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Alfred B. McCalmont
DIARY 1842 A.D

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Carlisle, Pa. Oct. 27th 1842 Thursday

Dear illegible;

Here goes for another attempt at journalizing. I have just returned from Loudon's with my book, and with your permission I have placed your name at the head by way of dedication. I shall make no rash promises, and for that reason decline all engagements to continue, without interpretation, a work, which is now undertaken for, perhaps the ninety-ninth time. College goes on at about the same old rate. We have our little quarrels, difficulties, and quibbles still. Life presents about the same picture as it ever has, and which it will continue to do, doubtless, for some time, to come. Recitation succeeds recitation; day follows day, and we are still imperceptibly approaching our journey's end. Like the Eastern Nobility many of us have trusted to others to help us along in a comfortable sedan, while we have paid but little attention to the objects on our way, others again are pushing ahead on foot, with their eyes fixed on some imaginary goal. They are constantly urging their speeds and seem to desire nothing but to outstrip others in the course. While yet another class is contented with pursuing a medium course. Sometimes they stop and pluck the flowers on the way. Sometimes they pause, and look around them, to admire the beauties of the scene. And although the path is difficult, and the hill-side steep, they arrive at the end improved and strengthened by their exertions. I shall not attempt to say which is the best. There seems to be a difference of opinion on the subject; therefore, as some tell us, it is not best to decide at all, a plan which has been about as serviceable to many others, as it is in the present instance to myself. Since there are, in this uncertain world, so many questioned points, that indolence has a fine excuse for declining the task of weighing their respective merits.

This day has passed after the same old fashion. I was, as usual, hurried out of bed by the first bell. Made a recitation in mathematics, which was the only boomch in which I was called on. In the afternoon we recited in Church History, on the thirty nine Articles. Pres Emory gave us a pretty clear explanation of the word "hell" in the New Testament. He stated, among other things, that the word used in Revelation, to signify a place of future punishment was the Greek for the valley of Hinnom near Jerusalem, where the custom formerly prevailed of passing children "through the fire to Moloch"; but which afterwards became a depository for the filth and dead bodies from the city where they were burned. Strange it is indeed that passing through fire, should have been so universally considered a process of purification! Men are said to pass through the furnace of affliction, and come out with increased brightness. The word and idea of purgatory seem to hint at the same, while of our own earth we are told that it shall appear in all the beauty of Eden after it shall have been purified by fire. But after all, I guess Pope is about right. I always call to mind his words, when little speculations

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work their way into my mind. "Know this one truth, enough for man to know, virtue, alone, is happiness below."

This evening I attended the farewell concert of the barracks band. The station at this place is about to be destroyed, partly owing to some difficulties last summer between the citizens and soldiers.

October 28th 1842 Friday

I find great difficulty now in rising early, from the fact that chum is not here to wake me in time for the second bell. He is sick, and is now at his boarding house. I had some trouble to get a sufficient quantity of clothes on my back, to hide my nakedness while at prayers; and in my hurry shut the door

leaving the keys inside. When I came back I found myself locked out, and was under the necessity of bursting, the door open. Little of consequence happened in our recitations. Prof Caldwell entered on a discussion of the tariffs question, after a long introduction. He seemed to differ from Wayland very essentially; which author seems to receive about the same usage as Job. Brace did when we were Freshmen. In the afternoon at three o. clock I went over to the rehearsal, in company with several others. Our two new Juniors, Powell and Tiffany, spoke for the first time. After rehearsal we attended Prof Allen's lecture in company with the Seniors. The room was completely darkened up and the Professor observed, at the commencement of his lecture that, he had succeeded in making a little darkness, a species of labor in which Philosophers were generally very successful. In the evening I went down to see chum. Found him much better, but quite weak. Holden came up into the room with his guitar and soothed his solitary feelings with some pretty fine strains about moonlight love. Dave and Sarah started an opposition below stairs on the piano. When I returned to College I had a strong temptation to spend the evening at Durbie's, but afterward concluded that it would not be best. I accordingly came to my room and read Combe on the head. While reading Prof McClintock came in, and after several words by way of lecture on the improvement of time and also informing me that the fire was out, a fact of which I was well aware, he left the room. I then went to bed and slept soundly.

October 29th 1842 Saturday

This morning I found considerable difficulty in summoning energy sufficient to get out of bed, on account of there being no six o' clock recitation. I attended at nine in the drawing room and then declamation. Penrose

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Powell, Steinberger and Tiffany, of our class declaimed. Chaplain and Whitney had a discussion on the question, Has our country been ungrateful? In the afternoon I went to the Library with Mc Cord, and several Lewistown damsels. Chum was worse this evening. He seems to be afflicted much in the same way as I was last Summer. Dr. Crimary is administering his little "pooders", but I am unable to imagine how he will succeed. In the evening I was initiated as member of the Dickinson, a new society which has been raised on the ruins of the Senate, which adjourned today until the first Saturday in January. I was also chosen Dictator also with Chap and Mc Cord. Upon paying another visit to Chum, I found him better. I then retired on a plate of oysters.

October 30th 1842 Sunday

After breakfast I went to the classroom, but Keller and myself being the only persons present, we were dismissed. I then came to my room and dressed, wrote a letter to Cowgill, visited chum whom I found still quite weak, and then went to church. Jarring preached a pretty uninteresting sermon. In the afternoon, there being no lecture in chapel, I wrote a letter to Elizabeth, and took it to the office. I then came up and sat with chum till supertime. After supper Gorsuch and myself talked Phrenology and other matters, till church time. I listened to Mr. Jarring again in the evening. He is, by no means, a good preacher, in my opinion. I had the pleasure, this afternoon, of reading another of Mr. Durbin's letters, entitled "A visit to father Matthew." It was quite interesting, and afforded me a better idea of the temperance reform in Ireland, than I had ever had before.

October 31st 1842 Monday

Well tis Hollow Eve, Nut cracking, which once was the welcomed occupation of this days anniversary, whenever it came has given place to others, which though perhaps, more useful, and far from bringing that sweet enjoyment which fell to thy lot when taking the little bag from its peg on the wall, I

sat down with a few pleasant companions to listen to some monstrous story about raising the Devil, hookey cabbage, or some other such exploit while our hammers kept pace with our excited feelings. Those days are past, the companions are separated from me. Other associations have taken there place, and now instead of taking my bag of nuts, I am compelled to sit down over a few mathematical proportions. Of my Greek sentences, equally hard to crack, but which when cracked are far from affording the same gratification. I attended the recitations in French, at two and then loafed in Follansbee's room till dinnertime. Afterwards, on being informed that Mr. Crooks was to hear our recitations in the absence of Pres. Emory,

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I prepared to recite. Our lesson contained a long list of sects in the Seventeenth Century with a great quantity of learned men. If the increase of sects in the nineteenth should prove as productive as it has already. What above will be inflicted on students of Church History some few centuries hence. Together with the host of those days since assisted their minds will also be stuffed with accounts of the Mormons, Millerites, Rileyites or Skinilisers, and others so numerous as to try even the patience of a Ruter. When will the time appear when men shall learn to fashion their belief according to the Divine will independent of the influence of passions? This evening I called on chum; found him much in the same state he has been for some time. I then went to the concert which proved as great a humbug as one could well wish to listen to. The members of the Alert and others in town seemed inclined to break the affair up whether good or bad, but when Miss – struck up a little on the Jane Beswick order, the disposition was so much increased that she had some trouble to finish with any sort of credit. The torpedoes that were thrown over the floor, combined with the shouts, screams, whistles, and stamping at the end of the piece would have been sufficient to drive a girl of any modesty from the neighborhood. However, brass prevailed and she went clear through. What an invaluable article it is. I learned one thing at least, which perhaps I might have discovered before, that is that the fair sex when they violate the limit of propriety have less compassion exhibited towards them than men when placed in the same situation. A girl with a stained reputation may in vain seek an asylum in the bosom of mankind. When she appears in public her eye is cast down. She meets with unkind looks on every side. On every side behold the feign of scorn, while her seducer, moves in the gayest circles, is received even by females into friendly society and passes through life with but little comparative disgrace. Perhaps tis right, but did the censure of public opinion fall on man with the same severity as on the defenseless female, might not virtue be hastened in its progress, and the general morality of men improved. After concert Follansbee, Gorsuch, Chew, and myself talked about an hour on singing, poetry, the college Banquet and other little matters, and then retired.

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November 1st 1842 Tuesday

On account of my neglect last night I was not well prepared in mathematics this morning. The preparation in Greek was about par. After we recited Paul and myself walked down street, and ate a few tarts, besides doing a considerable amount of general loafing. Paul is a strange youth. He has not yet, though now a Junior left off his practice of running about with the little boys and playing in the street. He is very talented and possessed of a good disposition, is by no means a fool, and yet so exceedingly eccentric as to be far from a universal favorite. This afternoon I went down to spend a few hours with Chum. He is perhaps a little better. I had not been in long until I fell asleep. Chum roused me at four o'clock saying that I would miss prayers. So I started up, but on my road discovered that prayers were at five. So much for having ones wits about him. After supper I determined to spend the evening more profitably than the last. I first wrote a few thoughts on the question for debate, in "the Dickinson", and then prepared my analytical and Wayland. The argument against a tariff in that author, are not, perhaps so strong as they might be, yet I think they deserve more credit than they receive at the hands of our

professor. Pres Emory returned this evening. At prayers, he gave some individuals farther warning about the disturbances raised about the college. Some few days since, in alluding to the same individuals, he remarked that their resemblance to a certain animal would be discovered soon enough without their braying.

November 2nd 1842 Wednesday

After breakfast I made some little stagger towards preparing Greek; but the ideas of the club being strongly inclined to fly off in a tangent from any thing like what we intended to write on, I was unable to make a proper preparation. After dinner I went to the library to perform my duties as assistant. We then adjourned to the hall; but as I am not particularly anxious that any Union should ever see their mode of proceeding there I shall say nothing more about it. We had a pretty interesting meeting, great excitement on the committee question. After evening prayers I went down town; and after the cars came in, found a letter in fifty six from Bonbright. I read it down street, in Brown's room. And also entered into a discussion with Penrose on Brown, on pretty girls, Common schools, the female seminary, the whole of which concluded with a polite invitation on their part to spend to morrow evening in a closer in-

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vestigation of the merits of some of the Carlisle beauty, which I respectfully declined; though I must confess, it went hard to refuse. Some faces in this place are a little on the charming order; and if I have been soft enough to fall half in love at first sight, there is no reason why I should do any thing to increase it. I then came up to Chum's room at the Squire's. He is much better. I had an interesting confab with Sally. On the whole she is a pretty fine girl. I then came up to my own room and prepared my mathematics, after which I was about to go to bed; but had no sooner taken up by bible to read a chapter, then Pres Emory came to the door. He sat down, and talked a little while about my sickness last summer, asked a few questions concerning Chum, and then left the room.

November 3rd 1842 Thursday

Having previously agreed with Charley to make on my fires in the morning, I was aroused from my morning slumber by his rapping at the door. I accordingly rose and let him in, and consequently dressed myself before prayers which is more than I did several mornings since. Prof Ludler had sufficient confidence in me this morning to call me to the board to draw the tangent of a parabola. After breakfast, Powell, Chew, Boswell, and myself met with Chummy and Gorsuch in their room, and went over the Greek. We as usual made a tall party. I was not called up however, which was quite a pleasant source of consolation. After dinner I walked with Donnel out along the railroad across fo go bridge. There was an apple tree standing near but in order to reach it we had to pass through a field with a mad bull in it. We however gained the tree, but had made but small progress, when we heard some fellow whistle, and supposing that there was about to be a hustling among the dogs, we prepared to depart. At that instant a boy made his appearance with a big white dog under full speed. Donnel ran. While I thinking that it was not best in the present fat state of my corporeal system. Sat on the fence till I found from the harmless nature of the dog and boy that I could depart in peace. Prepared church history in the afternoon, and in the evening thinking that I could spend my time better than among the girls. I staid at home and prepared tomorrow's lesson besides reading Combe and practicing Phrenology on Follansbee and Gorsuch.

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November 4th 1842 Friday

I was aroused quite early from my morning slumber by Charley, who said that the first bell would soon ring. I, however went back to bed and after sleeping about two hours woke again to hear its first sound. The usual course of morning duties soon passed over, I then visited Chum, and read him some poetry. Returned to my room and placed together a few thoughts on the opposition to truth. After which our class attended Prof Allen's lecture on electricity. He did not try any experiments, but simply summed up the general properties of the fluids; and explained the best modes of forming lightning rods. In the evening Boswell and myself took a walk across the railroad bridge. As we went down, we saw two damsels who might have been outrageous, though the probabilities were against such a supposition. They were alone and seemed to want something very bad. We however passed on; but, as we returned we again passed them in close converse with two law students. This sight afforded us an ample theme the remainder of the walk up street. Not having much to do for tomorrow I retired early. I made an attempt to practice flute playing this evening.

November 5th 1842 Saturday

After prayers in the morning Chaplain and myself met as Dictators of the Dickinson club to assign the duties for the public performance two weeks hence. They were as follows. Declamation by Eshleman; Essay by Young; Original oration, Tiffany Reading Dickinsonian by Lovejoy the Editor and a debate on the tariff question by Chaplain and Patterson. Spent an hour in Prof Ludler's room, shading with India ink. we then attended declamation in chapel. Boswell of our class spoke pretty well and Lamberton and Snow had a fine discussion on the Capital punishment question. By request of Pres Emory the members of the Dickinson met in his room. He then stated his objections to the establishment of such a society; and asked us to state our views of the matter. Lovejoy then rose and contrived to keep cool while he stated four or five points in favor of the society. Which he took up one after another and used them up with a most perfect looseness. He said that such societies did no good, but, on the contrary, a great deal of harm. That there was already in the country too great a disposition to bring young persons before the public, and that such performances are productive of little good. In fact, I concluded, that he was about right, and that we were wrong, as is usually the case when the will of the faculty opposes that of the students. Thus fell all our Dictatorial power, and hopes of fame in the debating him for the present. I then walked back down street with Penrose, and talked over society matters, and the too firm adherence of Carlisleites to their own views, and their

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disregard for the opinions of others. I then visited Chum. Whom I found sitting by the fire with his coat on. He is to day some better, but looks quite thin and weak. After dinner I exercised the duties of the office of Assistant Librarian. Loop came into the Library about two o. clock and talked so independently about a fine that had been imposed upon him, that I felt somewhat inclined to appeal to his sensitive parts by brute force. It is his natural disposition, however to appear singular, and we should therefore let it pass. The remainder of the afternoon was spent in reading and writing. I took a walk this evening with Boswell and Lamberton. After returning we visited Chum and then came up to my room. Chaplain then came in and we all went to the monthly meeting of the Temperance Society. After a song had been sung, a number of persons called on a new Freshman Lovejoy's chum for a speech. He mounted the platform, and producing about a half a dozen sheets of letter paper well filled up, he proceeded in his broken English to exhort the Ladies one and all to join the society. His words seemed calculated to produce any thing but the desired effect; and he was not suffered to proceed far till Lee rose and moved that the further reading of the excellent production be, for the present dispersed with, which was unanimously carried. The Bouquet was then read, Part of it was very good, but the remainder, especially an article on Bays, was ridiculous. Chaplain and myself then went to the oyster shop in company and talked on various subjects. I

saw several meteors. And after returning to the college we stood for some time looking up into the clear heavens and exchanged our thoughts in the character of the maker.

November 6th 1842 Sunday

I did not attend class this morning on account of not getting breakfast on time. Wrote a letter to Keenan, and then went to church. Jarring preached a very poor sermon. In the afternoon we had a lecture on "The Gospel of St Matthew by Pres. Emory. It did not display sufficient thought to be very interesting. I took a long walk in the evening with Chummy up the railroad. We then entered into a conversation on the nature of Gorsuch's arguments. When we unexpectedly met that individual, of course we changed our theme. We then returned and went to church. Prof McClintock gave an excellent sermon on the "House not made with hands". He spoke well on the shortness and uncertainty of life; yet though his sermon was good, it was not so deep as some I have heard from him.

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November 7th 1842 Monday

I spent the most of the morning in reading about petit Jean, which we recited at two o'clock. Wrote Church History till dinner time and then visited Chum. I had intended to come up to my room before two o'clock, but became so engaged in conversation with the Sysens, that the bell rang before I was aware how fast time was flying. Chum is still getting better, and hopes to be able to walk out in a few days. The afternoon was spent in preparing Church History, in which I was called, but made a poor recitation. During the hour Emory's nose took a spell of bleeding, and while he was out some few individuals constituted themselves a committee to examine his roll. Mine stood two twentys, and nothing else but plus and minus marks; which would seem to indicate that I have acquired the habit of running into extremes. I spent the evening in company with Paul, we talked on various subjects and at last went to bed. The day has been but poorly improved.

November 8th 1842 Tuesday

After breakfast I visited Martin's room and read our Juvenal. I then came down to Follansbee's room, where Chew was finishing an essay on "a drop of honey in every flower". We then attended our morning recitations. There being no lecture at four o'clock I employed my time in writing an essay at which I have been longer engaged than I ever was at an article of the kind before; and I fear the amount of time bestowed on it is a poor index of its real worth. We had a lecture at half past six on Electricity. Prof Allen tried several experiments on the effect of passing Electricity through rarified air. It was strikingly similar to the appearance of the Aurora borealis, and was explained on the same principle. The reason why it should appear at the North Pole in preference to any other place was not shown in a very satisfactory manner. There are several facts in relation to this that would seem to be clearly connected. 1st, that there exists an intimate relation between Electricity and Magnetism. 2. That the magnetic needle points with little variation in one particular direction. 3. that Iron is found mostly in northern latitudes. 4th that heat will destroy magnetic influence. 5th that the point to which the magnetic needle inclines changes its position. 6th that the point called the magnetic pole is the centre of the greatest cold, and 7th though attempted to be explained on other grounds. That the axis of the earth always points to some point at such a distance that its lines of direction are always parallel. There seems to be a connexion between them which some future Philosopher may trace to a common cause. In the evening I attended a lecture by Mr. Thorn on "Independence of mind. He spoke pretty well for about half an hour on the subject mentioned and then flew off in a tangent, and made an attack on Prof McClintock, He made

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a full exposition of the principles of the Anti tax party, and then leveled his gun at the Professor for saying any thing against them. His latter remarks Occupied more time than his speech. On the whole it was a pretty ridiculous piece of gossip.

November 9th 1842 Wednesday

We had no recitation in languages this morning, probably as someone hinted, because McClintock had been so much injured by his contact with the Thorn that he was unwilling to appear in public. I don't know how he likes it, he should however remember the parable of the sower. "And some fell among thorns and the thorns sprang up and choked them". In the afternoon, besides performing my duty as assistant librarian, I attended Society. We had a pretty interesting meeting but I felt dull and did not enjoy it. In the evening after going down town and visiting Chum I called in at Mr. Durbin's. I had not been in long when Ravieses & Tiffany came in with Mr. Lunstrum the Leuede. According to, what I supposed, a preconcerted plan. It was proposed by several persons present that the latter individual should speak the remainder of his speech, in which he was cut short last Saturday by Lee. No sooner was it mentioned than His softness, Marched to the upper end of the parlor and having adjusted the lamps asked how much he should read, and then upon some one's suggesting a few pages at the least he said that he could not find the place, and accordingly began at the beginning and went regularly through. He frequently used the expression "fellow sisters" and made several touching appeals to the company. Consisting as far as the female portion was concerned chiefly of girls and old maids; on behalf of their children and husbands. The piece had been doubtless prepared long ago for some public meeting. When he was about half through, in speaking of the extent to which some had already gone in intemperance, he said "Is it not then time to stop." "Yes for mercy's sake" said an individual present. The whole performance occupied about an hour. I learned about one thing from this evenings experience that if a person in this unfriendly world, wont take care of himself no person will undertake the task in his stead. I had the pleasure of entering into conversation with Anna, the gifted. I found her quite as intelligent as report would indicate, and had pretty hard work to keep up with her. This has been my first evening spent among the beauty of Carlisle. It may be a dangerous experiment, but it would not have been tried had not circumstances last summer rendered it necessary. In speaking with Miss Cook this evening she said that she had heard from Larry Mount and that he was quite well; but anxious to return to Carlisle.

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November 10th 1842 Thursday

I was unexpectedly spared this morning by Prof. Mc. "for which all thanks. The afternoon was employed in preparing Church History, the next to the last lesson. It has been a source of the greatest vexation to us ever since we were Freshmen, but it is at last about to be wound up. I spent the evening in my room writing and preparing recitations for to morrow. While thus engaged Prof. Sudler came down, and we talked some time on Electricity Magnetism. When he was about to leave he gave me the following Algebraical poser to work out in my leisure hours.

$$\begin{aligned}y + x\sqrt{y} &= 21 \\x + y\sqrt{x} &= 22\end{aligned}\quad \text{And } x = 4 \text{ and } y = 9$$

He said that he had tried it for some time, but that it had no answer and was consequently indeterminate. He had not been gone before I found that it had an answer as I have written it; but I was unable to find it by Algebraical process.

November 11th 1842 Friday

It would be useless to go into detail of our various recitations day by day: I shall therefore omit it. We had the usual course in the forenoon. Math. French & Political Economy. I attended the lecture on Galvanism at four o'clock. We all tried the effects of the piles but none of us could hold the metals on the balls. Eshleman made a desperate attempt. He puffed out his cheeks, then braced his legs firmly, but when he touched the ball his precautions were rendered worse than useless. The whole hour was spent very pleasantly. In the evening I called on Chum whom I found much better. After seven o'clock I worked at the two equations but did not get the solution. And finally, retired to bed.

November 12th 1842 Saturday

This morning I had the good fortune to miss prayers. I took care however not to do the same in regard to breakfast. I added several coats of India ink to my grand piece which occupied an hour. Declamation was pretty dull. No girls in chapel, wet day. Young and McPherson debated the Emigration question. The afternoon slipped around very soon. In the evening I visited Chum and the damsels. We had some fun sport with Stevens and his letters. I then came up to my room and retired on a piece of pound cake. I have done this day some things I should not have done and hence not done what I should.

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November 13th 1842 Sunday

Attended class. Staid in my room till church time, and then went and heard a practical sermon by Mr. Jarring. After church I went to the office and got Chum a letter and paper which I took to his boarding house where I accepted an invitation to eat dinner. It was all cold showing that Mr. Phillips had adopted the Anti cook on Sunday System. In the afternoon I attended another lecture on St. Paul by Prof. McClintock. He is a very clear writer, and this afternoon as usual he made several points appear plainer than they ever had before. After supper I visited Chum's. He is now nearly well and can sit up all the time. I then came up home and went to bed.

November 14th 1842 Monday

In the morning I went up to Paul's room and read this piece for the private exhibition. Martin also showed me his which I found much the best, and on the whole a pretty fair article. Martin is a pretty good student and will doubtless make a pretty smart man. I then came to my room and studied French to recite at ten o'clock. In the afternoon I prepared Church History the last lesson. Perseverance has at last brought us the close of our task. In the evening I visited Chum whom I found much better. He wrote a letter this afternoon which I took to the office. It was a bright moonlight evening. And as I came past the Methodist Church I heard them singing and shouting as if there was a revival going on. The sound brought vividly to mind the remembrance of other days, There is at any rate a peculiar solemnity in the sound of vocal music in the stillness of night, and especially so when it calls to remembrance scenes which are passed.

November 15th 1842 Tuesday

I loafed about all this morning trying to prepare a composition for Prof Caldwell, which I at last succeeded in finishing at the expense of missing a recitation in Greek. As a consequence of this I felt bad and was much dissatisfied with myself. At noon as I was going down street to the office I met Joe Follansbee who gave me a letter from father. On opening it I found a two dollar bill enclosed. I have, however, been less disposed to spend money than formerly and thinking it would be more conducive to my health I have resolved to use fewer of those little pleasures which I have been so long accustomed to consider necessary. In the afternoon I talked a while with Chaplain and then read Combe on the Constitution of Man. A book from which I find that John has

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obtained his system of beliefs which he seemed to hold so firmly last summer. It is, in my opinion a very fine work, but unless a person is careful to examine it entirely not being contested with a slight view, it is quite probable, he will denounce it as opposed to revealed truth. With respect to his observation that the laws of nature Moral and physical are in harmony with each other, and that the violation of one has not been made to accord with the observance of the other, I think is quite plausible. I know by my own experience that an individual walking on a beautiful morning, when in perfect health, and when all nature seems glad, it is much more likely to feel his heart inspired with emotions of love for his fellow man and his Creator than when lying in a sick bed every enjoyment is prevented and when even music seems a discord. The afternoon lecture was on Magnetism. It is what might be considered a pretty obscure science, probably because it is not yet fully understood. In the evening I went to the post office, found nothing. Felt gloomy. Had a notion to go and see the girls. Gave it up and went to bed.

November 16th 1842 Wednesday

Missed Greek again this morning. Got a wood order from Mr. Seymour which I lost. Recited political Economy pretty well and went to dinner. While there Lamberton the Librarian came for the key which I had locked up. Performed duties as assistant librarian and then attended Society. Had an interesting meeting and staid in till after prayers. I was quite well satisfied with all the proceedings and did not find cause for unkind feelings toward any one present. Pitman was initiated, He thinks he is a pretty smart fellow. At least he says so. And if he ever did not there are other circumstances sufficient to justify the assertion. Went down to see Chum after supper. Found him not so well, but able to sit up. Came up to Powell's room and read a little at the Greek. Got tired and came to my room. Felt gloomy and as I came past 24 thought of old times. Read Goldsmiths life about forty pages. Think if lasiness in youth makes men great, I am in a fair way to distinction.

November 17th 1842 Thursday

Rose in good time for prayers Had all my buttons fastened and my shoes tied before the last bell stopped ringing. It is now so dark at morning prayers that the President needs a candle to see well enough to read. Went to Powell's room after breakfast and read Greek; but thinking that hearing another read it, was a poor guarantee for my own success in recitation. I left him before he had finished and seated myself to write a letter to Larry Mount. After having obtained another wood order from Mr. Seymour in place of the one which I lost. I had written about a page and a half of my letter, when I had occasion to go into Follansbee's room

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when I opened the door I was much alarmed at seeing him spitting blood by his stove and much excited. At his request I went for Errman but when he came up the bleeding had stopped, Chummy has been for sometime weak in his breast, probably owing to hard study, and it may yet prove serious if not soon remedied. Practiced a little on Gorsuch's flute. Was so successful that I almost resolved to procure one for my own use. It would be a fine amusement and I think I can learn to play by devoting a little practice to it every day. Had a walk to the post office through the rain for nothing. Save for that I had the pleasure of seeing the lovely Misses Harris at the window across the street. In the afternoon I attempted to prepare Church History, but fell asleep; from which I was awakened by Hanson to assist him in his Algebra. The President was very kind in excusing me, Which in fact I did not deserve. The faculty are all very fine men and if we students do not agree with them it is all our own fault. Called on Chum after supper. he is quite weak, but still tried to be natural an attempt which was not altogether successful. From there I walked

with Chaplain to the post office, but found nothing. Read the conclusion of Goldsmith's life. And some of his writings; prepared exercises and other duties for to morrow.

November 18th 1842 Friday

Called on in mathematics. Came from breakfast with Paul and prepared recitation in French. Essentially bored in Prof. Caldwell's room on currency. Talking about Gold and silver always awakes me feel the melancholy truth that it is all in some person else's hands and that little of it reaches me. Attended rehearsal. Loop ranted so that Emory made him speak his piece over again. He also told Martin that he was too modest and that if it could be called a failing at all, it was pretty that many more were not liable to the same misfortune Tiffany was critc for the afternoon. Lovejoy spoke an original on "Difficulty no impediment" Not so good as many I have heard from him. Wonder why he chooses to speak an original. Attended lecture on Electro Magnetism. Seemed pretty deep and not satisfactory. Calculated to make a fellow stare more than any thing else. The professor ridiculed the manipulations of the Animal magnetism though I guess if some of the theories et cetera of its time science were put to as severe a test as the last mentioned attempt at a science, we might perhaps cry out humbug with equal propriety. I finished my letter to Lorry Mount and then went to Mr. Durbin's to find how to direct it. There was a large party

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collected there; but I did not stay; for the very good reason that I supposed I wasnt wanted. Miss Cook not being able to tell me I went down street, and after some little trouble, at last got an Almanac from Dr. Foster, which showed me all I wanted. I then came up to my room and wrote several fragments. Was in a first rate mood for writing, probably owing to reading Goldsmith.

November 19th 1842 Saturday

Chummy had another attack of blood spitting this morning. Wrote and read till nine then went up to Prof. Sudler's room and did some more india ink daubing. Declamation pretty good. plenty of girls present. Bryan and Patterson had a discussion. Patterson not being present he was used up most partially however, I thought if Bryan had spoken about ten minutes longer the other would have gained the question notwithstanding. Society met after declamation to consult about a badge. Not coming to any definite conclusion, we adjourned till two o clock. In the meantime I took dinner and performed duties as assistant librarian. In the afternoon we had a lot time. Finch, Hanson for it and Dillon Sims and myself against it. Put the thing down. Will be called up next Wednesday. Prepared French exercises in the evening and got ready for Sunday. Gorsuch beats me journalizing all to pieces. He says that he is going to write down the character and appearance of each member of our class by taking one each day and going regularly through. I suppose of course he will be a little delicate in writing his own, and lest it should be lost to the world I shall take the liberty of doing it for him. His chief characteristic is firmness. A quality which much as I admire, I dislike to see it take the form of stubbornness. Now this is what seems in his case, to be the consequence of his cultivation of a faculty sufficiently strong already, as Combe would express it. In argument he is very hard to get over, for the very good reason that when opposed he is apt to get so mad that no person counts discussion with him and also because he will not admit any thing and will even deny having made an assumption when it becomes liable to be overthrown. A few days since at table in relation to a man's decline in learning he remarked by a figurative expression. That we always dislike going down hill. I remarked that I thought the figure was not true for when I was a boy we would cheerfully bear the toil of climbing up a steep place in winter in order to ride down. He however contended that it was, and

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after thinking some time, as it was plain he had not done before he spoke, he brought in a supposition that there was something at the bottom to run against which made it undesirable. Finding however that all argument was useless. I gave him the anecdote of the fellow, who being summoned as a witness and having asserted on oath that a certain horse was fifteen feet high. Someone suggested that he meant fifteen hands. "Did I say feet?" says he. Yes explained the counsellor. Well then I'll stick to it." "I want to be a man of my word." The joke was turned a little against him, but he persisted in saying that it was all clear in his mind before speaking. And so the matter dropped. He is in other respects a pretty fine fellow. Used to talk about dignity. And always lays great stress on the pronoun of the first person. But this is of little use. And I have been writing more to fill up the page, then for any useful purpose.

November 20th 1842 Sunday

Rose in good time prepared for the duties of the day before prayers. Did not attend class. Read Goldsmith, Pope, and Byron. A little of each till church time. Heard Scott preach from St. Peter's last words in his epistle about growing in grace. Ate too much dinner, felt bad and made some good resolutions. Wrote until four, and then attended lecture by Pres. Emory on the second chapter in St. Matthew. It was very fine. He explained clearly all about the wise men coming from the East and answered several infidel objections of Voltaire. After supper I visited Chum. The girls did not go to church and I spent a very pleasant evening with them. Eating pie, talking about society and such like topics. The evening passed quickly round and I returned to my room far from satisfied with my discourse. Chum is getting better but is quite gloomy and low spirited. He talks some of going home. I have not been in Follansbee's room today. One duty neglected.

November 21st 1842 Monday

Rose in good time. Failed in mathematics for which I got a lecture. Felt a little dumpish in consequence. Prepared French after breakfast in company with Paul. Recited tolerably. Visited Chum and the Post office. Studied Church history in the afternoon, but was excused from reciting on the same grounds as at the last recitation. Chummy Follansbee went over to Miss Brown's to stay till he gets better

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Visited Chum in the evening. And then came to my room and studied Juvenal. The day has presented but little variety and has been but slightly marked by any thing of consequence; Yet I feel better satisfied than I have for some time. As a student I have been for sometime on the decline and now fast losing the little of a good reputation which I had acquired. And it is all my own fault. Sometimes I wish I had never seen a college; and often feel that I would be much better at home.

November 22nd 1842 Tuesday

Mathematical recitation went off smoothly. When it was nearly out, Donnell looked up toward the professor and with a sort of a droll look asked "How long will it be till we review this stuff?" "Stuff?" says the old man indignantly. "Stuff!! indeed!" "Why is it an insult to the department," "Stuff!!" he repeated as he warmed with the theme, "Call the science of Sir Isaac Newton "Stuff! Why I am surprised! At each successive burst, the class did their utmost by way of clapping. Which made the whole quite a comical scene. Prepared a recitation in Juvenal but was not called up. Had to read composition. Made several attempts in the afternoon to write a letter home; but was only able to finish a single page when the bell rang for lecture. It was on Mechanics being an introduction The Senior class not having received their textbooks; they are unprepared to go on with a course in Chemistry. At Evening prayers some individuals in our class attracted the attention of the President by laughing. He, however, said nothing till the service was over; but then turning around with a very dignified air, he said "It is written my house shall be called

a house of prayer", but what some of you made it, I have with yourselves to reflect." After supper I went to see Chum. He is still getting better and is yet quite weak. I then attended lecture by Mr. Sproll on "Marriage" It was pretty good, but rather dry. Nothing more than I could have found in some Political Economy; and not so good as some remarks of Fowler and Combe on the same subject, though based on Phrenology.

November 23rd 1842 Wednesday

We had another lecture in the Mathematical room in the morning by which it seems that Donnell's remark has not got out of the professor's mind yet. After breakfast I went up to Chaplain's room where several Belles Lettres seniors were collected over a Greek recitation. There

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were almost enough of us to have made an exhibition. Was excused by Prof. Mc. Recited in Political Economy. Society quite interesting; badge question not decided. Want of time. Came back to my room after supper. Pitman came in and bored me while I was dressing, with some egotistical remarks. Chummy and McCabe are both sick at our boarding house. The former received a letter today ordering him to come home. McCabe is quite ill, and is perhaps, dangerous Received a letter from Cowgill at noon. He is now teaching school. In the Evening visited Chum. He is getting better slowly. Returned to my room with Stinson (a sophomore) and transacted some eatery before bed time.

November 24th 1842 Thursday

Recited in math; ate breakfast and then went up to Paul's room and read over the letter. Was called up and made out to slide off in some sort. Read Dickens' notes on America till Dinner time. Emory was over at the boarding house to see the sick. McCabe no better and Chummy making up his mind about going home. After dinner called on Chum. Came up and prepared church history. Was not called out. We had an interesting subject. Which our talented President made much more so. The introduction to the reformation or the Age of Leo X. The causes for the increase of literature were 1st Crusades. 2nd Fall of Constantinople 3rd Discovery of America & 4th Invention of the art of Printing. The president announced at Evening prayers that a letter had been received from President Durbin, written in Germany. He was there on his way to Rome and Egypt and is probably in that latter country now. In the Evening carried round my passbook. Called on Chum; and then came to my room and was engaged at a mathematical problem when the Pres. came in. We talked sometime about various matters, studying, eating, etc. and then retired. He had not been gone long when a number of fellows in the next room began making a terrible noise. Presently I heard someone walking up to their door and enter with an air of authority. Upon which there was a dead silence for about ten minutes, then followed some low talking after the visitor had departed; And, now the company having broken up, it is all silent.

November 25th 1842 Friday

Recited on French and Pol. Economy. Heard some further account of the fuss in the next room. It appears that Jordan and Ban. Gibson were about to hammer Emory for ordering them home. Visited Chum at noon who said I looked melancholy. Rehearsed part of my speech in chapter, felt so bad that

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I could not finish. Little else happened of importance. No afternoon lecture.

November 26th 1842 Saturday

I arose this morning and prepared for declamation, we then attended india ink daubing, and heard some fine remarks of the professor on perspective. I got excused on the grounds of having to speak. And came down to my room and talked with Henderson and Parker till the bell rung. I was called out second, and spoke Nott on Hamilton. Had some few compliments passed on my performance which, though they might have been soft soap, elated me considerably. Flattery is a good thing even when we know its object. After declamation, visited Chum. He was much better and accompanied Chaplain and myself up to the college. In the afternoon I again called on him and spent the remainder of the day, in reading to the girls and hearing them on the piano. It was a very pleasant way of spending the afternoon; though, I must confess, I felt much like I used to, when having been directed to come directly home when school was out, I generally loafed in some store, over a chequer board, till supper time.

November 27th 1842 Sunday

Attended class. I then went to church and heard Mr. Scott on the spiritual house mention in St. Peter. I also finished a letter to Mother. Read in a paper which I got from Gorsuch a long account of Colt's suicide, also an attempted humbug about the Planetary System being on fire. Attended lecture by the President and in the Evening heard Prof. Mc. He preached on a text in Revelation, about the Savior knocking at the door. Laid great stress on the fact that the Savior knocked but there was nothing compelling the individual inside to open the door. Chaplain came up with me. We talked together sometime about all the horrid things we could think of, and then went to bed to dream on them, which, fortunately, I escaped.

November 28th 1842 Monday

Prepared French in Company with Paul. Returned to my room and wrote till dinner time. After this prepared another lesson in our review of church history. Had expected to be called on, but was disappointed. Went down street and staid awhile with Chum. Had a fine opportunity of displaying my gallantry but did not improve it. Gorsuch was along. I did but little this evening. Have been always too lazy, perhaps, more so lately, than ever. Jimmy is complaining to Emory and repeated failures in the department of language warn me that I had better do something very soon by way of information.

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November 29th 1842 Tuesday

After breakfast I went up to Paul's room and read the Greek. Was called up and made a poor recitation. Heard a few compositions read and afterwards, on being informed that there was a letter in the office for me I hastened down to get it. I had made several suppositions as to who could have written it, but on opening it I found that they were all wrong, and that it was from John Davis. A pretty short one it was too considering our former acquaintance. When I returned to my room, I found Chum busily engaged packing up his books and clothes preparatory to a visit home. Follansbee intends to accompany him in the next early train of cars. Did but little in the afternoon. Attended a lecture by Prof Allen, on Natural Philosophy. He illustrated the velocity of falling bodies, by means of Atwood's machine. After supper I called on Chum and after some little conversation bade him goodbye. I also saw Follansbee at the tavern. Called at Mr. Durbins. Fanny Crawford met me at the door whom I by mistake addressed as Miss Emory. I was however relieved by any confusion by her saluting me as Mr. McCord. After talking a little while, I left and concluded that this should be my last night among the girls, for a season at least.

November 30th 1842 Wednesday

Chum and Follansbee left this morning. I did not get to prayers or mathematical recitation. It began snowing in the forenoon and lasted all day. Performed my duties as assistant librarian and then

attended society. The private exhibition was the order of the day. The performers did, in general very well. Penrose called me to the chair. After it was over we had a lengthy debate on the badge question which ended in a defeat of the measure. Finch seemed quite displeased, and I found on returning to my room, that my own face was not free from all signs of excitement. After Evening prayers, I took Robinson Crusoe down to the Squires, but did not remain long. The snow is quite deep this evening; and I guess the two travelers will wish they had remained at home. Not relishing a Greek party in which I was placed, in Powell's room, I came down home, but had not been seated long before Hanson came in with an invitation for me to assist in eating some pies and cakes in the next room. I, of course accepted, and we had quite merry time. So ends the month. 'Tis gone, never to return.

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December 1st 1842 Thursday

The month has opened cold and gloomy, telling us that winter has fairly commenced. As a consequence of my eating last night I failed this morning in mathematics, and by the way I find looking over my journal that zeros have been of late too common an article on my roll. The cars were detained nearly all day on account of the snow. In the afternoon I went about preparing a lesson in church history with the greatest alacrity supposing that I would be called on as a matter of course. I however escaped. Only two being called to recite.

December 2nd 1842 Friday

After breakfast I returned to my room and seated myself beside a warm fire to study a lesson in French. While thus engaged, Stinson came in, informing me, that he had a message for me and stated that my company was requested at the Squire's about twelve o' clock. I of course accepted knowing that it must be to take dinner and I always have had a fondness for the good things of this life. Especially when damsels are concerned. Accordingly after our two morning recitations I came to my room with Paul and prepared for my visit. On entering the parlor the comfortable appearance of every thing, the lively conversation of the girls, the occasional rich odors of a fine dinner wafted from the kitchen and dining room as ever and anon the door opened affording a slight glance at the good things on the sumptuous board, and the merry sound of sleigh bells, as very moment they jingled past all conspired to afford comfortable sensations and call to mind the sweet pleasures of a winter at home. After dinner which I must say amply realised my most sanguine hopes. I talked awhile with the girls about declamation and other varieties, till the bell having rung for three o' clock, Dillon and myself came off having to attend a lecture at four. In the meantime I intended to improve my time by writing a letter, but on going into the next room to sharpen my knife I became much interested in a conversation with a brother of Prof McClintock's, that the bell rang before I was aware how late it was. The lecture was a tolerably good one, treating of the force of gravity pendulum &c. Among other things he exhibited a little image which turned several successive somersets, by being partly filled with Mercury. Staid in my room all evening, but accomplished little.

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December 3rd 1842 Saturday

Missed prayers and had a splendid nap till breakfast time. Did something additional to my india-ink drawing and made some vigorous attempts to procure a catalogue out of the Professor's room. Was in part successful. Attended declamation. Penrose select on the Indian, and Paul one of Phillip's. Whitney spoke on the fall of nations and we also had a fine discussion between Snow and Dillon. Question Is popularity a proof of merit? Walked down street with Penrose. Performed duties as Assistant Librarian

and afterward waited in the Library with Donnell, a good while for some girls, who Lovejoy said wished to see the books. It was all in vain however; for in about half an hour we heard him returning alone. We talked sometime about novel reading, flowery style, and other large subjects till feeling rather cold, and also a little drawn about our damsels we concluded to adjourn. Came to my room after supper and read Moore. Felt pretty sentimental.

December 4th 1842 Sunday

Spent all the time from prayers to breakfast in dressing. Ate after the rest in Company with Paul, then came over to my room and talked with him and Keller about the girls and the approaching election for speakers. Paul enjoys sanguine hopes of getting on. Will probably be disappointed with a half dozen more. Jarring preached a long sermon against the Unitarians, What a pity it is but that men would give up such themes especially until they can do something more than go over the same old track and appeal to a regular course of Biblical quotations. Ate a large dinner. Felt sleepy and followed the dictates of nature by snoozing till suppertime. Went to the post Office with Chaplain. Brought Gorsuch his paper. Read some little and then went to church. We had some difficulty in deciding where we should go; but at last concluded to try the Presbyterian. It was a sermon or rather exhortation by Mr. Moo on the Missionary cause. He seemed quite sanguine and a little Milleritist. As we returned coming past the Methodist Church, we heard singing and shouting as if a revival were going on. Making some observations on the influence and propriety of religious excitement. We passed on, and changed our theme. The exhibition naturally came uppermost. I have some hopes that Chaplain will be elected. The probabilities are in favor of Hermanson. They are both fine, noble, fellows. Tis life for fame alone was plainly never designed by Heaven as the duty of Man.

