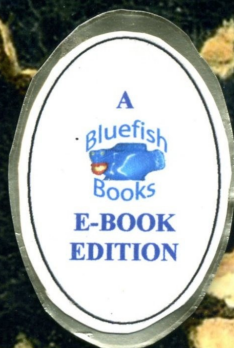


William F. Short's
1854
Diary

Transcribed and edited by
Virginia & John Cowart





THE 1854 DIARY OF WILLIAM FLETCHER. SHORT

Transcribed and Edited
by
John & Virginia. Cowart

Bluefish Books



**Cowart Communications
Jacksonville, Florida**

www.bluefishbooks.info

THE 1854 DIARY OF WILLIAM FLETCHER.
SHORT. Copyright © 2009 by John W. Cowart. All rights reserved. Printed in the United States of America by Lulu Press. Apart from reasonable fair use practices, no part of this book's text may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission from the publisher except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles or reviews. For information address Bluefish Books, 2805 Ernest St., Jacksonville, Florida, 32205.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
has been applied for. Lulu Press # 7408827.

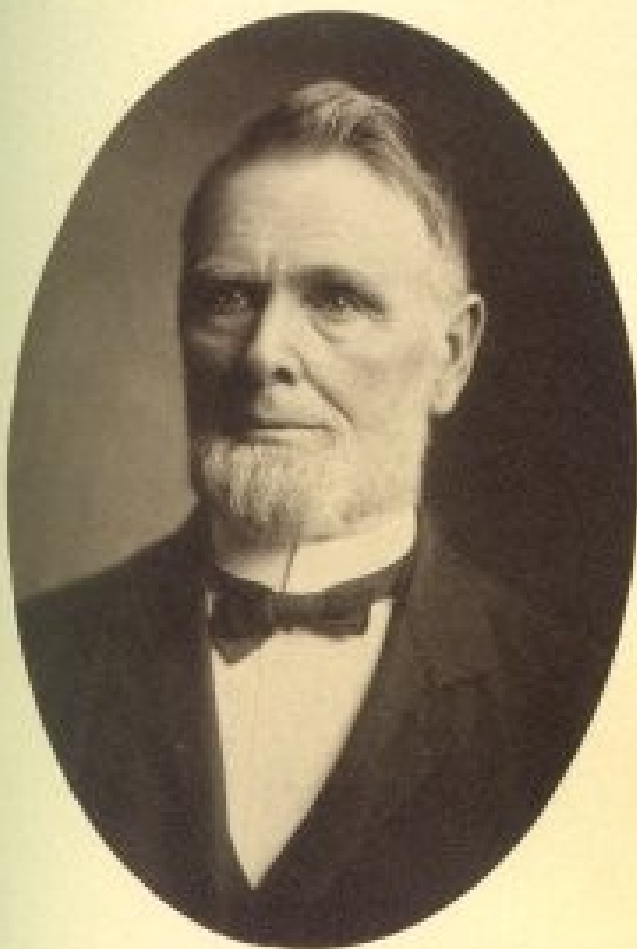
Lithograph illustrations from the Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs
Division at <http://memory.loc.gov/pp/pphome.html> .

Bluefish Books



**Cowart Communications
Jacksonville, Florida**

www.bluefishbooks.info



William F. Short

**William Fletcher Short
in photo taken about 1900
Almost 50 years after this diary was
written.**



CONTENTS

Introduction	
Forepiece	
Transcript of Short's 1854 Diary	
Page 7	
Biographical profile of William F. Short	
..... Page 62	
Scanned pages from Short's Diary	
..... Page 65	
Pages From The Editor's Own Diary	
Page 105	



INTRODUCTION

by

John W. Cowart

William Fletcher Short wrote more between the lines of his 1854 diary than he did on its pages.

His diary reveals the young minister's aspirations and ideals as well as his temptations.

In 1854 Short began his first job as the first principal of the Missouri Conference Seminary in Jackson, Missouri.

He wrote, "I feel there is great responsibility resting on me. Only as I am assisted from on high will I be successful. I earnestly hope this institution may become a great moral nucleus around which will be gathered the interests of Christianity in this frontier of our state".

That was his professional interest; however, his diary reveals his struggle with a personal aspect of his life.

On January 11th, before he traveled from his home in Bloomington, Illinois, he proposed marriage to Miss. Sarah Belle Laning. She accepted.

Then he left for his new job in Missouri traveling by train, paddlewheel riverboat, and by horseback.

In Jackson, he met Miss. Amanda McGuire, a student at the seminary. Here reading between the lines becomes important. A strong attraction developed.

Yet he continued to write Miss Laning almost daily.

The plot thickens and physical temptation arises when he meets Miss Martha Scott at a religious camp meeting. "But grace triumphed over temptation", he writes.

The young teacher/preacher was no hypocrite. His diary records his confusion as he honestly seeks diving guidance about how he should live and which girl he should marry.

His diary records simple prayers for God's direction 21 times.

He longed for holiness and purity of heart and he wanted to order his life according to God's will.

He prays, "O Lord, I will praise Thee. My heart shall rejoice in Thy salvation. Suffer the tempter to have no power over me. My heart, my life, my all be Thine. Nor would I divide the gift. I will keep back no part of the price".

But his pocket diary is not by any means a work of religious agonizing:

Sharp uses the word *pleasant* 93 times in these pages; he uses the word *happy* 44 times—this was a man contented with the way his life was going.

While on the surface Short's little diary appears to be a simple listing of days, its element of suspense builds.

In transcribing and preparing this diary for publication, I divided my work into four sections. After this introduction, comes my transcription of the text. Since the diary is tiny—it measures only 3 X 4 ¾ inches

—and since Short did not always blot his ink before closing the book, blotches and faded pages sometimes make his words obscure. I have indicated my guesswork by the (?) symbol.

Where Short entered dated memoranda at the end of his diary, I have moved them forward in the text to append them to his regular chronology.

Because you can tell a lot about a person from his favorite Bible verses, I have included, as footnotes, the Scripture texts Short mentions.

Following the transcription comes a brief profile of Short's life; apparently he wrote this summary himself for an encyclopedia in 1906.

Inserted behind that, I've placed photo copies of the diary's pages—computer enhanced—so readers can check them against my rendering.

And lastly, this book contains a selection of pages from my own 2009 diary; they tell of the days I spent struggling to produce Short's diary for publication. Those pages reveal my thoughts, aggravations, and discoveries, as well as the processes I used preparing this work..

While Short's diary represents a typical daybook kept by Methodist ministers of that time period, his life resonates with the problems, temptations, and decision-making issues of real people in our time also

—John W. Cowart

William Fletcher Short's 1854 Diary

THE
POCKET DIARY,

FOR THE YEAR

1854:

FOR THE PURPOSE OF

REGISTERING EVENTS

OF

Past, Present, or Future Occurrence.

Calculated for one Year.

NEW-YORK:

LAMPORT, BLAKEMAN & LAW,

No. 8 Park Place.

1854.



THE 1854 DIARY OF WILLIAM FLETCHER SHORT

January

Sunday, January 1, 1854

Today I renew my covenant to live for God. This year I hope to make great advancement in spirituality and holiness. I preached at home. Text Luke 13:6-9¹. I rejoice that in these first days I offered the Savior to sinners.

Monday, January 2, 1854

When to Bloomington. Dined at Bro. McGee's in Springfield. Sister started for Jacksonville. Received

¹ Luke 13:6-9 He spake also this parable; A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none. Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground? And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it: And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down.



letters from Bros. Davis, Stagg, Bradshaw, Goodfellow, Beatty, and Deneen. Wrote Miss Laning.

Tuesday, January 3, 1854

Wrote letters to Father, Bros. Davis, Beatty, and Bradshaw. Heard three classes' recitations... Received a letter from W. Q. Pope. Mailed a letter to Miss Laning.

Wednesday, January 4, 1854

Received a letter from T.J. Caldwell. Wrote to Boston. Heard two recitations. Studied some. I experienced great solicitude in reference to the future. May the Lord direct aright.

Thursday, January 5, 1854

Wrote sister M.J.B— the day was very gloomy. Rained some. My thoughts are much placed upon the future. May the Lord direct my steps. I sink into His will.

Friday, January 6, 1854

Studied hard. The Sor (?) meeting was adjourned one week. How watchful I should be. Sin is so near. Lord keep me "unspotted from the world".

Saturday, January 7, 1854

Wrote F.G. Green. Bro. Barger and I went to the Hudson at night. Bro. B— preached. Spent the night at Bro. Simmon's. In the night was taken severely with the Ergsifelos (sic).

Sunday, January 8, 1854

Kept to my bed and took medicine all day. I have suffered most intently today but the Savior was never more precious and Heaven n'er seemed so near.

Monday, January 9, 1854

I am so very sick. Took medicine all day. I need grace to submit to my afflictions.

Tuesday, January 10, 1854

I am some better today but suffer greatly. My mind is not as much on myself as on other things. Hope to get back to Bloomington to morrow.

Wednesday, January 11, 1854

Feeling better. Took the morning train for B--. Received letters from Prest. Davis and R.M.. Moore. Wrote Bro. Davis. Received letters from Miss Laning and sister M. J. B. An important day in my history.

Memorandum—January 11, 1854—To day I received an answer to a proposal I recently made to one with whom I expect to share life's joys or ills. I feel very strangely indeed. I am perfectly happy yet there is something deeply solemn in it all. I trust everything has been directed by God. If so, all will be well. I made Him the Man Of My Counsel. May He favor us with divine direction. We will give ourselves up to altogether to Him. O Lord give us grace for sunshine and for storm. In life's bitterest hours may we still cleave to Thee. Help us to triumph here and then to reign above.

Thursday, January 12, 1854

Wrote Miss Laning and father. Received letters from Bro. Davis and Clifford. My health is not so good to day. I feel very happy.

Friday, January 13, 1854

Wrote Miss Laning, Bonny, T.J.Caldwell and Bro. Davis. It is exceeding cold. Prof. Goodfellow lectured in the chapel. I am happy in the Savior.

Saturday, January 14, 1854

This morning I took the cars for Funk's Grove. Spent the day and night at Bro. Funk's. The day passed very pleasantly away! Some religious enjoyment.

Sunday, January 15, 1854

Preached at Funk's Grove. Text I John 2:4,6². At night, First Peter 2:1³. Had good liberty both times. My

² I John 2:4-6 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

³ I Peter 2: 1-3 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, As newborn babes,



strength is almost gone. O Lord I will praise thee. Thou are my hiding place.

Monday, January 16, 1854

This morning early I came to Bloomington. Made my arrangements to go to (Illegible) Jackson. I feel solemn in view of what I have to do. Went to meeting at night.

Tuesday, January 17, 1854

Got ready to go home. Had my miniature taken. Went to meeting at night. I am and seeking the Lord.

Wednesday, January 18, 1854

Took the cars for Springfield. Had a fine ride. Met father. Came home on a sled. Was very glad to get home.

Thursday, January 19, 1854

Went to Baptist meeting. Wrote sister, M. J. Black. It is very pleasant to be at home. Nothing of special interest.

Friday, January 20, 1854

I (illegible) Sister Ellen's album. Wrote B. N. Monk and Sister M. J. Black. This has been an exceeding cold day.

Saturday, January 21, 1854

To day I expected to go to Petersburg but it was so cold I could not. I feel greatly disappointed. George Green spent the night with me.

Sunday, January 22, 1854

Father preached at home. After noon I went to Petersburg. Met my esteemed friend Miss Laning. Accompanied her to church. It is so pleasant to be with her. I spent the night at Bro. Peakes (?).

desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: f so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.



Monday, January 23, 1854

Spent the day with my dear Sarah Belle. Went with her to singing. I am perfectly happy in her company. Spent the night at Mr. Laning's.

Tuesday, January 24, 1854

I found it hard to part with my Sarah Belle. May the Lord take care of us. Came home. Received letters from Bros. Houts and Bradshaw. Wrote Miss Laning.

Wednesday, January 25, 1854

Wrote Bro. Bradshaw. Went to Mr. Green's. Prepared to start to Jackson to morrow. I dread the trip.

Thursday, January 26, 1854

Started to Jackson. Arrived at Illinois Landing about 8 o'clock. Could not cross the river and had to remain overnight

Friday, January 27, 1854

Crossed the river to St. Louis. Stayed at the Monroe House. Spent the day with Bro. Davis and met Bro. Houts. Preached at night. Text Gal.6:8⁴. Wrote Miss Laning. Spent the night with Bro. Houts.

Saturday, January 28, 1854

Was very busy making out a course of studies. At night I preached for the negroes. Text I Peter 2:1-7⁵. Had a glorious time.

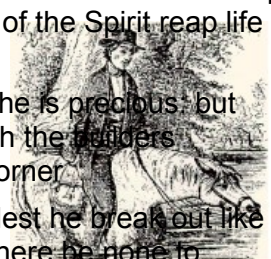
Sunday, January 29, 1854

Preached at Ebenezer Chapel at eleven. Text Amos 5:6⁶. Had a fine liberty. Bro. Davis was there for the

⁴ Galatians 6:8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

⁵ I Peter 2:7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner.

⁶ Amos 5:6 Seek the LORD, and ye shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel. Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth, Seek him that maketh the seven stars and



engraving, early 19th century.



negroes. Had sacrament. Bro. Houts preached at night. He is a neat workman.

Monday, January 30, 1854

Finished our circular. Wrote Miss Laning. May the Lord direct me aright. I dread the trip to Jackson.

Tuesday, January 31, 1854

This morning I started to Jackson. Rode 37 miles. Spent the night with Bro. Whitehead. Rather a rough time.

FEBRUARY

Wednesday, February 1, 1854

Traveled 23 miles through the roughest country I ever saw. Very lonely. Spent the (night) with Sister Pasten(?). Hers is a very interesting family. Miss Lusetta entertained me with music on the piano. I felt very pleasant.

Thursday, February 2, 1854

This has been a very unpleasant day for riding. Rode 35 miles. Spent the night with a North Carolinian. Was very entertained.

Friday, February 3, 1854

This has been a lovely day. Rode 30 miles. Arrived in Jackson in the evening. I was very glad to get there. Was pretty well pleased with the appearance of the place. Spent the night with Bro. Stagg.

Saturday, February 4, 1854

Wrote Miss Laning, Bro. Ollie, and Edward. Received letters from Ollie and Bro. McCorkle. Helped to get the seminary ready. The day was very lovely. Spent the night with Bro. Davis. It will be my home for awhile.

Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name:

**Sunday, February 5, 1854**

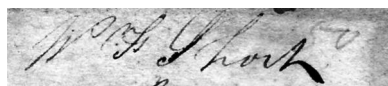
Preached at 11. Text Gal. 6-8⁷. Also at night text Amos 5:6. Had tolerable liberty. This has been a lovely day. I think much of my dear Sarah Belle. Oh, she was only with me.

Monday, February 6, 1854

Today I opened the mission Conf. Sem. 25 students entered. A pleasant day.

Memorandum—February 6th, 1854—Today I opened the first term of the Missouri Conference Seminary. Seventy-five students entered. Besides the classes in the primary and higher English, classes were organized in History. Two in Latin, one in Greek, one in algebra, and one in Geometry

I feel there is great responsibility resting on me. Only as I am assisted from on high will I be successful. I earnestly hope this institution may become a great moral nucleus around which will be gathered the interests of Christianity in this frontier of our state. Lord send us prosperity.

**Tuesday, February 7, 1854**

Rained all day here. Got a letter from Sister M. J. B. Answered it. I was glad to hear from her.

Wednesday, February 8, 1854

This has been a gloomy day. Labored hard in the school room. I hope to be blessed in imparting instructions.

Thursday, February 9, 1854

The day was very lovely. My duties were pleasant. I thought often of my kind Sarah Belle. In religion very joyful, and my hopes are cheering.

⁷ Galatians 6:8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

**Friday, February 10, 1854**

Oh! What a delightful day this has been..... Such sights as I have never saw. The moon is wearing its silverest sheen now if ever. Wrote Father... Bro Davis (illegible) boarding with Mr. McGuire.

Saturday, February 11, 1854

Went to Quarterly Meeting 12 miles distant. Bro Houts not coming, I had to preach. And again at night. Text: (illegible). I feel it went tolerably well.

Sunday, February 12, 1854

Enjoyed ride over to (illegible). Preached at eleven. Text: John 1-16. Had fine liberty. Bro Gray preached at three. Came back to Jackson. Wrote Miss Laning.

Monday, February 13, 1854

My school is The day passed pleasantly away. At night I wrote Miss Padan (?). I look forward to the time when I can enjoy life fully.

Tuesday, February 14, 1854

Labored hard in my school. I am deeply interested... fell asleep in his lecture. Lord, send me prosperity..

Wednesday, February 15, 1854

The day passed very pleasantly away. Wrote B...(?). and Mr. D ...(?)Thoughts of the future occupied my mind much of the time.

Thursday, February 16, 1854

Wrote Bro Ollie and Edward Laning. The day was pleasant. My school is quite interesting.

Friday, February 17, 1854

Bro Harris arrived. Wrote Bro Davis. My school read essays for the first time. They were very good.

Saturday, February 18, 1854

Wrote Bro McCorkle. Went to Cape Girardeau; it is quite a pearl.. Had a very pleasant ride. Dr. McFarland called on me.



Sunday, February 19, 1854

Rained all day. Des...(?) will leave very soon. Wrote Miss Laning, and Sisters Laura, Lizzie, and Mary. Also Bro Ed. This Sabbath seemed low. Read the Epistle to ... (illegible). God assist us!

Monday, February 20, 1854

A very snowing day. (Next sentence illegible). Nothing of special interest. Studied until late.

Tuesday, February 21, 1854

Forty students have now been enrolled. Attended the Exhibition at night—nothing new.

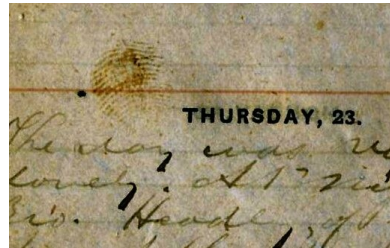
Wednesday, February 22, 1854

Studied late until late at night. My school is quite (?)

....

Thursday, February 23, 1854

The day was very lovely. At night Bro Heard of the Church Youth preached. Received a letter from Ollie.



Editor's

Note:

Apparently the writer got ink black on his fingers and left his thumbprint on this entry.

Friday, February 24, 1854

Bro Bonner arrived. At night I wrote Bro Davis and Bro Trutter(?). Glad the labors of the week are over.

Saturday, February 25, 1854

The day was very pleasant. Some snow fell, but little. I engaged in contemplation. I felt happy all day.

Sunday, February 26, 1854

Bro Harris preached. I had a sing with Mrs. McGuire and Sister Cook. Wrote Miss Laning. Spent the evening with Bro Harris.



Monday, February 27, 1854

There were several.... to the class situation to day. The day was one of great hurry and bluster. I hope to get along more ...

Tuesday, February 28, 1854

This has been a most lovely day. Received letters from Miss Laning and ... Caldwell. Also a catalogue. The Board of Trustees met; I was elected professor of languages and math in Mo. Conf. Sem. I look above to God for assistance.

MARCH

Wednesday, March 1, 1854

A very rainy day. I find my duties arduous, but pleasant. My heart is full. My love is less fervent...(?). Lord, kindle it afresh..

Thursday, March 2, 1854

It was raining a torrent but I found it pleasant to work. At night I called on Miss McGuire & had a pleasant time.

Friday, March 3, 1854

(?)... is over. happy all day. My school is very pleasant. All is right.

Saturday, March 4, 1854

This has been a day of hurry to me. Wrote to Miss Laning. Many were words. I cry to the Lord for strength to overcome temptation. O Lord, sanctify me wholly.

Sunday, March 5, 1854

Preached at McKendree Chapel. Text: Proverbs (ink blot). Dined at Sister Cook's. Preached in (illegible) at night, Text Ephesians 1-7⁸. God indeed fulfilled His promises to be with me today.

⁸ Ephesians 1:7 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;



McKendree Chapel, Jackson, a log cabin church, was build in 1819.

Still standing, it is now a National Historical Landmark

Monday, March 6, 1854

Several additions to the school. Trustees met at night. They decided to build a boarding house. Several other important matters were discussed. All is quite and peaceful with me.

Tuesday, March 7, 1854

Received letters from Father, Ollie and Mr. Daniels(?). Also a catalogue and an address(?). Wrote Father. Rainy day. I am calm and happy.

Wednesday, March 8, 1854

The day was very pleasant. I have been rather arid and unholy. Mrs. Mayhern(?) and Burns took tea and spent the evening with us.

Thursday, March 9, 1854

Rained all day. Many of the scholars were absent. I worry over the very coldness of affairs. My love should be more ardent.

Friday, March 10, 1854

Was very peculiarly tempted to day. My unfaithfulness is a source of great grief to me. I entered into a solemn covenant to-day with God. (illegible) ... such fulfillment



Memorandum—March 10, 1854—On the supposition that (The first half of this page is illegible.)

Therefore Resolved: That I will live as if I were striving all the time to be that one of my generation. Lord help me to keep that resolution. Fill me with all Thy weight of love.

Saturday, March 11, 1854

At eleven preached at Bro (illegible). Text: Rev. 2-10⁹. At night at McKendree Chapel. Text: Psalm 145. I am exceedingly unworthy. I cried (illegible)... prove the future. I groan to be sanctified! Lord, Help.

Sunday, March 12, 1854

At eleven preached at McKendree Chapel. Text I John 3-1¹⁰. This has been a lovely day. I feel some relief. My hungry soul cries out for all the fullness of God.

Monday, March 13, 1854

Received letters from Bro Davis, E.D. Laning, and Miss Padan(?). My labors were very pleasant. I feel comfortable. Faith is strong and hope is bright.

Tuesday, March 14, 1854

This has been a pleasant day. So nice. At dark took a stroll all alone. I feel peaceful and trusting. My spirit breathes out prayer to God.

Wednesday, March 15, 1854

To day I have felt rather more joyous than usual. After school Bro Brown (illegible). I took a stroll. It is so pleasant.

⁹ Rev. 2:10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

¹⁰ I John 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

**Thursday, March 16, 1854**

Received a letter from Sister MJB. Answered it. At night Bro Stagg preached. I fully give myself to the Lord.

Friday, March 17, 1854

The day was very pleasant. Miss Jackson came. Took tea at Mr. Ferguson's. I feel every moment that I need the (illegible) of the blood of Christ.

Saturday, March 18, 1854

The day was very cool but pleasant. I did but little. Read some. With Miss Jackson and Miss Green, called on Mrs. Ferguson.

Sunday, March 19, 1854

(illegible line of text) Bro Houts preached at night. Wrote Miss Laning.

Monday, March 20, 1854

The day was cool and cloudy. School is increased. At night with Miss McGuire, called on Miss Cannon and had a very pleasant time. Wrote Bros T.B & S.P.

Tuesday, March 21, 1854

Rained in the forenoon. I have felt very calm and trustful to day. At night wrote T.J.C & D.L. & Bro Ollie. Lord, sanctify me through Thy truth!

Wednesday, March 22, 1854

My duties were very pleasant. Nothing of special interest. Oh for a tender conscience.

Thursday, March 23, 1854

The day was pleasant. Attended prayer meeting at night. The congregation was quite large. Had a good time.

Friday, March 24, 1854

School large. Quite cool. Tried to make arrangements to go to the Cape. Failed. Some religious enjoyment.

Saturday, March 25, 1854

Took Miss Amanda McGuire and Miss Connors to Cape Girardeau. (illegible) days meeting. Dined with



Miss. Pitt. Preached at night. Text: I Peter 2-7¹¹. Spent the night with Mr. Johnson's (sic).

Sunday, March 26, 1854

Mr. Houts preached at 11; I at three. Came home and preached at night in Jackson. Text: Romans 1-16¹², Heb. 2-3¹³. I have had a fine time. Enjoyed it much.

Monday, March 27, 1854

The day was quite pleasant. (illegible). Nothing of special interest. My heart is fixed.

Tuesday, March 28, 1854

Received a letter from Miss Laning. Also from Potter and Watson. Also a book. I am so glad to receive a letter from Sarah!

Wednesday, March 29, 1854

This has become a rainy day. Miss Jackson's pigs came. Nothing of special interest.

Thursday, March 30, 1854

The day was quite pleasant. Attended (illegible) meeting at night. Had a good time. Oh! I am very happy in the Savior. Oh the unsearchable riches of Christ!

Friday, March 31, 1854

Rained in the evening. The school was very pleasant. I felt a peace, calm and undisturbed.

¹¹ I Peter 2:7 Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner.

¹² Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

¹³ Hebrews 2:3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?



APRIL**Saturday, April 1, 1854**

Wrote Sarah Belle. Studied some. In the evening, went to Bro Case's and spent the night. Had a very pleasant time.

Sunday, April 2, 1854

At 10 o'clock preached at Ebenezer. Text: Acts 26-16,17 & 18¹⁴. Had liberty. At 3 o'clock at Chane's (?) Chapel. Text: Amos 5-6¹⁵. had good liberty. Came home. Called on Mrs. Cannon and spent a very pleasant evening.

Monday, April 3, 1854

School large. Day fine. Was greatly tried with the ungenerous conduct of a some in town towards Miss McGuire. I am sorely hurt.

Tuesday, April 4, 1854

Received letters from Father, Sisters Ellen & Lizzy, and Prof. Moore. Nothing of special interest.

Wednesday, April 5, 1854

Labored hard. Called a (illegible) at Dr. Cannon's. All is well..

¹⁴ Acts 26:155 ff I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

¹⁵ Amos 5:6 Seek the LORD, and ye shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel. Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth, Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name:



Thursday, April 6, 1854

At night attended prayer meeting. Had a good time. Studied till late.

Friday, April 7, 1854

Preached at night. Text: John 12-26¹⁶. Wrote Father. Also Mr. (illegible).

Saturday, April 8, 1854

At eleven Bro Houts preached. Spent part of the afternoon with Miss Amanda McGuire. Preached at night. Text: Hebrews 4-9¹⁷.

Sunday, April 9, 1854

At 11 o'clock Bro Houts preached; Bro Stagg at 3; and I at night. Text: John 1-47¹⁸. Had good liberty. Lord, revive Thy work! Sanctify me through Thy truth.

Monday, April 10, 1854

Very pleasant day. Nothing of special interest. Bro Houts preached a very powerful sermon at night. Deep solemnity prevailed.

Tuesday, April 11, 1854

The day passed very agreeably away. Miss Cook and Miss Cannon visited the school. Had a very pleasant time. Miss A. McGuire presented me a hymn book.

Wednesday, April 12, 1854

I have been unwell to-day. Nothing of special interest. I look up.

Thursday, April 13, 1854

Received letters from Ollie, E.D. Laning, O.R. Jones, F.C. McCorkle & G. J.(?) Caldwell. Wrote O.R. Jones. I am

¹⁶ John 12:26 If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

¹⁷ Hebrews 4:9 There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.

¹⁸ John 1:47 Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!



very unwell. My trust is in the loving God. This my portion.

Friday, April 14, 1854

Health better. Closed the 1st quarter. It has been pleasant and profitably to me. Spent the evening with a number of ladies at ^{Mr.} McGuire's. Had a pleasant time.

Saturday, April 15, 1854

Wrote Miss Laning, J.. T. Epeer (?) and Lisle, M. J. B. Very cold and unpleasant day. Received a letter from Mr. Denner (?). Thoughts of the future occupies my mind much of the time.

Sunday, April 16, 1854

A snowy day. Preached in the neighborhood of Mr. Roberts. Text I John 3 v. 1¹⁹. Had good liberty. Spent part of the day with Miss Cook and Miss McGuire.

Monday, April 17, 1854

Commenced the second quarter. Prospects quite encouraging. Attended a concert in town - rather modern music.

Tuesday, April 18, 1854

A pleasant day. Wrote Miss Padan. Was introduced to the Misses Riley - the singers. I fear "no good".

Wednesday, April 19, 1854

Nothing of special interest. Spent the evening with Mrs. McGuire. Had a pleasant time.

Thursday, April 20, 1854

Wrote Bro. Ollie. Took tea at Mrs. McGuire's Senior. Went to prayer meeting. Was greatly blessed.

