

ARVILLA (POWERS) SMITH

DIARY, 1834-1845

INCLUDES REMINISCENCE, 1808-1834

67 <sup>45</sup>/<sub>45</sub>

By



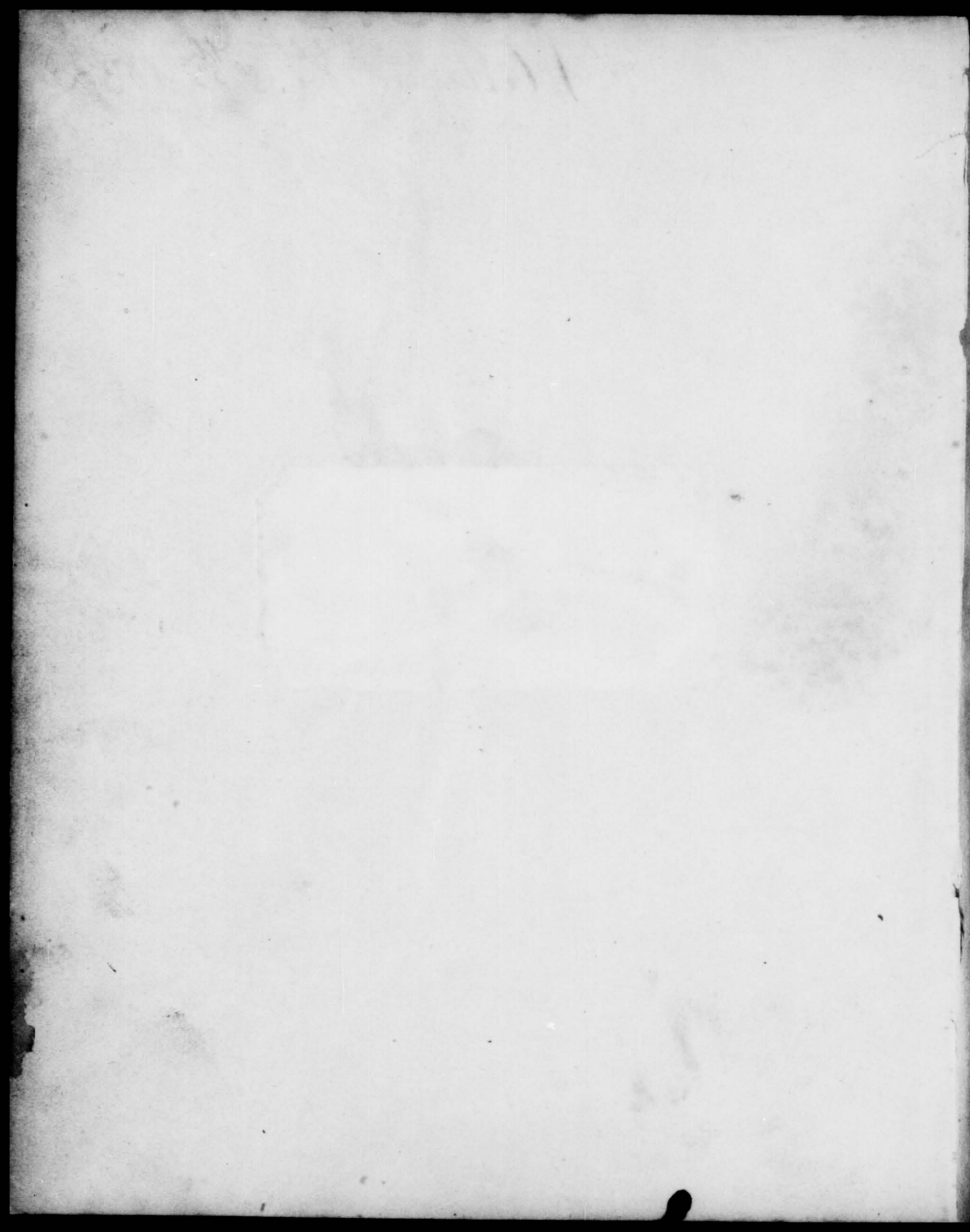
1809-1845

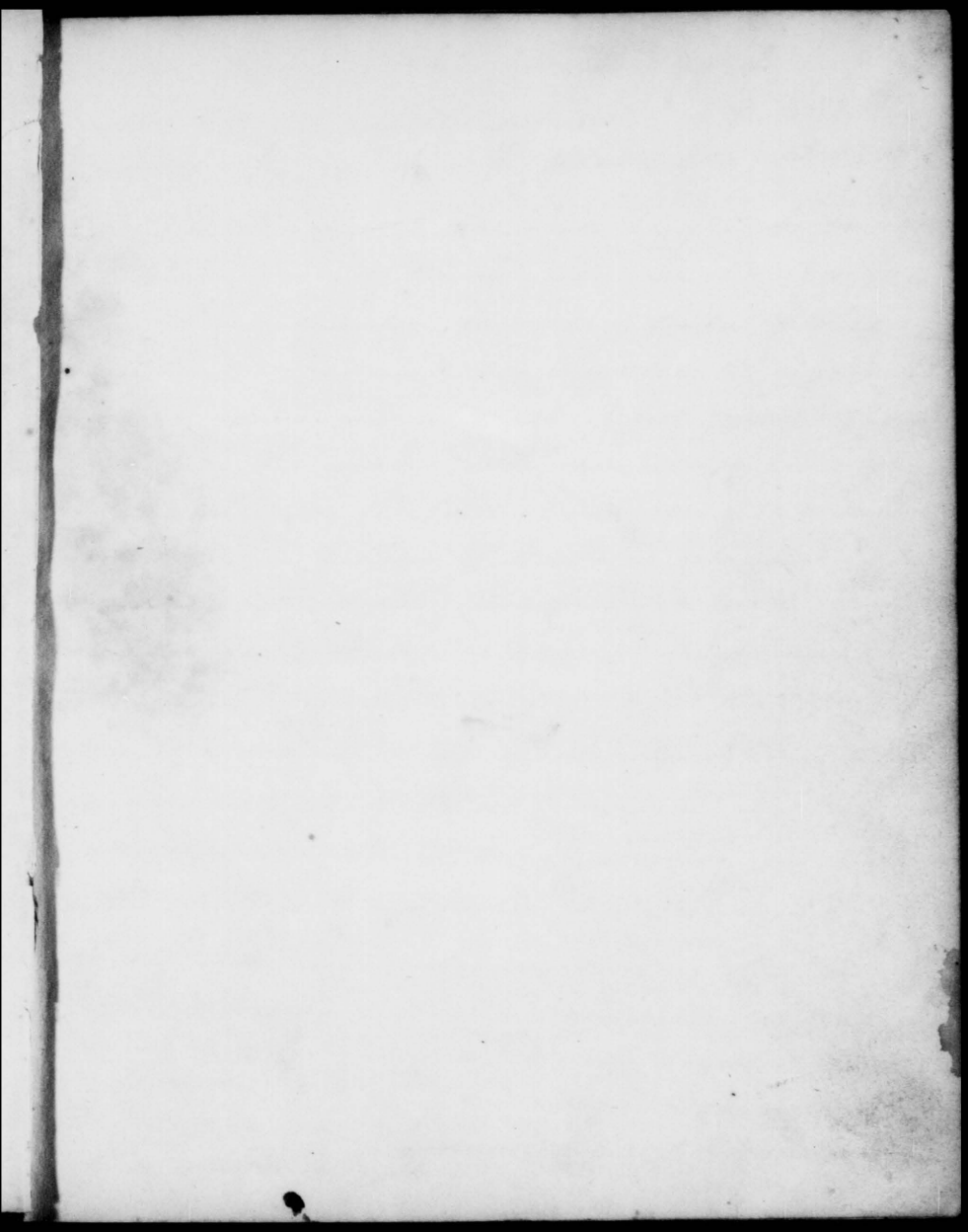
Waltham Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 1832