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December 5th 1842 Monday

As day by day is added to my little register, I feel more desire to continue it. And although what is already written can afford me at present but little satisfaction, yet I expect at some future time to read each line with some degree of pleasure. And if others feel the same emotions as I do myself it will perhaps also be equally so to some few others. This day has added but little of great interest to my diary. It was a damp wet day and so foggy that one could not see the college from the Campus Gate. In the morning Paul and myself came to my room to study French. Made but poor progress. Recited and went down street. Loafed a while at Haverstick's and Loudon's. Ate dinner and then came to my room and prepared Church History. Was not called on. Cant tell what the Pres'dt means. We had a fine snow balling party after recitation. In evening prayers the President approved of the sport if not carried on in study hours and to the injury of the buildings. And also gave us some fine advice about keeping dry feet. Which I have improved on but poorly, for while I am writing the fire is out and my trotters have been wet all day. After supper at the College table, and just as I was about going over to mine, Charley Brown and Loop raised a great disturbance. It appeared that Charley had struck the latter individual with a snow ball, upon which Lupus grew exceedingly wolfish and proceeded to work with a small penknife on the body of the offender to the great detriment thereof. Some doubts have since been expressed as to his sanity. Spent the evening in Gorsuch's room, talking about various matters until half past eight. The fire is out and the weather has changed and now the wind is blowing with a strange sound that seems to indicate that getting out of bed to morrow morning will be by no means easy.

December 6th 1842 Tuesday

Had some trouble to get to prayers in time in the morning. Read over a lesson in Juvenal in Gorsuch's room, but when the bell rang we were informed that there was no recitation. I then went to

Boswell's room and assisted him in hiding a pound cake which he had received from home. Had a little scuffle with the Freshmen at Prof Caldwell's room. After recitation examined the paintings and engravings in Hanson's room. Went to the office and found nothing. Walked down and up street with Seniors. Came to my room and began to think about writing a composition, when Chaplain came in. We talked about exhibitions and society till near four o'clock. The afternoon lecture was pretty dry. After supper Gorsuch and myself went

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Down street and having procured our tickets attended a lecture in Education Hall by John Jay. Subject Wilberforce. It was pretty good and made quite interesting from the manner in which it was written. It however displayed little thought or execution, and was too sprinkled with pedantry. Felt a little girlish all evening. Did not see - at the lecture. Wish I could let such thoughts alone.

December 7th 1842 Wednesday

Was called on in Mathematics and recited. Came to my room and prepared a ticket for the afternoon instead of a lecture lesson. Had no recitation in languages. Double lesson assigned for tomorrow. Ate a fine dinner and performed duties as Assistant Librarian. Attended Society. Election for speaker took place. Chaplain Anniversary. Harmanson looked badly. I felt bad myself. Finch has been much disappointed. Paul got so excited when the votes were counting that he rose from seat. Some few fellows got spunky. After Society adjourned, the hard rivals walked out arm in arm. It looked well. Went down street after supper. Stopped a moment at the Squire's. Came up to Chaplain's room. Talked about the exhibition. Came down home. Had the blues till I got into a fit of thinking. Read ten thousand a year and went to bed.

December 8th 1842 Thursday

Missed prayers and recitation by not hearing the bell. Improved the morning very indifferently. Talked with Hanson about yesterday's proceedings while I should have been studying a lesson in Juvenal. Was called up unprepared. Read Ten thousand a year till twelve o'clock. Found nothing at the office after trudging down through the rain. Read Church History in the afternoon and was called on at last, tolerably well prepared. After supper Gorsuch and myself paid a visit to the cake shop. Had a fine evening of it, eating our cake and reading Petit Jean. Talked about the girls Matrimony &c. What a fool I am on such occasions. I always get into a loving mood and fancy that I have an attachment to some one. When, in fact, if I were brought to the test I would have some trouble to tell who it was. Came to my room found the fire out. read a chapter in Job undressed and went to bed. Reflections are a scarce article with me at the moment. I have a notion to quit moralising altogether.

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December 9th 1842 Friday

Attended prayers and morning recitation. Received an exceedingly pathetic appeal from Prof Sudler. Wrote exercises and prepared French and Political First review lesson in the latter. Attended lecture in the afternoon. Friday in an unlucky day with me. I always neglect to write journal for it till I forget the events. And in such a place as this, a little failing of memory does a great deal of harm.

December 10th 1842 Saturday

Attended prayers and recitation. Did some additional india-ink shading. Went to chapel where I heard two or three pieces by members of our class and a lecture on health by Prof Caldwell. He gave some very good directions as to exercise, sleep, diet, &c. After dinner, performed my duties as assistant Librarian. When went up to Eshleman's room where a large party were engaged in singing Temperance Songs. Butler who, not long since, assisted in the concert which I mentioned in my journal a few weeks ago, sang several very fine pieces; among others one about the "tall young oysterman" which James Hays used to sing when we chummed together at Meadville. In the evening I attended the Temperance meeting. Was elected Chair man of the standing committee. Some fellows raised a considerable disturbance by firing squills, stamping and other noises. The Bouquet was read, but was not very interesting. Some Conundrums were proposed, One was, Why should the President of the College be expelled from the Society? Because he was seen taking a horn in the first section. Alluding to the occasion on which he surprised the Company in the next room who were practicing on a tin instrument of that description.

December 11th 1842 Sunday

Missed breakfast and class meeting, on account of my difficulty in arranging my wardrobe. Having concluded that operation, I went up to Chaplain's room. Found him engaged in a similar manner. Staid there and talked till the bell rang for church. Pres Emory preached on the respect paid to the good by Providence, from the text. "The generation of the righteous shall prosper. At noon I was much gratified on finding several papers and documents in the post office. One was a letter from Mother Announcing the death of Grandmother and Mrs McClelland. The Venango Democrat was dry but a Catalogue from Elisabeth of the Seminary at Steubenville was more

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interesting. We had a fine turkey for dinner, and not having eaten breakfast I proceeded almost too far towards secreting it. I was sleepy all afternoon Walked down town and through several streets with Foulke. In the evening I decided on going to Presbyterian Church. A large dog obtained admission into the Aisle, and upon Mr Sproll's insisting that he should be put out, the Sexton placed himself in the door with a stick and looked at the dog as if to charm him to the door; but this mode of persuasion proved about as effectual in his case as it has in many others and had to affect to draw the dog much nearer the pulpit, than he was before. He was at last prevailed on to depart, and the preacher proceeded. He spoke in a passage in Ecclesiastes concerning the madness of the Wicked, and showed several points of resemblance between unconverted men and lunatics.

December 12th 1842 Monday

Rose this morning at five o. clock and began the reformation. A few days more will perhaps show its success. I was consequently prepared for all my morning recitations. After breakfast Paul came down and we studied French together till ten o clock. Recited and were informed that we would have to come in again at an extra hour, from the fact that examination is near at hand. After dinner Boswell came to my room. And we had made but a slight progress in Church history, when Bird came in and asked more assistance in some problems in Algebra, I was poorly prepared for our four o clock recitation; but was not called on.

In the evening I called at the Squire's for a few minutes. Ate some apples and then came up to my room with Dillon who happened in a few minutes after myself and probably on the same errand. After coming up we talked about various matters for a good while. He then retired and I did some little studying.

December 13th 1842 Tuesday

Rose again at five o. clock. Studied till prayer time. Was called up in Mathematics, and made the fellows believe that "Richard was himself again," by a good recitation. Worked at my Latin after breakfast. Came to my room and read and wrote till dinner time. In the afternoon Paul and myself were engaged at a French lesson, but were interrupted by Bird and Hanson. Was called on first. Read pretty well. Henderson informed me at evening prayers that he had seen old Mr Snowden Who brought me as much news from home as I had received in my democrat on Sunday

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After supper Gorsuch Paul and myself walked down street. I bought a flute at Loudon's. Came up and ate Chesnuts and candy till bed time, When Paul and I retired together.

December 14th 1842 Wednesday

Rose at five o. clock. Studied till prayer time. Ate a breakfast of warm bread and felt bad afterward. Gorsuch is unwell from the fact of his nut eating last night. Failed in languages. Mc said he would report me to the President. I felt bluish for sometime. Had a notion to write for permission to go home. Performed duties as assistant Librarian. Went up to the Hall. Had two or three honorary and Graduate Members to debate the natural Genius question. Crooks in the first place used up my money notion. They then entered on the debate. Judge Reed opened it and McClintock followed. The judge's ideas were deep and good. McClintock drew a line of distinction between Talent and Genius. The former might be said to belong to Pope, Goldsmith, and others. While the latter he considered to be the power of imagination or original thought and could be more properly be applied to Shakespeare or Burns. Of the latter he quoted the figure of the Snow drop. "One moment white then melts forever". This power he said was natural. When the question was decided and the visitors had retired. Chew and Bryan were about to perpetrate some deeds of blood, when Soc adjourned. Emory detained the Church members, to consider something in regard to the bible society. Went down street with Paul, who tried to escape the clutches of a tailor who however nabbed him before he had gone far past his shop. I waited for him some time but at last considered to come on without him. When I came to my room, I wished to use Combe's Phrenology. Which I had taken down street a few days since. Went for it. Came back. Read a piece in the American Eclectic. Talked with Gorsuch about writing for periodicals. Wrote journal. This is a clear moonlight night. Great noise up on the third floor.

Here I presume it is better to skip a few days then go into a dry detail of events. Suffice it to say that there has been some amasing cold weather and we have spent the time since last Wednesday in preparing for examination. On Friday afternoon I received two letters one from Chum containing six dollars and another from father containing twenty. I answered Chum's on Sunday. While engaged in doing so Miss Margaret Cook sent for me. When I went to her room I found her en-

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gaged writing one to Lou Mount. We talked some time together. In the evening I attended Presbyterian preaching. Felt a little inclined to think about something else than the sermon. Wednesday was examination day. I failed in languages. We had a long and tiresome time of it. On Thursday our first day is vacation. I rose very late after a comfortable night's rest with Chaplain. Received a letter from Lou Mount. Went to Durbin's in the evening. There was a fair in the courthouse the same evening. I did not go. Visited Crooks in the morning and felt almost persuaded to throw up my subject. To this short summary I can now add a few days more. This is Wednesday and I feel it is time to begin again at my diary. We had a good Christmas dinner on Monday. A number of students had intended to go to different parts of the county on a biblical expedition, but as there books did not come they were disappointed. Vacation to me is passing very dully. More so perhaps than to Prof Allen who has taken a wife a Miss Curtin or Curtain. I suspect he will find her the warmest Curtain these cold nights that he has had about

his bed for a long time. Gorsuch is now at Mechanicsburg and I am almost entirely alone. I spend my time while in my room reading and writing for the twenty second. Sometimes I visit Chap and Dillon and loaf during the evenings at the Squire's. Played salt the sheep not long ago. Spent one very fine evening Saturday before Christmas with a number of young ladies there. Went home with Miss M-

December 28th 1842 Wednesday

Slept last night with Paul, rose in time for breakfast. Came to my own room and read and wrote until getting tired. I went up to Chaplain's. While there a thought struck me and I came down again and wrote an essay on dancing Went down street, called at the Squire's for Crusoe. Went to dinner. Attended the Library Lambertson being absent. Came to my room and read ten thousand a year. Got a Venango Democrat from home. (Charley Byrne ^{mistake} has bought the ^{mistake} Arch press in Company with Lindsay). In the evening I felt horrid. Talked to Bird on the question, While at the Library Young Crook's brought up a book which he said he had found in the wood house. Wishing to know who had taken it out, I thought a few moments and at last concluded to look first to Paul's page. I did so, and sure enough there it was marked to his account more than a month ago. In the evening as I said I felt miserable. Trotted down town and then up again and at last went to bed.

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December 31st 1842 Saturday

The last day of another year has gone. Old Time still keeps on his course, and though my Chum Denny used to say that he was then in Egypt working at the pyramids, he seems to be here working changes as hard as ever. Last evening I went over to Mr Durbin's, finding them not disposed to receive visitors, I came away. Went down street with Paul and slept with him after we returned. This morning we arose in good time for breakfast, after which I arranged my toilet and prepared for a trip to Harrisburg in order to procure a band for the next twenty second. The snow had drifted in several places to such a depth that we were detained a long time on the road between here and Mechanicsburg. On arriving at the latter place we found the people all inclined to stare when they heard the steam hour which was first tried to day. It was near sunset when we reached H. I went up to Uncle's, talked a while to Aunt, who informed me that Mr. Hays and James were in town. I then went to the Capitol but finding no one whom I knew, I proceeded down to the Post Office where I saw Linus who walked around town with me, till we overtook Carson who walked with us sometime. At length we met James Hays on the board walk. We spent the time until supper very pleasantly, talking about Franklin dancing school, et cetera. After tea I proceeded in search of a band. I first called at several barrooms to get some information concerning one, and was at length told that Mr (Somebody) who belonged to the German band lived in a certain alley just beyond a certain brick house. We succeeded in finding it when we were met by a woman at the door, who said that we could find Mr – at the shop on the Square. We found him as directed hammering a piece of leather on a lapstone. He was quite clever and after some talking concluded to go with me to "head-quarters," as he called it. So off we started at a rate which soon made my legs pretty tired and down second street till we came to the place appointed. The leader was equally kind, and in view of a probably call on him by the Dauphin Guards on the evening of the twenty second, said that he would write to me on Wednesday. James and myself then went to a performance as the exchange- an exhibition of some feats of strength. Some of them were quite interesting. We then proceeded to Methodest Church where I remained till after twelve o. clock and then went up home with Uncle and Aunt. This is the last day of the year. I believe I have done more in it and experienced more pleasure than in any day for several months. How I wish I could shake off some of my lazy habits and seek all my bliss in activity.

Farewell to 1842

Alfred B. McCalmont

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January 1st 1843 Sunday

Was called by Aunt in good time this morning. Ate breakfast and went down to Buehler's. Did not find James there. Walked up Capitol hill saw Burrows who gave me a letter from Mr Lambertson Esq. to give to his father. Came down and went to Methodest Church. Heard a sermon on the text "Remember how short my time is," by M Lybrand. Went up to Uncles before Sacrament. Talked to Lib Ann and Will till Uncle and Aunt came home. Ate dinner and borrowed a dollar to come home on. Bade them all goodbye. Walked down Street and fell in with Burrows at Buehler's walked up the board walk when James joined us. Walked about the Capitol for sometime and then went to the depot. Loitered around an hour or so till the Philadelphia train came in. Got in the cars and came whistling over too fast for reflection. Passed the same Dutch house in a twinkling where I staid this night two years ago on account of snow on the track. Went to Methodest Church. Jarring preached, the females shouted and seemed to feel more than any person else. Scott exhorted, One mourner went to the altar. This day used to give rise to some sentimental thoughts in my mind, but it is now gone, having been passed with a small amount of thinking. Gorsuch says he has written four pages. Follansbee, I found had returned when I arrived. He is much better and looks quite well.

January 2nd 1843 Monday

Rose at five o. clock. Attended prayers. Started the day rather unfavorably. There were nor recitations. Wrote part of a composition. Went down with Penrose in the evening and read his piece on Eloquence. Advised him to write another. Came up to my room. Read him a page on Harmony. Went to evening prayers. Standing was read out. Lambertson head of the Senior class. Gorsuch and Tiffany divided the honors of ours. I was head of the second section. Came to my room and resolved to do better in future. Took down my books and began to study in earnest. Wrote part of a composition and went to bed.

January 3rd 1843 Tuesday

Recited in languages Not called up. Had no lecture in the afternoon Spent the evening up at Paul's room

January 4th 1843 Wednesday

Recited to Prof Sudler. Prepared in languages and Political. Performed duties as assistant Librarian. Went to Society. Bryan took the chair. Made

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He made some very ludicrous mistakes during the afternoon. I was excused in Company with Agnew, to make out an appendix to the Catalogue. Did not study as much as might as I should.

January 5th 1843 Thursday

Byron says that melancholy is a fearful gift. Now though I am inclined to think it any thing but a "telescope of truth; and though I am not endeavoring to be low spirited just for the sake of looking singular, yet sometimes feelings of depression will sometimes come over me which I find it impossible to resist. Such is my state this evening. It seems as if every thing was going wrong. I failed this morning in Languages notwithstanding a vigorous resolution to the contrary. Then my speech is not written, and I should wish that some kind providence might now interfere to render it unnecessary. Everything seems to

go wrong. It is little wonder that men sometimes comit suicide, and if ever I set on a Jury over a victim of it I shall be willing to return any other verdict than a derangement of the mental faculties. Almost wish I had never seen a college. What a fool I've been and am yet. Studied a lesson in Rhetoric this afternoon. Saw a whole parcel of things against the very mode in which I had intended to write. I guess I'm a good deal like the servant, whom I saw personified in the court house last year who had so many complaints. Wish I could believe all my ills imaginary. Am now going to the P.O. Wonder why Luebher don't write. Wish the exhibition would go to pot. Have been down street. Ate a plate of oysters, have worked off my blue fit pretty well but feel quite full. Hear the cars coming in. Perhaps Chum has come. Will go down and see. Have been at the Post Office. No word from Chum. Got a letter from the German band at Harrisburg. Say they will come over. Found on returning to my room after a visit to Chaplain's that Emory had been here and has left his card. Feel worse than ever. Mean to go to bed.

January 6th 1843 Friday

This is always an unlucky day with me. I never succeed in getting any thing written in my diary for it till it is so long after that I forget what to say. I partly failed in French this morning. We had no lecture in the afternoon. In the evening I called at the Squire's and staid till six o. clock. The girls were very kind to me. If staying away a week will make them receive me so much better; how would it be to not go at all. I then attended a meeting of the Temperance board. Lee and Gorsuch were chosed editors of the Bouquet. Went to prayer meeting. Felt well. Came to my room. There was a great row raised in Pitman's room, about ten o. clock.

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January 7th 1843 Saturday

Amused myself drawing until time for going up to Prof Sudler's room. When we went up, he informed us to our edification that we might go. I then came to my room and wrote another page on Harmonical Action. Am beginning to think that I will make a very flat performance. Went up to Champlain's room to report progress, but found a union there. Mr D Israel who was lecturing Pitman about the scrape in his room, It was laughable to hear the account which the latter individual gave of the affair. It appears from his description that they were all drunk and were engaged at a game of whist when Emory knocked at the door. Paul and Charley Browne crept under the bed while Pitman blew out the lamp which L. Brown not observing picked up a book as if to pretend that he had been studying. Emory then busted the door open and called to a student in the next room to bring a light. He then pulled off the bed from Paul and his companion, and obtained possession of the brandy bottle. He asked a number of questions, gave a lecture, and retired. Israel said a great many foolish things when Pitman finished his tale, which the latter seemed to think a great honor. In fact it was hard to tell which was the bigger fool; So I came off and left them. I had not been seated long in my own room when I heard a well known voice in the hall; I immediately jumped up and opened the door for Chum who had just returned. I was glad to see him. We talked about a little of every thing and I then walked down in company with him to his boarding house. In the afternoon he arranged his things while little Joe Gray and myself sat and chatted by the stove. Mr Prettyman a new irregular student, who came with Chum staid here during the remainder of the day. In the evening I went down street. Bought a copy of Hayles games, and then went to the Squire's and played chess for a kiss, which I had some difficulty to steal after I had earned it. Came up home with a light heart and went to bed with Chum. His friend occupying mine.

January 8th 1843 Sunday

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January 27th 1843 Friday

The month is now nearly over. Since the last day of my Journaling little has happened to be of sufficient interest to notice. Paul was sentenced to leave college, but upon showing signs of penitence, the faculty granted him a second hearing. He accordingly repaired to Mr McClintock's room on the afternoon of the Monday after his dismissal and appeared in the presence of the court as his namesake did before the Areopagus. At length Emory said "Paul thou art permitted to speak for thyself" and as it is related he proceeded until he brought tears into the eyes of Emory and Scott, who probably corresponded to the few who yielded to the preaching of the Apostle on Mars hill, Allen and Caldwell looked some little like crying while old Jimmy the Stoic never quivered a muscle He spoke nearly half an hour; and then the vote was taken over again, and decided to grant pardon. He is now doing tolerably well. is rather too fond of the girls and has to carry a disk and pistol when down town at night after escorting certain damsels home.

Since that time I have been but little among the girls. Have had some thoughts that I had about as well stay from among them altogether. Had a letter from Elisabeth yesterday, one from John about a week ago as also one from father; and another from Willy Evans stating that little Laura is dead. James Hays has been appointed door keeper of the Senate at Harrisburg.

My speech is in about the same situation it was three weeks ago. I have completed three pages and have shown it to Crooks, who gave me more encouragement than I had expected.

Last Wednesday I was chosen Librarian by the Belles Lettres Soc. Lovejoy and myself were going to debate the question of the freedom of the press in chapel two weeks from last Saturday but gave it up. Having now laid my foundation I presume I can go ahead. Poor as my journal is, I find on looking over it that it affords me considerable pleasure.

This below written by mistake Thursday March 16th 1843

Ah yes! The foundation was laid; but "this Man began to build and was not able to finish." It is now the sixteenth of March. I have just been down at Old Jimmy Loudon's to buy a card of pens. My speech for the twenty second has been finished, spoken and rowed up most unmercifully in the volunteer. The paper said it was characterised by nothing but a few "extraordinary provincialisms, and that it was not likely to be remembered. I wonder if he thought I would ever forget it. I have since been enough among the girls to think I had as well not go again,

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February 1st 1843 Wednesday

I again resume my journal and shall endeavor to continue it more regularly. This morning Chum and I rose in time for prayers. I attended recitation in Mathematics but was not called on Came from breakfast to Follarsbee's room and read Juvenal Recited it and a lesson in Political Economy. Performed my duties as Librarian. Came to my room and wrote a letter to James Hays. Went over to Society. Thought they werent doing things right. Had a fuss with Paul at supper about an orange. Came home and sat down to work myself into a blue fit when Heirce came in and asked me to go to Tiffany's room and sing some temperance songs. We had a lively time for nearly an half hour when Emory came and sent us to our rooms as the bell had rung. Went down to Mrs Hemming's for some apples. Came up and ate there in company with Chum, Gorsuch and Follansbee. I am now too full to write or study and shall soon go to bed.

February 2nd 1843 Thursday

It us now nearly two o. clock and before going to bed I must record this day among the things that have been. I have spent it much better than many that have gone before; yet still much room for improvement remains. I arose in good time for prayers. Failed in Mathematics, but as the place on which I was called was not in the lesson and as no person else could do it I conceived that no reason, why I should refrain from making the boast a few lines before about my great success. I then ate four eggs for

breakfast: Should I ever become President of the United States some person may want to know all these little matters. However I didn't feel so well as I might afterward. I then came over to Paul's room and after fixing his clock read over the Juvenal. Was called up and made a pretty good recitation. Came to my room and worked at a circular fix in for the solution of Spherical triangles, did some work for Chum in his Trigonometry and then went to dinner. They had a roast goose, as tough as get out, which I could neither carve; chew nor mangle. I then went down street and took my pup book to Arying and got a letter from Father. Stopped at Skyle's shop and tried on my new coat, read my letter. It was very good and almost made me feel foolish for having written such blue stuff to Mother. The money which it promises from Uncle Robisin has not yet arrived.

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In the afternoon I prepared my Rhetoric. Snow came in and talked about the exhibition. We then recited too Pres. Emory. He gave us an amusing instance of a preacher who divided his subject into four heads, the last was to conclude with a few rousements. After supper I went to the Post Office but found nothing. Came up to my room and after playing a game or two of chess with Pitman, prepared my Mathematics. Chum is now in bed sound asleep. Follansbee and Hanson have been in here for sometime. The latter sang several songs and is now in his room singing the "Minute Sun at Sea."

February 3rd 1843 Friday

Chum roused me at the last bell. Was not well prepared in Mathematics. The Professor gave as some illustration on an old globe. After breakfast Paul and I came over and studied French besides doing a number of Algebraical problems, for Beidler and other Freshmen. I made a twenty Paul a fifteen on account of having lost his exercises. Chum said after coming from recitation in drawing, that the only man that received a twenty was Finch and that he was absent. Upon some ones asking him why he did it, he replied that it was because he could draw well if he were there. We finished Political Economy a fact at which the Professor said he was as much rejoiced as we could be possibly. Joe Follansbee brought me a letter from Uncle Robinson telling me about the money which he had drawn for me out of Father's salary. Upon going up to Mr Seymour's office, I found that he would not take it. He gave one an order for a coat and vest. In the afternoon I came to my room and talked with Chaplan Grandin and Chum about the exhibition. Went up to the Hall and rehearsed my piece and then rehearsed it again before Emory. Wrote some for the Bouquet before supper Went down to the Squire's, after writing a letter to Uncle Robinson and taking it to the Office. Spent the evening at Durbin's. Read a letter from him to Prof Allen. Came home. Read some pages about the death of Byron.

February 4th 1843 Saturday

Rose barely in time for prayers. Did little before breakfast dressed afterwards and had to miss drawing. Sent Prof Sudler a note stating my excuse. Paul came in while I was dressing and gave me some account of another scrape into which he had got. We then went in Company over to the Belles Lettres Hall where I rehearsed; and then loafed in Lusier's room until time for declaration. I was called last of our fellows and spoke a piece of Webster's. The folks

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listened to me tolerably well, but I have received little or no soft soap. Snow and Lamberton had a discussion on the question "Is there pleasure in excitement. Snow's was the better of the two; but they were both rather indifferent. After declamation I received two pressing invitations to call at the rooms of Professor Sudler and Pres. Emory. The first gave me a long lecture about levity and said that my note was exceedingly improper as it gave for an excuse the putting on of a clean shirt. It would have been better to

have used the expression "Concealing my corporal constitution in a recently purified application of linen." Of course I shall correct the error in future. He also hinted in his discourse, lecture or whatever I may term it that I indulged in mirth too often, and cited the instance in which down at a Missionary meeting when every person was subscribing something for the initiation of his son or daughter I sent up a small subscription for the same privilege to mine. There seems to be some sort of a mean between mirthfulness and melancholy, but I can't find it. The President said I had been falling off for sometime past, and that I had only one good report, which was in his department, and hoped that it would be so no longer. This gave me a real solemncholy feeling for the remainder of the day. He also gave Chum one, where upon I sat down and looked at the stove plate for about half an hour, and then walked round town, then came to my room till dinner time. We had Grandin there for dinner. He said that was not what he came for; but on his coming just when it was ready and leaving without saying a word as soon as it was over, I concluded that it must have either had some place in the original purpose of his heart, or else it had so far taken possession of his mind as to shut out all ideas of his other business. Performed duties as Librarian, the Library was very cold. We had intended to have had a meeting of society but the members did not attend. I then came to my room and took a nap while Chum and Collins played chess. Visited Chaplain before supper. Staid too long and had to eat alone; but had a long talk with the Misses brain about my last summer's sickness. They told me some things which I had never known, and many of which made me feel a strange fluttering whenever I thought if them, I have a sort of nervous excitable temperament which will doubtless occasion me much trouble through life.

Father has frequently expressed such an opinion. One thing is quite certain if it has many bad consequences, it has some good ones.

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After supper I visited Lane and Sarah. Played with conversation cards until we got tired, which was not long; and then took two games of chess. They are both fine girls, yet though I am amorous enough and nervous too. I have but little disposition to fall in love. They did not give me any flattery which was rather strange. The room is cold. Chum is in bed and I must follow suite. Time is rapidly flying. My speech is not yet done. And we have little more then two weeks.

February 5th 1843 Sunday

Had hard work to get out of bed, quite a common difficulty and then had as much trouble in rousing Chum, who argued that it was not right for him to rise. One of his premises was that there was no fire another that there was plenty of time, both of which I answered by grabbing the bed clothes and pulling them off. When we opened the door we found that it had snowed during the night nearly a foot deep and was still putting it down in good earnest. There were only eight sophomores at prayers out of a class of sixteen and eighteen Freshmen out of forty three. We then returned to our room and after breakfast I prepared to dress while Chum read a tale from the Rostar book. Jarring preached a sermon against infidelity. After dinner I slept off the afternoon. Went down to the Methodist Church. Had to take the back seats but had not been in more then five minutes when some rough uncivilized specimens of humanity came into the same seat and looked around at every person for some time, after which the leaders of the party drew from his pocket several hand's full of nuts, crackers, and salt herring and proceeded to work with such earnestness that I concluded to shift my quarters. I then went down to the Presbyterian lecture room and heard a short discourse by Mr Moore on the Missionary question. It was very fine. And I thought considerably more about it than I ever had before. Blair and Agrew spoke to me as we came out. They are both fine fellows. Carlisle is not such a bad place after all. There are many here whom I shall never forget.

February 6th 1843 Monday

After going to bed together last night, Chum and I moralized for about an hour and went to sleep on the strength of a good resolution to begin to do better. Accordingly I dreamt that I was again at church and that after the Preacher announced that I was to preach there next Sunday I was about to offer my services to a certain young lady when a loud rap at

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at the door announced that Charly wanted to come in and that my bliss must be postponed. It was blowing at a great rate, and the room was cold enough to freeze a fellow to death, but Chum and myself got safely to prayers. In the Mathematical lecture room I drew a house in perspective. Ate breakfast and came to my room. Read French with Paul until time for recitation. Escaped without failing. Talked till dinner time with Chum and help him to do some things in Trigonometry. Read some Rhetoric and went to dinner. Prepared my afternoon recitation well; but was not called on. After supper went down street and talked sometime with Mrs Lamberton about sickness, William, Old Mr Snowdon, and such like topics for nearly half an hour. She is a very fine woman, and I like the family very much. Called at Skyle's a moment, got a few apples. Came up home studied Calculus a while played a game of chess with Sailor and then wrote some at a composition besides copying some portions of a lecture delivered to our class not long since on the Greek Drama by Prof McClintock. It is not always the noisiest man who has the most sense. And I guess it is much so with my journal. What I have written would say but little in my favor; but I can say that as I am about to recline on my bed for the night, I feel better satisfied with my day's labors than I have for some time past. May the morrow only be improved better. There is much that is good in the world. Much in life that is sweet if man would but take the pains to find it. Chum is now sounds asleep by the stove. I must wake him or he will soon do it himself for his face is almost in contact with the hot plate now.

February 7th 1843 Tuesday

Chum rose before me and woke me just as the last bell began to ring. I however got to prayers in good time and attended recitation in Mathematics being the introduction to Calculus. After breakfast I went to work on an essay on responsibility which cost me but little time and was consequently worth precious little. We had no recitation in languages, or rather no lecture. Loop and Martin read two articles exceedingly deep especially that of the former. He quoted about twenty cases of great men in proof of his point, and had the class in fine spirits before he had got half through. Donnel came to my room after recitation and sat until dinner time. He is a fine little fellow, and hes a good mind though he is always flying from the subject. I can never keep him two minutes on any point. He will generally talk for a few moments very well, but then he is away off in a tangent, in some train of thought which I often find it impossible to follow.

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After dinner which consisted of a fine turkey and of which I partook almost too freely, I went down to the Post Office and got a paper for Chum and one from James Hays. Got my measure taken for a pair of pants. Went up to Donnel's room and wrote some more stuff for the twenty second. I am afraid it is going to be a pretty tame performance. After supper, as we had no lecture, I came over to Follansbee's room. Talked a while and then concluded to go down and see the damsels before attending lecture. Chum assured me that they would not venture out on such a cold evening. The lecture was the first thing mentioned and I found myself caught. I however succeeded tolerably well, and though it was about my first gallant effort in Carlisle, I did not either slip, fall or lose my company. When I came to my room I found Chum seated by an almost cold stove, with no wood I accordingly hooked some, and then we talked about the lecture and the girls while I studied Calculus during the pauses. He is now sound asleep over a lesson in logarithms. The lecture was a very good one on "popular education" but had been given

by Prof Allen once before at some other place; and we found that we had already a copy of it in the drawer.

February 8th 1843 Wednesday

Went to prayers and recitation in Calculus. After breakfast I began to write some more at Prof Mc's lecture. We however had no recitation either to him or Prof Caldwell. Came to my room with Penrose and talked a while, and then went over to the library. After dinner I performed my duties as Librarian. Had a meeting of the Speakers in Chaplain's room. Appointed a supper Committee but could not arrange our scheme. Attended society. Had the Music question up. Had a brush with Finch. Did away with the band and agreed to take Walker. Felt a little sour all evening. Came to my room after supper and talked some time with Collins. He is a pretty smart and very fine fellow. After he left, Chum came in from a long stay with the damsels. We talked a little while about Sally, Chum wants to make me believe that [I'm] in love. I then undressed and began to study Calculus when the President came in and staid a few minutes. We then retired leaving the lamp burning.

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March 16th 1843 Thursday

Time is still going ahead. His old car is rattling along at the same good old rate and is carrying myself along with the rest of mankind as swiftly as ever. During this cold weather one cannot raise the windows to make observations on what is passing without, while I for my part have been so sleepy that I could scarcely even take any notes on my fellow passengers. I think however I had better drop the figure. For if the car of time is still moving, to me at least it has brought no "bright improvement."

Since I have written in my journal several things have happened which I had better notice before I write any thing for the present. Home affairs seem to be going on quite prosperously. Father's last letter was written in good spirits. Uncle William Connelly has been heard from lately. He is now at Capetown in South Africa, engaged in printing, and has recently been married. Brother William is yet at Ft Towson La. John is still stationed at Palatka, East Florida. In college, things go on as usual. Paul has been sent home. Flinch has begun teaching a school in town. Emory is at Balt. Conference. The course of nature is not uninterrupted however. A large comet; or as it is termed by some the Zodiacal light, has appeared for several evenings towards the southwest, and has attracted considerable attention. The Millerites are preaching on it in Earnest.

Boubright passed through this place on his way home about a week ago. He is the same good fellow as ever. He staid with me a day. He has taken my piece along to get it published. I don't know how I shall appear in print if he succeeds. Prof Sudler had me up a few days since for bad conduct. He gave me a lecture and let me off. The session is now pretty nearly done, and I have certainly acted the Ass most completely. I have had bad reports and nothing but bad reports for three months. Everything had gone wrong. I have played some at chess and read one novel. I am far very far from being happy.

This morning I was called on by Prof McClintock in Rhetoric and made a good recitation. I ate too much dinner and slept all afternoon. Played a little at chess with Pitman in the evening and beat him. They say that there never was a good man who when young was not distinguished in whatever he undertook, I wonder of it will ever apply to me. Chum is now down street at a party. It is snowing like sixty.

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March 22nd 1843 Wednesday

The close of the session is still drawing nearer; and I am most heartily glad of it. I have made no improvement worth speaking of since I returned this year. Lectures, zeros and absences have become so

familiar that I guess I will soon have to do better merely for the sake of the novelty. A monthly report will soon be sent home whose effect on Father and Mother will be by no means such as I could wish.

This morning I arose in good time for prayers. Made a good recitation to Prof Sudler. Went down to the Post Office after breakfast and brought Chum his paper. Prepared a lesson in Rhetoric which I recited to Prof Mc along with the class. I did as well as any, and better than some. Prof Caldwell called me on Logic where I had not read for several weeks. I however made a very good recitation. Ate dinner Performed my duties as Librarian. Attended Society and beat Pitman several games of chess between the time of adjourning and evening prayers. After supper I came to my room where I staid sometime and then started down street. Gorsuch met me at the door and gave me a letter from Jesse Reno. I then proceeded down to Loudon's and bought a pencil. Came up to my room and then took another walk down street to see [money]. Didn't get what I wanted. Came up all forlorn and overtook Chum. Let him drop at the Squire's and bought some cake and other fixins, which he and I concealed and then went to work at a game of chess. I had brought my knight so as to fork on Chum's king and queen when we heard a slight rap at the door accompanied with "Open it McCalmont." Accordingly McCalmont did so, after holding a short consultation with his Chum as to the propriety of concealing the chess board which was decided in the negative, and introduced Prof. McClintock. He gave us a lecture on the folly of wasting our time in such employments, told me especially that I had no time to lose, and left the room saying that he had an old score against me, in such a good natured way that I was almost persuaded he wasn't in earnest. After he left we finished our game. I having taken Chum's queen and soon giving him mate. We then talked sometime about going home, but have concluded first to go to bed. Chum is nearly undressed, I must bring water and follow suite.

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March 23rd 1843 Thursday

What a beautiful commentary is this book on my course of life. Calculus determines what quantities are by considering them in their vanishing state. I think I could with safety enter on a similar process in order to determine my future prospects in life. I have now certain lazy habits and bad dispositions in their nascent state which an experienced man might obtain the value of the function with a very short process. I was wrong in writing "nascent state," for the function seems to be pretty well developed. However as each term may still be considered as a function of the will I need not despair. But the will is constant and with me the function I fear is zero, and has a pretty fair prospect of continuing so for some time to come. Now this I consider almost equal to some of Jacob Bemen's demonstrations of religion by means of fiery and watery triangles. And though Jacob Bemen's courses of reasoning however satisfactory to himself and though frequently coming to true conclusions might be considered ridiculous. So the reflection that my learned exhibition above proves nothing, by no means satisfies my mind as to the correctness of the result.

We had no recitation to Prof Ludler this morning. I did not attend that of Prof McClintock. Staid in my room and read poetry. Last night it snowed some, and then as usual the wind tore away all night and morning to gather it into piles. The cars here, consequently, not been in to day. In the afternoon I played chess with Boswell and got beaten. Read the Lady of the Lake through.

After supper I went down street but soon returned to my room and read some of Shelley's infidelity and one canto of the Revolt of Islam. Jim Hanson came in and sat till he fell asleep. Chum returned from Lees room where he had been playing chess about eight o. clock. I then read some of Burns and retired with Chum. I have just been looking over my journal during some days past. There I see a good resolution (I had written "recitation" by a pleasing error) and the next day it is broken.

Alfred B. McCalmont

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March 26th 1843 Sunday

The two days which I have neglected to notice were characterized with little importance. The cars succeeded in getting in on Saturday afternoon, bringing me one letter from James Hays at Harrisburg. This morning I attended prayers and then read Shakespeare's Julius Caesar. What a grand thing it is. Antony's speech would have immortalized the author without any further trouble. I then went late to breakfast. Came back to my room and read till church time. Went down with the expectation of hearing a good sermon by Prof Mc, but was disappointed. Our old friend Squire's Occupied the pulpit and talked about "Nature's hieroglyphics" and "frekwently" scattered his bright ideas throughout the whole discourse. But I don't mean to make fun of him. He is gray haired. A few short years will soon take him away. He has lived long, and has at least been trying to do good, which is more than I at present have the hope of doing as successfully as he. Men pride themselves on superior talents and when the preacher uses to perform his duty, they blame him for his faults and are rather blind to his virtues, lamenting that so grand a subject should be so poorly treated. Most like myself are unwilling to unite the efforts in the same cause in order to provide a remedy.

In the afternoon I read some and walked down street for exercise. John Gorsuch was in our room some of the time talking on various subjects. After supper I came home and read some chapters in Job. All the bible needs in order to be believed is to be well read. If ever I was disposed to doubt the truths contained in it, it was when I had neglected to attend to them. Passion first, then reason favors passion. Or rather passion subdues reason which soon becomes a faithful ally. Men can prove any thing when determined to prove it. By the evening I took another walk around town, and then went to church. Prof Mc preached on the text. "To day if you will hear his voice, harden not your hearts." It was a pretty good sermon, quite plain, not very deep, and not sufficiently animated. Chum went home with Sally and staid down a good while. He is now in the room preparing for bed. Joe Follansbee has just been in in his shirt tail for his basin.

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June 21st 1843 Wednesday

Gentle reader, for I presume if the hand writing can be deciphered at any future time, some person will, when I am dead and gone, happen on these pages, when you have been floating down some pleasant stream, or when you have been traveling in a coach over some beautiful portion of country; and when having for a few hours enjoyed a nap while your companions or fellow passengers were admiring the scenery through which you were passing, have you not anxiously inquired on awakening what places had been passed and how many green fields they had seen while you were unconscious of their charms. So methinks wilt though feel a longing to know what scenes have been omitted in the life of so interesting an individual as myself, and then will experience no small delight when I begin to give thee the following brief statement of the events in my three month's history.

I left Follansbee on the last page in his shirt tail, and though he has since been dressed and undressed repeatedly, he is now on this night of the 21st of June in about the same situation ready to retire. He is now in pretty good health. Chum is as usual not in his room. He has somewhat enlarged the circle of his acquaintance. So much so as to find some way of spreading all his evenings out. Miss Sarah Phillips has been declining in health for more than two months. It is more than probable that she will not recover. Things in college seem to indicate approach of the end of the year. Doctor McClintock has been delivering lectures to the Senior class for 7 days. The standing of that class was read out on Monday. At the head stand Lamberton and Chaplain. In the first section are Less McPherson, ~~Pattison~~, Whitney, Holden, Woodward, Snow & Harmanson and in the last Young, Dillon, Pattison, Bryan. But I must not forget myself. After having failed in several departments at the end of last session, I proceeded over to Harrisburg Where I loafed several days with James Hays. I then returned to College and began to study in good earnest and have thus far been keeping some good resolutions instead of making them. The

chessmen have been locked up and the board laid aside. As a consequence of these things, I am in good spirits, and feel disposed to take

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whatever comes with out complaining. I received a letter from Elizabeth not long ago, in which she states that Elvira Plummer is attending school at Steubenville with her, as also Anna Rupp and Emma Darickson. She also gave me a warm invitation to come there on my way home, in which the other girls joined. By a letter from Father which arrived yesterday it appears that a buggy has been provided for my conveyance, which will leave Carlisle for Venango sometime after Commencement, under the superintendence of Wm Lamberton Esq. He will soon be in town on a visit to his friends and I am to return with him. Our folks have bought Park's house in Franklin and have commenced house keeping; So I have a prospect of a home in vacation. A few days since, I received a letter from John, in which he states that he has resigned his commission in the Army and that he intends leaving Palatka for home about the first of July. We will then probably be there together.

This morning I rose in good time for prayers. Attended Prof Sudler's recitation and drew a house in perspective. Went to a recitation in Greek but was not called on. Was called up in Logic and recited. After one o' clock I performed my duties as Librarian, to which office I was elected for the second term about three weeks ago. In Society things went on with little interest. Had to adjourn at last for want of a quorum, after which Penrose & myself walked down to the office. I took a walk down street after supper. Some of the pupils sent a balloon up from the campus in the evening and then I returned to my room where I have written the two proceeding pages. Chum and I then drank some soda water of our own manufacture, and then went to bed, which I now write on.

June 22nd 1843 Thursday

Attended prayers and morning recitation. Went up to Chaplain's room and spent the morning in trying to get a little Greek and talk at the same time which process succeeded so well that

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I got a zero. Went back to Chap, after recitation, found him writing his Salutatory. Emory having asked him to get some books and among others a Macaulay's Misscellanius, I went in to Mr Durbins's to get music for him from Miss Margaret Cook. I was detained for sometime talking with her and a Miss Ball, a girl from Philadelphia, very clever in disposition though not very pretty, but worth some 200.000. Money hideth a multitude of errors. Much more than charity. Labored hard in the afternoon to prepare moral science, and recited. The campus amusements were like those of last night.

