

October 21 [reflecting on the previous week] ... Mr. Lockhart having at length determined on the dimensions of his proposed boat I have been occupied preparing the plans, and also arranging work for the few mechanics employed. Next week, if no interruptions occur, our operations will be in a state of cheerful activity, and ere ten days more, pass o'er our heads we will in all probability have the keel laid, and stem raised of this new vessel, which Mr. L. has some idea of christening the "*Gore*" after the Township as he resident therein he anticipates she will be unanimously supported

October 25: ... My operations at the new steamer have not proved satisfactory in consequence of the dissappointments [sic] experienced with regard to the supply of timber. Procured a stem and anticipate obtaining a keel piece to-morrow. In the meantime my men are busily occupied constructing frames and preparing for the actual laying down of the vessel.

November 13: Laid the keel of our new Steamer this forenoon, and shall now proceed vigorously to place her in frame.

[followed by trip to the Grand River to inspect two American steamboats chartered for government service.]

November 26: ... During the week my time has been fully occupied with the new steamer, and repairing a schooner. The frames of the former vessel are nearly completed and upwards of one half in their places. Should the succeeding week prove favourable I expect to have the whole complete and in ere long, ready for planking. The weather has been cold, but is again milder. Today it snows and appears likely to continue.

December 23: ... My occupations during last week have kept me extremely busy. The steamer Traveller has been here & provided with a new rudder while a schooner likewise required a similar addition to her stern. These several employments together with the construction of the Steamer have been sufficient to prevent the time from being at all burthensome.

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January 6: ... Busy during the week @ the Steamer &c.

January 11: Mr. Lockhart's Steamer is now in frame & will remain so for a month to season.

January 27: ... Engaged to make a pencil sketch of Mr. Lockhart's new steamer (*Gore*). A sad task for me to execute as my talents in that line are very