

GEORGE NELSON SMITH

DIARY, VOLUME 4, 1842-1845



George N. Smith Diary Volume 4th

Sab. June 6. 1842

This vol. fell into my hands by being the last Clerk of the Association whose existence was such was terminated by a vote of dissolution as recorded on another page. being thus in possession of the book I know of no way more likely to preserve the record it contains nor of any better use to make of it than to convert it into a diary since I have no other vol. on which account my diary has been for time neglected except as I have kept it in my annual remembrance of our Missionary operations. As I now commence the use of this book for such purposes (by the advice of some with whom I have conversed) may the Lord grant his blessing upon me his unworthy servant & upon this book & upon the memory of that Body whose origin progress & dissolution are herein recorded in which I was deeply interested as also were others whose names are written here all of whom were unanimous for its dissolution when in the Providence of God other bodies were formed which promised in a higher degree to promote the prosperity of the Church —

Day before yesterday Mrs. A's brother W^m E. Powers &
her sister Adaline's husband, Francis Mills came
yesterday they returned to Richmond (I went with
them) & brought in Adaline & Miss Mills F's
sister. P. M. 2, O'clock. I preached from Matt. 19: 5-6.
on the importance & duties of the marriage
votation. after sermon I solemnized the marriage
of Bro W^m E. Powers aged 27 years & Eliza M. Mills
aged 25 years both of Richland it was a pleasant &
interesting season in some respects particularly
in this that an old & deep seated prejudice between
the Mills family & us was removed especially as
far as these young people are concerned.

There was one thing which served to mar
our comfort. there is a Catholic Priest at the
landing with the Indians, they have their
Catholic worship - consequently we have not one
of them here. Makabe sent to Grand Rapids
for the Priest who is said to be an intemperate
man yet the poor Indians will suffer them-
selves to be imposed upon by so miserable a
substitute for a Gospel minister when will
their eyes be opened to the light of divine truth
& their iron chains fall off. Will the Lord
turn the counsel of the wicked to foolishness.
poor, deluded people standing in fear of eternal hell
if they do not worship the heathen & yet they do it they
are hastening upon themselves that very doom
they profess to fear the Priest came yesterday, is to leave
tomorrow.

Tuesday 7. Our friends ^{left} A.M. for home.

P.M. I had quite a serious difficulty with Louis. Perhaps perhaps the fruit of the Priests advice, & perhaps of Mr. Cowles, or both - he left May 26 - in a very bad state of mind before we arose -

The day previous he went & told Louis that it was my duty to assist in clearing their land driving team &c. so Louis says - & it was because I refused to take the cart & oxen (Chief forbade the cart going) & draw his corn to the lake. That he became so mad

Mr. Cowles conduct & influence has been bad. he must be privileged with the office of dictator & with talking to every one as badly as he please or he will show his nature by leaving in anger. The cause of difficulty this time was he accused Mrs. S. & myself of habitual lying, ^{or to that effect} I asked him if he did not think it was wrong for him to talk so? he said no. I told him he must confess it wrong or I could no more fellowship him as a christian brother. (this was yesterday morning) he said he never would trouble us after to day - so he left this morning without speaking ^{to} one of us, he is an unhappy man governed more by passion than principle as he gives much occasion to believe - his conduct may give us serious trouble but God will order all things right -

14 Last Saturday Chief & family visited us to day they with other families have left for the North Shinnepoia says Chief goes because his wife will give him no peace if he stays - if they had a just sense of the evils of the wandering I think they would remain at home - but the deluded people may not see till it is too late

Feb. 19 We spend a part of the Sab. since our meetings closed in studying the Westminster ^{Articles} Catechism. my manner is to ask a few questions, enlarge & explain them. sing an appropriate hymn & pray & we find it time profitably spent it is true nothing can take the place of public worship yet in the nursery of this families may spend their time very profitably in studying the bible & its doctrines

20 Our son Geo. Nelson is ten years old today he has this summer been through with Blair's Philosophy & I think was able to comprehend every answer.

22 Went to Allegan (Geo in company) to settle with County Treasurer Sam Treasurer of this town 25 returned home

24 Mr Cowles came & took his things away to return no more

July 4 It is 12 years today since we were married we spent the anniversary of our marriage in visiting at Mr. Martins returned the 5th

Feb. 10. No Indians come had our lab. school as usual

12 As I was being a swarm of bees came through the field & went into a tree near the house about 12 rods distant I cut it down took out the part containing the bees & set it up near the house they may be a great help to us — 16 Bees work well —

bought a swarm of Oshāwāsqūā agreed to give him 4 pigs at a months old

15 Went to the landing all of us to visit the Indians 3 families went the other side of the lake after my bees he had cert open one side & taken out the honey some month ago but they were working well I cut the hive out put on new comb, top & bottom 16 Oshāwāsqūā brought across the lake early — I brought them up to my landing in canoe 18 went with cutter to bring home my bees & they left the hive & were gone —

20 Charles & Peter Duveny & White Leary came
after Mrs Willard 21 The Company left & took
the horse & carried to the landing then
they have a sail boat they left immediately

23 Went to Richmond Mary Jane rode behind
me left her then to stay a short time
Mrs Mann gave me 5 lbs butter
Evening very heavy shower of rain

Feb. 24 We are alone to day but we find
our family Sabbath school pleasant & profitable
27 Last night my dear wife who was
two or three months advanced in preg-
nancy suffered the pain of abortion.
The child had been dead perhaps 2 weeks
probably it was too much for her to ride
to the lake the day we visited the Indians

Feb. 28 My wife is still quite ill scarcely able
to sit up to day took no breakfast I hope &
pray she may recover soon I do most of the
house work - How cold & lifeless do I find my
stubborn heart how ill prepared to bear af-
flictions & profit by them even the loss
of a child in embryo I hardly know how to
submit to how must those feel who rejoice
in such a thing & even use the means to
effect it yet the case is quite common

Such worried people must be awfully guilty.
Lord I am guilty before thee but leave me
never to be guilty of so great a sin. O God
soften my hard & stony heart give to enjoy
thy presence & the indwelling of thy Spirit
so shall I be enabled to glorify thee in my
body & spirit which are thine.

August 4 Went & brought home our daughter
Mary Jane. She seemed to be more con-
tented without us than we are without
her.

9 Mr. Fairbanks a young man from
Gull Prairie came Mr. Martin with him
Mr. Fisher bought Mr. M's land 2 1/2 miles
West from here he expects to move here
this fall. he is a member of the Baptist
Church. his wife of this Pres. Chh. they
have one child if the neighbours
we now expect come in I hope we
may have little meetings on the Sab.
when the Indians are absent & not
find our time pass so heavily away -
though now we have many things we
do not discover but we long for Christian
communion May the Lord grant us
so great a blessing

23 Messrs Torry & Nichols came
26 They left their object in coming was to
fix on a location for several families
who they say will be here this fall —

Sept 14. While milking this morning the
calf which I had nursed a few days before
struck one of the nails in the inside of
the joint of my left knee. it was extremely
painful through the day, a nerve & I fear
a tendon was injured. my nerves generally
were somewhat affected.

P.M. I sent Geo. after John the French
man who came with his Indian wife
evening Mr. Beck from Van Buren
County came on business. so that God
in his gracious providence did not leave
us alone at this time when it looked
so dark around us. I was ^{not} able to walk &
scarcely to move in any way through the
night was more free from pain —

15 Mr. Beck returned — my knee quite
comfortable. John will continue with
us till I am better

Sab. 18. John & his wife are still with us
they are very attentive. my knee is much
better. I have great cause of gratitude to
God. I fear the consequence of my wound
might be very serious & true it may yet
but I have now a favorable prospect of
recovering soon — we had our sabbath
school as usual conversed with John
faithfully on the subject of religion —
preached upon him repentance & faith
he seems very open to conviction.
appears serious. has no confidence
in the Catholics though brought up
among them, his wife who was once
a Catholic has long since left them. she
is much older than himself. they are
married only in the Indian manner
talked with him sometime ago on the
subject

28 A considerable proportion of the Indians
have returned Miss Willard came to day with
Minnikogin

Sab. Oct. 2. Had our Sab. school as usual —
John & his wife attend every Sab. he seems
to hear with considerable seriousness.

Sab. 9. Had meeting at school house about
30 with our family were present.
I preached from Luke 13 — 3. except ye repent &c.

12 Chief's family came but he is gone to
Grand Rapids

Evening Louis said he wanted to talk with me
said that the Chief when they were at Macinaw
without the knowledge of any of the rest of the
Band told the Agent that they wanted their
annuities paid at Macinaw as they had been
no notwithstanding he was the most forward
last winter to petition the Government
that they be paid at Grand Haven -
he also requested that the Government would
pay the traders demands against the Ind's -
out of the common fund -

he also said that I was a lazy teacher, that I
taught school only 5 weeks last winter -
he wished they would take me away & send
another teacher - all this without say-
ing any thing to the other Ind's though they
were present. The agent answered that
he would tell the Government what
he said about the payment - & that as to
the teacher he knew, he said a great many
such teachers & knew how they felt for
the Ind's; that the Ind's were the ones
that were lazy &c -

Louis said the Ind's have had been talking on
the subject & had concluded if I thought best
to petition the Gov. - again immediately to have
the payment made at Grand Haven. I told I

thought it best & would write the petition for them

13 Evening Indians met at school house I drew a petition (as they dictated) that the payment be made at Grand Haven in future, that the Gov. would send them a Tanner, Carpenter Blacksmith & Physician. There were 60 names with mine attached to it. They wished me to go to the Rapids & carry it as they expect Mr Stuart will be there to pay the Grand river Indians. but I cannot consistently leave home

14. A. M. Louis & Joseph Meksälu with 2 or 3 others started for the Rapids with the petition.

I wrote a line to Mr Stuart 1. to Loria

Feb. 16. But few came to meeting. I preached from Rom 14. 10. We shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. & 2. Cor. 5. 10.

18 Chief's mother came A. M. I asked her are you well? she said yes I am well but I am old. I feel weak. I am almost blind. I said yes you are very old. I do not expect to live near so long as you have lived, you must die soon, what a happy thing it would be if you were prepared to meet God in peace. she said I am trying to prepare, I never steal nor get drunk. I told her this would do no good if she had not the love of God in her heart. she said her children took religion first. sometime ago they wanted she

should take religion but she took it only a short
time ago. She was trying to learn the prayers but
the others had got a great way before her. Still
she was trying when they met together to say
prayers she would go with them & would say a little
she knew but little. She sometimes found she should
never get to heaven, she knew so little could say
so little of the prayers. how hard to say all the
prayers! I sometimes almost cry (she said) to think
of it. perhaps it is because I am so old. I told her
it was hard to say those prayers. God never told
his people to say them. he says we are all sinners
& he has given his son to die for us to redeem us
& if we repent of our sins & believe in Christ our
Saviour & give ourselves to him & love & serve
him he is ready to receive ^{us} will forgive our sins
& fill our hearts with joy when we say pray
you can pray whatever you know those
prayers or not. God will teach you to pray.
he will give you his Spirit. save you from
your sins & when you die he will take you
to himself to be happy with him forever.

She replied (while the tears ran down her
withered cheeks) Oh how different is this from
what they have always told me I am glad to
hear it. I will think of it.

I think her case rather a happy one

How guilty must the Catholic Priests be & thus
to bind their burdens on their burthened Natives & sink
them deeper in the work of woe —

Feb. 23. But 4. 2 men & women came to meeting
I preached to them on the nature & importance
of faith He that believes & shall be saved
he that believes not shall be damned

Evening Chief called appeared distant said he might
come again tomorrow

24 Chief came spent most of the day in
conversation with him he is a self right
eous man I fear a hypocrite. justifies him
self in all he does & condemns the rest without
reserve I do not know ^{what} will become of him
or of the Band if he does not change his
course

25 My Birth day I have lived half my thirtieth
score years & ten perhaps I shall not see
half that number more O that God would
enable me to live more for him, more
to his glory wrote a letter to parents

Feb-30. No meeting today the Indians have
left during the past week for Klamath & other
rivers to get fags for mats

Wabasugma came had almost the same
conversation with him that I had with the
Chief's mother as recorded above respecting
the prayers. only he added he trusted in God his
son & Mary I told him saying prayers & trusting in
Mary would do him no good trust in Christ him only

Oct. 25. I am 35 years old today. I have lived
half my three score years & ten. whether
I shall live the other half God only knows
may he enable me to spend what years or
days I may have before me more to his
glory than any of the past. may I watch unto
prayer & have my lamp continually trim-
med & burning

Feb. 30. During the week past most of the
Inds have gone to Kalamazoo & other rivers
to gather flags for mats

Feb. Mar. 6. Only 5 persons came to meeting
I preached on the new birth (John 3.3) had
considerable liberty in explaining its nature
& enforcing its necessity

7. Went to Richmond to attend election. it is very
rainy - just at night went to Newark. evening
attended prayer meeting with a few Methodist
brethren at their request I conducted it. there
appeared considerable engagement

8 A.M. returned to Richmond & came home

11 snow fell last night ² inches this is the first
it left before night

Feb 13. Only 3 persons came to meeting

18 Slave gathered 25 bushels turnips have more
in the ground we are now having a great
snow storm —

19 Snow has fallen 1 foot in about 36 hours
attended with a powerful gale of wind it is the most
furious storm I have known in Michigan.