June 23rd 1843 Friday

Prepared a French recitation at Chaplain's room. Graham a mentor of the present Senior class who has been sick all year at his home in the country died night before last. He was buried this afternoon at four o' clock. I recited in French and in Logic tolerably well in each. Attempted a letter to Elizabeth in the afternoon and finished one to Father after ascertaining the state of my funds. I then went up to Donnel's room and slept until my shoes pinched my feet so much that I was compelled to get up. Attended Prof Allen's fourth lecture on the Globes. Walked down street after supper with Donnel and Brown. Went into Durbin's and showed myself to great advantage as is commonly the case.

Educate, do what you will,
A Jack ass is a Jack ass still.

June 24th 1843 Saturday

Got out of bed in time for prayers, and dressed afterwards. Idled my time away until nine o. clock when I attended a lecture of Professor Sudler's on perspective. Made quite an additional one on the importance of the science by telling him that it had been suggested that we have no examination in his department; a remark which awakened his energies in a few minutes. Went to Donnels room and slept until twelve o clock attended the Library until two. Came over with Donnel who played the flute in my room, while I read a letter from Lou Mount and Shakespeare's Richard III.

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A thunder storm was also passing at the time, and as this has been the warmest day we have had this summer. it was quite pleasant to sit by the window while it was raining. In the evening I walked down street. Saw Anna Miller at her door and had a pleasant little confab. She is a fine girl. Talked with Chum whom I met and George Foulke; Came up and spent the remainder of the evening while temperance meeting was holding, in an unprofitable speculation. Aikin the temperance lecturer was addressing the meeting. Took a cold bath at the pump, but was compelled to suspend operations several times by little parties passing at the distance of a few feet. When they approached I put on my overcoat and showed them a specimen of sculpture. Probably they took me for Apollo, Pan, or some other good looking divinity. Slept very well after my bath.

Since the above was committed to paper the scenes in Mr McCalmont's life have been exceedingly interesting and various. Commencement is long since over, vacation begun and gone and the hero of this volume is again on his way to his Alma Mater. He has enjoyed himself but little since the day whose events are noticed on the last page. He has begun to think that this little world affords much happiness, but that he has been digging for it in the wrong mines. He is nevertheless determined to dig on as he has done, a little while longer. It is with extreme diffidence that he again introduces himself to his reader after so many unsuccessful attempts; for he expects to have a reader sometime when in the course of years his book shall be taken from the dusty contents of an old garret and brought before the public gaze, after his distinguished career shall have made such an undertaking practicable or profitable. But, at any rate, reader or no reader, here goes for another dab at my diary.

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September 7th 1843 Thursday

I commence my diary and another year's course at the same time. I awoke this morning- But I forget I didn't awake at all for all night long I wasn't asleep. I had a bad cough, a head ache and several other inconveniences which compelled me to spend a miserable night in thinking of the past the present and the future but more especially the present. Day light so long looked for came at last. The pots rattled in the kitchen, and I was soon called to breakfast. I could not eat much but made no complaint lest I should be compelled to make my stay in Franklin rather longer than I had intended. After breakfast I did a little more packing up. John went up street for the letters and brought me one for Keenan. The stage, or small two horse vehicle without springs soon appeared at the door. I kissed mother took John's hand and bade good bye. We came up street I saw Col. Lamberton and several others, got a letter to carry for Joe McClelland and was soon out of sight of Franklin. What blamed things there stages are. When one is leaving home and all he holds dear the driver puts on the whip and a fellow is compelled to hurry as if no time could be possibly spared. Even the horses seem to understand the game and with raised heads they pull off and soon tadue one's dearest spot behind an intervening hill. But here the hurry stops. A rough road and still rougher looking people meet the view, and with a snail's progress they compel one to look

till he is sleepy on a dull succession of uncultivated hills. So it is in general. We are hurried off from pleasure and kept an age in pain.

Sandy Creek hills are a little the roughest in Creation. The road is cleared out of the roughest part, and it is little wonder that to my cough and head ache I had soon added another symptom of the grippe, the sore bones. But rough as the road was I said nothing. The driver was a tall pan looking yankee and he seemed as much disposed to silence as myself,

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I would have attempted some description of the stone and corduroy bridges, had the driver not expressed the degree of unsmoothness in the following very neat language as we passed an old countryman by the side. "I say old man these roads are so damned rough that I had to have a puckering string put in my ass to prevent beshitting my breeches." Language is worth nothing unless it conveys ideas, and his was so comprehensive that more words could not say as much. We came after a while to the Harrisville hotel, and in almost an hour more to the Harrisville horse and in about another hour to the Harrisville Post Office and at a tavern close by we took dinner after I had concluded that Harrisville was a little the longest place I had seen for some time. The road from here to Butler was smoother and the ride marked by nothing of interest. We reached the latter place about sunset. Took some hot stuff for my cold and got so tight that at supper I did not know which end was up. Took a powder and went to bed.

Mr McCalmont wrote the above on a small steam boat after he had been to Steubenville. The motion of the boat occasioned the bad writing, and, should it be illegible, it will be no small satisfaction to the reader to know that he has lost nothing important. It is now more than three weeks since I arrived at Carlisle. My ride down was very unpleasant both from sickness and also from the disagreeable state of the weather. The only place I delayed at on the road was Steubenville. Here I saw Elisabeth and her accepted lover a Mr W-. I spent several days in this little place and enjoyed myself well, but coming away was dull in the extreme. The day was dark and cloudy. The river was high and I was only passenger on a small boat which sometimes seemed to stop entirely. I slept well at night and left Pittsburg the next day at noon as soon as I reached it. I met Eb. Harding, a little piece on this side of the city. Saw Bonbright at Youngstown and had scarcely time to speak to him. Nothing of

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importance marked the remainder of my journey to Carlisle. On reaching town I found things looking much as they used to. Chum had however, moved our furniture to another room. No. 11. E.C. It is on the third floor and has the appearance of being much warmer and much more suited to study than our old one. Squire Phillips has left for Washington since I returned. Lally being gone, Chum can stand a better chance for the honors of his class. Durbin returned to Carlisle about the last of August. When I came back he was on a visit to Cincinnati. He returned shortly afterward, and was received by the students with a great expression of feeling. I had the honor of saluting him on behalf of the students, a task which I was ill fitted to perform. The only gratification it had afforded me was in the fact of my being elected when there were many others awarded me more capable than myself. At night the College was illuminated so as to look better than any thing I have seen for a long time. I am now prepared to begin my diary in earnest. I have as yet made none but good recitations and have missed nothing in my duties. Should I continue to do as well as I have done, I shall probably have more pleasure in what I may write.

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January 1st 1844 Monday

New Year's morning dawned on me at the Methodist Church in Harrisburg. We had a long vacation but I had lost my money while at a lecture on Animal Magnetism, and was, consequently unable

to visit Uncle and Aunt's until they sent me the requisite change. I arrived at Harrisburg on Saturday morning before little will or any of the rest were out of bed; and after spending the day in trotting up and down Capitol hill, and calling on Miss Sarah Phillips at her brothers I had at last got into the watch meetings mentioned above. The meeting was about concluded when I reached the church. I however heard some few prayers. One in broken English which was especially worthy of notice and a few hymns, very good in themselves, but sung badly for so large a place as Harrisburg. The hour of twelve soon came around. The minister invited all who were resolved to spend the next year better than the last to rise to their feet. I debated the question whether I should do so or not until all the rest had taken the seats. About five minutes before twelve the congregation kneeled in silent prayer during the time of which some little fellows were employed in whispering near where I sat. One of them said that the new year had just come and was then walking up street. Another one contended that he had come in in a buggy sometime during the day. The clock soon struck. The prayers of the congregation became much louder, while outside, in the street, the boys were hollowing "New year" "New year" at the top of their voices. The congregation was soon dismissed, and I gladly went to bed as soon as we reached home. I slept until a pretty late hour and then went down to breakfast. After this I had commenced dressing preparatory to a visit to Sally. I was in the kitchen undergoing the progress of purification when a stranger was brought into the parlor who I ascertained was brother Kert.

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He told me after I had found myself compelled to go into his presence half naked that on this day twenty five years ago he had married Father and Mother. He remarked on how times were changing, and then I left him to complete my toilet. I then took him up to the Sad Office and left him with Uncle while I proceeded down street to Kate's. She and I then started up street to Mrs Buffington's, but were unable for sometime to find the place. The morning was spent very pleasantly in sundry calls. I became acquainted with Mrs B. formerly Miss Cheyac. Thought her very pretty. Returned to Uncle's and took dinner. Prepared for starting made a final call on Kate and Mrs B. and after eating a plate of oysters came off on the cars. Three years ago this day I made the same trip as a Freshman as Green as a Freshman could be, but I am sorry to say the polishing process has not been carried on so far as it might have been. Talked to Charley Stinson about Kate after arriving at Carlisle. Went down to see Augusta and took her to church, or rather she took me. Heard a sermon on Bacuaha by Mr Durbin. Pretty good. Talked a while to my company and then came home and retired after eating an apple given me by Kneedle the Book seller who had come up to sleep with Chum.

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October the somethingth 1844 Saturday

I am wrong it is only September but so near October that there is no fun in it. It is only September however and Saturday is the 28th day according to my calculations for of late I have lost all concern about the day of the month. Provided I get enough to eat I don't care whether its June or December. The author of these interesting pages left himself somewhere, lets see- yes over at Harrisburg. No it was at Carlisle talking to Augusta as I see stated on the last page. The account states that I went to bed that night but leaves it in uncertainty whether I ever rose or not the next morning. If I recollect right I did so that that point need never occasion the Biographer any inconvenience. But what I did when I did rise must forever remain unknown. The thing I must have done that is attend breakfast for I seldom fail in attendance on meals and it is likewise probable that I was present at the dinner table but that is the re plus ultra.

Well as I was saying I left myself in bed on New Years night. What a quantity of little incidents unimportant to me at least have happened since and I would I could have them noted day by day as I might have done had not laziness prevailed. There it stands on my diary the last thing I mentioned was talking to a girl, eating and sleeping. Had I never said any thing more it would have been taken for

granted that I continued at the same employments during the rest of my life. But I begin again. First let me fill up the intermediate space with some of the more important incidents and then proceed till I reach the next stopping place.

Elizabeth was married to Mr Edwin Wilson whom I mentioned seeing at Sleubenville about the 25 of January I was told to stay at Carlisle during the ceremony and of course did not see it. By all accounts they dispensed with my company very well.

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The winter passed to me pleasantly and profitably. I studied hard, was troubled little with the blues, visited none and had just enough of little pleasures to make my life pleasant without any melancholy. Spring passed after the same manner. I had a trip to Philadelphia in Company with Dr. McClintock who was taking Robert to the insane Hospital. I there saw Cowgill at the Walnut St. Theatre. John took a trip to Iowa during the summer with Dr Espy and Thomas. Our final examination came on the first Monday in June. I planned a hard scheme for getting off which was detected and did no good. The standing was read out. I was second. I then went over to Harrisburg and staid a week. Idled my time after I returned. Commencement day came at last. I spoke my piece got my sheepskin and after considerable difficulty getting money started for Venango. I arrived at home on Sunday July 21st. Mrs Wilson was at home alone. All the rest had gone to church. Since then I have spent my time in various manners. John is now at Clarion and Father is attending court in Coudersport. With these preliminaries I set out again.

September 28th 1844 Saturday Franklin

I came down stairs while the rest were at breakfast. Received a lecture on early rising. Ed put off to a Whig meeting in Rockland. Came up to the office. Made a fire and read Coke the chapter on Newts Lytler's History and Scotts Marmion. The day was very wet. Mrs. Hamilton was expected at our house for dinner. She did not come. When I went down home in the evening I found Lib. sitting by the parlor with a novel. She and I talked after supper until nearly nine about the part the ducking Ed was getting where Father was and why Mother did not get home from a party of Porters. Ed came home soon well soaked. I was dispatched with a lantern for Mother when then met on the road in Company with Mr & Mrs Hoover and Mr Porter. Proceeded to bed.

September 29th 1844 Sunday Franklin

Rose in time for breakfast. Snow fell to the depth of three or four inches last night so that every thing looked very

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dreary. It is the first time I have seen snow at Franklin for four years. The appearance of the hills made me think of old times. Mrs. Hamilton came down soon after breakfast. I proceeded to church. Heard a very dull sermon from [St--]. He thinks if he can make a noise and twist his jaws to make the words sound nice that it makes no matter about the thought. Ate a good dinner after Sermon and came up street. Made a fire in the office. Read Marmion until five and then went down home. Attended Presbyterian Church after a fruitless attempt to find a girl over the creek. Dixon preached a good sermon. "They profess to know good but in their works they deny him." Came home without any girl or rather started without one from Church. Capt Shannon told me that he had just received a letter from Brother Will. He is in Ohio some place. Has had the ague and says he has quit drinking. It was a beautiful moonlight evening the snow has entirely disappeared. Walked part of the way home with Emily McDowell. Came up home and read Wisdom of Solomon until hearing Mother and Mrs Hamilton returning from Evan's. I put away the book and soon went to bed.

September 30th 1844 Monday

Rose in time to be too late for breakfast. Brought a half barrel of coal to the office in a wheelbarrow. Made a fire and read Coke, Lyttee and Marmion by turns until dinner time. Came up again after dinner and continued my reading. Harvey Evans put up a hicory pole in front of our door. Shannon gave me Will's letter which I read. Went down to supper. Came up and found the office locked. Went over to Democrat office and then down home. Found Mother almost ready to go down to Kinnears. The Squire died this morning. I went down with her. Assisted in putting the corpse in the coffin. Attended Mrs Nawe home and talked a while with Clara. Returned and came up with Mother.

October 1st 1844 Tuesday

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After breakfast I was dispatched to Uncle's on foot for butter. Had a pretty pleasant time talking to Aunt and him. The old place looks just like it used to. It seemed strange to me that I used to trot over the road as often as I did. Called at the Democrat office as I returned. Read a little Law before diner. Came up to the office and read until the bell tolled for the funeral. Started with Jim Lamberton down street. Met Ed who had just found some way of going to Meadville to a Whig Convention. Saw a number of cases the Shippenville delegation at Carson Evan's with a foolish looking banner. Passed on to the Church where the funeral procession had just arrived. Storms, (I never spell his name twice alike) preached a poor sermon as usual. Dixon made a prayer worth two of it. He attended to the the trials of the first settlers of the Country the fact that every year some one of them was numbered with the dead and concluded with asking the blessing of Heaven or the few that were still spared to watch over their posterity and behold a prosperous country as their reward of their toils. The procession then moved to the grave yard, a spot somewhat improved within a few years. Returned to the Office and read until tea time. Came up street with Mother and Commenced writing some verses in the office. Thomas Espy came in after supper and asked me if I wrote the Article in the last Democrat signed B. G. N.. I told him I did. He expected it would be blamed on him. We talked a good while about the tariff, Bible in Common schools, and his intended trip to Iowa. We then went in to Evan's. Mother was just ready to go down home and I accompanied her. Found Lib pretty lonesome. Proceeded to bed.

October 2nd 1844 Wednesday

Rose, breakfasted, and came up to the office after finishing my great job of wood cutting which have been on hold for a long time. Made a fire. Swept the office and then went over the cruh to see Biswich called at the Democrat office as I returned. Talked to Darban about my price. Came to the office and read Coke and Lytles

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Went to dinner. Returned and took down Evans little pony in order to take Mother over to Dale's. She had the concluded to walk. Finished Coke Vol. 1. Read Lay of Last Minstrel. Went to supper Came up street. Followed two girls to Harry's. Got some papers and letters at the Office. One from Father. Says he will be home on the 8th. Went over to the Court House. A meeting was organized for the purpose of hearing some remarks from Christ. Getty. The scene was rich in the extreme. The boys made tremendous applause. Carson Evans' dog assisted considerably Christ talked a long time and the meeting finally broke up in a row. Went down home. Read Father's letter. Came up with a canter for Mother. Met Ed who had just got home. Retired and found Mother at home with Mrs Hoover. I accompanied the latter home.

October 3rd 1844 Thursday

Rose, breakfasted, and came up to the office. Saw Uncle Robert who wanted me to go up to Stewarts for Lane Hamilton. Mother would not let me have the buggy. Came up to the office and read until dinner time. Spent my afternoon in the office and also the evening. Reviewed a fourth of the 1st vol. of Coke's Institutes. Went down home about 9 and found Mother out but proceeded to bed after reading Ed's fourth of July oration.

October 4th 1844 Friday

Rose, breakfasted and came up to the office. Read Coke. David Hays came in and left some documents for Renson. Went over to the Democrat office and got my Todd's Manual. Was too late for dinner. Came up through the rain and wrote a piece about Sutley's Speech for the Arch. took it over to the office. Read until supper time. Employed the evening in reading and writing a letter to Carrigan.

October 5th 1844 Saturday

Came up to the office after carrying a load of wood into the wood house, Copied my letter to Wes and read till dinner time. Read History and Coke after dinner, but not until after I went down to a house below Hoover's and gathered and carved up a bushel and a half of apples. Read till supper time. Bought a pie from one of Evan's girls which she had cooked. Ed and I

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ate it when we came up after supper. We then went down home and I read "The Fire Worshippers" in Lalla Rhook until bed time.

October 6th 1844 Sunday

Rose, washed my trotters and prepared for breakfast. After this was over I finished my toilet and came up street but having left the key at home was compelled to go back. Accompanied Mother to Methodist meeting. Mr Miller a cousin of mine by marriage preached. Mother staid for Class Meeting and I came up to the office. Made a fire and read Todd's Manual until the bell rang for Presbyterian Church. Dixon preached a sermon on some text I forget precisely what. Went down to dinner. Came up street and tried to write a piece for Clara's Album. Went over the Creek. Saw them working on fires at the iron works. Called on Miss Knock. came back and called on Ruth. Read her a tract untitled. "I come unto the door and knock". Left her and went to Methodist Church. One of the real full blooded whole souled shouters occupied the pulpit. Mother said he spoke so loud that she couldnt hear a word he said. Stums rose to exhort after the man was done and did all sorts of funny things. His aim seemed to be to make more gestures and hollow louder than the other fellow, and he succeeded. At best the last impression was in this case as in most the more forcible. When church was out I walked across to the lady's side contrary to our Franklin custom. All the girls looked as if they thought I was going to offer my services. When I reached home with Mother I found Ed and Lib in bed. Ate some figs and retired.

October 7th 1844 Monday

Rose, breakfasted came up to office. Read at Coke a while Took dinner read till five. Returned and was going to employ the evening profitably when Ed asked me to go down home. Fred Parks raised his pole this afternoon. Mother, Ed Lib and I talked about the prospects of the election as affecting us.

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October 8th 1844 Tuesday

This is the great voting day. After breakfasting and cutting my allowance of wood I came up street. The people were voting for a Judge of the election which culminated in the choice of George Dewoody (Whig). Assisted Lydia in Counting tickets. Gave little Jim a levy for bringing a barrel of water to the office. Ed was not at home for dinner having gone over to Sugar Creek Election. Father returned soon after dinner. Barney looks ban. Called on Rebecca afterward or Ruth and Ian Hamilton. Came to supper. Called on Lydia but found her not at home. Left and promised to return. Went over to Adam's the old woman could not find a candle. Said they were all up at the quilting at Howerstems in another part of the house. Showed me the way up, and I proceeded to surprise the ladies considerably. Staid and heard a fellow playing the violin. Went down to Court house where they were counting the votes. Heard Shunk's Maj in burrough 21. Called on Lydia. Little John came in a breathless haste and said in a doleful tone "Pierson is rather behind." Went down home, and to bed while the shouts of the people continued till I went to sleep.

October 9th 1844 Wednesday

After performing my hostlerical duties and taking breakfast came up street and inquired about the election. The eastern stage soon came in and brought glorious news from Clarion. Part of the county only heard from. Read a while in the office. Took dinner. Ate too much as usual. Came up to the office but found it occupied by politicians and accordingly proceeded over to Lydia's house. Talked to her about all sorts of things. She gave me a flower. Threw it back to her when I was leaving without thinking what I was doing. Cole Lamberton called while I was there. Gave us some more news Clarion Co. all heard from. Majority for Sheark 1150. Walked up street after first coming down and taking tea. Saw Jane Ham-

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ilton at the post office. Walked out with her to Uncle's after my tea and then came back. Called on Rachael Debbs. Went home and retired.

October 10th 1844 Thursday

Heard no election news of any account. Had a plague of a job attempting to bring the cow home from the island. Father started after her and succeeded. What a foolish thing it is to ever give up. Read a little on Cook on Lettleton 2nd vol. Continued reading in the afternoon a little while. Talked to Ed about his prospects. Went down and put Barney into our little wagon and took him some oats to his gelding. Mother had some Company this evening. Lane Hamilton, Ruth, Mrs Cook, Mrs [Suily], and Aunt Sarah. Spent a very pleasant evening. Couldn't find my flute to play for the Company. Angelina had hid it at my request. Father asked her about it and she was so conscientious as to tell the truth as to knowing where it was, but had no hesitancy in lying about me giving it to her. Ed and I walked up street with Ruth and Lane. Stopped to see the play performance, Swartz and Linider had something that looked like a fight to conclude it. When I left the sheriff had one of them and was leading him off. Came home and heard some remarks of Father on boxing suggested by the event mentioned above. He condemned fighting as a brutal practice but when he began to tell us of one of his own exploits in that him in his younger days he began to get a little warm. He even shut his fist and got up from his chair to show us how he struck the fellow. Nature will come out. Sensual gratification should by all means be avoided as a preacher whom I once heard said and while uttering the sentence belched two or three times as a consequence of eating too much dinner.

October 11th 1844 Friday

Rose in time to do some of my work before breakfast. Afterwards Ed and I had a great task assigned us ever to move the corn in the stable to the second floor. I succeeded in getting dressed a little while before dinner. Went down and cut a quantity of wood. Ate dinner without Father and Ed. Came up for them afterward. McCormick and

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Sid McGuire came to the office and talked about election news. Afterwards Macky who has been to Ohio and returned through Steubenville came in and talked to Ed about his friends. It being then time for tea Ed and I proceeded down. I was sent back for Thomas Espy to invite him down. Said he couldnt come just then. Was eating his supper. Returned myself. Had company for tea. M [-ller], Mrs Espy Mrs Evans and Sam'l Dale. Proceeded to the island after the cow. Had a plague of a time ripping through the bushes. Found a cow that looked like ours and drove her into town. When she came to McDowell's door she refused to move an inch further, Cos why. She was McDowell's cow. Felt a little flat at my mistake. Swore a little at the cow and rode old Barney with a vengeance just for spite. Sat a while in the parlor. Played the flute after the company left and went to bed.

October 12th 1844 Saturday

Rose in time to perform my hostlerical functions before breakfast. Walked up to the Arch office. Heard no news worth speaking of. Read in the office at Coke. Missed a question that father asked me. Went down for dinner. Put the horse in the little wagon and brought some water. Got wet and made father wet too but saved 12 ½ cents. At the [nu.] father explained the singularities in the disposition of the horse. His old one had had his tail shaved by a fellow in Coudersport who had some spite to work for a fine which had been inflicted. Father thought I was a smart fellow for not knowing that he wasnt Barney. Read Coke in the afternoon. After tea I took a walk over the Creek. Coming back Saw Lydia and Mrs Hays at Brott's. Lydia was buying a flower pot. Had to pay ten cents for it. Beside it was broken and only cost a fip at first. I asked Jane McCormick who has been sick at Titusville all summer in Company with Lyd. Called on Miss at Howerstens. Found her and some person else making crout in the cellar. Proceeded home. Played flute a little and retired.

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October 13th 1844 Sunday

Rose breakfasted put on my Sunday go to meeting fixins and came up street. Wrote a piece for Democrat signed Gropma Jun. Attended Church. Sterns preached. Forgot his texts. Came down home after hearing the last election news. Phila City and county have gone for the Whigs like a shot. Something like 7000. It is doubtful who is elected Governor. Came up after dinner and wrote a letter to John. Walked our street and talked to Lydia in the door. Then went in and talked a while inside. She asked me why I went to Howerstens. Said she couldn't take any pleasure in it. Told her she could if she was a man. Park talked about the Catholics. He has too small a head to argue with. I said nothing against all his views. After did Methodist Church. Sterns preached again. "Seek the Lord". 1st what is implied is seeking and why we ought to seek. S.d. "What a plague of a fuss there will be if we don't seek". The same old division. Some of these preachers are like shoe makers. There is one particular form for the shoe. A certain set of rules to follow. The same system is applied to every text whether it be the patience of Job or the day of Judgment. Some case who is willing to take the responsibility on himself raised the tunes the evening as he does in general. His voice sounds like filing a saw. All a man needs is trap to succeed. The world will not bring him out if he is content to live in obscurity. The fault is not in being forward but in

being forward with out ability. A man is not to blame for applying for office. The fault is in not being able to fill it if he succeeds. Talked a while to Father and Mother after we reached home and retired.

October 14th 1844 Monday

Rose at breakfast, cut some wood and came up to the office through the rain. Copied my little Squib for the Democrat and took it over. Came back. Read Lytter. Went down to dinner. Played the flute a little afterward. Came to the office and licked into Coke until Father read something from a paper to Mr Phimer and Evans which I did not relish when I went home. Talked to Mother and Lissie in the dining room till tea time. Came to the office after supper and read Julius Caesar. It gets better every time I read it. Uncle Evans sat in the office during the evening. Went home and found Father

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reading. Mother said that she guessed he would sit there all night, to which he very coolly remarked that he had become interested in a story of a man being killed by his wife. We soon retired en masse.

October 15th 1844 Tuesday

Performed a quantity of wood chopping and carried one load into the wood house previous to coming up to the office. Read some History. Visited the Arch office. Attended dinner through the rain. It has been a wet disagreeable day. Spent the afternoon in reading Coke and correcting Sutley's speech, and adding up Election returns. Went to supper. came up street read a while and then called for a few minutes on Miss – at Evan's. Returned to the office and commenced a piece on Education. Wrote until time to go home. Found all in bed.

October 16th 1844 Wednesday

Had proceeded so far in my morning duties as to have nearly finished my allowance of wood chopping when Lissie told me that Barlow had brought the horse home. Came up to the office. Read history until dinner. Heard some more news by Eastern Mail. Shunk ahead some 2000. Read in the afternoon at my Lord Coke. Went to supper. Old Granny Lamb was at our house. Put up the cow. Fed Barney Jun Took tea. Heard the old woman discoursing on the goiter. Came up with her to Bowmans. Came to the office. Helped Ed. calculate the Ohio returns. Todd is beaten by a small majority. Wrote a while after Ed. and Father went home and then followed. Received a humorous letter from John in the morning.

October 17th 1844 Thursday

Rose breakfasted Performed my stabulary duties cut wood and ~~came up~~ [illeg.] playing the flute as it was raining so much I could not go up to the office. Little Jim Evans brought me an umbrella or rather came down for the office Rey and I went up with him. Read history till dinner time. Read Coke in the afternoon. McCormick and Sid McGuire sat in the office a while the

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former all afternoon. Came up and wrote until bed time. Father was at a prayer meeting this evening. Fixed a place to tie the cows in the evening.

October 18th 1844 Friday

Rose and performed my usual duties. Came up to the office and read. Eastern Mail arrived. Shunk ahead 5000. Took the Clarion Slip down to Father. Came up after dinner and finished my review of Coke 1st Vol. Went to tea important event. Found that some person had brought a load of wood ready cut to fit the stove. Better news then Shunk's majority. Attended to Madame the Cow. Ran for butter. Came to the office. Read a little and wrote until near ten o'clock. Scroop's store was shut when I went down and of course I couldn't get my butter out of it. Retired.

October 19th 1844 Saturday

It blew like all sixty last night Mother was pretty well scared. Spent the morning in doing stable duties. Ed took a notion to go over to Mercer to see Joe. Put the harness on Orion and started. Met a storm at the jail and came back. The day was afterwards clear but Father said never undertake a thing the same day when you have once given it up. Poor principle. The fact was he did not want Ed to go. Spent the forenoon in making a stop at the stable and repairing the Coal house. Came up after dinner and read at Littleton on Tenant on Condition all afternoon. Found out what deed indented was. Used to think it was something larger than it is. Went to supper. Came up to Scroop's after sugar. Took it home fixed a window Came up wrote the above and am now going to write.

October 20th 1844 Sunday

Rose and had time to do my work before breakfast in consequence of an unusually long nap taken by Mother and the rest. Prepared for Church. Came up to Evan's Went over to Espy's read a little in Rollin or looked at it enough to want to read it. Espy went to Erie. Walked over to Presbyterian Church. Dixon had commenced his sermon and I did not go in. Went home and staid

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a few minutes. Walked up to John Broadfoots' talked to Aunt Betsy and Hays. Went down to dinner. Sat awhile after. Came up to Espy's. Read a piece in a Catholic History of the Church. Called at Evan's- saw Mother and Jane Beswick. Started down to find Barney Jim. Called on Miss Whitey at Evan's on the way. Went to Presbyterian Church. Dixon preached a good sermon about Judas. "Lord is it I." Went home with Harriet Ridgway. Was draned. Thought she was Susan. Plagued cold moonlight evenings. Ate some pie and went to bed.

October 21st 1844 Monday

Rose. Breakfasted. Performed morning duties. Father and Mother started out to Sandy Creek. Came to the office. Frank Kinnear came in and I couldnt read. Father came up and said dinner was ready 11. o'clock. Went down ate dinner. Went to Mrs Somepersons for apples after calling at Kinnear's. Came to the office. Read Coke on Discats. Went to tea, came up afterward. Read some in an Ohio Statesman. Talked to father about Todds great lecture Chapter. Read a chapter in Lytter and am now going home.

October 22nd 1844 Tuesday

Rose and performed morning duties at the stable. Hilda told me that there was a boat up. Took a wheelbarrow down to Mrs the woman's and got some apples which I asked for yesterday. Came up home found father and Ed looking at some Pittsburg Directions which Isaac Harris had sent up for father to sell. Came to the office and read History until dinner time. Spent the afternoon at Coke until father asked my services to unload some hay. Was going to plead off. Thought it not best. The hay proved to be full of weeds and we did not take it. Came back and read till tea time. Came up after supper and read a little

Shakespeare until it was time to go home. Among the many important events of the day Mother finished a pair of pants for me.

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October 23rd 1844 Wednesday

Rose, breakfasted, performed hostlerical duties and was proceeding to cut wood when a boy came to borrow the horse. Saddled Mars for him, and came up to the office. Father soon sent me to get tar. Greased the buggy, played the flute and ate dinner. Came up and spent a faithful afternoon at Coke on releases. Some hard things. Attended supper. Aunt Rachel was there. Father had returned from Cooperstown. Came up after tea and concluded to walk over Creek. Saw Misses Todd and Butler, talked to damsel at the nail cutters. Sent Durban over to Lambertson's store. Walked over Creek. Met Uncle Robert and Ridgway bringing in a trunk for Mrs Lourt to go to Clarion. Changed my notion of going to Knock's. Came back to office. Read a piece of Bacon on releases to get some new light. Talked to Dr Snowdon and Ed about College. Tom Ridgway's temperance speech &c. Am now going home 8 o'clock.

October 24th 1844 Thursday

Rose and performed morning duties. Put the saddle on Pluto for father's use. Bought a Atron at Porter's and took it home. Came to office. Read until 12 o'clock Went down home. Jane Hamilton and Ruth were at our house. Mother making preserves. Cut some awkward skins. I believe I will never learn anything. I am destined to be a complete fool and there is an end of it. Came up and read Bacon on releases. Went down and put Barney Jun in the buggy. Drove up street. Met Ed. Took and drive round town and then got some oats. Came up and read till tea time. Took a walk over the Creek after tea. Returned and tried to write a piece for Lane Hamilton's album. Started down street. Called at Dubbs. Walked down to Hoovers with Betty. Acted the fool considerably. Came with her up to Row's. Couldn't cover the giraffe. Came home after all the rest were in bed.

October 25th 1844 Friday

Rose, did my hostlering. Cut wood. Saddled Neptune and brought him to the door. Mother thought he did not look like Barney. Father told her that she would never see that same old Hoss again. Came up to office. Read at Lytter until a fellow brought some corn to the

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door. part of the load was for us. Had to go down and help him and Shannon to unload it. Had some bread and milk. "hulsum vittels" for dinner. Came to office and read Coke's chapter on releases again. Guess I'll have to leave it for another time. Can't see the reason of every thing. I suppose I will have to follow his advice. If I dont understand it now I may some time again. Lydia was dressed and has had her window up all afternoon. Col. L wanted me to go in with him. Couldn't go. Went to supper. After it was over burnt a parcel of leaves. Came up street. Ed had locked the office. Went home and played the flute till I was tired and then read about Job. Mother seemed anxious on Lib's account. It is near her time for making her debut. Retired and dreamed that I was a member of Congress and taking tea in Washington. We received a letter from Will this evening. He is in some town in Ohio. Says he has got good. He has been converted so after that we did not know whether to believe him or not.

October 26th 1844 Saturday

Rose, breakfasted, performed hostlerical duties. Came up to office. Read Coke's chapter on Confirmation found it Easier than that on Releases. Took dinner and returned to the office, Read during the afternoon. After tea Came up street. Couldn't get in the office. Walked down to Hoover's. Silas Fury volunteered to go along. Passed some girls on the way. Talked to Jane Hoover and Betty. Came up to McGuire's. Had a pleasant time with Beck. Silas came in. Staid till I left. Came home played flute & went to bed.

October 27th 1844 Sunday

Rose, did work, cleaned my corporal frame externally. Came up to Evans. Went over to Church. Was going to the Methodist when Jane Hamilton in Company with Gen'l Hays asked me to go to Cumb. Pres. Went in. Heard Moore. A long sermon & pretty dry. Walked with Betsy Broadfoot up town. Came down and went to afternoon sermon with Mother. Moore talked about the Ethiopian changing his spots &

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the leopard his skin and said that God's power was shown in sending us blighting frosts in the middle of winter. He seemed to incline towards using the signs of the themes. The world was to have come to an end on last Tuesday according to Miller. Came home and found Ed and father thinking that we had a remarkably long sermon. Dinner was cooking. Ate it, did up my evening work and came to Broadfoot's. Jane wasn't there. Heard the bell ring and started for Presbyterian Church through the rain. Found little John Parks shutting the shutters. He walked with me to Kinnears corner. I stumbled over to Presbyterian Church. Found it was prayer meeting. Came back and heard Sterns. Walked down to Lurners with Ellen Shujert and took George Carey home who had gone to the same place with Hester Butler without an umbrella of his own. Talked to him about damsels. Informed me that the Celebrated May Whitman had arrived at the big dam. Came home & went to bed.

October 28th 1844 Monday

Rose, breakfasted, did my work while it rained like sixty. Couldn't come to office for want of an umbrella. Played flute & read Leibey's Chemistry. Came up to Kinnear's after dinner for Jane Hamilton. Took her down and Came up to office. Saw Grandfather who came into town on Saturday. Gave me a Catalogue of Transylvania University. He talked about his great visit to Henry Clay. Father was holding a confab with Seth Clarke about a deserter. Seth is an avaricious devil. The party in the office smoked me out. Went over to Lamberton's office and talked about Lydia. Read Colonels lecture. He has some notion of catching the damsel. Went home. Doctor Dowling and Thomas were there. Took tea put up cow. Gen'l Hays come down. Came up to office. Ed was talking to his pig-show [mere]. Went over to see Harriet and the nail Cutter's girl. Left umbrella. Walked home with Ed. Seeing both Mother and Jane. Ate pumpkin pie. Came up with Jane to Kinnear's. Went home & to bed.

October 29th 1844 Tuesday

Rose, breakfasted, cut wood &c &c. Came up to the office. Ed was talking with his client! Read until dinner time. Had a discussion on flute playing. I contended that I was right in re-

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fusing to play for Jane last night and father & mother contending that I was wrong. Of course the question was decided in their favor and consequently if I am ruled by the majority. Every person who comes to our house in future will be exquisitely entertained by my melodious sputterings. Came up to the office and read a lot about Attornment until tea time. Did my cowing and hostlering Came up to office and talked to Durban whom I met at the door about a number of things. Said he was going to be married to Amelia

Dodd before four weeks. Thought he was making fun. Told him so. He swore it was a fact and gave his reasons. Told him "if it was so it were a grievous fault." Gentl Hays came in while we were discussing the subject. We put out Durban to see his dear and I to call on Miss Nock Dangerfield & co. Footed it through the mud and rain or snow rather and at last reached the house. Talked to the young lady about their last winter's parties. Came over to office. Read Burn's poems while father tried his hand at writing a piece for Jane's Album. It is all humbug for any person not gifted by nature to court the muse. We soon went home and talked about the Kneighbors until we felt sleepy enough to go to bed.

October 30th 1844 Wednesday

On being roused from a comfortable nap found snow had fallen during the night, to the depth of three or four inches. After breakfasting and doing up my morning work I assisted mother in sweeping snow and then paid Joe Ridgway a visit for a pumpkin. Talked to him & the old woman. Took the thing home and came to office. It was then near noon. Read the remainder of Attornment and went to dinner. Came up after eating and reviewed the last two chapters of my reading beside working at a mathematical problem. Went to tea and did my stable work. Started up to the office and met Beck. Carried her home. Came up. Met Bob Brigham. Asked me if I was going to Snowden's party. Said I did not know there was one. Tried to get in office- door locked. Called at Kinnear's Ruth and Jane were at party. Came back and found the office

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open. Read some at History of Philosophy and a little in Tacitus while father was writing something at the table. Went home with him. Found Row there waiting to talk about the lots. Jimmy Adams is going to make a fuss about them. Ed perpetrated a good one in the course of conversation. Some one remarked that the Millerites were looking for the last day a good while ago. Ed said that they had concluded now to go if for Polk as that was the best way to get things destroyed.

October 31st 1844 Thursday

Rose, breakfasted, and attended to Barney Jun. Came up street and read some of Coke on Discontinuance. Attended dinner and then spent the afternoon in reading. When on my way to supper Ruth Kinnear called me in and gave me an invitation to take her out to the country. Told her I would see about and promised to go if I could. Took tea and did my stable duties. Came up to the office but felt in a poor humor for studying. Accordingly I proceeded over to the Creek and then up to the big dam. Didn't get what I wanted. Came back and stopped at the iron works on my way. Returned home but had some difficulty in getting away from a number of boys who said I must give them something as it was hollow-eve. The Allegheny Belle was up this evening.

November 1st 1844 Friday

Rose as soon as called and did my work up in short order. Put the harness on Barney for father to take to mill. Put on my necessary fixins on an old pair of boots belonging to father my worst pants and proceeded up to inform Ruth that I was ready. Came down and waited in Howe's office for father to return. He soon arrived and I having put on Ed's overcoat and a fine coat of mud over it. Came up to Kinnear's and got my damsel and the necessary directions as to the roads. The morning was cold and frosty. And though it was election day but a few people were to be seen in the streets. We moved along slowly through the mud talking about the bad roads, the election and the sweets that were probably awaiting us at the journey's end. I had to walk up one long hill which put me out of my good humor a

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little and once when we were in mud some two feet deep I lost my whip by it catching on the branch of a tree. The vexation was too great to bear and I accordingly vented my displeasure in an expression that wasn't so clean as it might have been. O sh-t said I there's always something going wrong. Ruth wasn't going to pretend she heard me but it made no matter I suppose. The road was undoubtedly the worst in the county and the county has the worst roads in the state. Limbs of trees broken by the late snow, big stones, mud holes and corduroy bridges were scattered in pleasing variety. Then to buoy up our spirits we had the hopes of a fine how-down, an occasional glean of sunshine and at last came to a house with a Polk flag raised in the wilderness and two coon skins suspended on the wall. Here we inquired as to our whereabouts and a woman told us that we had five miles to go yet. Then we poked along at our former rate for an hour or two until we arrived at some more signs of civilisation. A fine brick house and some fat pigs indicated that we were out of Venango County, as were really were. We stopped at the door and hollowed for some one to come out. There was a woman washing at the back door but she was an exception to all the country women ever I saw. Not so much as the dirty face of a child appeared at the window and we had to move on. A man whom we soon met gave us the necessary information as to our latitude and told us we had two miles. We thanked him for his kindness doubled the two miles and added one and counted that when we reached the end of five miles more we might see the house. At last a white house appeared in view and we were soon at the door. I put Barney in the stable, made some rough attempts at cleaning my feet and was soon seated by the fire talking to one of Mrs Dr France's daughters. This was the elder of two, and she entertained me with some literary conversation. The volume of Scottish chiefs lay on the mantelpiece. I picked it up and asked her if she had read it. "Yes" said she. "It's a very good history. It tells all about the wars in Scotland" "And did you ever read Thaddeus of warsaw" said she. "No" said I "I never read it. I believe it is a very fine work" "Oh yes" said she. "It's another good history." The announcement of lunch put an end to her interesting remarks. A large plate with two enormous slices of pumpkin pie appeared in front of the old woman. It was two o' clock

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I had been riding in the cold and my bowels began to yearn toward the approaching feast. I dispatched the contents of the plate which proved as good as the history the girl spoke of, and sat a few minutes longer until supper was regularly in order. The meal was soon over and I returned to talk with my lady about the election. She thought that Reison would have made as good a statesman as Mr Garvin. The idea of applying the term to such a man as Garvin who scarcely knows how to write his own editorial was a little amusing.

The guests soon began to arrive. The first that made her appearance was a pucker-mouthed damsel with a calico dress. She couldn't talk too fine; and every word she spoke came out with half a dozen circumflex accents that gave her the appearance of the most bitter irony. In some things it sounded all in place but it was all the same whether she was asked to take a cup of coffee or to favor some Jacob with a kiss. To the latter her answer was just the thing but to the other it when she said "No I guess not" it sounded as if she hadn't been used to such vulgarity as drinking coffee and that she knew a thing or two. The next announcement was that of Miss Somebody the tall girl in black. She was a tall one in every sense of the word. She made her bow with such a studied appearance that I thought she had practiced a week. Then she sat down as stiff as whale bone could make her and "reckoned" that we town folk would think they were "mighty awkward" in the country. By this time the arrivals were numerous. A large rough looking case was ushered in with a flute. Old Dr. France told us some stories of the wars and the thing soon commenced in Earnest. Sister Phoebe was the order of the evening. The flute man sung sweetly and I procured a little hair cap for the part which goes "put this hat on your head." The [caus] looked as rich with it on that I had to laugh at every step. Ruth had to go or he called "proud" and I really sympathized with her when she sat on the chair waiting for some case to bup her and let her off. This play was soon done. The genius of the musikan was soon put in requisition for a hoe down. Here I began to feel my inferiority. I couldn't go it. But to sit and look on was enough. It beat all the performances of the Alabama Minstrels or

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Ethiopia Serenaders combined. Then there were reels without number and every variety of waltzing but the Mercer County strongly predominated. As last the flute man's lungs gave out and the girls had to sing. I joined in to help them with [Tiss] Coon. Jim along Jozy making myself as useful as possible while Ruth assisted in the dance and shook herself to the tune of "Go it while you're young." Oh it was a delightful time. The dust flew, the young one's cried in the kitchen while the old woman shook her fat side by her churn in order to prepare butter for the morning. Even the churn staff seemed to be affected with the general mirth and splashing the butter milk while it seemed to say "get out of the way old Daniel Tucker". At last the commotion began to subside. Frequent false steps showed that legs were getting tired and the partiers were soon carried off to breathe. Then came the refreshments. A large quarter pound roll well dried and without butter water or sugar was handed to each on in the room. I began to gnaw mine in silence while I meditated on the last one of the farce. Then came pumpkin pie. Each one took a slice in his one fist and held his cake in the other taking alternating pieces from each between his grinders in order to have them well mixed. By the time these were done we were all pretty well choked and two large tumblers filled with wine made their appearance with a tea spoon in each. It was vulgar to take more than the full of one of these and accordingly I took none, and plead the pledger as my excuse. Though I doubted the propriety of calling it "drinking."