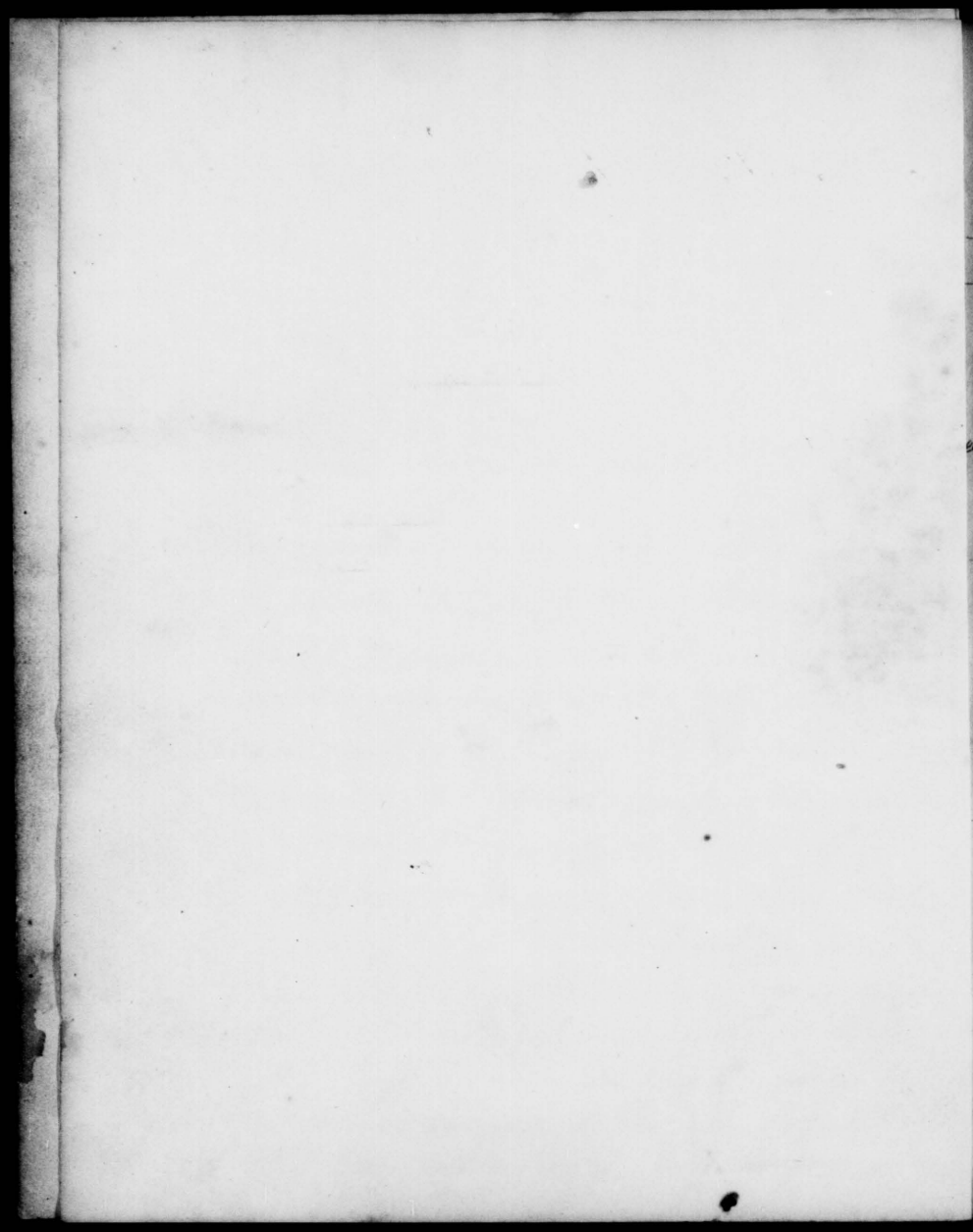
Wm W. F. Franklin Co

ARVILLA SMITH

1872







Aquilla A. Powers was born Nov. 21<sup>th</sup> 1808  
in the town of Stillbans Co. of Franklin and  
State of Vermont. My parents were not professors  
of religion therefore I was never taught the consequen-  
ces of sinning against God and the need of a change of  
heart I was indulged in many sinful pleasures  
which are fully calculate in themselves to engross the  
youthful mind and at last if not prevented by the <sup>engross</sup> ~~engross~~  
<sup>engross</sup> of God to destroy the soul. When about seven years of age  
I commenced for the first time going to a Sabba-  
th School in Village of Stillbans established by the  
Calvinists I attended this but six weeks when  
I was removed to one in <sup>my fathers</sup> neighbourhood  
which the Methodists managed this fell thro  
ough by reason of some mismanagement thus  
ended my Sabbath School my mind had been ~~of~~  
affected many times while sojourn in the Cat-  
echism I well remember what feeling I had while  
joining with my teacher in singing the Hymn  
of the resurrection of Christ tears have fallen from  
my eyes while singing "This is the day when Jesus broke  
(The power of death and hell  
And shall I still wear Satans yoke  
And love my sins so well.

At the age of ten my sister older than myself  
united with the Methodists this made some spots  
for me (although I was convinced of <sup>her</sup> piety) for if at any  
time she reproved me I would turn upon her for  
being a Metho. & what a wonder that God did not smite  
me off in this time of my wickedness! Surely it was  
through the forbearing mercy of God that spared and  
I reached my ~~seventeenth~~ year I happily sa of my  
life I can give God the glory and may I throughout  
eternally in the strength of my Redeemer The winter  
of 1825 was a time of revival in this place my  
mind was awakened many times when hearing of  
the conversion of my acquaintances but these were away  
and left me still more hardened in sin and iniquity thus  
I remained a stranger to God until March when I trust  
the Lord forgave my sins it was at a prayer meeting my  
attention was aroused I became much alarmed about my  
situation in the sight of an angry God the sins I had  
committed against him caused great terror and do-  
ubts in vain words I have fled from the presence of an  
heart searching God Original sin in all its horrid po-  
wers presented itself before me I saw the curses that  
Christ had pronounced upon the finally impenitent  
but I saw that I was undone unless Christ appeared in my

behalf a poor guilty wretch was all I could plead in  
the sight of a merciful God. At length I was persuaded  
by the free and sovereign grace of God to give up the  
work and trust in him alone who is able and willing  
to pardon even the vilest sinner. In God I found rest for  
my soul and as I humbly trust abundantly pardon  
and my sins Christ appeared to wash away my trans-  
gressions and send me unto life. The cause of Christ  
was all my time he had gained the victory over me  
notwithstanding all my fightings against him his con-  
straining love was more than could resist I now felt  
myself the most unworthy of mortal beings and in God  
was my strength and support I could say thy will be done  
and not mine My views were now changed in regard to the  
character of God instead of being a hard master I found  
him to be a merciful just and holy being in him I found  
joy and comfort in believing. I ministered with the Methu-  
en society in the course of six weeks my parents were believe-  
ers in that doctrine I was prejudiced in favour of  
that denomination although I did not wholly believe the  
doctrine I found by experience that I was not to live by  
works but by faith alone. The year 1830 the few day of  
June a school in Enosburgh twenty miles from father  
spent my time quite pleasantly through the summer fin-  
ished my school & returned home on about a fortnight