Jan 20 Six persons came to meeting. I preached
from the text Prave all things hold fast that which
is good endeavor to show them that it was every
person's duty to examine the scriptures for himself
if he could not read there were other ways to de-
termine what was good of this they might be as-
sured the religion of the bible makes people
wiser & better & happier &c.

21 Snow has fallen 5 inches since wednesday night

26 Snow has fallen since the above date 21 inches
every day has been storming - yesterday started
for Richmond with horse & cutter after flour
went about 3 miles & was obliged to return for
depth of snow we have no flour —

Jan. 27. Margaret (John's woman) & son were all
that came to meeting. it is almost impossible
to get along snow about hip deep I never know
such a time any where not even in
the northern part of Vermont - what we
shall do I cannot tell. God knows what
is best for us. perhaps he is trying our
faith - may we not be left to fight against him
but trust his constant care.

28 Snow fell night before last & last night 7 inches
P.M. borrowed a few lbs flour of the trader to give
us an occasional taste as also for the little children
30 Hard wind last night with from 6 to 8 inches
more snow - it has not thawed since the storm
began - killed a boy Monday. 28

Dec. 1. Snow fell 1 inch last night -
Started again for Richmond went 5 miles
& returned it is impossible for a horse to travel
made up my mind to be contented till the
snow settles - we live in port or corn -
we have made corn a substitute for bread
considerable of the time this fall -

2. My young pony (a year old last June) lost
a colt this morning - I never knew so young
a mare to be with foal before - perhaps
she hurt herself following me yesterday -
today is the first pleasant one we have
had for about 4 weeks, it thaws a little -

On the 28 I received a letter from Mr. Stuart
in answer to mine some time since
also relative to the Indian petition
it is quite an encouraging letter - he has
no confidence ^{however} in the Chief -

Dec 4 Only 2. Margaret & Wabangma's son
came I read the account given by our sav-
ours of the rich man & Layens, explained
the subject & made a plain application of
the doctrines they appeared attentive & serious

5 Snow fell last night & this morning 6 inches
but it is warm & thaws so now the snow has
settled considerable within 3 or 4 days —

Sent my report to Mr Stuart dated Nov 1 —
the trader took it to Richmond

8 Had rain 12 Snow has fallen about 4 inches since
the rain 25 Snow fell 8 inches yesterday ^{night} last

28. Went to Richmond day before yesterday got Mr
Loomis & 2 took an inn with mine today took a what
articles I had there & came home so that we
have now a track but far from a good road the snow
is very deep found at Mr. Harris a box of clothing from
Providence R.I. high & thick. it is a good box but
designed for summer use. contains a number of good books
brought it home. it is more than a year since it started

Jan. 1. 1843 — Tried to renew in the fear
of God my life for the past year. how little
fruit has it brought forth. how little reason
have I to hope for the blessing of God on my
labours there is so much sin mixed with all
I do. O God forgive my sins. wash away all
their stains. this poor pallid heart of mine
how slow to walk in the way of holiness. how
prone to unbelief & sin. gracious God help
me hence forward to live in thy fear —
to follow my blessed Saviour's holy example
about 20 ^{years} since came to meeting some words
never came before preached on the resurrection
of Christ. from Mark 16. 6. was enabled to exhibit the
truth with considerable clearness & force —

6 Very rainy day. 10 Snow has fallen
since the rain $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches
10^{Ev.} Messrs Kellogg, Bailey, Littlejohn-
Marsh & Rev. Mr Newbury came
from Allegan agreeably to a request
by letter sometime since to attend a
Council with the Indians. not having
recd their letter, (it being burnt with
2 others on the evening of the 2 when
Mr Morris house was burnt) I was not
able to notify the Indians, consequently
had but a few of them together -

11. Evening met in the school house
I introduced the object of calling the
council. viz, whether the Indians will
hereforward reside permanently
in the Colony winter & summer
work on their farms, have their
children attend the school - receive
their payment at Grand Haven &c
then read Mr Strauts letter on the
subject, which decidedly favors the
movement - we then joined with
Rev. Mr. Newbury in prayer after which
we commenced the discussion of the
question & continued it till a late hour
without coming to a conclusion -
They declared plainly that they wished us
to continue with them not give them up

We advised them to think on the subject
inform the rest of the band & come
to a conclusion among themselves and
let me know the result as soon as
they could. a part of them seemed de-
termined to remain here at all hazards
but thought they should build & spend
the summer at the landing on account
of the liability to sickness in the woods
said many were afraid they would die
here in the woods in the hot weather
we told them they must live in the
Cabin 8 or 9 months in a year —

12 Our company left early for home
some of them rather discouraged at the
prospects.

Snow fell today 4 1/2 inches

14 snow fell last night about 2 inches

Went to Richmond yesterday returned today
received a box of Medicines from Mr. Kellogg
as I suppose —

Sab. March 26 ^{Diary} has been long neglected
it has grown out of several causes (see ^{overland} memo
viz. the profusion of my school which
consisted of above 30 scholars though I had
only 2 1/2 at any one time. also the care of my
cattle & horses for which I have had to cut through
the whole time have just kept them alive without

I have also spent much of my evening time
in writing letters but above all I have had
to watch over & take care of my dear wife
since my school close (on the 24 Feb)

She had some expectation of being confined
the first of that month having felt as she
was firmly persuaded the motion of the child
in her womb since the middle of Sept
which induced in her the belief that
that was not an abortion which she
experienced last July but was perhaps a quan-
tity of coagulated blood since I was not able
to examine it. I carried it out doors & came in for
a light & when I returned the dog had eat it up
I thought it weighed about 4 pounds

On the 5 of Feb. she was taken with pains
which she considered were the preliminary
symptoms of labour. They returned occasionally
but not so as to be very troublesome till
Feb. the 26 inst. when she was violently attacked
near night & she thought as she expressed it
that her womb & all its contents would escape
her the first pain. She was out doors I helped
her in & her pains continued for some time
severe & troublesome. She supposed her full term
had come therefore were encouraged rather
than try to allay them. She was afflicted in this
way till the 7 of this month: on the 3^d sent
for Dr Goodrich writing at the same time an

account of her condition as I then understood it
he answered my letter with directions what to do
sending me also Jewes Midwifeysome Ergot^{the}
Feb. 5. I bleed her twice. she laboured hard through
the night but without any good effect. in the
morning⁶ she was discouraged said another
morning has come & here I am. she found
she should live but a short time. was getting
exhausted somewhat & was very much discour-
aged & disheartened I sent again for Dr Goodrich
during sabbath night at 2 different pains the
chile was advanced even with the os externum
but something was wrong which I did not understand

7 About break of day Dr Goodrich came. I related
to him the history of her case since her sickness
last summer in conversing with him I got
a clue to the condition she has been in for
above 2 weeks past so as to understand what
I did not understand before viz that the chile
with a fold of the uterus before it had been
advancing between the Os pubis & vagina so as
to project the vagina an inch or more be-
yond the os externum. (here I notice one particu-
lar with gratitude. Mrs Smith supposing that the
projection must be the membranes urged me
several times to cut it as it did not yield to the
finger but I perseveringly declined & I have
now my gratitude to God who kept me from
it. at the same time I found what in the event
proved to be the fact)

By Dr. G's direction, I laid her hips high - her
shoulders low when she felt the uterus & its
contents rise high in her body & the mo-
tion of the child above the umbilicus. he
examined her briefly per vaginam with the
finger & declared it his opinion that her full
time had not come - that she aborted
last summer as we then supposed & had
again a disposition to the same evil.
he then advised anodyne medicine -
remained till the morning of the 8th
& left for home makes no charge for
his visit -

Mrs. Smith is still confined to her bed. at
times she is comfortable - again she
experiences severe pain. when she will
see the end of her trouble we now can-
not even guess but commit ourselves to
the keeping of our gracious heavenly Father.
I hope & pray that this affliction will do
us both good. May the Lord sacrifice it to
our growth in grace - to wean us from
the world & bring us near to God -
much of the time my dear wife has
indicated the peace she felt within
by a delightful, placid countenance -
There another thing I notice with
gratitude the effect produced on the minds
& conduct of the Indians - they have appeared

from the first very anxious about Mrs
Smith - they have been very kind &
attentive ready to perform any kind of office
our circumstances require. I am much
disappointed in them I think no people
could have been more kind or manifest-
ed more affection. They have often been
to enquire how Mrs Smith did & to assist
us, also have brought venison for broth &c.
one day Chief said we are all afraid
she will not live, we love her as our
own sister who will take her place if
she should never get up from that bed!
he also said (to Miss Willard) what will Mr Smith
do if she does not live? will he leave us? he
has been very kind to us we will not get
another such one - the case touches
their feelings very closely - this is the fourth
th time we have had meetings - we hope
to have meeting next Sabbath if Mrs Smith
should be better - quite a number have
come today to see her - I am obliged to be at
home the whole time & as much of the
time as possible to be in her room with her
in this I have great satisfaction - if I can do any
thing to make her more comfortable & hap-
py it makes me happy to do it - for 2 or 3 days
past she has been able to read a little in the Testament
yesterday & today a little in Dr Southey's Life of Wesley -

30. My wife is getting rather more comfort-
able as a general thing but at times she is in
much pain. I hope she will recover a
measure of health & strength before the
time comes for our child to be born.
My mind has been much exercised since
Dr Goodrich was here on the corruptions
of civilized society - if you call a physician
when your wife expects to be confined in
child bed he must examine her before
he will recommend any medicine for
her relief - if birth is at hand he will han-
dle her the whole time till the work is
complete. whereas among the natives it
is considered wrong to interfere with nature's
operations any further than to give such
medicines as their experience proves
to be useful - according to best information
they never anticipate the birth with
the introduction of the hand or the fin-
ger into the woman either to examine
or hasten the birth & yet probably not
one in a hundred of women or children
die at such times among them in com-
parison with our people - to what cause is
this difference to be attributed? they regard
it out of character for a woman even
to interfere while our medical men
do it with as much freedom as they would

administer a cathartic or emetic - where
then is this difference? is it because civili-
zation & christianity lower down the stand-
ard of personal modesty & purity so that
no barriers of this kind intervene or is
it because our civilization has effected such
a degeneration of our physical powers as
to make it necessary for the security
of life & health? This practice has caused
me more unhappiness in my family
than every thing else combined if it be
wrong in me I do most sincerely & earnestly
pray God to deliver me from my views
& feelings which cause me so much trouble
the practice looks to me very forbidding
it appears to be ^{an} outrage on nature's laws
still I can easily imagine cases where life
might be saved by manual interference
M^{rs} I believe when one is save 10 are
destroyed - our first son was perhaps
saved by it - our second was destroyed by it
as the doctor himself confessed - May the
Lord guide me in the course of duty &
give me peace of mind & fill my heart with
faith & love Our daughter Arvilla Lucia
is five years old today she has enjoyed good
health most of her life - May the Lord bless her
Of this I am uncertain ^{you have born I} he might have thought
even sooner & safer without it perhaps not.

April, ^{1st} very cold night last night 1/2 past 9 o'clock
At 6 mercury 18° below freezing point - perhaps
this is unprecedented in this region - snow
more than 3 feet deep on an average I judge
this morning George cut his knee joint
badly it will probably confine him for
some time - this makes my task harder, but
if God will restore him I ask no more

In addition my cow is down in the barn
& I am unable to get her up - perhaps I
shall lose her - I pray God I may profit
by all his dealings.