The liquor and rolls had a resuscitating influence which was soon manifested in the clearing away of the chairs for the man with the bushy head had bowed to the fat sleepy looking girl. Me the cross eyed gentleman did the same to Ruth. The little fellow with the stiff shirt collar and foxy coat walked up to the tall lady in black and young Mr DeFrance made his respects to the thin lady. The flute man sounded the x cut two or three flourishes to try his instrument and then they went it to that good old tune. "Row Row Row row daddy shot a [sow] cat.

All he got was a little [wad] of [torso]."

At last the fat girl's dress caught on the corner of a seat and then she was going to do this thing gracefully and tore the partly exterior opening. This

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made a pause in the proceedings, but it was no time to stop for trifles. As soon as the amount of damage was ascertained they moved on until the old house shook again. Just then there was a stir at the door A tall man with a sheep skin lantern arrived and brought the result of the township election. They were all democrats and Polk was found to have gained nine on Shunk's vote. The next move after the effects of this intelligence had subsided was to play some darned thing of which I got enough before I was done. Some case started it by snapping his fingers to a damsel then her part was to chase him and give him a smacker when she caught him. Then she did the same to some of the beaux and so it went on. After some time one snapped to me and I was into it. Then we had to get out of the ring in the same way. I started ahead of an ill looking damsel round the ring. Once in a while I thought I had better stop and take it but then when I cast a look at her over my shoulder I resolved to go ahead. Like Hector I footed it round three times but at last just as I was passing the flute man his shoulder projected suddenly in a tangent to the circle and coming in contact with my nose I was sent some ten feet into the corner of the room. The virgin was soon over my prostrate form and applied the healing balm of her sweet lips to the wounded part and I was again on my feet. It was now growing late. The closing scene approached and it would have been enough for the military skill of Napoleon to have equaled the arrangement. The lads and lasses were paired off in couples to play "Im tired of my Company" Here was one calling "Im tired." Then came "whom do you want." Then the name until at last all were suited. I was now in ignorance of what was to come. All were quiet. The fire had been danced out save a few brands that seemed too sleepy to burn any longer. Just then a damsel rose and carried out the only candle in the room and all was dark. One case who had Ruth beside him observed "I suppose your parties in town dont break up this way." I took the

hint and putting my arm round a damsel who was still standing I seated her on my knees and talked to her and embraced her until I was most heartily "tired of my company."

It was now the morning of Nov. 2 about 3 or 4 o'clock. Those

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who lived near were beginning to drop off home and those who lived at a distance of some ten or twelve miles were happy to bed. My bed room was shown me adjoining the dancing hall which itself contained two beds. Two fellows were put with me in the same bed one the cross eyed gentleman, and the other the only fellow who seemed to know any thing. There was no door hung to close the passage into our room but the damsels & Ruth among the rest who had to sleep in dancing hall, took every precaution to close up the door they forgot to notice that there was no plastering on the wall and that we in the inside could see them. Every movement when there candle was lighted. As well as I could observe there were still a few collected round the fire and they were hugging and kissing extensively; then they left and the damsels proceeded to bed. Ruth had been very apprehensive that we would have rain before we reached home. We soon heard a sound like the noise of many waters under our windows which probably originated from a source different from common showers. At any rate it was a peculiar sound and continued with slight interruptions for several minutes. I was fearful that the worst would happen and accordingly informed Ruth that it appeared to be raining pretty fast that I could hear it plainly. The only answer she made was a slight concealed titter and I have since been at a loss to know what she meant. I was now pretty tired and sleepy and soon resigned myself into the arms of an omnibus.

November 2nd 1844 Saturday

On awaking from the aforesaid nap I heard movement from all parts of the house indicating that the people were rising. It was sometime before they opened our door which that had been at so much trouble to secure; and when they did so our party of three paced forth and prepared for breakfast. The lasses had been up sometime and all had their hair combed a la Ruth. She will be the model of fashions for an age in that region. Then came breakfast at last. Two large plates filled with buckwheat cakes a foot and a half in diameter and an inch and a half thick graced the ends of the table. A large plate full of potatoes and one of boiled beef occupied the middle and the apple sauce puhkin molasses pumkin sauce &c &c

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filled up the intervening spaces. I officiated in carving and the meal was over. Then I paid a visit to the saw mill. Fed Barney. Saw the cross eyed gentleman and tall lady depart and soon started home. The topic of all our remarks was of course the party. Ruth made me promise not to tell on her while I was as anxious that she should not tell on me.

And now for the commentaries. Poets may say what they please about the country. I had enough of it. It may true enough that

"The statesman, lawyer, merchant man of trade

Pants for the refuge of some rural shade" But let such a one take a trip to Mercer County, stay all night at a frolic be squeezed half to death by two rough customers in the same bed and if he dont pant for that out I'm a liar. Men may say what they please of the progress of refinement, they may praise the virtuous simplicity of olden times and of moral manner. It is all humbug. God meant men to be good but he also meant they should be learned. Talk to one who has had his arm all night round a country damsel and her on his knee about their chaste influence, and then let him engage in conversation with a girl who has too much self respect to suffer any liberties and he will tell very soon where the chastity is.

So much for the grand tour. Our road returning seemed shorter than when going out. On arriving in town I found all well at home. A steamboat just starting and people returning from both Methodist and

Presbyterian Churches. Wrote John a note giving all the returns heard from. Mother & Ed had a talk about dirty feet this evening. Heard Dixon preach. The ways of Zion mourn.

November 3rd 1844 Sunday

This morning or last night I was awakened by Angelia coming into my room. There was some little noise down stairs and the damsels errand for bed clothes showed what was going on. Father soon came up and went to bed with me. He rose before I did and came up stairs to inform me that I had a fine little nephew. Put on my clothes and called on the stranger.

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Ed; Doctor Gillet Mrs. Butler and Mrs Hoover were joking about the recent event. Lissie too was in good spirits. Ed said Venango was redeemed and called it a glorious whig victory. Breakfast was soon ready, and I proceeded to arrange my toilet. Did not get done in time for church. Came up to the office and wrote some until I heard the bell ring for afternoon Sermon. Attended Presbyterian Church. Dixon was administering the Sacrament. I felt a little solemn- different from my feelings on Friday. Jane H. and Ruth sat in the same pew. I walked home through the rain. Came up at Ed's request to get the Clarion returns. Also a letter from John to father. Went down and spent the time until supper listening to Ed talking about his boy. He intends to call him Aleck. Came up after tea to Lamberton's office. The bell tolled for a funeral. A child of a stranger had died at Turner's. I walked up or rather ran up to the graveyard along with some fellows who were going. Went home but did not go to church the evening being wet. Read a little in the Bible and father had prayers. He said he had felt more disposed to do his duty ever since his trial of the murder case in Brookville. He is a good man, better than his son Af. is going to be or I am mistaken. Took a look at Aleck on his first sucking engagement and went to bed.

November 4th 1844 Monday

Rose and did my morning work. Came up to office and then called on Jane Hamilton to inform her that I would not be ready to go to Uncle's as I had promised until afternoon. Wrote a little before going to dinner. Put Barney Jun in the buggy and started with Jane for Uncle's. Met a wagon on the bridge. Walker undertook to lead my horse past and broke both shafts. Then we were in a plague of a fix. Jane had to get out and walk back. I lead my horse to the stable by a round about course and then went back for the buggy. Took it to the wagon maker's and stopped at Shannon's. Came over to Lamberton's office and talked until we heard the bell ring and then we went to the Court House where the return Judges were meeting. Venango has gone 411 for Polk. I then came

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up to Park's store and staid a few minutes until the Pittsburg maid came in. It brought cheering news. Started up street and met father. Told him about my accident. He took it coolly. The lecture came in the evening in the shape of a single sentence. "Be careful to put your light out at night. Always be careful. I don't see how you contrived to break that buggy." He takes things the right way. I have had many a misfortune happen by carelessness and am probably destined to have many more. Had supper late. Aunt Evans was at our house. Came up to office and staid a little while. Robert McCormick came for me to open a letter for father containing election news from Warner. I did so and after taking the letter home came back an answered it. Went home again. They were all in a trouble about Aleck. The little case hadn't used his aqueduct; and the girls were ordered to prepare some tea. However the boy came to his activity and saved them the trouble. He is going to be a great lad.

November 5th 1844 Tuesday

Rose and performed morning duties. Cut wood and came up to the office. Read Cokes on Litterton until noon. Came up again after dinner and read until tea time with a slight interruption by Suily who talked about the election. I predicted that the whigs would lose a thousand in Phila. City & County. Went to supper. Jane H- Called at our house. I came up to office. Wrote some about Naturalisation. Went home and walked up with Jane to Kinnear's. Talked a little while about the party. Took her to Broadfoot's, Gave her two or three kisses and left. Found all in bed at home.

November 6th 1844 Wednesday

Heard election news from City & County of Philadelphia. Whig loss near 2000. Pittsburg mail came in afternoon. brought some Ohio returns. Clay ahead.

November 7th 1844 Thursday

Rose, did work. Came to office and read. Kinnears Darkie handed me an invite to a party. Took a ride over the Creek and up to the dam with Sid McGuire. Attended the party after growling a while about preparing. Robison Lamberton Snowden

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and myself gents. Ladies Misses Cook, May, Hamilton, Bailey and Ruth. Robison Lou. Ruth and I had a game of cards. Spent time pleasantly until 11 o'clock. I ran the Cooks home and then past home myself.

November 8th 1844 Friday

Did morning duties and came to office. Finished my rough reading of Coke. Have learned a great deal but know little about the book. My eyes became sore and I had to quit. Put Barney Jun in the little wagon and went with Ed for brush. The horse kicked like blazes. Came up to the office but my eyes bored me so much that I couldnt read. Spent part of the evening at Shannons. Called at Evans and went home and washed my eyes preparatory to going to bed.

November 9th 1844 Saturday

Came up to Evans' after performing my hostlerical duties and was advised by father not to read; accordingly I proceeded from home and amused myself until dinner time by playing the flute. Came up to Evans and talked to Jane. Went with McGuire over the Creek. Stopped a moment at Dales. Put the horse in the wagon and brought some water. Got wet but saved a fip. Called at Hoover's in the evening. Had a little sport with Beck and the rest about a songbook. Rachel wouldn't come up home with me.

November 10th 1844 Sunday

Performed stable duties and prepared for Church. Saw Lamberton, Sid, & Rob Brigham at Post Office. Went with them down to Boat. When we came up they made an arrangement for going to Sugar Creek. I proceeded to Methodist Church. Heard Sterns preach. Went home and had dinner. Came up street, called at Evan's. Went over Creek and the evening being fine continued my walk to Uncles. He soon returned from Sugar Creek. Read the "Broken Crutch." a piece in an old book that I used to know by heart when a little fellow without knowing what it meant. Returned. Called on Jane and took her to Church. Sterns said some

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hard things about Fred Parks going out. Walked home with Jane after a great rush at the door. Little John was taken sick. I was told to call at Carson Evans' for his father. Snowden was having family worship as I passed and I began to think about virtue &c until I was nearly home. Had to turn and do my errand. Had a delightful time with Miss at Carson's.

November 11th 1844 Monday

Rose, breakfasted and did my morning duties. Put my horse in the wagon and went with father down to the ware house for some sugar &c that had come in a boat. Then exercised myself carrying in some heavy sticks of wood. Come up to the office and commenced Blackstone. Came up in the afternoon and walked over to Dale's with Sid. Asked for a box of paints. Went to tea. Did work. Trotted over bridge and back again. Saw Mary Butler and Miss Dabbs. Trotted round with them and went home. Pittsburgh mail came brought glorious news. Virginia, New York City and Pennsylvania cities. Played flute while Ed read magazine.

November 12th 1844 Tuesday

Did work and came up to office. Read some more Blackstone. Heard Election news. North Carolina on the way. Ed started to Mercer. Looked at Lamberton's Law Dictionary for Civil Law &c. Went to dinner Came up but could not get into the office. Went home for the key. Helped father correct [acrostic]. Wrote some verses for a commencement to New Year's address as invited by Albert Kirk. Called at Abeader's to [get] a board. Went to tea. Came up and read Blackstone. Wrote some and am now going home.

Since writing the above four or five very interesting days have passed during which Mr McCalmont has been pursuing his usual vocations. On Friday he took a ride to Cooperstown for eggs. Father left for Brookville on Saturday evening- two very remarkable events. I attended Church twice on Sunday.

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November 18th 1844 Monday

Nothing to day.

November 20th 1844 Wednesday

Put Barney Jun in the buggy and took Mrs Espy out to Smullen's furnace. A fellow charged me a quarter for horse feed and tar to grease my buggy. Got no dinner. Cold day. Reached home after dark. Moonlight however. Ate supper with Mrs Espy. Lost a dollar bill when paying toll at the bridge. Felt in a bad humor about it all evening. Attended a Democratic meeting. Jon McDowel wanted to get expelled as he said. Swore he was for Wilson. McCandless as U.S. Senator. Got a plague of a lecture about my trip when trying to steal up stairs.

November 21st 1844 Thursday

Brought some water. Attended Durbin's wedding in the evening. Have not time to describe it. He and Amelia Dodd were made one. Dixon performed the ceremony and Mary Butler and myself were the Sub's. The boys entertained us with a calithumpian performance all the while.

November 22nd 1844 Friday

Called on the Bride after doing morning work. In the afternoon went out to [Plupell's] with the party. Had a good supper and came home after dark.

November 23rd 1844 Saturday

Peeped a little into Blackstone. Hauled water and baby brush in the afternoon. Aleck is hard on clean muslin.

November 24th 1844 Sunday

Attended Sterns with mother in morning. John and Father arrived in the afternoon. Father came while I was at Cumberland Church. Lamberton was at our house nearly all afternoon. Went to Methodist Church in evening.

November 21st 1844 Monday

First day of Court. John was admitted to practice. The trial of Black Fanny for burning Porter's house is to come off in the morning.

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Since closing my book account very little of importance has happened. Black Fan whom I left on the last page has since been tried convicted and sent to the Penitentiary. Father is up among the [Mc Kean] its holding Courts. But the situation of things will be remembered if I proceed to give each day its due.

January 1st 1845 New Year's day

Performed stable duties and came up street. Took a game of ball on the diamond, the snow being all gone. We have had no sleighing worth mentioning this winter. Read my Carril's address. About noon Sid McGuire & I went over the Creek to a shooting match. Coming back we called at Knock's. Met Henry at the bridge while talking to Jane Beswick. He wanted to have a party to go to Russel's. We agreed to go, and came back to make the necessary arrangements. We had hard work to get started. Some fellows backed out. Girls were scarce too but at last we got started and had quite a pleasant party. Sid George Cory George Brighan and myself with Ann Whity, Ellen Ulmar Ellen Shugert and Knock. We returned after ten o'clock. Sid had missed a hoedown at Eaton's by our trip but finding it so early he concluded to go still. I started with him. The stable had been locked by some person and we were forced to foot it. We however reached the scene of action long before breaking up time. On coming near the house we saw a man taking a damsel into the woods. The next fellow was in a fence corner as drunk as a loon and, on reaching the door we found two more tight and about to go into a fight. Appearances were hard but we went in and were soon footing it off with a looseness. After one or two turns I sat down to look on and rest. There were six girls and about eight times then number of country bucks who kept them in perpetual motion. The old woman sat on a chair beside me smoking a segar. Her eyes were almost sparkling as she looked at the party on the floor. And

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her actions and words told how little age could do toward extinguishing the fire of early emotions. "Do you see that girl there going down the centre? Now she is coming up again. "Don't she dance beautiful.?"

“Yes said I “she does it neatly, who is she”? “That’s the only girl we have got and she’s a fine one- There now you’re wrong Swing Susan- She’s seventeen next June, and oh shes such a help to a person” Here the old woman put her segar in her mouth and looked on in silence save now and then pattering with her foot to keep time to the fiddle and puffing away like an experienced smoker. Then she went on. “You mind our boy Jimmy dont you! Poor Jimmy he used to go to school. – Now there quick off the top- to school where you did, and he used to come home at night and tell as you have read about; and after wished he could read too- Pshaw you didnt do that right you ought to have went down the outside first- Yes poor Jimmy. He got kicked by a horse right on the head and he only lived two days- Now right and left His head was all laid open just the size of the horse’s foot. Oh I thought I would never have got over it- Balance all- But we have that girl yet, and if we hadn’t her I dont know how I could get along.” And so the old woman went on. The whole scene was amusing but I was in no humor for laughing. Her allusion to Jimmy had called up little incidents that put me in a rather serious mood. But what they were is no matter. The happened in those better days before my feelings had been hardened by years of carelessness.

Breaking up time soon came. My head was aching with a vengeance, but I had to walk home. Sid was tired too and we both felt a little like never going to another country shin dig. Sid took me to bed with him and we slept well till morning.

January 29th 1845

I have written the events of the first day of the month and might have filled up a page with the same

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sort of material every day since. But to sum up the events of the month will suffice. I have been employed much in the same old way since. Performing hostlerical duties and cutting wood have occupied my forenoons, and the remainder of the day has generally been spent with girls in loafing or in reading Blackstone; very seldom the latter. On the 8th of January I attended a party at Russels. Nearly all the young persons of Franklin were there. A week afterwards I went with a single sleigh load to Russels again. We got our suppers and one of the most effectual duckings any white man ever experienced. Father, who had just returned from holding court, told me I was going it entirely too strong. Since then I have only been at one party the only one by the way there has been since. It was at Carson Evan’s on Tuesday last. It was great gathering. A few days ago I wrote to some two or three places for a situation as a teacher. Dickson told me there was an association in Phila for supplying fellows with places. I accordingly wrote to Ed Yard for information as to the Secretary. I can now wait the result. Teaching away from home is the only thing for me. I can cut wood and curry horses as well now as if I were to serve a dozen more years as an apprentice. So much for Mr [Br-] at the close of the first month in 45.

Ed and Lissie are flourishing like new bay horses. Eleck the boy is fat and hearty. He puked as well as any child of his age perhaps better and can do a multitude of other things. Yesterday I entered his name on the family register among the list of his illustrious relatives.

Mother keeps her health as well as usual. She

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and Elisabeth do not agree very well. They had better live apart as they have been talking of doing for some time. Father is well and intends to start for Clarion to morrow to Court. John has been at Harrisburg two or three weeks. He is going to apply for some prosecuting Attorneyship. Thomas Espy and others of our Franklin Democracy are down also having gone to attend Shunk’s inauguration.

January 29th 1845

Rose breakfasted and performed stable duties with wood cutting. By the time these were done it was near noon. Came to office and read some at Burns. Went to dinner and then put the new 50 dollar sorrel horse into the sleigh and took a ride with Ed. It was very cold and the road is not yet broken through we have plenty of snow the first one that has looked like good sleighing this winter. When we came back I too Elisabeth over to Tallus and then came to the office.

February 1st 1845 Saturday

Rose and began my stable duties after breakfast. Father traded sleighs with Mr Howe and made a very good bargain apparently. Ed and he were preparing to leave for Clarion. I helped them to get off. Uncle Robert brought Aunt Sarah to our house while we were eating dinner Ed and father started as soon as [thyaia] was over. I then prepared the sorrel for hauling water a blamed cold piece of work. ~~Spent the remainder of the afternoon~~ I then came up to Evan's and got our [jumper]. Harvey and I took a drive down town. After taking him home I started down and overtook Beck McGuire. Gave her a small ride and put up my horse. Spent the remainder of the afternoon in cutting wood for Sunday. Bought some tobacco for Will and sent it out by Aunt. In the evening Mother and Elisabeth went to Church leaving me at home to take care of the house. I paid attention particularly to a can of oysters

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that were bought lately. Went to bed soon after they returned.

February 2nd 1845 Sunday

Rose and curried the horse before breakfast. Did the remainder of my work afterwards. Prepared for Church and went to Methodist Meeting. Draper Kinnear preached. "Blessed is the people who hear the joyful sound. Could not get into the Post Office. Went over to Shannons. He told me he had received two letters applying for information as to the want of schools in town. He complained of wanting time to answer them, I proposed to do it for him. Came home. Did evening work and then the rest having left for church I had time to answer the letter of Miss Jacobs. Lissie determined to take Bob to church right or wrong. It appeared, when they returned that the little case had behaved well. Mag Whitman they said took a fit in Church, made a plague of a fuss, and was at last carried out. Then in again, and finally taken home.

February 3rd 1845 Monday

A dull and very cold day. Disliked to rise when called and disliked still more to work when I was out of bed. It was nearly noon before I finished my work. I then brought the McKean County harness up to Moore's the Saddler's, and left directions. Made a fire in the office, swept the floor and went to dinner after telling John Swily not to put Hack backs in my next vest. Came up to the office again after dinner. Wrote a lot more to Miss Jacobs about her prospect of getting a school in Franklin. Haslet came into the office and asked me for another discourse. Dr. Snowdon called and mentioned that Judge Thompson was going to make a speech in the Court house to night on Temperance.

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After supper I came up to the Court house and was intending to wait for the speech. The people, girls in abundance, were [assemblg] fast and I was much disappointed when Mother came to the door and told me to go home and keep Elisabeth company while the rest were at Church. I accordingly went first to the post office to get the papers and then down to the house. Spent the evening in reading Meal's Gasette and in talking to Elisabeth about her stay at Steubenville. When Mother returned she told us all about the

progress of the meeting. How Mrs Baynond and Mrs Kennean and even so many more women had gone up to the Mourner's bench; how Dr Connelly went up also, - how Mrs Bear shouted- how Mrs Bailey exhorted all to repent and a great many other hows such as that Betty Gibson got through. I then came up to the office to cover the fire and then returned and went to bed.

February 4th 1845 Tuesday

Rose to find the ground covered with snow nearly a foot deep, and more still falling. Made a path from the gate to the road, and then did my regular work after breakfast. Came up to the office and made a fire. Went down to dinner and afterward put the sorrel into the jumper and went out to Uncles with Sid McGuire. Saw Will there. He said he had no school today because the scholars could not wade through the snow. He commenced teaching yesterday. On our way back the horse jolt his foot over the shaft. Did not break any thing. Took Mother over to Methodist Church and then took the harness off. Read a chapter in Blackstone. Forgot to mention going over the Creek before dinner to Fuller's and hearing Alex Robison narrate his Sunday adventure out at Sugar Creek. His horse ran off, upset the sleigh, broke it and left him and Ruth behind. Went down to supper and then came up to office. Will was in talking to Uncle Evans. He and I went to church calling on our

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way at the Court house where a case was going to lecture to night on Memories. [Draper] Kinnear preached "Come for all things are now ready." Had not as good a time as last evening. Bob B. Sat behind me and talked to the girls. Mrs Bailey Came back to keep order. Will and I came off early. He told me a great deal about the South, Baseon preaching until it was time to go home. We adjourned he to Swiley's and I to bed at home. Ate an apple felt nervous and went to bed.

February 5th 1845 Wednesday

A little the roughest specimen of a day that has been for some time. The wind began to blow in the morning and continued operations all day. I came up street and made a fire in the office. Borrowed Charley Raymond's 4 keyed flute and took it down home. It didn't suit me and I took it back. Carried Mrs Bushnell's tub up out of the street where the wind had left it she not being able to get it herself. Came up to the office after dinner and began to read. The cover came off the coal house and Harvey and myself put it on again. Had to stay at home all evening to keep Mother and Elisabeth company. They were both afraid the house would fall. Had a mess of oysters, and went to bed.

February 6th 1845 Thursday

After I came up to the office I was in doubt whether to make a fire or not. Neglected it in the forenoon. Heard that John was in Clarion and would probably be home to day. Came up to office after dinner and made a fire Loafed in Carrey's shop and played at some foolish little game with Alf Sago. In the evening John and Ed arrived when I was carrying water to the Sorrel. I accompanied Mother to church talked sometime to John about Harrisburg, came up to the office and then went

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out to church myself.

February 7th 1845 Friday

Rose, breakfasted and attended to the two horses, cut wood. By this time it was noon. Ate dinner and put the sorrel into the sleigh for Ed to take into the country. Came up to the office and waited until Ed returned. Drove the horse around and took Durban in at the [Prantes] office. We then went up the hill and started down. Crossing a little run the horse ran into the woods. Had to take him out. Drove round town once or twice until coming past Haslet's our nag refused to proceed. Cut two or three [semguavns], fell down and broke the shafts. I felt mean of course. Charley Raymond happening to pass I gave him my sleigh to take to the wagon makers. I led the horse home and then walked up street feeling pretty steaked. Told Ed of the catastrophe. He felt bad because he wanted to take the sleigh back to Clarion to morrow. Shugert's horse ran off with his sleigh but did not break it. Called in at Col Kinnear's. Related my misfortune. The Col. gave me an amusing account of a similar one which once happened to him. He said it was when he was young man and at a time when there was only one sleigh in Franklin. This belonged to Grandfather and the Col. borrowed it to take a girl into the country. He had a horse to lead as well as one to drive and going down Sandy Creek hill, the horses started & spilled him and his girl out in the snow. The Col said that he was amazed on rising up to see his sleigh scattered into fifty pieces about half a mile ahead. He said that he then succeeded in catching the horses rode on to the next house and finally made his appearance in town again. He then went to Grandfather to relate the circumstances The old man listened to his story and began to abuse him called him a fool and finally ordered him out of the

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store. "Well" says the Colonel after he had finished "by God that cured me. I have never been in a sleigh since." his story was quite a relief to me and I left in much better spirits during the remainder of the day. Went over to Church with Mother in the evening. Parke Dodd was converted.

February 8th 1845 Saturday

Jane Beswich was announced at breakfast. She had come to sew. Did my hostlerical duties. Went out to the reer to find a place to get water. borrowed Harvey Evan's horse and Snowdon's sled and brought down a barrel of flour. Hauled two barrels of water. Ate dinner. Took the horse home. Went over to Democrat office then home and helped Ed to get off. Split wood and shaved and then enjoyed a loaf by the fire. Agreed to stay at home with Lissie in the evening. Came up to the corner with Mother. Went into Ulman's store. Then Knock invited me over to singing. Sol Ulman went along. Dodd was there alone. Knock's girl arrived after while. Sol & I accompanied them to church. Soon left and trotted across the Creek and sat talking to the girl by a cold stove. Made an Uncle Henry start. Came home & soon went to bed.

February 9th 1845 Sunday

Rose, breakfasted and performed hostlerical duties. Washed myself and prepared for Church. Went over to Presbyterian. Sat in our new pew the meanest one in the house. Dickson preached a moderately good sermon not so fine as some I have heard from him. John & I called at the Post Office. Got a letter from Ed in which he said that Judge Myers would be in Franklin on Monday on his way to Meadville and that Father wished Mother to go along. Mother determined however not to go. John read us a quantity of Bishop Onderdonk's trial.

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The old fellow must be a horse at the business. If there were so many unsuccessful cases how many more must have been of which we are destined never to hear. Poor fellow he has been unlucky. His fault was a want of success. Like the Spartans who punished not for stealing but for being found out, the American people have condemned the Bishop not for the many cases in which he has poked women but for the

solitary few in which he so signally failed. Attended a funeral (Bell's child) in the afternoon. After returning home performed stable labors and then John and I had a discussion about who should stay at home. I made a suggestion about the oysters and John decided that he would keep house. I proceeded to Church with Mrs Wilson. Came home with her and then went back to church. Took Ellen Shugert and M. Howertten home in succession and then went home and to bed.

February 10th 1845 Monday

After morning duties came up street and loafed. Went across the creek to see Alex Robison about his inviting me into his pew yesterday. He had gone up to Mrs Paffenbargers' with a party of girls to have their fortunes told. Loafed round during the afternoon. Went over to the iron works. Heard of a party preparing to go to Russel's. In the evening went over the Creek for [father]. Robison told me all about the fortunes. His was to be locked by a girl whose description answered well to Ruth. Went again over to the store with Jane Beswich. She bought a pair of mits and tore them putting them on her hands. After dropping her at Brigham's I attended temperance meeting. Amos Myers was there and made a good speech. I followed with some blamed foolish remarks. The meeting was pretty good. We had good songs. Snowden, the old man, wanted to give the thing as he said "a religious turn." He made a

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motion that we always open & close with prayer. The speaker or chairman did not hear him and the matter was crushed with a song.

When the meeting adjourned I took Mary Hann Bratt home. Sid accompanied Knock's.

February 11th 1845 Tuesday

Rose, breakfasted did work and came up street. Got some steel for my sleigh. Sid and I went down to see it. After dinner John and I put the sorrel in and took a little drive round town and then a bigger one out to Espy's to get shirts made. John grumbled a little at the country system of getting work done. Talked to Espy girls some time. I took two of them up the road and found them quite sociable. John nearly offended them when we came back by speaking of Squeezing. Mary took it up and said if any gentleman came to the country to "Squeeze" he was mistaken. John was taken all aback while my experience of Mercer County, and on the sleigh ride a few minutes before enabled me to keep a cool cheek.

Miss Clapp more properly Miss Gonorrhoea came to our house just before dinner. John was surprised at her talking about swallowing pins. To me it did not seem singular that she should for the Clapp was always destructive of pins.

After our return from the Country and having finished supper I went to Presbyterian Church. Sat in the choir. Heard a foxy little fellow preach. Took Susan Ridgway over to Meth. Church. No person went up to the altar to be Sacrificed. Robison asked any one who was determined to seek religion from that day out to stand up. Wm Raymond and Coorse 'a Taylor were the only ones who rose. Some rascals put an image up to the window. Meeting soon was dismissed and I trotted down with Susan Talked too long Came home & went to bed.

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February 12th 1845

Miss Clapp left soon after breakfast. Cut wood during forenoon. At night went over to Knock's. Took the girls to Pres. Meeting and Sid going home with Clem I took Harriet and Mary Hannn. Staid pretty late. Went home and to bed.

February 13th 1845 Thursday

The principle event of the day was Ed's arrival from Brookville. He reached home about 12 o'clock. Had walked a great part of the way from Clarion the ground being bare. He had rented a house in Brookville as he stated in a letter received yesterday Possession to be given on first of April. Came to the office to read. A fellow brought in a load of hay. Paid him 50 cts. am to give 3.50 to Dickson for him. Came up st in evening with Sid McGuire. Felt the effects of a good supper. Aunt Rachel at our house for tea. Went to Meth. Church. Robison preached. "Ephraim is joined to his idols, Let him alone". Reproached Buck McGuire for laughing. A number joined the Church. I walked up to office with Will gave him my flute. Proceeded home & to bed.

February 14th 1845 Friday

The only incident I now remember writing two or three days after, is that the Cumberlands commenced their meeting in the Evening and that I went over the Creek with Knock's. Clara Myers at our house.

February 15th 1845 Saturday

Was awakened this morning by a rumpus. Something was evidently wrong. Had some trouble to discover the state of matters & things until I heard Mother asking Angelina a number of questions about Hilda from which I found that the latter lady had started for home quite early. Mother scolded all morning. Cut wood and hauled water before dinner

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and was then dispatched to Sandy Creek for a girl. People say it is wrong to tell your business to any person unless you see some good reason for doing so. Found to day that it was not wrong. The first man I met asked me where I was going. Instead of saying it was none of his business I told him my errand in toto; and he rewarded my pains by informing me that the woman to whose house I was going had moved. In the country it is mostly expedient to tell every man all about where you are going and what for. He'll find it out at any rate and the people all know so much of each others affairs that you may often gain valuable information.

Put my horse in a shed at Mr [Rspick's]. Talked to old Mr – about the girl in a blacksmith's shop. Went over to Uncle John's. Crossed Creek on ice. The water was on it pretty deep and I got my feet wet. Aunt looked the same as ever. Little Margaret had her face bound up. Did not stay long. Rode up to Oakly's asked for the girl. She was at school. I proceeded to the School house. Called the Master out. A fierce looking fellow. Told him I wanted the girl. Talked to her about coming along. She said she wanted to remain at school. Told her she had better stay.

Coming into town there was a dark cloud rising. A thick fog was hanging over the town just level with the court house steeple. The fog was so thick that one could see but a few rodes. The wind rose suddenly and in five minutes the fog was entirely gone, and as it flew off in white fragments it and the heavy cloud behind formed about as grand a scene as I ever saw. It soon commenced raining. Attended Cumberland Church.

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February 16th 1845 Sunday

Did not perform my hostlerical duties until too late for Church. Had not finished dressing when father arrived from Brookville. He had been upset in Company with Gen'l Jacobs.

Attended Cumberland Church in the evening.

February 17th 1845 Monday

Soon after breakfast I started on the Sorrel for another girl out past Dempseytown. Saw little of interest on my way save the ugliest man I ever had the felicity of looking at. I called at his door to ask for a girl. The man looked so frightful that I almost forgot my errand. After talking to him sometime about the damsel he said he would call "the wife" and accordingly gave out five or six unearthly screams that brought her out whistling. She said the girl could not come. I then trotted along and passed Bayna's; but found the place at last a small house about half a mile from the road. Got Lalia put her on the horse and started for home I on foot. When we came about a mile we met the old Esquimaux driving a team of oxen. Just as we passed he uttered five or six more of his abominable yells so loud that the horse took fright threw the girl off, and then ran ahead kicking as if the devil was after him. The consequence was we had to foot it about half a mile to a house where an old case had caught him. When I came up the old fellow looked at my legs rather suspiciously then at the saddle and said something about one leg being shorter than the other. He was evidently puzled about something and his brow wore an anxious appearance until I said that "he threw the girl off", when his face changed up all of a sudden. "O yesh I see it now" Said he and then he gave a sort of chuckling laugh. The fact was he

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had noticed the difference of length in the stirrups and his Causality had been excited to discover a reason for the phenomenon. This he had failed to accomplish until when it broke on his mind he felt like the Grecian who jumped out of the bath and called out "Eureka".

The girl was afraid to try it again alone. I had then to get her on behind me and thus we came to town. Rode down back street or rather Power's St. Thusht called out his wife and family to look at me.

Attended Temperance meeting. Was too late to hear Bro. Will tell his experience. After some few had spoken, Dangerfield told some stories. Then Mrs Deuody made a speech. Some cases had been disposed to break up the meeting. Bob Brigham & Sam Fagardas were among the number. After Mrs D. took her seat I rose and rattled ahead with a vengeance. Sid followed and we came pretty near having a fight. Jim Bratt made a fool of himself. Took Clem Knock Sid took Harriet. Staid awhile and got home after the rest had retired.

February 18th 1845 Tuesday

Rose breakfasted performed hostlerical and came up street. Saw some girls at Ulman's. Bored me about Mrs Deuody. The Temperance meeting was all the talk. After dinner came to office. Helped Ed to draw three indictments. He has to attend to Col Lambertons business. Went to Methodist Church in evening. Elder Bano (that may be spelled right) preached. Came out before prayer meeting closed. Met El. Ulman & Mary Phipps. Went with them up to Evans. El went in first Ann and Jim Lamberton were in. We soon left. El offered to tell us a secret. She said she caught Ann on Jim's knee. Came home and retired.

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February 19th 1845 Wednesday

Rose, breakfasted rode horses to water cut wood and did other things till dinner time. Came up street calling by the way at Dickson's. Gave him \$3.50 on Bleakley's order for a load of hay. He showed me a letter from the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Loafed the afternoon away reading a short chapter in Blackstone to ease conscience. Came up to P.O. after supper and got nothing, came up to

office. Will was there. John & I had a concert. Attended Meth. Church. Elder Bane lectured on Allegheny College. Sid and I took Phippses home. Went home and found John and Father talking about Christ's temptation. John has a pretty good metaphysical head. Their conversation was suggested by the preacher saying that the Devil did not know who Christ was and was trying to find out. This has been a clear, sunny, spring fever day. The great topic of interest has been the trial of a young man for robbing the mail. Ed and Howe for US and Espy & Myers for the boy. A clear moonlight evening.

February 20th 1845 Thursday

Performed hostlerical and cut wood. Came to office. John had just received a note from Mercer inviting some of the Franklin boys to a party on Friday evening. He and Sid McGuire talked about it and concluded not to go. Came up street after dinner. The weather is so warm & pleasant that fellows were sunning themselves on the other side of the street. The afternoon was rather more cloudy. Attended the first meeting of the Temperance Choir at Dodd's. Took Phipp's gills home.

February 21st 1845 Friday

A pleasant day though yesterday promised rain. Read Blackstone all afternoon. In the evening after I had run around with George Carry after some girls and gone to bed John brought me a letter from Bob McClintock. He is evidently

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in much better health than he was when I saw him last. He informed me that Durbin has sent me two letters about schools. I have never received either of them.

February 22nd 1845 Saturday

Performed hostlerical and cut wood. Put the sorrel into the wagon and brought a barrel of water. Mother wanted two, but took a notion not to let the girl come out to help me in emptying the first as she had before. Whereupon I put the horse in the stable and received a lecture from Mother in which she started among other things that she would be glad when I would put off and make my own living, a remark which she has frequently made before and I have thought proper to enter it here that when I begin to think of the pleasures of home hereafter I may have something to reconcile me to the lot of a pedagogue. Rode out to Uncle Roberts after dinner and spent an hour or two with Will talking and playing the flute. Came in, took supper and walked up street. Saw some girls going to Singing went along and spent the evening in singing. Dodd complimented me and asked to sit to morrow in the choir.

February 25th 1845 Sunday

Did not get ready in time for Church. Dixon preached about educating the poor as father informed us when he came home. Col Lamberton arrived went over Creek and accompanied Nock's girls to Pres. Church. Dixon preached a good sermon about the judgment. Josiah Adams was at Church. Sid went home with Nock's. I lost them and came home feeling flat.

February 24th 1845 Monday

Rose breakfasted and was blacking a pair of boots when I heard a steam whistle. The Arrow was

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up but could not get under the bridge. Came up street. Bell soon rung for court. Court week has commenced favorably with one of the prettiest kinds of days. Spent the afternoon in copying a temperance song and in loafing. Went over to Nock's in the evening. The girls had left. Came back and went to meeting in the court house carried El Shugert over the street. Our Temperance Choir was organised and seated after some trouble. Father made first speech. Dickson followed with an excellent one. Then came John then Smiley and the performance concluded with an old case from the country. Went home with El Ulman.

February 25th 1845 Tuesday

Did not write journal and must now on Saturday March 1st sum up the events of Court Week. Ulmans trial came on on Thursday John made his maiden speech for the Commonwealth. McNeal his client got frightened and left town before the suit ended. He had most probably perjured himself. The jury returned verdict not guilty, and prosecutor pay cost. ~~On Saturday Willy and I~~

On Friday evening there was a great party at Prices in celebration of the wedding of Charley Fagardus and Miss Dawson. Sid and I saw Nock's. Had tall times. Sang Dan Tucker and danced on the porch in the dark. Played up on honor put it on to Russel and Miss McCleftand in turns. Had no little fun with them.

March 1st 1845 Saturday

A very pretty spring day. Had a lecture this morning about my part in last night's proceedings. Took it patiently and did morning work brought water and cut wood for Sunday. After Dinner Will and I started for Uncle Craen's. Got a halter from Porter first and borrowed a saddle.

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Had all sorts of a pretty ride. Saw little of interest on our way. Arrived at Uncle's before suppertime and amused ourselves eating maple molasses. After supper we walked down to Cooperstown and attended Methodist Meeting. A great revival. Preacher cautioned his lady hearers against the hellish use of artificials. Went home again pretty well tired, and proceeded to bed.

March 2nd 1845 Sunday

Rose after the rest and got ready for breakfast. Soon afterward Will and I started home. Came past Pres. Meeting house. Met Dickson and Uncle Joe's girls, passed them and came on till having met Uncle Robert we concluded to turn back. Listened to one Sermon and then came in. Will took dinner at home. Attended Meth. Meeting at night. It rained all afternoon and evening. Wore Johns overcoat and not having an umbrella did not play gallant.

March 3rd 1845 Monday

Father tried to make me rise before day light Couldn't effect it. Did hostlerical and came up to office. Read some of Prerogative. Am making desperate progress in Blackstone a chapter per month. Went to dinner. Came up again. Played flute read &c but more of the &c than anything else. Got Ed some [Festatam] writs at Prothonotary's. Made arrangement with Sid about winning damsels. Called at Shugert's. Went over Creek with Ed for butter. Attended Temperance Meeting in school house. Will made a first rate speech. I flowed into it too. Mother complimented me. She said I could speak if I had any thing to say. Got a paper from Carrigan.

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March 4th 1845 Tuesday

A great day in Washington but no greater in Venango than other days. Took Barney Jun to blacksmiths to have a shoe put on. Called in at Democrat Office and talked with Dodd and Piley about the Temperance Meeting. Took horse home Ed mounted and put for Mercer. Came to office. Did not do much. Went over street after dinner to pay blacksmith. It commenced raining in the afternoon. A fellow lectured on Phrenology. Felt Grandfather's head. Described him as being volatile, fond of money, unable to keep it, benevolent, humorous, energetic, a good arithmetician and extremely fond of ladies. People applauded with a vengeance.

March 5th 1845 Wednesday

Came up street after morning work. John and I called on Phrenologist at Kinnears. He had gone down to a steam boat. I called again in Company with Sid McGuire and had my head felt. Saw two young men from Mercer, Baukin, and Province. Pretty fine fellows. Baukin brought Lydia Park home yesterday evening. Loafed with these fellows the most of afternoon. Went to Bleakleys in Company and refused a glass of ale just because I hadn't called for it. I went over to Nock's in the evening for the damsels. Had no notion of coming. Hesitated. I told them not to come if they did not want to. At last they put on their fixins and came along. Had a tall lecture. Phipps and Beck had there gourds felt.

March 6th 1845 Thursday

While at the stable Bob Brigham came down and asked me to be a bearer at the funeral of Adams [Humer's] child at 3 o'clock. I consented. Took the sorrel over to blacksmiths and had shoes put on. After dinner put horse in wagon and took some buck-

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wheat over to mill. The water is very high. Iron works are stopped. Came back and prepared for funeral. It was tolerably well attended considering the mud. After the funeral I walked up to big dam with some fellows and damsels Took Ellen. Quarreled with Nocks. Glad of it. Its a long walk across the bridge in a dark night especially. Went to Kinnears in the evening and had a game of old maid with Mrs McClellan Ruth, Cook's and Robison. I took the widdow home.