attended a camp meeting three miles from my father's  
I could not at all reconcile such licentious  
conduct as I saw began to query whether any good  
could result from such meetings still I was  
not willing to condemn them wholly about this  
time I became acquainted with a young man  
with whom I afterwards united The winter  
following I attended the young ladies school in  
the village in which time I drew a map of  
the United States First of May commenced tea-  
ching school in Fairfax five miles from father  
continued six weeks and from ill health left  
it until I should recover but continuing  
to grow worse and they were obliged to get another  
teacher Mr S. and myself thought it best to  
marry as my health was declining fast and  
my parents were not able to support me as  
at least my father was given to intem-  
perance which made him very cruel to his  
especially to his children accordingly we were  
married the 4th of July 1830 Mr S. employed  
a Physician I soon began to recover from the  
help of bitters and strengthening things We spent  
the summer at his father's Mr S had been studying  
for the Ministry for two years continued his  
studies through the summer the next fall



we moved to Alburgh where Mr S. engaged a school  
for the winter the spring following engaged it  
for the next summer and winter the spring fol-  
lowing closed his school all well pleased returned  
to St Albans where he again resumed his studies  
in hopes of getting through by another spring the  
20<sup>th</sup> of June a son born unto us the next winter  
Mr S. taught school at St Albans Bay the lat-  
ter part of this winter was a distressing one  
to us both I was seized with theankerash  
while at father Smiths six miles from Mr S.  
school which liked to have carried me off before  
I recovered my little boy was taken was very sick  
I recovered <sup>as I suppose</sup> when I took him to fa-  
thers on a visit about seven miles distant he  
was attacked very violently and his life was  
despaired of for some time this sickness broug-  
ht him so low that he did not recover for  
many months spring returned and Mr Smith  
was obliged to abandon his object he had so long  
labored for the instrumentality of the Meth-  
ister that presided over his church thus our  
hopes of future usefulness as a preacher of  
the blessed gospel were blasted by the conduct  
of one man We now resolved to go to the west  
Mr S. was informed of a colony that were col-  
lecting to go to the West. So, he accordingly wrote to  
one of the company for information desiring to be re-  
ceived as one of the company he received an answer

that they were to start the 10<sup>th</sup> of May and solicited our  
company, we now made up our minds to start the 8<sup>th</sup>  
of ~~the~~ May from St. Alban's which would bring us to Flint  
burgh where we should be ready to set sail with the  
colony. We were now greatly opposed by friends on both  
sides stumbling blocks were thrown in our way but  
all of the would not turn Mr. S. from his object he  
remained inflexible to intreaties. We accordingly  
started the 8<sup>th</sup> bidding adieu to all our beloved friends  
and native land it was a day peculiarly distressing  
to us all I took my last leave of my father the day  
before he was a man of very tender feeling when he was  
himself I can never forget his coming into the room  
to bid us farewell little George was sitting upon the  
floor he loved the child very much George said he as  
he went up to shall I ever see you again the  
little fellow put out his hands as usual but he could  
no longer contain himself sobbing out a long farewell  
well he left us but to part with my dear Mother  
was the most ~~the~~ heartrending to <sup>separate</sup> myself from a kind  
and tender parent who had <sup>nurtured</sup> me from  
my infancy and with whom I had spent many days  
of sorrow and affliction sickness and distress and was  
now to leave her in the hands of an intemperate man  
and I said she on the morning of our separation this  
is a cruel separation death is nothing in comparison  
to be torn from my children and then too that have  
been my staff and my comfort, is more than I  
can bear it was a very distressing scene as our friends  
were all so much reconciled. Father Smith and  
three then brought Sister Jane (who came with us)  
as far as Burlington we arrived at Burlington the  
next morning where we parted with my brother and  
went at Charlotte about five o'clock took with us  
tea

old acquaintance we learned that the company were not  
going very soon we thought it best to go on and take  
the steam boat that night we had five miles to go  
the road was very rough the night dark we arrived  
here about half past nine my sister and myself  
went into the tavern while Mr S and his unloading  
the people ~~show~~ all retired excepting a couple of  
Irish men my feelings were too big for utterance we  
were soon to take our leave of beloved father the  
last friend the roar of the boat was heard at a distance  
see the lamps were lighted about which had a very glowing  
appearance we went aboard about half past ten  
father on the wharf fifty miles from home alone Mr  
S took a ~~steak~~ passage sister and myself took cabin  
Eight o'clock next morning we were in whitehall  
having a pleasant voyage We breakfasted in company  
with a family that were going to the ~~canal~~ took  
the ~~canal~~ which carried us to the Junction on the 11<sup>th</sup>  
day in the afternoon Saturday we took the western  
canal quite a contrast between this and the one we  
left the former quite large and convenient the  
latter contracted inconvenient filthy hole this was  
as the most interesting part of our voyage although  
we had a very severe rain storm yet our Captain  
and company were so pleasant that rendered the  
voyage very pleasant We saw some very fine places  
while passing through N.Y. but it is to be lamented  
that the State is so little regarded almost every kind  
of business going on that as well as any other  
Lockport is truly a very grand place in ascending  
a mountain go through five locks in succession  
in this we saw what the art of man could do to  
add grandeur and sublimity to the works of nature

We arrived at Buffalo after nine days voyage on the western canal we went on board of a Steamer boat on Lake Erie Mon. Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> She had on board about a thousand we took deck passage and during the we had not a place to lie down as it rained constant the lower deck was crowded. Arrived at Detroit Wed. <sup>the</sup> next day about noon 22<sup>th</sup> just a fortnight from the time we left our native land we had - just a swap once left <sup>from</sup> <sup>our</sup> <sup>own</sup> <sup>place</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>our</sup> <sup>destination</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>forty</sup> <sup>miles</sup> from the place of our destination fortunately Mr S. sold his watch for five but this did not much more than pay our expenses which there but which we were despairing what <sup>we</sup> <sup>found</sup> a man going with part of a load within of where we intended he took our load and trusted Mr S. until he could <sup>be</sup> <sup>paid</sup> we left De. Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup> two hours light Arrived at the house of the Revs Mr Knopper just a week after leaving Detroit Gull Prairie town of Richland Calamagool. a thousand miles from our native country among entire strangers destitute of any thing but our clothes and household goods here we staid two days we found a house that we could occupy a few days fortunately or rather unfortunately a Presbyterian Missionary by the name of Jones came to Mr S. in the course of twenty four hours after we left Mr. Knoppers wished to engage Mr S. for three months fifteen dollars cash per month he appeared very fine and smooth laid many inducements before Mr S. as he was a minister of the gospel he supported him to be a good man Mr S. accepted of the offer very readily but soon had some hints of his character neglected us about advised us not to go we should stay but

a short time if we did however we took up our  
abode with him the 4<sup>th</sup> of June we found her to be  
a lovely woman but a woman of much sorrow and  
grief but to speak of his character I shall say  
little and that will enough to of a Minister that  
he was any thing but a Christian He staid in  
til the 27<sup>th</sup> of July during the time I worked for my board  
in a small house owned by Col. Barnes the post Master  
situated but a few steps from his door a pleasant fan-  
ily time passed quite pleasantly until we were  
seized by the hand of the Lord visited with the Fever due to  
June was seized with it in August Mr S. and  
myself in Sept. most of them for two of them mo-  
nths not one of us able to help ourselves the infection  
was all in the same predicament the disease prevented  
until the next spring with Mr S. and myself - My  
little boy was attacked with it very violently continued  
with him five weeks which brought him very low until  
I had another return of it which by the use of Mos-  
rison's pills broke but a short time. Feb 5<sup>th</sup> 1834  
the Presbytery met on Gull Prairie which was the com-  
mencement of a glorious revival the continued fifteen  
days during this period about seventy souls we have  
reason to believe were converted among the number  
was Sister J previous to this she was a staunch W-  
miversalist an obstinate sinner but she was ena-  
bled to cry as the poor Publican did God be merciful  
unto me as sinner she found him truly merciful  
and ready to forgive Professors were brought  
humbly at the feet of Jesus were ready and willing  
to confess their sins to God and one another

