

H. W. Blodgett,

502 Broad St.

Waukegan, Ill., May 14. 1896

Dear Miss Tarber

Yours of the 12th is
just at hand -

The suit against the
Rock Island Bridge grew out of an
accident to the steamer "Effie Afton"
while she was attempting to pass up
through the bridge draw, and was
caught by a strong gale blowing
at the time, which swung her
around against one of the fixed
spans; whereby her smoke stacks
were knocked down, and the
steamer and the span of the
bridge against which she struck
were both burned - The owners of
the steamer brought suit to recover
for their loss; and the suit was
usually spoken of as the "Bridge
Case" or the "Effie Afton Case".
My own impression is that the
accident occurred in the spring of 1857