Feb. 9. - Mrs Smith's health continues to
improve, yesterday she stepped out at the
door to try the fresh air, for several
days she has set up a part of the time and
walked about the house a little also read
& knitted & made stockings some while
lying in bed - she experiences but little
pain in comparison with what she
has suffered. above all she enjoys a
peaceful, happy state of mind most of
the time. this is a great comfort to me
how unworthy am I of such a comfort &
yet the Lord gives to enjoy the society of
my dear wife better than ever before since
our marriage for which I would praise him
& pray that I may profit by his blessing.

We have no meeting today. The Indians
are all at their sugar camps, some dis-
tance off & perhaps their sugaring oc-
cupies their attention even on the Sabbath
though they have been many times wound
not to do such things - but I suppose the
influence of the Roman priests & religion
do not restrain them. may the Lord
put his fear in their hearts.

Last Wednesday Paumotu & another Indian went
to the Kapiti for the Priest to come & see
Wabesugama who has apparently been at
the point of death for some time -

I am tried very much that I cannot
visit & converse with the sick & dying,
but though I can go & sit & look at them, yet
it will not answer to take Miss Willard
with me (from the suspicions of the
Indians) so that when I go I have to sit in
silence except the little I can speak of the
language.

11 Went this morning to see Wabesugama
he died 1/2 past 9 O'clock just before I arrived
at his house I assisted in laying him out -
if any man can live & die in the Roman church
& still be a Christian & go to heaven I think he was
such a man, he heard the truth & received it
apparently with great thankfulness - yesterday I
sent to him by Miss Willard not to trust in Pope Priest
nor saints nor angels but in Jesus Christ, he said

he was very thankful - this was the last word we
had from him, he has appeared the same
ever since my talk with him last fall
P.M. 4 young men came here & made
a coffin for Wabesungma

13 My cow died last night Mrs Smith feels
very sad about it - it is a great loss it cuts
off our hope of milk just at the time
when we expected her to calve & our chil-
dren to be supplied with milk -
right before last Charles Duvemy staid with
us he brought a little rice & loaf sugar from
Mrs Ferry to Mrs Smith, how great is the
goodness of God to ~~us~~ that in time of
sickness he should give us friends to admin-
ister to our necessities & even our comfort
wrote a letter to Mrs Ferry -

Sab. Morning 16 - At family worship we read in
course the 3 chapter of the 2 Epistle of Peter -
What a sublime & awful description (yet to the
humble believer how full of comfort!) does he give
of the day of judgment! in remarking upon it
I had this view of the government of God im-
posed upon my mind & explained it to my family
viz That God in the first intimations which he gave
of his plan of redemption to man after the fall
he adapted the revelation to the infant condition

of the world showing sufficiently clearly that
by faith in the promised seed ^{of promise} a life, & believe
men might attain the blessings of heaven
leaving him to fear & dread the consequences
if he did not comply with the terms — as
wickedness multiplied & sin increased the
promises of a Saviour were more distinct
& clear & the threatenings of punishment to
the wicked were more decided & less liable to be
mistaken. but sin still gained an alarming
ascendency when God visited the world with
the awful judgment of the deluge & cut off
the world of mankind except one righteous
family as it were began again with them
to carry out his plan of redemption, still sin
triumphed, when God manifested his mercy
more distinctly than before in the fam-
ily of Abraham when he entered into covenant
with him & his seed, gave him the seals & established
his kingdom with him & his seed forever —
afterward through Moses to the children of
Israel when he gave the law & instituted
the rites & ceremonies of the Mosaic dispen-
sation which shadowed forth & typified the
coming Messiah in a way that men need
misunderstand while his Justice appeared
conspicuous in the thunderings of Sinai
& as denounced by the prophets which followed

When Christ came & offered himself a sacrifice
for sin then the justice & mercy of God
shone most gloriously & in the institution
of the Christian church & ministry Gods plan
of redemption was complete. The believer
had glorious hope set before him while
the ungodly were left without excuse & had
nothing but a fearful looking for of judg-
ment & fiery indignation which shall
devour the adversaries. Thus the plan
which Gods love & grace devised was put
into full & perfect operation & for the
benefit of the church & the warning of
the wicked a prospective view was given
through the Apostles of the success & preva-
lence of the gospel against all opposition of
men & devils till the millenium is past
when through the influence of scoffers &
& seducers the world will again be overwhelmed
with wickedness & be ripe for destruction
so that it will be palpably manifest to all, an-
gels, men & devils that God is righteous who taketh
vengeance after he has so fully exhibited his
longsuffering & shown that he is not willing
that any should perish but that all should come
to repentance if the day of the Lord does come
as a thief in the night in the which the
heavens shall pass away with a great noise & the
elements shall melt with the fervent heat, the earth dis-
& the works that are therein shall be burned up again

ably to the warnings that had been often given that
the heavens & the earth are kept in store & re-
serve unto fire against the day of judgment &
perdition of ungodly men. One thing seems
to be characteristic of all God's dealings with
the wicked in this world from the creation
until now viz he does not visit them with
judgments till mercy has long forborne
& many warnings have been given. witness
the old world Pharaoh & his people. the Ca-
naanites. the history of the Jews. So we have
reason to believe it will ^{be} in the end of the
world - perhaps infidelity will be general if
not almost universal & the saviour's question
when is the promise of his coming? may be
come the watchword. then God will prove
that he is not slack concerning his promise
but is long suffering not willing that any should
perish but since they ~~despise~~ ^{have none of} his counsel & will
his reproof then sudden destruction cometh

P. M. Mrs Smith has been quite comfortable
for some days but this afternoon was attacked
with violent labour pains as though she
was to be confined immediately.

Monday 24 Held Council with the Indians
at school house to decide the question so long
discussed among us whether they would remain
permanently here & to be or leave & close up our
Colony affairs?

There was a great unanimity both of
feeling & action through all our deliberations.
We first stated the object of calling them
together & gave them my opinion plainly
then led in prayer, afterward read Mr
Stuart's letters - after that Chief appeared
on the floor in the name of the Band
as formerly & answered - that they were
determined to remain & receive the pay-
ment at Grand Haven, work on their
farms, send their children to school attend
meeting a part of the time &c &c - every
thing would well except they requested that
Robert Chandler, a young trader an Indian
a Roman Catholic &c might be appointed
their farmer, I said all I thought would
do any good to induce them to prefer
Dr Goodrich but to no purpose - 25/1 are
pledged to remain - P.M. & evening I wrote
to Mr Stuart on the subject - 25. Moksabe
& Minimkopsia went to Abegan carried the
letter for Mr Stuart to the Post Office -

Monday May 1st noon, have just yielded
up an infant daughter to the hands of him
who gave it - yesterday noon my dear wife
was taken with the labour pains which con-
tinued without much intermission till
1 O'clock this morning when our little
daughter was born - 1 foot (the right one) was
in advance of the head so that when it passed
the leg was pressed into the left side of the head
from the forehead to the crown which dis-
figured both the head & the leg considerably,
the leg was very purple, soon swelled, soone,
the hands were also with the head but not so
as to be compressed - 1 foot was as it should be
the birth was wholly effected by a single pain but
of great length & severity, preceded & attended
with violent shiverings & spasms which ap-
proached very near to convulsions - the mem-
branes were entire till the birth was com-
plete the placenta attending it at first the child's
prospects were dubious, but it soon breathed well
cried strong, countenance looked healthy, head
nearly restored to its proper form & it indicated
decided desire for food we entertained con-
siderable hopes of raising it we washed & partially
dressed it & laid it on its mother's arm & rejoiced
greatly in the possession of it - for it has been
the child of much pain & anxious concern almost
ever since it was conceived but God had

another scene for us to pass through - soon
after sun rise our children came down
to see their new sister & were raised almost
to an extacy ~~then~~ as it were when our
happiness was raised to its highest pitch at that
moment the blow was struck. God denied
that we could not keep it its countenance
turned purple, its breath became short &
unfrequent & it struggled & struggled & lay
fervid till 10 O'clock & expired thus was the
morning flower cut down ere it was noon
it survived 9 short hours then took its flight
it was a beautiful child but small weighing
only $3\frac{3}{4}$ pounds with its clothes.

Though God's hand in this affliction has been
laid heavily upon us I feel that it is all just
I would feel to say The Lord gave, the Lord
hath taken away blessed be the name of the Lord!
at one time I felt that if my dear wife could
be spared I could surrender the child without
a tear, then her health became so much
better & the prospect so good to all appearances
(I mean sometime before it was born) that I calculated
to keep them both, but the affliction would have
been too light I should have forgotten it too
easy but now O God thou hast touched my
heart in a tender part, may I be still &
know that man art God & profit by the cha-
ritiments of thy hand! my dear companion

is left & is comfortable, never more so after
the birth of a child. I feel as though I possess ^{her}
now, as it were given the second time -
O that by the grace of God I may be more
tender of her than ever before, & value
& improve her society better than I have
ever done, in the loss of the child she is
cut to the quick. but apart from this she en-
joys a peaceful state of mind

2. Made a coffin myself, the Indians moved
to the landing ~~last night~~ & are gone various
ways to attend to business so that we are alone
wife quite comfortable -

P. M. Chief's mother came with medicine
for Mrs Smith had her 2 little girls (got granddaughters)
with her, spent the night with us.

3-9 O'clock A.M. committed the remains of
our beautiful little infant daughter to the grave
did the whole myself attended by our 4 remain-
ing children, Miss Willard, Chief's mother & her
little girls. buried our child under the shade of
2 peach trees in the garden about 4 rods
south of the house. I here record my grati-
tude to God for the kind & faithful attention
of Miss Willard during the whole of our affliction
also for the Chief's mother who has done
much by furnishing useful medicine. from
the first she has exhibited an affection which
could not be expected from any but a mother

Mrs Smith has much pain today but perhaps
no more than should be expected. It was like
rending her heart to take the body of our child
to the grave when she could see it no more.

Feb. 7. My dear wife's health is improving as
fast as can be expected. yesterday she sat up
a little, today also some. her prospect of
recovery is very good for which I feel
to thank the Lord.

A.M. 2 young Indians (Chippeway & John)
came, talked with them on the subject
of religion. John is a N. Catholic. pressed
upon him the necessity of repentance
& faith & love. that without these he
never could enter heaven. Chippeway
is a Methodist from Manitowaning
in Canada, he talks like a Christian. it
was pleasant to converse with him. I str-
ngthened his faith encouraged his progress
sang 2 Indian Hymns, his countenance
seemed clearly to show that he had a
Christians heart within.

Feb. 28. Today & for 2 Sabbaths past 2 Indians
have come to meeting though I have told
the Chief that I wished them to come they moved
from their Sugar Camps to the landing.

I've working on their farms through
the week & their excuse is that when the
lab comes they are tired. so they pray
at the landing. the true reason I think
is some of the leaders (Maksabe in particular)
are afraid their Romish faith will be
gine to stagger if they do not shut their eyes
against the light of scriptures. but by what
the Chief & others have said within a
few days past it appears they are begin-
ing to reflect seriously on the subject -
May the Lord bring them to see the import-
ance of attending to their soul's salvation
while it is an acceptable time -

My dear wife's health is restored to a much
better state than we could hope a few weeks
ago it would be in the time. she has a prospect
of as good health as she has ever enjoyed since
our marriage - we enjoy one another's
society much more profitably than formerly
my prayer is that by God's grace we may im-
prove all his dealings with us to his own glory

Sab June 11 Shashagwa his 2 wives & 8 children
came to meeting they had heard a gospel sermon
I laid before them as much gospel truth as I
could in one discourse they listened with serious
attention & promised to come again when
they could may the Lord bless his aw truth

12. While I was gone to Richmond after a cow which I had bought Louis Meksabe shot my only hog a good one which leaves us without a mouthful of meat or any means to make any he dressed it sent Mrs Smith a ham she sent it back.

13 Chief & bendunwan came to talk about the hog, said they felt very bad about it Louis ^{said} same to them they said they sent it back with word that he must eat it himself alone I talked to them about coming to meeting they were afraid the others would be angry with them if they came but said if God spared their lives they would come — they said their children could not come to school it is too far. that I was not to be blamed because their children did not learn. the Indians only are to blame —

P. M. Louis came said he was angry when he killed the hog, that he was sorry & provided that he would never do such a thing again & we agreed that Mr Kellogg & Judge Ely should decide what the damage shall be

Feb 16 My dear wife has been very ill during the past week she is a little better to day — she has had cough with pain in her side & head with symptoms of a tendency to inflammation in both head & lungs

A. M. Osburn was here during family worship, explained to him the way of salvation by Jesus Christ. he is not a Catholic & hears with good attention & an unbiased mind. P. M. Chief came on an errand. I told him it was wrong to do such things on the Sab. then took my bible & explained to him the law of the Sab. at considerable length & urged it upon him. he said he would never come again on business Sabbath day.

