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Thursday July 3<sup>th</sup> 1863

O I believe I will write a journal, said sister A., a few days ago. It will be so novel like, & good to refer to, when I get old. That's just it; I want to begin now; I will too said I; it will be so nice. So A. has gone away, & I will begin mine now. The rest have gone too, & I am alone. It is such a good lonesome, to sit by the east window, in our pleasant parlor, & sew, read, or any thing else I choose. If I only had some one here to enjoy it with me, & not disturb me, it would be some pleasanter; but I can get along very well, this way. Ma has gone to W. to visit, & left A. & I, to keep house, & a funny time we have. I do the kitchen work, & she does the rest. She says she can't bear to do housework, but I tell her she will have to come to it. I nearly got sick yesterday, hearing her tell what she is going to have, when she gets married, which consisted of living in the city, & having a piano, silk dress, & servants. I think it will be funny living, & told her so; but she only laughed at my not wanting only a farm, & things to farm with. I wonder why I



am so odd; I can't find any one like me. I try to like to be somebody big, & like fine things, & know lots, but I can't, & it's no use to try; & I expect to be a farmer any way; let them say what they will. The farmers life, is the life for me, I own I love it dearly, I should like to know if Mr. knows I talked so; I would like to tell him, & hear what he would say. I expect he would take her part, of course, folks generally do. Well I hope they won't be disappointed. She has gone to the P O. I wonder if she will bring me a letter. hope so. Fri. the 30<sup>th</sup>

A. returned late last night, but brought me no letter; she got one for herself though, which she answered & sent to the office today. She heard of three deaths D. Ewing & W. Boe they were soldiers, & Mrs Lanes babe; she heard too, something about me, & won't tell what it is. I think by the way she talks, it is nothing good. I don't know what it can be; I am sure I try to do right, but still they will talk. It is hard to bear it patiently, but I will try; & our folks blame me too. I imagine it is something about H., they don't like him much, & I don't see why; I think he is all



Wed- 5<sup>th</sup>  
Aug 1863) Mr B & Mrs C have come home on furlough they  
arrived last night A. is not very well We are having  
such a pleasant rain today He recieved a letter from  
C. last Sun, it contained but little news Tomorrow is  
prayer meeting at the school house guess I will go.

Fri, 7<sup>th</sup> I have just returned from inviting hands to dig a  
well; was quite successful had a very pleasant ride Messrs  
R. & B. chawed stone today. I attended meeting yes-  
terday; it was a real good one. W. was there I dont  
believe he is any happier than I am; judging from  
looks & actions. I did not appear to notice him at  
all. Another lamb has been gathered into the fold  
of Christ. C. Pierce was buried yesterday A. had  
Co today while I was gone Mrs S. & daughter A. had  
a bean the other night & she feels so big over it she  
has to tell every one she sees about it. I wonder  
what Ab. will say when she tell him I expect  
he will laugh & think it all right at first but  
I dont believe he will long if he (the bean I  
mean) comes again he (Ab) will be apt to tell her  
whats what

Sat 8<sup>th</sup> A. has gone to meeting & left me so I guess  
I will write some. I attended meeting this fore noon



& heard a very good sermon delivered by Mr. M.  
 his text was James 3 17 I wonder why I think  
 of W. so much today. It seems as if he will be here  
 but I don't think he will I wonder why he was not  
 at meeting today. A. has washed & I ironed. She  
 has fixed the house awful nice; is expecting Co., I  
 guess. She is such a queer girl; good to; no won-  
 der M. loves her; & others too. I wish I was more  
 cheerful (perhaps that is wrong) & entertaining. I don't  
 see how the children, or any one else, can think as  
 much as they do of me. I am so sober & sour But  
 the dear little class at sabbath school loves me & all the  
 folks are so kind I must try to be more worthy of  
 their affection. Well here it is time to don my  
 apron & go & get tea I have to make some pies  
 too wonder if I will burn them a N. did her  
 cake I love to laugh at her cooking & doing kit-  
 chen work not because I am so perfect no indeed but  
 for the fun of it Well I must hurry & make them  
 good too for perhaps M. will be here, Who knows  
 Dear 10<sup>th</sup>

Again it is Monday & how many changes one week has



Aug  
1863 brought to pass This world is full of wonders What  
a wonderful day yesterday was It rained in the mor-  
ning so I did not go to sabbath school but went to  
11 o'clock meeting; was disappointed for there was none held  
to afternoon & heard a very good sermon & was honored  
with the Co of a soldier during my walk home & in  
the evening He had a very interesting time Wm &  
myself A. was so good as to get tea for us but  
he had dined before & declined eating I complimented  
her a considerable for being so smart Wm starts for  
the south Wedn While at church I heard that  
H. is sick with the scarlet rash I guess that is the  
reason I thought of him so much Sat. it was about  
the time he was taken sick Only one week since we  
parted & he was so angry I don't believe he would spe-  
oke to me so last evening if I could have seen him  
O why cant I write about something else besides him  
It is of no use I must forget him but that is  
impossible at least for the present Perhaps H. m.  
is better but I don't think he will be out of bed  
He is going to have a B. tomorrow to draw stone for  
a well will have to get up in the morning I guess



Tues. 10<sup>th</sup> O what times we had baking for the B. A.,  
 made the cake & bread & I preferred making pies she  
 is such an admirer of novel things & I tell you she  
 looked novel with her sleeves rolled up & in the bread  
 up to her elbows I had to laugh at a remark she  
 made about killing chickens she said she hated to kill  
 them & then she would think of our soldiers being killed  
 so unmercifully & then she would be more courageous because  
 the rebels kill the soldiers she spits her spite on the  
 chickens. aint she patriotic? We had a host of young  
 men here to dinner to day they were drawing stores for  
 our well A. waited on the table I am so glad she  
 did for I would have got so bashuated would have  
 made more baulks than I could have got along with  
 I am afraid she did nobly & the dinner was excel-  
 lent & ma was not here to help either We are  
 undoubtedly learning very fast will soon be able  
 to keep house alone & I think there is need of  
 knowing A. especially judging from appearances  
 The appearance of M. I mean for I have seen  
 his picture A. showed it to me today I like  
 his looks very well but I have seen others I liked



Aug. 1868) about as well I had such a pleasant ride this morning  
& made some very pleasant calls leaving A. to prepare  
the chickens do up the mornings work & other things  
to numerous to mention When I returned every thing  
was done up to order & as fine as a school marm  
Wed. 14<sup>th</sup>

While busily engaged writing the other evening  
my attention was attracted by hearing a noise &  
on looking up saw a wagon coming across the bridge  
upon a nearer approach we perceived that it was  
filled with people & who could it be A. said it  
looked like the old fashioned loads from W. but  
I said it did not believe it was any from there well  
when they got here "lo & behold" it was our relatives  
from there come to bring ma home

Of course they were both tired & hungry after their  
long ride so we brought out the remainder of our goodies  
with a little hot tea greatly refreshed them of  
course we had plenty of gab mixed in They staid  
till morning & A. & myself accompanied them to  
A. in the forenoon & D. in the afternoon They  
had a merry time but I enjoyed it but little "O



how could I be merry was it me no not I "

What a relief it was when we started home it was nearly dark but it corresponded with my feelings I evaded the questions of A. concerning my feet actions & talked on other subjects H<sup>m</sup> J. & B. are here digging our well There was a man stopped here to get dinner today He paid 25 cts I intend to donate it to the library V. says he is a C H I saw W. the other day he has got well H<sup>m</sup> has got his furbs renewed I guess A. is writing to H. she looks pleased about something

Mon 17<sup>th</sup>

I have just returned from a ride & while I rest and cool off awhile will write a little The wind blows quite hard but whatever notwithstanding nevertheless it is extremely warm; but I am not doing much so I will not complain; and are not troubled waiting our work men for there are no one here to work on our well it is only partly dug, yesterday I spent very pleasantly. In the morning A.



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and myself went to sabbath school and stand to prayer meeting was a great deal of interest manifested and in the afternoon I went up to hear Mr. Lile preache his last sermon for this circuit. His text was in the 32 psalm 7 ver. I saw W. at meeting. Our eyes met and then I avoided him once was enough; he has not been happy as he expected. B. has got home again; has been staying with sister H. about two months. I received 3 letters from soldiers; did not contain much news. One from Mr. Thornburne which was very good; he must be a christian to write such good letters; hope my letters will be as welcome as his. Thank God very much to send me such a good correspondent.

A. is piecing bed quilts is very busy would like to have H. come & see how industrious she is & me too

Thurs. 20<sup>th</sup>

Well it is evening & I am very comfortably ensconced in the rocking chair ready to write a few more lines in my journal. I believe I left A. piecing quilts monday so I



will begin where I left off. Well about 4 o'clock  
 Mrs Gray came with a load of stone, & we got  
 ready & rode over to Mrs B. to spend the night  
 & left us girls alone of course. Well about dusk  
 as we were sitting out in the yard, who should  
 make his appearance but a soldier horse back; the  
 very one I had been wishing for, namely Mr. King  
 very much surprised & not knowing which way to go  
 I took a bee line on double quick for the corn, with  
 E. close in the rear leaving A. to pitch battle & fi-  
 ght it out or surrender as she saw fit. Now she got  
 through with it can be better imagined than described  
 as there was no third person to report; but I guess  
 he surrendered, for on returning to the parlor who  
 should I find but the said soldier. But that was  
 only a beginning of greater troubles. He had rode  
 about 17 ms & was no doubt exceedingly hungry  
 & I must get supper & of what should it consist  
 but I will pass over my troubles & fun while engag-  
 ed in the kitchen. Suffice it to say that in  
 due time the said supper was produced & partee



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them of very heartily & pronounced excellent; was it  
I paid for my labor. To think that I a young  
girl of 17 could get tea without the advice of an  
older person; surely it was very encouraging. After  
tea we had a real good time singing with the aid  
of M., Then we retired. Well that is not all  
breakfast had to be got; but A. bossed around  
a little & a chicken was soon scything in the spider  
Breakfast over & the work done A. & M. went to  
take a morning walk, which happened to last till  
noon. When they returned dinner was about ready  
which was prepared under the supervision of ma who  
had returned from her visit. After dinner he helped  
the workmen on our well till about 3 o'clock & then  
started for W. Mrs G. was here the same day.  
In the evening A. & myself went to meeting.  
Yesterday was out calling did not return till late.  
Today went up to help Mrs L. start east; had a  
great time; have been washing too & am consequently  
very tired. R. has gone over to visit Mrs Sten  
Ma & I have had real fun pulling weeds; some



times she would get one so large I would have to reinforce her, & it would have to surrender. We left two or three large ones; ma said we would have to wait till we had more strength & then make another attack. So we left the field to them & retreated to the house in good order

Sun. 23<sup>rd</sup>

Well here it is Sunday again, how fast time flies I can hardly conceive that it really is three weeks ago tonight since W. left. I have not spoken to him since. Wonder why he was not at meeting today. He lost a great deal for we had such a good one. We don't like him either he goes with the rest I don't care for him, he is merely a friend. I must stop such foolishness & write something else. I had such a pleasant excursion last Friday down South to see some friends I had not seen for 2 yrs. Mrs. A. was washing when I got there. I staid till after dinner & spent the afternoon with her & her 2 daughters & about 5 started on my journey about two mrs farther. I had not proceeded far how



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1863) ever before I discovered that both my bridle & girth was broken. To dismount was but the work of a moment, but to mend the things & get on again was not so easy; but I finally managed to do so and on we went. It was nearly dark when we halted at the end of our journey. They all appeared glad to see me once more and it seemed like old times to be with them again. Mrs Roberts insisted on getting me a warm supper after my ride but I refused, and so she got a cold bite, so she said, which was very good. After that we had a nice chat on different subjects. About 8 o'clock I retired. It was such a pleasant evening I lay awake a long time looking through the window at the stars: of course my mind was busy too. Presently the angel of sleep came and bore me to the land of dreams, which was very pleasant for W. was there with me, I was out in the orchard and he came and wished to be friends again, W. had a good time. But it was only a dream and soon passed away. The next morn-



ing was cloudy. When I arose breakfast was nearly ready; after it was over I prepared to return, but Mrs R. coaxed me to stay till after dinner; then I started (that is after g. had fixed the bridle and things) and come part way and took tea with Mrs H. When I got home (which was about 6) was very much surprised to find that A. had gone to town with M. where she is yet. He came up after her. She had to go without her hat, and veil, for I had them. Well I must stop this harangue and fix for Carr for I am expecting Wm.

Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>

More curious things than ever has happened. One of the seven wonders of the world. Wm. accompanied me home from church yesterday. He did not come in but said. if it was agreeable he would call in the evening. I consented and he went off. When I entered the house I found E. there, wondering why she could not have a bear too. I told her perhaps



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she would ~~surrender~~. She thought there was <sup>but</sup> little prospects of any. Towards dark I was fixing up a little of course, and E. began about his coming. She had her own fun about it, and said she intended to sit up as long as I did. I told her I did not care, and perhaps C. would come too. She did not think he would; but time proved quite to the contrary, for soon there appeared two young men who took a bee line for our house. They reached here in due time and proved to be the identical persons. E. and C. were quite bashful and did not have much to say, but Wm. and I had a real time. I wonder what A. will say about E's bean. While C. was scolding about something, ma told her that if she was not better natured she should not have another. I hope it will make her better for she has no patience scarcely at all.



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Sept 2d

Over one week has elapsed since I have writters any in my journal, and many events has taken place since then. I have just returned from a visit to my sister H. Had a good time. We started from home about VIII and after traveling till 3 we arrived at the end of our journey. Glad was we to rest after traveling so far and recieve the welcome which was ready from sister and her family. Brother was not at home nor did not come till dark. The next day I took a long walk and gathered some flowers and made such a nice flower pot. D. and H. said I went down to see N. We left for home the next day. It looked so lovely after we left H. and two children stood at the gate watching us and the little babe was asleep in the cradle. I expected to see the well finished when I got home, but did not for they had stoped the old one and commenced another. There was no one here to work but Wm H. Ma and I drew up the dirt.



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He had not been engaged that way long, till who should make his appearance but W. He did not stay but a few minutes. I can not tell wheather he is angry yet or not. I can't help but think he is not, but his actions speak the other way. Last sabbath evening C. and myself started to the river after water. When a few rods from the house we met him and his brother. I had not spoken to to him, since the time he was here; and what should I do? I did not wish to make any advances towards friends till he did. He met. He held out his hand which I took. My heart had arose in such a happy tumult, but thinking of his last words and manner, had commanded it to be still; but when my hand was clasped in his it refused to obey. I was again near him. I scarcely spoke and he did not say any thing.



thus it evening has again closed in & we are  
 forced to stop work & yield to nature & sleep.  
 How pleasant it is to have night come after a  
 hard days work. I can partly appreciate it to  
 night, for I have been helping on our well, &  
 am so tired, & it has been all in vain, for  
 we have found no water yet. Now, I can  
 see over & found another place to dig. I have  
 helped draw up dirt. How pleasant it is  
 to have such a confidential friend to talk to as  
 my diary. I don't hardly know what I done  
 before I began this; would not take a consid-  
 erable for it. It will never deceive  
 me, the 5th.

Two more days have passed & what  
 changes they have brought. O. Father how  
 mysterious are thy ways. I am not worthy of the  
 is thy great blessing. Forgive me for murmuring  
 at thy providence & doubting thy goodness.  
 I have been working on the well this morning  
 but it came & worked in my place. It



Sept-  
1863) first I avoided & slighted him, but perceiving  
that he was inclined to be friendly I treated  
him accordingly. We staid till after dinner &  
I went to the river after water; when about  
half way I met him going off. I stopped &  
thanked him for his labor; & he said he was  
not angry now & wishes to be friends. I had  
such an awful ride yesterday over to the P. O.  
& got a 100 wt. of flour & started back & only  
got to sister A. when Jack kicked up & away  
I & the flour went; but it did not take long  
to reseat myself in the saddle & after a vigorous  
pull & push we were once more ready for our  
journey; but had not proceeded far when by  
some of Jacks dexterous motions it became very  
evident that I had to load up again; but ha-  
ving no convenient place to assist in getting on  
I concluded to walk; so placing the flour in the  
saddle, we started over. By walking a little way  
convinced me that it was harder walking than  
riding & not in the best of humor about getting



thru so many times I mounted behind the saddle & finally reached home. I had such a curious dream the other night. I thought I was dying with consumption & brother C. was my doctor. I did not feel afraid to die; but quite happy. O Father may I so live that I may not leave the world with regret.

Wed. 15<sup>th</sup>

Little did I think when last I wrote, that the next time would find me so far away from home. but so it is. Here I am about 45 ms. from home attending school at L-a. N. K. & M. had been talking of coming here but I did not think as I could come till now said I could if I wanted to. At first I thought it was impossible for there was so much to do at home but she argued it all away & the consequence was that I am here ready to begin studies.

Left home last Mon. B. Bonham brought us part way; had such a good time evening. Got to B. about three o'clock &



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found Cousin Mr. looking for us; & after dinner we went up in town to purchase some things; did not get back till sundown then we had to start for Aunt M's; & such a time as we had, packed in so tight that they nearly crowded B. & myself out of the wagon; but we finally arrived & found the place snugly unoccupied in bed. It did not take long however to root them out for Ma's was going with us & was in such a hurry for us to come did not take long to make her sensible of ~~her~~ our arrival. I was very tired & glad to retire as soon as possible. But time waits for no one & it was not long till morning & then it was "hurrah boys" till we got started which was 15 ms. of 8 o'clock. Uncle J. brought us here & B. went back. It was nearly 2 o'clock when we got here & what should we do here among strangers; but there is generally some way provided for the children of men & soon a friend came to our help & we have



found a friend & helper in Mr. C., He took so much pains with us yesterday; spent all the afternoon trying to get us a room & we are finally settled across the road from his house. We have one room for which we pay 150 per month. We have such funny times keeping house. Mattie, M., A. & myself & I have been to the Seminary today for the first time.

April 18<sup>th</sup>

O what a beautiful morning this is. The sun shines so brightly on the houses of different colors. If it is so pleasant in the city what must it be in the country house. I should like to call on our folks & see how they are getting along. I expect they would like to do the same to see how we prosper. We get along fine have all the work done & it is only 12 o'clock; are quite smart keeping house. I guess if some of the soldier boys would come in they would be fascinated with the order of the room.



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& its mistresses. Alice & Maltie are preparing  
for school & I must do so to

This is funny keeping house, quite  
novel. Rec'd a letter from Wm. this morn-  
ning. He is most well & will start for the  
Reg't. before long. Alice has just come  
from Mr. Melands with some milk &  
they are going to have parrotling & milk for  
dinner. She says she saw a soldier over there.  
There is quite a number here, one in each side

Sept. Mon. 21<sup>st</sup>.

How fast time flies,  
for it is just one week, since I left home.  
I wonder what they are doing now but I ex-  
pect they are at work as usual. I  
have been so busy since I left home that  
I have not had time to think of any one  
hardly; not even W.<sup>d</sup>. I wonder why he  
long looked so sober that day at meeting.  
I have often seen him sober; but never so



much so. I heard he is going to war; perhaps that is why & it will be so long before we see each other again. Maybe we will never meet again in this world. I should like to know if he misses me there. The girls have gone to school & I am here alone. Alice & Mattie are going to see the music teacher when they get back, & I have to get supper & they say I have to go to Mr. Melands for milk to make bread. Perhaps I will see the soldier as I have not seen him yet to know him.

I have written my essay & let the girls read it. They complimented me a considerable; thought it was so good. The subject is Hope. I really hope I won't get scared when I read it. There are so many passers by that I have to stop to look at them but they are all strangers. If I could see some of the Grand River folks it would do me lots of good. Would like to know if they had a good meeting there yesterday.



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I attended three meetings & one Sabbath school yesterday. They were very good but not the ones at home after all. I ought to write to some of them up there this week.

