north west all day and all night last night.

—M—

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Saturday March 21th

(Father made) (3:00 (Mr Hall Route 1 hoge

a flutter wheel this forenoon that runs about 100 revolutions per second J. C. West came over this afternoon on a visit & to get his mail, but Elmer did not get home tonight with the mail. He went home abot 6.00 O'clock about 7:00 Mr. Davis, Mr Butterfield & two of the Mc, Adom boys of Beaver valley came over to see the cave but we got to Devils Lookout only, on account of scarcity of light we started in the cave at 7:35 & returned at 10:35 P.M. very little snow left in sight

Sunday March 22nd /89/

We have had a heavy wind from the north West Most all day but it has quieted down this evening & the weather looks threating & dark J. C. West was over on a visit this forenoon & went back about noon. He spoke of "finding the marks of some 'Old time" prospecter & in one place there is a prospect neatly covered up as if it were hidden." Elmer came home about 6:00 P.M but did not bring any grub with him

Monday March 23rd /89/

I was some what surprised to see the ground white with snow when I got up this morning but it seems to be clearing up now. It has been a wet snow and if it turns cold it will probaly be pretty hard on stock. Mr J. C. West sent some rock over last night which I examined today & found It to contain Gold

Tuesday March 24th /89/

It was still snowing this morning with a North East wind. I started to Hot Springs at 1.45, P.M. When I got in town I put the horse in J. F. Moore's stable & prepaired to stay in town all night. I learned the J. F. Sibley was very anxious see me but he did not get to, as I was not anxious to see him. I did not go around town much for I did not want to let every body know I was there.

Wednesday March 25th 1891

3:00 (Sompsons Palace Route — 1 trip)

J. F. Moore & M. A. Moore started out to the cave from Hot Spring about 10:00 A.M. I started out of town about a half hour afterwards. at 3:00 P.M J. F. Moore, M. A. Moore, Elmer & I started in the cave to get some specimens. We went the Sompson's Palace Route and got our specimen's in the giant Causeway. I found a passage leading to the right of this end of the giant causeway We got out of the cave at 8:30. P.M

Thursday March 26th

7:10 in cave (Sompsons Palace Route 1st)

at 10:00 A.M J. M. Moore, M. A Moore & I started in the cave to get specimens, We went the Sompsons Palace Route & got our specimens near the Giants Causeway. we got out of the cave at 2:10. P.M. I went over to J. C. West's this evening to take his mail to him and to take back some borrowed flour. We did not spend the evening in the cave but passed it pleasantly away outside as we were all pretty tired. the most of the snow melted of the hill today & the wind came out of the cave.

m —

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Friday March 27th /89/

J. M. Moore, M. A. Moore & Father went to town & took 4 boxes of specimens, that we had packed for future use, with them. J. F. Moore & Father have went in partnership in the specimen business & expect to operate in Hot Springs Fall River Co. S. D. for the next summer. We expected Father back to night but he did not come. I dressed some Wind Cave Marble on a sandstone Slab this forenoon (5 pieces). After dinner I started over to beaver creek to see J. Davis the school teacher. I went to the school house but He was not there so I went around in the hills prospecting. I found him at J. C. West & he said that he was coming over alone in the morning. He is boarding at W. F. Rood's place

Saturday March 28th /89/

5:30 in cave (Sampson Palace Route - 1 trip
3:10 in cave (Cataract Route - - 1 trip

at about 8:30 this morning J. D. Davis came over from beaver creek to visit the Wind Cave at 8:30 J. D. Davis & I started on the Sampson Palace Route and went by way of Natural Dump, coming back v.i.a. Maund Builder's Rest and going v.i.a. J. M. Moore's discoveries of February 10th /89. We arrived at the entrance at 2:00 P.M. at 6:35 P.M. J. D. Davis & I started in the cave to explore the Cataract route. We found 5 or 6 chambers in the Southern Division Of The Cataract Route to the right of the Barren chambers we arrived at the entrance at 9:45 P.M. Father was at home when we got out

Sunday March 29th 1891

It has been snowing & blowing out of doors all day. J. D. Davis went home at 11:00 oclock this morning. This is a wet snow and will probaly make the feed for range cattle a good deal better, and I think that they need it for some of them are beginning to look pretty thin

Monday March 30th 1891

(Monument Hall Route 4 trip)

9:55 in cove)

At 8:00 a.m. Elmer & I started in the cove after specimens & returned at 10:00 a.m. We got a load of box work apiece under the fallen racks in the Post Office & of a rich brown color. We brought our loads out, emtied our cans, & started in the cove after another load at 10:30 a.m. & returned at 11:50 a.m after getting our loads in the Post Office & in the same place as we did this morning. After dinner, Elmer & I started in the cove at 1:20 & went to the South End of Red Hall. While Elmer was getting his load I explored a deep crevice straight ahead & found it to be the crevice that Father lost a chisel some months ago and I found it on the 12th inst.. after we had loaded up & got started we met M. A. Moore of Hot Springs, S. D. in the Post Office. He had a gasoline light of about 8 candle power with him. We got of the cove at 4:10 P. M, at 5:10 P. M M. A. Moore & I started in the cove after specimens & returned at 11:55 P. M. We went to the South of Red Hall and I got my load of box work in the deep crevice that I explored this afternoon & lost my chisel. As we were coming out M. A. Moores gasoline lamp caught in Red Hall, on fire and melted to pieces. J. M. Moore came out with M. A Moore from Hot Springs

Tuesday March 31st 1891

2:30 in cave (Crystal Route 1 trip

At 9:45 P.M. Elmer & I went in the cave & returned at 12:15 M. We got our loads on the "Main Passage" & near the place where the water is dropping so fast.

Monthly Review

Trips in cave 35
Time spent in cave 134.30m
Average time of each trip in cave ... 3 17/70 hrs

Crystal Route

Trips 6
Hours spent in route 18 2/3

discoveries.

I discovered a pocket of quartz crystals, a little ways to the North East of the North West end of the third or South division of Crystal Palace & also discovered a way, from the North West end of the third division of Crystal Palace, that leads to the rope that Elmer & I put in the Crystal Route last year (1890) M.A. Moore discovered a small stalactite room to the South West of the middle of the middle division (about 25 feet) of Crystal Palace. I discovered a passage leading to the North East of the 1st or North (North West End) division of Crystal Palace.

Cataract Route

Trips 2
Hours spent in route 7 1/6

discoveries

J.L. Davis & I discovered a passage to the South West of the "South division" but we followed it a half mile only, and that being through barren rooms

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Monument Hall Route

Trips 14

Hours spent in route 42 2/3

no discoveries of any value to any body

improvements

Father & I opened the passage between Red Hall and Roe's Misery & I broke up rock with the hammer & built a path in Red Hall, also opening Hard Scrabble a little with the sledge & hammer

Sampson's Palace Route

Trips 12

Hours spent in route ..... 49 1/12 hrs

discoveries

I discovered a number of passages leading to the North East of Fallen Flat, in the Grode Hall Branch and also discovered an upper room at this end of summer avenue

Snow Ball Route

Trips in route 1

Hours spent in route 1 3/5

no discoveries of any value