There had been much difficulty among the inhabi-  
tants of Gall Prairie for two years past they had  
gone to great lengths in slandering and injuring  
each others characters and at the <sup>time</sup> of these meetings  
they had divided the church two meetings were  
held within a mile of each other. The difficulty origi-  
nated from this where should be the spot for a mee-  
ting house to be erected it was unanimously decided  
where it should stand it is now ready but fresh  
wars are breaking out and what will be the res-  
ult the Lord only knows.

28<sup>th</sup> 1834 I was attacked very violently with the  
bilious fever. Friday called in Dr. White Sabbath  
day 30<sup>th</sup> at 12 o'clock gave birth to a son he died about  
one o'clock in the eve of this sickness I beheld the ju-  
stice and mercy of God in sparing my life and tak-  
ing that of my dear little one. The manner in  
which the little one lost its life is truly very  
aggravating. My Physician in his ~~own~~ anxiety to  
save my life and also that of the child stretched  
the neck of the child it survived only ten hours then  
after suffering every thing but death itself in bringing  
it into the world it was taken from me and that  
truly the wholly by the mismanagement of a  
Physician. It is no longer a question in mind as  
to whether the practice of Midwifery at the present day  
is or not right. It is my decided opinion that it  
is the most disgraceful practice that was im-  
posed on mankind. My Physician was honest enou-  
gh to acknowledge that his hands had taken the  
life of <sup>the</sup> child (a very rare instance) when a moment's  
reflection might have saved it. My recovery from  
this sickness was very slow several times my life was  
despaired of but in all these afflictions I have re-  
solved to rejoice in God that he has again restored me



to health Bless God & my soul and all that's within me  
praise his holy name.

Nov 27<sup>th</sup> 1894 Thursday Thanksgiving day

This is the anniversary of my birth day 26 years of  
my life have gone into eternity and I am yet the  
spared monument of the amazing mercy of God

Nov 30<sup>th</sup> Sabbath day a fine day we have <sup>had</sup> a little snow  
the ground is now bare we have had a full view  
of an eclipse this day came on about one o'clock  
was with three or four hours can we but adore  
that being when we behold the heavens and works  
of nature that he hath wrought with his  
own hands, how wonderful thou art O Lord of  
"hosts" heaven and earth are full of the majesty  
of thy glory It is now several months since I  
have had the privilege of attending a religious  
meeting of any kind almost a year since ~~not~~  
I communed with this church last

Dec 14<sup>th</sup> Sabbath day we have a little snow on the  
ground a very cold day Mr So has gone to meet-  
ing a mile distant which is held in an old  
stone my sister and myself at home dark-  
ness seems brooding over us coldness and indifference  
prevails in this church almost a year has expired  
since the Lord poured out his spirit here in copious  
effusions an where are the fruits of his spirit I aw-  
fully fear we shall be found that many of us at the  
coming of the Lord Jesus will be found barren as the  
fig tree I truly feel alarmed at the condition of  
my own soul and have reason to fear the spark of

Longer possessed is almost extinguished the more excuse  
I frame for my stupidity the more I am condoned  
if I have not every means of grace the Bible wh  
ness is the to happiness and holiness is in my hands  
the heathen are without excuse but I am not  
awake O my soul and do thy first works

Feb. day 21

On this holy day Christ ascended on a <sup>high</sup> mount  
sitting at the right hand of God pleading for his  
saints blessed Lord thou art all mercy and grace  
thou hast felt <sup>my</sup> ~~my~~ <sup>infirmities</sup> ~~infirmities~~ and pitied my  
weakness thou hast <sup>so</sup> ~~all~~ that humanity could  
suffer for such a gently polluted worm as I While  
I was under the curse of the divine law a subject of  
wrath a child of Satan thou didst appear in all  
thy humility love and truth to redeem me by  
thy precious blood O heavenly father breathe thine  
holy spirit upon me I raise my sinking spirits  
call off my wandering thoughts from this vain world  
of give me a deep sense of my own corruptions  
and of my <sup>or</sup> ~~entire~~ dependence on thee alone  
repair O Lord the ruins of sin and sever them  
unwage on my heart may sin the destroyer  
of peace reign no longer in my heart help me  
to shun the allurements of this world to avoid  
temptations for they are many and seek wholly  
to <sup>promote</sup> ~~promote~~ the cause of my dear redeemer  
may I be willing to suffer hardships privations losses  
friends and every thing this world calls good for  
thy sake give me wisdom grow on high for  
thou knowest my weakness make me strong in  
thee then I shall fear naught that this world  
can do



A debating Society was formed in this vicinity the 19  
of Dec the first meeting Mr S. was one of the disputants  
to the Question was thisought Capital punishments  
to be abolished an important subject it was decided  
in the negative. the next Debate will be at my  
house we hope it will prove a great advantage  
to the society.

Dec 28 Sab. search my heart O Lord and try me  
O thou most high help me to supplicate thy throne  
of mercy for without thee I can do nothing ac-  
ceptable in thy sight Why should I any longer  
grovel in the dust when thou hast blessings in  
store for me

Jan 18<sup>th</sup> Sabbath day 1835

Thy blessed word is unto me as meat it to  
the hungry man <sup>which</sup> strengthens the body  
Thy word gives vigour to the soul  
a faithful door of it I am perusing some  
of the Sacred history his evidences of the true-  
th of the Pentateuch or the five Books of  
Moses <sup>are so clear</sup> no rational person can dispute them  
O Lord thou art wonderful in thy doings  
various are thy ways and past finding out we

have before our eyes the judgements of the wicked and the reward of the righteous thou hast said that the wicked shall be punished in wickedness and thy word has never failed justice is true and our has a right to say unto thee what doest thou Man created holy disobeys thy law became the originator of <sup>his</sup> own misery became the subjects of divine wrath both in all this Oh Lord thou didst forbear in beholding the misery man brought upon himself thou gave the promise of a Messiah to come who <sup>who should</sup> save a perishing world

March 1<sup>st</sup> 1835 Sabbath, Evng.