Tues 22<sup>nd</sup>

I have just returned from the Seminary & had very good lessons. I like the Teacher very well & the scholars too, & had several new ones this week. One young man named Shepherd. He calls him brother. He is real good looking.

Matt went over to Mrs. Colebants last evening & she had not been over there very long till Mrs. C. called for us to come over. We did so & they treated us to melon. It was ever so good. We then passed around some Elder wine. The girls did not like it so I had to drink it all. Said they was afraid I would get drunk.



Alice says she can just feel the effects of hers. He staid & made quite a visit. The soldier was so talkative. He said he had to court all this week & next he is going to school.

Alice has gone to take music lessons for the first time. Said she expected she would come home about sick had the don't cares she said but I guess she is love sick that's whats the matter. She has been looking at at Mrs picture. Martha has laid down on the bed & says we must call her when it is school time. They all have to go back but me. Mat is lying on the floor studying so it is real still now. I have got my essay written for this week. Begun a letter to brother O. yesterday but have not finished it yet. Later

All alone & how lonely I am. The girls have all gone to recitation. How I wish some one from B. P. would call on me while alone; but that is impossible. I have



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tried to study but my thoughts turn mechanically to the loved ones at home. How I would like to be with them awhile but no I must study & try to learn something & be somebody they say. Yes I will try but it is such a punishment to stay here in town I long for the quiet of my country home. O well I must not grumble in this way the girls will soon be home & war at some supper.

It was very much delighted with her music. We have had & invite to go to the White Society this evening; don't know whether we will accept or not. I would rather not but the girls say they want to get acquainted.

Sept.

Wed 29<sup>th</sup>

The busy routine of the day is over & evening with her quiet has again come to gladden the heart of the laborer. I hale it with delight although I am not tired; but it is so pleasant when twilight comes it reminds me of the chores which the farmers have to do.



The day has passed so pleasantly  
 Good lessons & good news. Mr C. came &  
 brought us a letter from Uncle. He said that  
 Cousin Stewart is home on furlough & will call  
 on us as he goes back. I did not have to stay  
 alone today Mat was with me & we got supper  
 while they were gone to recite. Mat went to the  
 store to get some butter & dried apples. We  
 had to wait tea for them could not imagine  
 why they staid so long When they came they  
 had been around & got 50 cts. worth of dried  
 apples They was awful tickled to think they  
 were going to have something to eat; but was  
 surprised when we told them we had some. They  
 did not notice our dumplings till we were  
 seated at the table & they were soon disposed  
 of though. I really thought it was not going  
 to stop but time brings all things to a close &  
 so it was with her eating. Matie had to go to  
 practice & Mat & A. did up the work Mat  
 & I did not accept the invite to attend the



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society but went to a political speech made by Mr. Nourse it was very good. After we had been there awhile here came A. & Mattie whom we supposed to be enjoying themselves at the society for we left them preparing; but their friend did not call for them; & we learned the next morning that she did call for them after they left.

Sept.

Thurs, 24<sup>th</sup>

I awoke the first one this morning but instead of getting up I called A. & Mattie to make a fire. They of course obeyed & after it had burned awhile I arose & helped get breakfast. Had just got the potatoes boiling when some boys came along with some beef; we bought some for breakfast.

We had quite a conversation about religion. A. & Mattie said that Christians should prove to the world that there was a reality in religion by their daily walk & conversation; giving Mattie & I a hint. I know that I don't do as I ought to & I am ashamed to let her exceed me in such



things; Tonight is prayer meeting & I must go

I have just bought a book (Baxters St. rest price 60 cts.) of a culporter from Pella. & had gone to practice. When she returned we told her one of the Pella boys had been here. After bothering her enough we told her about it.

Mon, 28<sup>th</sup>

Is it possible that it has been two weeks since I left home. It doesn't seem so long. We have not heard from there since but are looking for a letter tomorrow & hope we will not be disappointed.

Every thing passed off pleasantly. Friday was a day & all; was but a few speakers present. But we worked a hard washing evening baking &c &c & was real tired; then the girls all went up town & left me alone; so I thought I would take a walk. It was nearly sundown & thinking about friends & home went rather too far. The moon shone brightly & it was rather late when I got back & found the girls had company. Misses B. G. & W. We had a very pleasant chat then the girls left us.



Oct.

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1863) inviting us to visit them which we will do with pleasure

We attended the S. A. S. Friday eve. There were a large assembly. It was at P. East Bryans. Yesterday we attended meeting of S. S. In the afternoon Mat & I visited the grave yard. It is about a mile S. of town in a very pleasant grove; and this morning I surprised the girls by getting up first & making a fire

Oct.

1st Sat It is so muddy & raining this morning & have hardly been out; but it is Sat. & we don't have to go to school & not much to do but enjoy ourselves. We have been making charac poetry & some of it was real cute. A. & Mattie are asking questions on the slates.

P. B. & H. G.

were here & staid last night; they came for Mattie to go to the Society but it rained so they did not go & we had such a good time singing



We have no wood today only what we borrow; but have engaged a load. What has been over to see J. 3 or 4 times, A. has been sick nearly all the week. Some boys has just brought us some wood. I have not heard from home yet. I have been solving problems & am so tired.

Later

Have been reading some of this to the girls. A. says she is proud of her smart sister; and well might she be for I have learned so many big words to insert in my language; it bothers me some though to get them in just right; but practice makes perfect. So there is some hopes of my knowing something yet.

Mon. The sun is shining so warm today for the first in a long time. It seems so pleasant for it was so cold yesterday it snowed. A. is worse has a great deal of fever. Hope she will soon be better for it makes her so homesick. She is so anxious to hear from there.



Oct.  
1863

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We had such a good meeting yesterday; it seemed so much like home. We get along housekeeping after the same old style; will have to get some more flour today or stop eating.

Oct. 10 This week has seemed so short & I have been so busy have not had time to write in this. But have not much to do today only iron & bake. We washed a little the other day & could hardly get water to finish. A. has gone over to Auntys after some milk; she don't appear to be in any hurry. Expect they are talking about the society. The girls went with her & left Mat. & I at home but we went over to Mr. C. & had a visit. He wrote to me this morning.

A. went to school yesterday for the first time in nearly two weeks. She did not feel very well & got excused & when I got home she was writing to sister D. She wanted me to write some & of course I had to read hers to know what to write; by doing so I found that she had brought



some apples; then we had some dumplings for supper. Presently A. disappeared & Mattie went over to Mrs. B. & found her eating supper there. Then just for spite we tried to eat all the dumplings up, but there was one too many for us. A. soon came & they went to the society & left us to wash the dishes.

What & I called on the other "old maids" the other eve. We had a splendid time pulling candy. Got a letter from home the other day. Have just been up town & got some chickens. A. & Mattie has gone to practice music. What went to kill a chicken but her heart failed her & Mrs. Spencer killed it for us. Miss Hoffman called on us today. The drums are beating & I want to go up town & see them train but have so much to do.

Our sick housekeeping the girls have upset the stove & spilt the dish water & broke a saucer & "old Harry" to pay in general. About the way with children when we set them to work. What done the ironing & the baking & now she has gone as much



Oct.  
1853

usual to Mr. C. "For sakes" Mattie says she is going to write some thing naughty about me; wonder what it will be. Her & A. has such times trying to get poor; want to make their folks think they study hard are trying a new remedy; thought they would eat us out of house & home this afternoon. Guess our folks will know I study lots for I will be so much better scholar; acts speak us loud as <sup>looks</sup> words sometimes; They tried to get me to let them see my love letters; just as if I would; they say they are mad to me just as if I care for their love or mad either

Oct.  
Nov. 12

Have just returned from a political speech at the court room we had a great time trying to find it & paraded around the public square & finally started home where a gentleman directed us there were good speeches made & when we got home we found a cold & deserted house The girls had gone to recitation what proceeded to make a fire & went out to cut off a stick of wood & what do you suppose happened Why a young soldier came along & cut it for her wasn't he clever I think he was



I good looking too Will what has got the word  
 & I must get supper have got the chicken over &  
 it won't take long It is raining some  
 Oct.  
 Thurs 15<sup>th</sup>

I have just come from school with hard lessons but  
 instead of studying as I ought to have seated myself  
 to forget them by writing in this What is cyphering  
 Abathie has been to the P. A. & got a letter I guess but  
 won't let us see it A. has gone to practice

We all went down to see the other girls  
 last evening; had an awful good time They played  
 on their melodians for us O that puts me in mind  
 of the evening before About dusk a lady called to  
 get us to go to the mite We did not decide to go  
 there but told her we would call for her if we did  
 go; so after a few moments debating we concluded to go  
 then it took some time to prepare for guests would  
 be present & we must look our best

Will we arrived at the house of our friend but  
 had to wait for her to get ready We finally left  
 there 7 in number & soon reached the other place



Oct  
1863

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had lots of introductions & fun & about 8 o'clock we started for home. Of course young ladies must not leave such a place without a bean & not being enough for all was forced to share one among five or six. I happened to be the lucky (or unlucky) one for he got the most & came home with us all but Mattie she had one all to herself. I guess that is enough suffice it to say we all got home safe.

I recieved a letter from brother B. & he wants me to come up there & teach school will have to go in about two weeks. The girls nearly had a spell over it but don't ~~know~~ say so much now. I don't know how they will get along without me or wheather I can go home first or not.

The school is five months \$120 per mo. It seems a long time to stay away & I don't like to ~~stay away~~ leave the girls we have such pleasant times but duty calls. I expect I will get the blues oftener than ever. To night is prayer meeting I will miss that up there I don't believe I will regret coming



here only I am getting so careless. While at home it was so quiet & retired I enjoyed myself so well but here it is so lively & in a confusion so I cannot think of any thing but nonsense. I long for the quiet of sister country home. Later.

I have been to prayer meeting & am more interested the amazing love of Christ. It seems as if I was back to C. Br. once more. I have been lost for a long time & am once more found. How good to recall Himself to me again when I have been so negligent. I have hardly prayed since I came here. At home it was my delight to converse with Him once or twice every day. He wonders I do not enjoy myself as I once did.

at  
hi 16<sup>th</sup> "La sakes" what students do have to undergo especially Friday. Today had declamations. went there as usual & had heard but one or two when what do you suppose happened? why just what might be expected. just about the time I was going to tell what I knew her come about so going near & what should poor me do. She too had come upon me unawares.



Oct  
1863

& attacked an unprotected point; had captured a part of my senses & put the rest to flight. There was but one alternative left me & I turned to that. It was to make the best of it & when the command came for me to march I did so with feelings as near like a school girl going to deliver a public address as can be imagined. There were others in the same predicament but the afternoon passed very pleasantly & I did not notice it was raining till we started home. We have got a fire to it. & Matie has gone over to duties previous to getting supper.

The Prof. gave each of us a subject to write an essay for next week mine is about the stars. Our friend Mrs. H. called on us today we were so glad to see him. His little boy is sick don't think he will get well.

Oct  
Sat. 17

Last evening we got supper after a fashion & had just got done eating when who should drive up but W. Torrence & Gen. F. We were so glad to see them we forgot how lonely we were a little while before but we had to get some more supper for them. It was a full



of nonsense as ever & a lively time we had They  
have just started home The wind blows awful hard  
& it is quite cold I expected a letter from home  
so hard today & was disappointed We got one from  
Uncle & Abbie got some things Have not done much  
today could not wash for there was no water

Oct  
Sun. 12<sup>th</sup>

Sabbath has come once more the sun shines brightly  
but it is very cold or has been but it is getting  
warmer now that & I went to church this morning  
The text was in Malachi 3. 16. Then they that  
feared the Lord spake often one to another. It  
was a splendid sermon Came home & staid till  
sabbath school which was at 2 o'clock staid till after  
class meeting O what a good time we had I  
took no part but to listen

It called up old mem-  
ories the refreshing showers of grace that I had  
received before



Pet's Tues. 20<sup>th</sup> Have just finished a letter home in reply to one received from brother T. There were but a few lines but it was better than none. He said there were 100 votes majority on the union side also that he had killed my Nell & sent a "little ting" piece of her too one. Dida promised to write next week.

Mrs. Spencer drew some water for us to wash had a real large washing. Did not have tea till after dark. A. & Mattie have gone to recite & we are getting supper have got boiled victuals. A. got mad to me about a letter & said she did not care wheather I wrote to her or not. He got a joke on her at school this morning. We were passing an extract from one of Milton's poems which was very hard. The Prof. remarked that it was Milton's way to get words & sentences mixed together as much as possible meaning of course the Poet but we looked at A. & she blushed like a school girl. Only a week & I will have to leave here & enter the responsible situation of teacher. I expect to enjoy myself very well & still better.



if I can go by home & see the folks there if  
but for a few moments. To night is the suite S.  
I don't know whither I will go or not I have  
had to go over to Auntz S. to get some milk  
staid quite a long time when I came back  
found supper ready & as a natural consequence  
that I will have the dishes to wash

Oct  
Wed 21<sup>st</sup>

Oh why do I feel so lonely & forlorn today as if  
I was alone from home & among strangers who  
care nothing for me nor I for them My  
thoughts turn to the past like a troubled dream  
& then to the future which appears so dark

I was out to the suite last night &  
that accounts for it. It is the way with me  
generally after I have been so gay & they had  
music & dancing there. Farewell to fashionable  
society I think I have witnessed you for the  
last time as a participator I am sick of it  
It is nothing but deceit adorned with gaudy  
trappings

at  
1863 O God I thank thee that I have such a nature  
as I have & that I am not given to fashionable  
things more than I am. He staid till about 10 o'clock  
& then returned home it & Mattie had company  
& left me behind but Miss B. called one back to  
take me that did not go. I wonder why it acts  
so lately. She has been so impatient for 2 or 3 days  
~~expect~~ especially with me. I guess "that's what's the  
matter" with me. I can't stand her fault finding  
& impatience. It is so seldom she does it makes  
me feel bad. This is her first spell since we have  
been here. He had real good lessons today. I  
have not written my essay for the week. One  
of my teeth is grumbling some. I guess it got  
so cold this morning facing the wind & I had to  
wear my hat.

Oct  
Sat 24<sup>th</sup>

The sun was shining very brightly when I arose  
this morning & it is some warmer than it was  
yesterday. Mattie & I got breakfast. It went over  
to Auntys to get some milk & staid so long we



had it ready when she came back she has gone up town to get her a comforter so she said Our friend Mr. S. stopped to see us the other day on his way to the army. We could not imagine why the stage was coming here but when we saw him met him at the door. We were so engaged talking did not think of dinner till he said he staid at Alneter & had to leave before breakfast. Then we hurried around to get dinner but just got it ready when here come the stage & he had to leave his dinner but we put some in his haversack & away he went. He told us lots of news & brought us a letter from his wife it was a real good one & we had a hearty laugh over it.

I recieved a letter from sister M. they dont want school to begin yet so I can stay here longer. We had an awful time last evening. Mattie & A. got some letters in the morning & would not let us see them. After they had aggravated us long enough & I got a little spunky they told us one was from

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brother D. at Little Rock & the other from cousin  
J. After I had got over my pet we had a good  
time & finally went to bed & left them writing in  
their diaries Today is mail day hope I will get  
a letter Later

A. came from town & brought  
me a new hood It was real pretty red & white  
but I thought I would like a dark one better &  
so I exchanged it She got her a nubia blue &  
white He did not get any letters I am all  
alone & have got supper ready & no one to eat  
with me What is at Mr R. Mattie has gone  
to practice & A. to see Miss Wood

The girls have been bothering me about my  
picture they think I have got one & I pretended  
I had & got M's out of A's trunk it is in  
my pocket now I heard that the President  
has called for 100000 more troops wonder if  
any more of my troops friends will go Well  
the supper is spoiling & I must go & find my  
boarders to eat it



50  
Oct  
Wed 28<sup>th</sup>

Four days have passed since I last wrote in this & so much has transpired that I will have to go back where I left off Well off I went to find the girls & here come it. & said she met some girls going from our house had not found any one at home I was glad I was gone for the house did not look like receiving callers But they were soon returning back so we must hurry & eat & fix for them When we were about done here they come & we hustled the things in the cupboard in double quick

it. & Mattie had a great time making cake got all ready to mix them & found we had neither milk nor shortening so they had to go up town & over to Auntys We sent Mr S. after some flour but did not get any so Mat. & I went over to Mr B. to get some & they did not have any so we all went to Mr A. & got some

We made quite a visit. & she gave us some turnips to eat When we got home they had not finished their cake yet so we went to bed & left

Oct  
1863

them but they came & pulled us out & to match them we put them to bed. We had just finished breakfast the next morning when the church bell rang that & I went the other girls stayed at home had a first rate sermon; went to sabbath school also

Mattie did not go & was surprised to find tea ready when we returned. Then the girls went to take a walk & left me at home. I whiled away the time writing to friends. When they got back we all went to evening meeting.

Monday passed very pleasantly in the evening. Dr. & Dr. came to see us. Of course girls will be girls when they are so many together. Staid till about 10. Mrs. Kirdale from W. came to see us then they went off calling & left. Matt & I to get tea was nearly ready when they came back.

In the evening we went to Mrs. B's had music & some games; were about to start home when here come three young men. Of course it would not look well to leave them so we staid a little longer. Then I was honored with the Hon.



of a soldier Capt. Russell was very entertaining & then after all our fun had to get our lessons

This morning I arose before day light a trick I have played for some time. The day has passed & nothing of importance has transpired. A. & Mattie are so silly. They are trying to get supper & say their mess don't half provide. They both went to the cupboard & looked in & repeated about Old mother Hubbard. They think it is better for two to do the work at once.

A. has put some yeast to soak. She has got a letter from Mr. & won't let us see it. The church bell is ringing. I wonder what it is for. would go & see if I did not have to study.

Got.  
Thurs 29<sup>th</sup>

Winter is indeed fast approaching so thought I when I awoke this morning & saw it snowing. Nevertheless duties must be attended to first the work done up & then prepare for school. We lingered at the door dreading to start out in the snow. Had gone but a few steps when the girls thought we ought to go back it was so stormy but I laughed at their cowardice & we went.

Oct  
1869 about a third of the way & then turned back to our  
home but stopped at Mr Os to warm it & Mattie  
went home but staid a little longer & when I did go  
found the room cold & deserted I guess they have gone  
to practice so hily & I am alone as usual It is so  
cold it has climbed in my lap & nestled in my sleeve  
the dear little thing is so pretty gray & white Well  
I will take it & my book over there it is so cold  
here

Later I have just witnessed the  
departure of A. & Mattie in a sleigh to the festival  
two gents came after them They have been gone all  
day & just got home from Miss S & wanted to go so  
bad & was afraid they couldn't

After spluttering around awhile they concluded  
to go to the P. O. & get some letters but it was  
shut up After crying & fretting & I don't know  
what not here come some one after them & they  
helped the case a considerable I guess for I have  
not heard any more The bell is ringing at the  
festival I suppose they are enjoying themselves I  
should have liked to go but would not enjoyed it



with any here but Oief W. was here with me I would not be lonely. Though many miles between us lie And many farms I see Yet with a tear & with a sigh I often think of thee Dear Junior I will not murmur against my lot for I have hast abundantly blest me Mrs C. has been to see us awhile.

Oct  
Fri 30<sup>th</sup>

Friday evening has arrived once more & finds that I myself here alone as usual & enjoying ourselves as well as can be expected of two "old maids" without a beau or any thing else but one of the best little kittens in the Co.; while we are writing it comes & bites the pencil & fingers & bothers us all it can. Others are riding & gossip for I hear bells. It, & Mattie has gone with Miss E. to the farm to spend the evening.

School passed off very few visitors & a good paper by Misses Boon & Shepherd. The girls came home last night at 11 o'clock they brought us some cake & candy. It, lost her nubbin. O we have such a pleasant surprise for them. Have borrowed a bedstead & have got it set up & when they get in will have to get up instead of down. Imagine. I

Nov.  
1865

see them now trying to get in in the dark

Nov. 2nd

We ever heard or even thought of girls acting as we have this evening. Today is A. & Mattie's time to work they did not go to recite this afternoon so they thought we would have tea early so they took it up & it was not done & had to put it back & here we have been sitting around the table waiting for it & talking about the boys & what good times we have had & what we are going to do. Had just cooled down when here come Aunty she wanted to know if we were studying or cutting up.