A few days ago recd a letter from Dr Goodrich stating that he had recd his appointment & would be here next Monday. Chief & Makisabe were here, Chief appeared displeas'd but rather inclin'd to submit. Makisabe was like a wild bull in a net & his language was contemptible & abusive if so polluted a tongue can abuse. Is God going to give up this people to strong delusions that they may believe a lie that they all may be damnd? This almost seems true of them. I pray God they may see themselves in the light of divine truth. but they have the mark of the beast & I fear will carry it down to the pit. at least many of the old people perhaps. the young may be redeemed. God alone can open their eyes.

July 24 Having concluded to go with family & visit our friends I went today & took our 3 oldest children & cattle to Richmond & returned.

25 Took Mrs Smith, Miss Willard & youngest child to Richmond all on horse back.

26 Dr Goodrich came & wished me to go to Old Wing with him to see the Indians. we came, spent the night at our house -

27 Visited the Trims, they were as pleasantly & apparently cordially except Makabe was at first a little sour - P.M. returned to Richmond -

evening took my family to Mr Harris's 8 miles

28 Went to Allegan -

Jan. 30 Self & family attended meeting in Allegan Rev. Dr. Canstuck (Baptist) Superintendent of Public instruction, preached A.M. -

P.M. Rev. Mr. Frazer (Methodist) preached

31. Went to Brother Mc Martin's Plainfield found them well with a daughter nearly 2 years & a son 5 months old both very promising children had a pleasant visit -

August 2. Went to Gull Prairie -

Jan. 6. Attended meeting on the Prairie -

Rev. Mrs. Hammond preached A.M. & P.M.

5 O'clock P.M. I preached. When I came down from the pulpit Rev. M. Knappen said don't you know you preached that same sermon here 2 or 3 years ago? I answered no, well you did what did you preach it again for? I suppose he was right, but I was not aware of it I hope however I shall

born a lesson from it. though I could not say I was sorry inasmuch as when I preached there before few were present. at this time the house was full & the subject was important. If I had not come & spoken unto them they had not had sin but now they have no cloak for their sin —

7. Went with wife Brothers Pavers & Mills, to Kalama-
zoo village, called on Rev. Mr Hoyt the Pastor
also called on Rev. M. Knappen going & returning
& attended a congregation at Mr Knappen's.
Rev Messrs. Knappen, McClaren, Hoyt, Bushnell
& Hammond were present. it was rather an in-
tellectual treat than a time of special devotion
Our Mr. Hammond preached, on the Prairie, one
of the most powerful & convincing sermons I
ever heard, he is a promising young man
His subject: ^{was} nothing pleases the sinner draws ex
Ahab's answer to Micaiah. the conclusion was
the sinner must be regenerated.

10 ~~That~~ visited all our friends on the Prairie
& had a pleasant time with them, we left &
visited Elder Mater, Missionary at Ottawa Colony
he has an interesting time with his people, several
Indians have been converted this summer —

P. M. came to Brother Mc Martin's —

12 Left our Jan with Br. Mc Martin to attend
school a few weeks, it was indeed trying. but
we did it for his good committing to the care &
gracious protection of our heavenly Father —

12 Evening arrived at Albany
Received a Circular from Commissioners of
Indian Affairs at Washington also a letter from
Mr Stewart Sup. Ind. affs Detroit, prospects are fair
that I shall yet obtain a Government appro-
priation for my support while I shall continue
to labour among the Indians, if I should I hope
it may be the means of good to them

Jan. 13. Rev. S. Newbury ^{Pastor} preached A.M. on the
nature & power of conscience -
P.M. I preached.

16 Took my family in a skiff (E. B. Wilder & a young
man in company) came to Newark arrived
10 o'clock evening - very dark with wind & almost irres-
sant thunder & lightning so that we supposed our-
selves in great danger but the Lord helped us through
his lightning was our lamp & guide

Jan 20 Preached at Newark A.M., P.M. about
fifty people were present, some from every
family in the region, all very attentive. a few
appeared much interested on the whole it was
about as interesting a congregation as I ever
preached to

23 Came in canoe with my family to Richmond
Spent the night at Mr Morris - -

24 Took Mr Mann's ^{horse} & mine & self & wife with
Esther came home happy to spend a night
again at ~~our~~ own humble dwelling -

25 Went back to Michmond after our other 2
little girls & cattle. Dr Goodrich was there on
his way to our place. he brought the girls in
his waggon. my ^{cow} being gone to Otsego I left
my pony for Mr. M. to ride up country he
is to drive her down next week down
the next home -

We feel thankful that God has preserved
our lives during our visit & hope & pray
that we ^{may} profit by it.

Oct. 25: 1843. I am now in the long sparing
mercy of God 36 years old. but how unworthy
of such a continuance of mercy! how have
I improved this mercy? sometimes when I
reflect I think I make some advances in
true wisdom & holiness. again it seems as
though my movements were retrograde
May the Lord enable me henceforth to grow
in grace & in the knowledge of my Lord and
Saviour Jesus Christ daily: in the strength of
God's grace I now resolve renewedly to consecrate
myself to him. ^{may his grace be sufficient for}
^{my days!}

26 Started early to Grand Haven to attend
payment Dr Goodrich went with me to Superior
Evening arrived at Grand Haven

28 Payment was expected today but paymaster
did not arrive. he is detained by the drunken
hunks of Indians at the Rapids - Council
Chief & others about conduct during payment
they promised they would not drink & would
do all they could to prevent the rest from
drinking

Feb. 29 preached twice - it was a cold, snowy
windy day. had but a small congregation
they listened with attention -

Evening steam boat arrived with
paymaster & a great number of traders
30 - At 8 o'clock at the request of Mr. S. Lee
paymaster I assembled the Indians at
Mr Terry's store. Payment was finished
in a few hours, the whole scene was
indeed flattering. Mr Lee's address was
good. particularly he told them they must
follow the instructions of the teacher
& farmer. they pledged obedience -
172 Indus received in all \$1564.50 specie
13 3/4 bbls flour 5 Do pork 5 Do salt 300 lbs
tobacco. Mr Lee also gave me strong
assurances of Govt support also some
things for Mrs Willard

31 Arrived home. while at Grand Haven
took my meals at Rev W. M. Ferry's mostly
some at Mr Darrow's. lodged at the Tem-
perance Tavern (Perrin's) at Mr Ferry's
expense. he is a man to be loved & I love
him & his family. though the world around
him despise him. only, I believe, because
he is upright & faithful.

6 Indians have returned from payment
they have kept from drinking except perhaps
one of them. Recd letter from Providence R. I
respecting Box clothing sent from that place
to us. I suppose it to be in Chicago as I hear
there is one there for me

P.M. Mrs Smith was violently attacked with
inflammation of the lungs. I was at Richmond
Dr Goodrich brought me word early on the
7. I came home found her very sick

Sab. 12. Mrs Smith's health is so much im-
proved that she sits up a part of the time
Dr G. came from Allegan brought word
that I was wanted to attend meeting associ-
ation at Otsego.

13. P.M. Started for Otsego - arrived at Mr Bailey's
& the evening spent the night there

14 Morning in company with Rev. S. Newburg went
to Otsego, then to Dr Thompson's Plainfield where
Association met P.M. Evening to Otsego 15: Sabbath

15: 9 O'clk. A.M. Ass. met at Mr Drury's Office
noon adjourned to Paw parie & Tuesday Nov.

There were 10 ministers present viz-
Messrs Hoyt, McClann, Clark, Newbury, Bradley,
Fuller, Bushnell, Gaston, Jeffers & myself.

It was an interesting occasion. it is a great
Blessing to enjoy such a privilege after being
so long deprived of it as I have been for which
I thank God. I was received member of the
Association with special privilege of excuse
for absence when necessary on account
of distance from its bounds being 30 miles
from its nearest point.

P.M. There was a quantity of clothing (6 Boxes
& a barrel) distributed among the ministers
The clothing was collected by Mr Drury in Mass-
nearly one Box was sent to me especially
by the Donors. most of which I need also
some other articles making in all about
the same amount designed for me
Eve came to Megan. lodge at Bro Newbury's
16 came home. found my dear wife con-
siderably worse.

17 Wife's health has improved very much
since yesterday.

30- Received a Box of clothing collected last
year by Rev. Mr. Wilder in Boston & vicinity
as is supposed its contents are good but de-
signed for summer use.

Dec. 8. Deeded Dr O. D. Goodrich 4 acres
of land for a building spot &c
am to have a clock worth 14 dollar in
pay for the land

9 Our lovely little daughter Esther Eliza
is in a very doubtful state of health - we
begin to fear she will never recover. She
has had no use of her right leg for a long
time - it is distressingly painful most of the
time night. though quite comfortable most
of the time days - it is extremely difficult to
handle her - if I go to take her she will
beg Pa dont touch Eddy - you will hurt her
but she has a heavenly spirit. She been lame
since last winter yet no swelling is to be
seen - at first the pain was inside the
thigh until lately - now it is outside &
below the knee - she appears to be sinking
her constitution is evidently suffering
the only way we can give any degree
of ease from pain is by the use of tonics
& stimulants - Dr Goodrich thinks she has
a lumber abscess forming - it cannot yet
be determined with certainty. though
he is quite confident he is right - he
advises her medicines

12. Little Esther Eliza's health is failing fast every day we fear she cannot survive long. She endures her sufferings with great patience she loves to sing & pray & repeat scripture & talk about God & heaven especially when her body is not racked with pain. several times in the dead of the night when the house was hushed in silence & she supposed all were asleep her dear mother's ever watchful ear has heard her lift her voice to him who never slumbers nor sleeps with great devotion O Lord bless little Esty. Bless pa. & ma &c. she loves prayer as she does her life. her spirit seems fitted for the abodes of a better world than this. but O my God how can I endure to part with this lovely child if it be thy will to take her I give me grace to say thy will be done.

For several weeks Dr. G. has said she cannot recover though she may be comfortable for a short time.

21. Our little daughter is somewhat more comfortable than she has been, if my gracious God would spare her life even though she be a cripple how would I rejoice in his mercy & devote her to his glory

P.M. Had council with the Indians at the school house to discuss the question viz Whether it is not absolutely necessary for the success of the Mission for them to live permanently on their farms, come to meeting satedly & send their children to school? I laid the subject before them in all its importance. Chief seemed to feel at first but in the end he as well as the rest manifested a secret determination to spend at least the summer at their landing on Black lake - The council closed unpleasantly, still I can but hope that a good impression will be made on their minds. It is too plain that Catholic priests & other mischievous enemies of the truth are at the bottom of all these movements & I fear they will succeed to the ruin of the poor Indians -

I told them to send their children to school next Monday. They promised to do it. I also requested them to come to meeting -

26 Communion school had but 7 scholars
27 had 15 scholars. 28 had 20 scholars
Feb 31 - 28 or 30 Indians came to meeting -
I preached from the parable of the fig tree & applied it particularly to the Inds as a new years sermon. *That the Lord would make his truth a savour of life unto life*

Jan. 1. 1844 The Lord in his great-
ness has spared me another year What
shall I render unto God for all his kindness

Little Esther E. is tolerably comfortable
though she is nearly helpless. She can sit in
the sicking chair through the day & nights rests
very well, she creeps some

6 Have had from 15 to 20 scholars this week

Sal. 7 Though the weather was extremely
inclement about 18 or 20 came to meet-
ing preached on the broad & narrow
ways & gates. hope they were led to see
that Roman Catholics are very likely
at least to be in the broad way that leads to
destruction if so they may think it time to
look about them May the Spirit attend
the word

10 For some time we have not known
what we should do for provisions, being
almost destitute & having no funds to buy
but it still holds true The Lord will provide
to day I received a letter from Ann G. Green
Providence R.I. containing a check on
the Bank of Commerce in New York
for ten dollars

Sal 14. Had no meeting something I
know not what has kept them away-

20 Have had from 16 to 25 scholars this week

Sab. 21. Only 8 persons came to meeting to day. Chief's mother came she has been in an interesting state for some time. I preached from the Text Who can forgive sins but God only? connecting several other similar texts with it I enforced the doctrine strongly that God alone can forgive sins. after meeting the old woman seriously said she believed all I said & would not again go to the priest to confess may the Lord strengthen her resolution & give her grace to persevere -

Sab 28 Notwithstanding snow fell 10 inches last night there were about 20 at meeting among them were the Chief's mother & sister, the rest were young people I preached from Rev. 19-10. endeavored to set before them plainly the guilt of worshipping saints & angels &c. & the importance, the necessity of worshipping only God. I hope & pray the blessing of God may attend his truth & that it may be the means of opening their benighted eyes to see & of softening their hard hearts to feel its power & yield obedience

Feb 2 Have had this week from 12 to 20 scholars. They are learning very fast the school was never so promising. Besides teaching them their regular lessons I have them repeat the Lord's prayer with me at the close of school teach them to sing English & Indian Hymns. then close by prayer & once a week give them plain & pointed instructions (through Miss Willard's report) on relative & other social duties & their obligations to God &c. at which seasons they appear serious & attentive.