Mr S put himself under the care of the St Josephs Presbytery a year ago at the Meeting of the session here and was to have <sup>been</sup> examined the next session which <sup>was</sup> the 30 of Sept. last my sickness at the time prevented his attendance The next sitting of the Presbytery was at White Pigeon fifty miles distant the first Wednes. in Feb. he accordingly started from here Tues. the 3 arrived there Wednesday was examined by Messrs Wells Warner Humphrey & Brown he was accepted in ~~all~~ the branches languages excepted he ~~is~~ was not expting to be examined in those particular branches therefore he had prepared <sup>his</sup> himself he is now studying the

Greek he has some knowledge of the Latin we hope  
by the blessing of God to meet the expectation of the  
next Presbytery which (if nothing prevents) will meet  
the first of Sept. next at Niles. If God designs that  
he shall be a minister of the Gospel he will surely  
bring it about and if not yet will be for the best  
Although we cannot see why it should be yet we  
know that all he does is for the best good of his  
creatures. I

I feel this evening an unshaken confidence <sup>in</sup> God  
vain is the <sup>help</sup> of man the wisdom of man is foolish-  
ness when compared with thine When I turn mine  
eyes within me all is dark and vain sin the  
destroyer of my peace rules over me Satan binds me  
fast in his slavish chains he seeks to destroy my  
soul shall I any longer be a slave to this vain  
world and drive the saviour from my heart? Arise  
my soul stretch every nerve and press with vigour on

Come Lord and dwell within my breast  
and clothe me with thy righteousness  
I take possession of my heart  
And bid the man of sin depart

Last Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> we received a letter from Bro-  
ther New which gave us sad news Sister Lucy  
says he is not expected to live her trust is in  
God has been Baptized (his) the Lord of my soul

March 20 Mon. O Lord thou art in thyself ex-  
alted above all blessing and praise what shall I  
render unto thee for all thy kindness toward me  
an hour spent in Meditation and prayer is  
better than years spent in sin ~~of~~ folly Alas  
how little of my time <sup>is</sup> devoted to thee O how  
much sooner am I wearied in thy service than  
in the service of Satan

Sab. dy March 21<sup>st</sup> Three weeks ago <sup>I</sup> was  
taken sick have not been able to <sup>do</sup> much  
since it is truly a great affliction to be de-  
prived of health but the Lord reigns let me  
rejoice the former part of last week I enjoyed  
my mind well in spiritual things Friday I visited  
a sick woman a short distance while there some  
things transpired which gave occasion for unhappy  
feelings since that time my mind has been like the  
troubled sea fearful forebodings discouragements  
fill my mind continually Heavenly father give  
me wisdom from above that will counterbalance  
all my natural defects O may my <sup>mis</sup>takes make  
me more humble and penitent may I come  
to thee to heal from all my wounds O Lord  
deliver me from the power of the enemy

I am wretched and undone unless thou ~~will~~  
apply thy cleansing blood to the washing away of all my  
sins I am a guilty polluted worm eaten pelt my  
heart with wickedness and keeps me at a great distance  
from my God I may I tremble and stand in awe  
of thee help me to exercise deep repentance ~~deep~~ for  
it is thy delight to forgive the penitent and may  
I watch unto prayer and by thy grace be enabled  
to subjugate all my evil passions for without  
thee I can nothing get in thee I can do all  
things who strengtheneth me I may thy grace  
separate me from this ensnaring world and con-  
stantly me more and more through the word of thy  
truth until thou remove me from this world  
and my <sup>rise</sup> dwelling in heaven shall this be my best  
happy to sing the song of angels I deserve to go  
down to hell and dwell with devils I may have  
eternity in view continually and be willing to be  
spent in the service of my God the remainder  
off <sup>my</sup> ~~the~~

Lord all my inward foes subdue  
apply thy cleansing blood  
and form my nature pure and true  
and bring me back to God

Sabb. Eve. This one is very warm all <sup>have</sup> after  
the meeting but myself Mr S. is engaged

in writing to one of his sisters residing at  
the east I have not been privileged with  
meeting with the children of God but a few  
times since I came into this country yet thou  
art here even in this remote region of  
the west. yet thou art a God at hand and not  
so far off thou hast brought us through nu-  
merous dangers seen and unseen thou hast  
raised us from a the sick bed and we  
are now the <sup>monuments</sup> of thy great mercy & loving  
kindness thou art God and worthy to be ad-  
ored by angels and men

Sab. dy April

Alas me miserable a child of wrath  
a servant of the devil woe is me  
I am undone if fear I shall die un-  
changed unpardoned under the divine  
wrath of the almighty O Jesus interpose  
in my behalf Save me from destruc-  
tion why is it thou hast sep-  
arated me and called away from this  
world that were useful and these fami-  
lies and to all those around them who  
thou I am sure to be a curse to  
my family and fellow creatures

Sabb day April 12<sup>th</sup>/<sub>71</sub>

My health is very good and has been above two months so as to unfit me for any kind of labour. Sister Jane is with me or I know not what I should have done a little over two months more will bring me to a most trying period a female never experiences in this life if ever she ~~is~~ feels her confidence in her God it must be at that critical and important period her trust must be in that God who has promised to carry her through ~~some~~ is the help of man I in my God believe I should ever again trust myself in the hands of man and be again robbed of my dear little offspring after so much suffering I pray my God remember me give me genuine faith God and care in desperate circumstances than canst carry us through when all other help fails I pray I no longer yield to fear than hast carried me through when on the pains of death seemingly laid hold on me you in thy wise providence thou hast spared me until the present time may it be for the glory of <sup>thy</sup> name or the best good of dear little family than hast given is a young and tender plant of thy wisdom from on high to direct us in the path of duty may our instructions be such as to lead him to Christ in his early days of thy grace patience meekness faith charity sobriety God without these we cannot at all adorn our profession as we ought may we



patiently endure trials and tribulations although  
we may have all kind of hardships in the way  
help us to rejoice in them all knowing they will  
work out for us a far more exceeding and eternal  
weight of glory rightly improved by us. Sabbath day M<sup>o</sup>

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of April I was attacked very suddenly with  
severe travail pains but with a free use of opium  
I passed the critical period of seven months. My  
body is weak to day and my mind sympathizes with  
it my thoughts run to ends of the earth help me  
O my God to fix my mind on thee may I feel solemn  
in thy presence forgive my sins the past week when  
at home I done the past months and years of my  
life for the glory of God nothing I confess with shame  
and guilt not one act of my life has been for  
the benefit of the cause of Christ great will be  
my condemnation if I do not repent and do my  
first works I for humility of heart and deep repen-  
tance for my past ingratitude to God may I allow  
myself and with thy grace subdue all evil passions  
and be willing to <sup>do</sup> any thing for the sake of Christ  
who died that I might live I for a week and quiet  
spirit which will bear much endure much suffer  
much may I bless and <sup>not</sup> curse and continually pray  
for my enemies if they seek my hurt help me to  
pray for their precious and immortal souls O my  
father give me more love for the brethren may  
ever regard the character of a brother in Christ  
as my own considering an injury done to a  
brother or sister in the church is an injury to  
the blessed cause O for a heart to praise my God  
to heart from sin set free



Sabb day June 7<sup>th</sup> 55

May 15<sup>th</sup> we moved to Gull Creek we live with a family no man and his wife and one child a pleasant family she is a Baptist and he a Non-aversatist having been once a Baptist My health is very poor some better than formerly. Sister Jane came home last Sat. was thrown from her horse and sprained her ankle which was very painful while with us she returned to home morning to her school have not heard from her since she is much pleased with her school having been in it four weeks Mr S. has gone to the prairie to meeting three miles distant he intended if an opportunity presented to attend a protracted meeting at the County Seat twelve from here before he returned. The will of God it is held in a place where infidelity prevails to a great extent that the Lord would give a spirit of prayer to every christian far and near from the outpouring of his spirit upon the people if christians are faithful the blessing of God will attend that meeting it will not be in vain for them to come together if they lay hold on the precious promises and prevail with God in prayer I expect to be sick this month the last I shudder at the thought of being again confined I feel many times that it will be my last sickness and to bring another dear little one into the world to be without a mother is more than I could be to think of it overcomes me O thou glorious God make me submissive may I say at all times they will be done O Lord and not mine if in thy providence where see'st fit to bring another infant into the world to the care of an afflicted father give him wisdom from above may he make a wise choice in the selection of a companion that will bring up his little ones

far better than I could have done if it be thy to give  
him another companion ~~may~~ she be a person of de-  
sirely way she more than make up his loss Lord thou  
knowest I am imperfect being make me just what  
thou wouldst have me to be