Poor lessons was our portion today. We must try to do better or the Prof. will not love us or the young men either although one of the declared in a very polite way through the paper "that he loved us & would help it." They had a commendation in the paper about us.

The snow has disappeared & the streets are so muddy we can hardly get to <sup>the</sup> Seminary. Saturday was a very busy day done a large washing & did not get done till after dark. Mrs. A. got us a load of wood & a bu. of meal today.



It is 7 weeks today since we left home & only 4 more to stay. I do hope we will get a letter from there tomorrow. I wonder what changes are in the neighborhood now. I heard that the sabbath school has closed was so reminded of my little class yesterday by having an invitation to teach one of about the size though not so large many. (1) I have not spoken about our surprise on the girls sleighride.

Well they went with Mr Cook & had an awful good time according to their description & got home after midnight. They did not think of any thing uncommon & A. said to Mattie "let us see who can get to bed first" so she being the smartest went there first & run against it & could not imagine what it was. I had turned down the cover so they could get in better & seeing it was white scared her worse than ever so back she came after a light & Mattie to see what it was. It was some time before they dared to go back to investigate the case & felt sheepish enough when they found a good soft bed on a stand which

Nov  
1863

Two thoughtless naughty mischievous good for nothing girls  
had placed there for a surprise instead of a ghost  
& the said girls nearly dead with laughter at their  
proceedings was pretending sleep in the other corner  
of the room

Nov.  
Wed 4th

It was raining when I arose this morning & has been  
raining steady every since so we did not go to the  
Lunn & it was the other girls time to work so I  
had nothing to do but write & I have put in my  
time have written four letters It finally stopped  
raining & Mattie took 10 letters to the office I  
guess the P.M. will miss us when we leave The  
girls got to feeling so bad because they did not get  
any love letters so I had to write them some &  
then I suppose they felt better but I did not for  
I was so lonely but got to singing & sung it off

Then A. got the don't cares & wanted to  
go to Mrs C. but I wouldn't let her so I got  
some apples & pitted her up & had a good time  
after all only we had to get our lessons



There I have had to stop & solve a problem for the girls A. & Mattie dont act as if they had been to supper for they have eaten nearly a loaf of bread toasting it to see if it is good

Matt intends to go home Friday I read my diary to it & she said "just as if I had to mind you" but she does generally about as I say since I got her trained Since I have got to be the oldest I find I have got a very responsible station to fill that is to "train her up in the way she should go" The poor little dnd she needs an adviser when she is so far from her ma & Mr.

Nov.  
Dec 6<sup>th</sup>

One more week has passed & I am here alone Matt has gone home Mattie & A. has gone up town We have just come from school & are in quite a bustle for we are expecting Co Mers Farnote of H. is coming School passed pleasantly today I know I shall regret leaving them A. & Mattie Noble are iditresses this week

Nov.  
1863

Sat 7<sup>th</sup>

How abruptly I stopped last  
eve. & Maattie has written for me how good to  
do so for I have been so busy all the time  
but now our washing & mopping is done & we  
have only to bake & iron

We were in the biggest  
of the muffs when we were startled by a rap  
I opened the door & there was Miss Winstrom  
& her cousin they called to has some of us go to  
the music teachers with them but we were not  
acquainted & after a very sociable chat they left  
Mrs G. came as expected & took tea with us  
she wanted us to go to Mrs Smiths & spend  
the evening but we declined & had a real old  
fashioned chat at home. H. talked of Mr. & Maattie  
talked of Mr. & poor I had nothing to say. No loved  
one to talk about Miss Winstrom has been here &  
took tea with us she is real good after she left  
we had to get our lessons for Monday



Nov.  
Dec 10

O how happy I feel I can sing good news from home yes four letters from E. R. - Mat has come too & told us so much news She saw sister C. at W. said they had not got the spinning & weaving done yet Have got the corn most picked

I will have to start home two weeks from Friday to begin school the first of Dec. Also a letter from Mr. Forham O how it stirred up old memories she talked so good she knows not the change & her mother talked so kind O why am I so careless would I had not left my home that is all I regret in coming here yet I trust when I get back in my country home I shall be happy once more I care not how fast time flies till I get there

Yesterday I went with the girls to practice then stopped to Aunties heard that Mrs C. was sick & went to see her I staid but a few moments & came home & ate supper then went back & done her work & baked bread

<sup>160</sup>  
1853 for her done her work this morning

Mrs Baker is assistant at the Seminary & we have got a clock so we will know the time

Thurs.

12<sup>th</sup>

The girls went to the mite the other night and we did not want to stay alone so we went to see C. and R. had a real good time but had to hurry home to study & see who come with the girls. We had been home a bout an hour when here they come & we did not see after all and they would not tell us but went whispering around & I told A. if she thought more of Mattie than she did of me she might have her for her sister and I would be Mats sister but she didn't want to but I went to bed & left her to cover the fire & extinguish the light said she always had that to do. The next morning I arose and made the fire & it was our day to work the day passed as usual till nearly eight



I had been writing home & Mat was getting tea  
 the other girls were getting ready for a ride out  
 to the farm; we didn't know who with; was  
 just eating when a footman attracted our atten-  
 tion it proved to be Merrill and what did he  
 want? why he wanted some young ladies to go  
 a buggy riding with him. No such good luck  
 as Mat & I going so it must be the other  
 girls & they did not want to go with him  
 so they did not know what to do but finally  
 consented. He said he would be back in half  
 an hour & they spent that time in scolding &  
 sputtering; we was just at the highest pitch  
 A. had just said I have a notion to say I  
 won't go with any but Barnwell Noble & Cozad  
 she had hardly got it said when here come Cozad  
 with a paper for us; Mat took it & invited him  
 in but he declined. Mat & I went up after so-  
 me oil but the door was shut & could not get any  
 hurried home to see the girls start. Hurty was here  
 when he came & it was not long till he came & a

So  
18-63

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way they went leaving us alone but we went to see Mrs B. and had a good visit then went home & studied awhile & retired

We was not aware the girls were at home till morning; but they had & gave us a glowing discription of the last nights adventure. When we got home from school I took a notion to have some mince pies; so I went to work & had just got it chopped when Miss Wood came & we had a very pleasant chat. her school begins next Monday. Mat & I went to prayer meeting with Aunty last eve. We had to work today & had real good lessons too. Mrs. Baker praised us lots. I must stop & appear.

Sat,  
14

We have just had breakfast m. & I got it. we did not get up very early for A. was sick last night & I had to be up some. she is better now says she dont know what she would do without me for I am such a good doctor. It has been snowing this morning & is real muddy. The meeting begins today. A. has just come & says we had better



Rev. wash over buff dresses as they will be clean when  
we go home intend to start in two weeks  
but it is so cold & my hand is sore I had  
to begin

Mon 10<sup>th</sup>

just two months today since we began to keep  
house & I like it so well Alice & Mattie is  
working today so that I can be ladies. They  
have got breakfast ready so I must stop & eat  
well. I have "dined very heartily on the wing of  
a lark" that was reading in the s.s. paper  
& Mattie said she did not believe what she read  
& Alice sided with her as usual. They are about  
alike & if we don't agree with them they say we  
are so contrary & don't believe we love them a bit.  
Yesterday we could not get them to go to meeting  
or s.s. We attended both & staid to sacrament  
when we got home they had tea ready & when we  
got the work done it was time for evening meeting.  
We supposed they would go this time but they would  
not. I tried to get Alice to go with me but she  
would not unless Mattie went or their beaux come.

for after them she has not been any place with me since  
 1-63 we came here If Matthei dont go she went But we  
 went & had been there only a few moments when here  
 they come We had such a good time all day I  
 thought I would so live that the next communion I  
 could go forward with a light heart to the altar  
 but I know not what that time may bring forth or  
 that I may witness another such a scene

Later

I have just come  
 from school Alice & Matthei have not visited yet  
 & Mat stopped at Mrs. Fords her daughter is very  
 sick We have an invite to go to Mrs. Browns this  
 afternoon so will not have time

Gives  
 Nov. 17

We went to Mrs. Browns about 4 o'clock  
 & had such a good time Mrs. B. was so cheerful she  
 got us some books & her little girl to play with while  
 she attended to her housework The time passed very  
 pleasantly The Proff. did not come till quite late  
 & in a few moments tea was ready We did not stay  
 very late & the moon shone bright so our walk  
 was pleasant & we arrived safe at home well pleased



with our visit. The girls all run over to Mr. Bogard & left me to make a fire so I went to whittling & cut my thumb real bad and preserving it in sugar so Alice had to come & make the fire then we had to hurry to get our lessons & it was half past 10 when we went to bed little thinking of a surprise. Alice had just got a fire started when some one rapped. She went to the door & who should there be but Uncle James. How delighted we were to see him. I guess he thought we had learned but little manners for we all talked at once & he laughed at our silliness as usual. He could not stay long but had to go over to Iowa Co. Our lessons today were about as usual.

Dear me I have been to the office & got three letters. One from Sister M. & they want me to come up there this week to begin school so I can not go home first as I expected & one from home that they will be after us next week & ma will be so disappointed but I suppose "it is all for the best" imagine I will have a good time up there all alone.

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Well here I am at sister H. & little of standing  
by me talking as fast as he can & I am trying to  
write but have so much to say don't know where to  
begin so guess will begin with Wednesday I went  
to school as usual & when I told the Prof. of my go-  
ing away he was surprised & said I must call on them  
before I went I was very busy I first packed my bu-  
nk & then dropped to calling went to Mrs Bronner &  
then to Mrs Birds. Mine was better than to the P.L.  
& the stage agent & paid my fare When we got  
home the girls were eating they said that the Miss  
Graham were coming that evening. We had just  
began to study when they came. The evening passed  
quickly & their brother come after them. They bid me  
adieu & left & so passed the day & when the morning  
dawned I was to leave them all & go far away to my  
western home. When I awoke the next morn found  
it raining & it would not be so pleasant riding as  
I had anticipated but nevertheless I would have to  
go. So I prepared to go with a light heart often  
pausing to ask them if they were going to cry or if  
they would feel bad when I went away just to hide



my real feelings. He lingered long at the breakfast table as it was the last for as long time together & it was nearly so when the stage came I had bid the neighbors good by & waited a long while with bonnet & shawl for the stage was late. I then bade the girls a hasty farewell & entered the stage & was soon whirled away from the pleasant home. Tears sprang to my eyes as I look for the last time as the girls watched me from the door. There were but two passengers to St. L. & then two more ladies got in. We arrived at Winterport about 3 o'clock. I went to Uncle's but no one at home but Mary Hunt had gone out to tea. I had some thing to eat & a few words with Mary & was away again. About 7 we stoped & got supper. Got to Pan- at 1 & here at 3 1/2 I was the only passenger from St.

They were awake & Port got up & made a fire & I eat a few bites of bread & meat & went to bed glad to rest after the fatigues of the day. When I awoke the family were astir & little J was wondering where bonnet & shawl was on his bed & how I came there. The babe was by me laughing & I arose & helped get breakfast. I did not do any thing all day but sit around & talk.

Sun,  
Nov  
22/63

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I awoke early this morning & took a walk. It was very pleasant. The dog & cat accompanied me when I got a little way I knelt down & prayed for the first time since I left home. When I got back they were all up. I read the late paper & then dressed. The baby had just finished when the doctor came. He is a dutch back he eat breakfast with us & talked a blue streak all the time. I helped do up the work & then thought would write more but had so many letters did not know which to ans. first. Yesterday went to Ventnor & got a certificate for 8 months. It was very cold. He went as far as Mrs. Seares.

Sat,  
Nov 28

Dear me here it is late night & I am so tired but we are nearly through. He has been baking pie & is going to make cake. We have been washing & I have done part the ironing. It has been a week since I have written but could not take time & it was so cold. B. took me most every morning. It is 1 1/2 ms. from here. What a responsible situation it is to teach. When I get there Mon. morning &



saw my scholars I trembled for fear I would not  
 teach a good school. They are most of them large boys  
 older than I am. But we all get along first rate.  
 Wrote to the girls & sent them \$5 also to ma but  
 have not sent it wonder how they get along this cold  
 weather. B. has been to fix the house today the windows  
 were broken. I had such a good ride on Kile last  
 night from the bridge. It is so nice & cozy here now  
 for they have put the carpet down. I got a letter  
 from brother O. he is still at Little Rock have  
 not heard from any other soldiers for a long time I  
 expect they have all either forgotten or forgotten me.  
 "Well done" there I left this in the bureau & ma & K.  
 has read it; she won't tell whether she has or not.

Mon, 30

just one week since I entered upon my new  
 duties. It seems so curious to be boss of so many large  
 boys. Had only a few today & they came late so I was  
 late home. They want me to teach writing school  
 but I talk of being a watch & guess will have half  
 an hour a day for writing. I. well. Gort makes so  
 much fuss of our dirty feet I have to stop & wash  
 them for he has brought the water over purpose.

Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> He says he has been fixing around all day helping Henry fix his milkhouse

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>

He's me enjoying myself hugely. A great deal has happened this week. Had only a few scholars for it was so pleasant they had to work. I wore my hat today for the first time. Went down at noon & helped Mrs Jones to her comforts was there last night & staid a long time. He was there all day. Josh has got the ague. I took him some roses this morning. he bought my Arithmetic for 25 cts.

The other night Mr. & I was pulling off toll boots & we pulled him around so much his back has been lame ever since. & last night the coll run away with him & hurt him again. He has been bothering me about turning Nick's horse loose. he come here after some flour & his horse got loose & he had to walk home. I got a letter from Alice today - she was still at her uncle's two from Mrs. have not heard from him before for about two months. I have been reading them to Gert & Maud. They did not give them to me for a long time. He intend to go to Mr. Brown's tomorrow if it is pleasant. I want to get acquainted with the school ma'am there.



We went as expected over to Mr B. I did not get started till about 10 & then had to stop so many times did not get there till about 12. The schoolmān was washing & I sat there a long time thinking was not going to have any visit at all & I got so hungry for did not eat hardly any breakfast. It was a little after 1 when she came in & amply made up for lost time for we talked about schools, examinations, soldiers &c so the afternoon passed very quickly & did not have tea till dark. B. came while we were eating we staid about an hour & then started home it was a pleasant drive & I sang nearly all the way. It was late & the house so chilly but we soon had a bright fire & warmed up. It being Sat. I had a number of things to do but not knowing what to do first finally went to bed without doing any thing. Sunday was pleasant but no meeting, to go to so spent it in reading singing & writing to Dida & Mm. It was so pleasant we did not think of it storming but it began about 5 o'clock & kept on till school time & what should I do. So I must & so I got ready to start when East came in & said he would take me so the horses were soon at

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 1863 the door & I mounted. How queer I did look with  
 His old hood on & a skirt to keep me dry but away we  
 went but accidents will happen to the best of us &  
 so it proved to me for we had got but a little way  
 when the horse slipped the saddle turned & what next x x  
 Guess I won't tell but Bert had a good laugh at me  
 & said I fell off. Let that be as it may it was not  
 long before all was right & away we went on to school & the  
 day passed pleasantly to us if it did rain. Bert came  
 for me & bothered me a considerable about riding kit. &  
 thought it was Kate Enes. I rode kit alone for Jones  
 rode her back & helped them butcher. I stopped at  
 Jones at night & they coaxed me to stay for it was  
 so muddy I did so & helped lie comfols. When  
 I arose this morning it was 4 o'clock & the boys  
 were up & had a nice fire in the chimney.  
 We had quite a debate about the great men did  
 not care of us real. It was very muddy to walk  
 home tonight but arrive in due time.  
 "Wikes alive" Bert has been helping Huldah  
 squeeze the lard & has come & rubbed it over  
 my face & is now laughing at my looks. I told



him did not intend to wash it off till  
morning

Sat  
Dec. 12

The week is past a days work done &  
I am so tired H. & I have washed all day & have  
just brought in the clothes & hung them around the  
room for it is snowing some H. is getting ready for  
bed but I must write a little. I got a letter  
from Dida & Lizza it was written the 3d Li. was  
staying with Dida while Bet went after Alice & was  
expecting them the next day Ma sold 3 hogs for  
\$18 & I guess they get along real well.

O I won't have to make up for the week at the  
Institute so will be home a week sooner. It seems  
as if I am doubly blessed & yet so unworthy. If I  
could only live more devoted how much good I could  
do O why is human mind so low O why is human  
nature so unthankful I have engaged to teach writing  
school here awhile for 50¢ a night per scholar. I must  
surely write to Mat next week she will think we  
have all forsaken her for Mattie has gone home  
too. Fred B. has cut his foot so he cannot come  
to school.

Dec  
14/18

The boys were talking today about a sight in the air  
seen by several men. It was a real moonlight night  
& about 10 o'clock a great multitude of soldiers with the  
stars & stripes arose in the east & marched over &  
sank in the west leaving a red path. In about 3 hours  
the flag arose alone in the west & went back the same  
path & sank in the east & the red line with it.  
If it is really true it must have a great meaning but  
what that meaning is I cannot interpret.  
I have ripped my delegee dress up to make me a skirt  
sent by Gort to get cotton & lining but he forgot it.  
O yes we have got a turkey. It is past 10 I must retire.

Mon  
Dec. 14

This morning dained cold & clear. The holy sabbath  
the day of rest has passed & now comes the busy day  
of work. To school I must go cold as ice. At  
the usual hour I got ready (& that was before  
breakfast for it was late when we got up) & the brisk  
walk brought the roses to my cheeks & found a good  
fire. There are no scholars today but Josiah & Martha.  
Mr. Sears is thrashing. I have postponed writing school  
for it is so cold. After my morning devotions were.



over & wrote two or three letters don't know as it was right but guess won't do it again. Skuldah has put short clothes on the baby.

Mon.  
Dec 21,

I will now begin back a week I was at school when I wrote that. When I started home stopped at Mrs. Joneses to get Polly to come home with me but her mother was away so she could not go. In a few moments here come Josh with the horses to take me home. It was a good horse & saddle & I anticipated a pleasant ride but was doomed to disappointments for as we were going full tilt the girth broke & as a natural consequence I fell off but was not hurt & he tied the girth & we went on as if nothing had happened & by the time we got there the roses were thicker than ever on my cheeks. We had writing school Tues. eve I went up to Mr. Peasars to tea & Annie went back with me & I dismissed before 8 o'clock. It was snowing & quite cold wednes morning & snowed all day. It started home at night they tried to get me to stay it was so stormy but I thought it it would be funny to walk home in the light snow so we went & surprised them when I got there.

Dec 22 The storm increased during the night & in the morning the snow was drifted so Bert could not get his horses out to take me to school so I staid at home & by the next it had cleared off but colder than before Bert had to borrow a sleigh to get his horses out & by that time it was so late I could not go that day & by the next the great storm had passed. The greatest had been known for more than 10 yrs. it delayed the mails & I was disappointed in getting letters. I have not heard from home but once since I came here dont see why they dont write. Heard there is a budget at town for me hope my flannel dress is in it. Bert has gone to Lewis to mill so H. & I have to stay alone.

Dec 23 I am now at school but have nothing to do while the scholars cypher. They are mostly large boys today John Stinnam has been here all this week he has got hurt so has to go on crutches. It is quite cloudy as if it would snow. I hope Bert will come home today for hate to do the chores.