March 7th 1845 Friday

Another very pretty day. Spent it on Blackstone. Durbin told me yesterday that he will want Vol 1. soon Must finished it before April 1. Like all days wherein I have done my duty it has afforded nothing to put in a journal. Called at Kinnears in evening. Ruth was working at a quilt. John Daily gave me an account of his last years tour with a lecturer. Rather amusing.

March 8th 1845 Saturday

Did work before dinner. Put sorrel into the wagon and went to mill and brought water. Had some talk with Grandfather about Surveying. Father did something which I thought savored of slyness. Spend the evening down at [Nai's] with some damsels playing "how do you like it," Had some fun with P. and Pea.

March 9th 1845 Sunday

Rose before my usual hour and in consequence was able to prepare for church. Heard Dickson. "But what? is thy servant a dog &c." Fine sermon. He compared Satan to a recruiting sergeant. Was quite eloquent. Loafed until dinner at office and P.O. after taking Mrs McClelland to Dr Snowdons.

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Wills tells me that Shugerts have cautioned their girls against me. Think I come of the family called 9 times a night. Came up street in evening. Saw Old Granny Lamb at Carson Evan's. Attended Pres. Church. Sat in choir. Dickson preached about the duties of the Church as Christ's representative. Did not see proper to act gallant.

March 10th 1845 Monday

The cry of 'water' was the first that assailed my ears on waking from a very comfortable nap. What I brought on Saturday was found to be very muddy. Accordingly after breakfast I proceeded to bring another barrel. Was pretty late in getting my work finished. Read some at Prerogative. Finished my reading of the chapter. Came up to office in evening after going over to a Temperance Meeting through the rain and adjourning on account of want of members. Read chapter on King's duties again.

March 11th 1845 Tuesday

Rose and performed duties. Then loafed talking to Lissie until near dinner time. Saddled the sorrel for Old Kennedy. Came to office and read chapter or part of it on Revenue. Am making plagued progress. Expect to be admitted in 1850. Ed was in a bad humor and irritated Grandfather. Speaking of the event at supper Father remarked that it was surprising what a disposition some people had to annoy others. Very ambiguous. John tried to get me good luck by looking at the moon over my right shoulder. Had just seen it over the other. Then signs are great things. Came up to office. Father soon came up and interrupted Will and I in a conversation by sending me to put up the horse. Met Beck and Betty on my way. Came back and talked to Will about his school. Bought him some tobacco. Called at Bleakleys as I went down. Bleakly

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informed us of some cases attempting to ride Dr [Our] on a rail. Took Beck home. Forgot to mention that snow fell last night 4 inches and went off with a rush. Dickson was paddling as I came up for Dinner. He likes to play with water though a great preacher.

March 12th 1845 Wednesday

Rose, breakfasted, did stable duties. Came to office. Wrote some at a piece for [omartus]. Spent the afternoon in like manner. Lib had a cry in evening when Jane Kinnear called about the prospect of leaving. [Two] steamboats up. Spent the evening at Kinnear's with some girls. Eating ice cream + playing old mad ad how do you like it. John took one of Nocks and came home late. I took Ann Whiting.

March 16th 1845 Sunday

Rose and did stable duties but not in time for Church. Will was at home for dinner. He and I went over to Cumberland Church. Will wouldnt go in. I heard a sermon from Moore. Was at John Broadfoots to day reading a tale of Mobile and a letter from James Hays. Attended Methodist Meeting at night. Sat in Amen corner. Came part of way up street with Joe McClelland who came home a day or two ago. Asked him about Keenan. Went home and had a talk about schools. I decided to go to Mercer in the morning.

March 17th 1845 Monday

Rose breakfasted did hostlerical duties and wood chopping and took my pants to tailors. Got a vest at Smiley's. heard a few messages and after talking to Elliot in Carey's shop about particular providences I went home and started for Mercer. The snow was

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three or four inches deep and the day cold and stormy. I had a cold gloomy ride of it. Stopped twice to warm myself and reached Mercer about 5 o'clock. Took supper and called two or three times at Templeton's. Joe Wilson was not in. At last I called again about 9 o'clock and he met me at the door. He is a fine clever fellow and looks like a hard student. We talked about schools &c until it was time for me to go to bed. He did not give me much encouragement. Represented things just as they were. We talked so long that I did not get back to Swifts till after they had all retired.

March 18th 1845 Tuesday

Rose and breakfasted. Saw David Hays in bar room. He has risen early to see his fathers start for Pittsburg. Called at Templeton's before Joe had breakfasted. He and I called on Mr Smith. Smith said the trustees had had a meeting and had sent for a Mr McLean as a teacher. If he did not accept they would write for me. He asked about Lydia but I guess he cares little for her. I then visited the Academy a rough dirty looking brick house with broken windows and dirty walls. A hard looking place to spend a year in. Joe then took me to McElling's and bade me good bye at the door. I gave him a note for Collections, had my horse brought, and started for Franklin. A more stormy day then yesterday. Stopped once on the way at George Moore's to give him a letter from Grandfather. Was glad to get home. Will took supper with us. Court is in session. Are adjourned one. Came up street saw Ellen the fair at Hilterbrurer's. Went to McDowel's and then home retired early.

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March 19th 1845 Wednesday

Rose breakfasted and did my duties as hewer of wood and drawer of water. Went over to blacksmiths and paid him for last horse shoeing. Wrote or copied a declaration for Wilson in the afternoon. Two mails came in early on runners. Spent most of evening at Kinnear's talking with Ruth.

March 20th 1845 Thursday

Nothing which I remember now on Sunday that is worth putting in my diary.

March 21st 1845 Friday

A pretty morning. The great day of Electing Justices of peace has come. Spent the day in running around and over to Iron Works to get a vote for Smiley. Didnt succeed. In the evening went with George Carey to Butlers with Beck McGuire and Esther Butler. Came up with Beck and El. Ulman to Evans and heard result of Election. Justices Smiley and Bushnell. A crowd had gathered round Wilsons to eat a barrel of apples furnished by the successful candidates.

March 22nd 1845 Saturday

Spent forenoon in cutting wood and drawing water. Went over creek after dinner to pay Dangerfield a dollar. Saw a very pretty quarrel in the iron works. Old Nock had got mad and he and Cooper were talking in good earnest but they did all in talking. Went down home early for supper. Will was in town. I came up street. I met Ellen Shugert and went to Butler's. Sid and I gave a performance on the waiters. Sid and Fred left me

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to attend to two girls Beck and Ellen who live at opposite ends of town. I took Beck and left the other. Made her mad I suspect.

March 23rd 1845 Sunday

A very pretty sunny day. Rose in time to have my work done before Church. Attended a sermon by Dickson. Duties of parents & children. Sat in choir. After meeting Will and I talked some of going to Uncle Robert's. Gave it up. Walked over the Creek with Fred Park and [Fagundus]. Had roast beef for dinner under argument of proper mode of carving. Spent a hour or two at Espy's reading a chapter in Gibbon. Attended Pres. Meeting in evening in Company with Fred Park. Sat in choir again.

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March 30th 1845 Sunday

Attended Methodist meeting after finding that I was too late for Moore's. Read a Graham's Magazine that Shannon gave me. Attended Methodist meeting in evening and accompanied Clem. Nock home after catching her near Bailey's. Will took Howenstein.

March 31st 1845 Monday

"March in like a lamb out like a lion" has failed this time as I presume it does in most instances. It has served us up the 'lamb' at both ends and put the big cold dish in the middle. This day has been one of the right spring kind. In the afternoon I went out to Espy's in a buggy for Miss Stevenson. Called at Nock's in the evening.

April 1st 1845 Tuesday

Lib tried her success at making a fool of me by calling me to see bab standing alone. Played at Espy's with Narcissa at the purrles till I was tired. Will and I went to Nock's in evening. Clem and he beat us at Eucre.

April 2nd 1845 Wednesday

Heard news early that old George Plower was dead. Was playing flute in the afternoon at Raymond's store when Hasletts asked me to be a bearer at the funeral. Went with Fred Park to Carey's shop and then home to change pants. Came up street and went over to Powers with Fred. They dispersed Ed with part of the bearers, me among them. Corpse was carried in a wagon. walked down with Miss Stevenson, widow McC and Mary Butler. At supper Ed brought John his appointment as Pros. Atty. for Clarion, Elk, and Jefferson Ctys. Will and I as usual went over to Nocks. Met Col. Lambertson who has

just received appt as Pros. Atty for this County. H was in high spirits. Had a game of all fours. Kissing the upshot of course.

April 3rd 1845 Thursday

Spent the forenoon profitably in getting horse shoed for

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Espy in addition to usual work. Took the spade and did some garden work. Spent most of afternoon in washing a buggy down at Creek where Rowe and John Dubbs were drawing a raft. Pulled my buggy back again. Stopped at Fagandus', who keeps in old Pierce stand. Rob Evans was sunning himself at the door. Took a glass of water Fagundus wanted me to take something stronger. Fagundus has lately married and quit his trade (Blacksmith) to keep a tavern. A poor change. Took Mother some cream from Carson Evan's. Spent the evening running round with Will and Joe McClintock, afterwards at a Musical Sworee at Park's store. George Carey and I adjourned to McGuires. Little Mag. McClelland sang some songs for us.

April 4th 1845 Friday

In Mr McCalmont's notes there happens a blank at this place. How he passed the day is uncertain, and posterity will be deprived of this valuable item of information. For the sake of the more inquisitive reader I may say that it is highly probable the worthy individual ate his three regular meals and went to Nock's in the evening.

April 5th 1845 Saturday

The principle event of the day was a walk to Puffenbargers. I had been up to the office in Elliot's store before dinner, when George Carey informed me that a party of damsels intended going up to the Sables to have their fortunes told. Joe McClelland constituted himself a committee of nine to invite Nocks, but it was scrub day and Nocks could not come. However at the appointed time we prepared and set out. I went for Miss Stevenson, and while waiting for her to put on her bonnet, John came over with Beck, Miss Ulman and two Phipps. I introduced our damsels to Miss S. but with true Franklin politeness they kept their seats as firmly as if they were glued. We then started on our walk which proved rather tiresome to Miss S who only thought

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of stepping across the creek. After some time we arrived at the end of our jaunt. A number of others joined us and before we left our Company amounted to sixteen. The house is a little stone building or hut rather at the mouth of the two mile run on the Warren turnpike. On entering we saw a number of dirty scabby headed children collected round an old woman of no small dimensions who held another one at her breast. A girl of about sixteen whose duty it was to prepared coffee was the only decent looking person in the room.

After the girls had taken off their fixins and after the old woman had taken a close observation of the company while munching a biscuit and after she had cast numerous inquiring glances at Narcissa, the ceremonies commenced. Miss Stevenson being a stranger, we called on her first with out mentioning her name. However the old priestess had heard of a widow McClelland being in town, and how should she know but that there might be in the lady before her some similarity to the one of whom she had heard. How should she know but that the lady before her, whose face bore strong indications that her virginity was insured for a passage over thirty, the lady who had to wear green glasses might not herself be the

identical widow McClelland. Franklin is a small place. Two strange ladies don't often visit it at once and the supposition was certainly reasonable. What wonder then that when Narcissa had turned her cup the coffee dregs should have declared the decree of fate "be thou a widow. The old woman took the cup with a serious countenance, then glanced at its contents with a wrinkled brow, and finally turned to Narcissa with "haven't you been married? No said half a dozen laughing at the blunder. But the old lady was by no means disconcerted. She looked again at the dregs as if she saw something among them very hard to make out. "Well then" she said "you have been very near it sometime, which of course satisfied all and none more than

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Miss S. herself. She then went on to relate what was going to happen in future to bless her lot. She was to marry before a year beside other things too tedious to mention. It would take more time than I could spare to put down the fortunes of each beside being rather unimportant. Beck was in a place among a lot of children which she quickly fitted to her school. Ellen Ulman was to be rich. John was to have money plenty, a sentence which the advance payment of a quarter dollar had no small efficacy in obtaining and I was to take a journey, teach school and marry a girl with a fortune. George Carey's possessed more matter of interest. The prophetess took his cup and looked at it with a peculiar mystified air. Then she began to speak. 'This young man mixes things.' I don't know what "Reads books" - "great many books" - "must be- yes it is a doctor" She stopped then and looked as if she wanted to say more but couldn't. "Well is that all?" "Oh no I can give you more. 'You'll- oh pshaw- You'll I dont know how to say it- You'll get into a scrape with" 'What is it? cued the damsels who had all crowded round. 'Oh you'll get into a scrape with a girl" upon hearing this some of us laughed in earnest but some of the damsels asked very innocently whether he would marry her. "No" said she "but he'll go off after he provides for her." The girls at this answer began to steal away and looked at each other with faces between a smile and the appearance of assumed dignity. It was well George came near the last or the old lady's prospects of making money would have been dull enough.

We soon adjourned and started home in good spirits. Coming to a house where the Warren stage had stopped we all got in and rode home. It was pretty well crowded.

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April 6th 1845 Sunday

Attended Presbyterian Church and noticed that Lydia Park had come home. Attended also in evening and did myself the pleasure of running one of Nock's home.

April 7th 1845 Monday

Saw John Fagundus and Henry Nock after working at a rough sketch of a letter to J. Renos. They wanted me to join a party at Russel's. Talked to a young Doctor in Snowdon's office about Laura and agree a subject introduced by speaking of my ride as the last one for a while. After dinner our party started. Messrs Nock, Fangundus, Ulman, & McCalmont with two Nock damsels. Lyd, Susan, & Sarah Jane Ridgeway. We had only reached Nocks when it began to snow delightfully. However our ride was not to be spoiled by trifles and we proceeded on our way. Lydia and Sarah Jane were the oracles. Their respective visits to Mercer and Meadville made their conversation very interesting. Some one would speak of something and then Lydia would tell how they did it in Mercer. This would bring Sarah Jane's experience into play; and she would tell us how it was in Meadville. But sometimes she spoke a little extravagantly; as when she told us that the peach blossoms were out when she left. On arriving at Russels we raised a card party. Tus and I beat Sol and Clem. While we were playing Henry undertook to make Susan drink a glass of wine. He could not come it and I was glad to see her so firm. He finally got mad

and set down the glass in a passion muttering something, but Sus. played on and he became calm by degrees. Then came our supper of flannel cakes and maple molasses. Coming home Clem and I sat down low and had a hugging party. Was glad to reach home. John and father were at Temperance Meeting. Father had been speaking at length, telling experience.

April 8th 1845 Tuesday

Called pretty early at Espy's office and heard Uncle

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Robert prophesying a speedy rise of water. Snow he said would go off with rain. He was persuading Espy not to be ready for the Arrow. Thomas is packing up in earnest. He has sold his house to Moore, the Saddler, and bought harnesses enough to ride with all over Iowa and do some water drawing to boot. Got a box at Lamberton's store and made a cover for it with Campbell's tools. He has been forced to quit work on account of Snow. Will and I went over to Nock's in evening played cards and kissed the damsels.

April 9th 1845 Wednesday

Was called early by father who said I had better get ready and go with Thomas. Rose and performed hostlerical. Went out to Uncles and got some French books from Will. Bade them good bye at a venture. Spent most of day in packing up. Weather is getting cleat without rain. Passengers who had been on Alleghany Belle brought news that Arrow had started but the Belle had turned back. Will and I ran around in evening, went across creek but not to Nock's.

April 10th 1845 Thursday

Watch for Arrow continues some have given her up. Spent the day in loafing round and talking to folks about going. Howe wanted to know what I was going for; and father could not tell him. News came that Arrow had stuck and Little Franklin was still coming on. Called at Col Kinnears in evening ~~and~~ saw Miss S and talked about moving. Espy & family were at our house for tea.

April 11th 1845 Friday

The Arrow has been given up but people still look for little Franklin. Had a fine hunt in afternoon with Barlow Espy. When coming out from supper I met John who told us that a steam boat had come. He mounted a horse the sorrel to ascertain whether the report was true. After he left we saw a sorrel horse running over

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the diamond. Father thought it was ours. I argued that ours had no white face. I believe I never remember a fact without beating it into my cranium by hard labor. Spent the night until 12 oclock in riding with Matthew Shorthill and others who were hauling Espy's goods to boat. Went to bed at Carson Evan's with Barlow who was pretty well corned.

April 12th 1845 Saturday

Was called early by Carson Evans. Went down home. Omnibus came for Mother. She, Narcissa, Pope, and I came down in first load. We bade good bye to all on the porch. Lib cried a little, and we put

off. Espy's family came down soon. John arrived on bench just in time to say good bye and Will just a moment too late. It was a beautiful morning. The sun was just peeping over the hill when we started and the smoke which seemed to have fallen asleep was just beginning to rise. On entering the boat a strong odor of onions was more effectual in bringing tears to my eyes than the whole scene at parting. We were soon on our way. I walked up on deck to take one long look at Franklin but the air was too cool to stand in longer than was necessary to lose sight of home behind the hill. After breakfast we passed all those great places distinguished by the prerogative of names. Such as [Serib grass]?, Mouth of Sandy, etc. One boat went along at a moderately fast gait hopping over the stones and jolting worse than the Butler stage. One stroke a little worse than the others made the women scream a little and put a hole in the bottom. We had to stop an hour or two to repair. Came to great Western. Hands were loafing on the wharf. Heard news of Pittsburg fire, which made the subject of conversation for rest of day. The deck hands magnified the report considerably. A man came on board with a Yellow wife. Pope was pretty mad about it. Reached Kittanning in evening. Sun just setting. Went off boat with Miss Stevenson was introduced to Miss McKee and a host of others. Took Mother up to Hotel Meckler's. Went to Old Mr

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Stevenson's and heard Miss Roarer playing on guitar and singing Whig and Loco songs. Pope and I adjourned to a Grocery where we ate any quantity of eggs and pie and retired.

April 13th 1845 Sunday

Rose and went up to Hotel for Mother. Two women kept us waiting half an hour. After breakfast I amused myself by taking a nap. Country begins to look like living. Passed Freeport. Met the little Warren and soon reached Pittsburg. Harvey Evans met us at the wharf. Took our squad over to Alleghany City (Sweeny's) Moth. McBride had serious fears of losing us on the bridge. I returned with a boy for baggage. After dinner Harvey and I walked over to look at the burnt part of the city. It was a sad sight to see the enormous destruction of labor. The ruins were still smoking and the peculiar color of the burnt bricks gave them the appearance of being heated to redness. I spent two or three hours looking at it from all directions. Went down to the point where the fire seemed to have gone into the river after finishing its work on the bank. Went up on the hill where crowds of people had collected to see the whole mass of destruction at a glance. Passing through the streets I could see no one who showed any signs of grief. All appeared to be spectators as unconcerned as myself. I would have supposed that all the sufferers had left the city. had not Harvey now and then pointed out a cool looking fellow with a segar as one who had lost all he possessed, but who seemed inclined not the least to cry for what couldnt be helped.

Returned to Hotel. In evening attended Meth Church in Smithfield St. Gospel likened to a net. Returned home. (Grandfather went with Harvey and me part of the way to Church.) Retired. Two in a bed and six in large bed on the floor. Five beds beside ours in the room with each two. Enough to make carbonic acid

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sufficient to choke a room full.

April 14th 1845 Monday

Rose as I thought early though the sun was up way before and had in consequence of my industry to be tortured with waiting an hour or more on breakfast. After it was over I went to other side to see if Espy's furniture was safe. Ran round awhile to find a warehouse. All were full. At last I began to look around for some other place and finally found a low mean looking tavern but filled with any thing but mean people who were disposed to afford accommodations. 'The man of the house' so the woman said

was away but her brother in law attended to the business of the firm. He was of the sort of easy good natured men and showed me several out houses where I could stow the goods, but I preferred the cellar and footed it up Liberty St to find a dragman. I then assisted him in loading and unloading four large wads of furniture and which operation I got every quantity of tar on my pants and broke off a few buttons. Arrived too late for dinner at the Hotel. In afternoon went to a bathing establishment. Had my hair cut. Took a shave and a bath and after going home and shirting I was more like Mr McCalmont. Pope came over in the evening and we talked about Miss Derby. Read a little novel.

April 15th 1845 Tuesday

A number of Franklinites consisting chiefly of a detachment from the iron works arrived early this morning and took breakfast at Sweeney's. Frank Kinnear among the rest who expects to pay his expenses by rolling ten pins. Soon after breakfast or rather no so very soon after it Pope came over and wished me to go up and introduce him to Miss Derby. Our last evening's conversation was a discussion concerning the residence of the young lady. I contending that she lived up in Elk Co

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and he maintaining equally firmly that she was now in Alleghany City. We concluded however to compromise it and I split the difference by saying that probably Derby had moved. As we passed along the street we remembered our observations on the damsel. He said he was struck a little with her appearance the first time he saw her. I remarked that she was very pretty, but her complexion was a little too dark. "No, said he very light." Well said I maybe you think so, but isnt she too short for a man of your altitude. "Oh no" said he she's rather tall." Well said I she must have grown some, and her features may have changed a little since I say her." By this time we had reached the door and I was about proceeding to introduce him when Harvey Evans came up, who after some few questions satisfied us that me Miss Derby wasnt Pope's Miss Derby, and that as for as right to introduce was concerned we strode on equal footing. Mrs Evans, however, came to our relief and gave us both what we needed, and I was much pleased to subscribe to Pope's opinion that Miss Derby was rather too short or dark in complexion and that she was about the prettiest girl we had seen in Pittsburg.

April 16th and 17th 1845 Wednesday and Thursday

From neglecting to take any notes on these days I must write from memory that concerning both a plan which should have included Tuesday; for my celebrated introductory adventure happened on a moonlight evening instead of morning and I think belongs to Tuesday while Pope's morning call was at another time, but it makes little difference to the historian.

Espy arrived on Wednesday evening and on the next day he and I went down to look at his goods. I spent the two days running round seeing Mother start to Steubenville in the [Hibernias] and calling on Jim McGill and some few others of my old acquaintances

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in the city, during which time I became heartily sick of the place and wished strongly to leave. Saw Burton my former school teacher in All. City. He was surprised to see me so hearty. No wonder. The sight of this man brought up some gloomy recollections. It is only six years since I saw him and to talk of recollections in so short a space seems singular. When I saw him last before I was in a fair way for destruction both of body and mind and six years though short has made no small change in my prospects and circumstances. Six years ago and I was plodding day after day from Uncles into town to school and home in the evening. Six years ago and I was entering on a summer that I can never forget. Father, Mother and indeed all our family had left Franklin. Will was away on his foolish adventures. John was at

West Point and Mother had taken sick on her journey, and letters that we received promised no hope of return. How lonely Franklin seemed to me once in a while though seldom indeed I went in and felt as if I was indeed alone upon earth and then my mind was not more than half right by my body. How solitary I spent my time half the day uncertain whether I really existed at all. But why call up such a gloomy period, or rather why not bear it in mind still and relate it to others if need be as a warning. But then the summer passed slowly away. Autumn came. Mother returned sick, Aunt Barbara died. Mrs Hays and Ellen Pierson soon followed, but since then all has cleared away. Franklin is still there with little to interest. All my young friends gone and I now feel well contented to leave it to the strangers who have taken it. So much for a retrospect. Like a old man telling the story of his boyish days I feel disposed to write whether anyone hears or no. When memory once sears on the [--] of the part one brings up another till the whole is completed, picture of life comes piece by piece before us.

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April 17th 1845 Thursday

Having just found my notes of the days adventures I can proceed to my diary with more certainty. After breakfast Espy paid a visit to the wharf and returned with the news that the Herald was still there, and accordingly he began to see whether he could go or not. First he sent me up to Pentlands to get his Certificate of admission to practice in Supreme Court as Pittsburg. I had to walk two or three miles and found the individual in bed. He promised to make out the certificate and send it over. Returning I met Charly Wilkins. He said he was going to Carlisle at Commencement and had been invited to speak. He talked a few moments about the ruins around us and parted as usual with old acquaintances on such occasions with "Ill see you again" a promise which neither cares about fulfilling. After dinner I proceeded down to wharf and told Capt of Herald he need not wait for us but he concluded he would wait an hour or more and I then trotted over to Sweeney's took dinner went up to Pentland's again and paid some attention to getting baggage on board or rather did all this before going over to Sweeney's. Sent Espy's family ahead and then proceeded down to the boat by way of the cellar where the rascal of a dragman had left Espy's chair. As I neared the boat the impatient passengers were making audible demonstrations of dissatisfaction. Some hollowed to me to hurry whereupon I stopped and began a conversation with the dragman. Then they swore a little but it did not matter much. George and Haddy Brigham were very kind in coming to see me off. Espy was long coming. A dark cloud was rising and as the storm began to show signs of breaking

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the chains were got out and made fast. Then the wind broke in earnest. A cloud of dust rose at the point and was hurried along the whole length of the city in the midst of which people and dogs were running in every direction. Among the rest appeared Espy with his dog running at the top of his speed. When the first blast was over [and] the rain commenced, the dust cleared away giving a fine view of the ruins. All over the great field the tall piles of brick were falling as they became loosened by the storm and presented an appearance gloomy and striking. An occasional loud peal of thunder or bright flash of lightening increased the wildness of the scene, but the last loud [pap] as the rain ceased spoke the end of the storm and our boat was soon in motion. I stood on deck for some time looking at the beautiful country seats along the river which looked green and fresh after the rain. white back still farther as we passed along we left the city behind us with the dark cloud seemingly above it still as if a harmony with the lamentable situation of the suffering [city]. After supper we arrived at Freedom where our boat stopped for the night. We had previously passed the [Serlerington] which had stuck and helped her off merely by our motion. Showing that we will do some good in this world by merely going ahead ourselves. The waves which a rich man raises in order to display his wealth sometimes help poor foundering devils off the shallow

places in life's stream and let him go on his way. But the boat which our motion assisted pursued us closely and finally past us. So the poor man had enough of comparison.

April 18th 1845 Friday

About ten o'clock this morning we arrived at Steubenville. I wanted to go up and deliver a letter to Mother but the Captain would answer

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no questions about his delay and we were kept waiting long enough to have gone up twice, but without permission to go. However I presume it was right for if they would do the contrary all the passengers would leave and they would be in trouble. Espy and I left our letters with a man at the wharf and contented ourselves with our disappointment as well as we could. After leaving Steubenville I felt as if I was really on my way to the west, and experienced the first feeling of regret I have had since leaving home. One reason for it was the associations connected with my visit to the Seminary which were awakened by the sight of the old building. When I was there more than a year since I spent a very pleasant day with Vic, Mollie and the rest, but the scene has changed; and now were I to go to the door it is doubtful whether ever Mrs Kennedy would recognize me as the fellow who made her so angry by interrupting her school. Then beside I was beginning to enter a strange country and I had of course a right to regale myself with a blue fit. After dinner I went on deck and introduced myself to a red-haired damsel by carrying a chair. She gave me an introduction to one or two others and I drove off all regret at leaving Steuben. A green fellow who had been talking with the damsels before I came up had just bought a copy of Paul de Kocks last which he was showing to them. They laughed a little and he looked foolish. Our boat soon reached wheeling and stopped an hour or more for freight. I walked up street with the damsels and treated to ice cream at a real neat establishment. Walked all round the town with the girls and then came on board. [Horas] and I then went up to Clothing Store where he bought

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a coat and I a coat and good vests for five dollars. He thought I was getting fooled but the vest was what I most wanted and a good one though not so cheap. Nothing of any importance happened until evening when the incident occurred of no little interest. I had been seated out on ground with the damsels for sometime listening to Perkins singing when a woman came to the door and exclaimed in a hurried voice "Three children overboard." After the first moment of surprise we concluded that it was not probable it could be so, and that it was likely they would soon be found, but on entering the cabin there was no such news. Every thing was in confusion. The mother was shaking her hands and crying bitterly. Passengers were running here and there and ransacking every corner of the boat, while other mothers were grasping their own children closer to them lest they should meet a similar fate. The boat was stopped and for some time every one was a committee of investigation, but they began to get tired and were beginning to gather round the unfortunate woman in a sort of despair unable to give her any consolation. But again as if unwilling to give up they renewed the search. State room after state room was examined until one was found locked. Here all crowded together. The owner came up and said they were not there. The father called his little ones by name, but got no answer. At last they bursted the door open and they saw [curogh lasy] the little cases sound asleep. Their mother had sent them to bed only mistaken their room. This little adventure afforded a sport for two or three days. Then the little cases were known as the children who were overboard ever after. Got acquainted with my room-mate a Mr Reynolds from Jefferson Co. acquainted with Father.

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April 19th and 20th 1845 Saturday and Sunday

I must here pass over two days together for want of notes during which time our boat was still keeping on its way down the beautiful Ohio. No incident of any importance happened, but I passed the time pleasantly with the girls, and sitting on deck admiring the beauties of the country as every turn of the river brought new ones to our view. We passed Portsmouth and Marrietta without stopping and on Sunday morning passed Hanging Rock the residence of Mollie Hamilton. I was sour I could not stop. Saw two ladies walking through a grove and concluded that one was the young lady mentioned but did not wave a handkerchief. On Sunday evening about sunset we reached Maysville Key a beautiful town. As I pass these young cities on the river I often wish I could stay in one of them for life, but destiny bears me on to the far west.

April 21st 1845 Monday

On waking heard a fellow rousing one of the boat hands with "Bill we are at Cincinnati." The word had as much attraction for me as for any person and I accordingly rose and dressed. I then walked up Broadway. What a beautiful street, and how I wished as I looked at the signs of wealth in its splendid dwellings that it had been my lot to have been born in Cincinnati. Returned to boat and told Thomas I had a notion to stop. A cabman overheard me and asked me for my baggage, but this was bringing me to the point too soon, and I therefore told him to wait a few minutes at last Espy and I then walked up street and looked at some clothing. Fellows were in a great humor for selling.

After breakfast I went up street and [lad] the river

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It did not come to my ideas of things. An eagle carrying off a child in wax work tolerable. The child + eagle very good. I believe the latter is a natural one and the child is only part of the art worth any thing. Looked at the dioramic views because I could do nothing else. Washington's death bed scene pretty good in wax figures, but there was little in the museum to interest. Many pretty things and good enough to interest one in an idle moment but nothing imposing. Spent some time in walking round the city after leaving the Museum and returned to boat to write a letter in the midst of all sorts of confusion. Steamboats were puffing past and making ours rock by their waves. Children were playing in the cabin [drops rattling] over the wharf and a fine band was striking up some national airs at the Barracks across the river. In the midst of the discord of sweet sounds I continued my letter in which I expressed a wish I have felt ever since that I could spend all my days in the same scenes of excitement.

After dinner I proceeded to hunt a pair of boots. Found them in a German's shop where I got a pair of good ones for \$3.50. Took two of our girls off the boat and walked with them up Broadway to the Mountain and had a fine view of the city. I had no notion it was so large. The girls by this time wanted water and we accordingly went into a little house to ask for it. A little dutch woman brought a glass of something like urine which we all tasted, and asked her what kind of water it was. "It ish hydrant water." Said she. Where does it come from? "O. it dosh come down on to roof?" In other words it was rain water. Walked back to the boat and ate supper. I then went up street to the National Theatre. Mason was playing Werner. I went to go to the infernal regions at Museum but I got into

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them equally well by attending the theatre. In such a place I always have a strange feeling of melancholy. I think of everything as passing, of the shortness of existence and of the end to which all is coming. Like the preacher I say all is vanity. By the time I had heard two acts I was willing to go up to third tier, a horrid place. Made an engagement with a damsel for evening. Ate pig feet, listened with attention to the whores cursing and enjoyed a little of Hell till starting time. Then walked through a number of moonlit

streets to a house in Walnut St. Here the damsel led me through an alley and up two pair of stairs to a room where two more a man and woman were lying on a bed on the floor partly asleep. The girl was moaning as if in a troubled dream. My protectress left me a few minutes alone while she went into another room. There was no light save for that of the moon as it shone in at the half open window, and I was left to my own reflections, while a dog barking at a distance made me feel only more the gloomy emotions which I was already disposed to indulge. They may talk about the pleasures of vice. They are great it is true. Exciting and alluring, but they will not do for all, so enjoying them one must lose for a time the power of thinking. He must give up every generous feeling and if conscience or sentiment intrude on his attention he must close the door. It does not do for one to play libertine and preacher at once, or libertine & poet. Accordingly when the clock struck twelve with slow and solemnly measured sounds, and when the dog was barking and the moon peeping in at the window I had no business to think of other days, of the noble character of a virtuous life of a love pure and manly bestowed on a worthy object even in vain. I should have shut out every other consideration but that of sensual indulgence, and then I might have done what I did not, experience real pleasure in a course of folly. But my damsel soon relieved my meditation.

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We retired for an hour or more, and there after wondering through the narrow path by which I had ascended I found myself on the street and feeling as if I wished to hush the sound of my footsteps. On reaching the boat I sat for sometime on guard looking at the river. All was quiet save the chatter of iron works across the stream, and I was little disposed to retire as soon as I did.

April 22nd 1845 Tuesday

Woke with a strange feeling or conviction that there was something wrong, and as my ideas became more definite I began to meditate in the state of my finances. Only 28 dollars left. Had blues most essentially. Talked a while with Thomas. He told me I was going it too strong. Made a determination to retrench, reform, and go to school teaching; and experienced some relief. Read and wrote till starting time beside playing some on Perkin's flute and listening to the band over at the barracks. I was almost willing to remain at Cincinnati, but my passage money was paid for St. Louis. Some few minutes after dinner our boat left the wharf. Stood on deck with the girls to see the country seats below the city. Passed North bend and Harrison's grave. I then turned in for a nap and did not awake till near supper time. It was very warm and sultry and a breeze was fully as acceptable as at home in August, and the water felt as pleasant to wash in as it does with us in the hot days in summer. After supper I sat out on deck with the young ladies, but I was in no good humor for conversation. I was thinking of home and of what might be before me in the future and resolving to have energy a resolve that I have made too often without keeping it. Perkins sang for the girls on the ground until we retired expecting to waken at Louisville.

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April 23rd 1845 Wednesday

On looking out of my state room, the first building that I saw was enough to show the city. I rose dressed and walked up street. Took a walk through the market house admiring the piles of fine fish that were to be seen in great plenty. It was not till after dinner that we left the wharf and then it took us nearly two hours to reach the locks in the canal. When the boat stopped to wait for another one to make the passage I went on shore and saw the Kentucky Giant. Having gone back and reported Espy and all the ladies on board turned out to see the [busers] naturae. The place of exhibition was a groggery owned by the little seven feet 8 inches, and it was a question of etiquette whether the ladies should enter; but a Miss Johnson soon got over the difficulty by saying that no person there would see them again and they

accordingly all went in. The Giant was seated on a high chair reading a paper, and did not appear to notice the crowd around him until one of our company proposed a glass of wine, when he began to show symptoms of activity. The little folks stood back to give him room, and he rose with a rush something like that of an elephant in the ring. We stood gaping at him for sometime in astonishment. A large gun some twelve feet long was standing in the corner, but I judged it was more to excite the wonder of the curious than for any actual service. The giant though large does not appear to be strong in proportion. His face and body shape bear no small resemblance to those of Tom Ridgway. Espy said it was Tom only more so. After passing the locks we passed a little town and came on without any other incident.

April 24th 1845 Thursday

Was called two or three times to breakfast on account of indisposition. The country begins to look like the west or at any rate unlike the east. Passed a few little towns

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of no importance. A little boat called the Fawn passed us like a flash. The hands on her deck seemed very much pleased. One of them a darkey made an offer by signs to take us in town. The day was very warm and oppressive. I was asleep when we stopped at Evansville but Espy wakened me to see Major Clover. The major seemed to think we were making a good move and that we would never regret it. After a short conversation our boat left. After supper I sat out on the guard with the damsels. Johnson and his wife sang several songs for us and did it well. We could see the lightening at a distance. When seen so far off it looks beautiful. About ten oclock the storm broke. One very loud clap of thunder.

April 25th 1845 Friday

Last day on Ohio. The scenery looks strange to a Pennsylvanian. We have not seen a hill for three days. River grows broader and looks grand. We passed some few towns of no importance and reached the Mississippi soon after dinner. As we approached we could easily discern the two rivers by the color of the water. We stopped to unload some whiskey at Cairo. I went on shore, to look at the town. A great deal of expense has been gone to to make it a town but it wont work. I stepped into a wharf boat where a dismal looking fellow was keeping a bakery. "I see said I. You have a fine level, does the water ever rise over it?" "No sir" said he. "Well then I presume" Said I "the high water dont affect you. "Yes sir it comes through" replied he. "as cooly as ever. "And then when it does get in it stays and gets green and that makes it a little unhealthy. Quite probable though I. A picture of Cairo was

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suspended on the wall calculated for some future Century but I guess the picture is about all. I asked the fellow how long he had lived there. "Why said he "about four years and thats a little longer than I'll ever be here again if there is any way of getting out of it. We were soon on our way up the grand Mississippi. Passed a boat that had been partly sunck by a snag. It looked worse than a mamaoth Skeleton. Sat on guard as usual after supper with the girls and watched the lights along the river. There was a long bend in the river here which made it appear as if we were going toward Orleans.

April 26th 1845 Saturday

In the morning after breakfast we passed some little places and fine scenery. A large rock called Castle Rock or some kind of a town was especially worthy of notice. In the afternoon a fellow on board undertook to tell the fortunes of the damsels. One of the Hughes attacked me for introducing her to a

married man. She had wanted this introduction. I made fun of her for being deceived, and she took it in pretty good part only saying it was right mean.

The fortune telling was on yesterday afternoon. Espy had something told him about a security which hit the mark beautifully. The fellow told me I would not get to the end of my journey so soon as I expected. I would marry a girl with 300 dollars. Would marry at home.

In the evening we passed some more fine scenery. High rocky banks and shot towns perched on their edges. This was my last night with the damsels. The oldest one either because she had some concern in me or because she wished me to have some in her. Talked some

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of the ties of friendship, how soon broken, how pleasant while they remained whole and all that sort of thing, but the fortune teller said I was to get a wife in Pennsylvania, and that she was engaged already; and I concluded there was no use of me making any declaration of my feelings farther than by squeezing her hand and sighing as the lightning flashed, which I very poetically compared to the beams of love that sometimes enlighten the heart only to leave all dark again. There we stood however on the guard till the storm came down in earnest. Perhaps she was using me as men use pictures not as of any great importance in themselves but only as calling up the remembrance of something that is, and I was just indulging in a very natural disposition that philanthropic affection which leads us to regard woman as woman whether in the parlor, kitchen, brothel or steamboat. By the way I mean no disrespect to the young ladies. They were not remarkably pretty, but there was a something of intelligence and frankness in their features and especially so of Lissie's that made me admire them. They appear to have another recommendation, good Common sense, so that when it came time for them to retire I was by no means glad. Our boat lay by during the storm. Reynolds and I were playing checkers, when the Captain ordered us to quit. The worthy functionary alluded to, a Mr. Dawson, is about as mean a pappy as one would wish to see. He does not seem to have the most distant notion of politeness.

April 27th 1845 Sunday

Was roused very early by the steward telling me we had reached St. Louis. I rose accordingly and had completed my toilet when we reached the wharf. We had some trouble in getting in among the other boats, but the cabman of the difficult Hotels were on board it seemed before we had landed. Such a scene of confusion as ensued beggars description. "Baggage sir. Baggage sir." Virginia

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house" "Plantus house." "They'll charge you two dollars a day there. Come to National Hotel." "United States Baggage sir. This your trunk, yes sir. "Take care sir. You'll be sorry sir." and such like cries were ringing in a fellows ears till I felt like giving them a juvenal cursing. I walked out on the guard to escape the babel but a sly darky watched his opportunity and coming up to me and looking like Iago attempting to excite the jealousy of Othello save that the colors needed exchanging, he whispered "Massa, Massa them fellows is a tryin to fool you. Dey'll lick it onto you like fun as them are hoares. Do you just watch dem and come to de Missouri Hotel Massa "Mind I tell you?" "I'll watch the rascals" said I.

I did not leave the boat till after breakfast when I went up to the Virginia Hotel. I enjoyed once more the luxury of being clean. Our entrance into St. Louis impressed me any way but favorably. Trout or Water Street is a horrid looking one. The shops were all open and at every door they were all selling fruit and knives then came a groggery, then another Refinery, then a tea pin alley, and so on the whole length of the city.

Espy and I took a walk up through it. After leaving the river the appearance of things changes. The streets become broader and cleaner and the buildings neat and beautiful. We luxuriated on ice cream and then made our way back. I went to dinner. A very fine one it was too. Attended a Presbyterian

Church. Saw one pretty girl, went home and took a nap. Espy called and I had to rise and walk up town with him. We both admired the place almost enough to locate. In evening I had my trunk taken down to the boat called Galend and slept on board.

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April 28th 1845 Monday

My birthday 20 years of age but the fact did not occur to me till sometime during the afternoon. I spent the day principally in assisting Espy move his furniture from Herald to the other boat. The Captain made him weigh it- about 2 tons. Espy thought it was four and left blueish until his bill was made out. I was pretty tired when our labors were finished. Espy wanted to give me a dollar for my trouble. I didnt want to take it and in the course of the transaction we dropped fifty cents in the river. It was pretty late in the afternoon when we left. There were six boats leaving the wharf at once. The Doctor Franklin the West Wind and another for down the river and the other three up. The West Wind had a bard on board playing, and I felt rather unwilling to leave the wharf for a wilder country. I still cannot help wishing to locate in a city. There is something charming in it if it even should be starvation. It was near sun down before our boat was fairly in motion crawling along at a desperately slow rate. Before dark I had formed the acquaintance of several persons on board bound for Iowa City among the rest a Yankee preacher. Mr Fish and a young fellow whom Mother McBride cheated out of his place at table.

April 29th, 30th, and May 1st 1845 Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

I must here ask the reader to skip three days of my interesting history during which we were pursuing our way up the Mississippi. The tedious character of the river which was so high as to be running among the trees on either bank alone made the trip tedious and unpleasant. In addition to this we had a rainy day and a slow moving boat. I amused myself chiefly by

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reading two of Fredericka Bremer's novels called Rome and H. Family. What a charming writer. We had on board a large quantity of Mormons bound for Nauvoo. One afternoon I listened to one of them an old woman promulgating the doctrines of her creed. She had come with the rest all the way from England to see the temple and live among the followers of Smith. For the particulars of this and the discourse of a young male disciple about "hevil spirits" the reader is referred to a letter which I wrote home shortly after reaching Iowa City. We arrived at Bloomington on Thursday evening and to find our Steamboat travel at an end. It was ten oclock when we reached the town. I assisted Espy in getting his furniture off and then went up to the Hotel where I was put to sleep with an old German by name Bauman from Cumberland County, who came with us on the boat and who said he had seen me once at Carlisle.

May 2nd 1845 Friday

Soon after breakfast, a party consisting of Fisk, the Iowa City fur Company, (3 young fellows with white hats), old Bauman and myself started for Iowa City. We had a very pleasant ride of it. Soon after leaving Bloomington we came to a house where a man lived whose greatest exploit had been stroking his daughter. After this the county began to appear les thickly timbered and soon we reached the first prarie. It looked beautiful, so green and fresh far different from what I expected. We saw a number of birds new to me and had two or three beautiful views of mirage making it look as if there was a large lake at a distance. Houses too seen at a great distance are sometimes changed in shape so as to be hardly recognized. We took dinner at the house of a tall long looking farmer

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For which we paid 5 picayunes apiece. We then came on through a forest saw some large maple trees. The indians had opened all of them at times. Saw a windmill on a hill or rather a rise for there are no hills here. Saw a number of squirrels one of them a grey one was so near by as to excite my spirit for adventure and I gave him a chase, but he succeeded in reaching his hole.