The Chief's mother visited us today, she seems determined to seek the truth & be obedient to it. She has been to see some other women to get them to come to meeting. they say they durst not come they are afraid of the priest, she told them she was not & that as long as she had eyes to see she would come here to meeting. She believed we had the true religion.

4 Though it has been very snowy & rainy today about 20 Indians came to meeting but Miss Willard has the sick headache so that she cannot interpret. I sung & talked with them they appeared disappointed & returned I think there are good indications

Sab 11. Between 40 & 50 came to meeting.
Text the fear of the Lord is the beginning
of wisdom, also. the fear of man bring
eth a man attempted to show the nature
& importance of the fear of God & its ef-
fect on the life & eternal destiny of man
& then contrasted with it the nature &
results of the fear of man (meaning
the priest) applying to them as Catholics
most of them listened with interest & at-
tention - after I closed, Chief appearing
angry said he would talk with me another
day on the subject he did not like
to break the sabbath - I told him I
should be glad to talk with him - I
can but hope good will be done -
O that the Lord would make his
truth the sword of the Spirit to thin
his to you sharper than any two edged
sword

Sab. 18. only 5 Indians came to meeting
preached from Mark. 1. 15 last clause
have reason to hope I was heard
with attention & interest

19 Only 3 children came to school
it was all are moving to their
sugar camps the number being
so small I did not teach so that last
Friday was the last day of this winter's school

22 Mrs Smith & myself went to Mr Morris's Newark. to see if we could get shoes for our daughters Mary Jane & Annville A. we took them to Mr Shavers - left George & Esther Eliza at home with Miss Willard.

23 returned as far as Richmond Mrs. D's health being delicate & the day being rainy we came no farther -

24 Came home - found little Esther Eliza feverish & disappointed. She was unwell last night - when we left she was cheerful & happy - she had appeared feverish two or 3 times previous to our leaving -

We were to have returned last night Miss W. says she sat at the window a long time waiting & looking for us, when she was wearied with looking she said if pa takes my Ma away again I shall give him a scolding (musically) - but we fear she will never recover -

Sat March 5th Little Esther Eliza continues to grow wiser & our fears increase every day she is very remarkable for her maturity in her intellectual faculties & her moral & religious views & feelings she has the maturity of age - she appears ripe for heaven at home we strike she has her bible, reads her word after me & very devoutly joins

with us all in praying the Lord's prayer
(This I have been in the habit of doing for some time
& it is a great satisfaction to her & I think
beneficial to all the children) if at
any at any time she is asleep when she
wakes she grieves exceedingly till she reads
her verse & joins with me or her dear
mother in prayer

No meeting today Dr G. & I went to the in-
gan camp to visit the sick found most of
the Indians at work at their sugar. As
with them on the subject as far as I could
all seemed to feel that they were doing wrong
Dr bid Moséguena's widow who was quite ill

Feb 10 Little Esther Eliza is apparently fast
going to the grave she has 2 paroxysms of
fever every 24 hours, one in the day time
one in the night - her breath is short
& quick with a laborious heaving of the chest
her pulse quick & small Dr Goodrich
thinks she may not live 3 days.

She has indeed a heavenly spirit - her
charm & delight in music I have never
seen equalled - she will sing her part (the
air) with perfect correctness & beauty
while I sing & play on the Bass viol -

Near night she requested me to sing
Todie, she named the Hymns - sang
with beauty & a heavenly melody - but
perhaps for the last time this side heaven
It may be necessary for her to go for
our good & the good of the other children
our parental affections are almost
all, we sometimes fears centered in her
since her sickness in Dec. I have
sincerely desired to have one of our
other children sing with me if I could
have her & she was always ready &
always delighted in it. She entered into
it with that singings of soul which
exactly harmonize with my feelings
while engaged in what furnished me
so much delight. The Hymns she chose
on this occasion (& in fact they were
generally her choice though she sang
a great variety of others) were -
Come let us arise our journey pursue
&c she would sing the whole Hymn
(or at least the first & 2 last verses) Gorton
Another Hymn was - When overwhelmed
with grief, My heart within me dies. &c
The whole Hymn from Dunbar.
Also, Though troubles assail us & dangers affright
&c. also Blackburn Behold thy waiting servant Lord
Devoted to thy fear &c. another which she

like much, was, as an semi-lonely building
top. The sparrow told her man to June
Sparrow's Man - another - June Dawn -
Awake my soul & with the sun
Thy daily stage of duty run
Shake off dull slath & early rise
To pay thy morning sacrifice -

All these she sung this afternoon with some
others - I could this child be continued with
us I would almost, ^{ful} as though my earthly hap-
piness was complete - but God's will be
done & may I have grace to submit -

14. Little Esther continues to fever every day
her fever (hectic) remains unsubsided
though we have made strong efforts to sub-
due it - her vital energies are fast falling
before her insatiable disease: she suffers
much pain yet she complains not. her
spirit is fast maturing for a better world
though she says she had rather stay with
mother than to go & be with God - a part
of today she seemed to be at the point of
death, but near night she revived ^{a little} & sat
up awhile in her rocking chair -

15. Our little daughter appeared so much more
comfortable that I found near night
when her fever returned, I had been flat-
tering myself with hope of her recovery only

to experience the greater anguish on seeing her beyond the reach of help near night she asked her mother to sing with her. She sang several times when ^{she} sang Blackburn, Esther sang it 3 times ^{prophatically} with her

16 Little Esther's symptoms too plainly show that her sufferings are nearly at an end that her mental life is drawing to a close. Near night she sat up a short time in her rocking chair

Evening Dr Goodrich came to watch with her. I laid down by her side & my dear wife went up chamber to seek a little rest both of us being nearly worn out with watching. About 10 O'clk her distress had so increased that she was in an agony. She sat up in bed called her mother & when she came she asked where's papa? though I was lying by her side - & had just been helping her ^{memory} began to fail. She would begin to ask for drink or food & would forget what she wanted before she could name it. She sat up writhing in agony till her strength failed so that she could scarcely hold up her head. I took her & laid her on her pillow & she continued so through the night

She lost her sight before morning
Feb. 17. dawned but her eye did not dawn
with it - last evening at family worship
she read her verse as usual (1 Chron 29. 18
Now therefore, our God we thank thee &
praise thy glorious name) when we
knelt down to worship. She looked round
upon us but did not join as usual in prayer.
She continued suffering through the day
& night about the same - eve, she called
Ma twice but we doubted if she were
conscious though she may have been
at the time - every breath was a
groan, often she would weep & shriek
in agony

Monday 18. 5 O'clock (break of day) she
died - her breath drew calmly to a close
she gasped but once - her spirit took
its flight to the arms of a covenant
keeping God none of my family were up
all were silent in sleep. Fr G was with me
I felt relieved when her soul departed & her
mortal sufferings ended & I commended
her with confidence & comfort to the
arms of my blessed Saviour in the words of
the Poet I said Happy soul thy days are ended

All thy mourning days below
Go, by angel guards attended
To the sight of Jesus go

Between 6 & 7 I called up my wife & remaining children my dear wife is exceedingly afflicted by the sickness & death of Esther Eliza we both feel as though an almost angelic spirit was taken from us & are almost inconsolable but we feel also that God is just & has afflicted us for our good & his own glory

Esther Eliza was three years 7 months & 8 days old. She was born on Monday morning at break of day (4 Oclk) August 10-1840. died Monday morning at break of day (5 Oclk) March 18th 1844

The Lord gave, the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord. but at times I feel almost unconciled to God's dealings Why dost thou thus contend with me? Why are my children cut down in the morning? Lord thou art wise thou art just & merciful O that I may be still & know that thou art God. Lord teach me so to number my days that I may apply my heart unto wisdom -

19th 1 Oclk P.M. we deposited the remains of our beloved little daughter in the grave by the side of the infant daughter we buried last Spring - several of the Indians visited us yesterday & today The Chief, his mother (she staid with us last night) brother, sisters & their relations attended funeral. they sympathized deeply with us as was manifest by the tears they shed

I made a few remarks to them - Dr Goodrich
made a few remarks & prayed -

O how heart rending to bury such a child. her
countenance bore a heavenly smile till it
was laid in the grave - hope smiles on the tomb.

Go blessed one. Thy Saviour's gone before thee
But he again will come And raise thee up to glory
shall There peaceful rest. Till the last trumpet sounding
calls thee to his breast, With angel guards surrounding

Thy pains are o'er; Thy parents tho' behind thee
Will meet thee on that shore When sorrow ne'er will find thee

There will unite ~~again~~ will join our voices
With infinite delight While roll eternal ages.

Our theme shall be, The God of our salvation
Praise, to eternity; ^{join} Join us every nation

I have now another anchor cast in the
peaceful haven of eternal rest. & hope that
in due time my frail bark will be wafted
to that peaceful shore When kindred souls will
part no more -

My dear wife being advanced in pregnancy
suffers excessively & I fear I have greater
afflictions still before me. I have little hope
of my child living & greatly fear for my wife
Will my gracious Lord prepare me to expe-
rience his chastenings with submission & profit
I have been reading in ^{the} waters of affliction for
the past year but perhaps I have scarcely passed
the margin of the stream -

The weather for 2 or 3 days has been extremely cold, snowy & blustering which has increased the gloominess of the scene & added to our afflictions.

The ligaments of Esth^r's right hip joint appeared after death to be wholly consumed so that on moving it the bones would clatter together. The thigh also appeared to be filled with matter deep under the large muscle from her body near to her knee. The Dr says it was a burn her abscess. The joints of that leg were not stiffened when she was buried.

25 Dr Goodrich started for Connecticut to get his wife. I feel bad that he should be gone so long, as so little has been effected for the Indians since he has been here but he seems no way concerned about it. I fear his appointment is going to work prejudicially. He has done almost nothing & appears to feel little interest. I am much disappointed in him.

30 P.M. Brother John E. Powers came employed by Dr G to supply the place of former in his absence.

April 5: Took up both our children put both coffins in one large box for their better preservation opened them both for Bro Powers to see them.

April 8 Osham^squa died this morning early of Em^{pi}elas has been sick but a few days he was one of our best Indians.

10 Priest came to landing. Indians appear blindly rushing on to ruin.

12 Had a daughter born little before
3 Oclk this morning - she weighed $4\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. with
clothes she appeared strong & well at first
but became distorped in about 3 hours &
in 4 hours more closed her short life
on earth though I did all I could for
her - she lived little above 7 hours -
the circumstances of her birth were
all favorable - she resembled Esther - her
mother said her name is Esther Eliza

This is the third daughter we have lost within
2 weeks less than a year - her dying
groans were attended with a deep heaving
sigh the same as Esthers & every one
was as a knife in my heart - God has
given us seven children & taken 4 of them
back to himself - but why O God! why hast
^{thou} thou dealt thus with us? I discover thy chastening rod
Thou art just - I am condemned - but Lord is it not
enough?