Dec.  
20

"Dear me" I have such a time trying to keep a journal don't write but once a week for am so busy lately & my eyes are sore so can't write meanings. But today have only 2 scholars & will write a little here but will begin back to write about Christmas. Well there, I got my budget it was my dress some yarn & other things. I had to fix my dress before could wear it & sat up till 12 1/2 before I finished it & then I woke Gert to wish him "merry Christmas" & went to bed but had hardly got to sleep when it was time to get up for I had to press it & late to do for school when "lo & behold" it was raining & I would get it "soiled" but I wore it any way & when I got to games there were a dozen or less & they all halloved "Christmas gift" before I could think but all went up to school together. They made many threats of resisting my authority that day but when I rapped for order all was quiet till noon when they began to pile the benches in one corner & said they were going to have a dance. Steven & Fred said if I would let them do as they were a mind to the afternoon they would be good all winter so I consented for

Dec 1863 we had been real steady all the winter so we staid  
 there till 8 & then all left for home & it was very  
 wet & muddy & I was so tired when I got home  
 Sat. I quilted my skirt we had but one thimble  
 so I used it & Harriah done the other work did  
 not get it done till 8. Sunday was cold & nothing  
 unusual happened it was quiet & spent mostly in  
 reading O how I do long for home at such times &  
 to meet with the people there but that will be nearly  
 4 long months yet Got a letter from Alice she had  
 been home two weeks also one from Mr Stewart &  
 one from Sam. he sent me as present of some love verses  
 wonder if he loves me wonder what he would thought  
 if he had seen me Mon. eve when Wesley was taking  
 me home with his sleigh did he would brought me  
 the other cold night but did not get there in time  
 he wanted me to go to the N. Years dance at Sam.  
 but I declined Wed. I got here before the fire was  
 made & Thure. O what a cold day it was the coldest  
 we have had this winter I walked to school Alvin  
 said if I come down that day I ought to be out back.

Tomorrow is N. Years



Nov 1864

I'm now at school. Bert brought me & just went  
 away. It is about 8 but no one has come yet. It is so  
 cold & snow don't expect many will come today.  
 I feel "trotting & no account." this morning for have  
 been quite unwell for two or three days. I got so very  
 cold last week for several days & have hardly got warm  
 yet. I just managed to werry along till Frid. night  
 & hardly knew how I would get home at all & thought  
 if I staid at Joneses again I would freeze sure. I  
 had just said "dismissed" when here come Wesley  
 with his sleigh. he offered to take me home & I  
 was so glad of the chance & O what a good ride we  
 had. Bert & Huldah were awful tickled to see me &  
 find I had not frozen but notwithstanding their  
 warm room I sat & shivered all the evening.  
 The next day I wanted to go to town with Bert  
 but was not able so did not do much. I Sunday my  
 eyes were too sore to read much & to hoarse to  
 sing so if I had happened to get home sick would  
 not had any way to cure it.

Jan, 1862

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Thurs, 7 While I was writing the other day the scholars came & I had to begin the duties of the day & all passed nicely through the day. Bert came after me & I had a nice ride on his. It was quite cold like next one it was late when I dismissed & Ther. did not have time to take me but neglecting to tie his horses they started after me but I did not notice them till I got a little way. I turned & stopped them till he came up so he said he would take me home as the horses wanted to go so bad but we did not get home till sundown. He had sleighbells that night as he drove to the door run over Bert's wagon tongue & broke it but Bert said he would rather make three tongues as to went after me & now he would fix his sled. When Ther. came the next day he wanted to know what Bert said about the tongue. He had a little skirmish at school forther got a contrary streak on <sup>about reaping</sup> but I gave him to understand I was teacher & it soon passed but it made me real home sick but they were so good today have got over it. It was the first disturbance & I hope it will be the last. I stopped & eat supper at Mr. Jones.



so I went home met Rich. he had lost his ax  
 & going back to find it he came back presently with  
 it & stopped & eat supper. O much writing as this  
 is I have to stop writing to laugh at. Sort I am  
 trying to learn him to write & of all the odd speeches  
 he makes says he wants to work as if he was shoveling  
 snow he takes hold of the pen like it was a pitch  
 fork thinks he can most beat me I want to go  
 to town Sat: but afraid S. will not have the sled done

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Have just come from school & must rest a  
 minute. We did not go to town for was expecting  
 Mrs. Browns folks about 11 we saw a team coming  
 & supposed it was them but it happened to be a  
 man who passed along without thanking us for taking  
 so much notice of him. Sort & I had a struggle for  
 the lounge & I lost my net & could not find it  
 Told him & he said guessed he burnt it that morn.  
 or something looked like it so I gave it up for  
 gone & set down to make another finished it about  
 3 then sewed up my shoe then ironed & held the  
 baby & other things while Huldah made mince pie  
 baked bread got supper &c.

your joy at length all was completed & I went to bed at 10  
having M<sup>r</sup>. mending socks.

We did not arise next morning till 7 & the first  
thing I heard was Gert going to Neb. to live &  
having Vets folks go too. I don't think I would like  
to go but Huldah said she would rather go than have  
Gert drive stage. After breakfast Gert said he wanted  
to try his sled & was going to town. I told him be  
sure & hurry back for was expecting letters & a watch  
had sent to the P<sup>st</sup>. I. for one by Mr Gibbs  
to about 5 here he come. I supposed of course he  
would come right in if he had any thing for me  
& waited a long time then looked out & there he was  
out to the barn doing chores & I had nothing to do  
but wait so I tried to calm my impatience by singing  
& playing with the baby. In about an hour he came  
in with mood & said nothing about letters & went  
after more. I knew it would do no good to ask  
him so in a long time he said he had two letters  
for me but he must read them first but I  
knew he wouldn't so I kept mum & pretended I  
did not care so he soon gave them to me.



One was from Tida she said Mr. Pearson was  
 buried Christmas & one from Alice they have got  
 the hogs killed & are wearing flars Duell begins  
 school there today East brought me watch It  
 is real beauty hunters case cost \$1.50 he says the  
 Post. begins next Mon. Guess I will go.

Well I have written a letter to Lurga & the song  
 "gay & happy" for John W. & here it is fast is  
 the end.  
 14<sup>th</sup>

It is now Fri. we had such a good time today  
 the scholars were uncommon good I staid at Mr.  
 Gones with Polly she has been sick is better now  
 set up till 12 When I went down to dinner  
 Mrs. Gones set me to hemming Henrys black  
 silk neck handkerchief When I went back to school  
 found a paper at the window "no come in" & the  
 door fastened I looked in the window & there sat  
 the boys as contented as you please the benches all  
 piled in one corner I rapped at the door one  
 of them opened it & introduced me to their new  
 school room but it was school time & I had  
 to spoil their fun so they arranged the benches

Jan 15<sup>th</sup>  
1864 Bert had been to town & came by & I rode home  
 Got a letter from brother & he had been from  
 duty that day for the first time for two yrs.  
 I staid at Mrs. Beasleys a few nights ago  
 & the baby has got two teeth I sent two letters  
 to town by Bert & he forgot to leave them there  
 were to go to Grand river he says he expects  
 I will have to board at the hotel next week but I  
 dont want to I will stop & wash the dishes

sat 16

I have just finished a letter  
 to cousin Mattie & it is nearly 11 o'clock I have  
 been working all day to get ready for the Institute  
 Muldab went down to see Polly & I staid with the  
 children finished my net & put pockets in my dresses  
 for my watch & made some hair oil out of Becks  
 fat marrow Our folks will be disappointed tonight  
 & wont get my letters but Bert says they can laugh  
 twice when they know the reason

Jan 17<sup>th</sup>  
Mon 17

I am now at Bentonell have come over  
 to attend the Inst. but Bert said I hadnt  
 better go over today for there was no one but



now there. It is moving some & as I am a stranger to all am glad to stay here & perhaps Miss Ranslet will be here by tomorrow. He stopped for her but she was not ready & said she would come in the back tonight. I am at Hugo Rock's & will stay the week. She is helping Bert fix up a bedstead & her little girl (my namesake) is stand here by me. Kaulah & Bert said this morning they did not know how they would get along this week for me to laugh at but I gave them to understand that they would not always have me so they had better be careful what they said.

Dec 18

I have got up & ready for school but it is not time to go so I can write awhile fast now. I was as dumbly as could be when Mr Martin came & paid me \$2.00 & that helped me a good deal so I put on my things & went to the store to spend it. Paid \$1.25 on my watch got me a change dress & a few notions & had \$6 left. I watched eagerly for the stage for

Jan 15 64

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was afraid Miss Ruelston would not come but she did about dark & I felt better & had a good visit before time to go to the Fest. There was a crowd there & had organized Mrs. Ewing Pres. Mr. Rutt Vice Pres. Mr. Peterson Sec. We sang three pieces then the question "Permanent Teachers" was discussed by Misses Haines Daughly & Harris at a proper time we adjourned & went home found Mrs. Root absent but the caville was burning & I had to sleep alone in another room.

Notes  
Jan.

When we got to the Sem. found only a few there but it was time & the performance began. First singing we learned several beautiful pieces. Next written arithmetic I learned some things I had never thought of. After noon we had Geography & Mental Arithmetic. Proff. gave one example & a young man named Brown solved it. The second all missed but me. Then of all the praise "There said he how much better she looks out of her eyes" all eyes were turned to me & I blushed like a school girl but something took their attention.



& it was soon forgotten. We did not go home to  
 dinner. Morning went missing then a lecture  
 "Science & Happiness" of 44 min. then subject  
 of "Parents & Teachers" by Pitterson & Armstrong  
 then Mr. Fought sang the "Death of Warren"  
 & "Kingdom coming" he is a splendid singer &  
 then adjourned. I & George went to help get the preacher  
 a week tin & so for a week. A load or two  
 came from Keim today & expect some from  
 Lewis tonight. Maggie & I are highly honored  
 being appointed as critics & on the com. of resolutions  
 & I am the best scholar here yet. The teachers  
 have to read a select piece the last eve.

Shure  
 Jan. 21

We arose a little earlier this morning  
 for we wanted to go to the store before 8 o'clock  
 for our committee had to meet at 8. There were  
 no one at Gibbses yet so went to Mr. B. but he  
 did not have any thing we wanted but a spool  
 of thread. Then we started just past for the  
 Keim. but was surprised to find no one there  
 but was a good fire & soon the rest came &  
 the day passed as usual.

Jan 24

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After tea we went to see Mrs Willson found her quite poorly from there to the dinner. The house was nearly full all enjoying themselves extremely well but I was lonely I had no dear friend to laugh & chat with I wandered into the dressing room & found a lady there as handsome as myself so we soon became acquainted. She was a lady from America & expecting her friends that eve & they soon came. The exercises soon began.

First was a lecture by Mr. Athens Subject "The national affairs which lasted half an hour then debate "how much time to devote to pupils out of class recitation" then adjourned.

Jan 22 It is now the last day of the First, our Friday has come at last what a long week it has been. Prof. Haws was explaining cube root when we got there so we did not hear it.

Hoaggie went to the hotel to dinner & I intended to go home but Joie wanted me to stay with her but I soon saw her going with the rest to the hotel but I staid with three other ladies & passed the time quite pleasant reading &



singing. It was a joy to see where the company  
 got back so late could not do much till evening  
 when we got to Mr Roots they said: Wouldst  
 & Gort had come Gort wanted to know if I  
 was ready to go home I told him no not till  
 about 11 o'clock. So he said he would take us  
 to the farm in the sleigh so here come the  
 sleigh & we all piled in. The house was crowded  
 & we took our places on the rostrum to sing  
 then the reading & I was the first one & they  
 all said I did nobly. Gort said I did the  
 best of any. Then were singing & more reading  
 so the evening passed & we dismissed about 10  
 I had to stop at Mr Roots to pay my board  
 which was 15¢ & get my things. Then we started  
 for home. It was a beautiful evening the  
 moon shone so bright & quite warm. Young  
 boys overtook us by the grove & wanted to race so  
 Gort whipped up & away we went but the traces  
 unhitched & the horses & Gort went on but the  
 boys got out & helped him & soon had them riled  
 but we did not run any more races.

Jan 1864

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Nov 26

It was rather late when we got up  
but we must wash any way so we hustled  
around & got done about 2 o'clock. Then Huldah  
said Josie Sears was sick so I got ready to go see  
him. Went & got hit to ride. I found the  
little fellow very sick with the break bone fever  
then called it, & he was so glad to see Miss B.  
as he called me. Staid about an hour then  
started but hit was contrary & would not let me  
get on till Mrs. Sears came out & held her. He  
said was afraid she would run away with me but  
she did not. Gert came out & took her & said  
my feller was bad come. I went in & found  
Henry & he staid till bed time.

Sunday Gert & Huldah went to Mr  
Searses & I kept the children. They just got  
home when Nick came & he staid & staid  
Gert & I went over to the grove on horseback  
to meeting & left him here. There was not any  
so we had to paddle back. We were gone just two  
hours & you bet we were tired for it was so  
windy & slippery. Nick was still here & I



wanted to go so bad but no I couldn't. After  
 a while Henry came & They finally went away.  
 Morning came far too soon for my sleepy eyes.  
 The scholars all came. fair was better. It was  
 nearly 4 when Gort stopped to leave his for  
 me to ride home so I got along safe & dry.  
 Then worked in my jacket till bed time.  
 I made a fire & got breakfast while Huldah  
 done the chores for Gort had gone too. sent a  
 farm. Then walked to school & back. It was  
 real muddy. Huldah has been making candles  
 have got 11 dozen made. We expect Gort tonight  
 hope he will bring some letters.

that day,  
 30<sup>th</sup>

I was surprised yesterday when one of  
 the scholars called it Fri, for the week passed  
 so quickly but sure enough it was & today is  
 Sat. I washed my woollen dress this morning &  
 then finished a net for Mrs Willson. Mrs  
 Swell came today. At tea time Gort & Mrs  
 Swell came they had been fixing the schoolhouse.

June/64

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I intended to teach but they wanted to fix it  
I felt so happy last evening for I thought I  
was having such a good school. When last course  
after me he said the superintendant was coming  
to visit my school for two years had been to see  
him because I let the scholars make so much noise  
at intermission & it had got to be stopped at the  
school would. I told him I was ready for either  
I will try it two more weeks & then if they are  
not satisfied I will stop & go home. I am not  
afraid of their threats for I don't feel guilty but  
what would I do without my heavenly Father to  
go to. I often ask myself that question when  
any cloud comes over my sky or loneliness steals  
around. But a letter from Dida. The scarlet  
fever is around there. Mr. Scotts buried two children  
in one coffin. Minoret of the young folks have  
joined the Methodist how it brought to mind  
the meeting of last spring I never will forget it  
as long as reason remains. If think of it when  
lonely it <sup>comforts</sup> makes me & when I am not it  
makes me rejoice.



Mon. Feb.  
5th

Well here I am again with my book  
& papers to write. I have got the supper on to  
cook & sit down to write the "happenstances" of the  
last week. It made me think of what ma often  
told us "she could never get time to sit down while  
cooking" but here I am any way. Like the supper  
has cooked sooner than I expected & this will have  
to wait. The tea is over dishes washed & all  
fixed up in school marm style & I am ready to  
proceed. Bert had the tooth ache & Sunday morning  
he started just baste for Lewis to get it drawn.  
I went down to get Mrs. Small to do the chores.  
I just got back & ready to read when here come  
Henry & after while Ben come & they staid &  
staid & kept staying I was so provoked but  
after awhile it began to snow & they finally went  
away. Huldah done the chores & about 7 we went  
to bed. I got up at 8 for had to press my dress  
& make me smart but it showed the work. Huldah  
said it shone like silk. Went to school & found  
the room more comfortable than usual.

Feb. 1864

I told the scholars what I had heard about the school & asked them what we should do. They all said "we will do any thing you want us too but the school shall not be stopped if they could hinder it" In the afternoon Henry came in (he is the director) & staid till recess. I was anxious to know what he thought of us. At night Ben said he would bring me home for it was so muddy so Henry rode with us. Post had not come from Lewis so Henry chopped wood Ben the other chores. Post came about 6 & felt better. he said it was scarce & Henry got up the fence because the boys sang union songs & they are copperheads. It was about as I expected. I got a letter from Mrs. & a real nice silk handkerchief in it. Also a letter from Rev. Buchanan. Well I have worked out the Connecticut rule for the first time. Well you are getting pretty smart had better go to bed it is most 12 o'clock. Well good night.



March 2<sup>d</sup> Well here we are all alone. Michael the  
 children & myself & have been for two days. Bart  
 has sold that Kate & Charley put the money in  
 his pocket & left for parts unknown without even  
 saying Good by. Well we are getting along nicely  
 any way expect he will stay away as long as possible  
 as we will be more tickled to see him. We get along  
 real well at school intend to teach Saturdays too  
 so to have it out sooner. It will take till the  
 last day of March in the afternoon at that. I got  
 a letter from that she said James had recruited  
 I wrote to him last week. Bart has not been to  
 war yet nor have not heard from them. I  
 must stop & make my new dress have not begun  
 it yet.

March 3<sup>th</sup> Almost a month since I wrote  
 last & here I sit all primed up with my new  
 dress on & what is it all for. Nelson Henry &  
 Alene was here when I got home & are out now  
 helping Bart fight fire. It came on the west  
 side the field the wind changed to the north  
 & it has not done much damage.



March 1864

97

I was out prospecting a while ago. What a beautiful  
sight but terrible if in its power. I have only  
4 more weeks of school. What a happy day when  
I return home after 2 long months absence. I went  
to have them engage the school there for me. I got  
a letter from Mary Bingham & her mother how  
good it seemed to hear from them. Pidas girls  
have had the scarlet fever very light & Angus  
Mary. Two of Backs children died. Bert has been  
down there. Alice was sick & had no school for a  
week. she teaches at Osborns. New senior Philadelph  
& I each a modern sheet. E. Stewart has recruited  
& now has got a span of horses. Bert bought  
two old horses & a colt but sold the colt again.  
I went to Chasces & staid till dark last evening  
& had a nice walk home alone. I don't have many  
scholars the boys stay out to work. Are going to  
have "Section" now. We all went over to Sen. to  
an exhibition last Fri. had just got ready to  
going & it began to thunder & rain so we left  
supper & all of us came home. Got a letter from  
Mr. Barker today.



March 15

I hurried home tonight to write some letters but thought I would scribble a little in this first for have neglected it so long. The fire burned so many rails East has concluded to leave here he has rented Mrs. Little's farm at Westmire. I am so glad of it. I got a letter from Fida which contained her death. I call it bad news that our little Mary has gone to be an angel in Heaven. That she has been called home from sickness & pain that she is free from the follies & ills of this world to bloom in everlasting beauty & happiness. No indeed. May we be resigned to this will whatever it may be but darling it is hard to give you up. I could not realize it at first & more than once I found myself repeating "little Mary dead" "has Mary gone" "Will I not see her again here" poor "Love Angie & what will her father do" is it possible" & my heart would answer "yes it is all true" all things are possible with Him & he will strengthen us all to bear our loss. The world has 3 y old tomorrow

March 1864

99

Last Fri was the last day of Miss Randol's school she had a spelling at night. We all went over & had a real good time. I went with Annie & guess we will have one the last night. I was by the name of Harris over in Adams Co. shot & killed a man by the name of Prather about 2 weeks ago he was arrested & kept in town till yesterday a mob of 15 soldiers home on vet. furlough came & took him away to the woods & hung him. he did not die quick enough so they shot him.

I have got all my school money \$73 have spent the rest. Last has gone to Whitney's. Got a letter from Mattie M. it was real good. We are going to have chicken for supper. I stopped & took tea with Mrs. Small last eve.

Sun. Mar.  
14

Today is Easter. It is very pleasant but the wind blows hard from the South. I just come from Jones. Staid there last night had a spelling & I had made a surprise a week ago. I went over to a spelling with Annie & Sam. she was coming home with me. We saw a



women coming & wondered who it could be & on nearer approach here it was Mattie H. I was so surprised but more so when she said Mat. & James Torrance & Alice were all here. They came the night before. We met them but did not know them. O what a good time we had. Earl killed the turkey & Alice & James got the ribbons but forgot it on the table so Mattie & I found it & broke it then they were mad to us. It was which & father who got ahead in mischief. Guess we did not any of us think of the 4<sup>th</sup> commandment. Annie started home about 4 & I went a piece with her.