It was not yet sun down when we reached Iowa City. I stopped with the Company at Gaults, the meanest Hotel I ever saw. Had a miserable supper and took a walk round the place. Went up on to a little hill and heard the whip-poor-wills hollowing. Had the blues most delightfully.

May 3rd 1845 Saturday

Rose too late for first table. Ate an abominably mean breakfast. Walked over to Powell and Jones's with a Mr. Wilson from Mercer Co Pa a student of the college. Had an introduction to Reno and went with him to the Library which proved to be a better one than I had expected to see. Saw a young fellow reading one of Scotts novels. Was told he was a son of Lady Williams. Began to write a long letter home. In the afternoon several carriages arrived in town and drove up to Swan's Hotel. There contained the members of the Iowa Legislature. Espy and his family arrived soon. I went over and saw them and then walked round town with Espy. The Yankee preacher made me an offer to board me for \$1.50 per week.

May 4th 1845 Sunday

Rose and out on Sunday go to meetings. Went to Swans. After Thomas started he and I took a walk, and then attended Presbyterian Church in the state house. The morning was beautiful. The martins

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were chirping just as lively as at home, and that good old tune old hundred sounded so natural that I could hardly realize how far I was from all the friends that I have left; and when I did realize it I had a source of consolation in the pretty faces in the choir. Did not feel well after dinner. Took a nap beside Espy. Spoke to Wilson from Dubuque about an office. Had no hope of getting one. Retired early.

May 5th 1845 Monday

Went to State House in morning. Fellows were preparing things for the Legislature. Each desk had a pen and quire of paper and the house was furnished with a saw dust carpet. (Domestic manufacture). Legislature met about noon. I listened to them a while. Some member, who boarded at our house boasted at dinner that he had put them all right. Yankee preached Fisk proposed to give me a chance better than school teaching. He is going to publish a paper and wants me to get subscribers. In evening he took me to his house. His daughter was preparing for a concert. A young dentist wanted to know if I was pious. He is a great squirt. Another Iowa chap called to take the girl to concert. She was out, and when she came in she asked me to go along. Not wishing to interfere I promised to attend the affair after I went home. I then walked to the State House by another path from there and heard some fine singing. Saw Wilson there. Pretty fine fellow. Says he used to be well acquainted with Ed at Steubenville. After concert was over as I came across the square I could hear voices near me and a little in advance. Saying something about Pennsylvania. "Come out to study Law &c &c from which I inferred the subject of the remarks.

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May 6th 1845 Tuesday

Went over to Swans and then accompanied Espy to see about his boxes. He has at last found a house after no little trouble. Finished my long letter home. Helped Thomas set out his plum trees in the afternoon, and unpack his boxes. Called at Yankee's and went to his printing office to talk about his offer. Found he was making Calculations that would not suit me. Attended his family worship. He prayed for the young pioneer from Venango. Went home and retired.

May 7th 1845 Wednesday

Was quite unwell all morning. Thomas informed me that Mechanic's Academy needed a teacher. They did not want a Methodist. I took a plagues by dose of salts. Went out to Espy's new residence and assisted Mother McB set out a number of herbs, roots, &c while she entertained me with a lecture on their specific properties. This was good for cholic, that for cold this for worms & so on. In evening Thomas and I called on Mr Hummer. He seems like a very energetic go aheadative fellow. His causality takes up all his forehead making a sort of portico. He gave us an amusing account of his adventure at Rock Island Ill. He then promised to call on me in the morning and we left. I attended a temperance meeting Dr Blass was speaking when I entered. His manner is a little too monotonous. A student occupied the floor a while with some extensive gesticulations. After him came an old fellow who took up the question on bible grounds. He had made a number of quotations to suit his purpose, and then concluded to make one or two that did not suit it, by way if answering the objection. The last one he took up was Paul's advice to Timothy "Take a little wine for thy stomach's sake." After dwelling sometime on the proud little, he asked "but what was the reason that Paul advised Timothy to

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use wine. I say what was the reason? Why it was – hem. It was because you see there was something wrong with Timothy's stomach." There was something so odd in his manner of expressing it that the house was convulsed with laughter for several minutes. Then he concluded, the pledge was circulated, and the President expressed a wish that some gentleman would sing a song. For sometime there was silence but it was broken by a odd genius who sat near me with an old lute or guitar striking the strings once or twice by way of symphony and then starting off in a suppressed sort of strange voice with Greenland's icy mountains. All eyes were turned toward him, but there was something so ridiculous in the movement. While the fellow watched the strings intently and paused now and then to be certain of the right one that no one could avoid laughing. The boys applauded and for a time the lute and voice were drowned, but when the burst was over you could hear him tinkering ahead a little in advance of his first portion. The President said they had had music enough. Then came another peal of laughing but when it ceased the lute was still going ahead as if determined to overcome all opposition and the musical voice was chiming in in harmony. Many laughed till the tears stood in their eyes and I experienced more benefit than I had realized from my salts in the morning.

May 8th 1845 Thursday

Waited a long time for Mr Hummer. At last he came and talked to me in my room some time about the kind of school he wanted me to keep. He then took me over to the Academy. It was noon before I left him and took dinner at Gaults. Went to Espys and found the family eating their first meal in new home. Took a second course along with them. Spent the afternoon in loafing and reading

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a little at the Capitol Library. Old Gov. Chambers was entertaining a party with accounts of French and Indian wars. He said Johnson never shot the chief in the Battle of Hanes. The governor is a hot whig. Got cream for Mrs Espy across street and took supper there. Feel more healthy than I have since reaching Iowa. Have had the blues pretty essentially ever since I came here. Cut some wood after supper. Retired too early to sleep well.

May 9th 1845 Friday

Rose and breakfasted at Gault's. Went over to Espy's. Borrowed three dollars to pay my bill. Called on Hummer and found that he had advertised "Carlisle College." Went to the Reporter Office made the correction. Paid my bill at Gault's \$2.50 for the meanest week's boarding any white man ever experienced. Took dinner at Espy's and went to Library. Read Pirate of Scott part of it. Took tea and after cutting some wood Thomas and I had a talk about Iowa &c.

May 10th 1845 Saturday

Rose early and took a walk. Read some at Pirate in forenoon. Hired a fellow to lug my trunk to Espy's. Got my hair cut and received nothing in the mail. Espy informed me that Reynolds with whom I roomed on Steamboat was in town.

May 11th 1845 Sunday

Called on Reynolds and talked about the appearance of the country. Took a short walk up the hill and killed a large black snake. Went to Church with Reynolds. He does not like Iowa. I contended for the country in order to bring out all the arguments I could against it. He thinks Iowa will

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will not go ahead very rapidly and so think I.

Espy and Reynolds took a long walk after dinner. In the evening I walked out south of town to enjoy the prettiest view the place affords. I was almost quoting poetry at it when Espy came out and joined me. After we walked back I attended Prot. Meth. Church. Heard a fellow, the chap that asked if the young man was pious, preaching about David slewing Goliath.

May 12th 1845 Monday

Walked over to Swans. Saw Hummer starting for St. Louis and came down to watch my pupil trap. The Academy was vacant when I entered but Miss McIlvaine soon came down and said that she had my boys taking care of them for me and would send them in. They soon appeared. Marcus A Foster Alphons. B Walker and William Shell, names destined yet to shine on the page of American story. It was rather discouraging to begin on such a crowd with 16 dollars sent service; and to be compelled to take ones pay in trade. Great men never think of difficulties however.

May 13th-17th 1845 Tuesday- Saturday

The Pedagogue will here take the liberty of crowding together a few days of his eventful career, during which time this school flourished like a green bay tree. I have had enough to amuse me but there are no signs of profit. While in the school house I have plenty of amusement, the chief source of it is Willy Shell an ABC pupil and a genius. One day I wanted to initiate him into the mysteries of Orthography. I had occasion to wish him to spell pat but not being able to accomplish

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I undertook to instruct him. Putting my mouth in a position with the lips compressed as if about to say p I asked him what letter sounded that way. "I don't know what one?" said he very coolly as he looked round the room and appeared to be thinking of something else. "Well but" said I "look now" what letter is it?" at the same time repeating the movement. "Maybe its W said he looking up at the same time into any face with such a half uncertain look that I had my gravity upset instanter. My dignity would not allow me to enjoy the fun until I went to dinner when Espy lent me all possible assistance.

On another occasion the school had for some time been unusually quiet. I was seated with my feet poised on my walnut desk. One of the boys was sound asleep and the others looking out of the window when all of a sudden Willy jumped from his seat exclaiming "I seen a house ab.

May 18th 1845 Sunday

Rose and prepared for Church before breakfast. After it was over I read some and then attended New School Presbyterian Church. Fisk preached on "What lack I yet?" In the afternoon Espy and I went to the same place to hear a young Baptist. I came over to the Academy and finished by letter to John previously. Attended same church in the evening and heard Dr. Woods on Pauls chapter about the strife of the law of the members and the law of the spirit. He has two pretty daughters be his experience what it will in preaching.

May 19th 1845 Monday

The great event of the day was a steamboat launch, the first one built in Iowa City. I let my boys go early and started for the river with Mrs Espy but we met the people all returning. We had missed the

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fun. We then looked at the foundation of N S Pres Church in Company with Mr Bates.

Commenced reading Paley on Agency.

May 20th and 21st 1845 Tuesday and Wednesday

Very little of interest. Watching pupils affords very little of the spice of life. Saw a Mr Stewart a Cousin in law of mine who is about returning to Venango. Temperance meeting. Fisk's poem and Snake story.

May 22nd 1845 Thursday

In ringing the bell this morning I turned it over, and put it out of order. Had a long Conversation with a Miss Moore, one of Miss McIlvaine's pupils, a young lady from Vermont. Will put her out as a sample of Iowa health. In evening went over to Hummer's. The lady not home. Called at Murray's as I returned and spent the evening playing very pleasantly hearing praise and playing cards.

May 23rd 1845 Friday

Nothing of any great importance.

May 24th 1845 Saturday

There being no school today (a very good feature in Iowa education), Espy and I took an early start to the wood on a hunting expedition. We had a very pleasant walk up to the mill. Old (Bosting) at least so the name sounds a large fat old fellow from Harrisburg was fishing about a mile from town. He accompanied us the rest of the way. At the dam he gave me one of his lines and I amused myself

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an hour or more. Had a fine fish on some time two feet long but he made his escape. We returned on the opposite side of the river. Prairie looked beautiful. In the evening I went to the Post Office and got a paper from John and two for Mrs McBride. Espy was disappointed at not hearing from Venango.

May 25th 1845 Sunday

I attended Hummer's Church. He returned last evening. In the afternoon before dinner Espy and I took a walk out east of town. In the evening I went to hear Woods.

May 26th 1845 Monday

Had a call this morning. Miss Murray came into my department by a mistake. She wished to see Miss McIlvaine. Mrs Espy gave me an invitation which had been left verbally for our attendance at Miss M's in evening to hear some music. Received another acquisition to my school. The party came off in evening but the musician was taken sick and could not perform. Every person else did what they could. Hempstead a member of the Council sang Star Spangled Banner. The woods sang two or three songs well. One called the messenger bird was fine. I had to walk home alone.

May 27th 1845 Tuesday

Threatening rain all day but took it out in threatening. After school was out in evening I went up to Post Office. Espy was there but had received nothing and looked blueish. In evening I walked round town with the French music teacher. He dont like the idea of trying to

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teach music in Iowa City. A fellow was trying to auction some goods- dull prospect. Returned home. Took my bed in house for fear of raining. Espy was talking about going to St. Louis.

May 28th 1845 Wednesday

When I left home for school Espy was preparing to start to St. Louis. At noon I found he had left. Should he like the appearance of things he will move again. If I can live at all for a year or two I shall go with him. In evening I attended a temperance meeting in Company with Thomas Wayland who used to be a student at Allegheny College. Wilson of Dubuque made a speech all to ladies. Took two damsels home. Misses Moore and Fisk.

May 29th 1845 Thursday

At noon when putting on a shirt Mr Bates brought an invite for us to attend a party in evening. According by when evening came Mrs Espy and I stopped over. Had a call previously from Mr Downey and Miss Murray. I was introduced to about fifty (members and others). Had some fine singing and some that was ridiculous. Miss McIlvaine enjoyed it extremely. Eating was tolerably good. Woods' were there. [I any] Will Younger took the shine a fine girl. Returned home.

May 30th 1845 Friday

Nothing of great importance in my school. Lina Steene got frightened at a negro when out at play and came running in very much alarmed. She did not venture out again until satisfied that the African had exercised his gavel grinders. Mrs Espy received an invite to a party at Murrays. In the evening I walked all round town and down to the new steam boat with

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John Wayland. He thought I would suit the west.

May 31st 1845 Saturday

One good arrangement about Iowa school is giving a holiday on Saturday entire. I went up to State House and read some in Library. Came over to the Academy after dinner. Saw the French music man and went with him up to a little house near the spring where he boards. In the evening I took a short walk and called at Murray's as I returned. Spent the evening playing cards. Got rounced delightfully at the new game. But had the pleasure of beating Hempstead and Ellen at Eucre afterwards.

June 1st 1845 Sunday

Rose, breakfasted, took a shave and prepared for church. Attended the new school. Heard good singing as usual. Came home then came over to Academy before dinner. In the afternoon while reading Paradise Lost Miss Murray called to take Mrs E. for strawberries. She could not go as Grandmother wished to attend vespers. I took her place by proxy. Wind was blowing beautifully and we at last had to return for the fear of rain. Called at Dr Ballards and then went with the damsels home. While it rained I stood with the youngest in the door. She is a tolerably pretty girl. The same who made me a call some mornings since. Ate some radishes and returned home. Read some of Plutarch about Cicero. Could not sleep thinking about Carlisle.

Mother McB paid me a compliment this morning. I had taken up the bible and was reading it with my hat off. She presumed that I had paid

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it that mark of respect intentionally, while in reality it had never occurred to my mind that it mattered much how one read the bible standing or sitting. However the old Lady observed it and it may do something towards keeping her good will. Took my berth in for fear of rain wisely too for it did pour it down beautifully before morning.

June 2nd 1845 Monday

Was wakened by Mother McB saying it was near 8 oclock. Breakfasted and came to school room. Great addition to my school a deputation of 3 lousy looking urchins, ABC pupils, arrived, who were soon placed by their father under my superintendence. The old fellow told me I would have to flog them. Adjourned school earlier than Miss Mc because I was hungry. After dinner Mrs Espy sent me to tell Miss Murray that she could not go to the State House a piece of intelligence that Miss M. relished very well. Mother McBride said she was afraid Espy would not find things to suit him at St. Louis. She said she had a dream before she left Franklin. She was looking toward the east in the morning and the sun rose with three stars near it. She knew from this that some disappointment was before them; but some persons in Franklin had interpreted it as meaning the three days delay which they had there. However she still

thought it meant something worse and farther ahead. She showed me a Catholic Almanac with the colors of the dress of the Priest marked out for every day of the year. Some people fear that the Catholics will carry all before them if their religion is tolerated in this country. There is no danger. I have been reading for sometime to get an unprejudiced view of the matter; but all the charity I have yet acquired would not prevent me regarding as humbug the many ceremonies and observances among them. The allotment of so many feasts and the studied care with

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which the colors red, white, green, &c are marked down to separate days affords one instance among the too many where substance is sacrificed to form and common sense to superstition. While we were talking the bell rang for school. Miss McIlvaine had become impatient. I had my powers of endurance tired by a new ABC pupil one of the three little savages who arrived this morning. He went on to call A X, B W, &c to the end. It must be a tax on the memory to learn these letters. I would not now undertake to comment the names of any other 26 arbitrary characters in a week; and yet I felt mad at the little case for not doing better. After school was adjourned I had a long conversation with Miss McIlvaine about school teaching. She told me she had been deceived, that Mrs Simmons was going to leave and was blaming her for getting herself into difficulty. I sympathized with her and told her that I meditated leaving. She did not appear to like it but she thought I could do no better. The idea of teaching and not making a fellow's rent is rather ridiculous. The principle of perseverance and staying in one place has sometimes about as sensible an application as it would have were a fellow to hammer away for years at a Sandstone rock with the hope of finding a gold mine.

Cut some wood after supper and then went over to attend to wood of a different description at the Preacher's. Called previously at Bate's. Found Palmer at Wood's. He and I accompanied the damsels to the concert. Had pretty fine music. Deodora is a pretty and fine girl. They sang for us after we returned. Told me they had come from Tennessee. Their mother is a cousin of Houston's (Texas President). Could find it very easy to like them. Returned home late enough and retired.

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June 3rd 1845 Tuesday

Was called by Grandmother to breakfast. Came over to Academy, damsels had been waiting. Started or commenced a letter to Chum Gracey. The young heathen would not let me finish. In the afternoon Will Posey tried an experiment. The school room had been pretty quiet for sometime, when I noticed an unusual degree of mirthfulness on one or two faces. On looking around to ascertain the cause I observed Will with his back turned towards me and sprinkling the floor with his hose. He seemed to think he was doing it up beautifully. I accordingly marched up to him and carried him out of doors. At night when I thought of the occurrence I laughed out loud in bed. Five of the little rascals fell asleep at once in the course of the afternoon. After school adjourned Miss McIlvaine told me that Reynolds intended to give up the college. She asked me when I would decide about staying. I told her next Saturday evening. Called at the Post Office and got nothing. In evening after sending off a paper for Mrs Espy I attended a meeting of the citizens for making arrangements for fourth of July. Came home lightning all around. A thunderstorm came on before I fell asleep.

June 4th 1845 Wednesday

Was disposed to enjoy a nap when called to breakfast. Came over to watch the young ideas. Came to Academy too soon after dinner. Hummer threw my school into disorder by bringing some boxes and books to the Academy on a wagon. After supper I took a shave and then called at Woods. Went to Temperance

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Meeting. One of the damsels caught Palmer on the way. I was called on for a speech made an attempt at it but a poor one. Had some fine fun with the damsels after returning home with them. Went home and to bed where I lay for an hour or more with my door open, watching the stars and thinking of old times.

June 5th 1845 Thursday

Came over to school room. Farnham, a lame man from Bloomington and fireman for the House was near the Academy. I gave him an introduction to Miss Moore. He and I had a pretty long talk before school time. Young Lina Steene told me his name the part of it which I was before unable to comprehend, and which sounded like Whigada was interpreted to signify 'Whig at that' by one of the boys, which enlightened my understanding considerably. Before school in afternoon I took a short strawberry walk with Miss McIlvaine. After school adjourned we called down below at Hummer's study. He was writing a sermon. In the evening I took a long walk; found a few berries and coming home happened on the music man. He and I sauntered around for some time. Went up to a little house near the springs. Heard them singing some Dutch songs. After returning saw Farnham. He accompanied me home and told me his opinion of Miss Mc. I thought it rather strange. He advised me not to wear a thin coat in the evening. A number of the members are sick with some epidemic, a disease of the lungs.

June 6th 1845 Friday

I undertook to indite an epistle to Chum but gave it up. Miss Mcl wished the bell rang earlier in the afternoon. I adjourned pretty early and after the other school was out had a conflict with Miss Mcl.

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Went over to Clinton St in evening. Had an invite to attend a meeting of the choir at Colts. They did not sing very well. Bugs came in in swarms at the open windows a strong odor of feet. Went home with two [Storms] across the way.

June 7th 1845 Saturday

No school to day an exclamation which used to afford us pleasure in days gone bye and which has not yet lost its charms. Spent the forenoon in loafing. Called at Murray's. One of the damsels in a wrapper of the sofa. Tried to write a letter to Chum and failed. Read some of Johnson s preface to Shakespeare. Went to a convention (democratic) in afternoon. An old Native and an Irishman were taking a round discussing the nativity of the latter. The Irishman was blessing the day when he came to swate America. In the evening Espy arrived in the stage. His coming made us all glad and I received a letter from Wilson that made me still more so. The chief news in it was an account of a pump being put in a diamond well. Called at Woods. A member was lying there sick. Went with the girls to singing. Dr Bliss accompanied my favorite and cut me out. Lightning all around. It rained in the night and I got wet beautifully in bed.

June 8th 1845 Sunday

Rose and performed a shave. Walked around a little before breakfast. Attended New School Church. Woods preached. Took a nap when I returned. Came over to Academy and wrote a letter to Wilson which I copied after supper. Took it up to office. Went over to Swans. Had a walk with the ladies. I took Mrs Swan but

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exchanged her for Mrs Simmons. Was glad I had done so, for I got a long walk with her to the springs. She said we would have to return for Iowa was a talking community. Had some strawberries. Wilson from Dubuque was in the party. Went out with Miss McI to see a comet. Fine for star gazing. "You must take that back" &c. Came home and wakened Espy singing. Slept fine.

June 9th 1845 Monday

Rose at Espy's call. Came over to Academy. Called at the College (which was moved on Friday over to the Prot Meth Church) to get my pen knife which I left there on Saturday under a window. School was full. My nine boys one for each of the muses were all here. The Shilladays had had their hair cut quite an improvement. Lina Bassy Steel Whig at that Doctor Lina was rigged out in a wamus or shirt of faded Calico which reached to his middle parts and seemed to be made without seams. He had a little stick and string attached in order to spend to day fishing. They are all great boys. I amused myself by writing a letter to Chum Gracey but did not copy it. Called at Holts in the evening. The damsels were going to singing. I paid Hummer a visit at noon and told him I was going to throw up. He could not blame me. He had had a call from Mrs Simmons for money which he was pleased with as much as I expected. He said something to me about my having agreed to try the school at a venture as I thought by way of hinting that I ought to pay rent. Whereupon I reminded him that he agreed to wait for the rent till I collected it in tuition fees and added with a smile that I presumed he would have to wait sometime yet, but it would need patience. Called at Swans in evening

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and afterwards at Moores. Looked at the stars. Fine time of it. Fellows could be heard practicing on the fiddle for the ball.

June 10th 1845 Tuesday

Soon after breakfast I went over to the Academy, rang the bell, changed a black board for Miss McI gave her an affectionate kiss as also Miss M who requested me not to till assigned my pupils and left. After packing my fixins I went over to Swans with Espy. Had some discussion about the mode of conveyance & finally started in an open wagon. The day was pretty cloudy until in the afternoon, otherwise I would have been well scorched. The prarie looked beautiful. A green circle all around one for such a vast distance and the clouds seeming so low ~~away~~ far as the eye can reach shade the scene appears different from what it did when I came out and if any thing more beautiful. We saw a wolf running across it in our place some distance ahead and soon stopped at Timberlake's for dinner. Then we came on at a pleasant rate the remainder of the way. Saw a beautiful sunset and sang a quantity of songs. A young man who has studied law was a pretty lively member of our company. He told us two or three pretty fair stories two jokes on the legal and Medical professions were among the best. Arrived at Bloomington after dark. Went to a singing school. Saw it adjourn sine die. Was about to go to bed when a boat was heard. Took my trunk down and got on board Sarah Ann. Retired soon.

June 11th 1845 Wednesday

Last night was a hard one. I had a violent

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headache and the motion of the boat did it no good. I did not get asleep until day light and when I was roused by the steward I could scarcely walk. Felt mean enough. Took the precaution to eat a breakfast of crackers and weak coffee and felt well enough before many hours. We had a very pleasant day of it. The bar keeper entertained us with some good anecdotes which he could tell with good effect. He reminded me of Chew. Played cards in which amusement I was fortunate enough to be at. Felt quite well in the evening when it came time to retire. The Mississippi presented a much better appearance then when we came up.

June 12th 1845 Thursday

Spent a very comfortable night, but was wakened once by a storm. Our delay made us rise for breakfast farther from St. Louis than we expected. We reached the city however about noon. I called on McCamant and Leffingwill and showed my letters, then trotted round town to find a boarding house. Got a comfortable one in third St. near Elm, a cool place, dined and had a darky carry up my trunk in the afternoon. He missed the road. While I was waiting one of the Hughes Lissie who has been sick passed me. I promised to call and see her. Leffingwill introduced me to a young man Dunn from Cincinnati. He took me up to the school in fourth St. Well conducted. Conclude performance with singing. The boys look neat and intelligent. When they all sang it made considerable noise and music.

Called on Hugheses in evening. Spent an hour pleasantly. Came home and retired.

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June 13th 1845 Friday

Was called in time for an early breakfast which was its only recommendation. Spent the day in loafing round town and treating all the luxuries which I saw on every side with stoical indifference. At night I was amused by the rest of our boarders showing off a Menagerie. Bull frogs, dogs, cats, and everything else were imitated to perfection.

June 14th 1845 Saturday

Spent this day too in loafing. A splendid enjoyment. Walked down to see Banker in the afternoon but he had gone to visit his Uncle up the river. Called on the Hughes after supper.

June 15th 1845 Sunday

M Camant's brother called to see me after breakfast. I went to Pres. Church with him and heard a man abusing the Catholics like fun. After dinner took a walk with M Camant up to the mound. Walked with him all around town. In evening called at Hughe's. Girls not in. Made an unsuccessful attempt to get into Mormon Meeting. Attended Methodist Church. Heard a young fellow preach about drinking of the waters of life. A good subject on a hot evening. Every one could appreciate the figure.

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June 16th 1845 Monday

Woke to see a very rainy morning. Felt miserably discontented all forenoon. The rain pattered on the pavement as if it was never going to stop. I tried to amuse myself by reading Waverly but it was no go. I get less taste for novels every day. About noon the rain ceased. I loafed down to McCamant's office, but he had left town. I then called at another agency office and a fellow persuaded me to go into a map agency. The terms were represented in such favorable colors that I concluded to accept it by way of

enabling me to find a situation as a teacher. The matter concluded by his charging me two dollars when it first occurred to me that I had acted the fool. I paid him one and left feeling most ridiculously mean. I called at the Map Man's, and found his pretty wife at home but not him. Went down to Hughe's and spent the evening with the damsels. Had a fine swing and paid a visit to Pittsburger. Came home and sat sometime on the porch thinking before going to bed.

June 17th 1845 Tuesday

Rose breakfasted and called on Map man. Found as I had begun to fear that the whole affair was a humbug. Not one part of the performance answered the description of the agent. I called on him and informed him of the fact. Concluded I had paid dear for my knowledge of the world. He promised to endeavor to get me a place as a clerk, but I presume he will not do it. Did not feel so mean as I had before. Spent the day in loafing and reading. Waverly a character in some respects like my own. McCamant has gone to St. Charles. In the evening it began to rain beautifully.

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June 18th 1845 Wednesday

About as rainy a day as I ever saw. There were some few but very few dry spells, and I availed myself the opportunity they afforded of taking a walk up street. Fene's had Waverly. Did not get interested in it as I usually do with Scott. Probably it was owing to thinking more of my own troubles than of those of Waverly. Played flute some and gritted my teeth a little to amuse myself. In the afternoon I began to think seriously of taking a trip up the country to hunt a school one that Dunn was offered. Returned early. Forgot to mention arrival of Missouri from New Orleans. She was returning from her first trip. She is a splendid boat. 300 feet long.

June 19th 1845 Thursday

The day began to show symptoms of clearing up. The sun tried hard to get through the clouds but failed. In the evening McCamant told me of a school out west and I concluded to go to morrow and see about getting it. Went down to see the Hughes in evening. Waited on Miss McClosky home.

June 20th 1845 Friday

After breakfast called on McCamant and got a letter from him for Mr Price on the Bouhoma road, with all necessary directions. I then hired a horse at a livery stable and proceeded on my way, with visions of good wages and great pleasure floating through my mind. Still I could not help fearing that the theory would prove a humbug. If it did not I would be lucky and I never was lucky in my life. My horse went at a pretty rapid pace

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and with an easy motion so that I felt as comfortable as a fellow could feel in my circumstances. I rode on through a very pretty country admiring the scenery and thinking of the beauties of trying the world. About 10 o'clock I reached Squire Price's but Squire price was not at home. He had gone to town early in the morning and the little folks said he would not return before night. I asked them if they had any school near them. They said they had not but were trying to get one. This was encouragement. I asked them where the school teacher boarded when they had one. They pointed out a brick house across the fields and showed me how to reach it. I accordingly mounted me nag and proceeded over. Had some trouble to get a passage through the fields to the house but at last gained admission through two or three patent gates. On

reaching the house whose appearance indicated that the owner was either rich or ought to be I began to make observations to ascertain whether it would suit. A little log shantie adjoining the main building occupied by some dozen darkies was an object that occupied no small share of my attention. I am no advocate of slavery, but when it exists and I cannot prevent it. There are sundry little conveniences connected with it to which I have no serious objections. Then there were fruit trees near the door, and every thing had an air of comfort which made the bowels of the pedagogue move with kindness. After entering and making some observations about the weather I proceeded to my business. The old fellow seemed eager to have a school. Could only give \$50 per quarter. He could board me and said that he would show

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me my room in case I took the school. Then he showed me his books and introduced me to a doctor a pretty gentlemanly looking fellow who had an office on the premises about a rod from the house. He then left me to my meditations on the subject. All this time his wife an old withered up looking object as sour as buttermilk had sat at her sewing assisted by her daughter, a pretty neat looking damsel. I thought the old lady's face showed a little of what Byron calls silent thunder, and I could not help wishing that I had found her at home alone. There is a way of humoring old women when you are first acquainted but if you dont take that chance the golden opportunity is gone forever. If their first impression is against you you may despair of ever removing it. Dinner was soon ready. Corn bread and a few other fixins made the meal. The family was originally from Virginia. I enjoyed my grub and sat down in the Doctor's office to think of my prospects. On coming out when I was about to leave the house I told the old man that I would take the school. I said I could be ready to commence on Monday and that I should come out on Saturday myself. I was not a little surprised in making this statement to hear him after a few hums and haws observe that "on the whole" he thought I could get the place but when he came to consider every thing he could not give me boarding. This, considering his was the only place where board could be obtained was of course a damper to the whole proceeding. It took me all aback. I stared at him a moment and then sat down on the porch to think. What can be the matter

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said I mentally. Can any thing I have said have poluted his mind? Perhaps I ate too much dinner? But that could not be, for I quit before he did. I had done everything a reasonable man could do. I had even advocated slavery. I had looked serious when he was saying grace. I had praised his farm. I had admired the coolness with which he took a cup of epsom salts without moving a muscle of his face. I had done all this- but a thought struck me like a flash of lightening that withered my hopes instanter- there was one thing I had not done. I had not got the good will of the old woman. There was the rub. She was at the bottom of it. Confound it said I what a mistake. With a worse than Tyler determination she had exercised the veto power and I was condemned to poverty. I soon rose to make an effort to plead my cause into her. As I entered she gave me a sidelong glance like a horse does when you are trying to catch him and then continued her sewing more wickedly than ever. I was going to say something but her look deterred me. I took up my riding whip, mounted my pony and left.

A thunder storm was rising. I stopped at Squire Price's until the rain ceased. I had some notion of making a proposition to stay all night but there was no one home but an old maid in the kitchen whom I did not see and she was scolding the little ones with such vengeance and making such serious threats that I kept myself as much at a distance as possible. As I passed near the window she gave utterance to something as follows. "Ill give it to you. You imp- you brat- Ill show you. Go out

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now there clear out- Ill show you whose [mouth]. who cares if he does hear. I ain't afraid to speak He's only a man- a plagued common looking man too. Let him hear who cares now clear out I say. Wont you?" And with this I heard something like the rattling of a broomstick and a ragged little fellow issued out at the door with considerable rapidity. But the storm she had raised did not fall instanter. Like the one raging without the heavy peal had passed but as I left the door I could hear her muttering still as if to echo the thunder that was rumbling in the distance.

Squire Price's was the only house that remained at which there was any possibility of getting board, but I did not choose to remain. I got my horse and started back with strange feelings. I was a dollar or two lighter in the pocket with no prospect of getting a situation and I felt badly enough. Trying the world is hard enough thought I. I have learned something that will do me good. I will have to resort to the original fountain yet, How many poor fellows are trying the waves of life in earnest while I am only swimming along with a plank beside me to which I must soon resort or go down. I shall never again underrate the efforts of a poor fellow who is endeavoring to use by his own unaided exertions. It requires a strength of mind possessed by few. I should despair and fail or probably the very danger would make my energy greater. Some persons have learned to swim by falling in deep water, but then on the other hand far more have drowned.

It was later in the evening when I reached the city. I returned my horse and came down to the boarding house. As I came up Market St.

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I stopped a moment to listen to the music on the opposite side of the street at the fair, and to look for a while at the beautiful faces within as their possessors promenaded by the windows. It was all vanity and vexation of spirit to me. I had had the blues sufficiently strong before and the little time spent near the fair did not give me much relief, but when I reached home and got into bed I experienced a far more solid satisfaction. I soon fell asleep and dreamt of home. I saw old Uncle Robert among the rest, but by some pleasing metamorphosis he was living near St Lois and I awake making great calculations about boarding with him during the summer.

June 21st 1845 Saturday

Friday proved an unlucky day to me. It is strange I did not think of it before. Had I gone on any other I should have seen Squire Price and got a situation where I could have had corn bread and a wench for a room mate during the summer. And I lost it all as the old woman would say by starting on Friday. So thought I as I awoke a little later than breakfast time this morning with every bone in my body feeling as if I had undergone a process of beating of as if I had been rode by witches all night. After breakfast I went down to McCamant's. Told him about my luck and spent the day loafing around town. Leffingwell made me a suggestion about trying to write for McCamant when they dissolve. This helped raise my spirits which have been going in a sort of tide wave motion ever since I came out west. I have about as much firmness as a feather.

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June 22nd 1845 Sunday

Attended Methodist Church after a long scouring process and a walk on the wharf. Mr Someperson preached about growing in grace. In the afternoon I took a walk out to the park where all the Germans and others resort on Sunday to roll the pins and luxuriate. Returned and went to Episcopal Church. Good sermon on "thy Kingdom Come." In evening heard one at Methodist Church. "Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward," a sermon well suited to the present circumstances of Mr

Brunson. One of the preachers made some remarks on the division of the Church and on the attempt of some of his congregation to oppose the southern movement.

June 23rd 1845 Monday

Called pretty early on McCamant. Walked down to the river to see how it was rising. In the afternoon while enjoying a loaf a fellow came in and wanted me to serve on a jury before a Justice. The thing was novel and presented a fine chance of killing an afternoon. We were sworn without any opposition and the case was opened. The action was for debt. An account was the chief evidence. The justice appeared to have as much idea of the case as the chair on which he sat. When ever a point was started he would mutter something about the contract and conclude that it was better to let it go before the jury. A plan which he seemed to think relieved him of all the responsibility and afforded him no little assistance in the discharge of his functions.

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After occupying some few hours in examining witness, and talking fifteen minutes on each side the jury retired to discuss the merits of the case. The first item was for measuring lumber \$20.00. This was decided to be about right. Then came putting in doors on the roof. \$2.00 each. The evidence all went to prove that \$1.00 was sufficient, but one of our jury men was a carpenter and he thought one dollar was too little. This brought proceedings to a stand for some minutes during which time we amused ourselves watching a wheel turned by horse and man power in the rear of the office. Then we discussed the matter a while with some warmth. One fellow swore that some men never knew when a mechanic had done work enough and that "by god wages were getting too damned low. Another said that the defendant was a real low cunning dog and he did not go in for showing much favor. Another was for splitting the difference; but a fellow of great wisdom suggested that, as we had allowed the full amount \$20.00 for measuring, we could do no better than make it up in this matter. This counsel prevailed and the rate of \$1.00 per door was decided on unanimously. After making sundry other deductions amounting in all to \$11.00 we returned our verdict and I proceeded to supper, thinking on the beauties of trial by jury. The case was Reynolds and Glass vs Lorge. It may be of use to me to remember it.

After supper I went down to McCamant's office. Saw Dumer there. He was very clever in inviting me to his room and I could not see what was in the wind. Upon reaching the place I ascertained however. He knew I was trying to get em-

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ployment and began very cunningly to propose that I should sell some life preservers for him. I could sell them for \$2.00 and he would give me one for my trouble. U could sell them all soon &c &c. He had got hold of the wrong man however and I did not take up with his speculation. Then he wanted to sell me an order on McCamant \$3.00 for two; also one of the same on Leffingwill. I did not say much till he had finished and then observed that some man had said that were an individual to stand at the end of a bridge with a good eagle offering it to every one who passed for ten cents he could not get a purchaser in a month. This took him a little aback. However he said it was all his liberality. He wanted two dollars that evening and was willing to sacrifice a little. He then wanted to borrow and give the order for security. I had seen him pawning a Horace at a second hand book store and accordingly informed him that if I were able to lend I should ask no security. By this time we had both cooled downed in our friendship so low, that I bade him good evening. I had had the blues before but that feeling of indignation which always will rise when a blamed fool attempts to impose on one made one carry my head straight between my shoulders til I reached home. I felt a sort of superiority that is at times peculiarly gratifying.

June 24th 1845 Tuesday

Had a small attack of diarrhoea after breakfast by no means agreeable. I spent the most of the forenoon in bed or on bed rather and then went down to McCamant's office. He and Leffingwill

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were trying to wind up business. In the afternoon I called at my friend the agent to see what his office would prove to be worth. He represented it as a great work that was coming out called McSean's trials. Judge McSean was a man of great note and legal eminence and the work could not fail to sell. It would give at least fifty percent and all that sort of thing. I accordingly got the card with the name and number on condition that I should pay if the thing suited me, and proceeded up to the house with dreams of five dollars per day and roast beef running through my head in hot haste. Passing by the city hotel I saw Reno from Iowa City. The sight of a familiar countenance was the most cheering thing I had seen since reaching the city. He told me he had brought me a letter but having despaired of finding me he had left it in the Post Office. After talking with him some time I went up Broadway to hunt my book office. I went along the side walk watching the numbers until I reached a place that suited the one on my card. But there was apparently some mistake. Instead of a three story brick as I had expected, there was a little shantie field with bread and groceries and swarming with flies so thick that one could scarcely discriminate between the different articles on the shelves. Some mistake here thought I however I'll ask. "Is this your name said I to a thin skin flint looking man who was chasing away the flies from a pile of sausages. Yes sir said he. I am the man. "Well said I a little surprised" You don't have a book called McSean's trials do you?" O yes said he. We are just printing it at the office. It is a fine book. He was tried four times for murder. Singular wasn't it. He was one of the greatest scoundrels I suppose- but I had got enough and I bade him good day and started down street

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with a grin on my face of no ordinary dimensions. I then went to the office for Espy's letter and wrote him an answer in which I devoted a page to McSean's trials.

Took my letter down to Reno on the Laclide. He told me that their captain was determined to pass the War Eagle going up. In the evening I accompanied McCamant home and took tea with him. His wife is a pretty fine woman. We then started down to a Native American meeting but it was not held as appointed. That party ought to flourish here if any place. Returned home and retired.

June 25th 1845 Wednesday

Spent the day in loafing as usual without meeting with any thing of peculiar interest. Spent the evening down at Hughes and got any quality of mind on my boots going over to see Miss McC.

June 26th 1845 Thursday

After breakfast went down to McCamant's office. Talked to him a little about my previous proposition to write for him and said something about board. In the after noon I copied a deed for them. Went down to see the Missouri start she looked fine. Crowds had collected to see it and the decks of the other boats. Attended a Native American meeting in the evening. Campbell was addressing it when I left. Did not speak so well as I expected.

June 27th 1845 Friday

Read Blackstone's chapter on Subordinate Magistrates twice. N.O. Circus arrived. In the afternoon Dunn told me of a place that was offered to him which I could probably get. A man wants an assistant to revise the statutes of Missouri.

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I told him I had no objection to try it but that I was pretty confident it would prove a humbug in some way or other. Played on the flute in the evening to amuse myself.

June 28th 1845 Saturday

After breakfast I went up on to Fifth street to see the procession form, this being the day appointed for doing honor to Genl Jackson. I walked around town for some time and saw a company drilling in the Court House before the operations commenced. A shower of rain made them delay longer than they would have otherwise. Lutz the agent who told me of McSean's trials gave me a share of his umbrella. We amused ourselves looking at the country women wading the mud, holding up their petticoats till the procession began to move. We then went over to Plaitus house to see it come up Fourth street and waited something like an hour. It was a beautiful sight and the bands of which there were some half dozen played tolerably well. There were several schools in the procession. Two Catholic ones of boys all in uniform and numbering some two or three hundred of as unintellectual looking urchins as a fellow could find in the west. Their teachers long faced looking men, as lean as weasels, pale faced and vacant featured acted as their marshalls. Lutz left me with his umbrella promising to return soon but as he did not return I proceeded home to dinner while the procession was still passing. It was two o'clock and I concluded not to go to the Park to hear the speech. However after eating an extra meal prepared by Dinah and going down to McCamant's office I changed my mind and by a quick walk arrived

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at the park before the procession had all entered it. I was glad afterwards that I had gone out. The music was fine, the grove cool and we had an excellent address. I listened to it all through it was long and though I had an uncomfortable position. After the speech was over and a song sung by Wyman's boys I met Dunn in the crowd. I concluded to treat him and I was glad I had made such a conclusion for it seemed to take very well. In the evening I walked down to the wharf and sat down on a steamboat to think of Jackson, our county and especially Venango. Returned home and retired early.

June 29th 1845 Sunday

Attended Presbyterian Church and heard a young fellow preach on Colonisation. Was a little surprised at hearing such a sermon in a Slave State. After dinner I called at McCamant's and spent the afternoon. He told me of a place in the country where a Mr. Gilkey was teaching school and was about to quit. His sister (McCamants) told me any quantity of particulars about the country wood ticks and other luxuries. Attended a Unitarian Church in the evening and heard another sermon on Colonisation. The preacher appeared to be a talented man, and spoke as independently as one could in Pennsylvania. He called slavery a great evil, denounced the slave trade in strong terms, and recommended colonisation as the only remedy. He informed us that his subject was the theme on that and the following Sunday of all the pulpits in the city. I was glad to hear him speaking so boldly. Slavery will be abolished yet. The spirit which members of Congress and others

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from the south show in opposition to any abolition movement is nearly entirely produced by a jealousy of Northern interference. The south is not wedded to slavery and never will be. The reform is not to go on in Congress or in public meetings. The pulpit alone is its place and the pulpit will yet affect it.

