

Rev. P. Doniphan, March 15/52
 at the "House" 20

Walter Louie Esq Grand Traverse March 9th 52
 dear Sir

I started on the first day of March for the little Traverse. We were three days going. It is quite a formidable job after a tiresome days walk to dig away the snow, some two and a half feet deep, and get a camp made and wood cut to keep comfortable when the Thermometer is from 5° to 8° below zero. What was the worst we had one cold bright day and having no protection for my face it was very badly burned & my eyes were very painful. I was affected with what they call snow blind. I suffered on my way back very much with my face and eyes. The worst is past and to day I am quite comfortable. To day is the first I can see to read or write. I found the lot they had reserved for the school a very good location and will send a draft to the land office by our next mail to make the purchase. There is but 40 acres in the lot. This I would judge is enough at present. If more is needed it can be purchased again. There is land adjoining south unsold which can be examined hereafter if desired I will draw on three days sight for fifty one dollars and have it entered in your name as the other was. The plan and estimated items of expense for the building here I sent by the last mail. As to the nails and glass, I am inclined to think both are produced west of New York cheaper than they can be purchased and shipped from there. Of this you can judge when I state the price at which they are offered here. Mr Cowles offers nails at 5¢ per 100 lb. The freight from New York is about 1/2 a hundred, the expense of cartage there, the charges for wharfage & storage at Mackinac is some thing, the risk

of breakage or loss is considerable and the freight from Mackinac here is three shillings barrel but these have to be added to the cost price in the city, knowing these facts you can judge from the prices at which the board can purchase them which will be most economical, Ten by twelve glass

good quality can be delivered here for 18/08 20¢ per box (50 ft)
 find by the duplicate of a young man here who was supposed to have bought the lot adjoining the school lot has not by mistake he has bought on the other side of the section line. I will therefore buy the 80 acres and if he desires to have the lot it can be transferred on his paying the money for it I will probably have to draw before long to purchase a yoke of oxen. Mr Porter's mother & sister can find accommodation in the house with Mr Whitwell or some other house here

The following is a bill of lumber for the school house 16x24

The four sills will be hewn and got on the ground

25 Studs (double length) 2x4, 18ft long = 12ft each	300
12 do (extending to the rafters on the gable ends) 2x4, 12ft long = 8ft each	90
7 Joists 2x8, 18ft long (for lower floor) = 22ft each	154
9 do 2x6, 18 " (upper floor) = 16 " "	144
18 Rafters 3x4 10ft long = 10ft "	180
800 ft Roof Boards	600
800 " flooring lower floor	600
1400 " Boards inch for upper floor	400
1200 ft Clapboards	1200
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	3,674

For dwelling

Sills hewed on the ground

85 Studs 2x4, 18ft long = 12ft each	1020
13 Joist 2x8, 18ft " = 22 " " (first floor)	288
22 do 2x8, 16 " " = 22 " " (2nd floor)	484
22 do 2x6, 18 " " = 16 " " (third floor)	352
4 Studs 4x4, 22 " " = 30 " " (gable ends to rafters)	120
20 Rafters 3x4, 10 " " = 10 " "	200
2000 ft clapboard	2000
2400 " do flooring (two floors window frames ties & door frames)	2400
600 " in. Boards upper floor	600
872 Roofing Boards	672
400 1 1/2 in Plank (doors & windows)	400
400 in. clear boards (doors)	400
} both buildings	
1 Keg of 8 ^d nails, 1 Keg Shingle nails 3 out side & 4 inside	8,934
1 do 10 ^d do 1 do lathing do doors for both buildings	4 Box 8 by 10 Glass

I have drawn for 1011 dollars in favour of Lewis Lovell receiver in the name of Matthew Brammingham. His daughter & her mother could only do by sending a draft with a date March 10