The next morning was cold & snowy from the East. I wanted to ride down with them so I was late found us warm rooms & scholars waiting. It kept snowing all day. Next Sat. is the last day of school. I have sent for ma to come after me. Earl will move the last of the week. I have got a brand new brass ring awful nice a present.

1862  
April 18

O dear here I am so tired & have to write the happenstances for a month. I will begin back & enumerate them. Well according to former arrangements we had a spelling festival on most all from the other grove came over. We had an excellent time. The next day was the last one then I was to bid adieu to those far nearer & dearer associates. The afternoon passed by reading & singing. Sent some & staid about an hour then I had to dismiss. If the superintendant did not come to see us Steve pretended he was awful sorry & took over awfully & we all felt bad had had a good time together lead by my five months school.

I had a nice ride on a load of hay they were mowed except that. We met several teams going to Idaho but I was going home after 8 months absence the longest I was ever away. We found Mrs Alice Stewart & the children there & you bet we talked a blue streak. I went to church at night it was raining some. In the morning the rain had turned to snow for we stopped for me to go to meeting again.



Mrs. Biddle preached a real good sermon. Father tried to persuade us not to start home Mon. but I was so impatient to go, ceased me to start & we got along nicely. Set home about 5 o'clock.

I strained my eyes to catch a glimpse of the settlement but it had not changed & the house stable & yard all the same as I had left. The time had seemed so long to me I looked for every thing to be different. Alice & Eliza met us at the gate. They had staid alone. The rooms looked odd at first but soon grew familiar. They had been to supper & had to get us some. They said there was a soldiers supper that evening at J. Browns. & Eliza wanted me to go with her but I did not want to leave home that quick so she got Alice to go with her. The boys were most all home on Sat. forebought & would start back Fri. The girls come home sometime in the night for were here in the morning. After breakfast we went to washing & ma went over to town. Will W. come home with Eliza &

April 1864

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Willis with. Here we found out that day Wednesday we had to move. But some of brought us some letters. I got one from Thornburn he said he had been home & got married. funny aint it was come home & told us we had better get ready & ride over to Annapolis with Gret & go from there to the Soldiers supper at Uncle Reapers. So we hustled around & started. We found Lida & children there & how good it did seem to see them all again. We staid till three o'clock & then went on & found a goodly company already there. How natural they all looked & the table looked so nice a flag at each end & the cakes & other things were so tempting. They waited awhile for Stewart but finally began eating without him but they soon come. The supper was at 4 & it was after dark before all were done eating. Then the dishes & table were hustled away & the programme changed. The people went away a few at a time. About 10 we all got ready to go but the girls persuaded us to stay for



it had been raining all the evening. They fixed beds for the old & little ones & they soon were out of our way & we staid up all night singing & talking & a good time generally. In the morning the boys laughed at our red eyes but they were no better off. After breakfast we bade the soldiers adieu for they were to start that day to the army again. Willis & Charley B. with the others. It is now two weeks since they left.

Friday we went to Winterset with Stenarts. It rained all day. Got dinner at Lemis then went to Niveles found them well. The next morning it had not stopped raining yet but we had to go up town to trade some & see Stenart start but he had gone when we got there & it was very muddy so we staid till the next day then Herman went across the river with us for the rains had raised it. Stopped at Johnsons & got dinner. It was meeting time when we got to Niveste so Peliza & I got out & went to meeting & then went to Lidar. Monday we all went to Mr. Bracks & staid till

May 1864

105

meeting & then went to meeting & then come home  
Heard at church that Jas. Wright has the spotted  
fever. Wasn't no better & then, about 11 he died.  
They call it congestion of the brain now I at-  
tended the funeral. O what a change from the  
same a week before. Pri. I went to the last day  
of the winter term of school. O I have been to  
Mrs. Jewers to engage the the school is the reason  
I am so tired went afoot. He is to let me  
know Sun. Nels. & his sister Jane & man  
had been here while I was gone. Mar has gone  
to hunt Marys expect her home tomorrow.

May 3d

Alice went to Ben. to be inspected  
& Huldah came home with her. Mar has gone  
over to Angies with her. I went to Winterset  
with Anne. Not have not got my certificate or  
school either am afoot out the notion of teaching.  
I got Alice such a pretty hat black trimmed with  
blue high crown left mine to be fixed. Our  
sabbath school began last Sunday Mrs. Benham  
teach. I have my class again.



1906  
Sat.  
May 15

Well here I sit primed up in my new  
dress & with handker (my present from Ann) showing  
& I'm home I will look tomorrow if I go to S. A.  
We are here alone Ma went away this morning  
& is not home yet Ray has gone to the P. O.  
I am real tired we have been cleaning house  
& then made us flower beds & had to carry dirt  
I told a neighbor I was bringing the cornfield up  
in the yard so I would not have to go so far  
to find it We have just tried the new stove I  
bought of Mr. Sweet It is a purser cook stove  
It needs a new back lining The teachers name  
is Miss Henry that teaches in our district

over 18

We are here alone again Ma has gone  
to S. A. Barker Columbus died this morning  
with scarlet fever his little sister was buried  
last week Monday & Mrs. Barker is real sick  
O Savior we thank thee for the health thou  
hast blest us with & may sufficient grace be  
given to those you have stricken I got my  
hat it looks real nice

We planted our carse today but have not got our  
flowers planted yet I heard the 100 day men  
are to start today.

Nov 27<sup>th</sup>

Another week has rolled round & another  
leaf has been turned in the book of time & a  
another page added to the pages of history & a  
sunny one it is in our history. Well Sun. I  
went to sabbath school & Eliza went to Putnam  
to meeting. I had just got home when Mr Jessup  
came over to get Jack to drive to Winterset &  
said some of us could go if we wanted to. We  
had some better to take & was said one of us  
had better go. Eliza didn't want to & so I went  
over that night for they wanted to start early.  
It was not sunrise the next day when we started  
& so cool & beautiful. We got to town about 8  
& staid around till about 4 before we started  
home. I got me a pink lawn dress & bed tick  
& Eliza some shoes. did not get home till after  
dark. The children soon began to tell about  
a man (I have just got to my story now)



who had been there & wanted to get married  
 he asked where there were any girls lived there  
 told him several places & showed him our house  
 so where he come to see Ediza & wait for me  
 to come home. But he fell in love with  
 Ediza & proposed right away but she married in  
 favor of rich he helped her plant corn &  
 worked all day, staid all night & waited my  
 patients for me to come & finally had to go  
 off without seeing me. I was it I glad but  
 now & day has been telling all day what he  
 said & of all the silliness Ediza left this morn-  
 ing before he got up & went over to Bets to help  
 Lida. But we will have our fun with her when  
 she comes back. Well I must go & plant corn  
 now, 20<sup>th</sup>.

'm missing the wind blows cool from  
 me in the west. The sun is hurrying to its  
 western home & throws a slanting shade on the  
 broad prairies dyed in green & all nature looks  
 happy I too enjoy the beautiful scene although I  
 am alone but am expecting a sign from

school. Mrs. G. & I have been picking wool but finished & started it to the machine. Tiet is going to take it. Octavo wrote we need not write to him any more for his is about out. I went over & helped Angie shear their sheep last Fri. & washed the wool out in the afternoon. The bees swarmed & we all run out to him. There. One stung Angie & she run to the house & we laughed at her. Several one bit me & I run but Granmother stood firm. I went back to help her after while & they finally surrendered. Their loss about a dozen. Killed one three wounded. Angie gave them to me. Then we picked wool awhile then went to the P. O. Got 4 letters & some papers. One from Alice. she is teaching at Greenfield.

I had to read the lesson & hymn at Sabbath school yesterday. Mrs. Roland came by & invited us to a woolpicking tomorrow.

Guess we will go.



June

Mon, 6

Well this old maid has found a moment  
 leisure after the days work to let her thoughts  
 ramble as they will & her hands nothing to do  
 but sew them our papers. It is wash day  
 & had company too. We went to the river to  
 wash come back & found Angie & Clara  
 here. They just come home & say with them  
 they are going to town tomorrow. I have been  
 sewing on my new dress. There is some prospects  
 of a storm. We went to the wool picking &  
 had a real good time. Then went home with  
 Angie. The next day went to drop corn for  
 Eli worked only till noon & helped Linda in  
 the afternoon. Went to see Dill Jessup &  
 got dinner. Fri & Sat. we all went to another  
 picking at Aunt Pat's & a jolly time we  
 had. I got another letter from Ebenezer.  
 It was as good as new. Heard that Miller  
 is sick at the hospital. Poor fellow how  
 lonely he will be. Angie is Sanitary Committee  
 wants me to go round the Sp. with her.  
 must write to Alice this week.

June 1864

111

Mon, 27

Here I got up before the rest thinking I would have a good time writing but have been chasing around so long they have all got up now. It is raining & seems so good for have not had a good shower for near two months till last Wed. The crops are all backward. We had to replant our corn finished last Thurs. Our wheat looks good. I rode all the week hunting over sheep & found all but one heard it was at Klasty & finally got it.

Alice was at home two weeks ago. Mr. Myers brought her. Dida was here. I got dinner then all went & took her home & got the mail. Pete keeps the P.O. I got a letter from Wm. & one from Cousin. Alice with his photo in it. Both were well & all the same as usual.

Thurs. we all went to meeting it was longer than usual did not get back till after two then we had to hustle around.



to get dinner for Alice & Myres to start back. He has been making fence around the garden is not quite done.

A "wicens" went up to Adams Co, last week. I sent word that they were going & some of us could if we wanted to. So they were all good enough to let me go. We started from here about 4 & had the best time singing & talking & the buggy ride was nice too. We saw Alice's school house & wished we could see her but it was 10 mi. or more. Our road was not settled much till we came to Kevin (a ganker colony). He made all manner of fun of it for it looked so funny without fences & so far from timber.

We stopped in a grove & fed & lunched there about 12 1/2 o'clock. We started on the rest of the journey was pleasant for was settled more. Got there at half past 4 a surprise party indeed.

A jolly time we had laughing talking & eating till we got so lazy we most wished it time to go home although we enjoyed it real well for we found plenty to talk about & saw the girls' fellows pictures new hats dresses &c.

The second eve we retired early for intended to go home but when we awoke "lo & behold" it was thundering & soon began to rain. We thought it would soon stop but it rained the harder till we nearly give up starting but about 8 o'clock it stopped & we got ready to go. They tried to get us to stay but we were nearly obliged to go. It was a little slippery at first but the sun soon dried it & was pleasanter than ever.

Adams got us some pond lilies the first we ever saw. They were so pretty & large & white & full. We got home about 6 well pleased with our ride & visit. I found a letter from Octavo awaiting me. He expects to be home in a month.



mustered out  
ought to have been home the 15 of June but  
was not. I got 4 more letters from the 7th  
Infy. Were all well & near Atlanta marching  
& fighting all the time. I have a new corres.  
Frank Smith is his name. Got a letter from  
Alice she said they would be down to quarterly  
meeting next Sat. so we must be fixed.

Charley G. was at sabbath  
school yesterday. I have not spoken to him  
since I came home. He has moved down to  
ward Min. I hope he has a good wife & a  
happy home. It is Mon. & wash day of course  
but have got done now & will help ana drive  
stakes. Caliga is going to Bidlar tonight.

April 1865

115

April 24

O dear what a long long time since I  
have written in this almost a year I have  
been reading some of our doings at Indianola  
to the folks & they were highly entertained  
I have just returned from Winterset where  
have been for 2 weeks I went there the 7  
It was very cold & windy the next day had  
a dozen photos taken & in the afternoon we  
went on to Saint Marys Got there about  
dark Aunt was alone but Willie came before  
long They hurried supper so we could go to  
supping school  
had a splendid time came home eat some  
apples & went to bed In the morning it  
was snowing & awful cold but they had to go  
home (brother & family) & started about 10  
& had to go 25 ms. I intended to stay  
The next day was stormy till near night then  
we went about three miles to meeting  
The next day Mat & I went to see You  
It rain Tues. & Wed. & Thurs. I watched  
for the stage to go to Wint. but when it



room was too full. Soon a wagon stopped & they wanted to stay all night so they staid & the next morn I started with them (a man woman & baby) for Win. well pleased with my visit. He got to Win. about noon. I asked the man what he charged for my ride. he says "help some one for one when they need it" he was a Methodist Minister named Dixon.

There was to be a rally the next day in honor of the success of our armies. <sup>He</sup> went to meeting after dinner & in the evening. It was the Presbytery. I could not get my bonnet so had to borrow. The firing began the next morning before we got up. No other performance till 10 or 11 o'clock then we went up the streets were crowded. Saw some of the Grand river folks they said Mothers were coming but I did not see them till noon. We had good speeches by Kleiger Leonard & Grey. There was to be an illumination at night so I staid.

April 1865

119

down & to attend meeting But about midnight  
the sad news "Our president is assassinated"  
fell like a thunderbolt upon us. We could hardly  
believe it at first but soon the news was  
confirmed. Our rejoicing was turned to mourning  
the illumination was postponed & with sad  
countenances & hearts the people returned home.  
Lincoln was dead & the nation mourned. He  
died that morning at near 7 o'clock. Sunday  
was communion the flag was draped & the bells  
toll'd an hour. It was a solemn time. The  
christian band commemorating the death of  
our Savior & also mourning the death of our  
loved President.

Monday was the day of  
national mourning. The whole city was draped  
& the services were to be at three at the largest  
church. every thing in the church was draped  
& a large portrait of Lincoln hung behind  
the pulpit. It was a solemn scene. Mr. Phillips  
preached the discourse the text "Be still &



know that I am God" & sermons were so appropriate. The singers were so overcome that they could hardly sing. The house was crowded.

Miss. was at James' Wed. at Theatres. Thurs. at Uncle's till noon. That Perrance & I went to Mrs. Owings for a call. It rained & we went to James through the mud & in the morning the ground was covered with snow.

It snowed & thawed all day & Fri. too & we were getting anxious to get home. Sat. we hardly dared think any one would be down but up town we went to see but could find no one & picked back. After dinner I went back after my bonnet & met Charly & he got us a passage by promising to walk part way. He was with a neighbor & they had some load & it was very muddy. We walked from there to Stewarts. They were much surprised to see us. did not go to bed till 11 o'clock. We went to meeting the next day.

April 1865

123

It was prayer meeting Octavos folks brought me home were going to Kauldabs but found her here so we loaded her in & went on had a good time some supper & got home about dark Kauldab & Gort lives two mrs. from here on Widow Estorers place

I went over to Mrs Hastys got some garden seeds & the promise of the school came by Aunt Latsys & got some spools & posted home where I arrived just in time for dinner Alice & Mat have gone over to Octavos to stay tonight We all recd an invite to a soldiers dinner dont know how many will go Well I am getting old yesterday I was 18 Mary present or anything else Poor old maid Lets moved to Bentonsells last fall Little Renai died in Oct. with membrane croup He went up to the funeral & I staid with them several weeks My lived in the jail The deputy recorder was sick & I wrote in his place earned several dollars Eliza & Ray were



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sick a long time last summer, <sup>or fall</sup> with the fever  
Octavo lines close by Hasty.

June 1865

125

2<sup>d</sup>

I have got up & had my walk & breakfast  
It is raining & wet & has been for two weeks &  
I have not been home for that time. It is too  
wet to farm much. I did not get the school at  
home & here I am at. Lickschillet & five  
weeks of school gone. I like it real well have  
good scholars & our school house is in the brush  
where we can not see out. I have such a good  
place at Mr. Effersons to board. I have not got  
a letter from Wm. for about three months. I  
dont know why he dont write. I hear that  
they are coming home soon.

Some of the soldiers are home  
now the 32. It is nearly the 4<sup>th</sup> wonder  
if I will go any place. Must stop &  
work awhile.

July 5<sup>th</sup>

Well here I am about as tired as I can  
well be for I have been to the 4<sup>th</sup>. I went  
with Mr. Stewart & we had a gay old time  
any way. We started about 4 & did not



for the delegation from our Sp. for we wanted  
to trade some but the stores were all shut.  
We went to circles & cooled awhile & then back  
up town. The G. R. delegation done better than  
we expected. We walked to the grove 1 1/2 mi.  
had excellent speaking & music.

I knew Frank S. was there & tried  
to pick him out but found no one that suited  
me after a while decided on one & during the  
day Mrs Stuart introduced him to me &  
sure enough it was the same one. No one  
can imagine my feeling at that time. I  
had been acquainted with him so long by pen  
but stranger in person. Would give a cent  
to know his thoughts. He has black eyes  
auburn hair & sandy whiskers is about middle  
size. He intends to come up this week so of  
course I am some excited.

Had a good time singing today  
want to have a grand come off the last day.  
Heard the 23<sup>d</sup> is not coming home till their  
time is out.

Sat  
July 2<sup>th</sup>

O dear did any one ever have half the happenstances occur that I do. Here I am at Detacoe & in a pretty plight too. It is wet & raining & I started home on our horse & got about half way she scared & threw me a kiling so I picked myself up & come back. It was raining & I got so wet had to change my clothes & wash them so I cant go home till next week.

Did not get any letters only from Hollan. Dont know wheather the 23<sup>d</sup> is coming home or not. O. Frank come up Thurs. & I went there from school to Stuarth we had a good visit. I like him real well. He took me to school in the morning. He wants to exchange pictures. Our acquaintance is so novel as Alice would express it. Here comes the tub & I must go to washing.

Thurs 11

I had hardly got to washing when here come Gerts & Alice. They called me Turkey & made all fun of me for looking so



but I kept on till I got done & then  
 fixed up but as the dress was Algies it  
 was so short did not look very assumptions  
 Of course they had heard of Frank being  
 up & asked all manner of questions about  
 him In the afternoon an awful thunder  
 shower began & they could not go home till  
 it was over The lightning struck Martin's  
 house & stunned all but hurt none About  
 sundown they started home Had a good meeting  
 Sunday saw Hosea J. he just came home from  
 war It is wash day here

Wed 12

School is out once more & I am at  
 liberty for a few hours What a relief it is &  
 I love to be with the dear children too but it  
 worries me too We went to S. Doty's last  
 night their little girl is quite sick Tonight  
 is prayer meeting up at our schoolhouse  
 how I would love to meet with them &  
 what would I do without that friend who

July 1865

129

is ever near I find a help in every time of  
need & I need so much to help me in my  
schools

Sat 16

I really don't know what to write first  
but it is Sat. & raining at that so am not at  
home but intend to go in the morning before  
sabbath school am at Aunt Patys there  
are only 6 of us girls here & her away so a  
jolly time we have a talking about the boys  
Lib<sup>by</sup> has gone a sheep driving & she feels  
down in the mouth of course & mine is in the  
army I expect so is Loney's & Amys is around  
loose I guess Did not get any letters this  
week The 23<sup>d</sup> has gone to Texas

Fri 21

O how cold wet & raining it is  
but I have not far to go to school & it is  
mail day too am so anxious to get the news  
& so is every one else We heard the 4<sup>th</sup>  
were to be mustered out tomorrow at Liverpool



It seems like too good news to be true. I was not at home but a little while last Sun. they were all well but not extra good humored. I have had a severe cold for over a week & do not feel very vigorous now but there is no excuse from duty.

Aug.  
Sat. 5<sup>th</sup>

Rain rainer rainiest so it has been for the last week & all summer for that matter but today promises to be more so if possible. I have to teach today for we all went up to Osborns to the last day of Alises school & such a time as we had. Were afraid we couldn't go at all for had no team but the little boys (there were no large ones concerned) hunted around and got one & we started. Got to Mas at 10 & found her mopping the children had gone to school so we got dinner & then went on & got there just in time. They met at the school house & marched to the grove & sang as they went.