June 30th 1845 Monday

Went down to McC's office. Dunn came in but said nothing about his man Jones, from which I inferred that it was as I had expected. McCamant gave me an office of \$1.50 to ride into the country. I accordingly mounted a horse which he provided and went out the New Bouhoma roads to a farm owned by Mr Budell. My errand was to bring him into town. I told him I wanted him to come along. He said he could come to morrow, but on being informed that he was wanted immediately, he told me to sit down to dinner and he would think about it. I believe it is the first time I even met a man who treated an unwelcome messenger with any sort of kindness. The dinner was a good one. He is a young bachelor and appears to enjoy life on his farm. He had any quantity of darkies, and after dinner he ordered one to black his boats and another to bring his buggy so that he was soon ready to start. In the evening I saw Dunn but he said he had not seen Jones. I inferred that he was lying. McCamant only paid me a dollar promising the other half to morrow. I inferred that he would forget it to morrow. Another humbug but I had not expected to get anything. McCamant wanted me to write him four deeds in the morning. Jim Bennett passed the office in the afternoon. I called down to see me on the Steamboat Palestine on which he was going out. I called again on him after supper and his boat not being ready to go till morning we

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walked round town in Company with a Mr- of this place. Jim told me of Will starting off on another spree with Joe McClelland. I was surprised to hear of Joe going it again. I thought he had more firmness. He also said that James Hays had been on to Washington. Jim was a large lump of cautiousness. He would not leave the boat but on condition that I should go back with him and as we went down one of the dark streets, he would walk no place but in the middle of the street. This day has been another of the good days. Spirits up at 98, but destined soon to cool down I suppose.

July 1st 1845 Tuesday

Went down to McCamant's office and wrote four deeds. From the indefiniteness of description I was induced to enquire of Leffingwill something as to their validity. He informed me that McC had no manner of title to the land. His only claim was the possession of four Patents granted to old soldiers of the four tracts in Illinois. He had sold the land for 640 dollars and was giving deeds with warranty, but as Leffingwill said it mattered nothing as McC had no property. Called on Jones in afternoon. He will not want help to arrange his statutes as I expected. Having seen a notice in the paper of a teacher's having resigned his place in one of the schools in town. I went to the house of Mr West one of the directors. This was a fine brick building in Olive Street though owned by a Plasterer. He told me that Lill the man who had resigned was going to apply for readmission and that probably the Board would accept him. I then called on several other of the directors and finally on Curtis in the afternoon at the Court House. He advised me

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to come that evening to the Court House when the directors would be met, and I could see them all at once. After supper I met one of the Hughes and accompanied her home. I then came up and went to Director's meeting. After sundry other business a motion was made to employ Lill again and pay him in advance a blank number of dollars per month. This was opposed by one young fellow who proceeded to state that Lill was a frequenter of taverns that he did not pay his debts and several other things of equal

importance. My spirits were rising at these disclosures as I [judged] the effect such a statement would have on a set of Venango Trustees Bowman Parks and others, but I was considerably vexed to see the motion passed with but one or two votes against it. The young man who opposed it no offered a resolution that Lill be required to give security. This passed with some opposition. The next thing was to fill up the blank. The man proposed 50 dollars. And it was with no little trouble that the opposers of Lill had it reduced to 41 the former allowance. As one might suppose I left a little out of humor. Still I was glad to find wages so high in St. Louis Common Schools and men so liberal. Retired. Spirits about 45° below zero.

July 2nd 1845 Wednesday and July 3rd 1845 Thursday

Two days which were passed in the usual mode. I had nothing to do and of course did nothing. I made sundry calls on Dunn's man Jones but found he had no need of assistance. Everything which has yet been offered me has proved a humbug. I wish I had thought of staying at St. Louis when I left home. No new humbug turning up I was of course left to my own inflections and I have felt blue enough. I am nearly out of money with one slender thread of hope,

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to hang upon, on McCamant's school, or Gilkey's rather in the country, if it proves a failure I am done up brown for McCamant will evidently never give me anything for writing for him. On Thursday I wrote a letter to Mr Gilkey asking for information as to the school matter and gave the letter to McCamant's sister to carry out for me. This much served to push up my thermometer a little. Wrote a letter to John.

July 4th 1845 Friday

The glorious day of Independence found me in no good humor for enjoying it. In the morning early I met McC who informed me that his sister would not leave town until Saturday. Spirits fell 10 degrees. I walked around town and along the wharf until near ten o'clock, when I went up to the Court House to hear an address. There was a large crowd collected and a fine chance was afforded for a display of gallantry by giving up chairs to the ladies. I retained mine for some length of time but finally made a virtue of Necessity. After a long period of time spent in waiting for music, Dr someperson read the Declaration, which he did about as meanly as could have been wished. A prayer was however previously offered by a clergyman. Then came the address by a Mr Bowman, a young lawyer. It was a tolerably good thing but he took too much pains to answer Mrs Trollope and others, and made a great burst against foreigners which took very well only because he was among his own party. An eagle was provided for the occasion and the orator made it an apostrophe. (Proud bird of the mountain thy plume shall never be torn). The eagle said nothing nor did even move its wings but sat in a very dignified position looking as if it was perfectly satisfied.

I spent the afternoon by taking a very unpatriotic nap and walked up to the mound in the evening to see a

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very poor display of fireworks. Engaged in Conversation with a pretty intelligent Irishman who paid numerous compliments to American institutions.

July 5th 1845 Saturday

Spent the day chiefly in reading law at McC's office. Called on Lill before dinner and found out why the trustees wished to continue him. He is a plagued smart fellow, and has some good ideas with a

pretty long experience in teaching. I don't blame men for wishing to keep him even in spite of his liquor. He told me something about the kind of examination I would have to pass in case I applied for a situation as a teacher in the city, and informed me how he had come it over applicants by way of boring them. I left him with a promise to call again very glad I had made him a visit.

In the afternoon a German and his wife called at McC's office. They were both respectable looking people and wished to buy cards. Their visit put us into a Native American discussion. Played flute in the evening. Spirits down about medium.

July 6th 1845 Sunday

Rose, dressed, breakfasted and dressed again. Our boarders went into a discussion of free will and other doctrines, being abstruse.

Attended Meth. Church. The same man preached who I said one before was string in favor of a separation in the church. He began his sermon by vindicating himself from a charge that had been circulating that he was either the owner or going to be the owner of slaves. He said it was untrue and that he was no friend of slavery. He did not like. I thought it a little strange that a man in this state should find it convenient to say he did not like slavery. It is only another instance of

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the unpopularity of the institution.

Went to Catholic Church up town after a good nap in the afternoon. Sat thinking until it was out. Went to Presbyterian. A new preacher and a pretty good one. Took a walk down to the wharf after supper. Saw New Moon over left shoulder, bad luck as they say, but I was never able to notice the difference. I presume the moon has as much to do with luck as with the weather. Attended Unitarian Church, a sermon on thoughts.

July 9th 1845 Monday

Rose breakfasted and went down to McCs office calling at the Post Office as I went but got no letter. Did some addition in McCs cash book beside reading Blackstone. Was very well contented to spend the day in quiet as the thermometer stood at 98. At night the mosquitos made an attack on the parts of me body that were soonest cooked by the heat. I fought them till my strength was exhausted, and then fell asleep at their mercy.

July 8th 1845 Tuesday

Spent the day in McC's office reading Blackstone and waiting for a letter from the county. An other plagued warm day. Called at McCamant's in evening. Brown was there and a regular old genius whom Woodford had to guide home.

July 9th 1845 Wednesday

Spent day in McC's office. Leffingwill was talking of putting me on a steamboat to take charge of it. Wrote some advertisements for McC about dissolution of partnership. Read some poetry and pieces in Southern Lit. Messenger in evening. Had a decent blue fit not a bad one. My spirits have been more in equilibrium during the last two or three days.

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July 10th 1845 Thursday

Went down to McC's office calling at the Post Office by the way but getting nothing. Spent the forenoon at the office. McC took me apart an odd way he has as if going to tell something mysterious and informed me of a speculation he had made since dissolving partnership. After dinner I called at the P.O. but received nothing. On informing McCamant of the fact he advised me to go out and see what was the trouble. I accordingly went with him first to second hand book store to inquire concerning Blackstone, and then to the stage office. The coach had not left and I proceeded down to Foulkes to change my shirt and pack my trunk. The latter part of my duty was done in all sorts of a topsy thurvy manner but I trusted it would be better managed when I should have occasion to send for it. I then hurried up to the office and waited a few moments for the coach. After I had entered it they delayed some minutes longer, while the agents looked anxiously down street. Having learned that they were waiting for me not knowing where I was. I relieved them of all apprehensions for my safety and we started pretty well crowded. Two damsels sat on the back seat. One was very spunky. On receiving an addition to our board it became necessary for one of us to be transferred to a seat beside the damsels. To decide all debate one gentleman remarked as he suited the action to the word, that he would go back as he was a married man. The spunky damsel began to mutter something about stage riding when the fellow said that probably they would object to him. "So said the guilty girl. We don't care who it is so as"- "there is some person" said I filling up the blank. But my impudence profited me little in their estimation. The spunky miss cried nearly the whole way but no one could tell the cause. I carried her a drink of water at our place and she seemed to have

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no feelings of hostility. So I presumed her grief was occasioned by no fault of mine. At one place on the road I inquired concerning their schools. They had a poor teacher that said and wanted to get rid of him. After a pleasant ride notwithstanding a shower as we left the city we reached Quisenberry's. I ascertained of him the location of Gilkey, as also that he had heard of Gilkey's intention of leaving; and proceeded on foot to his boarding house. There was any quantity of blackberries on my path, and I amused myself by picking some. The fresh appearance of the woods after the rain and the singing of the birds made me feel quite poetical and I could have sat down and written a page in praise of country life. At the first house on my way I made some further inquiries as to my path and proceeded at a quicker pace while a few drops of rain were beginning to dampen my zeal for a life in the woods. I soon reached another house of very comfortable appearance which I presumed was to be my future boarding place, but was informed on reaching it that Gilkey boarded in the next house beyond. I was not long in reaching it, and found Mr Gilkey with his shoes beside him, engaged in reading medicine. He was a sort of good natured looking simpleton with a phiz expressing about the same degree of intellect and self confidence as that of Russel near Franklin. On breaking the subject of schools to him he began to abuse the county, the people, board, children and in fact every thing else. He said it was not a fit place for a young man to stay and that I would not like it. "Or, said I, in other words you want to stay" This took him just in the right place: He said something about changing of circumstances and the river being too low from all of which I saw that he was determined to remain and had not the honor

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to say so. He then wished to talk of old acquaintances. Did not my father live a short distance from Cooperstown yes I said about seven miles. Yes he said he had seen him Wasn't he a squire or something? Hadn't he a daughter [Jemima]? I saw what he was driving at. He had seen Uncle Joe at Cooperstown and this was his acquaintance he had with father. I smiled a little at the thoughts which his discourse suggested and we changed the subject. At supper I obtained from him an open intimation that he would probably stay, at which his host [Prenister] was some what surprised for he with every person else was assured that the young man was going to leave. This I began to discover was a sly means he had of raising the wind at the end of his term, and he deserves credit for it. I retired in his company a little vexed at the

result of the day's labors. The mosquitos did not soon suffer me to fall asleep and I lay thinking of the further beauties of finding a situation or trying the world.

July 11th 1845 Friday

After breakfast Gilkey was disposed to enter into argument on various topics. He had been surprised on the previous evening that I would not acknowledge that the logarithmic part of Algebra was too deep for my comprehension, a subject on which his self confidence had led him to commit himself, and he was disposed to show me the inferiority of my intellect in other respects. He introduced the subject of law and lawyers and among other, advocated the claims of Smith of Butler. I knew nothing of the Gentleman, but it required no great powers of argument to show him that the assertion of the Judge in the Indian trial about the goodness of his Counsel was not made, as Gilkey said it was in the Judge's charge but in his address to the prisoner, and I furthermore surprised him a little by treating the argument which he drew from it in favor of Smith's abilities, with about as much con-

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tempt as I thought it deserved. "Well" said he "I want to know if his lawyer (Smith) had not plead the Indians cause well would not the court have granted a new trial. "Now" said he very logically, "there was a motion made for a new trial and it wasn't granted." "I think it follows that Smith was not to blame." I laughed at him a little when he had ended what he considered a pretty conclusive speech, and asked him if Smith made the motion for a new trial on the ground of his own incompetency. He saw what I meant and we did not have occasion to argue much longer. We then started to the school house and again brought up the subject of schools. He began to give me some advice. I should keep quiet he said. pretend I did not care much about getting a school etc. etc. We then viewed the school house, and I left him to go over toward Squire Price's to ascertain how matters stood there. On my way I had to pass Ohlhausen's one of Gilkey's best supporters and the last words Gilkey said were a very disinterested suggestion that I should for my own good say nothing about wanting to teach, for said he "you may as well have good wages if I leave." My regard for my own welfare did not prevent me speaking to Olhhausen about schools however. I found he was no friend of Gilkey's. He wished to have him put out. He said he was not competent and that they paid him too much. I promised to call as I returned.

After a pretty long walk for so warm a day I reached the Bonhoma road on which a week or two ago I made an excursion to Price's. By a mistake I took the wrong direction for Price's not knowing whether I was above or below his house. I soon reached Lostley's an old Virginian who after I had announced my name, destination, object in coming and place of birth began a very unceremonious attack on the Abolitionists.

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After cursing them for sometime and putting in a few licks at the school teachers, he moderated a little and I left him to go to Price's. Price I found was anxious to get a school and promised three scholars. Then I proceeded over to Wyatt's where I made an Essay get board before. Wyatt was in no good humor for a school, but promised to do what he could. He said he had been disappointed by the others so often and had run so often over the country that he was unwilling to do so any more. I then returned to Price's for dinner and then started on a tress to the other trustee's Washington and Fitzgerald. Price had directed me to call at Masely's and see the old woman. I did so and found her a pretty lively piece. She said they had any quantity of children, but her husband was not at home. I then continued my walk in the warmest part of the day for a mile or more to a place "Whar" as the Kentucky woman said "thar was an old house" and then turned to the left. Here lived two French families but they could give me no help nor boarding. They referred me however to Hardigean's another mile tramp but no one at home who could answer for the man himself. His son referred me to a house where I could get boarding. I had been apprised of the

nature of the place by Price who said in his broken way that there were none of the cleanest or as he expressed it. "Damned duty, ought to have the yellow fever- would by God- but flies save them. I concluded however to visit the place thinking it was perhaps misrepresented- and it was too but only because of the inadequacy of language. The first think that greeted me was the odor of carrion which rose as I found from a dead pig lying a few feet from the door. Flies their safeguards were swarming around the house in thousands and a woman as dirty looking as the place sat nursing a little cherub by the window. I did

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not make any arrangements for boarding with her, but cut my visit as short as possible. I then proceeded to Fitzgeralds. By the time I reached his house I was pretty tired and my body felt as if stuck full of needles. I talked sometime with the old woman and afterwards went into the field to see the old man. He appeared to be a pretty fine fellow. He puts building wheat in the stack assisted by a big negro and a boy. He signed two scholars and directed me where to get another. I followed his directions and succeeded. It was now evening, and I concluded to foot it back to Price's. I had walked nearly a mile when I came to a small house, where I inquired as to my whereabouts. I was a little surprised to find that I had come more than a half mile out of my road. I never had the trouble to find the road that I have had in this country. There are so many little cross roads and the brush wood is so very thick that one must indulge in no reveries or miss his path. Then too in the middle of the day, unless you know the precise time it is hard to tell the direction by the sun. I then retraced me steps and finally reached Price's after calling at Lastley's and learning that he had no good feelings toward my school. Price was indulging in a nap but was wakened for supper. After it was over he discoursed for some time on the school and the nature of things. He told me how one class of matter produced a fly one class a grain of wheat another class a monkey and another a man. He was in fact an infidel and doubtless an honest one or a Deist rather and yet withal a pretty intelligent good hearted man. When he had convinced me he showed me my bed and not even the mosquitos could prevent my rest.

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July 12th 1845 Saturday

Immediately after breakfast I proceeded over to Wyatt's to pass the examination which the law requires them to make of all teachers in this state. Wyatt thought it prudent to obtain the assistance of the young Doctor and I sat down to pass the ordeal. After it was over the old gentleman took his pew and upon sufficient study with a very business like air penned a certificate of which the following is a pretty correct copy

We the undersigned have examined A.B. McCalmont and satisfy that he is competent to teach a school both As to morral caracter and learning.

Wyatt
director

I took the valuable paper without smiling at its contents; but as I proceeded on my walk to the other members of the board I could not help laughing occasionally as I thought of the ability of my board of examination to judge of my moral character and learning. Certainly there was no inconsistency in their certifying as to both for in either case they were equally capable of judging. I then visited the man with the flies. He had no children to send. A Pennsylvanian who lived near him signed one and accompanied me over to the Hardegins. This man was not at home but his son assured me that his father would send one or two. I then proceeded to Fitzgeralds and called on my way at the French Girls to ask for board. She was of the same notion that she had yesterday. She said that she lived with no one in the house but her brother and that if she would take me to board the people would talk. I then went to Fitzgerald and

obtained his signature to the above certificate and then called as I returned at Mosely's. I talked with Mosely for an hour

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or more about weather schools and every thing else. He remarked once that the "ar" was getting a little more moderate. Their dinner was soon ready and I regaled myself with a fine quantity of apple dumplings. While I was there his daughter returned from Church, and a German doctor who is a person very sacred in the estimation of the people called with his friend. Mosely signed two scholars which increased my number to twelve. It was necessary to obtain twenty in order to raise a school, this being an essential condition, but the remaining eight were evidently to be had. I returned to Price's where old Lastley and an Englishman were talking about cards hunting etc. I asked Lastley to sign a scholar but he would not go it. This was unexpected although I did not think him very favorable to a school. I then called on Lewis. Lewis was a Methodist as I ascertained from the appearance of a man in a shad bellied coat with a straight collar who was exhorting sister Lewis on the subject of a prayer meeting to be held some form miles across the country. Lewis had always given the schools three scholars and of course I expected from him a liberal support, but agreeably to my bad luck he would do nothing at all. He said he was going to leave the place before long and it was of no use for him to send. With a downcast look and some small quantity of disappointment I returned and made my report to Price. He is naturally an odd looking customer. When you speak to him he stares at you as if he didn't hear but before you have time to repeat he makes a broken answer which shows that he understands you perfectly. His manner arises from his having once been a stammerer and being partially or wholly cured. The pauses he makes are

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for the purpose of inflating his lungs. When I made my announcement to him he stared more than at any time previously. I thought he did not comprehend but he saved me the trouble of explanation by giving vent to a mixture of oaths and good English about as follows. "No use trying by God. "Cant do nothin here by God. Ill tell you what- do you by God go back- see what you can do yonder- Ill keep these damned things (the papers) If you cant do nothin come back by God." It was with no little reluctance after two days hard work that I abandoned my task and followed his advice. Ohlhouse was not at home, and I continued my lonely walk through the woods from his house to Brewsters, occasionally pausing to eat a tempting bunch of blackberries or whistling to keep up my spirits. At the latter place I found the people strongly opposed to Gilkey and pretty firmly resolved to remove him. I then left as it was nearly sunset for the other Brewster's Gilkey's boarding house. At Lynx's I received directions for finding the place and started on my way in Company with an old fellow with a wagon. On coming to a road which I supposed to be the right one my companion said it was not. I followed his direction and in consequence lost my way. I traveled nearly a mile in the dark when my road brought me to a house. I went to the door in order to ascertain my locality. After knocking for some time a fellow made his appearance in his shirt tail. He told me it was more than a mile to Brewster's and could give me no very satisfactory directions as to my way. On inquiring I found that he was alone and proposed to sleep with him. He gave his assent and I tumbled into bed between two windows so tired that I forgot that I had had no supper and too sleepy to think about the further beauties of finding a situation.

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July 13th 1845 Sunday

I was awake before sunrise and proceeded on my way to Brewsters. Gilkey had changed his place of boarding to Ada's, his greater friend. Ada has a boy who is studying Latin and of course he does not want to part with the present teacher least he should be unable to find another capable of teaching the

same scientific branches. I breakfasted at Brewsters. They assured me that Gilkey could not get a school, and that they had been surprised that he was going to remain after what he had said. I then went over to Ada's calling at the wrong house on my way by mistake. Ada's family were starting for church. Gilkey had gone over to Brewsters by a different road from that by which I had come, but was going to return soon on his way to church. I waited for him, and amused myself eating some half ripe apples. After some time he made his appearance and we proceeded in company toward the church near Quisenberry's. Our chief topic of conversation was the school. Gilkey was evidently afraid that I was going to run opposition. He hinted something about "undermining" etc. but I was not going to take the advantage which I saw I possessed. He went to church. I to Quisenberrys where I wrote two letters one to McC and one to Espy. I then went to old McCamants. He and his family were very kind to me. It did me good to hear the old fellow talking about Clarion and Venango naming people and places so familiar. It sounded like transferring them directly to the far far West. I spent the remainder of the day with them very pleasantly.

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July 14th 1845 Monday

After an early breakfast I left friend McCamants with the intention of returning in a few minutes after calling on Quisenberry. My object in making my visit was to ascertain when his son was going to give up his school. He informed me that it would be some time yet and it was doubtful how long he would continue. He said there was a school at the station about two miles distant and that the teacher intended to leave. I accordingly started for the station chasing schools still in the distance but more with a desire to see what it would all end in than from any very sanguine hopes of success. I was in very good spirits and consequently reached the station before I suspected I had gone half the distance. The first house I saw was the school room and it was occupied. On inquiring of a Doctor who was talking politics with a friend of his as to the condition of schools, he informed me that the young man who had been teaching there was going to continue. Then he and his friend entered into a discussion of the new topic. They talked some length of time on schools and teachers and finally concluded by informing me that the only opening of which they knew any thing was at St Charles. A young man who had been teaching in the college was they said going to leave. The distance to St. Charles was only five miles. I had some little curiosity to see the town and concluded that it would be no harm to try. I accordingly set out with the sun putting the heat down strong. When I drew near the Missouri river I found out what they meant by mosquitoes being plenty. I heard some sort of singing round me and thought it was a parcel of gnats but on taking off my hat I found it completely covered with mosquitos.

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I also observed that any number of hundreds had taken possession of the back of my coat into which they were prodding their bills with a vengeance while a host of them were swarming round my head and making an attack on my neck and face. I became a little alarmed for my safety and started to run but it was of no use. I then took out my handkerchief and commenced operations on the defensive by alternate blows over each shoulder. This mode of meeting the attack proved more successful but it made my arm tired before I reached the river. This was my first experience among the mosquitoes. I now only want the ague to complete my Western Experience. After a long trudge through the sand I reached the bank of the river at the same time as the ferry boat. It soon carried us over though the river appears full as broad as the Mississippi, and I was landed in St. Charles. I had been on foot ever since Thursday with no change of clothes and without shaving all of which circumstances combined with the fact that the weather was pretty warm made my appearance any thing but imposing or rather it made me appear as if I were imposing when I told the first man I met that I was wanting to teach school. I walked up the hill to the college where I asked a little fellow some questions about his teacher. Then I went with a little Irish fellow to an orchard where he treated me to some very fine apples, then I ate a few cakes, at a shop and

thought of Ben Franklin in Philadelphia. After my meal I called on Dr Samuels, the teacher. I found him a clever fellow much like David Hays. He said he was going to leave in two weeks. His school was very small. He referred me to Dr. Watson. This gentleman who reminded me of Wallace save that he was rather more intelligent was over kind in giving me a;; possible information as to the prospects. He said the people would not support

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a teacher long, that they were generally poor to pay and a number of other little items any thing but encouraging to the Pedagogue. He said however that there was a school in the country about five miles out on Boon's lick road at Mr Douglass' and that I would do well to go out and see it. Previous to this I had called at a Law office where a young fellow by name Murphy had also spoken of a school in the country where he had taught during the winter. A little more cheered in my spirits, I started on foot for Mr Douglass. In Missouri a person does not often meet with one who misinforms him as to distance. The general correctness of their answers makes traveling on foot more agreeable. I soon reached the house of Mr Douglass. It is situated at some distance from the road in a grove of some ten acres which he has had the good taste to preserve. Its cool appearance caused me to feel well satisfied to remain if possible, and on entering the house an acquaintance with Mrs Douglas a lady educated at Philadelphia and evidently no humbug did not detract in the least of my favorable impressions. She gave me all possible information as to the school said they needed one and referred me to Dr McElhaney as Mr Douglass was not at home. It has been worth all my trouble and vexation since starting on my adventure to observe the differences of character in the world. In the village where one has been born and raised he becomes so accustomed to the peculiarities of individuals that he is hardly aware of their existence, but when his interest is excited among a people of strangers the case is altered. Every difference in tone and look is observed closely and every man you meet becomes rather a class himself in your memory than an integral of any particular species. In this state too composed as it is of natives of every state but itself and people of all countries under

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the sun the remark will hold especially good that every man has an identity that makes his place incapable of being filled by any person else. In Massachusetts a man might look to John if Tom or Dick was to remove but here when John goes he is gone and there is a vacancy in the community which no other man can fill. John is not only a man But a species of man and the only individual in the species. An attempt to talk learnedly of the character of Missourians assigning them any general peculiarities would be a hard task, and would doubtless end as did the naming of certain bones in the pelvis by calling them ossa innominata. I was led to the above very sage remarks by more than one instance of change in character which I had met with in person living close together; but the greatest instance I had of it was when upon leaving Douglass comfortable residence, after a pleasant conversation with a lady who had treated me with kindness in spite of my dirty shirt, I introduced myself to Dr. McElhaney and announced the object of my visit. The first thing he did was to broach the subject of my nativity the next to rattle away about slavery a subject which the more sensible men that a person meets in this county are satisfied to say nothing about. Then he wanted inferences and certificates of moral character. I had left my valuable document with Price or I could have given him satisfaction. Had there been any prospect of a good school and good pay his remarks would have been more appropriate but as it was I thought he was asking too much and told him so. I told him I could advocate slavery all day if I were a scoundrel but that I presumed he would have no cause to object to me on that score as my opinions were not inconsistent with his own. As to references I said I could have brought them, but as he would have had a small acquaintance with the gentlemen from whom they would

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come I could not well see what satisfaction they would afford. Before we had finished our conversation he was more disposed to be reasonable. He referred me to others of the trustees and I proceeded on foot to Cribben's. Mrs Cribben after telling me where to find her husband in the field suspected the object of my visit and asked me if it was to get a school. I answered in the affirmative, and she said she was heartily glad of it. Cribben gave me information of the existence of another trustee McDonald and I paid him a visit next. I found him in the field riding a mule in Company with a big fat old case whose blue coat with its straight collar announced his profession. He had one darky ploughing with three horses, and two others taking in Grain. His first questions were touching my nativity and abolition spirit. I informed him that I did not come to steal negroes but to teach school. The conclusion of our conversation was an invitation on his part that I should remain all night which the lateness of the hour and tired limbs rendered very agreeable. I read some pieces in the Christian advocate until tea time. After supper the old preacher and a young one a fellow who was made out of a piece of stuff originally designed for an old maid together with the women sat out in front of the house to enjoy the beauties of the evening. It was fine moonlight night and the old preacher seemed to be absolved in contemplation. He had been looking very steadily at the moon then about a week old) for some minutes, when turning to our host as if about to utter some wise reflection, he observed that it seemed a little strange how a part of the earth could be between us and the moon. Rather strange thought I but said nothing. But he would not allow me to keep silence, and after looking up again as before he repeated as if addressing me. "One would not

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think to look at it that there was a part of the earth between the moon and us and yet the astronomers say that that is what causes the dark part of it! As the appeal was made to me, and as I was a proclaimed pedagogue I felt it my duty to make him some explanation, by which to relieve astronomy from the charge of humbug on the human understanding. After I had attempted to satisfy him on this point was to why we saw the moon as we did he sat staring at it for nearly half an hour without saying a word. The he and the young man went into a very learned conversation as to the time of creation, and what the stars were made for. The young fellow had read some little and had rather more ideas than the other, but he had not independence sufficient to speak his views lest the other should meet him with a quotation from scripture and he should incur the charge of infidelity. It was amusing to hear him state a pretty sensible proposition and abandon it reverently when the old fellow assailed it with the only weapon he knew any thing about. I listened to them until bed time and was edified considerably.

The family assembled for prayers before retiring The negroes were seated along with the rest. The old man read a chapter, then the other sang a hymn assisted by the woman, the prayer concluded their simple service which caused me more to admire the company than any thing I had seen. Goodness is a recompense for many wants.

I was given the privilege of a bed alone, but the mosquitoes gave me some trouble. When I did fall asleep it was only to dream of the formation of an antimosquito society and I awoke listening to a fellow addressing the chair on their abolishment.

July 15th 1845 Tuesday

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After a very good breakfast I left McDonalds he having informed me that I could have their school house, and that I must myself hunt the scholars. I then went to Diffendaffer another of the trustees passing on my way the field in which a patent thrashing machine was going it with a rush. The machine consists of an ordinary threshing cylinder connected with a wind mill. The whole is placed on a wagon and turned by the motion of the axeltree. They start the apparatus at one end of the field and walk right through it tumbling in the sheafs at each side. By the time they have passed a dozen or more times across

it then grain is all put in bags ready for the mill. It makes all sorts of a racket and it is amasing to see it travelling round with the dust flying and doing up the work in less than no time. After calling at Cribbens and Diffendaffers I returned to Douglass. I found him at home and a very pleasant man said something to him about boarding and came into St. Charles to write to McCamant for my trunk. Sent seven dollars over in my letter. Bought a pen knife and comb and sat in a shoe shop half an hour while getting my boots repaired. Returned to Douglass in evening and slept on a very clean bed.

July 16th 1845 Wednesday

A rainy day, but my first business after breakfast was to write an article and start on an expedition of the subscribers. Douglass told me to be certain and visit Squire Green. Accordingly after stopping on account of rain at Cribbens I called at Squire Green's. He is a pretty rich customer, but his house and family do not show it. His wife was about as hard a looking specimen of mortality as I had seen and the children were any thing but clean or handsome. The Squire was not at home but was expected ~~back~~

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for dinner. I therefore paid a visit to his orchard. He has two very large ones and well filled with fruit. When Squire Green appeared I announced my business but he could not sign. He had been cut off into another "district" and they were soon going to have a school in it. He invited me to stay for dinner. Corn bread and fat bacon without butter constituted the meal.

After dinner I returned to Douglass calling at McElhaney's on my way. McElhaney was measuring his wheat to send it to St. Louis. These men do farming up on a pretty extensive scale. Douglass paid me a compliment for energy to his wife in a remark which she informed he had made. She had taken pity on my God forsaken appearance when I started out in the morning, and said to him that it was hard for a young man to be subjected to such difficulties but the old man remarked that there was no danger of that fellow, he would get along any place, he saw it in his motions. I presume it is the first time I ever received praise or energy. It must either have been humbug or else the Missouri climate has thawed my frozen faculties into action. Spent the evening reading and talking with Mrs Douglass. She is a fine woman and I presume there have few fellows met with a similar opportunity of getting board in such a place for \$1.00 per week. Considering that she sets as good a table as can be met with any place save at crack hotels.

July 17th 1845 Thursday

In the forenoon, I came into town with Mr Douglass in his buggy and returned. My trunk had not been brought over. When we returned he was put a little out of humor by his negroes who were building fence. There were three of them engaged at it but instead of arranging the

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work so that two could build while one hauled the rails, they has opposed all division of labor and when we drew near they were all walking along by the wagon for sake of society. Douglass asked me if I ever saw the like of that and then bestowed a few imprecations on the darkies wishing that he could get along without them. His wife seems to like slavery about as well as he does. Her black girl "Rosa" gives her as much trouble as she would have to work herself, she scolds full as much as mother used to and keeps her house in the same neat order. I believe a little grit is necessary to make a woman. The opinion of every person I have heard speak of slave labor is one and the same. Price did not use them at all. He had hired help (dutchmen) and gave as his reason (By God I want a man I can eat with and beside the dutchman is the cheapest." Wyatt who was bitten in his opposition to abolitionists said when I asked him how the black fellows worked. "Some people only like them but I don't, they aint worth much." The fact is these

men hate abolitionists, but they like slavery very little better. Slavery will be abolished yet. This count about the white man not standing the heat is all humbug. Where I have seen them working together the white man does the most.

I spent the afternoon in reading a book called What in Gentility? Some good things in it but no plot. Two ladies called and spent the afternoon with Mrs Douglass.

July 18th 1845 Friday

Walked into town in the morning to see if my trunk had come. Saw Dann at Blairs. He and I talked for some time about schools. Dann had come over from St. Louis with Henry Aleanden. Returned to Douglass. Helped him get some hay in. Rain was coming on. In afternoon started for town. A heavy rain caught me on my way. Stopped at a German's till it was

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over. My trunk did not come in the stage, but I received a letter from McCamant requesting me to write as to what articles I had. This made me feel a little flat. The idea of waiting a day or two more was ridiculous in my then duty condition but it had to be done. I wrote requesting him to send on my fixins, if something was left it did not matter.

July 19-26th 1845 Saturday- Saturday

For sake of brevity I will sum up the event of the week as quickly as profitable. After waiting two days for my trunk it reached me on Monday evening. In the top were three letters- one from Espy containing some good advice, one from John a good long one containing all the Clarion news and a third from Will who is at Alton Illinois and out on money. So am I brother and I would recommend to you to make application to some more likely source. As for me, I will work my way out or starve and would advise you to do the same. On Tuesday I put on my best Sunday go to Meetings wrote an article and proceeded in search of scholars. Have now fifteen on my list with a good prospect of an increase if I do the fair thing by the time the hot weather is over. The people in St. Charles are pretty democratic. The place is very old like Franklin and the people live in about the same style. My board has been very good but I shall change my place to Mrs Lorford's on the hill when I can have my board washing and room for \$2 per week. I have forgotten to explain why I concluded to leave Douglass neighborhood. The change in my resolution was

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so gradual that I did not notice it until it was completed. I have mentioned coming into town several times in succession and at each of these visits I made inquiries as to the prospects of a school. Some thought I could do pretty well others that I could not, but as there was a prospect of an increase in a school when once commenced and as I could in town avail myself of the libraries of some of the Lawyers I concluded to adopt the course which I have taken. The prospects are not very cheering but may grow brighter.

July 27th 1845 Sunday

After breakfast I took a walk in the country and found some good apples and ripe plums. Returned and wrote some in diary after dinner. Attended Meth. Church with Parks in the evening. Saw one very pretty girl. The preacher's subject was the character of the virtuous man and opposed to that of the vicious. He illustrated it by all the instances which the Bible afforded from Adam down and was so exceedingly polite as to speak of the "Gentleman" from whom Ahab purchased the farm. Saw one very pretty girl at church.

July 28th- August 11th 1845 Monday-Monday

On Tuesday July 29 I commenced teaching school in the college with pupils. I had a better start than I expected and now it has increased to twenty- two of whom are fellows from the country studying the languages and Mathematics. I have formed but few acquaintances in St. Charles. Those which I have are such as do not trouble me much. Emernons a fine fellow who is clerking for Powell has invited me to call occasionally and play on the flute. I am improving a little and the loafers on the street sometimes stop to listen.

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In law I have read nearly two hundred pages carefully and have also taken so many lessons in the Post Office that I can now do up a mail myself very neatly. I cannot see any great advantage which it will afford me but I have learned it merely to accommodate Fulkerson and if he is disposed to do the fair thing my course will better my condition somewhat. If he is out I lose nothing. Since coming here I have received several letters from home and from Espy. The latter is a little displeased at some news from Franklin and talks of locating at Ft Madison. John wrote me a long letter which I received yesterday. It was all good but shows pretty clearly that father is displeased at my course. I am trying to succeed as well as I can and if after all my pains I am blamed I cant help it. But in justice to my friends and to father I think their fears are more the result of affection than of any thing else. With the exception of one or two items which made me feel a little out of my usual tone of good humor the rest of his letter was fine just what I wanted. He understands putting the proper things in a letter and afforded me considerable pleasure. I yesterday wrote father a long letter and made a short defence. I cannot tell how it will take

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August 22nd 1845 Friday

Time passes quickly when a man is profitably employed, and I have often found that my well spent days afford little subject of comment. It is now almost four weeks since I commenced teaching in St. Charles and I have put but little of my experience during that period on paper. My school has been flourishing as well as I expected or even better. My Latin class has however been temporarily broken up by sickness. Yesterday I was compelled to flog a rascal for telling me I could do nothing but whip and received a visit from his father whom I informed of the circumstances of the case and told him that I would do the same thing again. He concluded I was right and the boy has since done pretty well.

My board continues agreeable. I found my duties in the P.O. rather laborious and was glad to hand over my right and title to a Mr Clough a fellow from Boston who is a sort of jack of all trades. He was relieved yesterday by a Mr Jones a friend of Fulkersons a pretty fine fellow who arrived from Illinois. I had made two mistakes in sending mails which added to the fact of a fellow being killed by lightning last Saturday night made me spend a gloomy Sunday. My health continues good. Have no symptoms of ague or fever as yet; and hope to be able to continue well.

Espy writes me from Ft Madison that he will locate there. This will make another item in my consideration about locating. But I must first get my profession. No news from home since John's letter.

This morning I rose in time for breakfast. Read some of Blackstone. Carved a chicken at dinner. Good sport. Helped Jones open mail and close one for St. Louis in morning.

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August 23th 1845 Saturday

The idle day of the school master. Took a walk early along the river for plums. Found some persimmons, did not know what they were. Fulkerson gets better able to flog his negro Bob. Read Blackstone. Tried to write a letter. Assisted Jones some in the evening to arrange his mails.

August 24th 1845 Sunday

Attended Catholic Church with Clough. I thought a great deal about popery and religion in general. Could not help thinking of the contrast of Peter preaching in their natural tongue to a multitude of people in the open air and the priest covered with the pictures and gabbing over the multitude of mysteries in Latin.

Wrote a letter to Elizabeth after a good dinner. Attended Pres Church in Court House. Tolerably good sermon.

August 25th 1845 Monday

August 30th 1845 Saturday

During the week events have been of little importance, but I must begin to do better with my diary. Friday was a wet day and very disagreeable. This forenoon I assisted Mrs Fulkerson to pick some peaches after having a long talk with Fulkerson about sending a mail wrong while he was sick. In the afternoon took a walk to the mounds three miles below town. Climbed one of them to enjoy the view as I sat down among the penny royal. Had a fine prospect Could see the Mississippi bluffs and the prairie lying between. Cattle feeding or lying down under the few shade trees farms scattered at intervals over the plain contributed to make a beautiful scene.

Went down the hill to a little farm house to get a drink. Joined company with a clever

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fellow from Ohio who gave me his horse to ride. We talked for some time about the west. He thought it was a great country, but concluded by thinking he would as willingly be East. On coming to a good orchard we helped ourselves to some excellent apples. I had a slight head ache in the evening. Received a letter from Espy and a Franklin Gasette. Wrote Espy a long letter in return. This has been the week of County Court in St. Charles. Campbell the native Candidate whom I heard speaking in St. Louis has been at our hotel during the time of court.

September 5th 1845 Friday

Had an easy time in school very few boys. A camp meeting in the country has done something toward thinning them. During the week I have received some of my tuition money which has contributed somewhat towards raising my spirits which were good enough before. On Thursday I bought some candles and commenced my labors at night. The weather has been very warm for some days past. Thermometer still at 90°.

September 6th 1845 Saturday

Commenced reading Blackstone soon after breakfast. Took a walk down to steam mill to see a French man as requested by McCamant in a letter which I received a few days since. Met Clough who asked me to clerk for him at a sale. Did so after beating him some games at checkers. In afternoon resumed reading. Clough gave me a quarter for my aid. Small favors thankfully received. In the evening I took a walk with Clough into the country. His father returned from Boston. I was introduced to Miss Stone braker. Returned and went to bed. Forgot to mention receipt of two full shirts from father yesterday.

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September 7th 1845 Sunday

People were starting early for camp meeting. It soon became cloudy Jones and I walked out into the country. Had some of the firmest apples I ever saw. Spent the afternoon in writing a letter to father. Talked sometime with Jones in evening about locating and finally concluded to locate in bed at least for the present.

September 8th 1845 Monday

Only 15 scholars in school camp meeting has relieved me considerably. Swept my school room in the evening. Took Murphy his supper Think he is going to be sick. Called at Printing office with overall. Told me that the curators designed employing me in the department of languages. Studied any quantity of Blackstone Fines and recoveries and resigned myself to the bugs.

September 9th 1845 Tuesday

School about the same as yesterday. Spent the evening on Blackstone.

September 10th 1845 Wednesday

This was the day appointed for the meeting of the curators of the College. Accordingly several made their appearance at different times until at last they had a quorum. During their proceedings Mr Luis called me to one side and told me that the curators were going to send for a man in Ohio to take the Presidency of the College. He said that he would not be employed in that case. He then wanted to know what I would do in case I was not employed as a teacher in the College and whether I would remain in St. Charles and informed me of a place up the [noc] where a teacher was much wanted where he thought I could do better. He promised to write to me near the first of October by which time he could

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give me definite information. I afterwards saw him at noon and he was about to leave. He advised me to say nothing about going away until I heard from him. From what he said I concluded that my services will not be accepted in the college. Of course I will have to leave St. Charles in that case and lay myself liable at home to the censure of being discontented. I would rather now stay where I am, but if it becomes necessary I will take the responsibility and slope. In the evening I saw Orrear Ed of [A docetiser]. He said that he believed I had a prospect of becoming Professor. However I cannot tell what their board has done. They said nothing to me about it or indeed to any one so that I presume they are not yet decided. Meantime I can wait. Read Blackstone until about eleven o'clock.

September 11th 1845 Thursday

Forgot to mention the return of the Gorans to schools after a visit to Camp meeting. They are a hard set of boys to manage; but I could be contented as to that if their father would only pay their tuition Six bits is all I have been able to get from him and I guess all I will be able to get. Overall returned yesterday to school. His father I think likes me tolerably well. At least he seems disposed to do what is liberal and as he is one of the curators he may do something for me. Some of the neighbors commenced picking their apples to which will save my pupils many an application of their birch.

In evening read Blackstone twenty pages on things personal, and retired after a walk down to river bank with Jones & Overall.

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September 12th 1845 Friday

The last school day of another week. quarter is now half out. Boys disposed to be disorderly. The day soon passed round and the Pedagogue laid his rod on the shelf and came down home. Received a long letter from John in the evening. He had just paid home a visit and afforded me some amusement with a description of a bear hunt on the Island. He also tells me that Miss Sarah Cuan had paid Franklin a visit lately. Sorry of course I wasn't there to receive her. Isaiah Adams and Sol. Ulman have opened stores in Franklin on their own account. Si will be married yet. Jesse Adams preached for them. These and other little matters made his letter an excellent treat. Read some law and retired after reading my letter.

September 13th 1845 Saturday

A very wet morning. Spent it in commencing a letter to John. Called on Mrs Lee the wife of an officer in the Army. She wanted to send her son to school. Was glad to receive such an addition to my stock. Took a walk with Jones after dinner to an orchard in the country. Wrote Espy a letter in the evening.

September 14th 1845 Sunday

Did not rise as early as usual. Attended a prayer meeting in Presbyterian Church on the hill. Saw Miss Stone breaker. Did not recognize her soon enough to speak no harm. I am better without an acquaintance with the damsels. Took a long nap after a dessert of apple dumplings. Had a walk with Jones to river. Finished Johns letter after a game of checquers with Murphy. The latter invited me to room with him and study at his office a pretty fine chance shall accept if I remain.

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played flute after mailing my two letters. Then walked down to river with Jones.