Sabb. July 12 I have heard to day that Sister Jan  
is sick of a fever she is among strangers but I  
trust good people My health is so poor I fear  
I shall not be able to ride there have not  
seen her for six weeks may the Lord sustain  
her in her affliction and if we no more m-  
meet in this world may we be so happy to  
meet in our fathers Kingdom where  
all tears shall be wiped away I have had the  
ague for three weeks and am expecting to be  
confined every day I have a great many fears  
O. for more confidence in my God he alone  
is able to carry me through He commenced  
having conferences in our little village four  
weeks ago to day Mr. C. is the only professor  
that takes an active part our members are  
small few twelve adults and an one half  
unprofessors but two young men from the  
Prairie came to assist we had quite an  
interesting meeting I may they be so conduct  
ed that some good may done and the man  
of our father gloried in the salvation of all  
here I for a spout of prayer and preparing with  
god to day among his people for the outpouring  
of spirit Last Sabb. I heard the Rev. Mr. Bra-  
un from Miles preach the first I heard for  
months he was called here to deliver a tem-  
perance address at the celebration of the 4<sup>th</sup>  
of July which was on Sat. an oration also was

delivered on the occasion and a dinner was prepared at the corners

Sabbath Sept 27<sup>th</sup>

This summer has been with us a season of sickness. The 17<sup>th</sup> of July Mr S. and our little son Jane was brought home on a bed after a weeks run of a fever no better I was not at the time able to do but little but through the good providence of God was enabled keep about through their sickness, yet it was with the greatest difficulty that I did by making free use of opium in the meantime, no help could be obtained not even a watcher in any part of the of place the 29<sup>th</sup> Sister Jane was able to ride to the Prairie Mr S was able to walk about the 30<sup>th</sup> I was attacked severely with the fever two days vomiting so much overcome me it was hardly thought I could recover sister I was at this time on the Prairie and Mr S was obliged to do all the work in and out it being too much for soon brought him down again sister I returned very so far relieved him that it gave him a chance to recover we were all however very feeble for some length of time sister I returned to her school continued it a fortnight was brought home with the ague and fever Mr S. was then shaking with it little G. had had a number of fits they all had it some time and very hard before I came down with it Mr S. broke his up sister Janes continues yet little I is also better I found my vomiting would do me a serious injury I broke up my ague

with gin quina have not had it for a week  
Sabb day

This is a lovely day Mr. S. and Sister  
I have gone to the Prairie to attend meeting Mr  
S. has a very bad anch Sister I had a hard fit  
of the ague yesterday I have felt something of  
it to day hope I shall not have as hard as I  
have it but the Lords will be done it is in  
this way God afflicts his children many times  
we have had the most sickness of any family on the  
Prairie it is designed for our good by our hea-  
venly Father and may we make a right im-  
provement of it or may work out for us a  
far more exceeding and eternal weight of  
Gloory

Sabb day Nov. 8 Sherry 5th I had a hard  
fit of the ague broke it up by the Tonic Mixture  
Mr. D. has a touch of it every day Shall we not  
praise God that we are alive had we our deserts  
we should be lifting up our eyes in hell O may  
I with the psalmist say praise the Lord I my soul  
and all that is within me praise his holy name  
I have not since the first of July been privy  
with meeting with people of God here is place for  
worship not no minister no one that seems to  
take any interest in building up the cause of  
Christ how long will thy sanctuary be forsaken  
how long will thy children sit with their arms  
folded in sleep awake us to a sense of duty

Dec. 6th The 14th of Nov. I gave birth to  
a little daughter I was taken sick the next  
month previous was delivered the next day  
about noon had no Physician but two  
women all was right, the babe healthy

Sabbath Jan. 31 [1836]

Another year has commenced and may I wish  
it commence anew in the service of God  
A week ago last night our little daughter  
was taken very ill with a cold and Mon.  
and Tues we despaired of her recovering but  
she is now recovering very fast and may  
we give thanks unto God for his loving  
kindness and for his mercy which endureth  
forever

Sabbath Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> This is the second Sab. that  
Mr Smith has been called away since he was  
licensed which took place on the 5<sup>th</sup> of Feb.  
1836 last Sab. he went in company with the  
Pres. Mr Jones <sup>to Cornstock</sup> and preached one sermon he was  
invited to come again a week from today yester  
day he started for the Piney and preaches there  
to day may the Lord bless his labours and make  
him bold in declaring the truths of Gospel (may  
he be wise as a serpent and harmless as a dove  
for the enemy of souls goeth about seeking where  
on he may devour I may we stand fast in  
faith and saying aside every weight and ~~which~~ which  
doth easily beset us and press with patience the  
race that is set before us we have put our hand  
to the plough may we not look back

Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> Sab. Mr S preaches at Cornstock today  
O that he may be the messenger in the hands of  
God of bringing souls to Christ My heavenly  
Father may I live every day as though I should  
be in eternity the next to ~~horror~~ close  
the winter our days pass away like a weaver

Shuttle soon it will be said of us they are  
no more O may I be prepared <sup>to meet my</sup>  
God in peace I always feel a depression of spirits in  
the absence of my beloved companion it fixes a gloom  
on every thing around me I am friendless and alone, altho  
laugh surrounded by friends yet God is my friend he will  
never leave nor forsake he is far better than all earth  
by friends if he deprive of the society of my dear com.  
at ~~at~~ times he is ready to comfort and cheer <sup>me</sup> in  
my gloomy hours and may I rejoice in that <sup>God</sup> who has  
made him the instrument of doing some little good in  
in this world and may I be willing to endure hardships  
privations losses afflictions and <sup>all</sup> to advance the  
cause of my blessed Redeemer and King March 20<sup>th</sup>

Sabbath day <sup>20</sup> Yesterday Mr. S. went to <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>place</sup> to preach.  
(formerly called the <sup>new</sup> ~~new~~ <sup>place</sup>) that God would bless  
his labours there four <sup>ago</sup> he preached there  
the first sermon that has been preached there  
for two years it is a very <sup>good</sup> ~~good~~ <sup>place</sup> but for  
peopleness of religion (that I could see my stand-  
ing in sight of God I often fear I have never  
been converted my affections are so fixed here  
I have so much desire for the pleasures of this  
world and its allurements that I am almost led  
to conclude that I no longer have any grounds  
hope in Christ, is this <sup>truly</sup> ~~truly~~ <sup>wretched</sup> state have  
I so long maintained an outward form of religion  
while my heart has been at enmity with God  
O my God dispel ~~thy~~ <sup>thy</sup> gloomy fears separate all  
my carnal desires and afflictions from me  
they have made a wide breach between thee  
and me make me clean in <sup>thy</sup> ~~thy~~ <sup>sight</sup>  
enable me to exclaim in my heart my  
Lord and my God thou art my all in all