¹⁹ I John 3:1 f Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

**Friday, April 21, 1854**

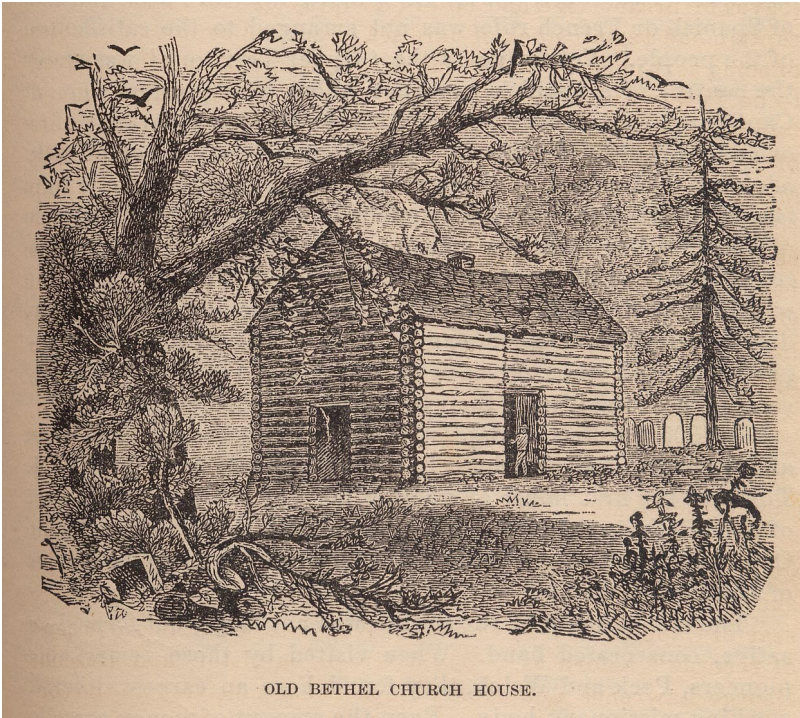
The day was very pleasant. Wrote E.D. Laning. Spent the evening with Mrs. McGuire. Felt deeply solemn.

Saturday, April 22, 1854

Wrote Miss Laning, Sisters Ellen and Lizzie. In the evening took a ride with Miss Amanda McGuire. Had a good time. Received a letter from Bro. Davis.

Sunday, April 23, 1854

We organized our S. School. Was elected Superintendent. Bro. Staggs preached at 11. I led class at 3. A Baptist Bro. preached at 4. Took tea with Mrs. McGuire's son. This has been a deeply solemn day. I look up for direction.



OLD BETHEL CHURCH HOUSE.

Bethel Church, Jackson, a Primitive Baptist Log Church, was built in 1806.

**Monday, April 24, 1854**

This day has been awfully solemn. O the depression of spirit I feel. My heart ! What shall I do? O Lord thou are my helper.

Tuesday, April 25, 1854

Deep gloom overshadows me. I'll wait and look up. Received a letter from Miss Laning. She is very kind to write me. Called on Miss Amanda. Had a long conversation with Mrs. McGuire to night.

Wednesday, April 26, 1854

Felt some better to day. I have committed all into the hands of God. May He direct my steps. My duties are arduous. Lord bless Mrs. McGuire. She is so true a friend.

Thursday, April 27, 1854

A cold, rainy day. No prayer meeting at night. Miss Amanda spent the night at our house. She is a good girl.

Friday, April 28, 1854

My spirits are greatly depressed. At night went with Sister Houts to Bro. Stagg's. Called on Miss Cannon. Oh! How shall I find relief.

Saturday, April 29, 1854

This has been a day of extreme sadness. I try to look up. Spend the evening with Miss Amanda. Lord bless that dear young lady. O direct me aright.

Sunday, April 30, 1854

Attended S. School. Preached at McKendree. Text Acts 26: 16,17,18²⁰. Had a good time. Met the class at

²⁰ Acts 26: 15f I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.



home at three. Preached at night. Text Proverbs 21:21²¹. Accompanied Miss Amanda home.

MAY

Monday, May 1, 1854

My heart is lighter to day. Mr. Watts preached at night. Accompanied Miss Amanda home. Lord bless that kind young lady.

Tuesday, May 2, 1854

Wrote Miss Laning. I felt more cheerful to day. I am greatly afflicted with a sore boil on my right.

Wednesday, May 3, 1854

The day was cold. Felt rather gloomy to day. O Lord direct me.

Thursday, May 4, 1854

Received letters from Sister M.J.B., Bros. S.B & G.P. Went to prayer meeting at night. Accompanied Miss Amanda home. Was greatly tried with some things.

Friday, May 5, 1854

My arm annoys me very greatly. I am so glad Friday night has come. Serious thoughts occupy my mind. The Lord direct me.

Saturday, May 6, 1854

Was unable to do anything. Had some deeply solemn moments. I will leave all in His hands.

Sunday, May 7, 1854

Attended S. School. Bro Stagg preached at eleven. I at three. Text: Eccles 12-1²². I feel some relieved. May wisdom divine direct me.

²¹ Proverb 21:21 He that followeth after righteousness and mercy findeth life, righteousness, and honour.

²² Ecclesiastes 12:1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

**Monday, May 8, 1854**

Nothing of special interest. The school is increasing. I look up.

Tuesday, May 9, 1854

Oh! When will relief come? Spent some time with Miss Amanda. She is very pleasant. Received a letter from Bro Ollie.

Wednesday, May 10, 1854

Spent some time in the company of Miss Amanda. She is so agreeable. My religious enjoyments were very cheering.

Thursday, May 11, 1854

Wrote Bro Ollie. At Bro Woods I preached. Felt very serious. Miss Amanda did not go to church on account of her sister's ill-treatment to me.

Friday, May 12, 1854

My labors this week were very arduous. Nothing of special interest. Took a walk at night with Miss Amanda. Had a pleasant time. She must be a friend. God bless her.

Saturday, May 13, 1854

Rained all day. Spent the day with Miss Amanda. She is very agreeable. At night wrote Miss Laning. Could not go the quarterly meeting.

Sunday, May 14, 1854

Went to the Conf. Bro Houts preached. Bro Woods at 3. Dined at Mr. Johnson's. Accompanied Miss Sitt (?) to church in the evening. Came home. I have never seen a lovelier day. It was lovely beyond expression.

Monday, May 15, 1854

Labored hard. Bro Norman preached in town at night. Wrote Miss Laning a note.

Tuesday, May 16, 1854

This has been a rainy day. Was very busy. Spent some time with Miss Amanda. Took tea with Bro Houts.



Wednesday, May 17, 1854

Nothing of special interest. Spent the evening with Mrs. McGuire. O! I am in so straightened a place! O Lord, direct me by Thy Spirit.

Thursday, May 18, 1854

Bro Houts preached at night. Accompanied Miss Amanda to church. Her friends will give her pain.

Friday, May 19, 1854

Received letters from E.D. Laning, Sister Ellen and Miss Paton (?). This has been in some respects, an interesting day. The Lord direct me.

Saturday, May 20, 1854

Did but little to day. Went to the country and spent the night with the Robberts (sic). Was very useless all day.

Sunday, May 21,

Preached near Mr. Robberts's (sic). Text: Gal. 6-9²³. Met the class. Bro Houts preached at night. Accompanied Miss Amanda. Oh! What must I do.

Monday, May 22, 1854

Several additions to the school. Miss Eliza Cook dined with us. In the evening called at Dr. Cannon's and at McGuire's. My spirits are downcast.

Tuesday, May 23, 1854

Spent some time with Miss Amanda. In the evening called at Mr. Fl(illegible). & Mrs. P(illegible)'s. Felt deeply solemn. Recd letters: Miss Laning & B. G. Dencer (?).

Wednesday, May 24, 1854

Wrote T. J. Caldwell. Wrote an article (?) for Miss A.B. McGuire's album. Spent the evening with her and ate a fine (?) of strawberries she had gathered for me. Heaven bless the dear girl.

²³ Galatians 6:9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

**Thursday, May 25, 1854**

Received a letter from Bro Peake, In the evening took a walk with Mrs. McGuire and Miss Amanda. Oh! How pleasant! Went to prayer meeting. This has been a really solemn night. Thanks to God for grace and good friends.

Friday, May 26, 1854

I am so glad Friday night has come! Saw the grand eclipse. Spent the evening with Mrs. McGuire. She is a warm (?) friend. Heaven bless her greatly.

Saturday, May 27, 1854

Received a letter from Ollie. Wrote Bro Peake. Spend most of the day with Mrs. McGuire very pleasantly. She is a very devoted friend.

Sunday, May 28, 1854

Superintended the S. School. Preached at the campground. Text: Mat. 6-33²⁴. At five in Jackson, I Peter II-7²⁵. Had good liberty each time. Spent a very pleasant evening with Mrs. McGuire. Wrote Miss Laning.

²⁴ Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

²⁵ I Peter 2:7f Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:



1800s lithograph of a Camp Meeting preacher

Monday, May 29, 1854

Felt very Mondayish. Miss Amanda quit school. Her friends treated her very ungraciously. Oh! I feel so deeply for that girl. Heaven bless her.

Tuesday, May 30, 1854

Rained to day. Felt very solemn. O Lord, help me to right. My trust is in the living God.

Wednesday, May 31, 1854

The day passed rather pleasantly away. In the evening called at Mrs. Smith's and Mrs. Painter. My spirits are so downcast. Lord, may I still cleave to Thee.

JUNE

Thursday, June 1, 1854

Received a letter from Bro Davis. My duties are very arduous. Went to prayer meeting. When shall I find relief? I cannot bear to see my kind friend A---- afflicted on my account: Lord bless her.

**Friday, June 2, 1854**

Nothing of special interest. Wrote Sister M.J.B. In the evening called at Dr. Cannon's. Accompanied Miss A. McGuire home from the doctor's.

Saturday, June 3, 1854

Went with Sister McG. And Sister Hannah McGuire to Judge Cook's and spent the day. Had a very pleasant visit. My mind is greatly occupied about the future. Lord, direct me aright.

Sunday, June 4, 1854

Attended S. School. Bro Houts preached at 11; I at 3 at the campground. Text: Amos 5-6²⁶. Bro Houts preached at night. Accompanied Miss Amanda home. She is indeed my true.

Monday, June 5, 1854

Wrote Father. Labored hard. My mind was greatly perplexed. I know not what to do. Lord, help me to do right. Thou art my hiding place—my cover from the storm.

Tuesday, June 6, 1854

Attended to my duties as usual. This day has been deeply solemn. God knows my heart. Thou canst guide me. & send relief. All, all is sadness.

Wednesday, June 7, 1854

At night Bro Headley preached. The day has been very cool. My mind is somewhat relieved. I trust in the living God. Lord, sanctify me.

²⁶ Amos 5:6 Seek the LORD, and ye shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel. Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth, Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name:



Thursday, June 8, 1854

Received a letter from T. J. Caldwell. Answered it. Attended prayer meeting. Went home with Miss Amanda. She is very agreeable. Heaven bless her.

Friday, June 9, 1854

Wrote Miss Laning. Two more weeks! This has been a day of sadness to me—a day of strange emotions. But Christ is mine. Oh! Bless the Lord, I feel He is.

Memorandum—June 9th, 1854. Today I have gone too far astray. My evil heart gained the ascendancy over me. I am almost ready to despair. NO! No, I will not. Mercy's door is open wide. Her stores are boundless. The blood of Jesus can wash the foulest stain away. O Jesus, apply that blood. My poor heart bids Thee welcome. My faith increase. My hope confirm. I feel Thee now working in my poor heart. Build, kindle the fire into a flame. Burn up the dross of sin. I give myself to Thee just as I am.

Saturday, June 10, 1854

Went to Judge Orrel's in company with Mrs. Betsy and Hannah McGuire. Spent a very day (sic). Felt very solemn but trusted in the Savior. I have great confidence.

Sunday, June 11, 1854

Attended S. School. Preached at McKendree. Text: Phil. 3-8²⁷. At four o'clock at Cridel's(?) house in Saw Fort. Had very good liberty with him. Took tea with Mrs. Speer. A Baptist minister preached at night.

Monday, June 12, 1854

This has been a day of great toil and weariness to me. Was greatly tempted. Made some good resolves. Hope to keep them. Lord help me.

²⁷ Philippians 3:8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,



Memorandum—June 12th, O Lord, I will praise Thee. My heart shall rejoice in Thy salvation. Suffer the tempter to have no power over me. My heart, my life, my all be Thine. Nor would I divide the gift. I will keep back no part of the price. Unloose my tongue to tell my (illegible) of the cross—and its victim and spread Thy fame abroad. Thou, O blessed Savior! Thou doest know the love I would express. Pardon, sanctify, and save me. I am thine. I here record a vow to live altogether for God. Lord help me to keep it,

Tuesday, June 13, 1854

Received a letter from Sarah Belle. Took tea with Mrs. Hannah McGuire. Took with Miss Amanda. She is a dear friend, Heaven help her ever. Felt happier to day.

Wednesday, June 14, 1854

Commenced copying for the Rose Bud. In the evening called on Miss Connor. Had some temptations but was sustained. Oh, I want to be more holy.

Thursday, June 15, 1854

Attended prayer meeting. Had a good time. My spirit leaps with inward joy. I hope in God.

Friday, June 16, 1854

Was greatly hurried. Glad Friday night has come again. Our difficulties in the Seminary give me uneasiness.

Saturday, June 17, 1854

Arranged the Rose Bud. Felt some temptations—some yielding. Prayed much. I am more than ever given to the Lord.

Memorandum—June 17, 1854—I can not let this day pass without entering into new covenants with God. (Next two lines are illegible).

I feel the Savior loves me. But Oh! How unworthy of His love. I feel that I am more than ever devoted to the



cause of God. I feel willing to deny myself anything for Him. On my knees, on the Bible, I receive a resolution to strain to live altogether for God. Lord bless me. Lead me from evil. Make my heart strong. Thou art so precious. Take me just as I am. Glory be to God! I will bless Him forever.

Sunday, June 18, 1854

Attended S. School. Bro Stagg preached at eleven. Met class at three. Preached at night. Text: Mat. 6-33²⁸. Had good liberty. Spent some time with Amanda. How kind she is.

Monday, June 19, 1854

Resumed my duties. A Presbyterian preached at night. Our difficulties distress me much. Spent some time with Miss Amanda. I love to be with her.

Tuesday, June 20, 1854

Was very busy. I feel awfully serious. Lord direct me. Bro Davis & Bro Lee came.

Wednesday, June 21, 1854

Examinations commenced. All were passed. The Board met. I have been very sick all day. Fainted & fell in the street. The "Rose Bud" was read. It was very interesting..

Thursday, June 22, 1854

Was very sick but continued my examinations till three when I failed and took my bed. Could not attend the Exhibition. It went off very well. I am very sick. I commend all to the Lord.

Friday, June 23, 1854

Kept my bed all day. Suffered greatly. The heat is most intense.

Saturday, June 24, 1854

No better to day. Am growing weaker all the time. The heat continues.

²⁸ Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

**Sunday, June 25, 1854**

This has been a boring long day. Has not appeared like the Sabbath.

Monday, June 26, 1854

My disease seems somewhat arrested. Have had but little enjoyment during my sickness.

Tuesday, June 27, 1854

I am very poorly. Oh! How hot! I am so anxious to get home.

Wednesday, June 28, 1854

This morning I felt much better and took medicine and had a sick day... Sister Ferguson spent the day with me.

Thursday, June 29, 1854

I still suffer a great deal. Am almost discouraged. Tried to pray.

Friday, June 30, 1854

Felt much better this morning but soon took worse & spent a dreadful day.

JULY**Saturday, July 1, 1854**

Am better to day. Was able to be up some. Oh! The heat is so great.

Sunday, July 2, 1854

Wrote Miss Laning a note. Rained a little. A long Sabbath. A number of friends called to see me.

Monday, July 3, 1854

Felt much better to day. Went to town. Spent part of the day at Willis McGuire's. The Board of Trustees met. I feel so thankful to God for His goodness to me.

Tuesday, July 4, 1854

Intended to start home but the rain hindered. Felt much disappointed.



Wednesday, July 5, 1854

Aft-noon started home. Spent the night at Cape Girardeau. Felt wearied.

Thursday, July 6, 1854

At sun rise got aboard the packet *Telegraph*. Spent the day pleasantly. Reached St. Louis at 8 p.m. Stayed at the Monroe House.

Friday, July 7, 1854

At 7 a.m. took the Packet for Alton. Took the cars at 10 a.m. Had a pleasant ride to Springfield. Came (word illegible) home. I am thankful that I am at home again.



On returning home to Springfield, William Short would have seen the Illinois State Capital dome. Abraham Lincoln worked in his law offices on the left.

Saturday, July 8, 1854

Spent the day at home very pleasantly. Wrote Mrs. (?) McGuire.

Sunday, July 9, 1854

Went to Petersburg. Met my Sarah Belle! Went to class meeting, also to the Presbyterian church. Spent the night at Mr. Laning's.

**Monday, July 10, 1854**

Spent the day with my Sarah Belle. It is very pleasant to be with her. Life is real and earnest to me now.

Tuesday, July 11, 1854

Having made my arrangements, returned home. I am now wholly committed. Wrote Bro B.... (?). Lord, direct me aright.

Wednesday, July 12, 1854

A day of much thought. Did but little. I am restless when away from my Sarah Belle. The future looks bright.

Thursday, July 13, 1854

Did but little to day. E.D. Laning spent (words scratched out) [art of the day at our house.

Friday, July 14, 1854

Went to Bloomington. Met a number of friends. Spent the night at Prof. Goodfellow's. Wrote Sarah Belle.

Saturday, July 15, 1854

Went to Clinton(?). Met many friends. Spent the night with Dr. Boyd. Did not get to see Bro McCorkle.



Sunday, July 16, 1854

Preached twice. Texts: Amos 5-6²⁹, I John 3-1³⁰. Had good liberty. Met Bro McCorkle. Had a good time. Spent the night with Bro Smith.

Monday, July 17, 1854

Went to Bloomington. Spent the night with Prof Goodfellow. I feel the need of living more closely to the Savior. Lord help me.

Tuesday, July 18, 1854

Came to Springfield. Wrote Miss Laning. I spent the night there.

Wednesday, July 19, 1854

Came out home. Spent with sister M.J to have the tooth extracted. Called at Mr. Epler's. The day has been pleasant.

Thursday, July 20, 1854

Nothing of special interest to day. Spent it in reading.

Friday, July 21, 1854

Spent the morning in reading and going to the office. After went to gather blackberries. The day passed pleasantly away.

²⁹ Amos 5:6 f Seek the LORD, and ye shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel. Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth, Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name:

³⁰ I John 3:1 f Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

**Saturday, July 22, 1854**

Went to Springfield. Came back by Bro Sacket's and dined. Father preached Mrs. Freeman's funeral.

Sunday, July 23, 1854

Went to Petersburg. Preached at eleven and at night. Texts: Phil 3-8³¹. Mat. 6-33³². Spent the night at Mr. Laning's. It is very pleasant to be with Sarah Belle.

Monday, July 24, 1854

Came home. Spent the day in reading. Received a letter from Bro B...(?).

Tuesday, July 25, 1854

Wrote T.J.. Caldwell and Bro Stagg. Also (illegible) of the Seminary. Read chemistry and geology. I feel happy in a Savior's love.

Wednesday, July 26, 1854

Received letters from Bros Rutledge and Saunders (?). Nothing of special interest. Spent the day in reading. I feel deeply solemn in view of my responsibilities. Help divine I ask.

Thursday, July 27, 1854

We all went to Springfield and had our miniatures taken on the same plate. The day was quite pleasant.

Friday, July 28, 1854

Spent the day at home. I have never felt as solemn as I have to day. All times I trust in God to direct all aright. He is my Helper.

Saturday, July 29, 1854

Went with sisters Ellen and Lizzie to Caso Co. Spent the night at Uncle Levi's. Received a letter from Gus Biggins (?).

³¹ Philippians 3:8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

³² Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.



Sunday, July 30, 1854

At eleven preached at Zion. Text: I John 3-1³³. At three at funeral Text: Phil 3-8. Spent the night at Uncle Jerry's.

Monday, July 31, 1854

Went to (words scratched out) Jacksonville to met many friends. Had a very pleasant time.

AUGUST

Tuesday, August 1, 1854

Came home. A very unpleasant train (illegible). Bro Arthur (?) and family spent the night with us.

Wednesday, August 2, 1854

Spent the day writing an order (?). My thoughts dwell on solemn subjects. Lord direct me.

Thursday, August 3, 1854

Worked hard all day at the threshing machine. Am much wearied.

Friday, August 4, 1854

Labored all day at threshing. Wrote Miss Laning. I am nearly exhausted.

Saturday, August 5, 1854

Sister Ellen and I went to a camp meeting on Sulfur Spring. I met many friends. Preached at night. Text: Amos 5-6³⁴. Had a good time.

³³ I John 3:1f Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

³⁴ Amos 5:6f seek the LORD, and ye shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel. Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth, Seek him that maketh the seven stars and

Sunday, August 6, 1854

Bro Ridgley preached at 9 a.m. A.M. Kissenber (?) at 11 a.m., Prof Barwick at 3 p.m., Bro Guthrie at night. I trust some good has been done.

Monday, August 7, 1854

Preached at 9a.m. Text: I John 3-1. God was with me of a truth. Met many friends.

Had a long talk with Miss Martha Scott..

Tuesday, August 8, 1854

Came home from the campmeeting. I have had a very pleasant time.

A remark Miss Martha Scott made at parting caused many anxious thoughts. Some temptations. But grace triumphed over nature. Praise the Lord, O my soul.



Some camp meeting worshipers swooned in religious ecstasy.

Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name:



Wednesday, August 9, 1854

Wrote on my speech. Rained quite hard. Went to Petersburg. Attended prayer meeting. It is very pleasant to be with my Sarah Belle. Received a letter from Bro McCorkle.

Thursday, August 10, 1854

Came home in the evening. Did very little. Prepared my speech.

Friday, August 11, 1854

Came to Bloomington. Took tea in company with several friends at Bro Rutledge's. Spent the night with Prof Sears.

Saturday, August 12, 1854

Was engaged with my speech. The day passed pleasantly away. Spent some time with George Cofney (?).

Sunday, August 13, 1854

Preached for Prof Sears. Text: I John 3-1³⁵. Heard Geo Coperway at 2; Mr. Erving at 4; Prof Sears at night. Accompanied Miss Winsor to Church.

Monday, August 14, 1854

Received a letter from G.O. James. (illegible). Accompanied Miss Winsor. I feel very gleeful.

Tuesday, August 15, 1854

Called a company of young ladies & gents together and had a little festival (?) . Came home. Miss Winsor came with me.



Methodist preacher Peter Cartwright recorded over 12,000 converts on the

And, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed
And be called the sons of God: therefore the world
use it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the
both not yet appear what we shall be: but we know
appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him
man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself,

Peter Cartwright



American frontier. His tireless ministry as a circuit rider made him a legend. His autobiography is widely regarded as a great classic of American Christianity.

Wednesday, August 16, 1854

Went to camp meeting. Dr. Cartwright preached at 11; I preached at 3. Text: I Peter 2-1³⁶. Read letter from Browne. Answered it. Wrote Bro (illegible)

Thursday, August 17, 1854

Remained at home all day. Assisted about the house. Many spent the night with us.

Friday, August 18, 1854

Went to camp meeting. Bro Newman preached at 8...(illegible) at 3; Father at night. Went to Petersburg and brought Miss Laning to the camp meeting. Received a letter from T.J. Caldwell.

Saturday, August 19, 1854

Sister MJB and I went to Springfield. Came home and went to camp meeting. Met many friends. The day passed pleasantly away.

Sunday, August 20, 1854

Had a good lovefeast. Dr. Cartwright preached at 11 o'clock. Trotter at 3; I at night. Had good liberty. Met many friends. The audience was very large.

³⁶ I Peter 2:1 f Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.



Monday, August 21, 1854

Took Miss Laning home. The camp meeting closed. Dined at Mr Eleer's(?). Read a letter from Bro Mc--. I feel deeply solemn. The Lord direct me. I long for holiness.

Tuesday, August 22, 1854

Remained at home all day. Was very much tried about some things. Preached at night at our church. Text: Phil 3-8³⁷. Had good liberty. I feel deeply solemn. Life is real—Tomorrow! Oh, Tomorrow!

³⁷ Philippians 3:8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord...



Wednesday, August 23, 1854



A Typical 1854 Illinois Marriage License

This evening at eight o'clock, Miss Sarah Belle Laning and I were married, by Rev. Geo. Rutledge. The company showed thanks. They enjoyed pleasure without a disturbing influence. I am perfectly happy. See End.

Memorandum—August 23rd, 1854—This has been an eventful day to me in life's career. It has witnessed the consummation of plighted faith and love.

I much adore that Being whose goodness has directed me to one who is altogether what I would desire in such a bosom friend. I will try to seek her happiness with an eagerness corresponding to her merit. But I will be adequate to the accomplishment of this only (if) I am



directed from on high. This aid I now implore. I trust in the Lord for the power to be useful. His shall be my talents, my heart, my residue of days.

Thursday, August 24, 1854

Took my dear Sarah Belle to my Father's, where a table, loaded with the luxuries of life, was prepared for us. Over 80 dined. All seemed to enjoy themselves. I had no thoughts of being so happy.

Friday, August 25, 1854

In the evening we returned to Petersburg. We had a very pleasant time. Our youthful friend "Minnie" enhanced our happiness with the sunshine of her smiles. The good Lord bless, both her and us.

Saturday, August 26, 1854

Spent the day at Father Laning's. We took tea at Bro Peake's. I am very happy. I love my dear Sarah Belle more than I ever thought I should.

Sunday, August 27, 1854

Went to a two-days meeting four miles from town. Preached at three. Text: Amos 5-6³⁸. Also at night. Text: John 1-45³⁹. I am truly and perfectly happy.

Monday, August 28, 1854

We made our arrangements to go to Jackson. Felt very solemn. My dear Sarah Belle is so good and kind. The Lord bless us abundantly.

³⁸ Amos 5:6 f Seek the LORD, and ye shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel. Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth, Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name:

³⁹ John 1:45 f Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph. And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.

**Tuesday, August 29, 1854**

We went to Father's. I collected my things preparatory to leaving. I feel it is very solemn to leave, but I am very happy.

Wednesday, August 30, 1854

We went to Springfield and took the cars for St. Louis. Arrived there at eleven p.m. Stopped at the Virginia Hotel.

Thursday, August 31, 1854

At five o'clock we got aboard the steamer *Jane Anderson* for Cape Girardeau. 25 miles from St. Louis we ran on a sand bar and there we are still!

**SEPTEMBER****Friday, September 1, 1854**

At 5 o'clock the *Vera* pulled us off the sand. This has been a very tedious day. Laid by for the night.

Saturday, September 2, 1854

After a pleasant day's run we reach Cape Girardeau at 8 o'clock P.M. Took a room at the City Hotel.

Sunday, September 3, 1854

We went to the Baptist church for worship and came to Sister Pitts where we spent the day and night. I feel very happy with my Sarah Belle.



Monday, September 4, 1854

Came to Jackson. Met many friends. I am glad that I am here again. I hope to be very useful. Wrote Father.

Tuesday, September 5, 1854

Several friends called on us. Preached at night. Text: I John 3-1⁴⁰. Miss Amanda took a walk with us in the evening. I am very happy.

Wednesday, September 6, 1854

To day we opened the 2nd session of the Mo. Conf Sem. Twenty-three students entered. Lord send us prosperity. Wrote to Boston.

Thursday, September 7, 1854

The day passed pleasantly away. Several other students entered. I have had some religious enjoyment to day.

Friday, September 8, 1854

Nothing of special interest to day. In the evening we called at Bro Stagg's. Bro Houts called on us. I am very happy.

Saturday, September 9, 1854

Spent most of the day fixing up our things. Some friends called on us. I am very much fatigued.

Sunday, September 10, 1854

Went to S. School. It was so pleasant. Preached at the campground. Text: Rev. 2-10⁴¹. also at the Cape. Text: I John 3-1⁴². Had some liberty. I am very much fatigued.

⁴⁰ I John 3:1 f Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

⁴¹ Revelation 2:10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

**Monday, September 11, 1854**

Several new students entered. Dr. Klepper (*Rev. M.G. Klepper, M.D.*) came. I hope soon to have some relief. My health is not very good. I am very happy.

Tuesday, September 12, 1854

Received a letter from (illegible). Wrote Miss Brevard. I am cheerful and happy.

Wednesday, September 13, 1854

The day passed very pleasantly away. My duties are pleasant. I hope to be useful. I love my Sarah Belle very dearly. May the Lord prosper us.

Thursday, September 14, 1854

The day has been very cool and pleasant. I have been very happy. A meeting of the board trustees was called but we failed (to) get a quorum. Nothing specially new.

Friday, September 15, 1854

The day passed very pleasantly away. Campmeeting commenced but we did not go.

⁴² I John 3:1 f Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.



Saturday, September 16, 1854

We went to campmeeting. I preached at three. Text: Psalm 145-20⁴³. Bro H at 11 o'clock. Was recommended to Mo (illegible) Conf. Bro (illegible) preached at night. The meeting is somewhat interesting.

Sunday, September 17, 1854

I conducted the lovefeast. Bro Thornton preached at 9; Bro Houts at 11; I at 3. Text: Acts 26-16,17,18⁴⁴. Had good liberty. Bro Stagg at night. I am very tired.