Sab. morning 14 at the close of family worship
we deposited the remains of our infant daugh-
ter by the side of her 2 sisters - (Mr Martin of
settled us) Mrs Smith is quite comfortable
but like myself feels sorely afflicted by
the dealings of God with us

Feb 21. Since the death of Esther Eliza & our
infant children but particularly since little
E. E.'s death my mind has been much exer-
cised on the subject of the resurrection of the
body - when I behold her glorified spirit rejoicing
in the presence of God & reflect that the
sufferings of her mortal life are ended
my soul is quite comforted - I am rather almost
rejoicing in the thought - but when I
follow her lovely form with which is
associated so much that was endearing, so
much of my past happiness, so much of
my prospect of future comfort - to the
cold & silent grave how cheerless, how
comfortless the scene - if I had assurance
to say with Henry respecting one of his children
There is a beautiful garment laid up in the
wardrobe of the grave to be worn again
on the resurrection day, my soul would rest
with complacent satisfaction on the thought
If I consult friends they do not believe this
same body will be raised again - if com-
mentators the conclusion is that we
have nowhere in the bible assurance
that the same numerical body will
be raised in the last day - if these things be
so why does God speak of a resurrection?
does he mean the soul? then why speak
of a resurrection at all? if he mean

The soul's union with some other body
better adapted to its future state of existence
still I ask Why does he then speak of resurrection
The soul is not laid in the grave therefore
cannot be raised its union with another
body has nothing in it of the nature of a
resurrection. therefore the bible can
not when it speaks of a resurrection
mean such a union. What then does
it mean? I believe it means the dead shall be
raised, ~~the~~ identical body which is buried shall be raised!
so as to constitute the new one, the spiritual one, the
immortal one, the glorious one - in a manner
similar to that in which the seed sown produces the
wheat which grows from it - so completely a resemblance
of the original & constituted from it in such a
manner as to be identified as the same & that
the same consciousness of continued identity which
characterises us here will continue consistent
with eternity & though it is difficult for our dull
faith to see how God can raise up these mortal
bodies when turned to dust & perhaps scattered to the
four quarters of the globe yet I believe that he who
created man out of the dust of the earth at the first
can raise us again at the last - that he who
raised up Jesus from the dead will also quicken
our mortal bodies With this view I can find
with comfort & consolation Job 19 Cap. 25 - 27 vs
also - 1 Cor. 15 - & other scriptures on the subject -

Friday 26 My dear wife has been so far
recovered as to be about the house (and work
some) a part of the time for several days
to day she was taken with a violent chill
& fever which brought into great distress
(27 morn) her fever followed her nearly
through the night. I fear the severity
of our affliction may prevent her
recovery - will the Lord graciously spare
us a little & lift upon us the light of his re-
conciled countenance. She is better today

30 Mrs Smith was again attacked with
violent fever with symptoms of in-
flammation of the head

May

4 Wife is quite comfortable again but
thinks she will never recover health

Feb. 5 Chief, Otopetakeshik & 2 boys came
to meeting Chief said he had been talking to
the Indians in the morning about com-
ing to meeting but our old man
held them back, perhaps they will come
next Sabbath. Miss Willard had the head
ache - she could interpret but little, yet
we had an interesting season I have

scarcely seen the Chief manifested so much feeling. They all manifested great seriousness while I explained the necessity of repentance, faith, love & obedience to God. I also explained the resurrection, judgment & heaven. Chief replied with good deal of interest & feeling he then asked if we had great priests? & where was my great priest? I answered we have no great priests - we know of no great priest in the bible but Jesus Christ - he is our High priest - his ministers are all equal - he said he believed what I said was the truth - that the greatest man in the sight of God was no more than a little child. This was an extraordinary confession for him or any other professing catholic -

P.M. Mrs Smith this fore noon was up & comfortable, went out door for the first time, but about 2 Oclk she was taken with a chill which lasted till evening. (by turns violent attended with severe pain) when a fever so violent succeeded attended with decided symptoms of inflammatory action - first at the kidneys afterward in the head.
5th wife had a distressed night but fever disappeared this A.M. - more comfortable

Feb 12 Mrs Smith's health is so far recovered
by the great mercy of God that she is able
to be in a considerable part of the time - this
is more than I durst to expect however strong
my hope, when Esther C. was taken from us
& when our little infant in whom our comfort
in a measure revived was also torn away from
our embrace. God's ways are past finding out
of this I am assured that he is rich in mercy
& does all things well, but why he has taken
from us all the children he has given
us since we came to this mission I know
not & though I deserve to be striped naked as
Job was, yet I am led to enquire why does God
deal with me in this particular manner?
& what does his thus chastening me mean?
I have now just what I brought with me
only I am as though a part of our original
selves were torn away. does my gracious
Lord mean that I ought to have this mission
or that I ought to be more faithful in it?
O my God make plain my path of duty. give
me grace to walk in it with cheerful feet.
If God design to send me away why does now
give me some evidence that he is bless-
ing my labours among this poor people?
I will praise my heavenly Father that he still
spares with me my dear wife & three prom-
ising children -

only Augustus came to meeting. Chief went with his company last week to Kalamazoo on business & the high wind has prevented his return. I explained to A. the nature & necessity of repentance & faith - he appeared ignorant of repentance theoretically but when he gave his experience I could but feel he understood practically. To my question he answered I feel myself a great sinner before God I feel sorry in my heart. I think I won't sin anymore but first I know I sin again then I am sorry & try again, I go to pray then every evil thing comes into my mind I find it hard to keep those evil things out of my heart. I directed him to pray to God for his Spirit & he would give him Spirit to help him

15 The Box of clothing &c. sent by the 1. Cong Church Providence R.I. to us last season arrived today by the unfaithfulness of the forwarding merchant (probably) it has been detained in Chicago since last Sept. the report is that a considerable proportion its contents is so mildewed as to be of little or no use. it was valued by the donors (see Bill) at over one hundred & 5 dollars & shows, with the accompanying letters by Ann G. Green their truly christian benevolence. May the Lord reward them a hundred fold. I thank God that he has raised us up such in this time of our affliction

22. P.M. Dr Goodrich returned he has been 3 weeks in Allegan since he returned from the East & he has no special reason to give for not coming before. he seems to be totally unconcerned about the great responsibilities resting upon him as former here. he brought a few articles to us sent from New-Hartford N.Y. also 4 dollars money—

25 Indians came to council on the Dr's invitation. he made a long speech. told them what Mr Stuart said & that he (the Dr) intention was only to do them good. & I doubt if one of them believed it, as they want tangible proof but this they have not found. Naksabe answering that he had better go back to Allegan. said all felt so. he had done nothing here & they did not want him any longer. after that Shinnikopsis & Bendun was made speeches in which they made strong efforts to induce me to go to the landing & live with them & teach &c. promising to give me a piece of land, build me a house & school house. they did not wish me to answer them, but think upon it & they would think upon it & then have an other council. he said the only reason why they had not got along better was their unfaithful hearts not mine.

27 Had another council P. M. ~~Matt~~ ~~Sabe~~ was not present. The Indians had played a game on him, so that he could not make disturbance.

Chief spoke a few words expressive of good feeling then said his brother was appointed Chief. he would speak for the whole.

Pendumwan spoke with a good deal of interest said they had been thinking on the subject proposed last Saturday he said I had that they had all considered if I would move to the landing they would give me an acre of land build me a house & cultivate my farm for me. & they would always plant & c my land first they did not wish me to work much but I should have the children always under my instructions, not the old people. wanted I should decide at once then write Mr Stuart for consent. - - - - they told Mr Dr, they ^{wrote} him to continue former.

I answered that it was not in my power to decide the question. that I did not think it best for them to live there & c & c. showing my reasons. they admitted my reasons were good but wished me to write to their old ~~Allegan~~ friends for ^{advice} as they dictated. I never saw them more in earnest. they manifest great affection, confidence & esteem. they say they cannot live in the woods. the question of staying with me is becoming a serious one may the Lord direct me in the right way

June 1. Dr left 3 O'clock P.M. for home. My opinion
his conduct is going to be the source of se-
verer trial to us. I talked with him to day
about his duty to the Indians, but he seems
to have no sense of his responsibilities or he
cares nothing about them, he says he will
never bring his family here & that he will
not be farmer long. - She had better not be
for I do not think he has been here over
one third of the time (if that) since his
appointment. - when here he sits shut
up in his house most of the time - so that
at most he is little more than an apology
for a farmer. - but it is good enough for us
as a reward for reckoning so much on his
assistance at this Mission we trusted too much
in the help of man, not enough in the
help of God. - to human view the Mission
must suffer greatly from his unfaithfulness,
but God will overrule all to his glory -

Feb. 2. Makshah came P.M. talked with him
plainly on depravity - the necessity of new birth
repentance, faith & love to God. he listened
with attention & apparent interest. he is such
a boisterous, angry man, that I have studied
long how to make a close personal application
of ~~the~~ truth so as to have him hear. I was
disappointed, he heard & repented. I hope it may
do him good -

7 Over brothers Wm E Powers & Francis G Mills
came A.M. to make us a visit. & indeed it was
pleasant to us to see them. I pray that we may
profit by it. & praise him for the blessing

P.M. Andrew Wood came sent by the Dr to
supply his place a few days. Mr K's father has
agreed with the Dr to be the farmer here
for 250. dollars. the Dr live in Allegan &
draw ^{his} 400 dollar salary. this looks like some
thing besides benevolence for the Indians
when he first came he professed it was
only from love to them, so he told them
this Spring in Council. but it looks to me
more like loving the salary than the Inds

10 Brothers left for home. George with them
Mr William Powers proposed to board him &
send him to school this summer. we think-
ing it best committed him to the blessing of
God & let him go

11. Evening the Dr & old Mr. Wood came. Mr. Wood
was in the bargain to have the Dr's place here
for 35 dollars. (land, house &c) but this Eve. the bar-
gain was broken up by the cup board which the
Dr says shall not go in the bargain as Mr. K. says
he agreed in Allegan to do - Mr. K. claims it the Dr
says he cant have it. so ends that matter

12 The Dr & Messrs Woods returned to Allegan
P.M. Took Miss Willard's things down to Shim-
inokopia's field (the Indians are to carry them
to the landing tonight) she expects to leave in
a few days - Dr said this morning he should re-
sign immediately

13. P.M. Chief & Louis. M. came to enquire why
the Dr has left I think some of going to see
Mr. Stuart Chief wants to go with me, thinks
it is important to have somebody go to see
if they can get another farmer - also if I am
to have Government support &c.

15. P.M. Chief, Penderwan, Shiminokopia &
Maksah, Mesquash came said they had a
council yesterday about going to Detroit
all thought it very important to go. & had
appointed Chief, Penderwan & Shiminokopia
to go with me & the great impediment ^{which}
was in the way (want of money) they have ta-
ken out by raising among themselves 37. dolls
to bear our expenses - I think present circum-
stances make it duty to go - may the Lord
direct my steps

Feb. 23. How dull is my poor, sinful heart in
the service of God, how loth to trust his word!
I want to see with my bodily eyes the happy spir-
its of my dear little departed children rejoicing

in the presence of my blessed Saviour (or some
other evidence equal to it) & that I shall in
due time join the happy number with all the
redeemed - all this I believe - but - O my God, for
assurance! O give me a feeling of assurance
the witness of the Spirit - my heart is strongly
prone to walk by sight not by faith - O give me
grace to walk by faith, not by sight - to trust
thy word & do thy will - I have seasons of some
comfort - then my sinful heart & Satan (my
heart is sinful enough to sink a world without
his help) incline me to anxious cares & fuss
about immortality - O my God give me the
faith which looketh in to that which is
within the veil! Then will I rejoice & sing
praise to thee -

Today have preached the gospel to two poor
pagan women the wives of one man Shashigum
& 2 or 3 of their little children. Lord bless the word -
open their blind eyes to see the light - they have
had their children except one ^{Baptized} by the Priest

June 24 - Started for Detroit - Chief, Redman
& Shiniukopia in Company - took my
family on horseback as far as Osego, they
are to visit among our friends while I
absent -

Arrived in Detroit by the cars 3 Oclk P.M.
of the 29 - called on Mr. Street - laid our
business before him - he heard us with attention
& favour - but was astonished at the Dr's in-
faithfulness - he said if we had not gone
we should not have got another farmer
but now we should have one -

I recommended Mr in law Francis G. Mills
he told me to take him to the Colony when
I returned -

He said he had just returned from Wash-
ington, had obtained for me \$400. per annum
as Missionary & Teacher - & for Miss Willard
\$100 as Interpreter & Assistant Teacher - she
is to live with us as she has done -

He had mailed my papers 2 or 3 ^{days} previously
I am to draw pay from the first of last Jan.

The Indians asked if they might have the school
house a mile West of the old one, he told them
they might if they would build it themselves
He told them they must build their houses on the
farms & live there - they promised to do so -

Mr Stewart gave me a check of \$50 to bear
our expenses home.