They looked real nice Did not finish till  
 4 & we got some wet for it rained nearly all  
 the way home The boys have not got home  
 yet but rather expect they will tonight  
 We robbed the bees this morning so we will be  
 sweet Eva is bothering me so can hardly  
 write she wants to see some poetry I have  
 been writing Mrs Aunt Patsy is coming  
 down tonight to rob her bees & I am going  
 to ride up with her Teams have gone to  
 Winterset & think the boys will be there to  
 come home

I had company at school the  
 other day The Director & three other gentl  
 it was a surprise for we did not know they  
 were coming We had good singing to but  
 the director is opposed to sing in school



Mon, 4

Aunt Lacy & Adams came down &  
 robbed the bees as expected & we all went  
 over to get some honey. I held the light &  
 the rest was all around. We got along nicely  
 till we went to start away here come a bee  
 at me I knocked it off & it stung Adams  
 & it swelled so he couldn't go to S. S. It  
 was a pleasant moonlight night. We found  
 Ann at Rierces is helping take care of the  
 baby for they had gone to town & left it.

We were all anxious & excited  
 to have them come with the soldiers & went  
 to look every few minutes. Had nearly give  
 up their coming when we heard them cheer  
 three times & here they come but only three  
 Stewart Will Wright & John Coppersen. It  
 seemed so good to see them back after being  
 gone so long. It was past 12 when they got  
 here John went on home. We all wanted  
 to talk & Ann had to get supper & it  
 was past 3 when we went to bed & then

got up at 5 & had to hurry to get to S.D.  
 The soldiers were there & staid to singing &  
 then all went over to Aunt Latys to see all  
 together (for the rest <sup>of the 4<sup>th</sup></sup> had come out with some  
 one else the night before.) Willis is changed  
 he is so pale poor & sober I only spoke to  
 him once for did not want to be in his way.  
 We staid till after dinner & then went down  
 to Eppersons but found no one there & went  
 over to Latys & staid awhile then Lucetta &  
 Wilson come over with us & staid till dark  
 Eva John & I have big times acting the dunces  
 O a bean is coming here to dinner & I must  
 spruce around. We have got some more mutton

Sat.

Aug, 26

We would thalike to have one of your  
 girls keep house for us Sat. said Octavo  
 one day for we want to go to town & which  
 of us should go Alice did not want to go  
 Eliza did not say anything & I kept answer  
 "There are only 4 children to take care of"



said he O monstrous go & stay all day & have 7 children around & the housework to do & Alice concluded more & more she didn't want to go. Well the matter was talked of & thought of & finally I concluded to go & as Bert was going with them I could ride over with him & here I came & here I am.

They were eating breakfast when we got here & as it was late they hustled off & left things but I have got the work done & the children washed & combed & we are getting along nicely this far. I have to bake bread & pies & am boiling beets for pickles. Have to tend the P. O. to so I am a person of note & responsibility & will be perfect in housekeeping when — comes along. School has been out two weeks & I am getting some what used to being free but I did hate to leave the children. We had a grand time the last day & the house was

crowded had speaking & singing in the afternoon.  
We have been busy quilting & spinning Mothers  
eyes are sore so we have to spin the warp too.  
Expect it will wear good "over the left"

Most of the soldiers that went from around  
here are home now. I think there were over  
30 from this Tp went & only one killed <sup>J. Pierce</sup> & two  
sickened & died. Pierce & Colvill quite a number  
were wounded & some severely but all at home  
well now. It seems so odd & they act so  
independent too but guess we can match them.  
Wm. is at home too. He was at C. S. last  
Sabbath. I heard he intended to go home  
with me in the afternoon but we all went  
to the Big grove to hear Mr. Heizer preach  
a Mr. Hartsocks funeral sermon he died  
in the army. It was a good sermon if  
I did lose my bear & maybe he will  
go some other time for I am anxious  
to know why he didn't answer my last  
letter. I have not saw Alce get games



Dr. is at our house now. His mother & Aunt Lizza came up yesterday. The folks have taken Mrs. Loverage's children from her because she did not take care of them she has gone to town to see about getting them back. Two of the children are here. Household affairs & children claim my attention for awhile.

Sun. 27

Beautiful sabbath morning has come again & I am about ready for sabbath school. My days housekeeping was a success. The children were very good but such a snarl of them & all little ones & cor. tol. hardh. till when I got around especially when I got to putting to bed. I had splendid luck with the bread & pie & just got every thing done & set down to rest when I heard the wagon & here they come. I ran out to meet them & who should be there but Ann. They all came in & eat supper. I soon made coffee & the rest was ready & then

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they all left Thurs. went with Mrs. Jessup. We did not get to bed till 11 o'clock. Alice went home with Aunt Mary.

Tues 28

Am at sister's. Kouldah's now. I came up with Bert last night a horseback. I had such a nice ride. It seems so good to be here again. Will stay all day & nothing to do but knit & sing. Bert is getting ready to draw hay for mother. Olga & I went plucking yesterday. we got about a bus & I how tired we were. Sam was over Sunday eve & we had a nice visit. He did not get my last letter is the reason he didn't write. He had a big laugh when I told him I didn't like his last letter & wrote such a spunky reply. make it's best he didn't get it. wants to exchange photos.



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Sept.

Sun. 3<sup>d</sup>

I am seated east of the house this pleasant sabbath evening. It is so cool & nice now after such a very sultry & hot day. We went to sabbath school & singing. but it don't seem right to have such singings as we do I fear I sing my religion away for am so far back in the world. but still at times I am so happy. Dear seniors take my hand & lead me. Alice is still at Winterset.

Each day bring some curious train of action. Last Thurs. as we had planned & begun a big days work of washing housecleaning & cooking for work hands. here come a wagon load of ladies & gents & to our infinite surprise & mortification stopped & wanted us us & Co. to go to a Soldiers dinner at Afton about 12 m. away. Miss seeing we were anxious to go said we might so we stored every thing away got ready in a jiffy & was soon on our way rejoicing. It was absolutely hot but what of that we were having a jolly time. We got there about 1 o'clock

when so I beheld to our utter dismay there  
 was no dinner for it had been postponed &  
 the boys had to take us to the tavern & buy  
 our dinner after dragging all the way down that  
 the dinner was only for the soldiers & we would  
 have to stand by & see them eat.

There were only six couple & some odd ones  
 & we did not start home till near night so it  
 cool & pleasant I was with Will Wright. We  
 all got home about midnight & so ended that day  
 & the next we had to make up for lost time.  
 Yesterday we went after grapes & got all we wanted  
 to carry home & now welcome sweet day of rest  
 after the weeks work.

Monday

Washing day indeed so thought  
 I as Eliza woke me from a sound nap & I saw  
 it was pleasant after a hard rain & the tubs were  
 full of water. There is no getting around that  
 if you have been up part of the night &  
 are sleepy. Anne was here & the evening was



real pleasant till about 10 o'clock when a real  
thunder shower came up & it thundered & rained  
all night. Mrs. Staid till nearly morning  
waiting for it to stop & finally had to go in the  
rain. I like his company real he is so interesting  
& aint so sickening & tiresome as some are.

He gave me a question to study on till he comes  
again in two weeks. I can ans. it just as well  
now. I think a good deal of him but not enough  
to marry. How I do hate to give any one the  
nuttin & him especially & what is a feller to do  
I have been expecting Smith up but he has not  
come. I wonder if it wouldn't be better to bluff  
them all & resign myself to be an old maid.

Well washing is done but supper is  
not ready & we are drying corn & fruit & other  
things. We have so many irons in the fire  
at once dont know which to take out first.  
O well Miss Lettie if you are going to listen  
to much more like you did last night or  
say yes to any you may as well be practicing  
in house work.

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Thurs 7 Well, well, this will pass for a rainy day  
sure & we are trying to get our things dried.  
am afraid they will spoil. While I was writing  
in this the other day here came Lib, Govey, Alice  
& Huldah they staid all night & we had a  
gay old time & finally got to trying our fortunes  
& talked of sending off to get them told & our  
fellows photos. They had a deal to say about this.

Weds 13

Twilight has again veiled the world & I am  
sitting in the doorway enjoying the scene &  
writing a little. We are very busy & will be  
all fall. We have got two pieces ready to  
make one for Mrs Bonham. Angie came  
over with me last night & is wearing today.  
We got up bright & early to do lots. I was  
detailed to get breakfast. Eliza to spin & ma  
& Angie to put the piece in. So I combed my  
hair & went to getting breakfast as deliberately as  
could be taking my own time. The fire was  
made the potatoes boiling & bread mixed when



Eliza came in first haste saying a soldier was coming I supposed it was some one passing & paid no attention till he stopped Mrs Smith & George & writers who among you all can describe my feelings are from my thoughts

There I stood in my calico dress (or Alice I mean) my hair combed but twisted up with neither net headdress collar or bow my hands just out of the dough surely I was a fit subject for an artist I invited him in however & introduced him to the family gave him a chair & he & I chatted & worked as if all was right & soon had breakfast He declined eating saying he breakfasted at Mr Stewart's & as they were going to town had been very early That there was the mystery of his early visit for it was not 1 o'clock yet The others did up the work & I changed my dress then they went up stairs to work & left us to visit He staid about an hour then we exchanged pictures & he took his leave George I did not escape the remarks

of Angie & Coliza & we helped them so the  
day has passed & the hour draws near for rest

Mar 15

Mar has gone over to Aunt Betty's to spend &  
wash a piece & left Coliza & I here to weave  
our Angies. I have wove about a yard & Coliza  
has been baking. It is hard work & I am  
so lame & sore for I pitched so much hay  
yesterday & then went over to the schoolhouse  
to practice <sup>singing</sup> for the celebration next Sat.  
Mr. Smith said he would like to come to it  
but it was the day of their quarterly meeting.  
We have just eat dinner & Roy is going to  
the P. D. We are going to have an exhibition  
& charge admittance fee to help build the  
soldiers monument at Winteret. Will wants  
me to go to afternoon to the soldiers dinner  
the 30<sup>th</sup>



Well yes so I did go buggy riding Sat.  
 with Mrs. Went to & from to a soldier din-  
 ner the one that was postponed when we  
 went before it was the 30th of Sept. It  
 was mark & clock when we started Eliza  
 went with us with us Mrs. Waring. They had  
 Dr. Parkers team & nice roads good company  
 & what more was wanting. Got there about  
 11 & went to the hotel to rest a little then  
 went to the speaking at the public square.  
 It was nice & shady there. Mr. Nixon was  
 speaking & after he finished dinner was  
 announced. The soldiers & partners was at  
 the first table so I we eat at the first table.  
 The dinner was excellent & waiters plenty but  
 unfortunately I had the tooth ache & could not  
 enjoy it much. Speaking again after dinner  
 which closed about 4. We went to the hotel  
 again & soon the bell rang for supper but  
 I declined eating on account of my tooth. But  
 Eliza went. We started for home about

undowns & as Will & I were drivers we drove  
to suit ourselves. We talked on every subject  
imaginable. the moon shone bright & we did  
not care how slow we went but reached home  
about 8 o'clock. the feasting was over the buggy  
rid. at an end. Ma was up shelling corn  
we helped little her awhile, then retired to  
settle our teeth.

It was late the next morn when we arose  
& I felt so lazy & tired thought I wouldn't  
go to sabbath school but after considering a  
while I went. Was a good many there &  
the hour passed pleasantly. Gerts were here when  
we got home & ma had dinner nearly ready  
I managed to eat a few bites & then got ma's  
pipe & had a good old smoke & went to  
bed to forget my trouble which I soon did. It  
was nearly night when I awoke very much  
refreshed & my teeth eased. When I read  
awhile & retired early to rest for Monday.  
It came before it was aware of it & of course.



brought wash day with it. But I spun Alice  
 & Olga washed & we were. After dinner Alice  
 went over the river with the pony & then came  
 to the rehearsal at night. About dark we  
 went & had a good time. But only a few books  
 we adjourned about 10. Olga was going to  
 ride home in a wagon & me on the pony &  
 Alice going to Octave. I started & got a  
 few rods heard some one coming. I supposed  
 it was Luke Pierce paid no attention till he  
 got even with me where here it was Smith  
 so the road seemed shorter then. When we  
 got home he tied his horse & put mine away  
 then waited for the others to come along but  
 no others came so he started back to find them  
 the big rehearsal at the gates for the evening was  
 so pleasant. He started several times & then  
 turn again to say something else & finally he  
 started he took my watch to get it fixed.  
 Tonight is rehearsal again. It seems so good  
 to have the boys there were takes a part but

Soldier & us big girls I wonder if Will will  
be there tonight. He is so good & kind I think  
more of him than ever. But he appears lonely &  
does not seem happy. Poor boy he has no home  
how lonely it must be. I shall try to help  
him all I can if Smith does get jealous  
as I heard the other day he was. Maybe he  
will be up this week then I will make it  
all ~~was~~ right with him. Must stop & write  
the dishes.

Where's I have stopped spinning so  
Eliza can sweep & while I rock will rest  
write. Ma is wearing will get the pieces out  
today & Eliza says she is going off with the  
pony. It is a nice day for work today &  
we have so much to do. We went to the  
rehearsal last night & a good time generally are  
not enough. Prices yet have sent East for  
books. Will was there & came home with me  
he is a real torment he wanted to go back  
when we got part way & where I told him



to go said. I was too willing. We again  
 tarried at the gate. I suppose we talked  
 more foolishness than wisdom. There is speak-  
 ing at the schoolhouse today. some politicians  
 from district

Thu 6

7 o'clock & I have got home from a long ride.  
 have eat supper & will write a little. I went  
 down to where I taught school this summer &  
 seen about all the folks. The children were so  
 pleased to see me & I was as happy to see  
 them. I went up to school too. It seemed like  
 old times again. The teachers name is Miss Bresbeck.  
 I took dinner at Mr. Toppersons. they were making  
 molasses. When called all rounds & when the  
 sun set I was three m. from home & it  
 was quite dark when I had to pass through  
 the woods. When home I wished for Will  
 again. We have another piece in & Poliza  
 is going to be weavers. Mother is troubled  
 with boils.

Thurs. 13 Rain clouds & mists are the prevailing elements today. But we don't have to work with the cane for it is too wet. It is fair day & the other girls have gone to Winterset to attend it. Will was going to take me but the rain prevented. I like to go with him so well he comes home with us from evening meetings & rehearsals but does not come Sunday evenings for I thought he had better not. I saw he was disappointed but not offended when I told him. I believe he thinks a great deal of me more than he ought for his own good. Perhaps I do wrong to go with him at all for the more I go the better I like him (Is it like).

Last Tues. was Collection day & they had to consult the actors after dark but said it wouldnt take long so we waited & it was 10 before we had possession of the house for our performance. We hurried through & then had some water melons. Alice went with Lib & W. Wright with Poliza & W. H. with me so it was late when



are relaxed sleep enough to sleep three rows at  
a time for we were up the night before till  
2 as picking molasses are about half done  
Smith has not been up yet or written either  
I don't care him very well content to have mill  
for a bean

Mon, 23

Here I am all alone & sitting in the rock-  
ing chair. I have done various things today  
house keeping digging potatoes & quilting for  
mrs. but now I am musing & writing Mother  
is mending our fullcloth. Alice went home  
with Carl last eve. It is cloudy & looks  
like rain but we have got through with  
our molasses & potatoes & have nothing but  
our corn & sheds to deal with in our out-  
door line of business but have spinning &  
weaving enough to keep us out of mischief.  
Our Exhibition is over & it was a perfect  
success as they all say & indeed we did have  
a good time. It was about 11 when we got

through & these hurraho boys till we got picked up for we had so many things there & to cap it all they left me for it was so dark I couldn't find them but Will found me & brought me home so I had a pleasant trip after all.

I do not know what to think or how to do. Will told me of his love the other night & asked for an answer & what could I say I could not plead indifference to him for have not acted so neither have I felt so neither could I say yes for I intend to stay with ma till am 21. So I told him I would wait my time & then he might ask me the same if he chose but no binding on either side. He appeared satisfied. I may have done wrong perhaps I didn't but what could I do. O if he was a little more affectionate how I could love him but he acts so distant sometimes yet at the same time he looks all love. He says I am the most puzzling enigma he ever tried to solve but surely I am no more so than he is but Charley needs to tell me



that so often I was so different from any  
 one else. I did get a letter from Smith  
 he said he had cut his foot it was two  
 weeks ago & he might be here any time (before  
 breakfast I suppose) If he comes next week  
 he won't find me here for I intend to go to  
 the Teachers Institute if nothing prevents &  
 expect to have a good time. I guess I will  
 teach this winter guess I will go up in Adair

Thurs 24

It is raining today & cold too but we  
 came work in the house. Bert brought Alice  
 home a horseback. Smith did not come  
 last night as I expected. Where Alice has  
 been reading my journal I wonder what  
 she thinks of it. I went over after my school  
 money last Sat. Sat 8:15 came by Mr. Cramers  
 & got two cracks. But when I got to the timber  
 it was so dark stopped with Gran mother  
 Barker she was alone & I come home before  
 Sabbath school

Dec 3<sup>d</sup> 1865

It is now sabbath eve & here I am away from home & installed as teacher in a German school & about nine ms. from home. I came from Fontanell today & a stormy time we had but drove very fast brother O. & wife were with me. He has a school about 4 ms. from here & we went together to be inspected. Found Lidas well & had a good short visit. We got here about 1 o'clock. Mrs. Balley had dinner ready & the others stopped & eat & warmed. I am to board here & think I will like it well. School is to begin in the morning & I am anxious to see the scholars. There will not be many & I get \$30 per month. I hope I will have a good time.

Dec 4<sup>th</sup>

The first day of school is gone & I had 12 scholars & good house & seats & every thing comfortable & think I will enjoy the winter first rate but I am not going home till Christmas so I shall look forward with great anticipations I shall miss <sup>with me</sup> How too. He came home from prison meeting me here, eve for the last time for awhile. He is greatly changed lately is so affectionate now but acted so coldly before. I have his watch chain to wear. He appears so restless &



unhappy but how can I comfort him. I wish if you had  
been here about the time I began school I would have  
said yes & sealed the contract as soon as you wished.  
But it is otherwise now

Weds. 6<sup>th</sup>

O what a delightful snow storm but is not cold.  
If I was at home would think there would be prospects  
of some sleigh rides but none here. I had 14 scholars  
today. They are very apt scholars. There is Dutch meet-  
ing tonight & the Minister is here now. Guess I will  
go if I can't understand. I wonder what our folks are  
doing expect they think I am homesick by this time.  
But I am not.

Thurs. 7

I just came from school & is another preacher  
here so will be meeting tonight. I went last night but  
it was so stormy did not many come. If I miss the  
society of the young folks I will not lose my religion  
& I have a friend here "who sticketh closer than a brother"  
One more day & one week of school gone



Dec 1865

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Dec. 10 Sweet day of rest Thow hast come once more but I can not go to church yet I am not lonely for have been reading in the Testament all the fore noon There are so many sweet promises & precepts The last I read was Ephe. 5 chaps. & I stopped to wonder if Wm. & I possessed the love for each other that the 33 v. speaks of I believe I do if he was only a christian but the Apostle says "Marry only in the Lord" & I know it would be such a comfort & blessing to be united in christian love as well as love for one another I will speak to him on this subject Today is the regular meeting so expect the folke are all at church

Mrs Bally & I took a sleighride to Greenfield but she was taken with a severe headache so we didn't enjoy our visit very well & I had to drive home Got here a little after dark & found Mr Bally & a good fire so I got supper & done up the work & went to bed early I don't mind sleeping alone now There are two young Dutch men here & I have to listen to their talk Kisher is going to school to learn the English language he is very tall & rather good looking Well dinner is ready We have good victuals here



Thurs. 13

It is recess & is so cold I let the children play in the house for there are only six here but they make so much noise I can hardly think but such is childhood let them enjoy the fun while they know so little of the world. Who knows what sphere in life these children will fill. Cases may come with years. The heart may be sad & wrinkles come before the time but that does not disturb them now. The heart of their teacher is often sad though she smiles upon them. How little do they dream of this. I nearly got homesick the other evening in thinking of the past & future. When the lines of a hymn came to mind "Cast all your cares on Jesus & don't forget to pray" I did so & have felt better ever since. A little over a week & I can go home. I dream of them nearly every night. Mrs. Bally is so kind & sociable. I slept down stairs last night for the first time.

