

JOURNAL OF JOHN MILLS VAN OSDEL  
(Chicago's first Architect)  
AND HIS FAMILY  
FROM CHICAGO TO EUROPE AND BACK, 1874-1875  
Volume 1

Transcribed by Phillip J. Livoni, CSR.

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Transcription Notes:

This journal was written in longhand by John Mills Van Osdel. He was a skilled wordsmith with a remarkable vocabulary. As was common for Victorian writers, he used commas excessively, and he seldom used periods. He often used a ":" or a "÷" in lieu of a period, but most often he used another comma. As was also common for Victorian writers, he capitalized most nouns. He omits the apostrophe to denote possession, such as "John's journal."

To aid in the readability of these Journals, the transcription in this WORD document utilizes periods, commas, and capitalization in accordance with modern punctuation standards because the original punctuation makes the journals difficult to understand without numerous re-readings.

These Journals reflect the constant changing of the English language. The 19<sup>th</sup>-century spellings of words were left as Mr. Van Osdel wrote them. For example, the following words were two separate words in 1874-75: to day, to morrow, every body, side walk, etc.

All underlining of words reflects Mr. Van Osdel's original underlining.

Any letters or words in brackets, "[ ]," are clarifications made by the transcriber. The bracketed page numbers inserted into the original index are the accurate page numbers for this WORD document.