July 30 heard Mr Duffield preach A.M. & Mr
Con P.M.

July 1. Mr Stewart left early this morning for
Pontiac. have had but little time with him
he appears to fill his office with energy
& usefulness. at intermission on July he teach
es a class of young negroes ^(men) & is doing them
much good. it looks right.

I sold my vouchers for the last 1/2 year
at the Michigan Insurance Bank & took
\$200. today the Chief was summoned as wit-
ness for the Gorton the case Schoolcraft
so that he will not return with us.

2 Took the cars with P. & J. & arrived
on Gull Prairie at noon the 3rd found
my family at Mr Powers usually well.

4 Spent at Gull Creek visiting old friends

P.M. commenced with the church

July 7. attended meeting on Prairie. 5 P.M.
gave account of our Mission

8 Took up the body of our infant son buried
about 10 years ago on Dea Gray's land. & buried
it in the burying ground at the village in Mr
Powers lot South side of his wife. Wealthy young child -

P.M. Bro Mills & I started on my ponies for
Old King

10 P.M. arrived home. continued at home
till the 16 had my corn potatoes &c

2 men are clearing land N.E. from here
above a mile, or to more in this fall
they spent the Sab. with us. Mr Cramer
is a Christian

16 P.M. We started for our families. arrived
at Bro Mc Martins 17. found my family there
all well. visited them until the
20 came to Dr Upjohn's

Sab. 21. attended meeting Mr Fuller preached

23 Our daughter Anvella Amelia was violently
attacked with congestion of the lungs —
Employed Drs Upjohn & Lamborn

Sab. 28. Anvella is improving very fast, she
has been very sick, but God has been merciful
to us & nearly restored her.

42 past 6 gave the condition of our Mission
at the request of Mr Fuller to quite an assem-
bly.

28 during Anvella's sickness we have kindly
entertained at Duncans St. Mc Martins we
feel grateful for their kindness

Dr W. John makes no charge for his services. he has been very attentive & kind for which we feel thankful.

P.M. Went to Br Mills on Prairie left my family at Mr Kessels

30. P.M. put my horses into Br Mills buggy to carry our wives & children & his father took his lumber waggon to carry his house hold stuff. Evening came to the Plains

August 1st arrived home near night. all alive & as well as we could expect considering the hardships of the journey —

We have great reason to praise ^{God} for preserving us in our absence from home prospering us so far & bringing again to our home in peace.

Evening Dr. G. came but did not come near us. in Allegan I thought of him the land & house he bought here last fall. I pay him \$27,50 Br. Mills has the house

2 Had considerable talk with the Dr. but got no satisfaction. he has been a total failure & no charge the blame is substantiated on me & the Trillians

A. M. Mr Mills started for home took some
of the Dr's things. we have ^{now} Bro Mills his
wife & child. His cousin Addison Mills
(16 yrs old who is going to a post (him) here
with us. They are soon to move into
the house I thought of the Dr.

Drove my cattle all home yesterday my
young cow is dry. my other cow which I
found ^{at} ^{at} with a calf gives but little milk
[we had above 50 hens & chickens ^{when} we left
now we have only 9.

Feb 11 Pendurwan & a number of women
came to see us how much I understand interpreter
to explain to ~~them~~ the word of life.

George has the fever & ague the little daughter
two are quite unwell

24 Priest has been at the landing 3 or 4 days past
left this morning Louis & Joseph M say he has
converted Mashgrast's wife & they have parted
what confusion & ruin are they not capable of

P M Went to Richmond - was invited some
time since to preach there

Feb 25. Preached at the Mill A. M. & P. M.
there was a considerable number present
some came above 7 miles with ox teams
May the gospel prove to them a savor of life
unto life

26 came home a few days since. I recd
a letter from Providence (R.I) containing
a check of fifteen dollars. also the news that
a box of clothing was forwarded to us worth \$95
that church seems to persevere in trying to
help us. may the Lord reward them &
enable us to make right use of their do-
nations. but we hardly expect to get the box.

P. M. Otopetakeshik died he has been some
time sick - perhaps with Black tongue.
a good many of the Indians are sick
generally fever & ague -

31 Br Mills & I being warmly invited by the
Indians to go with them to Grand Haven started
early with them - & Clerk P. M. arrived in
Grand Haven & Mrs. Makabe & his 3 sons, Shin
inkofia & one son & Chingua in Company
put up at - Penoyer's temperance house.
Eve. - Indians appeared before Penoyer Esqr
& stated their desire to promote the cause
of temperance - also to put their names to
a pledge to honour, obey & enforce the laws
as much as lies in their power - Mr P
drew such a pledge & most of them put their
names to it he also gave them a temperance
pledge - they are to form a society after they
return home

Sept. 1. Sat. Rev Mr Waring from the Rapids
preached A. M. & P. M. Indians attended
Mr W. preaches with good deal of earnestness
& his preaching is also instructive. Still very
few attend. many in the place are given
to Sabbath breaking & other wickedness
took part of our meals by request at Mr Terry's
& making my report Mr Stuart

I came home marked home 11 O'clock in
the evening I think the result of our visit
will be decidedly good with the Indians
Mr Benager appears to be their warm friend

4 Went to the landing to see the sick found
Penderman's wife at the point of death. My
thought that her dying yesterday. She is the same
as Oapeta keshik was. she has her reason &
spoke to me in her usual manner
poor woman was cold as if dead, nearly yet calm
in the prospect. no doubt supposing her hope
for eternity rests on a good foundation —
I call medicine to several & came home
almost every family is sick

7 Eve Mr Isaac Fairbanks from Gull Prairie
came with cart & oxen brought little pro-
visions for us have concluded to build a frame
house (our old one is become very bad) he is
to help me may the Lord prosper me if it

be will that I build - I intend to build 24 by 30
1-1/2 stories high -

Feb. 22 I being thought best I preached to my own
family Bro Mills family & Mr Fairbank. hope
it may be profitable to us all. P.M. had Sab. school -

Feb. 29 preached again to our little company
but how dark & gloomy is my own heart much
of the! how insubmissive to the providence of God
Oh that the Lord would manifest himself to me &
dispel all clouds & darkness from my mind

30 Went to Richmond sent by Mr Mann \$38
to Chicago to purchase stove, nails, glass, coffee
sugar &c -

Sab Oct 6 Chieff's mother sent for cloths for
shroud for Mary Ann she was thought
dying - she has been sick several days

P.M. Myself & wife. Geo & Mary J. went to see
Mary Ann she was not yet dead. I think
she has congestion of the brain - has been
in an unconscious state for 3 days. we
sang a hymn & prayed with the old lady
she feels much afflicted. may the Lord
sanctify her afflictions to her salvation

Evening - Mr Tarmy came with his brother
in law Bowker from Salem Mass.
8 Messrs Tarmy & Bowker left for Grand Haven

9 Mr Mills came with provisions - he
brought Br Mills appointment dated the
24 of July - a boy came to help him - his
name Elias Canfield - 14 years old
10 Mr Mills left for home

12 Chief came yesterday today he &
Pendurwan & Munnukassia with Chip
haway (from Mr Sclerai's Mission) came
to visit Mr. Maymont C. for interpreter
but he is Roman Catholic - & showed its character
istic dishonesty while interpreting & brief
conversation - I did not encourage them

17 An Indian came from Mr Slater's
Mission with letter stating that the
payment is to be the 22nd

Feb 20 Preacher to our families as before
subject prayer - hope it may be profitable
to myself & all - we are freed but we hope
the Saviour's promise is fulfilled to us -
we have a Sabbath school in the P.M. in
which all unite

Monday 21. Br Mills & I went in canoe with
Chief & family to Grand Haven - arrived there
little before sunset, had beautiful day. the
schooner Manitowalk was on the beach
at the mouth of Black river driven there
Saturday night. loaded with lumber from
Muskegon -

22 Mr Lee arrived from Rapids in their
Boat at sunset & by 7 O'clock eve the Indians
were all paid the most perfect harmony
& order prevaild. no drinking except Mr Lee's
breath smelt as a temperance man's should
not. The Indians recd in all about \$19 00
Specie 14 bbls flour. 5 To. pork 6.. salt 2 kegs
tobacco. their conduct was so correct as to be
subject of frequent remark.

23 P.M. Having made arrangement for Miss
Willard to come with Chief, Br M. & I started
on foot for home. Staid at Port Sheldon hav-
ing recd the key from the young men who
keep the house with a welcome to occupy &
cook for ourselves. we occupied ^{the cottage} unresisted -

24 Crossed Pigeon lake on a float which we made
crossed Black lake in the same manner -
arrived home after dark - found our fam-
ilies well & comfortable. The Indians are to
return us soon the wind will permit -

28 Chief visited us but has not brought Miss Willard his canoe was too full others opposed her coming so she was left

29 Went to Richardson with Mr Fairbanks train got my stove, glass, nails & c which I sent to Chicago for

30 Just as I was about to start Mr Fairbanks came with wife & child moving to our place took his family in cart with my things & part of his & started. broke the cart left our things & came with family -

Sent letter to parents - George has had the fever & ague hard for several days he is now better

Sab Nov 5. Preached to our company as usual -

4 Indians come to council Robert interpreted they agreed to go for Miss Willard the first good day - Chief & Pendumwan are to go

They promised to move immediately into the the Colony.

9 Miss Willard come she arrived at the landing yesterday - her health is quite good though she had the fever & ague most of the time while absent

16 Mr Mills came with the provisions Ruby Coules came with him to attend school here

Feb 17. Had a considerable number at meeting
preached from Matt. 5: 16 - Let your light & C
hope the subject was profitable to us all.

19 Mr Mills left for home

21. Malsabe's wife died this morning. The
Indians say she has long been ill with the
disease attending leucorrhoea in consequence
of her husband's conduct. Her last sickness indi-
cated signs & tokens of consumption

23 P.M. raised my house (24 by 30 ft 13 ft posts)
with the help of 10 Indians (besides ourselves)
& though my timber is heavy & the weather
snowy & cold we have to thank God no one
was hurt. Mrs. Squash fell from the beam
but got no material injury - we hope to have
a more comfortable & convenient house
but we feel that except God build we labour
in vain to build it. - Ever. Had more than ordin-
ary comfortable reflections on the divine government &
the future state of the Christian

Feb 24. A considerable number of Indians came
to meeting Chief, his mother brother, sister
& C. preached from Rom 8: 1 - the old lady
seemed to rejoice to hear the truth.

25. Commenced school -

27. Wife 36 years old today - has survived several sick-
nesses which apparently brought her near the grave
but she has now as good a prospect through the mercy of God of
continuing on as at any time since our marriage.

Thanksgiving day Nov. 28. kept school at 11-
P.M. Had Br Mills & Mr Trainbark with their families
also the Chief his wife & mother to supper - ex-
plained to Chief the design of the day &c. we had
a pleasant & profitable season

Sat Dec. 1. Had meeting in school house
with over 3 families & the Indians had a good
number - having seriously reflected
on the subject have concluded to
begin with the root of the evil in the
sinner - the depravity of the heart
& preach a series of sermons exhibiting
the condition of man & the great
plan of salvation - Text today - Jer. 17. 9

The heart is deceitful above all things &
must listen with interest while enabled to
exhibit the subject with some cleanness &
fame

Sat. 8. Had quite a full meeting in
pursuance of my plan preached from
Ps 9-17. The wicked shall be turned
into hell &c exhibited the nature &
certainty of the punishment which
awaits the wicked. the people listened
with great interest - after sermon Chief
exhorted them to come to meeting said

God was here. I preached his word - they
must mind it. it was truth. it was good
he spoke earnestly & with good spirit

Sab 15 Nearly 50 people attended meeting
Text Rom 3. 20 Therefore by the deeds
of the law &c. I set forth the doctrine
with plainness subverting the whole
Catholic system. after sermon Chief as
last Sab. spoke at same length urging
his people to hear - believe & obey what
God's word required as I had preached
his heart seemed touched may the Lord
pour down his Spirit on this poor people
Chief brought up the subject of doing some
thing for a suffering indian family
on South Blk river - 2 canoes have
lately been lost when out of 13 persons
a man & his wife & 3 children were
saved destitute of every thing - there
appears quite a forwardness to do
something. I recorded the move
ment

16 Employed Mr Fairbanks to kill &
dress my cow that dried up last summer
she is fat - this is the first beef I ever
killed

24 Indians assembled at school house. formed a
Temperance society of about 50 members. they
entered into it with considerable spirit & interest
some however pledged for only one year
or they petitioned the Legislature that their
lands be taxed for the rights of citizenship

Jan 1. 1845 another year is gone & now
one arrived within the past year two
of my children have been called away by
death. but my unworthy life. my wife &
3 children are still spared. how have I
profited by my afflictions? Clouds & darknefs
doubts & fears. temptation & sin O how they rui-
my heart & destroy my peace! but the blessed
Lord reigns. & has promised victory to all who
love him. blessed be God who giveth us the
victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

One thing I believe I desire. yes two. that
God shall do all his pleasure & that all his
word shall be performed. but my rebellious
heart sometimes rises against his taking away
my children Lord give a submissive heart!