Thurs. 14

Well well here it is nearly a week since I have written any. How surprised our folks will be to know how swiftly & pleasantly time passes to me. I have been very busy helping Mrs. Bally. The threshers were he that had 16 men three young german

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among them I did not know the country afforded  
so many. They got done before night. Sunday I had  
another sleighride. We went over on Middle River &  
I saw a number of acquaintances & some old scholars  
who were very much surprised to see me. We passed  
a very pleasant but not very profitable day. At  
about 3 we started home but did not get there till  
late for it is about 11 ms. but I enjoyed the ride  
very much for the evening was pleasant. But the  
next morning it was snowing. It will soon be  
Fri. & then "welcome sweet home."

Tues, 26

Tues. has come again & I am just home from school  
but found the house deserted & locked. I hunted for  
the key in vain & then tried the windows & was  
more successful & have made a fire & await the  
result. My visit home is over. Christmas is past  
& I come back lonelier than before. I had a very plea-  
sant visit but why was Thos absent why was he not  
among the ones to welcome me home. In fact why  
does not his actions agree with his words for I did  
not see him while there.



It was nearly dark Fri. night & I had given up  
 any one coming after me & about persuaded myself  
 that I was sick when here come Ruez & Eliza & I  
 soon forgot it. We got home about 7 & found all  
 well & glad to see me & had lots of questions to  
 ask & answer. Sat. we had so many kinds of work  
 & so busy the day soon slipped away.  
 Sunday we did not get up till late & just got  
 the words done when Mr. Stuarth stopped for me to  
 go to meeting so of course I went & when we got  
 back brother Octavo & family & Huldah & family  
 were there & Stuarth stopped for dinner & we made  
 quite a crowd. They all left about sundown & Eliza  
 & I went home with Huldah. We talked & cracked  
 nuts till late. I did not hang up my stocking for  
 they said it would be no use for there was a hole  
 in it. We got up early for we had to  
 go home for had so much to do. Port said if I  
 would milk he would take us home in the sleigh  
 but I told him I would rather walk as milk  
 so he milked & then took us home.

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We got there before 10 & found them fixing us to go to town a visiting. Heard there was to be a party at Mrs Bierses & supposed of course some one would be after us. We laughed & talked about going & had signs innumerable but no beaux or invites came. Still we hoped against hope & looked & expected till dark but in vain. Then we began to wonder surmise & conjecture what was up & why we were slighted but could not come to any definite conclusion about it. Only we concluded we had not gone to the party or was not going but it was a joke any way for we had been so sure & we could not help laughing. So we began to crack nuts & play for the future which took till 9 o'clock & as I had to come back here early we retired & soon forgot our disappointments in sleep. I heard that Wm has traded his place in Nelson Co for one & part of a saw mill & mrs. from Mothers.

Dec 28

It is now 1/2 a day & one month of school gone. There is writing school here tonight Mrs Duell is teacher. How I wish Wm would come with him.



4 Take me home Mrs Bally took us down to Searcees school house last Friday night to writing school. There were 13 scholars. I had to whip one my scholars this morning. The first one & I hope the last. We will spend this afternoon spelling & singing. The children enjoy it so much. Wrote to Mr Smith last eve in ans. to one I got while at home. He was prevented from coming up by sickness & then waited for my letter. I told him what a nice house I had here. Guess he will think it aint much like the one I had last summer.

Sat, 30

I have been doing a little of every thing today. Washed & ironed, fried cakes, helped cut a coat & been writing & now I must say a little to my journal, before I start to writing school. I went last night & got through the letters. There 14 scholars. Duell had a sight to say about them. They live close together. Well I declare if ever I laughed as much in the same length of time as I have the last two days. I want to get it all done before I go to writing school. But Mrs Bally & I must have some fun if we do make it ourselves.

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Jan, 3<sup>d</sup> It is almost dark & I just got home from school. Mrs. Duell was here at school all day yesterday but there were only 10 boys & no girls. I was real sorry. He said Miss Alderwood died last Sat. night. I went to Dutch meeting last Sun. Was a good many out. Mrs. Bally & I are keeping house alone. Mr. B. has gone to Montanefle on business. Don't know when I will go home.

Mon, 8

Well am I homesick, got the dont cares, blues, or what is the matter of me. Am sure I dont know. I will write a little & maybe it will cure me; but I have felt down spirited for several days & have been home too. Mrs. Duell & Mrs. Bally were at school Fri & we had a good time spelling & singing. Then Mr. Augustine took us all down to the writing school. Alice & some others were there & at recess we sang "The southern girls," & "Hermans march to the sea" & I have not felt sing since. I went home with them & it was a long cold ride. The rest appeared to enjoy it but I did not.



It was 11 o'clock when we got to Stewarts. They treated us to cakes & apples & then retired. I awoke before light & called the rest up for was in a hurry to get home but was nearly 10 before we got started. Mrs Stuart went with us. Grand all well & washing ma had a gathering in her ear but was better yes. I have been home again & not seen Wm. What can be the matter surely something has changed the love he said would never grow cold. We have not seen each other for 2 months & only 7 ms. apart. But I am to proud to make any advances when we do meet till I know the cause of this long silence.

Jan  
Tues. 15

Here I am a scholar this morning instead of a teacher & at Pontanell too. I come up yesterday in the greatest storm we have had this winter. Mrs Bally brought me to Greenfield then Mrs Myers brought six of our teachers over here. Dida & I called on Mrs Taylor last night. I had not seen her since she was married. She has a little one & is quite sick. It is about time to go to the Institute & have to go alone for May is sick. Kit is at the Fort will be gone all week.

Jan/66

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Wedn. 14 It is after breakfast. A young man called to see  
May. She is better. It is quite cold. Guess we will  
have a good time at the Institute had a good lecture  
last night. Must get ready to go.

Jan  
Sun, 28

When I last wrote I was attending the Institute but  
have taught a week & been home since. The Institute  
passed very pleasantly & profitably to us all. I do en-  
joy going so much & I went regularly till the last  
even it was very cold & stormy. May was not able to  
go any. Yet brought me down Sun. Found a Minister  
& wife here so we all went to meeting at night.  
The week passed like other weeks & Fri found me  
wondering if I would get a chance to go home. And  
sure enough before night who should drive up but  
Wm. I was surprised & delighted but would rather  
not meet him in school but it could not be helped.  
I dismissed early. Of course we had plenty to talk  
about but I was anxious to have the long absence  
explained which he did but not exactly to my  
liking but it done for an excuse & I let it pass.



Our folks were surprised to see us but Alice soon got  
 us some supper & we spent the evening with us  
 The next morning it was snowing some but I had  
 to wash & just got done when Petavos came but  
 I sewed & visited & the girls done the house-work  
 At night Wm. came to take me a sleighriding & we  
 went over to Prays new store & when we got back our  
 folks were all gone up to Huldahs so we went on for  
 it was <sup>near</sup> his home. His baby was not very well so  
 we staid late & it was near 12 before we got home  
 & to bed. When I awake I found Caliga had got  
 home from the party she went to the eve before. We  
 all had invites but Alice & I did not accept for we  
 had not got over our Christmas party yet. I soon  
 aroused her to learn the particulars & we had nothing  
 but party for some time but I had to get ready to  
 come back to school & was just ready as Wm. came  
 It was nearly noon when we started & come by to see  
 how Huldahs baby was found it better  
 What <sup>all</sup> we said on the road it matters not to tell  
 but when we got here we were united more strongly

Jan 1866

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than ever in the bonds of love. yes I have promised to be his wife (how curious that sounds) if mother does not object & I am most sure she won't. I don't believe I will ever repent my choice yet he is not as affectionate as I wish he was. He took my answer as cool as if it was a small occurrence yet it was the third time he had asked me & I did not think I loved him well enough to accept before. Perhaps our separation done me good & I know my own heart better now. He is very thoughtful & kind & I know he loves me dearly. I don't know when I will see him again for I don't believe in having beans away from home.

We are having a jolly time tonight. Mrs. Bally has been laughing at me as usual. I do think so much of her we have had a good time this winter. Shall miss her a great deal when school is out which will be one month then home again for a little while. What will I do when I leave for always but it is only two mrs. to Mrs. home. He is fixing the house some.



Dec 30

It is a very pleasant evening. I just come from school & must scrawl & write the first thing. I had company yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Bally Miller & Wilson came in & we had a nice time. The children were quite orderly & sang real well. We are here alone Mrs. Bally has gone to mill.

Dec.  
Mon 5

Supper is most ready but I am not hungry have only eat a piece of cake since breakfast. My appetite is real poor this winter. I guess Mrs. Bally will take me home Sat. We went over to Middle River to attend protracted meeting last Fri. but found it was 7 ms. farther so only went one night. Was a great deal of interest manifested. I heard a meeting would begin at the Osborn school house next week. Oh how I hope & pray that Wm. will take an interest in it. Mrs. Borman & wife came a little while ago. I am making tatten.

Fri 9

Well here it is Fri night. I count time by the fri nights but have only two more to count. Mrs. B. will take me home tomorrow. Sister Fida & family went down today stopped for me but I couldn't

1866

Feb.

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go then It is warm & cloudy as if it would rain. Mrs. Bally took Mrs. Bowman to Greenfield yesterday, <sup>his wife staid here</sup> I had tea about ready when she got home. Was trying how housekeeping would go & I guess I done fine. I have got my new apron, <sup>on</sup> that Mrs. Bally gave me. I have made a collar & some tatter for her this week & been to meeting two evenings & staid at Mrs. Augustines one night.

Nov. 12 The other women have gone up stairs to fix some beds for trappers & I guess its about bed time but I must write the news first. Sat. morning was cloudy & stormy & seemed rather jibberous about going home but we started about 10 & it cleared off but got colder by noon. We found a house full to welcome us & dinner about ready. Huldah & Dida & families & Mrs. Stuart were there. We intended to go to meeting at night but it got so cold. The next morning I made a fire & milked & the others got breakfast. Then we got ready for meeting but when we went to the wagon Roy had put the harness on the wrong horses & the horses on the wrong side & we had to change them & just got ready to start when



Let & Wm. come. Wm. said he come down to go to meeting  
 with us so he got in & we went to Mr. Badley's & left  
 the team as it was but a little way to church.  
 How good it seemed to go to meeting again & understand  
 the sermon & it was such a good one too. It was most  
 night when we got home all right. I suppose Wm. is  
 at meeting now. I wish I was there too. How it be  
 that we are soon to ~~be~~ enjoy each others society all the time  
 & I shall try to act so he will not rue his choice.

Dec 13 O what a beautiful winter morning. It has been a  
 snowing & the wind did not blow & the trees & bushes  
 are loaded with snow & every thing looks so light white  
 & feathery but at the least motion or touch it all  
 falls off. Some will have sleighrides now but I can not for  
 must be at school. If it was not for that there would  
 be some prospect. It is for the best as it is & I am  
 content. It is a great pleasure to me to teach the children.  
 God bless them. What would the world be without them.  
 Only 7 more days & I will be free till summer terms  
 begin. I want to get the school at home if I can.



Feb  
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They want me here again but I want to be at home  
It is now recess still snows slowly but pleasantly  
The trappers have left us & Mr Bally has gone to take  
along to Wm's mill I got a letter from Mrs. Peters  
they live away West They were getting along very well  
said there is a young man out there who said I was  
the very girl for him. Shouted him exactly & wants  
my photo He judges by my letters I wonder what  
Mr. would say to that I wonder if he thinks of  
me as often as I do of him Alice's health is quite poor  
again She has been to Winterset a week attending meeting

Wed. 14

Dear one If this aint Valentine day & O what a cold one  
I believe it is the coldest stormyest day we have had  
this winter have only 4 scholars I come up & made a  
fire but the house is not warm yet Mr Bally offered  
to come but I did not know it was so cold Wonder if  
I will get a Valentine It will be the first one if I  
do Wonder how our folks get along doing the chores this  
morning O how cold it is shall not stay here till  
night I am making tatten for Mrs Bally to send to



her sister who is to be married the 1<sup>st</sup> of March. She is about my age. I wonder how the meeting <sup>down the river</sup> prospers. Last sabbath was communion & what a blessed time it was. I hesitated awhile before going forward. The thoughts of our Christmas trouble & my feelings toward some kept me back but I prayed for strength & fully & freely forgave them. Should such a thing keep us from Heaven? God forbid & O Father help me to set such an example before others as becometh a christian.

Feb  
Sun 18

Sabbath eve again & away from home yet but it won't be so much longer for I get my discharge soon. How different are my feelings tonight from what they were three months ago. Then I was entering a stranger school & did not know what the future three months would be success or failure but tonight I can say success & it is with regret that I bid adieu to my children & friends here. I have heard not complaint whatever about the school. I want the parents to all come Thurs. for that is the last day. Tomorrow is Gools sale they intend to go to Kansas but I

Feb 1866

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do hope they will give it up. Our family is mostly  
grown & will soon be scattered. But O Father grant  
that we may all be reunited in heaven.

Fri 28

Well here I am at home once more to stay awhile &  
I am so glad. It is very cold today. School was out  
yesterday. Mother & Roy come up after me & we all  
had such a good time at school & the children done  
so well. There were a good many there. I tried  
to sing the parting song but broke down. The children  
all cried & it affected me greatly & it was hard to  
say good by especially Mrs. Baily & Josie. But all over  
we started for home but did not get here till after  
dark. Huldah's baby has a swelling behind its ear  
& is quite unwell. Guess I will go over to writing  
school if it is not too cold tonight.

March  
Mon 12

It is almost dark & I feel lonely & sleepy. There  
is no one here but Huldah & children & myself.  
Ma has gone to warp a piece. Alice & Eliza is  
over the river. Since I wrote I have been to



1866 Winterset visiting staid over a week & Mattie  
 come home with me Tues. Wedn. Lill W. & Lige  
 Pierce was married. They had a grand wedding  
 & lots of folks there & invited Eliza but didn't  
 ask Alice & I. But Mattie was here & we had  
 plenty of fun over our slight & we do not recognize  
 any acquaintanceships with any of them when we  
 meet them in public & they look & act as guilty  
 as though they had been stealing sheep. Lucy  
 & Ann Carson went to Win - the same day & was  
 married & Mattie D. & J. White were married the  
 next day & last week was not much of a time for  
 weddings either. I got a drab Moreno dress  
 & am making it today. It cost \$9 but  
 have been wanting one so long thought I  
 would get it any way. Is trimmed with cable  
 cord & tassels.

April  
 24

yes here I am past 20 y. old & so tired  
 yesterday I had a birthday party & a good  
 time of course. The girls came in the morning

~~March~~ 1866  
April

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To quilt & the boys at 3 o'clock to stay till  
after tea. There was a nice shower in the  
morning & we feared it might spoil our fun  
but it cleared off & here they come. We worked  
real good & steady till the boys came then  
they had to help & so work soon stopped &  
did not get near done. Had a nice supper  
& company left at dark. The rest done the  
work & I had nothing to do but entertain  
& have a good time. So passed my 20<sup>th</sup> birth  
day. Will those in the future be as bright  
if not I can look back with pleasure to one  
bright spot in the past. We went to a  
wedding the 7<sup>th</sup> of this month the second one  
I ever attended. It was Rob Badley & Kate  
Greer. Of course we had a good time "who  
ever didn't." I am to teach the school at  
home this summer & must go to Winterset in  
a few days for a certificate.



May 10 1846 Dear Journal how you are neglected  
 of late & you have been such a faithful  
 friend of my girlhood & these days will soon  
 be over then this volume will be done &  
 another begun then what will be the record  
 It is hard to tell "One to cherish who may  
 grieve me One to trust who may deceive me"  
 Time only can prove we are to be married  
 the 6<sup>th</sup> of Sept & so much to do before that  
 I intend to get the house plastered & things  
 comfortable for ma before I leave her That is  
 my only grief I fear nothing in the future  
 for myself Wm. is as devoted as I could  
 wish when we are alone but in public he  
 hardly notices me I hardly like such a  
 marked difference but it is his way I suppose  
 He says he can't understand me yet I am  
 so different from others & I surely don't under-  
 stand him but I do not doubt his love

Hark to the bugles shrill calling  
 As it pierces the soft summer air  
 Tears from the <sup>Soldiers</sup> Comrades are falling  
 For their brave gallant Comrad is gone  
 Chorus

The bayonet earthward are turning  
 And the drums muffled breath rolls along  
 But he hears not the voice of the mourning  
 Nor awakes to the bugles call

Sleep soldier sleep the nation mourns thee  
 The first to depart to the fray  
 Long ere the nation shall forget thee  
 And thy name from the earth pass away  
 Chorus

Sleep soldier sleep the nation mourns thee  
 She needed thee the true and the brave  
 Why why did this evil befall thee  
 Why shrouded they thy form for the grave  
 Chorus



The old Musician & his harp

1<sup>st</sup> years have come and passed away  
Golden locks have turned to gray  
Golden ringlets once so fair  
Time has changed to silvery hair  
Yes I neared the rivers side  
Soon I'll launch upon its tide  
Soon my boat with noiseless oar  
Soon will glide to yonder shore

Cho. Bring my harp to me again  
 Let me sing some gentle strain  
 Let me feel those chords once more  
 Ere I pass to your bright shore

2nd O those chords with magic power  
 Take me back to childhood hour  
 To the cot beside the sea  
 Where I knelt at Mother's knee  
 But that Mother she is gone  
 Calm she sleeps beneath the stone  
 While I wander here alone  
 Sighing for a brighter home

Cho.  
 3d Where is now that happy group  
 Once so full of joy and hope  
 Happy voices full of glee  
 None are here to speak to me  
 All alone upon the stream



Olden days seem but a dream  
 Soon I'll meet the loved ones gone  
 Soon again we'll meet at home

Cho.