⁴³ Psalm 145:20 The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.

⁴⁴ Acts 26:15f I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

**Monday, September 18, 1854**

I preached at 9 o'clock. Text: Nahum 1-7⁴⁵. Bro H at eleven. Came home from the campmeeting. I am glad to be at home. Very much fatigued.

Tuesday, September 19, 1854

Commenced our labors again. Dr. Fletcher entered upon his. We anticipate a pleasant time now.

Wednesday, September 20, 1854

It is very cool now. At night we called at Mr. Brevard's. I am very happy in the Savior. May He save me from all sin.

Thursday, September 21, 1854

Wrote Bro Mc. Went to prayer meeting. I tried to exhort the people to righteousness. I feel very happy

Friday, September 22, 1854

This has been a very lovely day to me. My duties were delightful. At night we called at Mr. Ferguson's. Had a very pleasant call.

Saturday, September 23, 1854

Wrote Father and (illegible). We made several calls. A number of friends called on us.

Sunday, September 24, 1854

Went S. School. Dr. Klepper preached twice. Met class at three o'clock.

Monday, September 25, 1854

To-day I was too unwell to hear my classes. Kept my bed and took medicine. Nothing of special interest. Wrote to Cincinnati.

Tuesday, September 26, 1854

Resumed my duties. We received a letter from Mother Laning. Glad to hear from home.

Wednesday, September 27, 1854

The day passed very pleasantly away. We spent the evening at Dr. Klepper's.

⁴⁵ Nahum 1:7 The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.



Thursday, September 28, 1854

Wrote two letters to New York. Went to prayer meeting. Had a good time. My health is not very good.

Friday, September 29, 1854

Received letters from Bro O.V. Jones & and (sic) Bro. Ollie. Called at Mr. Turnbaugh's at night. I am glad the labors of the week are over.

Saturday, September 30, 1854

Spent the day variously. Wrote Sisters Lizzy and Mollie. I am very happy.

OCTOBER

Sunday, October 1, 1854

Went to S. School. We expected a Baptist minister to preach at eleven but he failed to come. I preached. Text: Phil 3-8⁴⁶. I am very happy. Dear is very unwell.

Monday, October 2, 1854

I have not been very well to day. Attended to my duties. My health is so precarious. I am almost discouraged.

Tuesday, October 3, 1854

Nothing of special interest. My duties are light and pleasant now.

Wednesday, October 4, 1854

At night we went to meeting in the country. The preacher was an old Baptist. Very illiterate. We left before preaching was over. That was very wrong.

Thursday, October 5, 1854

. Very cold in the morning. Some frost. Mr. Brevard and Lady and daughter, Mrs. Sall, and others took tea with us. Went to prayer meeting. Felt very well. Received a letter from Miss Brevard.

⁴⁶ Philippians 3:8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

**Friday, October 6, 1854**

The day passed very pleasantly away. Nothing of special interest. We spent the evening at Dr. Klepper's

Saturday, October 7, 1854

To day we moved up stairs into our new room. It is very comfortable. I am pleased with it and think we will be very happy. Everything is so nice and handy. I am quite tired.

Sunday, October 8, 1854

Preached the funeral of Sister Bandol (?) at McKendree Chapel. Text: Numbers 23-10⁴⁷. Had good liberty. Dined at Bro William's. Preached at night at home. Text: Rom. 1-16⁴⁸. Feel very well.

Monday, October 9, 1854

Dr. Klepper being away, my duties were greater. Spent the evening at Bro Neal's. My health is not first rate.

Tuesday, October 10, 1854

Received letters from (illegible) and a lady in Mass. In the evening called on Mrs. Fleismanning (?). Did but little at night.

Wednesday, October 11, 1854

The day was very pleasant. I feel "all is well". We went to Sister Spear's and spent the night. I enjoyed the visit very much.

⁴⁷ Numbers 23:10 Who can count the dust of Jacob, and the number of the fourth part of Israel? Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his

⁴⁸ Romans 1:16 f For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

**Thursday, October 12, 1854**

Received letters from Father, Ollie, Sister & Bro. EDL. Wrote Father. The rain prevented our going to prayer meeting.

Friday, October 13, 1854

Rained in the evening. I felt very glad when the labors of the week had closed. (word scratched out) Dr McFarland called on me at night.

Saturday, October 14, 1854

Quite cool to-day. Wrote Bro Ollie, Jerry, JT Eper, and Merriam Bros. Felt very happy with my Sarah Belle. Received a book from Harper and Brothers.

Sunday, October 15, 1854

Went to S. School at 8 o'clock. Preached at night. Text: I Thes. 5-17⁴⁹. Had not the liberty I have had sometimes; but my heart was deeply moved. Lord send prosperity.

Monday, October 16, 1854

Nothing of special interest. Wrote TJ Caldwell. My duties will be very great until Dr. Klepper returns

Tuesday, October 17, 1854

Received a letter from Minnie. We were glad to hear from her. I am very happy with my Sarah Belle.

Wednesday, October 18, 1854

The day has passed very quickly. I felt very (illegible) all day. Very busy.

Thursday, October 19, 1854

Very busy. Went to prayer meeting at night. Had a good meeting. Exhorted sinners to flee the wrath to come.

Friday, October 20, 1854

Felt greatly relieved when the labors of the week had closed. I am happy in the Savior. O for all the fullness of His love.

⁴⁹ | Thessalonians 1L17 Pray without ceasing.

Saturday, October 21, 1854

Spent the day visiting and raising money for the school. Dr Klepper returned. Glad he is back. Thoughts of the future give me some uneasiness.

Sunday, October 22, 1854

This has been a very gloomy day. Attended S. School. Dr. Klepper preached at night. Retired feeling perfectly well but at twelve awoke a sore throat that approached almost to sufferation.

Monday, October 23, 1854

Sent for Dr. McFarland. He cupped me and left medicine. At night felt some better.



19th Century physicians kit with cups for bleeding patients.

Tuesday, October 24, 1854

My throat continues very painful. Did not leave my bed during the day.

**Wednesday, October 25, 1854**

Felt some better to-day. Was up a little. Took medicine. Hope to well soon again. My duties are very urgent.

Thursday, October 26, 1854

My throat is much better today (sic). Did not get to prayer meeting. I hope soon to be able to attend to my duties.

Friday, October 27, 1854

Went to the Sem and attended to my recitations today. I am so thankful to be able to be at work. O for the anointing of the Holy Ghost.

Saturday, October 28, 1854

Was very busy to-day making out bills and writing letters to New York, Cincinnati, and Miss Boorhees (?). I look through the gloom of the earth to the brightness of Heaven.

Sunday, October 29, 1854

Had appointed class meeting but the rain prevented my going. Went to S. School. The day passed very quietly away.

Monday, October 30, 1854

Resumed my duties in right good earnest. Hope to be useful.

Tuesday, October 31, 1854

We received a letter from Bro B. Laning. Mrs. L... (illegible) had company to day. The dinner was splendid. I enjoyed it largely. Spent the evening at Dr. Klepper's.

NOVEMBER**Wednesday, November 1, 1854**

The day was spent very happily. At night we went out to Mr. Lee's. I am happy in the Savior's love. I have an indwelling witness that I am His.

**Thursday, November 2, 1854**

Received letters from Bro. Ollie, Lizzie, Bro. McCorkle and R. M. Moore. Wrote R. M. M. Went to prayer meeting. Felt very well.

Friday, November 3, 1854

The day was cold and gloomy. We spent the evening at Mr. Willis McGuire's. Wrote Minnie.

Saturday, November 4, 1854

Spent the day variously. Wrote Bro. Miller's. Several friends called on us. Mr. Ball and Lady started to New Orleans.

Sunday, November 5, 1854

Preached at 11. Text Mat. 10-22⁵⁰. Went to S. School. Dr. Klepper at night. I am very happy in the Savior.

Monday, November 6, 1854

Nothing of special interest. Beautiful day. Spent the evening with a number of ladies here. Had a very pleasant time. The Savior is Precious.

Tuesday, November 7, 1854

Received a letter from Father. Answered it. The day was most lovely. But a deep sadness steals o're my spirits. Dear is unwell.

Wednesday, November 8, 1854

Wrote Father and Mother Laning. The day passed quite pleasantly away. Commenced a letter to Miss Minnie. My duties are pleasant. Spent the evening at Dr. Klepper's.

Thursday, November 9, 1854

Received a letter from J. (illegible). Went to prayer meeting. Enjoyed myself very well. I am very happy in a Savior's love.

⁵⁰ Matthew 10:22 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.



Friday, November 10, 1854

After a very pleasant day we spent the evening in sister Mc's room with Mrs. Brevard and other ladies. I am glad Friday night has come.

Saturday, November 11, 1854

Spent the day variously. In the evening Dear and I went to sister Spear's for persimmons. I should be more watchful.

Sunday, November 12, 1854

Snowed this morning. Had no class meeting & S. School. Preached at night. Text: James 4-8⁵¹. Felt very well. It is very unpleasant outdoors.

Monday, November 13, 1854

Still very cold. Snow remains. The day passed quickly. I feel unpleasant for some causes; I know not what.

Tuesday, November 14, 1854

Received a letter from RM Dence (?). Also books from New York. A (illegible) from Prof Goodfellow. Wrote Prof. I am very happy.

Wednesday, November 15, 1854

Wrote Miss Winsor & Ollie. Felt very happy. I know I feel the Savior is mine. May He sanctify me from all sin, and make me eminently useful.

Thursday, November 16, 1854

Received letters from T.J. Calwell, R.M. Moore, (illegible) & Poe, and Burgels & Co. Wrote S & Poe & Burgel & Co. Went to prayermeeting. Felt it good to be there. Was greatly blest..

Friday, November 17, 1854

How quickly the labors of the week passed away. At night Bro Berryman preached an excellent discourse. Felt very happy.

⁵¹ James 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

**Saturday, November 18, 1854**

We received a letter from Father & Mother Laning. Spent the day variously. Very cold. Dear and I are very happy together. The Lord help us to be useful.

Sunday, November 19, 1854

At 11 o'clock preached at Mr Babet's(?). Text: Psalm 145-20⁵². At night at home. Text: John 5-6⁵³. Had good liberty. May the Lord bless the labors of this day for good.

Monday, November 20, 1854

The day was very pleasant. Went to Nat McGuire & spent the evening. Enjoyed the cold very much.

Tuesday, November 21, 1854

The first quarter closed to day. How quickly it has gone. Rained. Continued reading *The Lamplighter*. Am very much interested in it.

Wednesday, November 22, 1854

Pleasant day. At night we and Sister Mc called on some. Englishes(?). Did not enjoy myself as I expected. A most pleasant family.

Thursday, November 23, 1854

Rained most all day. Read a great part of *The Lamplighter*. How thrilling! I hope to profit by it.

Friday, November 24, 1854

Received a letter from Miss Boorhees. She is just such a teacher as we need. Dear received letters from Miss Walker. Mrs. Perkins & Minnie. All full of interest. Called & spent the evening at Mrs. Painter's.

⁵² Psalm 145:20 The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.

⁵³ John 5:5-6 And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years. When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole?

**Saturday, November 25, 1854**

Was very busy all day. Made a screen. Bro Norman came. Spent the evening with us. Am very much fatigued.

Sunday, November 26, 1854

Bro Norman preached at eleven and at night. Dr. McFarland and Miss Amanda McGuire were married at night. The Lord bless them.

Monday, November 27, 1854

Entered into my duties cheerfully. At night we called at Mr Wellings(?). Had a very pleasant visit. Eleven students entered.

Tuesday, November 28, 1854

Very busy. My duties are great. I must do my utmost this quarter.

Wednesday, November 29, 1854

Nothing of special interest. I worked hard. Sister A McGuire and Sister Rapeney spent the night (scratched out) evening with us.

Thursday, November 30, 1854

Went to prayer meeting. I have not felt very pleasant to day. I look up however for the light. I earnestly long for full redemption through the blood of the Lamb.

DECEMBER**Friday, December 1, 1854**

Received letters from Father, Ollie and Bro F. I am glad the labors of the week are over.

Saturday, December 2, 1854

Spent the day having my teeth filled. Dr. Barrs (?) is a superior dentist.

**Sunday, December 3, 1854**

Bro Hawkins preached at eleven & Bro Laural at 3. I preached at night. Text Gal. 5-22-23⁵⁴. Felt very badly from a flash as I conceived it. Many say it was my best effort.

Monday, December 4, 1854

Resumed my duties with a strong heart. Very cold. I am very happy with my Sarah Belle. Lord bless us both.

Tuesday, December 5, 1854

After school I went to Dr. Neal's and took tea. I spent a very pleasant evening. Dr. Klepper spent the evening at our room.

Wednesday, December 6, 1854

The day passed pleasantly away. We spent the evening at Mr. Ferguson's. Received a book from New York.

Thursday, December 7, 1854

Bro Berry preached at night. Called at the Seminary. Made us a good speech.

Friday, December 8, 1854

Was greatly hurried in my duties. Feel relieved when the labors of the week are over.

Saturday, December 9, 1854

We went in company with Sister Mc and Amanda to Mr. Allen's and spent a delightful day. They are very friendly and we enjoyed ourselves very much.

Sunday, December 10, 1854

Wrote Lane. Went to S. School. Preached at night. Text: Amos 4-12⁵⁵. Felt very well.

⁵⁴ Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

⁵⁵ Amos 4:12 Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel. For, lo, he that formeth the mountains, and createth the wind, and declareth unto man what is his thought, that maketh the morning darkness, and treadeth upon the high places of the earth, The LORD,



Monday, December 11, 1854

Spent the evening at Mr. Ferguson's. Took tea with them. They are very kind. I am very happy.

Memorandum—December 11th, 1854—Another brief (unfinished)

Tuesday, December 12, 1854

The day was quite pleasant. Nothing of special interest. We took supper and spent a very pleasant evening with Mr. Ferguson. Received a letter from Ollie & Cin.

Wednesday, December 13, 1854

Received letters from Sisters Jennie & Ellie. Wrote Miss Boorhees. Nothing of special interest.

Thursday, December 14, 1854

Dr. Klepper preached a Thanksgiving sermon. We took dinner at (illegible) McGuire's. Went to prayer meeting.

Friday, December 15, 1854

Resumed my duties in the Seminary. Received a letter from Bro John Laning. Very rainy and unpleasant. I am very happy with my dear SB Short!

Saturday, December 16, 1854

Dr. Barrs worked at my teeth until two o'clock. I met the S. School and sang with them. We took tea and spent the evening with Dr. Neal's. Wrote to N.Y.

Sunday, December 17, 1854

Dear and I went to Birds S. House. My text: Heb 2-3⁵⁶. Felt very well. Dr. Klepper preached at home at night. I am very happy.

The God of hosts, is his name.

⁵⁶ Hebrews 2:3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;

**Monday, December 18, 1854**

Resumed my duties; found them pleasant. I am endeavoring to be useful. O Lord bless with prosperity. Wrote Bro McCorkle.

Tuesday, December 19, 1854

Very cold. Had to chop wood for the Sem at night. Felt rather uncomfortable. We met at night and had a singing.

Wednesday, December 20, 1854

Received a letter from Bro Peake. It contained sad intelligence. But our trust is in the living God.

Thursday, December 21, 1854

Bright day, but a deep gloom, settled o're my spirits. My confidence is in the Most-High. Went to prayer meeting. Wrote Bro S...(?).

Friday, December 22, 1854

Wrote Sisters Jennie & Elly. We met to sing at night. I feel very unpleasant. Have a sore face. Felt God was near to bless in my devotions.

Saturday, December 23, 1854

Rained all day. Made arrangements to go to the Cape but did not go. Read some. Lord, sanctify me wholly to Thyself.

Sunday, December 24, 1854

Went to Cape Girardeau. Did not preach. Spent the day very pleasantly at Sister Sitts(?). The day has been very rainy. I longed for the company of my Sarah Belle.

Monday, December 25, 1854

Very rainy all day. Came home. Did not preach. I was very happy to be with my dear again. We have not been separated for a night before. A large bolt(?) came off in Town.

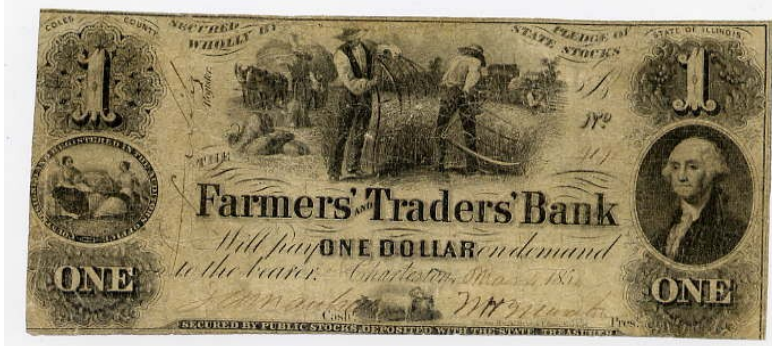
Tuesday, December 26, 1854

Resumed our recitations. Nothing of special interest. We met to sing. Dr. Klepper came after and we made out some bills.



Wednesday, December 27, 1854

Received letters from Prof Goodfellow & J.F. Epper. Dear received one from Mrs. Hill. We met to have a singing. Wrote Bro Conklin & sent him \$5.00.



An 1854 Illinois Dollar

Thursday, December 28, 1854

Preached at night. Text: Rev. 2-10⁵⁷. Had good liberty. Lord send down thy Grace. I long for full redemption through the blood of the Lamb.

Friday, December 29, 1854

Dr. Klepper preached at night. Nothing of special interest. I am very happy.

Saturday, December 30, 1854

Quarterly meeting commenced. Bro Houts did not arrive until I had commenced preaching. Text: Lam 3-24⁵⁸. Bro H. preached at night. I am happy in the Savior. Called on Miss Lucy Cannon.

⁵⁷ Revelation 2:10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

⁵⁸ Lamentations 3:21 f This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him. The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him. It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.



Sunday, December 31, 1854

Had an excellent Love-Feast. Bro H. preached a great sermon. Met the S. School, Bro Golding preached at night. Felt very happy. Thus has fled another year. To me it has been an eventful one. Unfaithful and Unprofitable servant has been my character. I trust in the atonement of Christ and feel I am forgiven. Thanks be unto God for the unspeakable Gift. God's grace assisting me, I will live more for Him if spared another year.

Memorandum

January 1st, 1855--This year will be an important one to me in many respects. An increase responsibility will rest upon me. I will try to increase in favor of God. I will put forth additional efforts for holiness of heart and life.

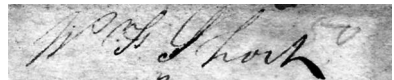
May earth show waters from on High.
But make it all a pool:
Spring up, O Well, I ever cry.
Spring up within my soul.

Come, O my God!, Thyself reveal..
Fill all this mighty void.
Thou only can'st my spirit fill.
Come, O my Love, My God

Create in me a clean heart.

Save me to the uttermost.

Increase my faith.



Memorandum

January 11, 1854—To day I received an answer to a proposal I recently made to one with whom I expect to share life's joys or ills. I feel very strangely indeed. I am perfectly happy yet there is something deeply solemn in it all. I trust everything has been directed by God. If so,



all will be well. I made Him the Man Of My Counsel. May He favor us with divine direction. We will give ourselves up to altogether to Him. O Lord give us grace for sunshine and for storm. Life's bitterest hours may we still cleave to Thee. Help us to triumph here and then to reign above.

Memorandum

February 6th (?), 1854—Today I opened the first term of the Missouri Conference Seminary. Seventy-five students entered. Besides the classes in the primary and higher English, classes were organized in History. Two in Latin, one in Greek, one in algebra and one in Geometry

I feel there is great responsibility resting on me. Only as I am assisted from on high will I be successful. I earnestly hope this institution may become a great moral nucleus around which will be gathered the interests of Christianity in this frontier of our state. Lord send us prosperity.

Memorandum

March 10, 1854—On the supposition that (The first half of this page is illegible.)

Therefore Resolved: That I will live as if I were striving all the time to be that one of my generation. Lord help me to keep that resolution. Fill me with all Thy weight of love.

Memorandum

June 9th, 1854. Today I have gone too far astray. My evil heart gained the ascendancy over me. I am almost ready to despair. NO! No, I will not. Mercy's door is open



wide. Her stores are boundless. The blood of Jesus can was the foulest stain away. O Jesus, apply that blood. My poor heart bids Thee welcome. My faith increase. My hope confirm. I feel Thee now working in my poor heart. Build, kindle the fire into a flame. Burn up the dross of sin. I give myself to Thee just as I am.

Memorandum

O Lord, I will praise Thee. My heart shall rejoice in Thy salvation. Suffer the tempter to have no power over me. My heart, my life, my all be Thine. Nor would I divide the gift. I will keep back no part of the price. Unloose my tongue to tell my (illegible) of the cross—and its victim and spread Thy fame abroad. Thou, O blessed Savior! Thou doest know the love I would express. Pardon, sanctify, and save me. I am thine. I here record a vow to live altogether for God. Lord help me to keep it,

Memorandum

June 17, 1854—I can not let this day pass without entering into new covenants with God. (Next two lines are illegible).

I feel the Savior loves me. But Oh! How unworthy of His love. I feel that I am more than ever devoted to the cause of God. I feel willing to deny myself anything for Him. On my knees, on the Bible, I receive a resolution to strain to live altogether for God. Lord bless me. Lead me from evil. Make my heart strong. Thou art so precious. Take me just as I am. Glory be to God! I will bless Him forever.

Memorandum

August 23rd, 1854—This has been an eventful day to me in life's career. It has witnessed the consummation of plighted faith and love.

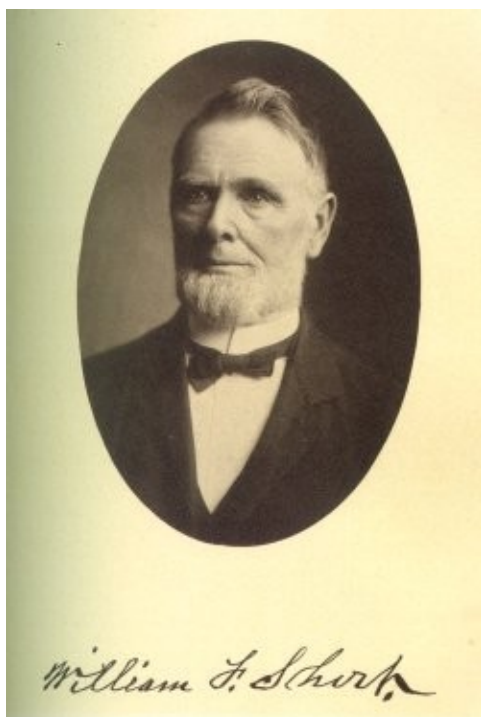


I much adore that Being whose goodness has directed me to one who is altogether what I would desire in such a bosom friend. I will try to seek her happiness with an eagerness corresponding to her merit. But I will be adequate to the accomplishment of this only (if) I am directed from on high. This aid I now implore. I trust in the Lord for the power to be useful. His shall be my talents, my heart, my residue of days.

Here Ends William F. Sharp's 1854 Diary.

HISTORICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ILLINOIS & HISTORY OF MORGAN COUNTY Munsell Publishing Company, 1906.

By
Paul Selby⁵⁹



SHORT, (REV.) WILLIAM FLETCHER, D.D., educator and retired minister of the Methodist Church, was born in Butler county, Ohio, November 9, 1829, the son of Rev. Daniel Short, who came with his family to Morgan County in 1834, and was widely known and held in high esteem by a large circle of friends throughout Central Illinois, as an able and influential preacher of the Methodist Episcopal denomination. He was a member of

⁵⁹ From:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilmaga/morgan/1906bios/shortwf.html>



the Twenty-first General Assembly from Sangamon county.

The subject of this sketch grew up on a farm, meanwhile experiencing the hardships and privations incident to the life of a farmer's boy of that early period. About the age of twenty years, feeling himself called upon to enter the Gospel ministry, he decided to seek a collegiate education, and accordingly entered McKendree College at Lebanon, Ill., where he pursued the regular course of study up to the senior year, when he became a student at the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill., graduating therefrom in 1854.

Before graduation he accepted a call to the principalship of the Missouri Conference Seminary located at Jackson in that State. After remaining there two and a half years, he tendered his resignation on account of impaired health, and entered the pastorate as a member of the Illinois Conference of the Methodist Church.

The charges later held by him included: Island Grove, Williamsville, Waverly and Winchester, each two years; Carlinville, three years; Hillsboro, one year; Grace Church, Jacksonville, Illinois, three years, and as Presiding Elder of the Jacksonville District, four years.

In July, 1875, Dr. Short, was elected President of the Illinois Female College at Jacksonville, serving in that capacity for eighteen years. His administration, as the head of this important and flourishing institution, was characterized by a wise Christian policy, resulting in the elevation of the standard of scholarship, the establishment of a home-like government and the employment of a high order of talent in the Art and Music departments.

The result has been manifest in a marked increase in the patronage and a broader and higher reputation acquired by the institution.

In 1893 he was appointed Superintendent of the Illinois School for the Blind at Jacksonville under the



administration of Governor Altgeld, retaining this position for the period of four years. The addition of several large buildings and the introduction of a number of other needed improvements, marked his administration of the affairs of the institution.

After his retirement from the Institution for the Blind in 1897, Dr. Short reentered the ministerial field as Presiding Elder of the West Jacksonville District, which position he continued to fill for six years. At the expiration of that period, having completed fifty years of service in connection with the Methodist Church, he retired from active ministerial work.

In August, 1854, Dr. Short was married to Sarah B. Laning, of Petersburg, Ill.

The degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by the Wesleyan University of Ohio in 1877.

As a citizen, Dr. Short has always manifested a deep interest in public affairs, and has won a position as a favorite in social and religious circles, and also holds a high rank in the Masonic fraternity.

He has proved himself a man of strong patriotic impulse, and during the Civil War took occasion to express himself strongly in support of the Union cause. He made many patriotic speeches arousing the loyal enthusiasm of his fellow citizens and, as a War Democrat, effectively assisting in mustering recruits for the Union Army. No one in that day took a firmer stand, both private and in public, in opposition to the Rebellion and in support of the perpetuity of the Union.

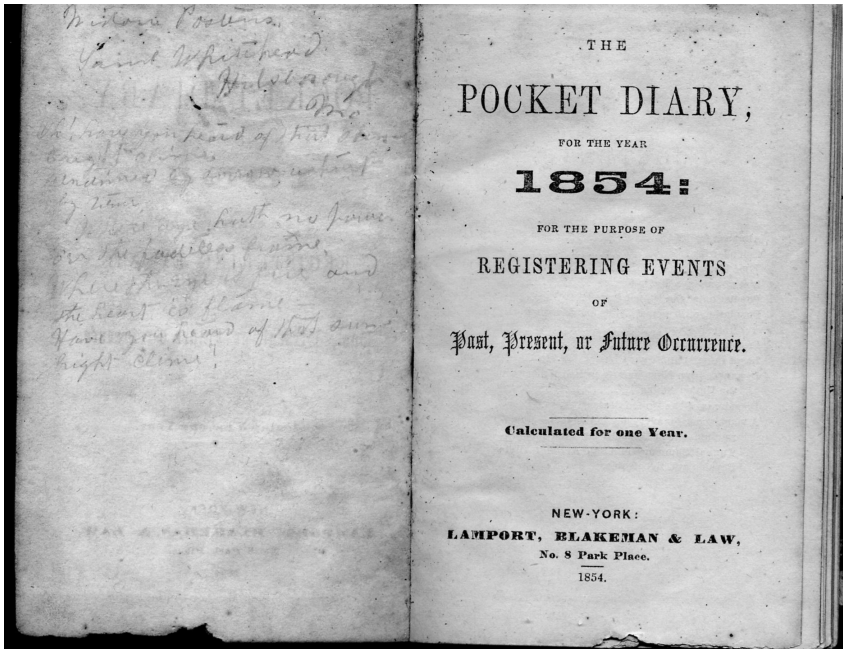
The Short family is of combined Scotch-Irish extraction, illustrating, in its leading characteristics, the keen wit and vivacity of the one branch, with the sturdy firmness and vigorous manhood of the other. Dr. Short's most recent and important work has been in connection with the preparation of the historical part of this work.

-PAUL SELBY.
1906



SCANNED DIARY PAGES:

William Short's 1854 Diary measures 3 X 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Following are computer enhanced images of the scanned autograph.





CONTENTS.

	Page.
Almanac for 1854.....	3-14
Calendar for 1854.....	15
Time Table.....	16
List of Sundays for 1854.....	17
Population of the United States.....	18
Population of Principal Cities and Towns in the United States.....	19-21
Present Rates of Postage.....	21
Legal Interest and Usury Laws.....	22
Distances from New-York to principal places in the United States.....	23
Presidents of the United States.....	24
A blank space for every day in the year—Memorandum—Cash Account for each month—Annual Summary of Cash Account—Bills Payable and Receivable.	