O thou hast heard the prayer of thy servant  
rejoice & my soul for the Lord he is God and his mercy  
endureth forever thou art willing to <sup>save</sup> me vile as I  
am what matter what love ~~thou~~ hast manifested  
towards a rebellious worm of earth I know that my  
daily walk is grievous to my God and that too often  
do I crucify my Lord ~~afresh~~ <sup>off</sup> may my daily  
prayer be that God would give us charity ~~and~~ meekness  
patience sobriety forbearance and many other Chris-  
tian graces that by my Christian example may  
might be constrained to embrace that Saviour and be  
saved April 3<sup>d</sup> This is a most lovely day I feel  
quite reconciled in being deprived of attend-  
ing public worship almost a year since

I have heard a sermon preached excepting  
last Sabbath Mr S preached again  
in our neighbourhood he preaches again  
to day at Otsego I for the light divine truth  
to beam in upon our benighted minds and may  
we know our duty which we owe to our Hea-  
venly Father and discharge it a manner best  
calculated to honor Christ and promote the  
cause Gal. May 1<sup>st</sup> Three years ago today

we started for Michigan how rapidly the time  
rolls away it appears to me while reminiscing  
on the scenes that took place that year ago  
to day but a day they appear but yesterday  
events & our moments fly over

Now will our minutes stay,

I may the remainder of days be spent in ser-  
vice of my master God. I hope that I should  
save away the precious moments that he has  
given me it is a precious gift from thy be-  
nign hand. This is the third Sabbath  
has been about three weeks ago today  
he preached at the County Seat a fortnight  
ago at Pledge again today at the same  
place. may we see some fruits of his la-  
bours, we received a letter from Mr. Thomas  
Smith and brother, Horatio May, 2  
15<sup>th</sup> had our little daughter baptised by the  
Rev. S. Woodbury I may she be wholly thir-  
ty regeneration. I. P. D. write me from on  
high to direct us in training up of our  
children. Sabbath 22<sup>nd</sup> Mr. S. started for  
the city of Allegan yesterday is to pre-  
ach there to day we have had a very rainy  
time since yesterday Jan 12<sup>th</sup> Mr. S.  
has taken an agency of the Wes. C. S.  
B. Society he is to visit every family in  
the Co and furnish the destitute with  
Bibles he commenced the 5<sup>th</sup> of Jan  
has given one Bull Prairie yesterday



started; for Follow Prairie preacher there  
to day when he returns I know not stand  
alone last night with my little ones expect  
to until he returns I shall be obliged to  
take my babe in my arms and my little  
boy by the hand and go a half a mile after  
my cow but this is but a triffl when  
compared with what others have done before  
me Sabbath July 3 Much rain has fallen three weeks  
past the third of June we had a hail storm the most  
severe one I ever witnessed it hail fifteen or twenty  
minutes very hard the hail we thought would nec-  
essary three quarters of an inch in diameter it was  
attended with heavy thunder and lightning a great quan-  
tity of rain fell Yesterday Mr S. started for Gun  
Plains intending to preach there to day I had a spirit  
of prayer seek me to God and know my heart try me  
and know my thoughts to all my carnal affections  
and desires depart and thou rule and reign in my  
heart without a rival July 12 day before yester-  
sday I communed with in the church on Gull  
Prairie the second time since my commee-  
tion with it which is alone two years yestery  
day I was attacked with the Quinsy but am  
much better to day

Sab day ~~Aug 21~~ <sup>August</sup> Today Mr Smith has gone to  
Chicago to preach the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August we  
came to Plainfield a few days previous I  
was attacked very violently with the ague  
had two fits my health was very feeble when  
I came here we stopped at Dr Shoubsons  
while Mr S was preparing a house for us  
to occupy during our stop here the 12 Mrs  
started after the remainder of our goods part  
of them having come with me he arrived  
Sat ~~on~~ <sup>at</sup> 13 with ~~porter~~ <sup>porter</sup> Lane having  
turned over and injured nothing we took  
possession of our new habitation the same  
day about two o'clock P.M without a door  
or window or chimney we obtained a box stove  
which warmed the room sufficiently and did our  
cooking and did better Mary Lane had a  
a very sick day of the ague she was attacked  
the Monday preceding she had had it every  
day for a fortnight is quite feeble Mr S  
has preached here two Sabbaths we had the  
female prayer meeting appointed the  
11<sup>th</sup> day of August on Thursday at the school

Chouse at two o'clock in the afternoon the  
first that had ever been in this place it was  
very difficult for me to attend as my babe was  
quite sick of the Ague but I did attend and I  
believe I was blessed although there was but  
three <sup>beside myself</sup> enough to claim the promise we ~~had~~ spent  
the time in singing praying and conversing I saw  
and in these three sisters Mrs Adams Mrs De-  
mont Mrs Thompson the same views and  
feelings respecting the cold state of the church  
which I had long felt and fervent prayers were  
offered up for the ~~awakening~~ <sup>awakening</sup> Christians  
to a sense of their duty O how long will Chris-  
tians sleep the next meeting was appointed  
to Mr Adams I could not go my little  
girls health was such sister attended and she  
was the only one present beside Mrs Adams  
and they carried on the meeting as usual O  
for perseverance in the blessed cause of  
Christ how were those females blessed that  
attended upon our Saviour and shall we  
say we have nothing blessed be God the time  
coming that females tauntings will be no  
longer rivetted to the roofs of their mouths  
because it is a shame for a woman to speak  
in public but it will be an honor for  
her to speak of goodness of the Lord

August 23<sup>d</sup> Mr S departed today to complete  
his Bill. My sister is gone I feel quite  
downy my little <sup>girl</sup> has had a <sup>chill</sup> <sup>fever</sup> till 5 Nov. 25  
I attended a female prayer meeting at Dr Thom-  
sons we had a good meeting there were 6 of us  
Sept 1<sup>st</sup> a female Meeting was held at home  
to day and penitential spirit of prayer ~~seen~~  
There <sup>at</sup> prayer meeting at the school house  
sister attended My little girl was ed sick  
I could not leave her Thursday 22<sup>d</sup> a rain  
day we had not any meeting to day Sunday 25<sup>d</sup>  
My little girl has had the dysn and fever seven  
weeks to morrow she is wasted away to a skele-  
ton she is better to day yet she is a feeble  
little thing we know not what course to  
take if we give her Quinine it gives her  
a very bad cough Mr S has been to Utzega  
to preach Thursday Oct 15<sup>th</sup> My little girls <sup>chill</sup>  
stopped to day by breaking it with Quinine  
Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> We were into a house we call  
our own we were sol<sup>d</sup> out of house ab-  
solute and now oblig<sup>d</sup> to quit Mr S  
has <sup>done</sup> all the work with the excep-  
tion of a <sup>few</sup> day's work of My children how  
caught a very bad cold by coming into an  
unseasoned house I suffered <sup>very</sup> much from

Smoke having no fire place no door a few  
hours laid up a for a fire place but suffering so  
much from smoke we were obliged to put out  
the fire and put up a small shop stove we  
have looked by it a number of weeks <sup>Sal 3<sup>rd</sup> M<sup>th</sup></sup>  
little <sup>girl</sup> took a severe cold on ~~last~~ Monday  
night we thought her dangerous & Mednes.  
she had a hard fit of the ague has had it  
every day since she is very full I fear  
she will go into a consumption her con-  
c<sup>o</sup> continues yet the past week has been  
one of busyness we have had two tailors  
in the house making a coat for Mr S.  
and Mr I had been employed in building  
a chimney it is completed and a social  
one it is indeed Mr S has preached here  
to day I have not been able to attend on  
account of my babe she looks as much like  
a corpse as any thing I can imagine O that the  
Lord would restore her to health he is my  
G<sup>o</sup>d give us my all in him amen I trust