4<sup>th</sup>

Fathers counsel Mothers prayers  
 Round their children every where  
 In my dreams I hear them yet  
 Lonely hearts cannot forget  
 Parents brothers sisters too  
 All were called and had to go  
 I alone am here today  
 Dear old home has passed away

Chorus

5<sup>th</sup>

Soon I'll be among the blest  
 Where the weary are at rest  
 Soon I'll tread the golden shore  
 Singing praises evermore  
 Yes my boat is on the stream  
 I can see its waters gleam  
 Soon I'll be where angels roam  
 Dear old harp I'm going home

Chorus

# Colon Elsworth funeral

1<sup>st</sup> Hark to the bugles shrill calling  
As it pierces the soft summer air  
Tears from the Gouaves are falling  
For the brave gallant Elsworth's not there  
The bayonets earthward are turning  
And the drums muffled breath rolls along  
But he hears not the voice of the mourning  
Nor awakes at the bugles call

2<sup>nd</sup> Sleep Soldier though many regret thee  
Who stand around thy cold bier today  
Soon soon shall the fondest forget thee  
And thy name from the earth pass away  
And he who didn't love thee as brother  
A friend in thy place will have gained  
Thy dog shall keep watch for another  
And thy steel by a stranger be reined

3<sup>d</sup> Those who mourn for the sadly  
Soon joyous as ever will be  
And thy bright orphan boy will laugh gladly



As he sits on some brave comrade's knee

A friend to the true & the brave  
Now sad in her youth and her beauty  
She weeps over a soldier's grave

Written April 11 1885

## Consolation

1<sup>st</sup>

Drooping souls no longer grieve  
 Heaven is propitious

If on Christ you do believe  
 You will find him precious  
 Jesus now is passing by  
 Calling mourners to him

He has died for you and I  
 Now look up & view him

2<sup>nd</sup>

O behold his hands his side  
 Streams a flowing fountain  
 See the consolation tide

Boundless as the Ocean  
 See the living waters move  
 For the sick and dying  
 Now resolve to gain his love  
 Or to perish trying

3<sup>d</sup>

Streaming mercy how it flows  
 Now I know I feel it  
 Half has never yet been told



But I want to tell it  
 Jesus blood has healed my wounds  
 O the wondrous story  
 I was lost but now I'm found  
 Glory glory glory

24<sup>th</sup>

Glory to the Saviors name  
 Saints are bound to praise him  
 Mourners you may do the same  
 Only come and prove him  
 Hasten to the Saviors love  
 Feel it and declare it  
 O that I could sing so loud  
 All the world might hear it

5<sup>th</sup>

If no greater joys were known  
 In the upper region  
 I would try to travel on  
 In this pure religion  
 Jesus here and Jesus there  
 Saints are here & yonder  
 Bright the seraphs shine around  
 While the angels wonder

April 23 1881 Well well here I am 35 yrs. old today  
 What an old lady I am to be sure but dont know  
 as I feel any older than I did at 20 & people do  
 say I have not changed much in looks I do  
 believe a great deal depends on keeping the heart  
 young to keep our looks young & my life seems such  
 a happy one with such a good man & 4 good smart  
 children Yesterday a fat good natured pretty child of  
 nine months we have recently moved to a place  
 one mile from Redfield Dallas Co. Iowa It  
 is a pretty place in the village of Prescott can see  
 the narrow gauge cars pass a gr. North of us we have  
 a nice large orchard & plenty of small fruits Brother  
 Elias & wife are here he was married the 16 of Dec.  
 Alice has gone to Arizona to live she is quite wealthy  
 but dont believe she sees the enjoyment & do home  
 enjoyment I mean Lida has been sick since Jan &  
 I have not been to see her It seems so strang we are  
 all so old she has been grandma over a year has  
 three children at home yet Arthur Lida & Effie they  
 live at Fontainebleau yet Octavo William Roy & Lizzie  
 live in the old neighborhood I have not been there for  
 more than two yrs. I



Sun. Aug 19/44

It is now twilight & sabbath eve, We have been to sabbath school, class meeting, & heard Mr. Graham preach at 8 o'clock & a long walk home. Have had supper & the chores done & sang some pieces & now have given myself up to reflection & meditation.

Of course my mind turns back to home & friends of old & I feel lonely & forsaken but a voice speaks in the cheering text "Ye I am with you always" & I think with delight that will be my subject of thought for this week for what words could be more appropriate & welcome at such a time. He means to say though far from most loved friends though sad & lonely in whatever circumstances & conditions you are placed do not be discouraged for "Ye I am with you" what else need you wish for. Have not I promised to help in every time of need? to overcome temptation to strengthen in weakness to guard in danger to comfort in sorrow. Can you not trust me when I have given you so many promises & have I deceived you in any. And we feel to exclaim like doubting Thomas "My Lord & my God."

O if we could always feel the truth of those words  
 That Jesus is indeed with us always not at stated times  
 but always how would the impatient or wicked words  
 be hushed or the gossip among those who claim to be  
 his people or how would the guilty who perpetrates crime  
 in the darkness of night feel if the words "Ye I am  
 with you" were suddenly brought to mind for these words  
 could be used to denounce as well as cheer

O sad lonely & despairing heart cheer up your  
 Savior is with you & has promised to provide a way  
 of escape from every temptation & help bear every affliction  
 & be with you always What more can you ask unless  
 it is a will to be like him A contented & happy spirit  
 to be obedient to his wishes "Ye I am with you always"  
 blessed assurance What are the petty cares & troubles  
 when these words come to mind Not only in these  
 words does the same promise exist but in others similar  
 In the 43 & 44 chapt of Isaiah he says time & again  
 "Fear not I am with you" & to the disciples in their  
 trouble on the deep he says "It is I be not afraid"  
 & many others



The poet Kennedy must have been considering this subject when he composed his hymn which says  
 Fear not I am with you I be not dismayed.

I I am thy God & will still be thy aid  
 I'll strengthen thee help thee & cause thee to stand  
 upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand &c

As I sit & ponder on the greatness of the love that prompted the utterance of all these precious promises & say in my heart "What is man that Thou art mindful of him or the son of man that thou dost visit him" with such rich grace & blessings till the darkness ends my meditation & the wants of the children claim my attention.

Apr 2<sup>nd</sup> 1800

While I sit here at twilight in my easy chair so tired & so tired with my day's work & tired in mind with the almost constant demands upon me a sudden thought almost a voice come "Where is your burden bearer" also "Cast your care on one who careth for you" Then I think with a sigh has He not borne enough for me already

Then a new thought comes It does not burden him it is your thoughts of Him & His And his many promises sends a glow into your heart & you forget your burdens & the tired feeling just as the story of the two disciples who were going from Jerusalem to Emmaus & Jesus walked with them They were tired discouraged & disappointed because Jesus had been put to death when they trusted it was he who should redeem Israel but when they found it was Jesus who walked & talked



with them they said "Did not our hearts  
burn within us as he talked to us by  
the way" So he will talk to us by  
the way if we listen to his words &  
forget we are tired or discouraged &  
the burden will fall to the ground -  
like Pilgrims not on this shoulders to  
bear And our hearts will glow with  
a brightness nothing else will produce  
And as the darkness deepens  
& I still sit & ponder & wonder why we  
ever try to carry our own burdens when  
we know by experience "He is a present  
help at all times" & I feel rested &  
refreshed by the thoughts & close ~~by~~ with  
the old hymn

Barry with me blessed Jesus  
Leave me not till morning light  
For I'm lonely here without you  
Barry with me through the night

Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> 1882. I must drop all business today sure for  
 it is our anniversary & write a little in this dear old  
 friend for dear but neglected for other things & what  
 better can be expected of an old woman (I wouldn't I  
 want any one else to call me that) been married 16 years  
 today at 1 o'clock how uncertain the future seemed that  
 day & although the present was so bright & today as I  
 look back over the past I can truly say "Surely goodness  
 & mercy has followed me all the days of my life."  
 Today is a bright pleasant day Will is at home same  
 older & better than 16 years ago rather gray & some bald  
 but the same tease of old. Geo. Arlis & Sylvia are at  
 school nice good children of which anyone might be  
 proud & little Gustav the pet is busy around the  
 house so cute with his talk. we have lots of fruit this  
 year & it seems so good to have all we want & a good  
 garden too. Crops of all kinds are good. Our family  
 & Ma's family are still living. Zigga has her 5<sup>th</sup> girl  
 Rozzy have 4 children. Dida is still ailing. I was over  
 there this spring have not been to the old home yet  
 but expect to go this month. I like to live here real  
 well for have a pretty place & such good church privileges



Will & the two oldest boys have joined the Methodist church with me & I have been Sup't. of the Sabbath school almost a year the average att. 40 The little girls have met here every Mon. 2 o'clock to sing it makes me feel young & like old times to teach children to sing  
 April 23/83

As I only write on stated occasions this is one of them & a cold rain day it is & while I was washing dishes a neighbor & family came to stay the day & he & his wife went ducking got 8 & I always enjoy visiting with him he still lives at Redfield & our place looks nice the house is roomy but old Some think the apple trees are ruined with the cold winter but can't tell yet ours are nothing green but maybe there is life enough to do but if they die here plenty grass & flowers & our early morn'g is ready to cultivate There is not much work yet Leon works at home & takes music lessons of Miss Randolph, Letis & Sylvester go to school Yester helped my one dog I am 37 & hardly a bit grey Teeth good, cheeks <sup>red</sup> good & quite a corny Matron I suppose a 'bailist' would express it I don't remember what I was doing

on very many birthdays but 17 yrs. today had a quilting  
the girls come in the morning the boys at three & staid  
till after tea of course had a good time & nearly all  
were living the last I know of them I love to think  
of the past there are so many bright spots & to read this  
book brings up so many pleasant memories Good by  
shall I be here to write in this a year from today

April 23 1885 I have washed & mopped & now have  
fixed up to act the lady the rest of the day & by the  
looks it will be elderly lady at that 38 I suppose  
yes & quite wrinkled & homely I can see but I am  
trying to be that much better It is cold & raining  
as it seems to be every year I have written in this  
we are now living in our old home in Dexter  
Iowa we lived here five years & moved away nine  
yrs. ago but it seemed like coming home we rented  
here for the children to have better schools Leon  
is in the Normal school here, the others attend the  
public school are all good scholars for their ages.  
Will works in the furniture store he has very  
poor health The rest of us have good health  
& my relatives have been spared to me



Mills Bro. Jerry died the 24 of last pass. with  
Paralysis he suffered about 8 years We have not made  
garden yet it has been so rainy but the grass is  
large enough for cattle to live on it

The neighbors have not been very friendly as yet but  
we all attend S. School & meetings which is a great  
blessing for we all love to go & when I look at our  
4 big children I think that my life has not been  
in vain & I praise the Lord for the promises to our  
children as well as to us Well good by old journal  
good by till next time As thou wast a true friend in  
my youth so we will trust the in age Good by

Rebecca Barker

## ■■■■■■■■■■ DARLING.

216  
Into a ward of the whitewashed halls,  
Where the dead and the dying lay,  
Wounded by bayonets, shells and balls,  
Somebody's darling was borne one day—  
Somebody's darling, so young and so brave,  
Wearing yet on his pale, sweet face,  
Soon to be hid by the dust of the grave,  
The lingering light of his boyhood's grace.

Matted and damp are the curls of gold,  
Kissing the snow of the fair, young brow,  
Pale are the lips of delicate mold—  
Somebody's darling is dying now.  
Back from his beautiful blue-veined brow,  
Brush all the wandering waves of gold;  
Cross his hands on his bosom now—  
Somebody's darling is still and cold.

Kiss him once for somebody's sake,  
Murmur a prayer both soft and low;  
One bright curl from its fair mates take—  
They are somebody's pride, you know;  
Somebody's hand hath rested there—  
Was it a mother's, soft and white?  
And have the lips of a sister fair  
Been baptized in their waves of light?

God knows best! He was somebody's love;  
Somebody's heart enshrined him there;  
Somebody wafted his name above,  
Night and morn on the wings of prayer.  
Somebody wept when he marched away,  
Looking so handsome, brave and grand;  
Somebody's kiss on his forehead lay,  
Somebody clung to his parting hand.

Somebody's waiting and watching for him,  
Yearning to hold him again to her heart;  
And there he lies with his blue eyes dim,  
And the smiling child-like lips apart,  
Tenderly bury the fair young dead,  
Pausing to drop on his grave a tear;  
Carve in the wooden slab at his head,  
"Somebody's darling slumbers here."  
—Marie R. Lacoste.



# Lament of the Irish Emigrant.

I'm sitting on the stile, Mary,  
Where we sat side by side,  
On a bright morning long ago,  
When met you were my bride.  
The corn was springing fresh and green,  
And the lark sang loud and high,  
And the red was on thy lip, Mary,  
And the love light in your eye.

The place is little changed, Mary,  
The day is bright as then:  
The lark's loud song is in my ear,  
And the corn is green again!  
But I miss the soft clasp of your hand,  
And your breath warm on my cheek,  
And I still keep listening for the words  
You never more may speak.

'Tis but a step down yonder lane,  
And the little church stands near:  
The church where we were wed, Mary,  
Face the spire from here:  
But the grave-yard lies between, Mary,  
And my step might break your rest:  
For, I've said you, darling down to sleep,  
With your baby on your breast;

I'm very lonely now, Mary:  
You, that your mother made no new friends!  
Oh! thy love then better far,  
Than the dear Father sends,  
And you were all I had, Mary,  
My blessing and my pride;  
There's nothing left to care for now,  
Since my poor Mary died.

I'm bidding you a long farewell,  
My Mary kind and true;  
But I'll not forget you, darling,  
In the land I'm going to:  
They say there's bread and work for all,  
And the sun shines always there;  
But I'll not forget old Ireland,  
Were it fifty times as fair.

And often in those grand old woods,  
I'll sit and shut my eyes,  
And my heart will travel back again,  
To the place where Mary lies:  
And I'll think I see the little stile  
Where we sat side by side,  
And the springing corn, and bright May  
morn,  
When first you were my bride.

## BE KIND TO THE LOVED ONES AT HOME.

1. Be kind to thy father; for when thou wert young,  
Who loved thee so fondly as he?  
He caught the first accents that fell from thy tongue,  
And joined in thy innocent glee.
2. Be kind to thy father; for now he is old,  
His locks intermingled with gray;  
His footsteps are feeble, once fearless and bold:  
Thy father is passing away.
3. Be kind to thy mother; for lo! on her brow  
May traces of sorrow be seen;  
O, well may'st thou cherish and comfort her now;  
For loving and kind she hath been.
4. Remember thy mother; for thee will she pray  
As long as God giveth her breath;  
With accents of kindness then cheer her lone way,  
E'en to the dark valley of death.
5. Be kind to thy brother; his heart will have dearth  
If the smile of thy joy be withdrawn;  
The flowers of feeling will fade at their birth  
If the dew of affection be gone.
6. Be kind to thy brother; wherever you are,  
The love of a brother shall be  
An ornament purer and richer by far  
Than pearls from the depths of the sea.
7. Be kind to thy sister; not many may know  
The depth of true sisterly love;  
The wealth of the ocean lies fathoms below  
The surface that sparkles above.
8. Thy kindness shall bring to thee many sweet hours,  
And blessings thy pathway to crown;  
Affection shall weave thee a garland of flowers,  
More precious than wealth or renown.

A MAIDEN'S SOLILOQUY.

ANNIE L. LESLIE.

'Tis wondrous strange,  
How great the change,  
Since I was in my teens,  
Then I had beaux  
And billets-doux,  
And joined the gayest scenes.  
But lovers now have ceased to vow;  
No way they can contrive  
To poison, hang, or drown themselves,  
Because—I'm thirty-five!

Once if the night  
Were e'er so bright  
I ne'er abroad could roam,  
Without, "The bliss, the honor, miss,  
Of seeing you safe home!"  
But now I go  
Through rain and snow,  
Fatigued, and scarce alive;  
Through all the dark,  
Without a spark,  
Because—I'm thirty-five!

They used to call,  
And ask me all  
About my health so frail;  
And thought a ride  
Would help my side,  
And make my cheeks less pale;  
But now, alas! if I am ill  
None cares that I revive,  
And my pale cheek  
In vain may speak,  
Because—I'm thirty-five!

Now if a ride improves my side,  
I'm forced to take a stage,  
For that is deemed quite proper  
For a person of my age.  
And then no hand is offered me  
To help me out alive;  
They think 'twon't hurt me now to fall,  
Because—I'm thirty-five!

O, dear, 'tis queer  
That every year  
I'm slighted more and more;  
For not a beau pretends to show  
His head within our door;  
Nor ride, nor card, nor soft address,  
My spirits now revive;  
And one might near as well be dead,  
As say—"I'm thirty-five!"

THE GYPSY'S WARNING.

Trust him not, O Gentle Lady,  
Though his voice be low and sweet,  
Heed not him who kneels before thee,  
Softly pleading at thy feet.  
Now thy life is in its morning;  
Cloud not this thy happy lot,  
Listen to the Gypsy's warning,  
Gentle Lady, trust him not,

Lady, once there lived a maiden,  
Young and pure, and like thee fair;  
Yet he wooed, he wooed and won her,  
Thrilled her gentle heart with care.  
Then he heeded not her weeping,  
He cared not her life to save!  
Soon she perished—now she's sleeping  
In the cold and silent grave!

Lady, turn not from me so coldly;  
For I have only told the truth,  
From a stern and withering sorrow,  
Lady, I would shield thy youth.  
I would shield thee from all danger,  
Shield thee from the tempter's snare  
Lady, shun the dark-eyed stranger,  
I have warned thee—now beware.

Take your gold; I do not want it,  
Lady, I have prayed for this,  
For the hour that I might foil him,  
And rob him of expected bliss.  
Aye, I see thou art filled with wonder  
At my look so fierce and wild,  
Lady, in the churchyard yonder  
Sleeps the Gipsy's only child.



215  
Sept 6  
1876

Wednesday & O what a rainy day & this  
is over 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary so I believe I won't  
work much but enjoy myself as well as I  
can & think of the past especially 10 yrs.  
ago today. Then at half past one select  
our old minister Mrs Ewing asked the  
solemn questions which united me to the  
man of my choice. How plainly it all comes  
to mind today. Let me see yes the last  
year has been the happiest of the 10 &  
today I feel that I have been blest far above  
what I deserve. Our children have all been  
spared to us & my husband is all that I had  
expected kind & affectionate. I have never been  
left all night alone yet. If business calls him  
away he provides other company & I am sure  
he will be home as soon as possible. He is  
at home today & often refers to 10 yrs. ago.  
He does not seem much older than then &  
old friends tell me I have not changed.  
I don't seem to feel older for my health.

is very good. We are living on a farm now &  
I am very busy drying wild fruit. We like it  
much better than town life.



Apr 23<sup>d</sup> 1904

Dear old journal it has been long long since I have written & now this is my 58<sup>th</sup> birth day & how busy I have been It is Sat & we washed then I cleaned the cellar then dressed up & walked to Broadway (about 3/4 mile) to get some things & still don't feel tired

We are living in Denver Colorado & have a beautiful home far nicer than I ever dream<sup>ed</sup> of having It is of brick & has 7 rooms & every thing so nice & convenient Our children all live in the city & all married but Mabel our youngest a boy 15 yrs. old & Effie Shamus a niece the same age live with us

How much I have to be thankful for & how often I have proved the old song I have always loved "Even down to old age all my people shall prove my sovereign eternal unchangeable love And when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn Like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne" Blessed promise blessed hope but it's same

as if I am getting only as I look in the  
glass for I am most always so old.



Bright's Disease Warner's Safe Kidney &  
Liner Cure

Wm. B. French  
 1871  
 Wm. B. French  
 1871

Kidney disease Sweet spr Nitre 2 oz 25c

Oil sweet almonds 2 oz

Surpentine 1 oz

A teaspoon full every three or 4 hours  
To retain urine

Lincture Cantharides for a child 6 to 10  
drops twice a day

### Diabetes

Beth root Black cohosh root Geranium root &  
Cherry bark 1/2 oz each powder & mix well  
1/2 oz of powder 1 pt boiling water when cold drink  
during the day Pills Podophyllin 10 grs

Sanguinaria 20

Cayenne 40

Lupinus 20

Take <sup>one</sup> night & morn Make 40 pills

Baldness prevented

1/2 oz Castor oil 8 oz Gamacassarum 20 dr oil  
lavender 10 drops oil rose

1 teaspoon Supercarbonate of soda once or  
twice per day



- 255 Names & address of correspondents from 1860 to 1865
- 1<sup>st</sup> Wm O. Lee, Co. D. 1<sup>st</sup> Iowa Cav.
  - 2<sup>d</sup> Oliver B. Barker .. .. .
  - 3<sup>d</sup> C. C. Stewart Co. F. 4<sup>th</sup> Iowa Inf.
  - 4<sup>th</sup> J. H. Torrance .. .. .
  - 5<sup>th</sup> W. C. Wright Co. K .. .. .
  - 6<sup>th</sup> W. Kobley, Co. H .. .. .
  - 7<sup>th</sup> B. Pearson Co. H .. .. .
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Wm Barker Co. .. 23<sup>d</sup> Reg. Iowa Inf.
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Alexander Shepherd .. .. .
  - 10<sup>th</sup> B. A. Bonhams Co. .. 5<sup>th</sup> Iowa Cav.
  - 11<sup>th</sup> F. M. Smith Co. F. 4<sup>th</sup> .. Inf.
  - 12<sup>th</sup> A. Thornburne Co. G. 9<sup>th</sup> .. ..
  - 13<sup>th</sup> J. H. Opperson Co. H. 4<sup>th</sup> .. ..
  - Jerry Wilson 4<sup>th</sup> Cav.
  - Louie Wilson 4<sup>th</sup> Cav.

4 gr

as

la

8.

25 cts gr

80 lbs