September 15th 1845 Monday

Had a new pupil but my Latin class did not appear and I presume they will not. Overall is sick. A fine clear day and school went off pretty smoothly. Bought a cord of steel pens from Madam Machett and said a few words about her boy. Spent the evening on Contracts and played some on the flute.

September 16th 1845 Tuesday

Spent the day in school tolerably pleasantly. Sat down on the [--] in the evening and could hardly persuade myself it was Tuesday evening. Time flies fast. Overall and myself gave a concert in the hall. Mrs F caught us. Took a short walk and I then returned and put in a few hours on Blackstone.

September 17th 1845 Wednesday

Rose just in time for breakfast. Attended school gave one of the Gorans a flogging and the other speaking when the matter did not concern him I did him a similar favor. Spent the evening cultivating my musical abilities and talking with Overall about life business etc. Overall is the Editor or rather printer of

a paper in town. They need a good editor most of his workman being poor scholars and this formed the subject of our conversation. They said a good many things about it and told me that in case I taught in the College he would like to have my assistance. This would be pretty near what I would want. It would help to develop a fellow's abilities. We walked up to the round house and then returned home. Beautiful moonlight night. Overall offered to introduce me to the damsels but I refused.

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September 18th 1845 Thursday

The same course of school duties as on other days. The boys have been of late very industrious in heating pecuans a kind of nut that I used to buy in Venango but did not know its nativity. In the evening I bought some more candles and read some Blackstone. Had a game of checkers with Mrs F.

September 19th 1845 Friday

The welcome day again. Succeeded in adjourning school in good time in the forenoon. After it was out in the evening I came home expecting to receive a letter but was disappointed. I however received two or three papers from Espy. One of them was the Iowa Capitol reporter. On opening it I saw my old advertisement in Company with the prospective of the Iowa watchman. I felt in a good humor at the recollections they suggested. After supper I read some little Blackstone and retired too early.

September 20th 1845 Saturday

The morning was clear then cloudy and clear again. Fogs begin to be heavy. Fall weather is coming. During the past week have seen several cases of chills. Do not seem to hurt the fellows much, They all eat and Fulkerson threatens to raise their board if they dont soon get well. After breakfast Jones and I took a walk out to Whitney's Orchard. A young fellow was masking barrels of apples for Galena. He said they would send off 1400 barrels this year and that it was a very poor year. The apples are all good. Each row in the orchard has the same kind a result obtained by grafting the trees when young. We staid some time eating apples and talking about the apple business. Every business is a branch by itself in the world and all require patience and industry. After returning I read the last chapter in 2nd vol of

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Blackstone. Have read it pretty carefully but must go over it again before admission. Wrote part of a letter to Espy in afternoon and then went down to Dr Watson's with Mrs Fulkerson and played some at checkers. I beat her several games though she is the best female player I ever saw. Took tea at the Doctor's and afterwards accompanied a blind man to his lodgings from the house.

September 21st 1845 Sunday

Spent the forenoon in rigging out for church my wardrobe begins to look scant. Clothes were wearing out but an occasional hole does not matter much. There were several little things I should have bought at Cincinnati instead of what I did buy; but it is done now and the future is to be thought of now. I think I can get along unless I am peculiarly unfortunate. Walked down to Laclands mill with Jones. While there Young Lacland joined us and we went over to the house. I then accompanied Lacland to Meth. Church. Heard a young fellow preach a sermon which he had committed to memory and delivered as if he was frightened and wanted to get through. Clough gave me a letter to put in the office in Church because he wished to be seen doing something. He afterwards asked me to certify as to the Articles sold at Barrell's sale. Spent the afternoon writing a poor letter home to Elizabeth.

September 22nd 1845 Monday

School again. Cold morning. Fine clear day. Did nothing in the evening on account of cold. Had a recitation to day in reading about Musical Mick. The article which the boy read said "the mouse was in an extacy at the sound of the flute." I asked what an ecstasy

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was. One of the boys said he did not know without it meant that the mouse was in its hole. He almost equalled Willy Shell of Iowa in cuteness.

September 23rd 1845 Tuesday

Another cold morning. Felt like having chills myself. A lady dined at our house who was formerly a school mate of Lib's in Harrisburg. Her name before marriage was Hendrick or Henry and she told Madam F. something about our family. So that the old lady surprised me a little by asking me when I went in rather late if my father was not a Judge in Pennsylvania? I did not myself see the lady and had no great anxiety. She could not be of much service to me and then she is married. Murphy was sick this evening and I gave him my bed and slept in his office with Head (a printer who has just been up at Hancock Co. among the Mormons. Head has written a very flat tale intended to cut several fellows in town, but he had better be careful or he will hurt himself worst. Head told me the nature of Murphy's disease and gave me some valuable information about the old woman who occasionally keeps "openings for young men" on the hill.

September 24th 1845 Wednesday

Spent the day at my school and in the evening listened to Wilson (an old Widower) telling some thing about the Slickers or Regulators.

September 25th-26th 1845 Thursday and Friday

Nothing happened on either of these days of any great importance to the Biographer. I spent them both in my school. On Friday evening Judge Hunt of Circuit Court arrived. Madame F was in good spirits. Judge Hunt is an old man formerly of Massachusetts.

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September 27th 1845 Saturday

Started soon after breakfast with Mr Wilson and took a walk out to Bang's Orchard. We had some conversation with Mrs B. The subject was chiefly negroes she said she did not like slave states and hated to sell negroes. I afterwards learned from Wilson that she was a Pennsylvanian. He said Northern people did not understand managing negroes. He said what I already knew that familiarity with them will not work. The old lady complained that one of her black girls whom she exhibited ran out a great deal at nights. She treated us to some cider and apples. Her daughter had a chill while we were there. I am beginning to lose my confidence in the west. Wrote in a letter to Espy in answer to one which I received yesterday evening. Retired tolerably late. Had a conversation in the afternoon with a Dutch shoemaker. He wanted to rent me a room.

September 28th 1845 Sunday

After breakfast took a walk with Wilson. Found some grapes. Wilson had travelled a great deal and his company is agreeable. In the afternoon I took a walk to Bang's orchard in Company with Head. Saw two negroes with a gun enjoying holiday. In the evening wrote a letter to Wilson.

September 29th 1845 Monday

Circuit Court has commenced and Fulkerson had a full house. I attended school as usual and flogged the Gorans. This is spree no. 3. One of my scholars left me and I received an addition of two new ones whose appearance indicated any thing but a prospect of pay. But there mother is a poor widow and I shall teach them pay or no pay, though I am not in a very capable condition

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for showing charity. If I am not careful I cannot make enough by my school to pay my board and then like the most of people in St. Charles I shall have to remain. Called on the widow in the evening.

Received a letter from Ed a first rate one. Dutch Kate alias German Catherine has been delivered of a boy. Some fellow in Venango will feel the effects of Sullivan's law. Tried to read some law in evening Fulkerson sent me to bed with Wilson over at Mrs Lindsay's.

September 30th 1845 Tuesday

Last day of September and a very fine one. Morning cool and the rest of the day pleasant. Woods smoky. The boys playing ball reminded me of old mother Cumberland and fall weather at Carlisle. Those glamorous days are gone. Clough came up with me to the school room at noon. He invited me to go with him to Orrecks in the evening and called for me; but I had promised to detain some of my pupils and could not o. Attended a meeting of the Legislature of Mo. Jun. Was chosen member from Andrian. Returned home. Heard Gallagher sing a good song. Overall and I slept together. Had some fun about our bed.

Must pass over a few days owing to negligence. Friday brought me a letter from Espy written at Ft. Madison. He seems well pleased with his new location and is about to open an office. He invites me to join him and I suspect it is going to be my best chance. St. Louis still takes me fancy but there seems to be no way for me to make a commencement in that place Iowa would be preferable for some reason. It is cooler and probably more healthy.

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October 4th 1845 Saturday

A real cold, dull, wet and disagreeable day. Spent the forenoon in reading Blackstone and the afternoon in the same employment in a shoemaker's shop while he was mending my boots. In the evening the sky cleared toward the west and showed us the new moon. Spent the evening talking with Judge Hunt. He told me how he succeeded in Missouri. advised me to continue teaching and leave law alone. Said I was wrong in coming away from home. Could not agree with him in these particulars. My step in leaving home was not the right one if I could have been persuaded to act as I should when there. But I am in for it now.

October 5th 1845 Sunday

Took a walk with Wilson for grapes soon after breakfast. Found some fine ones. Had a head ache the remainder of the day but nevertheless wrote a letter to Wilson. Read a quantity in a Methodist Review for old Judge Hunt. Finished my letter and retired very late.

October 6th 1845 Monday

A real cold morning. Some rain. Sent my boys out for wood. They collected any quantity. Spent the evening in reading for the Judge.

October 7th 1845 Tuesday

Mrs Stewards having left the school room I moved into it for comfort and was well pleased with the change. In the evening attended a meeting of the Legislature of Missouri. Posey introduced a bill for abolishing Capital punishment. After it had been discussed some time in committee of the whole a motion was made to adjourn. This was pronounced out of order I then took the floor and talked sometime with a vengeance having been opposed in one or two trifling things before.

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When I had finished they adjourned. Slept with Overall. Bucknee the district attorney gave us some of his views after we had retired. In the evening previously he had said something about schools and his own course.

October 8th 1845 Wednesday

Gave Bucknee my address, he having held out some pretty strong inducements for me to go to Palmyra in case the teacher now in that place should leave as he has expressed his intention. After school in the evening read some Blackstone and retired with Overall.

October 9th 1845 Thursday

Came up to school room and wrote some in my diary. Have again a full school. Warm pleasant day. Wrote a letter to Wyman inquiring concerning a situation as a teacher. This is I suspect my last effort to get into business in St. Louis. Called at Orrears office in evening and conversed for sometime about a Thespian society and other matters. I flatter myself that my speaking on Tuesday has done me no harm. Orrear said something about going into the Law business. He said I could do more there before a Justice than I could at teaching. Do not know how it would be but I think I can now succeed in the West, at any rate.

October 10th 1845 Friday

Another of the good Fridays. Had my full amount of scholars. Did not receive any letters.

October 11th 1845 Saturday

Spent the forenoon in reading Blackstone. At dinner we had a Tragedy or drama enacted at our house. Fulkerson took some drunken fellow in

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to dinner after the rest had done. The fellow's name was O'Connell and he began to agitate subjects rather unpleasant. Fulkerson wanted to charge him a dollar for his dinner. The fellow said some impudent things to Madam F. and Fulkerson proceeded to put him out. I was in the bar room when they came out. Fulkerson was armed with a carving knife and was bestowing sundry kicks and blows on the Irishman. I pitied the poor fellow. It is true he was impertinent but Fulkerson was too passionate. After dinner Jones and I took a walk for grapes. Found some good ones. Commenced a letter to Espy in the evening.

October 12th 1845 Sunday

Soon after breakfast walked down to Lacland's with Wilson. Met Miss Watson as I returned. She asked me to go to Church but I was not dressed. Came home shirted and attended Pres. prayer meeting in company with the Laclands. In afternoon finished letter to Espy and in evening went up with Head to Murphy's office and wrote father a letter before going to bed.

October 13th 1845 Monday

Came to school room after breakfast made a fire and commenced operations. Carved a goose at dinner. Fine clear day. Indian summer weather. Spent evening on Blackstone at Murphy's office. Ben Eurmons came in and talked about Shakespeare. Head was taking pills for the chills. The article has not yet disappeared.

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October 14th 1845 Tuesday

Had a pretty rough time in school. President of the College called up with Bevitt. Was introduced to him. Attended meeting of Legislature of Mo. in evening. Had an interesting discussion of Capital punishment question. I gave them some more of my views. Parks made the best speech of the evening. Returned home and had some trouble to find a bed. Plenty of strangers. Slept in my old place in Garret.

October 15th 1845 Wednesday

Came up to College soon after breakfast and cut some wood. Made a fire and commenced operations. Pres. called up and asked a number of questions which I could not answer about how matters had been conducted in the college of old.

Mr and Mrs Douglass from country dined at our house. Douglass told me after dinner that my course had been very acceptable and the people spoke well of my teaching. Murphy said he had heard some of the trustees saying that I must be retained as a teacher glad of it if I can get any thing for it. In evening had some conversation with Colver about my teaching. He said that people all were pleased with my teaching that I had taught the boys something and governed them well. Went down to Murphy's office. Said he wanted me to room there and teach him Latin in winter for use of Law books. Head rooms with him now. Read some of Blackstone and came up

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home. Plenty of preachers at one hour going to attend Presbyterian Synod at St. Louis. I had to go with Overall over to widow Lindsay's to sleep.

October 16th 1845 Thursday

Came up to College and cut part of an apple tree that I commenced yesterday. Pres. Ebbert has commenced cleaning up in earnest. He bought a load of wood from a Dutchman paid seven bits. Had a fine turkey for dinner. Got nothing in mail. In forenoon one of my boys took a chill. I noticed that he looked pale and had large drops of perspiration on his face and sent him home. After school in evening Mrs Ebbert came in to enjoy my fire until her husband came. I was writing diary and am now going to supper. She said they would know nothing about the College for certain until they heard from conference. After supper called at advertiser office. Orrear asked me to write him a piece as a specimen. Bought some candles and commenced writing. Went to bed with Overall.

October 17th 1845 Friday

Rose early breakfasted and came up to college. Had easy times in school Miss Watson dined with us, I helped Fulkerson open mail. Received two letters, one from Espy. It contained a fine description of prospects and invitation to come up and join him. The other was from McCamant and contained a notice for an examination of

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in St. Louis to morrow. He tells me to come down. Shall I go? Two dollars for a lottery ticket. The chances are that I will not succeed, but the reward is good. Will regret it if I dont and so shall go down yes I will go. I may succeed. As big fools as I have done so before.

October 18th 1845 Saturday

Agreably to my decision last night I prepared to start on the stage in the morning for St. Louis. Spent some time talking to Mrs Watson after I had prepared and got into the stage. The company over was an old Lady who reminded me of Mrs Mackey of Venango. She had only one idea in her head and that was the Presbyterian Church. Her first question to me was if I was not going to the Synod? Then she sang a hymn to the good old tune, Dundee. Then she inquired whether I believed in the new or old school doctrines and then sung another hymn. When we passed a school house she was sure to wonder if it was not a Presbyterian Church and never deviated from her subject until a little boy entered the stage eating an apple which she ordered him to give to her little girl. We had a pleasant ride over and entered St. Louis about 1 o'clock. I went first to McCamants office but found it closed and then to his former residence. He had removed. I then went to his office and found Woodford in, and soon saw McC himself. The city appeared lonely, and I felt lonely as soon as I left the stage. Went with McC to Court House. Board met several applicants for the place. It was the same school of which

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I spoke once before. Sill had been employed monthly and paid in advance. The board refused to pay so any longer. Accordingly they gave the notice for an examination. Sill was determined to hold on. He appeared himself as an applicant. As soon as I learned this I saw that it was another humbug. The other candidates some of them talented fellows were a little out of humor. One of them was a married man, with long experience as a teacher. Another was a Vermonter who was so sure of getting the place that he had engaged his board for a year. The examination was long. Continued after supper. I had my turn before it. Returned to Court house after eating a light supper. Moonlight night stood on steps until decision was announced. Sill was reelected. Just as might have been expected. I did not feel very badly disappointed but I had a bad headache. I went to the Glasgow House and retired.

October 19th 1845 Sunday

Rose early and walked down third street to find McCamant's new residence but was not able to find it not having been well directed. Returned to Stage office. Visited wharf inquired fare to Ft. Madison. Ate breakfast at a coffee house and soon started in the Stage. As we were leaving the Planter's House I saw a face that I had seen before. It was that of Ban Gibson a former classmate of mine while at Dickinson. He said he was going up the river to dig lead. It was a pleasure to meet an acquaintance as it always is on such occasions but we are bound on our different pursuits and have to pass on. The little flutter of early feelings that for a moment gladdens subsides into an anxious

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solicitude for self interest and prose takes the place of poetry. We had a pleasant ride returning and I was soon discussing a turkey at Mrs Fs with a fellow passenger. In evening took a walk with Jones up to Catholic Grace yard. Attended Methodist Church. Ebbert preached. "I am not ashamed of Gospel of Christ" a pretty good sermon.

October 20th 1845 Monday

Rose with the blues in a slight degree. Came up the hill made fire and commenced operations. School was pretty orderly for I felt a little like walking through them. Assisted Fulkerson to assort a mail. Spent the evening in writing a letter to Mother, in the bar room.

October 21st 1845 Tuesday

Rose and finished my letter before breakfast. Came up to school. Had no events of importance. Saw notices at dinner time for a lecture on Nativeism. A crack brained man from St. Louis or some other place is going to speak. He could say nothing else at dinner than some declamation against Foreigners. In afternoon at recess Ebbert and I talked some about College arrangements. Received a letter from McCamant stating that Armstrong wished to employ me as an assistant. Went to Murphy's office and wrote a letter to Armstrong as also to McC.

October 22nd 1845 Wednesday

The man who last night lectured on Nativism argued it and talked on that subject all morning. Came up to school Ebbert made me an offer to board me and find my fuel and lights and give me a fine old

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salary. Told him I would consider it. In evening the party or ball come off at our house. I had concluded not to attend and accordingly went to Church. After hearing a presbyterian sermon I returned home calling at Posey's on my return. Took a peek at the dancers. They were going it in high spirits. Went over to Mrs Lindsay's and slept with Head.

October 23rd 1845 Thursday

In the morning some of the dancers from the country who had been a little light took a scuffle in the bar room. Made arrangements for adjourning school tolerably early. Said a few words to the boys and finished my quarter. The last day of the quarter was always hailed with pleasure in former days, but to day it brought up old recollections. My quarters are going fast and will soon all be out not well improved.

October 24th 1845 Friday

Spent the day in loafing and reading a little law in Murphy's office began to try a little collecting. Did some singing with Overall in the evening and flute playing with Fulkerson.

October 25th 1845 Saturday

Another fine pleasant Indian Summer day. Business appears lively. Traveling is increasing. Board of curators of College met in evening. Received a letter from Espy. He still wishes me to come up the river. Went up to the College to learn what the Trustees had decided. Ebbert said he would board me and give ten dollars per month. I felt a little vexed at the offer and told him I would

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ask until Monday morning to consider it. Spent the evening in a rather melancholy mood. Was deciding to leave.

October 26th 1845 Sunday

Attended at the Presbyterian Church. Received previously some six dollars tuition fees. People out West do not care much for Sunday. Took a walk in afternoon with Easterbrooks. Also another with Clough and Wilson. Attended Presbyterian Church in evening.

October 27th 1845 Monday

Another fine day. Had made up my mind to leave to morrow morning and go up to Iowa, to join Espy. Called on Doctor Powell and asked him for truth. Told him I was going to leave. He said I had better stay. Afterwards I saw Overall and him together. They told me that they were pleased with me as a teacher and that they would be glad if I would remain. This is what I had had the gratification of hearing from all my patrons and it was certainly good news. Overall said that in the meeting of the Curators I had not been fairly represented. Neither he nor Powell was there. They supposed the small offer was made as Overall said because I had not worn out the knees of my pants. They said that they would do all they could for me to induce me to remain. Powell called on Ebbert and afterwards told me that I could take charge of the preparatory department on my own account. Powell said he would send two scholars though he hardly had one. I told them I would do it and I felt better as soon as I decided to do so. Called on Ebbert and informed him of my decision. He said he was glad to hear it. Attended a native America meeting at Court House in evening. Dr McDowell spoke.

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He said many good things but advanced no strong arguments.

October 28th 1845 Tuesday

A fine pleasant day. Spent it in loafing with Murphy. We took a walk to Bang's orchard and I read some little Law.

October 29th 1845 Wednesday

A day much like yesterday. went with Murphy up to Wilson's House. Ate some apples. Began to have tooth ache in evening. Wrote Father a long letter. Had no rest at night owing to my tooth.

October 30th 1845 Thursday

Spent the day with a swelled jaw and the tooth ache. Did not enjoy any thing. Sat by the fire. Tried to read and play flute but it would not work. Came up to Murphy's office and slept with Head.

October 31st 1845 Friday

My tooth still continued to pain me. Called at Printing office to correct advertisement. My jaw was so swelled as to appear ridiculous and became no better. After dinner walked up with Head along river bank. Steamboat Frolich was passing. I had my tooth extracted by Dr Bevitt. Took it like a man. Went to Post Office. Did not expect a letter. Jones told me there was one. It was from Ed and announced the death of Brother William at Alton Illinois. I felt miserable and lonely after reading it. Concluded to go to Alton to morrow.

November 1st 1845 Saturday

With strange gloomy feelings I started for Alton on horseback soon after breakfast. I had not been well directed as to the road, and to be sofe turned off towards the Missouri river too soon. For a long time I was on the wrong road, but I did not feel much anxiety about it and continued on my way. It was a pleasant

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Indian Summer morning. The crows were cawing as they do at home on soft mornings in winter, and the leaves were falling around. The scene was in perfect unison with my feelings. After some time I reached the prarie. It appeared very different from what it was in the spring when I saw my first one. I saw two Buffaloes among a number of cattle. They had been tamed and appeared to be well contented with Civilization. Had some difficulty in crossing a slue or lake. This detained me some time so that it was late when I reached the Mississippi just in sight of Alton. The view here is certainly beautiful. The broad river with is fine bluffs on the Illinois side present a landscape that deserves to be painted. I was compelled to wait some time for the ferry boat and had ample time to admire the view of the river and the city, but I was in no humor for indulging in pleasure of any kind.

On reaching Alton my first inquiry was at the Penitentiary for Broadfoot Hays. I learned that he lived in Sampletown about a mile from Alton proper and proceeded immediately in search of his house. I had no trouble to find it and on knocking at the door I heard his well known gruff "Come in..." He had very sore eyes and was sitting by the fireside. His wife, a pretty fine looking young woman was preparing tea. I saw down with him and he related to me the circumstances of William's death. It was the first time since hearing the news that I could realize that he was gone. I had still had some wavering hope that Will was still alive, that there was some mistake but it all sunk then. After supper Broadfoot and I went down to the Post Office. He was expecting a letter from father. It rained some on us and there were two or three bright flashes of lightening with load thunder. We returned to his house and spent the evening talking about poor Will. Broadfoots account of Will's course previous to his death was about this

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Soon after coming out West he engaged in teaching a school in Jerseyville Ill. He remained there about three weeks and wrote to Broadfoot that he wanted several articles such as a pen knife and some others. Broadfoot procured some of them and went out to see him and also left him some money. In a few days William left Jerseyville on a spree and came to Alton himself. His time was now spent in Company with Joe McClelland a fellow by name Moore and a man named Hawley. He also staid some time with an old Irishman whose wife Broadfoot said did nothing but carry the old man and Will liquor. Joe McClelland

and his friend were making calculations for an expedition as blacklegs. They were designing to go to Nauvoo and get counterfeit money and from thence continue on in their course. Broadfoot said that he persuaded Will not to join them. Will also during this time made several trips to St. Louis and Hays said that he returned every time with money. His last return was on the Saturday before his death. Broadfoot asked him how he had obtained his money. Will said that he had taken up a deserter. On the next Monday he went down into Alton. When he returned in the evening it was by the back way and he appeared to have been lying on the ground. He seemed to have a violent chill. The next day (Tuesday, 7) he helped Broadfoot carry up some wood. He also tried to cut some but only struck a few strokes and said he could not do it. In the evening he went upstairs to bed. He had been down to Alton and appeared to be intoxicated. Broadfoot was preparing him some herb tea for drink. Two young fellows were up stairs also at the time. Broadfoot's wife told him that Will was asleep. Broadfoot went up to waken him when the young men left and found that he was cold. He then called them back and one went for a doctor. It was too late. The doctor suggested that an inquest should be held. It was so done and the verdict was "death from Intoxication". Such was his account of the end of poor Will, and after hearing it

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I lay down with gloomy feelings and let memory run over the part before I fell asleep.

November 2nd 1845 Sunday

After breakfast Broadfoot walked with me up to the grave yard in upper Alton. We called at the house of Hawley who gave me some letters one from Col. Lamberton to William and two others from Joe McClelland. He also gave me a scrap of Will's own writing. A walk of two miles brought us to the grave yard where Broadfoot pointed out a new made grave as the one where Will is buried. I stood by it for some time and turned away to leave him among strangers feeling better though sadder than I came.

On returning to the house Mrs Hays gave me a lock of Will's hair which she had preserved. I also went up to look at the room where he died. The bed on which he lay had not been moved.

About noon I started from Hays in company with him preparatory to crossing the river. The ferry boat was not ready until four o'clock and we spent the time of waiting in viewing the Penitentiary. When the boat was ready I got on board in Company with several others but the wind blew so strong down stream that we did not reach this shore until nearly sun down. I had a lonely ride of it home. The prairie was on fire and present a grand and striking appearance after night. I reached town about then o'clock.

November 3rd till November 9th Monday till Sunday

On Monday morning I commenced teaching in the college with about 12 boys. The number increased before the week ended to 17. Will soon have more those I have are better pay than my squad of last session. The week has been a gloomy

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one. Will's death had made me feel really lonely. I received on Tuesday an excellent letter from father Ed and John. I felt much like obeying the request to come home. Had I not made an engagement in the College I would have done so. As it is I am in for it where I am until Spring what I may do then I cannot tell. By that time my present feelings may have changed.

The above was written a week since. It is now more than two weeks since I commenced teaching in the College. The weather has been pretty pleasant. On Thursday we had an eclipse of the moon. I have commenced rooming with Murphy for the winter. On Saturday I made a ruin of an overcoat and hat. I took my cloak to a tailor to see if he could not make an overcoat and had a much better offer made me.

The cloak was still good but too short and out of fashion. The tailor offered me an overcoat worth fifteen dollars and a pair of pants for it and I accepted.

On Sunday 16 we had some little rain. In the evening Fulkerson knocked down an Irishman with a chair. Fulkerson is too passionate and hasty. There was no occasion for his course and he came near having to [report] it, for we thought the poor fellow was killed. During the week since I have been sleeping alone. Murphy went to a wedding in the country and left me sole tenant. I have been of late an early riser. Five o'clock finds me up and at Blackstone every morning. I forgot to mention that last week I called on

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Miss Woods on Saturday evening at Gallahers. She was at Parks and Orrear who was with me took me that much farther, I was introduced to Miss Bella Parks and spent an hour very pleasantly with Miss Woods talking about Iowa City. I have since received some letters from home. One was from John and one from Espy. The latter continues pleased with Iowa and Ft. Madison. It is now Friday evening. The rain which commenced on Sunday last ceased on Monday we have again pleasant weather. It is not very cold.

My school has increased to twenty five of whom most are pretty good pay. I write this when detaining three boys for bad conduct. They have not been disposed to take it very coolly. The sun is now down. School teaching is a pretty tiresome business, sometimes annoying, but I think my energy is increasing and lassiness on the decline. The letters I received from home are encouraging. Confidence in me seems to increase and I have some consciousness of deserving it.

November 22nd 1845 Saturday

Mr Ebbert concluded that as we were keeping a College we must have declamation. SO we met and listened to some of the pupils and students spouting a few of the old pieces which we used to speak in the Old Venango Academy. Had some conversation with the students on declamation. Went up to Murphy's office. Wrote part of a letter to John. Spent the evening in the office. Barron slept with me.

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November 23rd 1845 Sunday

Attended Presbyterian Church in forenoon after debating the question with Eurmons. A very cold day and clear. Heard Barber preach. He gave out notice that a number of preachers would hold faith during the week at their Church. One he said was an interesting young man from Pennsylvania. Attended Methodist Church at night.

November 24th 1845 Monday

Came to school room after an early rise. Had an increase of three scholars. Have now some 28. Find it takes pretty hard work to keep them in order and hear all their recitations. In evening went up on the hill to hear the "interesting young man" from Pennsylvania. Was greatly surprised to see John Lyon enter pulpit. I used to admire Anna very much and hearing his voice and seeing his features called hers to mind very vividly. He preached a good sermon. Having improved much since I heard him in Carlisle.

November 25th 1845 Tuesday

Rose early and after breakfast came up on the hill. Teaching now employs me nearly all the day. In the evening I called on John Lyon at Blair's. Took tea with him and spent the time until they were

ready for church talking about Carlisle. He informed me that Morris dies before last Commencement. He gave me also some kind advice on our way to Church. His friend Gilbraith preached a pretty good sermon

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November 26th 1845 Wednesday

Rose early. Snow fell to the depth of nearly a foot. Everything looked dreary. School teaching is a bore in cold weather. I have made an arrangement with two boys to have my fires made on and room swept every day for their tuition they attend to it well. In evening attended Presbyterian Church. Lyon preached a pretty good sermon. Could almost fancy when I listened to him and heard then singing the same tunes that are used in Carlisle that I was again back and that my four years of pleasure were not over. Bade Lyon good bye after Church.

November 27th 1845 Thursday

Another hard day on the school master. Had trouble to keep order. Detained some boys in the evening. Went down with Overall to Gallaghers. Miss Woods and Mary G entertained us during the evening. Sang old Hundred of the words "Before Jehova's awful throne" Lee demurred to one of the lines "Made us of clay and formed us men." He said some were formed "women". The girls could not sing the verse. Retired too late to rise early. Barron Jim slept with Murphy and myself.

November 28th 1845 Friday

Rose in time to read precious little law before breakfast. Came on hill. Provided a hiking stick. It was absolutely necessary. After school in evening Heard the fellows talking about an expedition to Lindenwood Seminary. Was invited to join. A public examination was held there on the last Friday of every month. Had some fine singing. Barron and I on bass.

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Berber the minister paid me a compliment. Was introduced to a number of young ladies. Spent the time very agreeably. Saw Miss Stonebreaker. Had no idea there were so many damsels at the place. Staid until Mrs Libley made some demonstrations of discontent and then our party left. Snow fell during our return. Since day before yesterday we have had very cold weather.

November 29th 1845 Saturday

A stinging cold morning. Came up to College to attend declamation. Had very few students. Made the suggestion to Ebbert that he should change the performance hereafter to Friday evening. He consented to do so. Spent the rest of the day at Murphy's office writing a long letter to father and Lurie. In the evening attended Presbyterian preaching in Meth. Church after a fruitless call at Gallagher's. The damsels had gone.

November 30th 1845 Sunday

Went up with Orrear to Church on the hill. Sat with Barron and sang bass. One advantage it affords is a cushioned seat. Spent the afternoon on a letter to Espy. Murphy returned from a ride into the country. He sat down immediately to write a love letter to a damsels whom he had seen in the country. He had once pressed his suit and had been rejected. The damsel happened to be at a house where he called

and received him so warmly that he was forced to give in. Attended Pres. Church in evening. Barron took Miss Stonebreaker home and slept with us afterward.

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December 1st 1845 Monday

Rose pretty early. Cold morning. Came to school room. Found a poor fire. Boys cold. Trouble to keep order. Bought a load of wood for a dollar and six bits. McDonald brought me another for two dollars. I think it is better to pay that than buy dutch loads for half the price. Spent the evening on Blackstone at the Office.

December 2nd 1845 Tuesday

Another cold morning. Rose early. Read Blackstone till breakfast. Put the school room seats in the form of a semi circle round the stove. The river has so closed as to prevent the ferry boat passing. It is not yet frozen over. Large quantities of grain for the St. Louis market were disposed of at cheap rates. Fulkerson bought any number of chickens, rabbit, prairie fowl &c. and I presume we will live for some time to come. Spent evening at the office. A gentleman from Boston went up with Murphy and myself. We had considerable conversation on the past, Pennsylvania coal was a subject of remark. Of late there is not a remark made about the state that does not make me wish I was back again. The matter of coal is especially interesting in this weather. I think I shall try at least to visit my own state in the spring.

December 3rd 1845 Wednesday

Did not rise till day light. Had trouble making fire. Bell rang on the hill before I got my breakfast. A fine fire awaited me. Order was more easily preserved in my little kingdom. In evening Fulkerson's house was crowded owing to a number of boatmen coming down from their boats on the Mississippi. Could not get supper till quite late. Spent evening at the office reading Blackstone and Stephen on pleading. Redmans

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Cole and Murphy were talking of having a sleighing party to morrow to Portage.

December 4th 1845 Thursday

Rose early. Overall had slept with Murphy as I found on awakening. He had been driven out at the tavern. Obtained a seat at second table. Came up to the hill. Fine fire ready. Matters proceeded smoothly.

December 5th 1845 Friday

Weather more moderate. A fine fire. School went off with little trouble. Had declamation in the afternoon for the first time on Friday. Called at Barron's store. The party from Portage had returned. The fellows bored me about a remark made by one of their damsels. Spent the evening on Blackstone and Stephen.

December 6th 1845 Saturday

Murphy had been appointed a committee to take two French girls back to Portage who came up with them yesterday. He invited me to accompany him. I consented. The sleighing was fine and our old grey horse drew us over the prairie at a great rate. The damsels were a little cool at first but having stopped to warm ourselves at the house of a Dutchman we spent the rest of our time more agreeably. The girls were Catholics. They had bought some toys for their little brother. One was a number of chickens on a wheel. The little fellow spoke french to them and putting some candy to their bills said "Manger" the only French I understood after my course [epreeing] mentioned in this little book when I took the time of French recitations for playing [chefs]. Murphy and I dined with them and returned. In the evening I attended singing at Mrs Lees. The Lindenwood damsels came in on an ox sled. Returning I fell when near the office and hurt my lip badly.

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December 7th to December 14th 1845 Sunday to Sunday

The week has passed pleasantly. On Tuesday eve I received an invitation to accompany Garriott to Parks. Spent an agreeable evening at taffy pulling. The same evening received a letter from father enclosing 40 dollars for William's funeral expenses. During the week I also received a letter from John. The snow has continued until now but is thawing slowly. On Friday evening Orear, Overall and I took a sleigh ride. Met the Lindenwood girls at Redmans and had a fine time taking them home. Saturday I spent in the office reading and writing part of a letter to Edwin. Went to John Orricks in the evening to a singing party and rode in with Overall.

December 14th 1845 Sunday

A warm day. Snow so far gone as to spoil the sleighing. Attended Church on the hill. Sang with the Barrons. In afternoon went to the same. No person in the singing seat. I took one by the stove. Preacher Mr Becker came down and asked me to sing or sit with the choir. I accepted but declined raising a hymn. He however went on to read one. I had no book. One was very kindly handed me and I proceeded to hunt the hymn. The preacher asked some one else to raise the tune. No one complied at last I started on a low key. Dr Thompson struck in an octave above, and at it we went he on his key and I on mine through one verse. At the commencement of the next beat I struck a third higher. Thompson as before. I had a little the advantage in tunes and so we went it. The audience went it with Thompson. However I pulled ahead for one verse more and then gave up. Thompson sang another verse.

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December 14th to December 21st 1845 Sunday to Sunday

A pretty pleasant week. On Monday received an invitation to attend a party at Bangs on Wednesday evening. This was the event of the week. The party was fine. Was introduced to Miss Shaw a fine young lady. I first saw her as I see it is entered on July 10, when coming over from St. Louis in the stage coach. I have there called her the spunky damsel. I found her a very intelligent young lady and we talked about my impudence in the stage coach. Saw Miss Woods of Iowa City at the party. The thing was conducted a little after the manner of Venango. A party danced in one room. In the other the church members accumulated and listened to Miss Lee playing Dan Tucker on the piano. The whole affair went off fine. I went home with Miss Adams. Mrs Watson told me the next day all about the damsels origin and persuaded me to have nothing to do with her.

On Saturday evening the singing club met in the college. It was my benefit. Spent Sunday in writing a letter to John and attending Church.

December 22nd 1845 Monday

Rose early and came up to the College before breakfast to arrange the seats which I had moved for singing. Had a pleasant forenoon of teaching. In afternoon some of the boys went a skating and came too late to school. I sent them home. Had a call from Miss Parks and Miss Mary Gallagher. They wanted an introduction to Mrs Ebbert. I gave them one. Played flute after early adjourning school. In evening repaired to office, Dr Thompson came in and we talked about Butler County. He was once engaged to Miss Gilmore. We talked about all the Butler people of my acquaintance. He had seen Edwin in Virginia. The doctor is a fine fellow and formerly lived in Butler County

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And it was pleasant to talk with him about every thing even to the Old Stone house which we had seen in Common. It is pleasant thus to compare memory's pictures with those of another.

Orear called during the evening and slept with me.

December 23rd 1845 Tuesday

Rose early and read Blackstone's chapter on Treason. Jones told me at breakfast about Fine's remark about the "Salutary" glands. He was talking about salivation. Fine was a great lady's man when he lived here formerly. Yesterday he remarked in good earnest that it was so cold in some countries that it froze flame and made beautiful icicles of flame.

Came up to hill after breakfast. Boys came late Mr Ebbert went to Lindenwood examination. I felt a wish to go along but concluded to postpone my walk until evening. Had a fine turkey for dinner with apple dumplings. A call from Misses Park and Gallagher in afternoon.

December 24st 1845 Wednesday

Had but five boys at school. They were disposed to be somewhat unruly. Had to adjourn pretty early. Spent the evening with a party in the Office making arrangements for a Christmas dinner. Slept with Orear after hearing him and some of his companions telling a few sweet stories.

December 25th 1845 Thursday

A merry Christmas was the first thing I heard on awakening. Beebie the preacher met me with the same salutation at the foot of the stairs where he stood shaving. The morning was gloomy but it soon cleared and left a bright day. I had the blues a little but the day throughout was a continued increase of enjoyment. I attended Presbyterian Church in Company with Garriott and afterwards received an invitation to dine at Dr Watson's. Garriott and myself attended

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In Company. We had a very pleasant company. I had told the Doctor previously that I would be an awkward guest when wine came round but he would not accept it as an excuse. He served me up a glass of water. Called on Miss Dougherty to request her company to the party in the evening. She consented to go. Called at the College and played some on the flute. Had some conversation with Ebbert about the College. He showed me a letter from a man in Ohio asking for the degree of LSD. When I went down street it was nearly time for the party. Came up with Wardelow and accompanied the young ladies who notified us that when dancing commenced if at all they would leave. The party proved to be a pleasant one. The amusements were conversation and singing together with eating in each of which I did my share.

Was introduced to the Misses Rutters two fine young ladies. Played a game of cards after the party and slept with Cole and Murphy after one of the best Christmas days I ever spent.

December 26th 1845 Friday

Spent the day in reading some little. Came up to College. In evening obeyed an invitation to attend a small party at Mrs Lees. Miss Mary and Miss Rosseter entertained Overall Douglass and myself.

December 27th 1845 Saturday

Spent the day in going to Alton. Missed the crossing place which cost me a ride of six miles more. Found the place at last. Broke in a little and considered it bad crossing. Found B Hays in a Rock Establishment. They do a driving business in that way Put up four hundred boys per diem. Broadfoot was sober and his house looked more like prosperity than when I was over before. In the course of the evening, I paid him twelve

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Dollars but he informed me that I could not get a tombstone without going to St. Louis. He and I walked around town in the evening and called in at the Penitentiary.

December 28th 1845 Sunday

Spent the forenoon with Broadfoot. Concluded to return by way of St. Louis. Broadfoot and I had a walk to the river. Started before twelve for St. Louis. Met poor encouragement about crossing on the ice until I met some wagons. Reached the ferry about sunset. Men said crossing was dangerous, one man had broken in. As I stood on the bank I could not help thinking of the probability that I might fall in and I remembered what were Aunt Barbara's words the last every morning when I started to school. "Keep off the ice." However I concluded to go it. I was told by one man to walk pretty brisk and by another to keep out of the hole into which he had fallen and I obeyed their advice. When about half way over I looked behind and before and never had as sensible a conception of the breadth of the Mississippi and then when the thought of breaking in occurred to me I felt a peculiar cold chill which was by no means agreeable. However I did not break through. The day had been pleasant and not cold riding. It was a beautiful evening and the city appeared cheerful. I have of late lost all my former love for it. I left my horse at a livery stable and called at the Shades for supper. Saw Samuel Hays there. He is a fine fellow but boasts a little too much. Spent the evening with him. Lodged at the Glasgow House. Samuel has bought an interest in the "Harry of the West." He goes on her as Clerk. Had a bad headache after retiring.

December 29th 1845 Monday

Ran all over the city to get a stone. Could not get such as I wanted for the price mentioned

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in father's letter. At the best yard the owner was drunk and in a passion, and I concluded to go over home and wait for further orders. I want to see a neat stone put up if it should cost some additional expense. Saw McCamant. Paid him a trifle which I owed. John W Dunn is teaching school in a Dutch neighborhood. Saw Sam'l Hays and left the city. Met Joe Gamble who left Yoster store lately in St Charles. Reached the Missouri about sunset. Crossing considered dangerous. One poor fellow had broken in and lost one of his horses. I have crossed the three rivers and have seen some risk each time. I think it will be a case of necessity that makes me do so again.

December 30th 1845 Tuesday

Commenced a letter to father. Mr Ebbert asked me to hear his class during his absence until Friday. I accordingly commenced with all my ability. Greek Testament was rather too old an acquaintance to be familiar but I succeeded in doing it up in some sort. Geometry was as much at Command as it was three years ago. I have not looked at it for nearly that length of time and still it is all in the brain pan snug. One thing at least saved from a College course.

Called on Miss Shaw with Emmons in the evening. Ben entertained us with his flute. He is one of the best players I have ever heard. It was late when we came away. Had previously called at Watsons.

December 31st 1845 Wednesday

Spent the day on the hill hearing Mr Ebberts class Wrote some little at a letter in the evening to father. Weather still mild and ice thawing. So ends 1846, with the pedagogue.

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January 1st 1846 Thursday

Had some trouble getting away from some of my pupils who attacked me for New Year presents before I was up. The town was thronged with people for the purpose of hiring negroes. The day was clear until the middle of the afternoon. It then commenced raining. Had a party at cards in the evening. Murphy attended a dance across the street at Taylor's. I did not choose to go.

January 2nd 1846 Friday

Was roused after daylight by Murphy who had just returned from the ball. Came up to College after breakfast.

There stands Friday the 2nd. Two weeks have passed since. It is now Thursday 15 and little of interest has happened since. A ball was given at Blairs on the 8th of January. Did not attend. I spent Tuesday, 13 evening at Dr Rowell's after having almost violated the Law of nations on their ambassador. McKenney one of my pupils came to deliver the message. He knocked at the door and when it was opened he entered with a bow which put the school into a laugh. I was proceeding to inflict what I thought deserved punishment when he uttered the words Miss Charlotte. I was unnerved in a moment. He was offended at his reception and not without Cause and retired without delivering his message. In a few minutes a black fellow brought it again from which I thought it expedient to make an explanation in the evening. The party was a fine one. Dancing and cards were the order of the evening. I sat for some time in one corner in a pleasant blue fit and compared the damsels with ones at home. I believe St Charles can beat us. Afterwards I engaged in a

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game of Eucre. (I can never spell that word) and in eating supper enjoying myself better in that way than I could have done by making myself ridiculous exercising my pedal extremities. It was late when we adjourned.

January 15th 1846 Thursday

Rose late having sat up too late last evening with Wilson, Overall and Douglass in the Printing office at a game of cards.