1854, 1st mo., JANUARY. begins Sun.

- ☽ First Quarter, 5th day, 10 51 evening.
 ☾ Full Moon, 14th day, 4 15 morning.
 ☾ Last Quarter, 21st day, 8 27 evening.
 ☾ New Moon, 28th day, 0 16 evening.

D	D	NOTABLE DAYS.	☾	☾	☾	High
M	W		☾	☾	☾	Walt.
1	W	1st Sun. aft. Ch'usmas.	7	45	10	15
2	M		7	54	44	8 57 11 0
3	T		7	54	45	10 6 11 45
4	W	[1789.]	7	55	46	11 12 ev-48
5	T	Richmond destroyed.	7	55	47	11 13 14
6	F	Epiphany.	7	55	48	11 14 15
7	S		7	55	49	11 15 16
8	S	1st Sun. after Epiph.	7	55	50	11 16 17
9	M		7	55	51	11 17 18
10	T	Stamp Act, 1765.	7	55	52	11 18 19
11	W	Lincoln d. 1785.	7	55	53	11 19 20
12	T		7	55	54	11 20 21
13	F		7	55	55	11 21 22
14	S	2d Sun. after Epiph.	7	55	56	11 22 23
15	M		7	55	57	11 23 24
16	T	Franklin born, 1706.	7	55	58	11 24 25
17	W		7	55	59	11 25 26
18	T	Independ. edg'd, 1783.	7	55	60	11 26 27
19	F		7	55	61	11 27 28
20	S		7	55	62	11 28 29
21	S	Byron born, 1788.	7	55	63	11 29 30
22	M		7	55	64	11 30 31
23	T	Conver. of St. Paul.	7	55	65	11 31 32
24	W		7	55	66	11 32 33
25	T		7	55	67	11 33 34
26	F	[1785.]	7	55	68	11 34 35
27	S	Peter the Great died.	7	55	69	11 35 36
28	S	4th Sund. aft. Epiph.	7	55	70	11 36 37
29	M		7	55	71	11 37 38
30	T		7	55	72	11 38 39
31	T		7	55	73	11 39 40

1854, 2d mo., FEBRUARY. bgs. Wed.

- ☽ First Quarter, 4th day, 5 41 evening.
 ☾ Full Moon, 12th day, 10 1 evening.
 ☾ Last Quarter, 20th day, 5 48 morning.
 ☾ New Moon, 26th day, 11 43 evening.

D	D	NOTABLE DAYS.	☾	☾	☾	High
M	W		☾	☾	☾	Walt.
1	W	First President U. S.	7	11	10	0 11 37
2	T	[1789.]	7	10	11	4 ev-19
3	F		7	9	20	10 0 25
4	S		7	7	21	0 7 1 26
5	S	Sir R. Peel b. 1788.	7	6	22	1 7 2 17
6	M		7	5	23	2 7 3 4
7	T		7	4	24	3 7 4 9
8	W	Ash Wednesday.	7	3	25	4 7 5 10
9	T		7	2	26	5 7 6 11
10	F	Victoria marr'd, 1840.	7	1	27	6 7 7 12
11	S		7	0	28	7 7 8 13
12	S	Septuagesima Sun.	6	58	31	riase. 9 16
13	M		6	57	32	6 11 9 02
14	T	St. Valentine.	6	56	33	7 10 0 28
15	W	Galileo born, 1564.	6	55	34	8 9 1 0 5
16	T		6	54	35	9 8 2 11
17	F		6	53	36	10 7 3 12
18	S	Luther died, 1546.	6	52	37	11 6 4 13
19	S	Sexagesima Sunday.	6	51	38	12 5 5 14
20	M		6	50	39	1 4 6 15
21	T		6	49	40	2 3 7 16
22	W	Washington b. 1753.	6	48	41	3 2 8 17
23	T	J. Q. Adams d. 1848.	6	47	42	4 1 9 18
24	F		6	46	43	5 0 10 19
25	S		6	45	44	6 0 11 20
26	S	Quinquagesima Sun.	6	39	49	sexta. 8 21
27	M		6	38	50	9 21 9 12
28	T		6	37	51	7 40 9 57

1854, 3d mo., MARCH. bgs. Wed.

- ☽ First Quarter, 6th day, 2 13 evening.
 ☾ Full Moon, 14th day, 0 57 evening.
 ☾ Last Quarter, 21st day, 1 6 evening.
 ☾ New Moon, 28th day, 11 55 morning.

D	D	NOTABLE DAYS.	☾	☾	☾	High
M	W		☾	☾	☾	Walt.
1	W		6	35	53	6 45 10 37
2	T	Wesley d. 1791.	6	34	53	9 51 11 14
3	F		6	33	54	10 55 11 50
4	S		6	32	55	11 57 ev-22
5	S	1st Sunday in Lent.	6	31	56	12 56 12 56
6	M		6	30	57	0 59 1 31
7	T		6	29	57	1 58 2 12
8	W		6	28	58	3 4 3 8
9	T		6	27	58	4 44 4 32
10	F		6	26	59	5 48 5 1
11	S	Reas. West d. 1830.	6	25	59	6 51 5 11
12	S	2d Sunday in Lent.	6	24	60	8 12 6 8 12
13	M		6	23	60	9 16 6 8 53
14	T		6	22	61	10 19 7 9 28
15	W		6	21	61	11 21 8 10 2
16	T	St. Patrick's Day.	6	20	62	12 24 9 10 2
17	F		6	19	62	1 27 10 41 11 41
18	S		6	18	63	2 30 11 41 11 41
19	S	3d Sunday in Lent.	6	17	63	3 33 12 42 12 42
20	M		6	16	64	4 36 1 12 0 55
21	T		6	15	64	5 39 2 13 1 58
22	W		6	14	65	6 42 3 14 2 58
23	T		6	13	65	7 45 4 15 3 58
24	F		6	12	66	8 48 5 16 4 58
25	S		6	11	66	9 51 6 17 5 57
26	S	Mid Lent Sunday.	6	10	67	10 54 7 18 6 57
27	M		6	9	67	11 57 8 19 7 57
28	T		6	8	68	12 60 9 20 8 56
29	W		6	7	68	1 63 10 21 9 55
30	T		6	6	69	2 66 11 22 10 54
31	F	Calhoun d. 1850.	6	5	69	3 69 12 23 11 53

1854, 4th mo., APRIL. bgs. Sat.

- ☽ First Quar., 5th day, 10 26 morning.
- ☾ Full Moon, 13th day, 1 1 morning.
- ☾ Last Quarter, 19th day, 7 18 evening.
- ☾ New Moon, 27th day, 1 18 morning.

D	M	W	NOTABLE DAYS.	☽	☾	☾	High
				rise	set	set	Wat.
1	S			4 44	5 34	10 46	11 18
2	F		5th Sunday in Lent.	5 42	5 35	11 47	11 49
3	M			5 41	5 31	12 48	12 20
4	T		Harrison d. 1841.	5 39	5 25	0 44	0 57
5	W			5 37	5 20	1 37	1 55
6	T			5 35	5 20	2 24	2 26
7	F			5 34	5 21	3 8	3 47
8	M			5 33	5 22	3 38	3 17
9	T		Palm Sunday.	5 31	5 23	4 6	6 38
10	W			5 30	5 24	4 33	7 34
11	T			5 28	5 25	5 1	8 17
12	W		Henry Clay b. 1777.	5 26	5 25	5 53	8 53
13	T			5 25	5 27	1 17	9 27
14	F		Good Friday.	5 23	5 28	2 32	10 1
15	M			5 22	5 29	3 37	10 29
16	T		Easter Sunday.	5 20	5 31	4 11	11 16
17	W		B. Franklin d. 1700.	5 19	5 41	4 59	11 55
18	T			5 17	5 42	5 15	12 20
19	W		Bat. Lex. 1775.	5 16	5 43	1 12	0 42
20	T		Byron d. 1854.	5 14	5 44	2 4	1 34
21	F			5 12	5 45	3 11	2 45
22	M			5 11	5 46	3 18	4 12
23	T		1st Sun. aft. Easter.	5 10	5 47	3 46	5 45
24	W			5 8	5 48	4 11	6 58
25	T			5 7	5 49	4 35	7 49
26	F		David Home b. 1715.	5 6	5 50	5 2	8 52
27	M			5 4	5 51	5 29	9 7
28	T			5 3	5 52	5 31	9 43
29	W			5 2	5 53	5 35	10 17
30	T		3d Sun. aft. Easter.	5 0	5 55	10 35	10 49

1854, 5th mo., MAY. bgs. Mon.

- ☽ First Quar., 5th day, 4 34 morning.
- ☾ Full Moon, 13th day, 10 40 morning.
- ☾ Last Quarter, 19th day, 1 36 morning.
- ☾ New Moon, 26th day, 3 51 evening.

D	M	W	NOTABLE DAYS.	☽	☾	☾	High
				rise	set	set	Wat.
1	M			4 56	5 56	11 30	11 31
2	T			4 56	5 57	12 11	11 53
3	W			4 56	5 58	0 12	0 28
4	T		Bonaparte d. 1831.	4 56	5 59	1 5	1 10
5	F			4 54	6 0	1 37	1 59
6	M			4 53	6 1	2 9	3 7
7	T		3d Sun. aft. Easter.	4 52	6 2	2 36	4 36
8	W			4 51	6 3	3 1	5 15
9	T		Astor Pl. Riot, 1845.	4 49	6 4	3 26	6 47
10	W			4 48	6 5	3 50	7 53
11	T			4 47	6 6	4 17	8 13
12	F			4 46	6 7	4 44	8 53
13	M			4 45	6 8	5 43	9 53
14	T		4th Sun. aft. Easter.	4 44	6 9	6 10	10 16
15	W			4 43	10 11	6 10	10 45
16	T			4 42	11 11	6 10	11 45
17	W		Talleyrand d. 1838.	4 41	12 0	1 10	12 20
18	T		Matamoros tak. 1846.	4 40	13 0	1 45	0 27
19	F			4 39	14 1	2 11	1 35
20	M		La Fayette d. 1834.	4 38	15 1	2 51	2 42
21	T		Regulation Sunday.	4 37	16 2	3 16	4 9
22	W			4 37	16 2	3 40	5 17
23	T			4 36	16 3	4 6	6 15
24	F		Q. Victoria b. 1812.	4 35	17 3	4 27	7 15
25	M		Ascension Day.	4 34	18 3	5 52	8 58
26	T			4 34	19 3	6 52	10 54
27	W		5th Sun. aft. Easter.	4 33	20 3	8 10	12 53
28	T			4 32	21 3	9 10	14 53
29	W		Alex. Pope d. 1744.	4 32	22 3	10 52	16 11
30	T			4 31	23 3	11 58	17 55

1854, 6th mo., JUNE. bgs. Thurs.

- ☽ First Quar., 3d day, 7 44 evening.
- ☾ Full Moon, 10th day, 6 54 evening.
- ☾ Last Quar., 17th day, 9 18 morning.
- ☾ New Moon, 25th day, 7 5 morning.

D	M	W	NOTABLE DAYS.	☽	☾	☾	High
				rise	set	set	Wat.
1	T			7 17	24	10 12	10 12
2	F			7 17	25	0 9	0 53
3	M			7 17	26	0 27	1 29
4	T		Whit Sunday.	7 17	26	1 3	2 23
5	W			7 17	27	1 16	3 41
6	T		Gen. Gaines d. 1849.	7 17	28	2 1	4 49
7	F			7 17	28	2 15	6 48
8	M		Gen. Jackson d. 1815.	7 17	29	2 42	8 45
9	T			7 17	29	3 16	10 44
10	W			7 17	30	3 53	12 43
11	T		Trinity Sunday.	7 17	31	4 46	14 42
12	W			7 17	31	5 40	16 41
13	T			7 17	32	10 41	18 40
14	F			7 17	32	11 51	20 39
15	M		J. K. Polk d. 1849.	7 17	32	12 5	22 38
16	T			7 17	33	13 0	24 37
17	W		1st Sun. aft. Trinity.	7 17	33	0 45	2 46
18	T			7 17	34	1 8	3 20
19	F		Madison d. 1836.	7 17	34	1 33	4 25
20	M			7 17	34	1 56	5 35
21	T			7 17	34	2 24	6 36
22	W			7 17	34	2 53	7 39
23	T			7 17	35	3 33	8 15
24	F		2d Sun. aft. Trinity.	7 17	35	4 15	9 55
25	M			7 17	35	5 17	11 50
26	T			7 17	35	10 10	13 46
27	W			7 17	35	10 40	15 42
28	T		H. Clay d. 1852.	7 17	35	11 11	17 38
29	F			7 17	35	11 11	19 34

1854, 7th mo., JULY. bgs. Sat.

- ☽ First Quar., 3d day, 7 55 morning.
- ☾ Full Moon, 10th day, 1 23 morning.
- ☾ Last Quar., 17th day, 7 29 evening.
- ☾ New Moon, 24th day, 10 30 evening.

D	M	W	NOTABLE DAYS.	☽	☾	☾	High
				rise	set	set	Wat.
1	S			7 37	25	11 30	11 30
2	F		3d Sun. aft. Trinity.	7 37	25	11 51	11 51
3	M			7 37	26	12 0	12 0
4	T		Independence, 1776.	7 37	26	0 16	0 54
5	W			7 37	26	0 41	1 35
6	T			7 37	26	1 11	2 16
7	F		Sheridan d. 1816.	7 37	26	1 46	3 09
8	M			7 37	26	2 23	4 0
9	T		4th Sun. aft. Trinity.	7 37	26	3 0	5 0
10	W		Z. Taylor d. 1850.	7 37	26	3 37	6 55
11	T			7 37	26	4 14	8 51
12	F			7 37	26	5 0	10 44
13	M			7 37	26	5 51	12 40
14	T		French Revol. 1789.	7 37	26	6 45	14 36
15	W			7 37	26	7 40	16 32
16	T		5th Sun. aft. Trin.	7 37	26	8 35	18 28
17	F			7 37	26	9 30	20 24
18	M			7 37	26	10 25	22 20
19	T			7 37	26	11 20	24 16
20	W		Burns d. 1799.	7 37	26	12 15	26 12
21	T			7 37	26	13 10	28 8
22	F		6th Sun. aft. Trin.	7 37	26	14 5	29 4
23	M			7 37	26	15 0	30 50
24	T			7 37	26	15 5	31 46
25	W			7 37	26	15 55	32 42
26	T			7 37	26	16 50	33 38
27	F			7 37	26	17 45	34 34
28	M			7 37	26	18 40	35 30
29	T		Day Days begin.	7 37	26	19 35	36 26
30	W		7th Sun. aft. Trin.	7 37	26	20 30	37 22
31	T			7 37	26	21 25	38 18



1854, 8th mo., AUGUST. bgs. Tu.

- ☉ First Quar., 1st day, 5 33 evening.
 ☾ Full Moon, 8th day, 8 21 morning.
 ☽ Last Quar., 15th day, 8 53 morning.
 ☉ New Moon, 23rd day, 1 4 evening.
 ☾ First Quar., 31st day, 1 11 morning.

D	D	NOTABLE DAYS.	☉	☾	☽	High
M	W		rise	set	rise	Wat.
1	T		4 56	7 16	11 9	1 38
2	W	Akwisquit d. 1792.	4 57	7 14	11 42	3 12
3	T	Burr's Trial, 1807.	4 58	7 13	12 00	5 2
4	F		4 59	7 12	12 22	4 13
5	S		5 0	7 11	12 44	5 56
6	S	8th Sun. aft. Trin.	5 1	7 10	1 3	8 47
7	M		5 2	7 9	1 29	7 53
8	T	Ney shot, 1815.	5 3	7 8	1 50	6 43
9	W		5 4	7 6	1 18	4 45
10	T	St. Lawrence.	5 5	7 5	1 47	10 24
11	F		5 6	7 4	2 13	11 17
12	S		5 7	7 2	2 36	11 58
13	S	9th Sun. aft. Trin.	5 8	7 1	3 0	12 58
14	M		5 9	7 0	3 27	13 53
15	T	Bonaparte b. 1769.	5 10	6 58	3 51	1 18
16	W		5 11	6 57	4 13	2 9
17	T		5 12	6 55	4 36	2 47
18	F		5 13	6 54	4 59	3 46
19	S		5 14	6 53	5 22	4 45
20	S	10th Sun. aft. Trin.	5 15	6 51	5 45	5 44
21	M		5 16	6 50	6 08	6 43
22	T		5 17	6 48	6 31	7 42
23	W	St. Bartholomew.	5 18	6 47	6 54	8 41
24	T		5 19	6 45	7 17	9 40
25	F		5 20	6 44	7 40	10 39
26	S		5 21	6 42	8 03	11 38
27	S	11th Sun. aft. Trin.	5 22	6 41	8 26	12 37
28	M		5 23	6 39	8 49	1 36
29	T	St. John Bap. beh'd.	5 24	6 38	9 12	2 35
30	W		5 25	6 36	9 35	3 34
31	T	Bunyan d. 1688.	5 26	6 34	9 58	4 33

1854, 9th mo., SEPTEMBER. bgs. Fr.

- ☉ Full Moon, 6th day, 4 22 evening.
 ☾ Last Quar., 14th day, 1 34 morning.
 ☽ New Moon, 22d day, 3 7 morning.
 ☾ First Quar., 29th day, 7 42 morning.

D	D	NOTABLE DAYS.	☉	☾	☽	High
M	W		rise	set	rise	Wat.
1	W		5 26	6 33	11 59	5 39
2	T		5 27	6 31	12 22	6 43
3	F	13th Sun. aft. Trin.	5 28	6 29	1 4	7 47
4	M		5 29	6 28	2 27	8 51
5	T		5 30	6 26	3 40	7 51
6	W	La Fayette b. 1757.	5 31	6 25	4 53	8 55
7	T		5 32	6 23	6 6	9 58
8	F		5 33	6 21	7 18	10 15
9	S		5 34	6 20	8 31	11 22
10	S	13th Sun. aft. Trin.	5 35	6 18	9 44	12 29
11	M		5 36	6 16	10 57	1 36
12	T		5 37	6 15	12 10	2 43
13	W	Mexico taken, 1847.	5 38	6 13	1 23	3 50
14	T		5 39	6 11	2 36	4 57
15	F	Howe entered N. Y.	5 40	6 9	3 49	6 4
16	S		5 41	6 8	5 2	7 11
17	S	14th Sun. aft. Trin.	5 42	6 6	6 15	8 18
18	M		5 43	6 4	7 28	9 25
19	T		5 44	6 2	8 41	10 32
20	W	St. Matthew.	5 45	6 1	9 54	11 39
21	T		5 46	6 0	11 7	12 46
22	F	Mon. Andre tak. 1780.	5 47	5 58	12 20	1 53
23	S	15th Sun. aft. Trin.	5 48	5 56	1 33	3 0
24	M		5 49	5 54	2 46	4 7
25	T		5 50	5 53	3 59	5 14
26	W	Philad. tak. 1777.	5 51	5 51	5 12	6 21
27	T		5 52	5 50	6 25	7 28
28	F		5 53	5 48	7 38	8 35
29	S		5 54	5 46	8 51	9 42
30	S	Whitfield, d. 1770.	5 55	5 44	10 4	10 49

1854, 10th mo., OCTOBER. bgs. Sun.

- ☉ Full Moon, 6th day, 2 40 morning.
 ☾ Last Quar., 13th day, 8 47 evening.
 ☽ New Moon, 21st day, 4 29 evening.
 ☾ First Quar., 28th day, 2 8 evening.

D	D	NOTABLE DAYS.	☉	☾	☽	High
M	W		rise	set	rise	Wat.
1	W		5 56	5 40	9 5	11 35
2	T	16th Sun. aft. Trin.	5 57	5 41	10 18	12 42
3	F	Andre execut. 1780.	5 58	5 39	11 31	1 49
4	S		5 59	5 38	12 44	2 56
5	T		6 0	5 36	1 57	4 3
6	W		6 1	5 35	3 10	5 10
7	T		6 2	5 33	4 23	6 17
8	F	17th Sun. aft. Trin.	6 3	5 31	5 36	7 24
9	S		6 4	5 30	6 49	8 31
10	T		6 5	5 28	8 2	9 38
11	W		6 6	5 27	9 15	10 45
12	T		6 7	5 25	10 28	11 52
13	F		6 8	5 23	11 41	12 59
14	S	Wellington d. 1822.	6 9	5 21	12 54	1 6
15	S	18th Sun. aft. Trin.	6 10	5 20	1 7	2 13
16	M		6 11	5 19	2 20	3 20
17	T	Burgeyne sur. 1777.	6 12	5 17	3 33	4 27
18	W		6 13	5 16	4 46	5 34
19	T	Corwallis sur. 1781.	6 14	5 14	5 59	6 41
20	F		6 15	5 13	7 12	7 48
21	S	19th Sun. aft. Trin.	6 16	5 12	8 25	8 55
22	M		6 17	5 10	9 38	10 2
23	T	Webster d. 1852.	6 18	5 9	10 51	11 9
24	F		6 19	5 7	12 4	12 16
25	S		6 20	5 6	1 17	1 23
26	S		6 21	5 4	2 30	2 30
27	T		6 22	5 3	3 43	3 37
28	F		6 23	5 1	4 56	4 44
29	S		6 24	5 0	6 9	5 51
30	S	20th Sun. aft. Trin.	6 25	4 58	7 22	6 58
31	T	John Adams b. 1735.	6 26	4 56	8 35	8 5

1854, 11th mo., NOVEMBER. bgs. Wed.

- ☉ Full Moon, 4th day, 4 5 evening.
 ☾ Last Quar., 13th day, 5 13 evening.
 ☽ New Moon, 20th day, 5 6 morning.
 ☾ First Quar., 26th day, 9 44 evening.

D	D	NOTABLE DAYS.	☉	☾	☽	High
M	W		rise	set	rise	Wat.
1	W	All Saints.	6 30	4 57	2 47	6 27
2	T	All Souls.	6 31	4 56	4 0	7 34
3	F		6 32	4 54	5 13	8 41
4	S		6 33	4 53	6 26	9 48
5	T	1st Sun. aft. Trin.	6 34	4 51	7 39	10 55
6	W		6 35	4 50	8 52	12 2
7	T		6 36	4 48	10 5	1 9
8	F		6 37	4 47	11 18	2 16
9	S		6 38	4 45	12 31	3 23
10	T		6 39	4 44	1 44	4 30
11	W	Milton died, 1774.	6 40	4 42	2 57	5 37
12	T	Luther born, 1483.	6 41	4 41	4 10	6 44
13	F	22d Sun. aft. Trin.	6 42	4 40	5 23	7 51
14	S		6 43	4 38	6 36	8 58
15	S		6 44	4 37	7 49	10 5
16	T		6 45	4 35	9 2	11 12
17	F		6 46	4 34	10 15	12 19
18	S		6 47	4 32	11 28	1 26
19	S	23d Sun. aft. Trin.	6 48	4 31	12 41	2 33
20	M		6 49	4 29	1 54	3 40
21	T		6 50	4 28	3 7	4 47
22	W		6 51	4 26	4 20	5 54
23	T		6 52	4 25	5 33	7 1
24	F		6 53	4 23	6 46	8 8
25	S		6 54	4 22	7 59	9 15
26	S	24th Sun. aft. Trin.	6 55	4 20	9 12	10 22
27	T		6 56	4 19	10 25	11 29
28	F		6 57	4 17	11 38	12 36
29	S		6 58	4 16	12 51	1 43
30	S		6 59	4 14	2 4	2 50
31	T		7 0	4 13	3 17	3 57

1854, 12th mo., DECEMBER. bgs. Fr.

- ☉ Full Moon, 4th day, 8 38 morning.
- ☾ Last Quar., 12th day, 1 15 evening.
- ☉ New Moon, 19th day, 4 51 evening.
- ☾ First Quar. 26th day, 7 42 morning.

D	M	W	NOTABLE DAYS.	☉	☾	☾	High
				rise's	sets.	sets.	Wat.
1	F			7 54	3 59	6 48	
2	S			7 54	3 51	7 36	
3	M		Advent Sunday.	7 54	3 51	7 36	
4	T			7 54	3 51	7 36	
5	F			7 54	3 51	7 36	
6	S		Whitefield b. 1714.	7 54	3 51	7 36	
7	M			7 54	3 51	7 36	
8	T			7 54	3 51	7 36	
9	F			7 54	3 51	7 36	
10	S			7 54	3 51	7 36	
11	M		2d Sun. in Advent.	7 54	3 51	7 36	
12	T			7 54	3 51	7 36	
13	F			7 54	3 51	7 36	
14	S		Washington d. 1799.	7 54	3 51	7 36	
15	M			7 54	3 51	7 36	
16	T			7 54	3 51	7 36	
17	F		3d Sun. in Advent.	7 54	3 51	7 36	
18	S			7 54	3 51	7 36	
19	M			7 54	3 51	7 36	
20	T			7 54	3 51	7 36	
21	F		Pilgrims landed, 1620	7 54	3 51	7 36	
22	S			7 54	3 51	7 36	
23	M		4th Sun. in Advent.	7 54	3 51	7 36	
24	T		Christmas.	7 54	3 51	7 36	
25	F		St. Stephen.	7 54	3 51	7 36	
26	S		St. John.	7 54	3 51	7 36	
27	M			7 54	3 51	7 36	
28	T			7 54	3 51	7 36	
29	F			7 54	3 51	7 36	
30	S			7 54	3 51	7 36	
31	M		1st Sun. aft. Christ.	7 54	3 51	7 36	

CALENDAR FOR 1854.

1854.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	1854.	JULY.	AUGUST.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
Sun.	1	8	15	22	29		Sun.	1	8	15	22	29	
Mon.	2	9	16	23	30	6	Mon.	2	9	16	23	30	6
Tue.	3	10	17	24	1	7	Tue.	3	10	17	24	1	7
Wed.	4	11	18	25	2	8	Wed.	4	11	18	25	2	8
Thurs.	5	12	19	26	3	9	Thurs.	5	12	19	26	3	9
Fri.	6	13	20	27	4	10	Fri.	6	13	20	27	4	10
Sat.	7	14	21	28	5	11	Sat.	7	14	21	28	5	11

A TABLE
Showing the number of days from any day in one month, to the same day in any other month, throughout the year.

MONTHS.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
January	365	31	59	90	120	151	181	212	242	272	303	334
February	365	28	58	89	119	150	180	211	241	271	302	333
March	365	28	57	88	118	149	179	210	240	270	301	332
April	365	28	57	87	117	148	178	209	239	269	300	331
May	365	28	56	86	116	147	177	208	238	268	299	330
June	365	28	56	86	115	146	176	207	237	267	298	329
July	365	28	55	85	114	145	175	206	236	266	297	328
August	365	28	55	85	113	144	174	205	235	265	296	327
September	365	28	54	84	112	143	173	204	234	264	295	326
October	365	28	54	84	111	142	172	203	233	263	294	325
November	365	28	53	83	110	141	171	202	232	262	293	324
December	365	28	53	83	110	141	171	202	232	262	293	324

Look for April at the left hand, and September at the top; in the angle is 123.

LIST OF SUNDAYS

IN THE

YEAR 1854.

January,	1	8	15	22	29
February,	5	12	19	26	
March,	5	12	19	26	
April,	2	9	16	23	30
May,	7	14	21	28	
June,	4	11	18	25	
July,	2	9	16	23	30
August,	6	13	20	27	
September,	3	10	17	24	
October,	1	8	15	22	29
November,	5	12	19	26	
December,	3	10	17	24	31



Population of the United States for 1850.

States.	Free Population.	Slaves.
Maine	582,026	—
New Hampshire.....	181,003	—
Massachusetts.....	914,724	—
Vermont.....	314,322	—
Rhode Island.....	147,549	—
Connecticut.....	370,913	—
New-York.....	3,098,818	—
New-Jersey.....	489,868	52
Pennsylvania.....	2,341,294	—
Ohio.....	1,981,340	—
Indiana.....	990,258	—
Wisconsin.....	305,596	—
Michigan.....	397,576	—
Illinois.....	850,000	—
Iowa.....	192,000	—
California.....	200,000	—
Maryland.....	492,661	90,355
Virginia.....	940,000	460,000
North Carolina.....	480,000	250,000
South Carolina.....	280,000	350,000
Georgia.....	555,000	365,000
Florida.....	45,000	32,000
Alabama.....	440,000	350,000
Mississippi.....	300,000	320,000
Louisiana.....	250,000	200,000
Texas.....	100,000	50,000
Arkansas.....	50,000	45,000
Missouri.....	590,000	—
Tennessee.....	800,000	250,000
Kentucky.....	782,000	211,000
Delaware.....	90,277	2,332

ENTIRE POPULATION.