I have been quite ill for several days
was taken on the 24 inst with fever. have
not taught since nor was I able to preach
on sabbath

The Indians today are full of life & pleasure - the greatest friendliness of feeling exhibits itself in every one - tokens of friendship are passing from every hand -

8 Priest came to Penchenwas's. Parite & 3 young men went after him

Feb 12. Though the Priest continues at the landing & has a great meeting there & Miss today still about a dozen came to meeting who with our families make quite a meeting Preached from John 4. 24. Had a prayer meeting in the evening at my house

13 Mr Trainor left with his family for Gull Prairie, his wife expects to be confined before long & wants to be with her mother

14 Priest left for home but first forbid the Indians to come to meeting told them they were his Indians. took their names said I had no business to preach to them I was only sent to teach school 46 46

14. Mr Fairbanks came with load of provisions my sash &c. bought his cart for cash 29,00
- 18 Mrs Shoumen & family visited us - Dr C. B. Goodrich came to vaccinate the Indians
- 26 Mr Mills returned with his family has been home on a visit for 2 or 3 weeks all well
- Closed my school on the 17. have had 35 Indian scholars as they have learnt well
- 27 went with the Indians & helped Mr Cramer raise his house. he moved here with his family the 19 - lives in Mr J's house he is a Christian. I think a good man

March 14 - Mr Cramer moved to his place 1 1/2 miles N. E. of us

Feb 16 - Miss Willard is sick. Antwine interpreted me in Indian 14 of John & explained it. Chief says they understand my meaning well

18. A year today our little daughter Esther Eliza closed her mortal life. since that time I have felt an interest in the doctrine of the resurrection & immortality which I never felt before with my gracious Lord grant me the unspeakable privilege of meeting him in peace in heaven to enjoy his presence & the society of my dear little children forever but how often is my sinful heart filled with fearful apprehensions Lord deliver me from them. increase my faith. give me an assurance

and of acceptance with thee & help me to
glorify thee in a holy & devoted life

19 One year today we laid the body of our dear
daughter in the cold grave there to remain
till the resurrection morn. then it was a
cold stormy time. last night & today snow has
fallen 8 or 10 inches & it is the most disastrous
winter day we have had this winter (though
it has been warm & pleasant for a long time) as if
more distinctly to remind us of our past
afflictions, my dear wife seems to have the
arrow stuck anew last night she suffers much
Oh that the Lord would give us grace to bow
with submission to his will & to apply the con-
solations of his word to support us under his af-
flictions. have we expect with Gods blessing to
have another child before long Oh that it
may live before thee we will dedicate it to
thee

April 14 Affliction upon affliction grief upon
grief! the Lord has laid his hand heavily upon
us again. This morning at 1 o'clock we had a
son born, he survived a little over an
short hour when he who gave it took it
again to himself. it was born 2 months before
the time (it was a breech presentation) yet
born safely or without injury - my dear wife
suffering much during labour though ^{not} as long
as on some former occasions. above a week
ago labour commenced (perhaps caused by her chair
slipping from under her, as she started to rise sud-
denly out of it & letting her fall back on the floor)
but I gave medicine & stopped. but there have
been symptoms of its return ever since till last
evening it came on in earnest, medicine
would not stop it. Mrs Smith is this morning
feverish & in great pain & is almost without
consolation for the loss of the child. I have
sent for Dr C. B. Goodrich of Newark -
again I ask why does the Lord thus contend
with us? Why does he cut down our children
in the very part of life? of the eight we
have had four have died soon after birth

Evening Dr. Carr. wife very sick through the
day. is still in great distress - Dr gave Colic
in ⁱⁿ alternative doses

15 My dear wife still very sick gave her physic
this morning - now wife more comfortable but
physic has not yet operated. gave injections sever-
al times. P.M. Physic operated. 4 P.M. Dr left for
home - at 5 O'clock we buried our little son
it was so sad a scene to Mrs Smith that it well
nigh took her away - her grief was followed
with great bodily pain. Do not restore her again
to health - let thy mercy yet appear unto thy
narrow thy servant - she says she shall not weep
but then cannot rest. Mr Cranmer prayed &
assisted us in burying our child. Br Mills & wife
were also with us.

16 Wife has been much distressed through the
night but is quite comfortable today -
Shimikassia died about noon he has
been sick about 10 days was taken in
the cranberry marsh perhaps in conse-
quence of the water being too cold he
was our most efficient, steady, business
man - sternly upright generally, perhaps, always
a friend to, & promoter of temperance -
he was a Roman Catholic but appeared
sincere in his religion - attended our
meeting a part of the time - diving sugar
ing this spring quite steadily
considerable many of the Indians are
sick it will perhaps discourage them much

May 2. Chief & Pendurwan came with Pickett
& wished me to employ him again as interpreter
he says he will leave off his former bad ways
& try to do better in future. I told them I
would think upon it. Chief says there is
a new Indian Agent appointed a man at
Grand Rapids

Feb 4 sat an Indian came to meeting
they are all at the Landing
P.M. Mr Fairbanks & Esamun returned
with their families. they were prevented
getting here yesterday by the bad road
My dear wife still continues very
much out of health

13 Had a Council at Landing. P. interpreted
Indians voted for Chief object to determine
how many were in favor of Maksah. he
has made great disturbance in trying to
get the place & act the part of Chief. but
the vote today cast him into the shade &
may stop his mouth for a time. 2 of
his sons Louis & Francis, & one other young
man voted for him (Joseph did not vote)
all the rest ^{of the} voted for Chief Ogenâ Minim
P.M. Had a temperance meeting it was
interesting I spoke about an hour

Evening read the last chapter of Revelations
at family worship thus closing the reading
of the whole scriptures in course with the
Com. Commentary, since we commenced
we have ^{read} the Balm twice at evening
reading as also other portions occasionally but
we have stuck closely to the reading in course
which I think is the most profitable for
for family reading Oh that with the bless-
ing of God they may make us all wise
unto salvation

14 A.M. Commenced the Bible again
in course May we grow in grace & in
the knowledge of our Lord & Saviour,
Jesus Christ daily

26 Went to Mouth Kalamazoo found Box of
clothing at Mr Nichols sent to us from Pro-
vidence R.I. it appears not to be damaged —
the condition of my wife's being no better
& her recovery doubtful I got her Aunt
Mrs McDonald to come home with me to
assist her

Sat June 8 Had meeting at school house
all our white neighbours came except one
man. preached from Rom 7. When I would
do good evil is present with me. our meeting
was interesting I hope profitable. not one Indian
came

14. We have council'd every day this week
save yesterday & today it has result'd in the
resignation of Bro Mills & the Indians
petitioning for Mr Fairbanks farmer
& Mr Brickett interpreter.

I told the Indians on the 12 that we
had been here a long time that we had
suffer'd severe afflictions & trials & that
Mrs Smith's health was such that we
must go East to visit our friends.
Chief answer'd with much kindness
of feeling & good spirit that he could do
nothing against it & that he hop'd we would
be better & happier when we return'd.
This to me is a great undertaking yet
I feel call'd upon to go may the Lord
direct my steps & guide me in the right
way & bless me & my family & preserve
our lives & health.

October 2. 1/2 past 1. Ock P.M. arrived safely at home with my wife & children all alive & in the great mercy of God in better health than when we left. we did not deserve to be thus favored & we offer to our heavenly Father the sacrifice of praise & thanksgiving for his preserving care.

We did not leave Gull Prairie till the 8 of July on account of my money not coming from Government arrived in Detroit the 9 P.M. called on Mr Lee, Clerk of Ind Office (Mr Keenond being absent) he told me order came the day before to pay me - he paid 200 dollars - we took Steam Gen Waine & arrived in Buffalo on the 11 A.M. evening took Packett & arrived in Avon 12 O'clock night 2 miles from Father Pavers - found our friends usually well. Spent 9 days in Avon. Feb 20. Having been requested by Mr Brewster the minister preached in the Congregational Church 22 We resumed our journey to 24 & arrived at my brother Enock Smith's in Albany 6 Ock P.M. the 26 - my parents were not there as I expected to find them.

Feb 27 P.M. attended meeting where I used to go 12 years since. I could recognize no one except the Pastor Rev Warhington Smith with whom I studied - Rev Mr Cotton, Chaplain in the U.S. navy preached

29 Went to Swanton my native Town found my
parents at the Falls living with my sister Har-
mather's health is good Father like my grandfath-
er before him is badly afflicted with what is called
St. Vitus' Dance, it was an exceeding grief to me
but I would submit to the will of God he is able
to do but very little yet seems in other respects
to enjoy good health.

My eldest sister Eliza L. Brown was buried the 26 of
last June - leaving 6 children (1 an infant 7 hours old
when she died. She was a devoted Christian & has
gone to her rest. She is the first who has died of
our family of 10 children - She has not lived in sin
her last words were, happy are they who live as
they hope to die - She died in Ruperttown I C

Sat August 3 By the request of the Pastor Rev Elin
Still Dorman who has ^{been} Pastor since I was quite young
I preached A.M. at the Falls - P.M. Mr Dorman
preached the funeral sermon of my sister Eliza
it was an impressive, solemn season -
while in A.M. we visited his side those named Br
Daniel Powers & ^{sister} Mary Ann Higgins Enosburgh
& sister Newton's family on my native (Br N. owns
the South 1/2 of it.) Grandmother Austin & youngest
son Uncle John A. live in our old house - North 1/2
we visited sister Mary Pettingill East Sheldon
& Aunt Susan Highgate Falls -

Feb 10 preached A.M. & P.M. in the old meeting house
Swanton center when I used to attend meetings
when a boy

Feb. 17. preached at Enosburgh Center. Rev Mr
Wildes made a collection of clothing for Chief

Feb. 24^{P.M.} Gave a history of our Mission to in
Swanton Center meeting house & called
for help for Chief-

29 Bought Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge - 4.00
Bro Wm St. Stearns gave us grave stone with the
following inscription Esther Eliza daughter of George
N. & Arvilla A. Smith died March 18. 1844 aged
3 years 7 months & 8 days Three infants rest by her side

Saturday 30 bid my parents farewell & returned to
Stellvans

Feb 31. preached P.M. in the Cong church Rev
Mr Smith's -

Sept 3. Started for home - Stopped at Syracuse
the 6 - at Cousin Mary Tuttle's Spent the Sabbath

Feb. 7. preached P.M. in the 2 Pres church
Rev Mr Platts -

Monday 8 left Syracuse & arrived in Avon the
9 - found our commissions unusually well

Feb. 14 - P.M. preached again in Cong church
Dea. Chandler gave Sears 200 Pictorial Illus-
trations of the Bible

Sept 16 Started for home Mother Pavers, sister
Aurelia & daughter 7 yrs old & Bro David Pavers
14 yrs old in company with us. Father Pavers
is to come this fall or next Spring—

17. Eve arrived in Buffalo. put up at Meyhurns
Temp House—

18 Took Steamer London but head wind kept
in port till near night when we left with
very rough sea. till near midnight nearly
all the passengers were very sick but we
were preserved from a watery grave—
we came on the Canada shore & arrived
Detroit the 19 evening—

20 Took cars & arrived in Marshall P.M.
then hired carriage & arrived at Bro Pavers
midnight. leaving our relatives in Marshall
cars they were not able to ride further—

Jan. 21. Bro. P. went after Mother & she not
returned with all safe at evening—

24 Mrs Smith quite ill & George has the
dysentery—

26 came to Bro Mc Martin's. Plainfield

29 came to Otsego. (Mr Flaus)

30 Attended meeting of Association. Otsego

Oct 1 came to Richmond. 2. came home