	Free.	Slaves.
Free States.....	13,574,797	—
Slave States.....	6,294,938	3,067,234
Distriet and Territories.....	197,985	3,500
	20,067,730	3,070,734

Population of Principal Cities and Towns for 1850.

Cities and Towns.	States.	1840.	1850.	Increase.
Albany.....	N. Y.	33,721	56,006	22,305
Alexandria.....	Va.	8,459	9,967	1,508
Auburn.....	N. Y.	5,626	9,548	3,922
Augusta.....	Me.	5,316	8,231	2,915
BALTIMORE.....	Md.	102,313	169,125	66,812
Bangor.....	Me.	8,627	14,441	5,814
Bath.....	Me.	5,141	8,092	2,951
Belfast.....	Me.	4,188	6,960	2,772
BOSTON.....	Mass.	92,383	135,788	43,405
Bridgeport.....	Conn.	3,294	7,538	4,244
Brooklyn.....	N. Y.	36,283	96,000	59,717
Buffalo.....	N. Y.	18,213	49,893	31,680
Camden.....	N. J.	3,371	9,018	5,647
Charleston.....	S. C.	29,261	32,132	2,871
Charlestown.....	Mass.	11,484	35,000	23,516
Chicago.....	Ill.	4,470	28,569	23,799
Chillicothe.....	O.	3,977	7,098	3,121
CINCINNATI.....	O.	46,328	116,108	69,770
Cleveland.....	O.	6,071	17,600	11,529
Columbus.....	O.	6,048	17,656	11,608
Concord.....	N. H.	4,897	8,740	3,843
Covington.....	Ky.	2,626	6,087	3,461
Danvers.....	Mass.	5,020	7,000	1,980
Dayton.....	O.	4,268	10,976	6,708
Detroit.....	Mich.	9,102	21,057	11,955
Dover.....	N. H.	6,458	8,172	1,714
Elmira.....	N. Y.	4,791	6,000	1,209
Fall River.....	Mass.	6,738	11,805	5,067
Fayetteville.....	N. C.	4,285	6,000	1,715
Frederick.....	Md.	6,037	—	—
Harrisburg.....	Pa.	5,950	8,172	2,222
Hartford.....	Conn.	9,468	17,851	8,383
Indianapolis.....	Ind.	2,692	8,024	5,332
Ithaca.....	N. Y.	5,650	6,780	1,130
Jersey City.....	N. J.	3,072	16,000	12,928
Lancaster.....	Pa.	8,417	12,382	3,965
Lockport.....	N. Y.	9,125	12,312	3,187
Lowell.....	Mass.	20,796	32,964	12,168

Cities and Towns.	States.	1840.	1850.	Increase.
Louisville.....	Ky.	21,210	42,000	20,790
Lynn.....	Mass.	9,360	17,000	7,631
Madison.....	Ind.	3,798	8,037	4,239
Manchester.....	N. H.	3,235	13,933	10,698
Marietta.....	Mass.	5,775	8,000	2,225
Milwaukee.....	Wis.	1,700	20,026	18,326
Mobile.....	Ala.	12,672	16,000	3,328
Nantucket.....	Mass.	9,012	10,000	988
Nashua.....	N. H.	6,154	9,042	2,888
Nashville.....	Tenn.	6,929	16,000	9,071
New-Albany.....	Ind.	4,226	9,785	5,559
Newark.....	N. J.	17,290	38,885	21,595
New-Bedford.....	Mass.	12,087	16,404	4,317
New-Brunswick.....	N. J.	6,560	7,893	1,333
Newburg.....	N. Y.	4,833	7,623	2,790
Newburyport.....	Mass.	7,112	9,534	2,422
New-Haven.....	Conn.	12,960	18,000	5,040
New-London.....	Conn.	5,519	9,000	3,481
NEW-ORLEANS.....	La.	102,000	145,000	43,000
Newport.....	R. I.	8,323	9,348	1,025
NEW-YORK CITY.....	N. Y.	312,710	517,000	204,290
Norfolk.....	Pa.	10,920	14,000	3,080
Oswegatchie.....	N. Y.	5,719	7,896	2,177
Oswego.....	N. Y.	4,665	12,199	7,534
Pateron.....	N. J.	7,596	11,329	3,733
PHILADELPHIA.....	Pa.	258,066	411,000	152,934
Pittsburg, Inc. Alleg.....	Pa.	32,758	96,276	63,518
Plymouth.....	Mass.	5,381	8,000	2,619
Portland.....	Me.	15,318	20,849	5,531
Pottsville.....	Pa.	4,327	7,496	3,169
Poughkeepsie.....	N. Y.	10,065	11,689	1,624
Providence.....	R. I.	23,171	43,000	19,829
Reading.....	Pa.	8,410	15,821	7,411
Richmond.....	Va.	20,153	20,889	736
Rochester.....	N. Y.	20,191	36,000	15,809
Roxbury.....	Mass.	9,089	18,537	9,448
Sacramento City.....	Cal.	—	6,000	6,000
Salem.....	Mass.	15,082	21,500	6,418
St. Louis.....	Mo.	16,469	81,000	64,531
San Francisco.....	Cal.	—	23,000	23,000

Cities and Towns.	States.	1840.	1850.	Increase.
Savannah.....	Ga.	11,214	20,000	8,786
Springfield.....	Mass.	10,985	21,000	10,015
Schenectady.....	N. Y.	6,784	8,922	2,138
Steubenville.....	O.	5,293	6,140	937
Syracuse.....	N. Y.	5,500	22,225	16,725
Trenton.....	N. J.	4,035	10,776	6,741
Troy.....	N. Y.	19,334	22,000	2,666
Utica.....	N. Y.	12,782	17,240	4,458
Washington.....	D. C.	23,364	43,266	19,902
Wheeling.....	Va.	7,885	14,500	6,615
Williamsburg.....	N. Y.	5,094	30,786	24,692
Wilmington.....	Del.	8,267	13,931	4,454
Worcester.....	Mass.	7,497	17,500	10,003
York.....	Pa.	4,779	7,709	2,930
Zanesville.....	O.	4,766	10,355	5,589

Present Rates of Postage.

Letters, for each half ounce under 3000 miles, prepaid 3 cents; unpaid 5 cents. Over 3000 miles, prepaid 6 cents; unpaid 10 cents.

Transient Newspapers, Periodicals, Circulars, &c. to any part of the United States, not weighing over 3 ounces, 1 cent, and 1 cent for each additional ounce.

Books, prepaid, not weighing over 4 pounds, 1 cent per ounce. All fractions over the ounce being counted as an additional ounce. The same not paid 1½ cents per ounce.

Newspapers and Periodicals not exceeding 1½ ozs. in weight, when paid quarterly in advance—Duly, per quarter, 22½; Six times per week, 19½; Tri-weekly, 9½; Semi-weekly, 6½; Weekly, 3½; Semi-monthly, 1½; Monthly, ¾.

Small Newspapers, published monthly, or oftener, and pamphlets not containing more than 16 octavo pages, in packages of 8 ounces or over, ½ cent per oz. Weekly Newspapers within the county where published, free.

Quarterly payments, in advance, may be made either where published or received.



Legal Interest and Usury Laws.

States.	Legal Rates per C.	Penalty for Usury.
Alabama.....	8	forfeit interest and usury.
Arkansas.....	6	forfeit usury.
Connecticut....	6	forfeit whole debt.
Delaware.....	6	forfeit whole debt.
Florida.....	8	forfeit interest and usury.
Georgia.....	8	forfeit three times usury.
Illinois.....	6	forfeit double the usury.
Indiana.....	6	forfeit three times the usury.
Iowa.....	7	forfeit three times the usury.
Kentucky.....	6	forfeit usury and costs.
Louisiana.....	5	contract exacting usury void.
Maryland.....	6	contract exacting usury void.
Maine.....	6	forfeit entire debt.
Massachusetts..	6	forfeit three times the usury.
Michigan.....	7	forfeit usury and $\frac{1}{2}$ the debt.
Mississippi.....	8	forfeit usury and costs.
Missouri.....	6	forfeit usury and interest.
New-York.....	7	forfeit entire debt.
New-Hampsh..	6	forfeit three times usury.
New-Jersey.....	6	forfeit entire debt.
N. Carolina.....	6	forfeit double usury.
Ohio.....	6	contracts void.
Pennsylvania..	6	forfeit entire debt.
Rhode Island..	6	forfeit usury and interest.
S. Carolina.....	7	forfeit usury, interest and costs.
essec.....	6	contracts void.
s.....	10	contracts void.
mont.....	6	recovery in action with costs.
Virginia.....	6	forfeit double the usury.
Wisconsin.....	7	forfeit entire debt.
Dist. Columbia	6	contracts void.

* By special contract as high as 10 per cent.
 † Banks allowed.....
 ‡ 8 per cent. allowed on tobacco contracts.
 § By contract as high as 10 per cent.
 ** Any rate agreed upon by the parties.

Distances from New-York to some of the most important places in the U. States.

Names of Places.	Miles.	Hours.
NEW-YORK to Boston.....	236	10
Philadelphia.....	87	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Baltimore.....	184	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Washington.....	224	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Albany.....	144	6
Saratoga Springs.....	183	8
Whitehall.....	223	10
Burlington, Vt.....	301	16
Montreal, Can.....	403	23
Buffalo, via Albany.....	469	24
Buffalo, via Elmira and Seneca Lake.....	471	22
Dunkirk, via N. Y. and Erie R. R.....	474	18
Cleveland, Ohio, via Albany.....	663	39
Cincinnati, via N. Y. and Erie R. R. and Sandusky City.....	897	50
Cincinnati, via N. Y. and Erie R. R. and Cleveland.....	877	46
Detroit.....	750	40
Chicago.....	1,048	59
Milwaukee.....	1,100	62 $\frac{1}{2}$
St. Paul, Min. Ter.....	1,623	132
St. Louis, via Chicago.....	1,475	118
N. Orleans via St. Louis.....	2,676	252
Pittsburg, via Phila'da.....	470	50
Wheeling, via Baltim'o.....	492	46
Cincinnati, via Pittsb'g.....	847	106
St. Louis, via Pittsburg.....	1,644	240
N. Orleans, via Pittsb'g.....	2,495	300
Charleston, S.C. via.....	781	63
Washington.....	907	70
Savannah, Georgia.....	1,299	108
Montgomery, Alabama.....	1,496	148
Mobile.....	1,662	168
New Orleans.....	1,567	192
Memphis, Tenn.....	1,567	192

Presidents of the United States.

NAMES.	When Born.	Inaugurated.	Continuance in office.	Died.	Native of
George Washington.....	Feb. 22, 1732.	April 30, 1789.	8 years.	Dec. 14, 1799.	Virginia.
John Adams.....	Sept. 11, 1735.	March 4, 1801.	8 "	July 4, 1826.	Mass.
Thomas Jefferson.....	April 13, 1743.	March 4, 1801.	8 "	July 4, 1826.	Virginia.
James Madison.....	March 16, 1751.	March 4, 1801.	8 "	June 28, 1836.	Virginia.
James Monroe.....	April 21, 1759.	March 4, 1817.	8 "	July 4, 1831.	Mass.
Andrew Jackson.....	March 15, 1767.	March 4, 1829.	8 "	June 8, 1845.	Mass.
Martin Van Buren.....	Decem. 5, 1782.	March 4, 1837.	8 "	June 8, 1862.	N. York
Wm. H. Harrison.....	Feb. 9, 1773.	March 4, 1841.	1 month.	April 4, 1841.	Ohio
John Tyler.....	March 29, 1790.	April 4, 1841.	1 year.	Jan. 18, 1862.	Virginia.
James K. Polk.....	Nov. 2, 1795.	March 4, 1845.	1 year.	June 15, 1849.	N. Car.
Zachary Taylor.....	Nov. 24, 1790.	March 4, 1849.	1 yr. 4 months.	July 9, 1850.	Virginia.
Millard Fillmore.....	May 7, 1800.	Successor to the office of President.	1 yr. 8 mos.	March 4, 1853.	N. York
Franklin Pierce.....	Nov. 23, 1804.	March 4, 1853.	1 yr. 8 mos.	March 4, 1853.	N. Hamp.

January, SUNDAY, 1. 1854.

To-day I receive my covenant is live for God. For near I hope to see make great advancement in spirituality and holiness. Preached at home. Text Luke 13-6-9. I believe that the first days offered to favor to sinners.

MONDAY, 2.

Went to Bloomington. Dined at Bro. Hager's in Springfield. Sister started to Jacksonville. Received letters from Bro. Davis. Mary Bradshaw Goodfellow Beatty and Emerson. Mrs. Lanning.

TUESDAY, 3.

Wrote letters to Father, Bro. Davis, Beatty & Bradshaw. Heard this classed with. Received a letter from W. P. P. (mailed) a letter to Mrs. Lanning.



William F. Short's

January, WEDNESDAY, 4. 1854.

Received a letter from J. J. Caldwell. Wrote to Boston. Heard two recitations. Studied some. I experience great solitude in reference to the future. May the Lord direct aright.

THURSDAY, 5.

Wrote Sister M. J. B. — The day was very gloomy. Fainted some. My thoughts as much placed upon the future. May the Lord direct my steps. I don't believe I will.

FRIDAY, 6.

Studied hard. The Convention was adjourned one week. How beautiful I should be. You are so near. Lord keep me "unsplotted from the world".

January, SATURDAY, 7. 1854.

Wrote J. J. Caldwell. Bro. Barker and I went to the kitchen at night. Bro. B. preached. Spent the night at Bro. Grimmer's. In the night was taken severely with the erysipelas.

SUNDAY, 8.

Kept my bed and took medicine all day. I have suffered most intensely today. But the Savior was never more precious and heaven more desired to me.

MONDAY, 9.

Am still very sick. Took medicine all day. I sued grace to submit to my afflictions.

TUESDAY, 10. 1854.

I am some better today but still suffer greatly. My mind is not as much on myself as on other things. Hope to get back to Bloomington tomorrow.

WEDNESDAY, 11.

Feeling better took the morning train for B. Received letters from Pres. Davis and R. M. Wood. Wrote Bro Davis. Received letters from Mrs. Luning and Sister M. J. B. An important day tomorrow.

THURSDAY, 12.

Wrote Miss Luning. Father J. J. Caldwell. Received letters from Bro. Davis and Clifford. My health is not so good today. Feel very happy.

FRIDAY, 13. 1854.

Wrote Miss Luning. Received J. J. Caldwell. + Bro. Davis. It is exceedingly cold. Prof. Goodfellow's lecture in the chapel. I am happy in the Savior.

SATURDAY, 14.

Spent the morning took the cars for West's Grove. Spent the day and night at Bro. Barker's. The day passed very pleasantly and some religious enjoyment.

SUNDAY, 15.

Preached at Frank's Grove. Bro. Barker 2-44. At night. R. 2-1. Had good liberty both times. My strength is almost gone. I could not praise God. You are my hiding place.

1854 Diary



81

January, MONDAY, 16. 1854.	January, THURSDAY, 19. 1854.
<p>This morning early I came to Bloomington. Made my arrangements to go to Jackson. Feel solemn in view of what I have to do. Went to meeting at night.</p>	<p>Went to Baptist meeting. Wrote to Mr. Black. It is very pleasant to hear from him. Nothing of special interest.</p>
TUESDAY, 17.	FRIDAY, 20.
<p>Got ready to go home. Had my trunk taken to the depot. Went to meeting at night. They are seeking to</p>	<p>Decorated Sister Ellen's dress. Wrote to Mr. Black and Sister M. J. Black. This has been an exceedingly cold day.</p>
WEDNESDAY, 18.	SATURDAY, 21.
<p>Took the cars for Springfield. Had a fine ride. Met Father. Came out home on a sled. Was very glad to get home.</p>	<p>To day I expected to go to Petersburg. But it was so cold I could not. I felt greatly disappointed. I have spent the night with me.</p>

January, SUNDAY, 22. 1854.	January, WEDNESDAY, 25. 1854.
<p>Father preached at home. After noon I went to Petersburg. Met my esteemed friend Mrs. Lanning. Accompanied her to church. It is so pleasant to be with her. Spent the night at Bro. Plakes.</p>	<p>Wrote Bro. Bradshaw. Went to Mr. Epley's. Prepared to start to Jackson for-morrow. I dread the trip.</p>
MONDAY, 23.	THURSDAY, 26.
<p>Spent the day with my dear Sarah Belle. Went out with her to singing. I am perfectly happy in her company. Spent the night at Mr. Lanning's.</p>	<p>Started to Jackson. Arrived at Illinois. Slept at O'Leary's. Could not cross the river and had to remain over night.</p>
TUESDAY, 24.	FRIDAY, 27.
<p>I found it hard to part with my Sarah Belle. May the Lord take care of us. Came home. Received letters from Bro. Hawk & Bradshaw. Wrote Miss Lanning.</p>	<p>Crossed the river to St. Louis. Stayed at the Manual House. Spent the day with Bro. Davis. Bro. Bradshaw. Preached at night. Spent the night with Bro. Hawk & Bradshaw.</p>



William F. Short's

January, SATURDAY, 23. 1854.

Was very busy making out a course of study. At night preached for the negroes. Spent the night with Bro. Whitehead. Had a glorious time.

SUNDAY, 29.

Preached at Ebenezer Chapel at eleven. Text - 1st Cor. 5-6. Had a fine liberty. Bro Davis at three for the negroes. Had sacrament. Dr. Wood & child at night. He is a great workman.

MONDAY, 30

Dismissed our circular. Wrote Miss Loring. May the Lord direct me all right. I dread my trip to Jackson.

January, TUESDAY, 31. 1854.

This morning I started to Jackson. Row 38 miles. Spent the night with Bro. Whitehead. Rather a rough ride.

February, WEDNESDAY, 1.

Traveled 23 miles through the roughest country I ever saw. Very lonely. Spent the night with Sister Pester. There is a very interesting family. Miss Loretta entertained me with music on the piano. I felt very pleasant.

THURSDAY, 2.

This has been a very unpleasant day for me. Row 80 miles. Spent the night with a North Carolinian. Was very well entertained.

February, FRIDAY, 3. 1854.

This has been a lovely day. Row 80 miles. Arrived at Jackson in the evening. Was very glad to get there. Was pretty well pleased with the appearance of the place. Spent the night with Bro. Pegg.

SATURDAY, 4.

Wrote Miss Loring, Bro. Ollie and Edwards. Received letters from Ollie and Bro. Roberts. Helped to get the Anniversary ready. The day was very lovely. Spent the night with Bro Davis. It will be my home for a while.

SUNDAY, 5.

Preached at eleven. Text - 1st Cor. 5-6. At night - 1st Cor. 5-6. Had tolerable liberty. This has been a lovely day. I think much of my dear Sarah Bell, Oh, if she were only with me.

February, MONDAY, 6. 1854.

Today I opened the Missionary Box. 25 letters entered. A pleasant day.

TUESDAY, 7.

Rained all day. Received a letter from Sister M. J. B. Advised her. I was glad to hear from her.

WEDNESDAY, 8.

This has been a gloomy day. Labored hard in the school room. I hope to be blessed upon parting and return.



February, THURSDAY, 9. 1854.

My dear was very kind.
My gratitude was personal.
I thought that I should
have written.
Her religious sympathy is
with every hope and
endeavor.

FRIDAY, 10.

What a delightful
day this has been, and
such sights I never saw
off my island wearing its
silvery blue and green.
How fast - even McDair,
our common boarding with
Mr. McQuinn.

SATURDAY, 11.

Went to near Dry meeting
12 miles distant. Bro.
ought not - saw many
and to preach. Sept-4
6-1. Did not sing. Sept
6-10. 1-7. Sept 1-10.
very well.

February, SUNDAY, 12. 1854.

enjoyed. Love - met very
much. Preached at eleven
to a very large audience.
Sept. 20th - 1861. Had fine
service. Bro. Gray previous
at this. Concluded service.
Wrote Miss Lanning.

MONDAY, 13.

My school is more or less
the very poorest. I usually
work at night - write
less than.
I look forward to
the time when I shall
enjoy life fully.

TUESDAY, 14.

Laided hard in my
 school. Miss
 deeply interested
 in her
 prosperity.

William F. Short's

February, WEDNESDAY, 15. 1864.

the day passed very
pleasantly, seeing
Mr. B. B. Brown.
Thoughts of the future
occupy my mind
much of the time.

THURSDAY, 16.

From Mr. Ellis and
Edward Loring.
The country is pleasant.
The school is quite
interesting.

FRIDAY, 17.

Mr. Hunt arrived
near Bro. Davis.
He saw the readings
of the first 5 books.
The covers very good.

February, SATURDAY, 18. 1854.

I have been in Co. 1st.
 I want to see the Indians,
 it is quite a party.
 And very pleasant
 ride. I. S. M. Harlan called
 on me.

SUNDAY, 19.

Harvest all day. In
 2nd grade very warm.
 With Miss Lanning
 to the bank, Lizzie &
 Mary, also Geo. Est.
 The Gibbatts secured
 corn. Now expect the
 Prof. fairs and Cal-
 culations.

MONDAY, 20.

however, I know, days
 have not increased.
 nothing of special
 interest to
 think until late.

February, TUESDAY, 21. 1854.

Forty Friends have
now been enrolled,
attended the Ex. Socy.
at night. Nothing
new.

WEDNESDAY, 22.

judged to be unwell
late at night.
Mr. Richard Esquire
is now in

THURSDAY, 23.

THURSDAY, 23.
The day was very
lovely at 12 night.
Rev. Handoff of the
Church took the
pulpit and delivered
a letter
from Allen.

February, FRIDAY, 24. 1854.

Bro. Sawyer arrived
at night wrote Bro.
Davis and Bro. Harte
slaying the evils of the
week and over.

SATURDAY, 25.

The day was very
pleasant - to me.
So. but little.
Unchanged in the com-
pensation. Full of
all day.

SUNDAY, 26.

Brother's preaching.
Had a sing with
Miss & Emily and
Giles Cook. Met
Miss Manning. Spent
the evening with the Horsts.

1854 Diary



85

February, MONDAY, 27, 1854.
There were several
missions to the
stations today.
The day was one of great
hurry and bustle. I left
at 12 along with my
family.

TUESDAY, 28.
This has been a most lovely
day. Received letters from
Paris and St. Louis
also a Catalogue. I have
of "The Great West". I was
pleased to find my name
in the list. I have
to send a subscription.

March, WEDNESDAY, 1.
A very rainy day.
Spent my day at
Laramie. Very pleasant.
My horse is full.
The day is very
pleasant. Love kind
to a fresh.

March, THURSDAY, 2, 1854.
This was a rainy day.
It was pleasant to
see the water. I had a
pleasant time.

FRIDAY, 3.
All very happy all
day. My school was
very pleasant. All is
well.

SATURDAY, 4.
This has been a day of
hurry and bustle. I
left Laramie. Many
of my horse.
I decided for a day to
be a very pleasant
day. I have a
very pleasant day.

March, SUNDAY, 5, 1854.
Preached at the
Chapel. Very pleasant.
Spent at Laramie.
I have a very
pleasant day. I
decided to be a
very pleasant day.

MONDAY, 6.
Several additions to the
school. I have met at
night. I have decided to
be a very pleasant day.
Several important matters
were discussed. All is
well and pleasant.

TUESDAY, 7.
Received letters from Father
and R. M. Deane.
Also a Catalogue and an
address. I have a
very pleasant day.
I am calm and
left.

March, WEDNESDAY, 8, 1854.
The day was very pleasant.
I have been rather
pleasant today. I
have a very pleasant
day. I have a
very pleasant day.

THURSDAY, 9.
Rained all day.
I have a very pleasant
day. I have a
very pleasant day.

FRIDAY, 10.
Was very pleasantly
surprised today. I
have a very pleasant
day. I have a
very pleasant day.



William F. Short's

March, SATURDAY, 11. 1854.

at eleven reached at
Mrs. Glack. Fort Geo - 10
at night. Friends
Chapel. Fort Geo - 20.
I am exceedingly im-
worthy of all the kind-
nesses for which I am
to be seized. Lord help.

SUNDAY 12.

at eleven reached at
Chapel. Fort Geo. This has been
a lovely day. I feel
somewhat better. My hunger
has crept out for a while.
The fullness of God.

MONDAY, 13.

Received letters from
Mrs. Dyer, & D. H. Jones
and Mrs. Dyer. What
kindness! My letters
were pleasant.
I feel comfortable. Health
strong and hope is
rising.

March, TUESDAY, 14. 1854.

This has been a pleasant
day. I went out with
a stroll all about.
I feel peaceful and
trustful. My spirit
rested out - prayer to
God.

WEDNESDAY, 15.

Today I have felt -
rather more joyous
than usual. After school, Mrs. Brown
and I took a stroll.
It is so pleasant.

THURSDAY, 16.

Received a letter from
Sister M. B. Jones
at night. Bro
Dagg preached.
I feel very much
in the Lord.

March, FRIDAY, 17. 1854.

The day was very pleas-
ant. Mrs. Dyer came.
Took tea at Mr. Dyer's.
I feel very much that
I need the presence of
the blood of Christ.

SATURDAY, 18.

The day was very cool, but
pleasant. I did but
little reading. With
Mrs. Dyer and Miss
Dyer called on Mrs.
Dyer.

SUNDAY, 19.

Bro. Dyer preached in
Chapel. Fort Geo - 20.
Bro. Dyer preached at
night. Bro. Dyer
Dyer.

March, MONDAY, 20. 1854.

The day was cool and
pleasant. I did but
little reading. With
Mrs. Dyer and Miss
Dyer called on Mrs.
Dyer.

TUESDAY, 21.

Rained in the forenoon.
I have felt very calm
and trustful today.
At night wrote. M. B.
Dyer. Bro. Dyer.
Lord sanctify me
through Thy truth.

WEDNESDAY, 22.

Bro. Dyer were very
pleasant.
Fasting of spirit
afternoon.
Chapel & Dyer
Dyer.



<p>March, THURSDAY, 23. 1854.</p> <p>The day was pleasant. Attended marriage meeting at night. The congregation was very large. Had a good time.</p> <p>FRIDAY, 24.</p> <p>School last night. Coal. Tried to make arrangements to go to the Capt. Tucker. Some religious enjoyment.</p> <p>SATURDAY, 25.</p> <p>Looked Miss. Freeman to see her and her family to Capt. Tucker. A large meeting. Lined out. Mrs. Gitt. Preached at night - Sept 1-7. Spent the night with Mr. Johnson.</p>	<p>March, SUNDAY, 26. 1854.</p> <p>Bro. Hunt preached at 11. Got free. Came home and preached at night in Jackson. Try to read 1-10. Hebd. 3. I have had a fine time. enjoyed it much.</p> <p>MONDAY, 27.</p> <p>The day was quite pleasant. Very busy. Nothing of special interest. My heart is fixed.</p> <p>TUESDAY, 28.</p> <p>Received a letter from Miss. Palmer, also for father and Walter. Also a book. I was so glad to receive a letter from Sarah.</p>
--	--

<p>March, WEDNESDAY, 29. 1854.</p> <p>This has been a rainy day. Miss. Jackson is very kind. Nothing of special interest.</p> <p>THURSDAY, 30.</p> <p>The day was quite pleasant. Attended marriage meeting at night. Had a good time. Oh! I am very happy in the Savior. Oh! the unspeakable riches of Christ!</p> <p>FRIDAY, 31.</p> <p>Rained in the evening. The school was very pleasant. I felt a peace, calm and undisturbed.</p>	<p>April, SATURDAY, 1. 1854.</p> <p>Bro. Gresham preached. Studied some. In the evening went to Bro. Baker's. Spent the night. Had a very pleasant time.</p> <p>SUNDAY, 2.</p> <p>At 10 o'clock preached at Chazy. Left at 2 p. M. 18. Had liberty. At 5 o'clock at Ebenezer Chapel. Left at 5-6. Had good liberty. Came home. Called on Miss. Cannon and spent a very pleasant evening.</p> <p>MONDAY, 3.</p> <p>School large. Day fine. Was greatly tried with the ungenerous conduct of a sister. Came home. Miss. Palmer. I am sorely hurt.</p>
--	---



William F. Short's

<p>April, TUESDAY, 4. 1854.</p> <p>Received letters from Father, Sisters Eliza & Lizzie, and my Mother. Nothing of special interest.</p>	<p>April, FRIDAY, 7. 1854.</p> <p>Preached at night. Text John 12-26. Wrote for Mother. Also R. & Porter.</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY, 5.</p> <p>Labored hard. Called a sacrament at Dr. Cannon's. All is well.</p>	<p>SATURDAY, 8.</p> <p>W. Oliver Bro. Harts preached. Spent part of the afternoon with Miss Amanda & Lizzie. Preached at night. Text Job 4-8.</p>
<p>THURSDAY, 6.</p> <p>At night attended prayer meeting. Had a good time. Studied until late.</p>	<p>SUNDAY, 9.</p> <p>W. H. Clark Bro. Harts preached. Bro. Harts, at 8. I sat night. Text John 4-11. Had good liberty. Love seeing the work. Preaching the through try.</p>
<p>April, MONDAY, 10. 1854.</p> <p>Very pleasant day. Nothing of special interest. Bro. Harts preached a very powerful sermon at night. Preached solemnly & evaded.</p>	<p>April, THURSDAY, 13. 1854.</p> <p>Received letters from Alice & Lizzie, W. H. Jones. Let R. & Porter & J. Caldwell. Wrote O. H. Jones. I am very unwell. My first is in the living & sad. This my fortune.</p>
<p>TUESDAY, 11.</p> <p>The day passed very agreeably away. Miss Clark & Miss Cannon visited the school. Had a very pleasant time. Miss A. McKune presented me a Hymn book.</p>	<p>FRIDAY, 14.</p> <p>Health better. Closed the 1st quarter. I have been pleasant and profitable to me. Spent evening with a number of ladies at McKune's. Had a pleasant time.</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY, 12.</p> <p>I have been unwell today. Nothing of special interest. A look up.</p>	<p>SATURDAY, 15.</p> <p>Wrote Miss Loring, J. H. Epler and John M. B. A very cold and unpleasant day. Received a letter from R. M. Jones. Thought of the future occupied my mind much of the time.</p>



<p>April, SUNDAY, 15. 1854.</p> <p>A snowy day. Preached in the night-school of Mr. Robbette. Text: 1st John 3:8. Had good liberty. Spent part of the day with Miss Cook & Miss McQuinn.</p>	<p>April, WEDNESDAY, 19. 1854.</p> <p>Nothing of special interest. Spent the evening with Mrs. McQuinn. Had a pleasant time.</p>
<p>MONDAY, 17.</p> <p>Commenced the second quarter. Prospects quite encouraging. At night attended a concert in Concord. Rather moving music.</p>	<p>THURSDAY 20</p> <p>Wrote to Allie. Took tea at Mrs. McQuinn's. Went to prayer meeting. Was greatly blessed.</p>
<p>TUESDAY, 18.</p> <p>Pleasant day. Wrote Miss Davis. Was introduced to the Misses Riley. The singers. I fear, no good.</p>	<p>FRIDAY, 21.</p> <p>The day was very pleasant. Wrote to Allie. Spent the evening with Mrs. McQuinn. Felt deeply solemn.</p>

<p>April, SATURDAY, 22. 1854.</p> <p>Wrote Miss Channing. Sent Ellen and Lizzie. In the evening took a ride with Miss McQuinn. Had a good time. Received a letter from Rev. Davis.</p>	<p>April, TUESDAY, 25. 1854.</p> <p>Deep gloom & shadowy morn. I'll wait - and look up. Received a letter from Miss Channing. She is very kind to write me. Called on Miss McQuinn. Had a long conversation with Mrs. McQuinn to night.</p>
<p>SUNDAY, 23.</p> <p>We organized our School. Was Elected Superintendent. Mrs. Cook preached at 11. Had class at 3. At 4:30 P.M. preached at 4. Took tea with Mrs. McQuinn's Son. This has been a deeply solemn day. I look up for direction.</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY, 26.</p> <p>Felt some better today. I have committed all into the hands of God. May he direct my steps. My duties are arduous. God bless Mrs. McQuinn. She is so true a friend.</p>
<p>MONDAY, 24.</p> <p>This day has been awfully solemn. Oh! the depression of spiritual feel. My heart! What shall I do? O Lord thou art my helper.</p>	<p>THURSDAY, 27.</p> <p>A cold, rainy day. No prayer meeting at night. Miss McQuinn spent the night at her home. She is a good girl.</p>



William F. Short's

April,

FRIDAY, 28.

1854.

My spirits are greatly depressed. At night went with Sister Hord to Bro Flagg's. Called on Miss Cannon. Oh! how shall I find relief.

SATURDAY, 29.

This has been a day of extreme sadness. Try to look up. Spent the evening with Miss Amanda. Lord bless that dear young lady. Direct me aright.

SUNDAY, 30.

Attended S. School. Preached at Bro Kendal. Text - 1 Cor. 29-16, 18. Had a good time. Left the class at home at three. Preached at night. Text - Rev. 21-21. Accompanied Miss Amanda home.

May,

MONDAY, 1.

1854.

My heart is lighter to day. Mr. Watts preached at night. Accompanied Miss Amanda home. Lord bless that kind young lady.

TUESDAY, 2.

Wrote Miss Lamm. I felt more affliction to day. I am greatly afflicted with a bad boil on my right.

WEDNESDAY, 3.

The day was cold. Felt rather gloomy to day. Lord direct me.

May,

THURSDAY, 4.

1854.

Received letters from Sister J. B. New & S. B. Went to prayer meeting at night. Accompanied Miss Amanda home. Was greatly tried with some things.

FRIDAY, 5.

My arm annoys me very greatly. I am so glad Friday night has come. Various thoughts occupy my mind. The Lord direct me.

SATURDAY, 6.

Was unable to do anything. Had some deeply solemn moments. I will leave all in his hands.

May,

SUNDAY, 7.

1854.

Attended S. School. Bro Flagg preached at Eleven. Sat - Thru Text - Eccl. 12-1. I feel so much relieved. May wisdom divine direct me.

MONDAY, 8.

Nothing of special interest. The school is improving. I look up.

TUESDAY, 9.

Oh! when will relief come. Spent some time with Miss Amanda. She is very pleasant. Received a letter from Bro Ellie.

1854 Diary



91

<p>May, WEDNESDAY, 10. 1854.</p> <p>Spent some time in the company of Miss Amanda. He is so agreeable. My religious enjoyments were very cheering.</p> <p>THURSDAY, 11.</p> <p>Wrote brother Ellie. At Bro Woods funeral. Felt very serious. Miss Amanda did not go to church on account of her sisters ill-treatment to me.</p> <p>FRIDAY, 12.</p> <p>My labors this week were very arduous. Nothing of special interest. Took a walk at night with Miss Amanda. Had a pleasant time. She must be a pen. God bless her.</p>	<p>May, SATURDAY, 13. 1854.</p> <p>Rained all day. Spent the day with Miss Amanda. He is very agreeable. At night wrote Miss Lanning. Could not go to the quarterly meeting.</p> <p>SUNDAY, 14.</p> <p>Went to the Cape. Bro. How's preached. Bro. Woods at 3. Dined at Mr. Johnson's. Accompanied Miss Litt to church in the evening. Came home. I have never seen a lovelier day. It was lovely beyond expression.</p> <p>MONDAY, 15.</p> <p>Labored hard. Bro. Norman preached in town at night. Wrote Miss Lanning, at night.</p>
--	---

<p>May, TUESDAY, 16. 1854.</p> <p>This has been a rainy day. Has very busy. Spent some time with Miss Amanda. Took tea with Bro. How's.</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, 17.</p> <p>Nothing of special interest. Spent the evening with Mrs. McKim. Ch. H. is so straightened a place. God direct me by thy spirit.</p> <p>THURSDAY, 18.</p> <p>Bro. How's preached at night. Accompanied Miss Amanda to church. Her friends will give her pain.</p>	<p>May, FRIDAY, 19. 1854.</p> <p>Received letters from E. Lanning. Ellen. Eliza. David. Miss P. B. B. This has been in some respects, very exciting day. The Lord direct me.</p> <p>SATURDAY, 20.</p> <p>Did but little for day. Went to the colliery and spent the night with Mr. Roberts. Was very restless all day.</p> <p>SUNDAY, 21.</p> <p>Preached near Mr. Roberts's. Left at 6-8. Met the class. Bro. How's preached at night. Accompanied Miss Amanda. Oh, what must I do.</p>
---	--



William F. Short's

May,

MONDAY, 22.

1854.

Several additions to the School. Miss Eliza Cook dined with us. In the evening called at Dr. Cameron's and Mat. McKim's. My spirits are down-cast.

TUESDAY, 23.

Spent some time with Miss Amanda. In the evening called at Mr. Plummer's & Mrs. Parmer's. Held a very solemn bell-ringers Miss Loring and B. M. Deane.

WEDNESDAY, 24.

Wrote V. J. Caldwell. Put an article for Miss A. B. M. Guilds column. Spent the evening with her and ate a fine of strawberries she had gathered for me. Heaven bless the dear girl.

May,

THURSDAY, 25.

1854.

Received a letter from Mrs. Peake. In the evening took a walk with Mrs. M. E. and Miss Amanda. Oh, how pleasant! Went to prayer meeting. This has been a very solemn night. Thanks to God for years and good friends. FRIDAY, 26.

I am so glad Friday night has come. Saw the grand display. Spent the evening with Mrs. M. E. and Miss Amanda. Oh, how pleasant! Heaven bless her greatly.

SATURDAY, 27.

Received a letter from Mrs. Peake. Spent most of the day with Mrs. M. E. and Miss Amanda. He is a very devoted friend.

May,

SUNDAY, 28.

1854.

Superintended the School. Preached at the Campground. Text Mat. 6-33. Officiated in Jackson 11-12. Had good liberty each time. Spent a very pleasant evening with Mrs. M. E. and Miss Loring.

MONDAY, 29.

Held very grand day. Miss. she could give school. Her friends treated her very generously. Oh! I felt so deeply for that girl. Heaven bless her.

TUESDAY, 30.

Wrote to day. Held a very solemn bell-ringers. O Lord help me to be right. My trust is in the living God.

May,

WEDNESDAY, 31.

1854.

Today passed rather pleasantly away. In the evening called at Mrs. Smith's and Mrs. Parmer's. My spirits are down-cast. O Lord grant still cleave to me.

June,

THURSDAY, 1.

1854.

Received a letter from Mrs. Davis. My duties are very arduous. Went to prayer meeting. O when shall I find relief? I cannot bear to see my kind friend R. --- afflicted on my account. Lord bless her.

FRIDAY, 2.

Nothing of special interest. Wrote to day. In the evening called at Dr. Cameron's. Accompanied Mrs. M. E. and Miss Amanda home from the doctor's.



June, SATURDAY, 3. 1854.
Went with Father, Mother and
sister Hannah to Sevier.
To Judge Cook's and spent
the day. Had a very
pleasant visit.
My mind is greatly
occupied about the
future. Lord direct me
aright.

SUNDAY, 4.
Attended School.
Bro Kauts preached at
11. I at 3 at the Campground
Robt Knox & Co.
Bro Kauts preached at night.
Accompanied Miss
Amanda home. He is
indeed my true.

MONDAY, 5.
Wrote Father. Labor-
ed hard. My mind
was greatly perplexed.
I know not what to
do. Lord help me to do
right. Thou art
my hiding place - my
cover from the storm.

June, TUESDAY, 6. 1854.
Attended to my duties
as usual. This
day has been deeply
solemn. God knows
my heart. Thou canst
guide me. I send
up. Oh! all is sadness.

WEDNESDAY, 7.
At night - Bro Hoadley
preached. The day
has been very cool.
My mind is somewhat
relieved. I trust
in the living God.
Lord sanctify me.

THURSDAY, 8.
Received a letter from
Mother. Answered it.
Attended prayer meet-
ing. Went home
with Miss Amanda.
She is very agreeable.
Heaven bless her.

June, FRIDAY, 9. 1854.
Wrote Miss Lanning.
Two more weeks.
This has been a day
of sadness to me - a
day of strange emotions.
But Christ is
mine. Oh! bless the
Lord, I feel he is.

SATURDAY, 10.
Went to Judge Ogels in
company with Mrs. Betsy
and Hannah to Sevier.
Spent a very day.
Felt very solemn
but trusted in the
Lord. I have great
confidence.

SUNDAY, 11.
Attended School.
Preached at Sevier.
Robt Phil 3-8. A young
Clark at Cuddell's
House. Time past - had very
good liberty - with time
spoke fear with his fear
of Baptist minister preached at
night.

June, MONDAY, 12. 1854.
This has been a day of
great - toil and heart-
iness to me. I was
greatly tempted. Made
some good resolves.
Hope to keep them.
Lord help me.

TUESDAY, 13.
Received a letter from
Sarah Belle. Took tea
with Mrs. Hannah to Sevier.
Took with Miss Amanda.
She is a dear friend.
Heaven bless her ever.
Felt happier to day.

WEDNESDAY, 14.
Commenced copying
for the Rose Bud.
In the evening called
on Mrs. Carson.
Had some temptations
but - was sustained.
Oh! want to be more
holy.



William F. Short's

June, THURSDAY, 15. 1854.

Attended prayer-meeting. Had a good time. My spirit leaps with inward joy. God.

FRIDAY, 16.

Was greatly hurried. God Friday night has come again. Our difficulties in the Seminary give me uneasiness.

SATURDAY, 17.

Arranged the Rosebud. felt some temptations - some guilt. - Prayed much. I am more that ever given to the Lord.

June, SUNDAY, 18. 1854.

Attended C. School. Bro Hagg preached at eleven. Met class at three. Preached at night. Went to 6-33. Had good liberty. Spent some time with Amanda. How kind she is.

MONDAY, 19.

Resumed my duties. A Presbyterian preached at night. Our difficulties distress me much. Spent some time with Miss M. & Mary. I am with her.

TUESDAY, 20.

Was very busy. Feel awfully serious. Lord direct me. Bro Jarvis & Bro Lee came.

June, WEDNESDAY, 21. 1854.

Examination commenced. All were pleased. The board met. I have been very sick all day. Fainted & fell in the street. The "Rose Bud" was read. It was very interesting.

THURSDAY, 22.

Was very sick, but continued my studies till three when I fainted and took my bed. Could not attend the exhibition. I went off very well. I am once more given to the Lord.

FRIDAY, 23.

Kept my bed all day. Suffered greatly. The heat is most intense.

June, SATURDAY, 24. 1854.

No better to day. Am growing weaker all the time. The heat continues.

SUNDAY, 25.

This has been a long - long day. Has not appeared like the Sabbath.

MONDAY, 26.

My vision seems somewhat arrested. Have had but little enjoyment during the week.

1854 Diary



95

June, TUESDAY, 27. 1854.

I am very poorly.
Oh! how hot!
I am so anxious to
get home.

WEDNESDAY 28.

This morning I
felt much better
out took medicine
and had a sick day
of it. Sister Margaret
spent the day with me.
THURSDAY, 29.

I still suffer a great
deal. am almost
discouraged. Tried
to pray.

June, FRIDAY, 30. 1854.

Felt much better this
morning but
soon took worse &
spent a dreadful day.

July, SATURDAY, 1.

Am better to day.
Was able to be out
some. Oh! the
heat is so great.

SUNDAY, 2.

Wrote Miss Lanning
a note. Rained a
little. A long
Sabbath. A number
of friends called
to see me.

July, MONDAY, 3. 1854.

Felt much better to day.
Went to town. Spent
part of the day at - Billie's
McKinnis's. The Board of
Trustees met.
I feel so thankful to God
for his goodness to me.

TUESDAY, 4

Intended to start
home but the
rain hindered
Felt much dis-
appointed.

WEDNESDAY, 5.

At noon started
home. Spent the
night at Capt. Egan's
place. Felt wearied.

July, THURSDAY, 6. 1854.

At sun rise got aboard
the Packet - Telegraph.
Spent the day pleasi-
antly. Reached St. Louis
at 8 p.m. Stayed at
the Monroe Hotel.

FRIDAY, 7.

At 7 a.m. took the
Packet for St. Louis.
Took the cars at 10 a.m.
Had a pleasant ride to
Springfield. Came
out home. I am
thankful that I am
at home again.

SATURDAY, 8.

Spent the day
at home very
pleasantly. With
Mr. & Mrs. Smith.



William F. Short's

July, SUNDAY, 9. 1854.

Went to Petersburg.
Met my Sarah Belle!
Went to class meeting
also to the Presbyterian
Church. Spent the
night at Mr. Lanning's.

MONDAY, 10.

Spent the day with
my Sarah Belle.
It is very pleasant to
be with her. Life is
real and earnest to
me now.

TUESDAY, 11.

Having made my
arrangements, returned
home. I am now
wholly committed.
Wrote Bro Rutledge.
Lord direct me
right.

July, WEDNESDAY, 12. 1854.

A day of much thought.
Did but little.
I am restless when
away from my
Sarah Belle.
The future looks
bright.

THURSDAY, 13.

Did but little to day.
E. O. Lanning spent
a part of the
day at our house.

FRIDAY, 14.

Went to Bloomington
met a number of
friends. Spent the
night at Prof Goodfellow's.
Wrote Sarah Belle.

July, SATURDAY, 15. 1854.

Went to Clinton.
Met many friends.
Spent the night with
Dr. Boyd. Did not get to
see Bro McKee.

SUNDAY, 16.

Preached twice. Texts
Amos 4-6. 1 John 3-1
Had good liberty.
Met Bro McKee.
Had a good time.
Spent the night with
Bro Smith.

MONDAY, 17.

Went to Bloomington.
Spent the night
with Prof Goodfellow.
I feel the need of living
more closely to the
Gospel. Lord help me.

July, TUESDAY, 18. 1854.

Came to Springfield.
Met Miss Lanning.
Spent the night
there.

WEDNESDAY, 19.

Came out home.
Went with sister
D. to have her teeth
extracted. Called at
Mr. Epler's. The day
has been pleasant.

THURSDAY, 20.

Nothing of special
interest to day.
Spent it in reading.

1854 Diary



97

<p>July, FRIDAY, 21. 1854.</p> <p>Spent morning in reading and going to the office. After went to gather blackberries. The day passed pleasantly away.</p>	<p>July, MONDAY, 24. 1854.</p> <p>Came home. Spent the day in reading. Received a letter from Bro Bonnell.</p>
<p>SATURDAY, 22.</p> <p>Went to Springfield. Came back by Bro Jacket's and dined. Father preached Mrs Freeman's funeral.</p>	<p>TUESDAY, 25.</p> <p>Wrote to J. Calamell and Bro Stagg. Also matters of the Seminary. Read Chemistry and Geology. I feel happy in a Father's love.</p>
<p>SUNDAY, 23.</p> <p>Went to Websterburg. Preached at eleven and at night. To Bro Phil & S. That G. S. Spent the night at Mrs Gandy's. It is very pleasant to be with Camp Bells.</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY, 26.</p> <p>Wrote for Mrs Rutledge and others of special interest. Spent the day in reading. I feel deeply solemn in view of my responsibility. I feel divine I ask.</p>
<p>July, THURSDAY, 27. 1854.</p> <p>For all went to Springfield and had our immigations taken on the same place. The day was quite pleasant.</p>	<p>July, SUNDAY, 30. 1854.</p> <p>At eleven preached at Zion West 1st John 3-1. At three at separate West Phil & S. Spent the night at Uncle Spring's.</p>
<p>FRIDAY, 28.</p> <p>Spent the day at home. I have never felt as solemn as I have to day at home. I trust in God to direct all aright. He is my helper.</p>	<p>MONDAY, 31.</p> <p>Went to town Jacksonsville. Got many friends. Had a very pleasant time.</p>
<p>SATURDAY, 29.</p> <p>Went with sisters Ellen and Lizzy to Cass Co. Spent the night at Uncle Givens. Received a letter from Mrs Riggins.</p>	<p>August, TUESDAY, 1.</p> <p>Came home. Very unpleasant trip. Selling Bro at home and family spent the night with us.</p>



William F. Short's

August,

WEDNESDAY, 2.

1854.

Spent the day
writing an address.
My thoughts dwell
on solemn subjects.
Lord direct me.

THURSDAY, 3.

Worked hard all day
at the threshing
machine. A great much
reaped.

FRIDAY, 4.

Labored all day
at threshing.
Profr. Miss Lane.
Lawn nearly exhausted.

August,

Went to a conference
at Sugar Spring.
Met many friends.
Reached at night.
Spent some time.
A good time.

SUNDAY, 6.

Bro. Ridgely preached at
9 A.M. Preacher at 11 A.M.
Bro. Barwick at 3 P.M.
Bro. Luthin at night.
I must some good
has been done.

MONDAY, 7.

Reached at 9 A.M.
Next 7 P.M. 3-17.
Led house with me
of a truth. Met many
friends. Had a long talk
with Miss Martha Smith.

August,

TUESDAY, 8.

1854.

Came home from the
conference. I have had
a very pleasant time.
Bro. Mark Miss Martha Smith
made at parting, caused
many anxious thoughts.
God's temptations, but
grace overcame our nature,
blessed the Lord, O my soul.

WEDNESDAY, 9.

Spoke on my speech.
Revised quite hard.
Went to the threshing.
Attended prayer
meeting. It is very
pleasant to be with
my Jacob Hall.
Revised a letter to
Bro. H. Barker.

THURSDAY, 10.

Came home in the
evening. Did
very little.
Prepared my speech.

August,

FRIDAY, 11

1854.

Came to Bloomington.
Took tea in a
parlor with several
friends at Bro.
Butler's. Spent
the night with
Prof. Sears.

SATURDAY, 12.

Was engaged with
my speech.
The day passed
pleasantly away.
Spent some time
with George Copney.

SUNDAY,

Reached at Prof. Sears.
Next 7 P.M. 3-1. Arrived
at Copney at 7 P.M.
Evening at 11 P.M.
Spent at night.
Accompanied Miss
Winer to Church.

1854 Diary



99

August, MONDAY, 14. 1854.
 Received a letter from
 C. D. Jones. Enclosed.
 Accompanied Miss
 Winsor.
 I feel very grateful.

TUESDAY, 15
 Called a company
 of young ladies to
 go out together and
 had a little festivity.
 Arrived home. Miss
 Winsor came with
 me.

Went to camp meeting
 in. Dr. Conington
 preached at 11 A.M. & 3 P.M.
 Phil & I. Had letter
 from home. Answered
 it. Wrote Bro W.

August, THURSDAY, 17. 1854.
 Remained at home
 all day. Assisted
 about the house.
 Mary spent the
 night with us.

FRIDAY, 18.
 Went to Campmeeting.
 Bro. Brewster preached
 at 9 A.M. & 1 P.M. Phil
 & I. Bathed at night.
 Went to Petersburg
 and bought Miss Lanning
 to the Campmeeting.
 Received a letter from J.
 Caldwell.

SATURDAY, 19.
 Gave in. I went
 to Springfield.
 Came home and wrote
 to Campmeeting.
 Met many friends.
 The day passed pleasantly
 away.

August, SUNDAY, 20. 1854.
 Had a good long speech.
 Dr. Conington preached at
 11 O'clock. Phil & I. Spent
 night. Had good liberty.
 Met many friends. The
 audience was very large.

MONDAY, 21.
 Took Miss Lanning home.
 The Campmeeting closed.
 Dined at Mr. Jones. Recd.
 a letter from Bro W.
 I feel deeply solemn.
 The Lord directs me.
 I long for holiness.

TUESDAY, 22.
 Remained at home
 all day. Was very much
 tired about some things
 washed at night at our
 Church. With Phil & I.
 Had good liberty. I feel
 deeply solemn. Life is
 real. Tomorrow. O. P. tomorrow.

August, WEDNESDAY, 23. 1854.
 This evening at eight
 O'clock. Miss Sarah Belle
 Lanning and her married
 by Rev. Geo. H. Hildesley.
 The company ~~was~~ ^{thought} that
 they enjoyed pleasure without
 a disturbing impulse.
 I am perfectly happy. \$50.00

THURSDAY, 24.
 Took my dear Sarah Belle
 to my Father's, where a letter
 loaded with the inquiries
 of life, was prepared for us.
 Over 80 aimed. All seemed
 to enjoy themselves.
 I had the thought of being
 so happy.

FRIDAY, 25.
 In the evening I
 returned to Petersburg.
 We had a very pleasant
 time. Our youthful friend
 "Minnie" enhanced our hap-
 piness with the sunshine of
 her smile. The good Lord
 bless, both her and us.



William F. Short's

August, SATURDAY, 26. 1854.

Spent the day at
Father's Landing. We
took tea at Mrs. Baker's.
I am very happy. I love
my dear Sarah better more
than I ever thought I
should.

SUNDAY, 27.

Went to a two days meet-
ing four miles from
here. Preached at three.
Text: 1st Cor. 5-6. After at
night. Text: John 1-14.
I am truly and
perfectly happy.

MONDAY, 28.

We made our arrange-
ments to go to Boston.
I feel very solemn.
My dear Sarah & Bill
are so good and kind
the Lord blesses us
abundantly.

August, TUESDAY, 29. 1854.

We went to Boston.
I collected my things
preparing to start.
I feel it is very
solemn to leave,
yet I am very
happy.

WEDNESDAY, 30

We went to Springfield
and took a train
for New York.
Arrived here at
eleven P.M. Got up
at the Virginia
Hotel.

THURSDAY, 31.

At five o'clock we
got aboard the steamer
Paul Anderson for
Cape Cod. It will
put J. L. Davis on a
land bar and
we are still.

September, FRIDAY, 1. 1854.

At 5 o'clock the ship
pulled us off the shore.
This has been a very
lively day.
Laid by for the night.

SATURDAY, 2.

After a pleasant
day we reached
Cape Cod at
5 o'clock P.M.
Took room at the
city hotel.

SUNDAY, 3.

We went to the Baptist
Church for worship
and came to Sister
Pitts where we spent
the day and night.
I feel very happy with
my dear Sarah.

September, MONDAY, 4. 1854.

Came to Boston.
Met many friends.
I am glad that I am
here again.
I hope to be very
useful. Broke father

TUESDAY, 5.

Several friends
called on us.
Reached at night.
Text: 1st Cor. 3-7.
Miss Amanda took a
walk with us in
the evening. I am
very happy.

WEDNESDAY, 6.

To day we opened the
second session of the
Bro Conf. Conv.
Twenty three students
entered. God send
us prosperity
until we reach
Boston.



The day passed pleasantly away. Several other students entered. I have had some religious enjoyment to day.

FRIDAY, 8.

Nothing of special interest to day. In the evening we called at Mr. Flagg's. Bro. Hunt called on us. I am very happy.

SATURDAY, 9.

Spent most of the day fixing up our things. Good friends called on us. I am very much fatigued.

September, SUNDAY, 10.

Went to School. I was so pleased. Preached at the camp meeting. Text: Rev. 2-10 called at the cage. Text: 1 Pet 3-1 had some liberty. I am very much fatigued.

MONDAY, 11.

Several new students entered. Bro. Klepper came. I hope soon to have some relief. My health is not very good. I am very happy.

TUESDAY, 12.

Received a letter from Mr. Deane. Bro. B. B. Brewster. I am cheerful and happy.

September, WEDNESDAY, 13. 1854.

The day passed very pleasantly away. My duties are pleasant. I hope to be useful. I love my dear friends very dearly. I pray the Lord prosper us.

THURSDAY, 14.

The day has been very cool and pleasant. I have been very happy. A meeting of the board of trustees was called but we failed yet a quorum. Nothing especially new.

FRIDAY, 15.

The day passed very pleasantly away. Camp meeting commenced but we did not go.

September, SATURDAY, 16. 1854.

We went to camp meeting. I preached at there. Text: Psalms 145-20. Bro. H. of 11 o'clock. Was recommended to the Mrs. Chas. Cook. Bro. H. preached at night. The meeting is somewhat interesting.

SUNDAY, 17.

I conducted the Lovefeast. Bro. Hornor preached at 8. Bro. Hunt at 11. I at 3. Text: Acts 26-16, 17, 18. Had good liberty. Bro. Flagg at night. I am very tired.

MONDAY, 18.

I preached at 8 o'clock. Text: 1 Pet 1-1. Bro. H. at 11. Came home for the camp meeting. I am glad to be at home. Very much fatigued.



William F. Short's

September,

TUESDAY, 19.

1854.

Commenced our labors again. Dr. Hepper entered upon his. We worked quite a pleasant time now.

WEDNESDAY, 20.

It is very cool now. At night we called at Mr. Brewster's. I am very happy in the service. May the Lord save me from all sin.

THURSDAY, 21.

Wrote Bro. Bro. Went to prayer meeting. I tried to exhort the people to righteousness. Spent very happy.

September,

FRIDAY, 22.

1854.

This has been a very lovely day to me. My duties were delightful. At night we called at Mr. Brewster's. Had a very pleasant call.

SATURDAY, 23.

Wrote Sister and Dr. We made several calls. A number of friends called on us.

SUNDAY, 24.

Went to School. Dr. Hepper preached here. Met class at three o'clock.

September,

MONDAY, 25.

1854.

The day I was too unwell to hear my classes. Kept my bed and took medicine. Nothing of special interest. Wrote to Cincinnati.

TUESDAY, 26.

Resumed my duties. Received a letter from Mother Loring. Glad to hear from home.

WEDNESDAY, 27.

The day passed very pleasantly away. We spent the evening at Dr. Hepper's.

September,

THURSDAY, 28.

1854.

Wrote two letters to New York. Went to prayer meeting. Had a good time. My health is not very good.

FRIDAY, 29.

Received letters from Bro. C. P. Fosmire and Bro. Albee. Called at Mr. Burnbaughs at night.

I am glad the labors of the week are over.

SATURDAY, 30.

Spent the day variously. Wrote Sister Maggie and Mother. I am very happy.



October, SUNDAY, 1. 1854. Went to School. We expected a baptist minister to preach at eleven but he failed to come & preached. Left Phil & S. Class very happy. Dear is very unwell. MONDAY, 2. I have not been very well to day. Attended to my duties. My health is so precarious I am almost dis- comfited. TUESDAY, 3. Nothing of special interest. My duties are light and pleasant now.	October, WEDNESDAY, 4. 1854. At night we went to meeting in the Country. The preacher was an old Baptist. Very attentive. We left before preaching was over. That was very wrong. THURSDAY, 5. Very cool in the morning some frost. Mr Brewster and Lady and daughter Mrs Gall and others took tea with us. Went to prayer- meeting. Felt very well. FRIDAY, 6. The day passed quite pleasantly away. Nothing of special interest. We spent the evening at Dr. Hoppers.
--	--

October, SATURDAY, 7. 1854. To day we moved up stairs into our new room. It is very comfort- able. I am pleased with it and think it will be very happy. Everything is so nice and handy. I am quite lived. SUNDAY, 8. Marked the funeral of Gideon Randall at the Ladies Chapel. Left at 11-10 Had good liberty. Dined at Bro. Mellions. Marked at night at home. Left Room 7-16 - Felt very well. MONDAY, 9. Dr. Hopper being away my duties were greater. Spent the evening at Dr. Hoppers. My health is not first-rate.	October, TUESDAY, 10. 1854. Received letters from Foster and a Lady in Mass. As the evening called on Bro. Helen Manning. Did but little at night. WEDNESDAY, 11. The day was very pleas- ant. I feel all is well. We went to Sister Hoppers and spent the night. I enjoyed the visit very much. THURSDAY, 12. Received letters from Father - Sister - Sister Bro. E. L. W. The rain prevented our going to prayer meeting.
---	--



William F. Short's

October,

FRIDAY, 13.

1854.

Rained in the evening.
I felt very glad when
the labors of the week
had closed. ~~McFarland~~
Dr. McFarland called on
me at night.

SATURDAY 14.

Quite cool today.
Wrote Bro. Ellis, Perry,
J. E. Allen and Maria. Bro.
felt very happy with my
Dear Will. Received
a book from Harpe and
Bro.

SUNDAY, 15.

Went to School at 8 O'Clock.
Preached at night.
Felt this 5-17. Had
not the liberty I have
had sometimes; but my
heart was deeply moved.
Lord send prosperity.

October,

MONDAY, 16.

1854.

Writing of special inter-
est - Wrote of Caldwell
My duties will be very
great until Dr.
Klepper returns.

TUESDAY, 17.

Received a letter from
Minnie. We were
glad to hear from
her. Saw Mrs.
Laffer with my
Aunt Bell.

WEDNESDAY, 18.

The day passed off
very quickly.
Felt very happy
all day, very busy.

October,

THURSDAY, 19.

1854.

Very busy. Went to
prayer meeting at
night. Had a good
meeting. Felt very
happy. Expected sinners
to fill the church so
soon.

FRIDAY, 20.

Felt greatly relieved
when the labors of the
week had closed.
Felt very happy in the
evening. For all
the illness of
his soul!

SATURDAY, 21.

Spent the day visiting
and raising money
for the School.
Dr. Klepper returned.
Glad he is back.
Thoughts of the future
give me some
uneasiness.

October,

SUNDAY, 22.

1854.

This has been a very
gloomy day. Attended
School. Dr. Klepper
preached at night. Retired
feeling perfectly well, but
at twelve awoke a sore throat
that approached almost to
asphyxiation.

MONDAY, 23.

Went for Dr. McFarland
He cupped me and
left medicine.
At night felt some
better.

TUESDAY, 24.

My throat continues
very painful. Did not
leave my bed during
the day.

1854 Diary



105

<p>October, WEDNESDAY, 25. 1854.</p> <p>Am some better to-day. Has up a little. Took medicine. Hope to be well soon again. My duties are very urgent.</p>	<p>October, SATURDAY, 28. 1854.</p> <p>Was very busy to-day making out bills and writing letters to New York, Cincinnati and Miss Bookers. I look through the gloom of earth to the brightness of heavn.</p>
<p>THURSDAY, 26.</p> <p>My throat is much better today. Did not get to prayer-meeting. Hope soon to be able to attend to my duties.</p>	<p>SUNDAY, 29.</p> <p>Had appointed class meeting but the rain prevented my going. Went to School. The day passed very quietly away.</p>
<p>FRIDAY, 27.</p> <p>Went into the Sem and attended to my penitentials today. I am so thankful to be able to do at work. O for the anointing of the Holy Ghost.</p>	<p>MONDAY, 30.</p> <p>Resumed my duties in right good earnest. Hope to be useful.</p>

<p>October, TUESDAY, 31. 1854.</p> <p>We received a letter from Bro B Lanning. Bro B had company today. The dinner was splendid. I enjoyed it largely. Went the evening at Dr. Kleppers.</p>	<p>November, FRIDAY, 3. 1854.</p> <p>The day was calm and gloomy. We spent the evening at Mr. Hill's in East W. with Munnie.</p>
<p>November, WEDNESDAY, 1.</p> <p>The day was spent very happily. At night we went out to Mr. Lee's. I am happy in the opinion of last, I have an interesting witness that I am this.</p>	<p>SATURDAY, 4.</p> <p>Spent the day very busy. Bro B & Mr. Hill. Several friends called on us. The Ball and Lady started to New Orleans.</p>
<p>THURSDAY, 2.</p> <p>Received letters from Bro B Lanning, Bro B Lanning, Bro B Lanning, Bro B Lanning. Went to prayer meeting. All very well.</p>	<p>SUNDAY, 5.</p> <p>Reached at 11. Left at 10-22. Went to School. I am very happy in the Savior.</p>



William F. Short's

November,

MONDAY, 6.

1854.

Nothing of special interest. Beautiful day. Spent the evening with a number of ladies here. Had a very pleasant time. The Union is glorious.

TUESDAY, 7.

Received a letter from Father. Answered it. The day was most lovely. But a deep sadness stole on my spirits. Dear is a angel.

WEDNESDAY, 8.

Spent the day and morning with the day passed quite pleasantly away. Commenced a letter to Miss Paine. My duties are pleasant. Spent the evening at Dr. Klepper's.

November,

THURSDAY, 9.

1854.

Received a letter from Annie. Went to prayer meeting. Enjoyed myself very well. I am very happy in a Savior's love.

FRIDAY, 10.

Spent a very pleasant day. We spent the evening in sister Mrs. room with Mrs. Brevard and other ladies. I am glad Friday night has come.

SATURDAY, 11.

Spent the day, variously. In the evening, I read and I went to sister Paine's for persimmons. I should be more watchful.

November,

SUNDAY, 12.

1854.

Snowed this morning. Had no class meeting at school. Preached at Smith's. Felt - James - & S. Felt well. It is very unpleasant out doors.

MONDAY, 13.

Still very cold. Snow remains. The day passed quietly. I feel unpleasant for some cause. I know not what.

TUESDAY, 14.

Received a letter from R. B. Dimes. Also books from Mrs. Cook, ex-district. From Prof. Goodfellow. Wrote Prof. I am very happy.

November,

WEDNESDAY, 15.

1854

Wrote Miss Paine & Alice. Felt very happy. I know I feel the Savior's love. My feelings are from all sin, and make me eminent useful.

THURSDAY, 16.

Received letters from T. C. Cullen. R. B. Moore. W. W. Smith & Rev. and Susan & C. Wrote J. F. Pe & Burgess & Co. Went to prayer meeting. Felt it good to be there. Was greatly blessed.

FRIDAY, 17.

Wrote quietly the the labors of the week passed away. At night, Bro. Berryman preached an excellent discourse. Felt very happy.

1854 Diary



November,

SATURDAY, 18.

1854.

We received a letter from Father & Mother Lanning. Spent today variously. Very cold. Dear Anne & I are very happy together. The Lord help us to be useful.

SUNDAY, 19

At 11 o'clock preached at
 Pine Knot W. Next Sabbath
 20. At night at home
 Next John Joh 5-6.
 Had good liberty.
 May the Lord bless the la-
 bors of this day for
 good.

MONDAY 20

MONDAY, 20.

The day was very pleasant. Went to Mat. M. Quire & spent the evening. Enjoyed the call very much.

November,

TUESDAY, 21.

1854.

The first quarter
closed 25 and, how
quickly it has come!
Rained. Continued
reading the Lang-
lighter. Am very
much interested in it.

WEDNESDAY 22.

WEDNESDAY 22.
Pleasant day. At-
night we and
Sister M^r called
on Mr. English.
Did not enjoy my-
self as I expected.
A most pleasant
family.

(THURSDAY, 23.

(THURSDAY, 23.)
Rained most all
day. Read a great
part of the Langer-
hight. How inter-
esting! I hope to profit
by it.

November.

FRIDAY, 24.

1854.

Received a letter
from Miss Bookers.
She is just such a
worker as we need.
I have received letters
from Miss Walker. Mrs.
Phipps & Minnie. All
full of interest. Called &
saw them the evening at Mrs.
Phipps. SATURDAY, 25
Was very busy all day.
Went to a sewing. Bro
Norman came.
Gave the evening
with us. Am very
much fatigued.

SUNDAY, 26

SUNDAY, 26
Bro O'Brien preached
at Eleven and at
eight. Went to
St. George's, St. Paula
and St. Bernarda
and were very much
impressed. At
St. George's.

November.

MONDAY, 27.

1854

Entered upon my
duties cheerfully
as my first rule called
at Mr. Bellings.
Had a very pleasant
visit. Five students
entered.

TUESDAY, 28.

Very busy. My duties
are great.
I must do my
utmost this
quarter.

WEDNESDAY, 29

C. B. Thine of spirit
 interest. I worked
 hard. I wish
 to see you and your
 family. I spent
 the night every
 with us.



William F. Short's

November, THURSDAY, 30. 1854.

Went to Prayer meeting.
I have not felt very
pleasant to day.
I look up however
for the M. M. I can
rest but for full
recreation through
the blood of the Lamb.

December, FRIDAY, 1.

Received letters from
Father, Ellie and
Bro. B. I am glad
to labor of the
week all over.

SATURDAY, 2.

Spent the day
having my teeth
filled. Dr. Cann
is a superior
dentist.

December, SUNDAY, 3. 1854.

Bro. Hawkins prear-
ned at eleven.
I preached at 3.
Spoke at 5-22-23.
Felt very badly from a
flash as I conceived
it. Many say it was
my best effort.

MONDAY, 4.

Resumed my duties
with a spirit of
faith. Very cold.
I am very happy
with my work.
Felt very well.

TUESDAY, 5.

Spent the school hour
to Dr. Cann and took
tea. Spent a very
pleasant evening.
I felt very
the evening at
our work.

10

December, WEDNESDAY, 6. 1854.

The day passed
pleasantly away.
Spent the
evening at Bro.
Ferguson. Received
a book from Bro.
Bark.

THURSDAY, 7.

Bro. Berry preached
at night.
Called at the
Seminary.
Made us a good
speech.

FRIDAY, 8.

Was greatly hurried
in my duties.
Felt relieved when
the labors of the
week are over.

December, SATURDAY, 9. 1854.

We went, in company
with sister B. and
sister C. to Mr. C.
collees and spent a
most delightful day.
They are very friendly
and we enjoyed our visit
very much.

SUNDAY, 10.

Wrote home. Went
to school.
Preached at night.
Felt at most 12.
Felt very well.

MONDAY, 11.

Spent the evening
at Bro. Ferguson.
Took tea with them.
They are very kind.
I am very happy.

1854 Diary



109

December, **TUESDAY, 12.** 1854.
Received letter from Mr. C. C. C.
 The day was quite pleasant. Nothing of special interest. I took supper and sent a very pleasant evening with Mr. Ferguson.

WEDNESDAY, 13.
 Received letters from Sisters Jennie & Elly. Wrote Miss Bowker. Nothing of special interest.

THURSDAY, 14.
 Dr. Klepper preached at Frank's living room. We took dinner at Willis & Mrs. Lewis. Went to Prayer meeting.

December, **FRIDAY, 15.** 1854.
 Resigned our duties in the Sunday School. Received a letter from Bro. John Lanning. Very rainy and unpleasant. Class very happy. Wrote my dear sister.

SATURDAY, 16.
 Dr. Bams worked at my Beth until 10 o'clock. I met the school and sang with them. Took tea and spent the evening with Dr. O'Keefe. Wrote to Elly.

SUNDAY, 17.
 Dear and I went to Birds House. My text Heb 2-3. Felt very well. Dr. Klepper preached at home at night. I was very happy.

December, **MONDAY, 18.** 1854.
 Resigned my duties around the pleasant. I am endeavoring to be useful. I had help in with prosperity. Wrote Bro. & Elly.

TUESDAY, 19.
 Very cold. Had to chop wood for the team at night. Felt rather uncomfortable. We met at night and had a singing.

WEDNESDAY, 20.
 Received a letter from Bro. B. B. It contained sad intelligence. But our trust is in the living God.

December, **THURSDAY, 21.** 1854.
 The day was bright, but a deep gloom settled over my spirits. My confidence is in the Most High. Wrote Bro. Prater. Went to prayer meeting. Wrote Bro. Garrison.

FRIDAY, 22.
 Wrote Sisters Jennie & Elly. We met to sing at night. I feel very comfortable. Have a good fare. Felt God was near to bless in my devotion.

SATURDAY, 23.
 Rained all day. Made arrangements to go to the Capt but did not go. Read Isaac. Felt God was with me wholly to the day.



William F. Short's

December,

SUNDAY, 24.

1854.

Went to Cape Girardeau. Did not preach. Spent the day very pleasantly at Water Mills. The day has been very rainy. I longed for the Company of my dear Sarah Beth.

MONDAY, 25.

Very rainy all day. Could have but did not preach. I was very happy to be with my dear again. We have not been separated for a night before. A large bag came off in town.

TUESDAY, 26.

Reconsidered our visitation. Nothing of special interest. We went to sing. Dr. Klepper came after an oration and some bills.

December,

WEDNESDAY, 27.

1854.

Received letters from my Goodfellow & J. P. Egle. I am amused in few Mrs. Hill. W. sent to have a sewing. From Bro. Oakley & sent him \$5.00.

THURSDAY, 28.

Preached at night. Rev. 2-10. Had good liberty & Lord send down thy grace. I long for full redemption through the blood of the Lamb.

FRIDAY, 29.

D. Klepper preached at night. Nothing of special interest. I am very happy.

December,

SATURDAY, 30.

1854.

Quarterly meeting commenced. Bro. Pauls did not arrive until I had commenced preaching. Spent Sat. 3-24. Bro. H. preached at night. I am happy in the service. Called out the young men.

SUNDAY, 31.

Had an excellent Love-feast. Bro. H. preached a great sermon. But the school. Bro. Golding preached at night. Very happy. This has led another year. To me it has been an eventful one. Unfaithful & unprofitable servant. Has been my character. I trust in the atonement of Christ and feel very happy. Thank God who is so good. His unspeakable gift. God's grace assisting me. I will live more for him & spend another year.

MEMORANDUM.

This year will be an important one to me in many respects. As increased responsibility will rest upon me I will try to increase in favor with God. I will put forth additional efforts for holiness of heart and life.

My dear how watered from on high. But make it all a psalm: Spring up O Will, I shall cry. Spring up within my soul.

Come, O my God! thyself

Reveal. Kell all this night void. Thou only canst my spirit fill. Come, O my God, my God. "Create in me a clean heart" Give me in the uttermost. Increase my faith. W. F. Short



MEMORANDUM.

To day I received an answer to a proposal I recently made to one with whom I expect to share life's joys or ills. I feel very thankful indeed I am perfectly happy with there is something deeply solemn in it all. I trust everything has been directed by God. If so, all will be well. I made him the man of my counsel. May he guide us with divine direction. We will join ourselves up altogether to him. O Lord give us grace for sunshine and for storm. For life's bitterest hours may we still cleave to Thee. Help us to triumph here and then to reign above.

MEMORANDUM.

To day I agreed to visit one of the Messianic Conference. I am very much interested. Beside the classes in the Primary and Higher in both classes in the religious instruction, one in music, one in elocution and one in geometry. I feel that there is great responsibility resting on me. But as I am assisted by one high, I will be successful.

I earnestly hope this institution may become a great moral nucleus, around which will be gathered the interests of Christianity in this part of our land. God send us prosperity. W. H. H.

MEMORANDUM.

What a glorious time that there is nothing of such a close as creation of man's life with as dignified and heavenly and that it will be a great triumph of moral excellence.

Therefore, Resolved, that I will live as if I were dying, all the time to be that one of my generation. God help me to keep that resolution with all the weight of love. W. H. H.

MEMORANDUM.

To day I have gone too far away. My evil heart pained the same deep over me. I am almost ready to despair. Oh, Oh, I will not. My door is open wide. The steps are hallowed. The blood of Jesus can at once wash the foulest sin away. O Jesus apply that blood. My heart bids thee welcome. My faith increases my hope increases. I feel that now warming my poor heart with the fire of the Holy Spirit. I give myself to the work of the Lord.



MEMORANDUM.

O Lord I will praise
Thee, my heart shall
rejoice in thy salvation.
I suffer the temptation
to have no power
over sin. My heart
my life, my all be
thine. No's word I
divide the gift. I
will keep back no
part of the price.
Unlooked for wages
to tell thy name
of the cross to tell, - and
its victim, and spread
thy name abroad.
How, O blessed Saviour!
How dost know the
love I would express.
Pardon, sacrifice,
and save me. I think
I have made a vow to
live altogether for God.
God help me to keep it.
W. F. Short.

MEMORANDUM.

January 1854
I cannot let this
day pass without
entering into new
covenants with God.
Matchless mercy and
grace. I feel the
Saviour loves me.
But Oh! how unworthy of
his love! I feel that
I am more than ever
devoted to the cause
of God. I will deny
myself of anything for
him. On my knees
on the bible I record
a resolution to strive
to live altogether for
God. Lord bless me.
Keep me from evil.
Make my heart strong.
Show art - as precious
make me great - as
I am. Glory be to God.
I will bless him forever.

MEMORANDUM.

April 23, 1854
This has been an eventful
day to me in life's career.
It has witnessed the
consummation of flighted
faith and love.
I must, ^{as yet} that being, whose
goodness has overcome
to one who is altogether
wicked I would desire in
such a bosom friend.
I will try to seek her hap-
piness with an eagerness
corresponding to the de-
mands of her merit.
But I will be adequate to
the accomplishment of this
and I am aided from
on high. This aid I now
improve. I trust in
the Lord for the power
to be useful. His shall
be my talents - my heart,
my residue of days.

MEMORANDUM.

May 11, 1854
Another step

PAGES FROM THE EDITOR'S OWN DIARY

by
John W. Cowart⁶⁰
Jacksonville, Florida

The following pages, from my own 2009 diary, tell how I acquired Short's 1854 Diary. They also relate my struggles and problems in preparing the faded pages for publication

Thursday, July 02, 2009
Another Kid In The Attic

I remember the first book I ever stole.

I justified stealing the book with simple human logic—they had it. I wanted it.

It was a copy of *Dracula*, the quintessential vampire novel by Bram Stoker. Another Boy Scout recommended the book when I was about 12 years old. Reading it captivated me for two reasons: one, I'd seen the Bela Lugosi movie; and two, Stoker wrote his novel in the form of journal and diary entries.

Never before had I ever heard of anyone keeping a diary. The idea enthralled me. Just imagine, someone's life could be so exciting, so interesting, that it was worth recording.

Wow. My 12-year-old mind imagined how I'd conquer vampires if I ever ran across one. Therefore, I'd better begin keeping a journal so there'd be a record of my brave deeds. I began my first journal that same day...

Trouble was my life was a dud.

I dutifully recorded things like *Mrs. Powel made us do page 174 for homework.*

⁶⁰ John Cowart's 2009 Diary is scheduled for publication in January, 2010, at www.bluefishbooks.info ; it will be the fifth book in his *Dirty Old Man Goes Bad* series.



Jonathan Harker never had to do homework.

I gave up on keeping my first journal... and my second journal... and my third...but the idea stayed with me.

Since my own life proved so unexciting—no vampires, no mummies, no zombies, not even a stupid ghoul did I encounter—but I began reading other people's published diaries. I found the everyday lives of people who lived generations before me fascinating. They didn't fight vampires either, but they did struggle against the hardships and problems and villains of their own times.

I drew courage to fight my own hardships and problems and villains from reading about how diarists of former days coped.

They inspired me.

So I kept reading their old diaries and I grew more faithful about keeping my own. Off and on for 40 years I have kept an almost daily record of my life... Let me qualify that a bit. For instance when I drove an 18-wheeler over the road, I kept a daily log for inspection by government inspectors. And everyone knows that all truck drivers are scrupulously honest truthful men; therefore when my log records that I loaded a 40-foot trailer in half an hour then drove 580 miles and unloaded it all within the ten-hour legal limit—my logs, like all truckers' logs, accurately tell precisely what I was doing and where I was that day...

Be that as it may, I have tried to be honest in my regular daily journals.

I lost all my earliest journals through moves, re-marriage and a house fire, but I still have between 30 and 35 years worth of the things stuffed in a back closet. If anyone is interested in reading my more recent ones, I've published them in my *Dirty Old Man Goes Bad* series at www.bluefishbooks.info .



Sorry, don't be disappointed to find that I never did turn in page 174 to Mrs. Powel and I still haven't conquered a single vampire.

One thing that I've noticed in my reading is how often some teen has found an old diary in an attic somewhere, read passages out of curiosity, and had his life changed.

I think of the experience of A.B. Simpson, who grew up to found the Christian Missionary Alliance, an organization which sent thousands of missionaries to all parts of the world. Or I think of Charles Finny, who found an old book in the attic and grew up to become the Billy Graham of his generation.

I often put notes addressed to The Kid In The Attic in my own journals; I want the far future kid who finds one of my dusty diaries in his folks' attic to know that this is what one Christian's life is really like. I want him to make a commitment to Christ, but I want him to know what he's getting into when he does. He will see my sins and faults and faith—in real time so to speak...

Please be patient. I am going somewhere with this.

Last Saturday for lunch Ginny and I went Kosta's in Five Points, our favorite Italian restaurant. Afterwards we browsed in the Fans & Stoves Antique Mall next door.

In one booth I ran across an old leather-bound diary.

On investigation it proved to be a pocket diary from 1854 kept by W.L. Short of Bloomington, Illinois.

Here's a view of the cover:



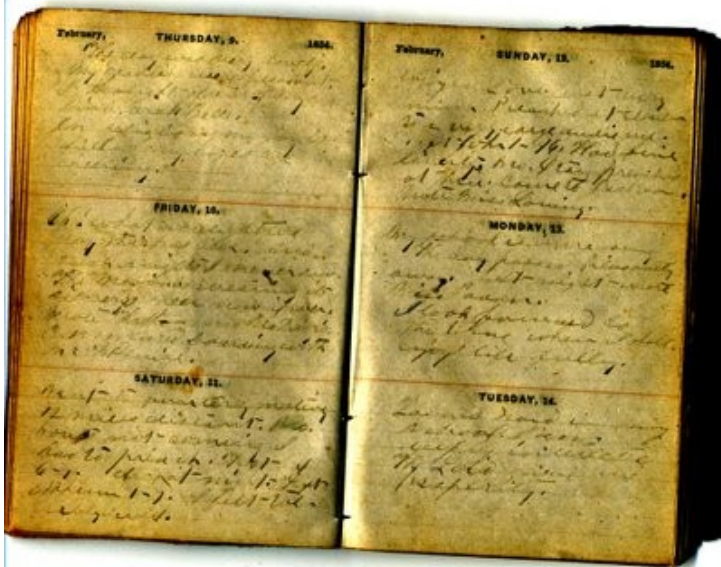
Short's diary measures 3 by 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The leather covers fold to protect the pages from getting wet. I have no idea how this diary ended up here in Jacksonville, Florida.





Short likely wrote using a crow quill—crow feathers were cheaper than goose quills and they sharpened to a finer point for the tiny print needed for the book's small size.

Short wrote in clear Spencerian script, but he used various grades of ink, some of which faded the text to illegibility—even when I scan some damaged pages into my computer and enhance the text adjusting brightness, contrast and mid-tones, I still only come up with this:.



I paid a trifle for the diary, and when I got it home to read the pages that can be read, I discovered that I'd bought a treasure. Mr. W.L. Short was a Christian recording the faith, temptations, sessions of depression, moments of elation, and the tedium of his days.

As I read, I found my own spirits uplifted.

Here was a yankee teacher/attorney/lay preacher (hard to tell which) who struggled with the same sort of thing I do.

Some of his days, such as Wednesday, April 19th, 1854, he could only write, "Nothing of special interest today".



Other days, such as Wednesday, January 11, 1854, he said, "Feeling better. Took the morning train for Bloomington. ...Received letter from Miss. Laning. ... An important day in my history".

That's an understatement.

The diary reveals that the young man was juggling three women: Sara Belle Laning, whom he describes as "My dearest"; Miss. Amanda of whom he writes, "She is a good girl"; and another woman whom he describes as "My temptation".

Each lady held attractions and this young man sought God's guidance as to which one to marry.

Talk about suspense—*Dracula* has nothing to match it!

Yet in almost every entry Short records his prayers for direction from above; he lived daily in the presence of God.

In one place he says, "O Lord, I will praise Thee; my heart shall rejoice in Thy salvation. Suffer not the tempter to have no power over me. My heart, my life, my all be Thine... I here record a vow to live altogether for God. Lord, help me to keep it".

When I browse through such entries of a life lived in real time through Mr. Short's diary, it strengthens my own feeble faith and inspires me to press on ...

Say, do you suppose that I—That I am the kid in his attic?

Saturday, July 04, 2009
Short Made Long

O but Ginny and I had such great fun Friday!

At least one of us did.

You see I've decided to transcribe and publish that 1854 diary by William L. Short that I found last week. So I set up templates and formatting. Then I recruited



Ginny to type the text as I deciphered it and read it to her. How exciting!

What fun!

Trouble is, over the last 155 years the tiny pages got wet. In places ink blotches obliterate the text. In other places exposure to sunlight fades the ink. And even when the writing is visible, the ancient Spenserian script with colloquial abbreviations...

Have no fear, John Cowart is on the track of diary writer, William L. Short...

Ginny observes my obsession with this project and laughs at my glee.

I feel like the cartoon bloodhound, Officer McGruff, a figure which the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office used to use to teach school children about safety and crime prevention. The trench-coat wearing hound tracked clues with a magnifying glass like Sherlock Holmes. He always got his man.

Ginny observed as I checked the Library Of Congress Prints & Photographs Division for possible pictures to illustrate the diary.

She watched as I groaned my way through the Illinois State Archives till I discovered Short's marriage license.

And, I may have uncovered his burial place and I'm hot on the track of his Civil War records...

Say, could the diary have ended up here in Jacksonville, Florida, because he was one of the damnyankee invaders who overran my hometown during the war? I'm looking into that possibility.

Ginny said I show more enthusiasm about transcribing Short's Diary than I've shown for any project in months.

Anyhow, as Ginny and I played History Detective, my search for clues may have gotten a little out of hand.

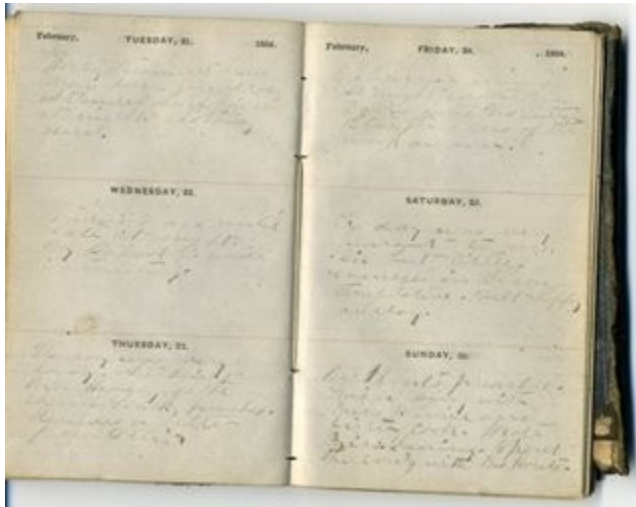


And she may have gotten a tiny bit exasperated with my obsession.

She doesn't love fun as much as I do.

Here's the process I followed after she gave up being amanuensis on my quest and sulked in her rocking chair for a while then went into the bathroom ...

First, when I scan one of the little book's 3 by 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch pages, say the section for February 21 to 25, 1854, it looks like this:



I scan each page three times—in color, in black & white, and in gray scale. By enlarging the scanned page 200 times, and by adjusting contrast, brightness and mid-tones while zooming in and out on a single word, and by comparing the three versions, I come up with something like this:



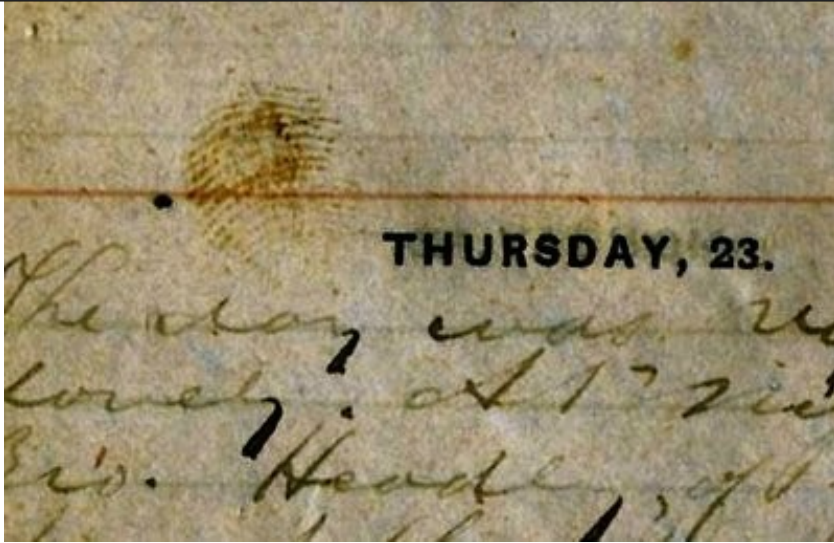
With a bit of guess work I can decipher much of that text....

But, what's this?

I see a clue!

Look carefully to the left of that red line between February 22nd and February 23rd—Do you see it?

Yes, William L. Short got ink on his fingers that day—that's his thumbprint on the page!



Wow!

Isn't that exciting!

Wow!

Those wimps on *CSI-Miami* can eat their hearts out with envy; I retain my title as King Of The Geriatric Geeks!.

When I saw the fingerprint, gleefully I ran and got Ginny out of the bathroom. I pulled her into the living room to show her the enlarged thumbprint on the computer screen.

"You drug me out here for THIS!"

Well, my project is not exactly like piecing together the text of the Dead Sea Scrolls but I find it exhilarating.

Other women get to marry men who only drink and chase bar girls, Poor Ginny had to marry one who obsesses over old diaries!

But she only acts exasperated.

From the way she looks at me, kisses me, and hugs me, I think that even after 40 years of marriage, I still amuse her.



I'm so thankful that God put me into her life; and that He let this little diary fall into my hands.

Wednesday, July 08, 2009 Memories & Understanding

Sorry for the delay but my internet has been down again—for the fifth time in the past six months—but here is the information Jellyhead asked about in her comment on my last posting:

William L. Short and Sarah Belle Laning married in Bloomington, Illinois, on August 23, 1854, Illinois State Marriage License # 801.

Here is a copy of a typical 1854 Illinois Marriage License:



As Ginny and I worked transcribing the Short diary over the weekend, when we found this marriage license we got to talking about weddings.



Earlier in the week someone had asked me if Ginny were a sentimental person.

I assured them that she is not.

That shows just how much I understand the woman I've been married to for almost 41 years now. Because as she and I talked about weddings... Well, here is a photo of Ginny in her wedding dress, one she'd sewn herself for the occasion:



As we talked, she revealed that even after all these years she still has that dress!

She also has the hat she's wearing in the photo. And the gloves. And the turtle pin, the first piece of jewelry I ever gave her. She even pressed that orchid I bought her in a book—but she can't remember where that flower is now.

She still keeps her wedding paraphernalia in a box marked "Memories".

I don't understand.

Who keeps old cloth?



It's a girl thing I guess.

Ginny went on to reveal that in her memory box (which I never knew she had) she also keeps: a baby cap she knitted and a baby dress we bought in Mexico for Jennifer; an outfit she knitted for Donald; a tie-dye tee shirt made by Ginny's brother for baby Eve; and a baby blanket for baby Patricia knitted by a 90-year-old lady at the church we used to attend.

Baby Patricia, our youngest, turns 30 this year...

And, just in case, Ginny saves in her box, if, God forbid, we ever need them again, several Maternity Dresses!

Maternity dresses she wore all those years ago.

Yes. Maternity dresses.

I never knew she'd treasured up all these cloth things in her Memory Box in her closet.

Just goes to show how little I understand my wife.

Of course, understanding is not all it's cracked up to be.

A psychologist in a novel I read last week observed that sometimes our quest to understand something is an avoidance mechanism; it's a subterfuge to avoid commitment. Instead of diving into the water, we test it and analyze it and look for contaminants.

By getting bogged down in trying to understand, we miss out on enjoying.

Yet, we appear to be respectable by saying we're seeking to understand.

King Solomon once said, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not to thine own understanding, and He will direct thy paths".

But I don't understand Jesus. How could He be God and man at the same time? How could His dying on a cross 2,000 years ago be related to my sin yesterday? How could this dead guy, skewered by a Roman spear in



his side, walk out of that grave under His own steam? How can He hold the universe together on one hand and be inside me on the other? And if He knows all there is to know, past, present and future, how can my prayers have any bearing on anything?

And why is it that that glorious Being who holds nebulae in the palm of His hand, makes Himself available for a relationship to every human person?

I have no idea.

I don't understand.

I don't understand God any more than I understand Ginny.

Both remain inscrutable to me.

But, how about this!

It does not matter whether or not I understand in order for me to be loved.

Yes, God loves us even when we do not understand Him.

And yes, Ginny loves me in spite of everything...

And though I don't understand why she'd keep old cloth for ages, I adore her.

Although I do have to admit, that trying to transcribe a 155-year-old diary together—I read text, she typed my dictation into the computer—transcribing an old diary together, places a certain amount of strain on our relationship...

Especially when I repeated the same line after line again and again and again only to realize that she was not wearing her hearing aid!

She said she didn't want to wear them.

She refused to wear them.

Why was that?

I have no idea.

I'll never understand that complex woman.



No, I'll never understand her.

Thank God, I don't need to.

Thursday, July 09, 2009
A Bit Of An Odd Prayer

Heavy rain Wednesday. I tried to talk Ginny into staying home from work because of flooded streets; she wouldn't hear of it. Too dedicated.

My friend Barbara White and I had planned to go to breakfast but she called saying that bone pain incapacitated her.

Apparently her chemotherapy kills all fast-growing cells, cancer cells, hair, etc. But it also kills white blood cells (her immune system needs those to block infection) and to combat that, her doctors give her some kind of shot to stimulate growth of white blood cells in her bone marrow.

As a result she's in a great deal of pain. And it looks like all she can do is suffer with it.

If she gets to feeling any better, we'll try for a breakfast at Dave's Diner later this week or early next.

I continued work on William Short's 1854 diary—at the moment, he and his new wife are on a paddlewheeler steamboat stuck on a sandbar in the Mississippi River 25 miles south of St. Louis.

Ginny came home from work early, bringing with her a roasted chicken for our supper. Delicious!

During our regular little devotional time after the meal, Gin read a passage from the Gospel where Jesus healed ten lepers but only one thanked Him. We discussed that incident a bit and read a written prayer as we usually do.

Then, almost as an afterthought, I added a single line of prayer about Barbara's pain. Immediately, Ginny added another phrase. Then I did. Then she did... It was almost as though we spoke with one voice.



Yes, our two prayers for our friend blended into a single petition. Each adding phrase after phrase—sometimes in unison, some times in sequence. Never overlapping, but in order.

It was a type of prayer that I'm not sure we'd ever experienced before.

Certainly not planed nor rehearsed—just a natural flow and outpouring of our two hearts as one. As though Something beyond ourselves was praying through us.

To be frank, it was a bit scary.

Friday, July 10, 2009
The Elusive F Word

Should you ever chose to write your diary by dipping a quill pen in inkblack, for the sake of readers a hundred years from now, please blot the page or let the ink dry BEFORE you close the book!

In 1854 William Short didn't believe in that practice. When he closed the little diary without letting the page dry first, the ink smeared or bled onto the opposite page—or both.

Didn't the guy believe that anybody'd ever want to read his stuff?

If I make it into Heaven myself, I plan to have a talk with this old-time Methodist preacher and he'd just better hide his quill beforehand lest I do something with it that he won't like.

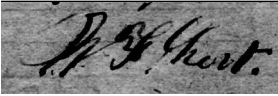
I have a bone or two to pick with him.

For instance, there's the matter of his name.

He signed inside the front cover of his 3 X 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ inch diary thusly:



When I scanned and enlarged the man's signature, I came up with:



OK. The last name is Short—in Spencerian script writers did not cross the final T in a word. In fact, in the middle of a word they often placed the crossbar of a T above the upright so it looks like an I with a line above it.

The writer of the diary uses the initial W for his first name. I guessed that would stand for William, that being a more common name than Wolfgang. Searching via Google I discovered many William Shorts alive in the 1854 time frame.

That left the middle initial—is that a capital G? or a T or an L?

Spencerian script encouraged the use of decorative curlicues and with my macular degeneration I have trouble distinguishing between a flourish and an actual letter.

My Google search led me to a William Lawson Short who lived in the right area at the right time.

I thought I'd pegged him.

From diary content I knew the date of Short's wedding, so I traced marriage records and found that he is listed in court records as William L. Short, who married Sarah Belle Laning.

That locked it in for me. I had identified my man.....

HA!

Even his marriage license has his middle initial WRONG! The court clerk in 1854 couldn't read Short's writing any better than I can!

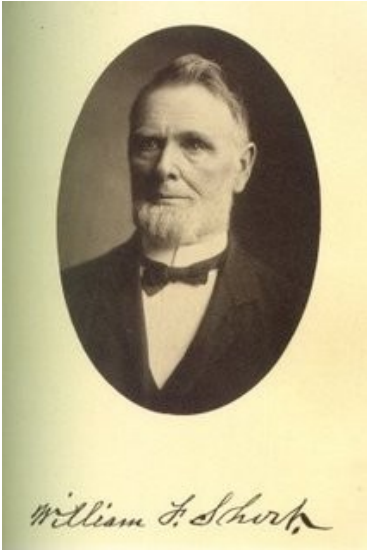
Further research led me to a 1906 *Historical Encyclopedia of Morgan County, Illinois*. Guess what? William Short was still alive in 1906 and he wrote a biographical sketch of himself, his marriage to Sarah Bell Laning and his time teaching at the Methodist



Seminary in Jackson, Missouri, the year he kept this diary.

The encyclopedia even has a photo of him in his later years.

It even tells how in those later years, in 1893 he and Sarah Bell established a school for the blind in the town of Jacksonville, Illinois.



All well and good.

But the rascal gives his name as William Fletcher Short!

Fletcher!

That letter in the middle of his name is an F!

And here I'd been tracking William Lawson Short all this past week.

Not L, but F.

That's what I said when I found out.

In other news, the at&t repairman (the third one in the past five days—Sunday, Tuesday & Thursday—came here to fix the same ongoing internet problem). Each one says, "It's not my job..."

Well one came again Thursday. He said that our internet trouble is caused by our electric telephone wires outside the house being round instead of flat... or maybe he said flat instead of round.

I'd stopped paying attention by then.

Anyhow he told me that I need to pay another \$110 to get whatever fixed. That's an extra \$110 in addition to the monthly maintenance fee we already pay—and have paid for years.

When the repairman told me that...



Alas, the F word that sprang into my mind was not Fletcher!

Saturday, July 11, 2009
Cupped

Last night my beautiful Ginny again helped me research and transcribe Short's 1854 Diary.

Wow! But we had fun... Er, at least one of us did.

The woman is crazy about me!

Picture a teenage girl hanging out under a shade tree while her boyfriend works on the exhaust manifold of his jalopy. Know how fascinated she is with the intricacies of the exhaust manifold? Then why is she hanging around there for hours?

When you picture that girl and you have a pretty good picture of Ginny helping me research and transcribe a 155-year-old diary.

It fascinates me—and I fascinate her.

Ain't love grand!

It thrilled me to run across this passage in the diary:

Sunday, October 22, 1854

This has been a very gloomy day. Attended S. School. Dr. Klepper preached at night. Retired feeling perfectly well but at twelve awoke a sore throat that approached almost to sufferation.

Monday, October 23, 1854

Sent for Dr. McFarland. He cupped me and left medicine. At night felt some better.

Tuesday, October 24, 1854

My throat continues very painful. Did not leave my bed during the day.

Wednesday, October 25, 1854

Felt some better to-day. Was up a little. Took medicine. Hope to well soon again. My duties are very urgent.



Thursday, October 26, 1854

My throat is much better to-day . Did not get to prayer meeting. I hope soon to be able to attend to my duties.

Yes. The physician cupped his strep throat—that means the doctor bled him.

In museums I've seen old medical kits which contained cups for bleeding patients. The glass or metal cups look like little whisky shot glasses to me. The doctor would make an incision over the afflicted area, press the right-sized cup over the wound, and drain off that amount of blood.

I hope my doctor doesn't read this. He might try that treatment on me. You wouldn't believe some of the things he's wanted to do to me in the past!

But being cupped must have worked for William Short because he lived at least another 52 years after this. Yes, being cupped made him feel better.

Speaking of feeling better, at 7 this morning, my friend Barbara White called. Although feeling bad sick from cancer and chemo Tuesday, she is feeling so much better that she felt like driving over here herself and going to breakfast at Dave's Diner—where the staff hugged and greeted her enthusiastically.

When Barbara arrived at our house, she told me that the physical therapist at the retirement home where she lives had brought her a gel cushion for her chair. "It was miraculous," she said. "I was so miserable with bone pain—absolute agony—that I couldn't get comfortable in any position. Then I fell asleep and woke up feeling fine. That cushion worked wonders".

Barbara said she felt relief from her pain suddenly. One minute it was there, the next minute it wasn't.

Isn't that odd.

I asked Barbara if she had read my blog entry for July 8th (An Odd Bit Of Prayer). She said she has not turned on her computer for a week or so.



She feels so much better. You'd think she'd been cupped.

At Dave's she said that with her hair falling out in patches and tufts, she must look weird.

I comforted her saying, "Barbara, you don't look any weirder now than you've always looked".

See, I do spread Christian light and joy wherever I go.

After talking about her chemo treatments and symptoms for a few minutes, Barbara said, "That's enough of that. I am not my cancer. There's more to me than cancer. I don't want to talk about that all through breakfast".

So I talked about my diary project and she told me about a novel by Josephine Tey, *Daughter Of Time*, a mystery involving a museum researcher.

And we talked about Christ being the propitiation for sin.

I don't run across the word *propitiation* in everyday conversation often.

My dictionary says it means to regain the lost favor or goodwill of an offended party.

Paul uses that word in his letter to the Romans:

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: *Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood,*

The Apostle John uses that same word referring to Jesus:

He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world...Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

The Son of God dying on the cross for us regains the lost favor and goodwill of God.



But aren't we God's favorites? Isn't He just tickled pink that we do what we do?

Not necessarily.

The Scripture also says the wrath of God is revealed from Heaven against all unrighteousness.

We are what we are and we do what we do, and as Paul said above, everyone of us has sinned and fallen short of the glory God intended us for.

Unrighteousness generates wrath.

The white-hot purity of our holy God does not co-exist with degrading sin.

Not only have we done wrong, unrighteous, wicked, sneaky, low-down, sinful, nasty things, we relish them. As a dog returns to his vomit to lick it up again, we go back and do the same things over and over again—that's Paul's image, not mine.

We fester with sin.

We need to be cupped.

Well, if that's what it takes... "*Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood*".

God loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

We lost it.

The Lord Christ came to earth so we can regain what we lost.

Didn't mean to get to preaching, but this good news is thrilling.

Oh, speaking of getting cupped, how much blood did it take for Christ to take on our sin and be our propitiation?

All of it.

He held back nothing that would benefit us.

Yes, being God in the flesh and Lord of life, Christ rose from the dead. But that resurrection came later.



He hurt first.

After breakfast, Barbara hung around in our garden talking for a couple of hours. That gel cushion must have indeed worked wonders because she's feeling so much better.

I told her one of Donald's jokes:

Anthropologists found this tribe in the Amazon who worship the numeral Zero... That answers the age-old question, "Is nothing sacred"?

Barbara groaned.

Do you suppose that's her pain coming back again?

Tuesday, July 14, 2009
Still Transcribing

Ginny and I spent much of the weekend still studying and changing William F. Short's 1854 diary from manuscript text into typescript.

My daughter Jennifer said, "You people really need cable tv"!

Her idea of fun is a bit different from ours.

We puzzled long and hard over one entry that has us stumped. In spite of every trick we knew to enhance the text, we finally admitted defeat. I'll mark that entire half page as illegible and leave the mystery of its pages unsolved..

This dairy resonates with me in that so many of Short's entries could well be ones that I could have made myself.

I've never heard anyone use the word before, but every reader in any generation understands what Short meant when he wrote that May 29, 1854, "Felt very Mondayish".

By the same token, even if we have not seen an eclipse, we all understand, "I am so glad Friday night has come! Saw the grand eclipse".



And we all have boring days when we, like Short, say, "Nothing of special interest".

Or we understand the feeling of worry when Short wrote, "My mind is greatly occupied about the future. Lord, direct me aright".

And, like Short, we've all had bad days, "This has been a day of great toil and weariness to me. Was greatly tempted. Made some good resolves. Hope to keep them. Lord help me".

And every male reader knows exactly what Short is talking about when his diary records, "In the evening called on Miss Connor. Had some temptations, but was sustained. Oh, I want to be more holy".

I like editing old diaries because as the writers record the things uppermost in their minds, they often strike a cord inside me. Their thoughts often echo things I've thought about myself.

Short's concerns resonate with honesty. In his confusion and conflict over which girl to marry, he prays for direction no less than 22 times in these few pages.

And at times, his words reveal a heart-hunger for God that virtually all of us could well have written down ourselves:

O Lord, I will praise Thee. My heart shall rejoice in Thy salvation. Suffer the tempter to have no power over me. My heart, my life, my all be Thine. Nor would I divide the gift. I will keep back no part of the price. Unloose my tongue to tell my (illegible) of the cross—and its victim and spread Thy fame abroad. Thou, O blessed Savior! Thou doest know the love I would express. Pardon, sanctify, and save me. I am thine. I here record a vow to live altogether for God. Lord help me to keep it".

Ginny and I finished our initial transcription Sunday afternoon. Now, all I have to do is edit, proof and format the text we developed.



The rendering of initials and people's names concerns us. Short often refers to people by their initials and these are difficult to make out. Is that R.K. Jones or K.R. Jones or P.K. Jones... or that a K at all?

Remember that the pocket diary is tiny with five entries per page and Short's wrote in miniscule Spencerian script. which would challenge modern readers even if it were full sized.

Oh well, in editing I'll do the best I can to render these names and initials consistently—if not accurately.

Another week or two should get the job done—unless, of course, we do get cable tv.

Wednesday, July 15, 2009 Camp Meetings And Short Bible Verses

The Clerk Of The Court summoned me to begin jury duty soon.

That puts the pressure on.

It means I need to get on the stick editing William Short's 1854 Diary because a break in my work's tempo may torpedo the whole project and I'd never get back to it.

But it does not pay for me to rush.

I need to carefully examine each word, otherwise....

For instance, yesterday as I checked back over the transcript comparing it with the original autograph I realized I'd made a slight mistake in rendering Short's miniscule and badly faded Spencerian script.

I missed seeing the letters *stu*.

So my transcript read: "So-and-so died late last night".

That sounds dramatic.

But when I examined the autograph manuscript closer, I saw those three initial letters—*stu*—I realized that "So-and-so studied late last night".



A slight difference in meaning.

Who's to know?

I want the dramatic rendering. If I let it stand as is, who else is going to get a magnifying glass and track down those three missing letters?

But, you can't write Christian unless you live Christian.

Our Lord is not too keen on dramatic effects.

I changed my transcript. Under duress, you understand.

As I compared the typescript which Ginny and I made with the original, I also inserted the text of Scripture references Short cites.

William Short worked as a teacher, a professor of language and mathematics. But his 1854 Diary also records 59 sermons he preached in that year. Not only did he preach himself, but at times he acted as an exhorter when other preachers preached—especially at camp meetings..

I've never attended a religious meeting where an exhorter served, but as I understand the practice, the exhorter acted sort of like a cheerleader for the preacher. The exhorter walked amid the crowd encouraging the sinners to repent and the saved to live godly lives.

And at times, William Short served as an exhorter in the ministry of the famous frontier preacher Peter Cartwright.

Years ago I read the legendary Peter Cartwright's autobiography/diary. A physical giant, this preacher challenged the rough and tumble frontiersmen of his day.

As I recall, once when a drunken blacksmith heckled the preacher, Cartwright strode into the crowd, punched the blacksmith out, and finished preaching his sermon standing on the unconscious heckler's chest.



Billy Graham hardly ever does that.

Yet, Cartwright drew the same comparative crowds in his day. His effective preaching gleaned over 12,000 recorded converts at the camp meetings.

An online copy of Peter Cartwright's autobiography can be found at <http://www.cblibrary.org/biography/cartwright.htm>

William Short attended and exhorted or preached at many camp meetings.

Don't worry, I'll get back to citing Scripture references in a bit; but first, I want to talk about camp meetings.

Since the sparse population of the American frontier lived in small family groups spread over vast geographic areas, few church buildings existed. But periodically, word of mouth spread the news of a camp meeting being called.

These religious gatherings drew Christians of all sorts; Short's Diary specifically mentions Methodists, Baptists, and Presbyterians all involved—the emphasis was on winning hearts to Christ, not on denominational issues.

People abandoned their farms and log cabins to trek to the announced meeting place. Thousands gathered to camp in tents, in huts, or to live in the open air as they listened to marathon preaching. The camp meetings also proved a social phenomena as folks who seldom saw their nearest neighbors met together to share not only faith but news, politics, recipes, and gossip.

But religious fervor was the main order of the day.

I've seen reports that in fits of ecstasy, worshipers wept, fainted, rolled on the ground, saw visions, or developed the "jerks"—a convulsion so violent that the women's long hair would crack like a horsewhip.



(Hence, according to some sources, comes the term Florida Cracker—of which I am one).

The camp meetings gave rise to a particular rhythm and cadence in preaching. In those days before microphones had been invented, to speak to crowds of thousands, the preacher would line his remarks; i.e. he would say a line. Then a man at the far limits of his voice would repeat that same line to the people behind him. Thus the message was relayed deeper and deeper into the crowd far away from the platform.

Preacher and repeaters fell into an antiphonal cadence of line after line. You can still hear this rhythm and cadence in Florida's rural churches today.

Here is an old engraving showing a camp meeting scene from a date a few years earlier than Short's diary:



These camp meetings went on for weeks with people coming and going as the Spirit moved them. But, here's a strange thing, on the American frontier these loud and roudy camp meetings gave rise to social responsibility. Prison reform, slavery's abolition, care for the insane, care for the handicapped—these



humanitarian endeavors are rooted in the camp meetings.

OK. I'm back off that tangent.

What I did yesterday was to insert footnotes with the text of Scripture verses into places where Short cites the text references in his messages.

You can tell a lot about a man from the Bible passages he seems familiar with; and yesterday I discovered a lot about William Short, and about myself.

For instance one of my own favorite passages is I John 3; And this is a text from which William Short preached often:

I John 3:1— Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

Short also spoke on a text I've spoken on myself:

Galatians 6:8— For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

Another favorite text of Short's is:

John 12:26— If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

But Short seemed to preach from the Prophet Amos more than any other Scripture:

Amos 5:6— Seek the LORD, and ye shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel. Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in



the earth, Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name:

He also favored:

Amos 4:12— Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel. For, lo, he that formeth the mountains, and createth the wind, and declareth unto man what is his thought, that maketh the morning darkness, and treadeth upon the high places of the earth, The LORD, The God of hosts, is his name.

He also expounded a text from the Prophet Nahum:

Nahum 1:7— The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.

And from the Apostle James:

James 4:8— Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

Yes, William Short was a man who knew his Bible and his diary reveals that he was a happy person (He uses the word happy 44 times in his diary entries) who lived in daily, serious contemplation of religion.

And, I thought it interesting that for his last message of the year 1854, Short chose his text from the sad book of Lamentations:

Lamentations 3:21— This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him. The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him. It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.



Yes indeed, I want to finish up this initial work and get the pages of Short's diary to the printer so I can begin correcting proof pages before the Court Clerk sequesters me in some dungeon with a bunch of 12 strangers.

Maybe I need to take to heart another of Short's texts:

Galatians 6:9— And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.



Thursday, July 16, 2009
He Being Dead...



When nasty weather struck the American frontier, pioneer farmers glanced out the door and repeated a familiar proverb:



"There's nobody out to-day but crows and Methodist preachers."

Of course the Methodists were not the only Christians to inspire itinerate evangelists; Baptists, Congregationalists, Adventists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians and even Quaker George Fox (in England a bit earlier), urged by God's Spirit, did all possible to bring about the religious movement which history books call the Great Awakening and the Second Great Awakening

While William Short's role was that of a teacher and he was not exactly a circuit rider, yet he contributed to the mind set of his day in promoting daily, deep dedication to Christ out of a grateful heart.

That's one of the things that attracted me to his diary.

I feel my own heart so cold. Weariness overwhelms me and a spirit of apathy guides my activities. Therefore, this man's words speak to my condition.

Yesterday, my friend Wes called. He invited me to go with him to breakfast and to visit our friend Barbara at her retirement home. She is off chemotherapy this week and feels well enough to have visitors.

I chose to pass.

That may have been a mistake—people are more important than projects—but I feel time constraints to finish editing Short's diary before I'm whisked away for jury duty.

In another marathon yesterday, I worked 20 hours editing the text. Now, with another such session, all I have to do is format, set headers and footers, insert illustrations (making sure they are public domain), set gutters, pagination, addendum, proof again, design covers, make pdf files, and submit to the printer for proof pages to correct.

Is all this stuff worth doing?



Commercially, no.

I doubt if this publication will make anybody's best seller list.

On a commercial level, I've been wasting my time.

However, on a personal level, engaging in this project, seeing Short's problems with decision making, watching him try, fail, and try again—all this encourages me in my own Christian life.

Or, at least, as Ginny says, it keeps me off the streets.

I found this diary which has been hidden away for 155 years, and I rush and push and labor to get it published as though it were hot news—that's odd.

I've often hoped that someday some kid blundering around in a dust attic will chance across a copy of my own diary and be inspired to follow Christ fully. I wonder if that sort of hope ever crossed Mr. Short's mind? I see no indication of it in his diary.

Yet whether he intended it or not, William Short proved an inspiration and encouragement to me...

As the Scripture says of Able, "He being dead yet speaketh".

**If you've enjoyed this book,
You may also enjoy one of John Cowart's
other books,
such as:**



A Dirty Old Man Goes Bad records the humor and happiness of a frustrated writer. John's daily blog, *Rabid Fun*, bears the caption, "A befuddled ordinary Christian looks for spiritual realities in day to day living." Sounds like a downer. Yet, over 104,000 readers from 102 countries visited his website in 2005. *A Dirty Old Man Goes Bad* reveals John's happy joys as well as his struggles with temptation over bitterness, resentment, pornography, Microsoft, depression, laziness, Google, Blogger, pettiness, sloth, Krispy Kreme Donuts, and



anger. All in all, this is a real-time love story told day by day by a man who loves reality.

Now available at www.bluefishbooks.info



Bluefish Books specializes in old diaries & letters, history, biographies, memoirs, novels, inspirational books, and other works edited or written by John Cowart.

Other Bluefish Books You May Enjoy:

Glog: A Dinosaur Novel Of Sorts

A Dirty Old Man Goes Bad

A Dirty Old Man Gets Worse

The Lazarus Projects

I'm Confused About Prayer

Letters From Stacy

Crackers & Carpetbaggers

Strangers On The Earth

Gravedigger's Christmas & Other Tales

Heroes All: A History of Firefighting In Jacksonville

Rebel Yell: The Civil War Diary of J.T. Whatley, CSA



**Seeking A Settled Heart: The 16th Century Diary Of Puritan
Richard Rogers**

**The Diary Of Samuel Ward ; A Translator Of The 1611 King
James Bible**

John Cowart's Daily blog can be found at
www.cowart.info/blog/