Sal 3. Nov 13<sup>th</sup> A week ago to day I carried my  
babe to meeting and Monday she was taken  
with a violent cold and has been quite sick  
ever since although some better now I  
left her a short time with sister to attend one  
meeting it was rather disagreeable to day  
we met in our old school house with  
the windows all open and not a sign of air and

but few attended it has been a cold day Mr  
I preached from above out from among  
them and be ye separate, he applied it  
to Christians it was a pointed sermon  
some have taken offence a Bird fluttered  
when it is hit God grant that we  
may live faithful servants in thy care  
Dec 2<sup>d</sup> Sabbath I have not attended meeting to day  
it being windy and cold the Baptist occupied the  
house to day Mr S. preach once a fortnight  
at Stroud it was a funeral occasion a man dead  
at Stroud Friday with the delicious tremors  
a distressed creature are not those who sold  
him liquor guilty of murder can they feel a  
clear conscience if they can their hearts must  
be steel what an awful accountability they  
will have to render to God at the day of judg-  
ment Some weeks ago to day I took my back  
to meeting she caught a fever cold was very  
sick the next week my little boy was attacked  
also they are now on the gain last Tues-  
day the Rev Mr Ware from P S and old  
acquaintance calls on us and stoppe over  
night Sabbath Eve Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> My family all well  
this evening Mr S. preached here to day I have  
attended meeting to day as I have not  
felt able Mr S. has gone to prayer mee-  
ting it is quite storming a week ago last  
Friday we attended the funeral of Mrs. Hines



the Mother of the Rev Mr Ware who stopt  
over night with us from Vreg she died at  
Dr Fosters at Oreg Mrs S. preached the  
sermon it being the third <sup>at that place</sup> sermon within  
a short period we were calld there and on  
Sunday I did not return until last Tuesday  
she died a happy death O that my last  
end may be like hers she was 66 years old  
came to this country in good health but took  
a violent cold which seated on her lungs we  
trust she is with her God whom she had long  
served Blessed are the dead that die in the  
Lord &c the text O that I may be wise in time  
to prepare for eternity my time is rapidly  
passing away and is it spent in such an  
a manner that the Judge of all the will  
say unto me Well <sup>done</sup> good and faithful servant  
enter now into the joy of thy Lord

Nov 1<sup>st</sup> 1837 Sub Eve <sup>of the</sup> commencement  
of another new year how many of my fellow  
creatures have been numbered with the dead and  
a living monument of the amazing mercy of God  
O infinite love! to spare such a rebel as I can say  
God his wrath forbear me the chief of sinners shall I  
how shall I recall the mispent time the weeks  
and months that have been almost useles I feel  
can never be redeemed but my heaven is <sup>for ever</sup>  
ready to forgive he is now calling unto me this  
is the way walk ye in it all & preached  
at Oreg to day for is now teaching singing  
set out your countings in a week



Friday 5<sup>th</sup> 1837 Meeting at my house to day  
to take into consideration ~~the~~ forming a church  
in this place the Rev. Mr Knapp preached  
it was so late they adjourned till tomorrow

Sat 7<sup>th</sup> Today but a few present the can-  
didates for church membership were exam-  
ined and adjourned till tomorrow 11 o'clock

Sat 8<sup>th</sup> Rev. Mr Knapp preached attended  
to the reexamination of candidates in all  
14 6 males & females I did not attend  
meeting until after the sermon my chi-  
dren were quite well the candidates  
after adopting the articles of faith and form  
of covenant were pronounced <sup>by Mr Knapp</sup> regularly con-  
stituted members of the church of Christ  
it was a solemn season God and angels  
were looking upon us with a smile <sup>or</sup> may  
it may <sup>it</sup> be like a well watered  
garden which bringeth forth much fruit  
in due season may this church prove  
to be itself to have been planted by the  
Lord of hosts, <sup>and</sup> may the seeds of right  
eousness be sown in the hearts of the chi-  
ldren in this place

Friday Jan 13<sup>th</sup> 1837 Mr. J. received today  
a commission from the A. S. M. S. author-  
izing him to labour as a Missionary in  
Stamhill and Otsego Michigan one year

from the first of July last pledging themselves  
the sum of ~~two~~ hundred dollars towards  
supporting us God grant it may not be spent  
in vain

Dec 15<sup>th</sup> have attended meeting Elder Hall  
preached from 15<sup>th</sup> Luke 9<sup>th</sup> a very good sermon  
he came in here at intermission Mr S  
went to Otego last Eve returns tomorrow  
Mon: 30<sup>th</sup> Mr Smith started for Marshall  
in company with six others two of whom  
were ministers very interesting company  
all called here to dinner a very pleasant  
day ~~Thursday~~ very fine day all along  
to day Wednes. a very tedious day what  
a ~~change~~ change in the weather since last  
evening I am alone with my two little  
children have to fodder my cow bring out  
wood and see to every thing in door and out  
it is certainly a very unpleasant thing to live  
in cold winter but what is this to what  
Christ endured 40 days Eve. I and my little  
ones will retire <sup>to bed</sup> little knowing what may  
take place before morning it is as severe  
a night as I ever knew in Michigan  
and no neighbors within a quarter of a  
mile Thursday a cold day alone to day  
all well as yet

Sat. 4<sup>th</sup> Febr. Mr. S with his company returned  
all took tea myself quite unwell  
~~at~~ Mr. S expected to have been arda  
med but the Presbytery refused on  
the ground of his being a congrega  
tionalist Sat. Mr. S preached the day  
a very interesting day Feb 11<sup>th</sup> Sat Mr.  
Rotato and wife came here to stop a while un  
expectedly Mr. S goes to the night 3 am  
quite unwell Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Sat night about  
twelve I was called out to ~~the~~ help a  
neighbour in chel (w) Mrs Dumant  
her husband was absent and no Physician  
I had a sick time while there I carried my  
Pole and it was very stormy under it was  
a serious time with us to walk a half  
mile on foot through a storm was rather  
unpleasant for me it being the first time  
I was ever called out for that purpose she  
was not much sick had no need of a Phy  
notwithy. the ladies except myself were  
for sending for one nine miles this practice  
I wholly discountenance it has in my opi  
ion a demoralizing influence and hope it  
will soon be done away

Feb  
~~March~~ 2<sup>nd</sup> 1897. Day before yesterday Mr. Smith  
started by day break for White River for the  
purpose of getting his letter of dismission from  
the Presbytery to join the association when  
formed I was quite unwell sister Jane and  
much to do I expect to start for Gall ~~the~~  
tomorrow morning with Rev Mr Ware and wife to be  
present at the former the association March  
12 The first of this month we arrived on Gall  
called at Col. Barnes staid over were treated  
very kindly we had a cold boring ride our horses  
were very slow stopped <sup>over</sup> in travelling twelve miles  
he did not get there early enough to attend the  
meeting the first day went to meeting the  
next morning at Egan Millers Mr S preached  
a very appropriate sermon on (deny yourself  
all and take up your cross) after sermon  
we had a communion season it was a ref-  
reshing season to many and a day long to be  
remembered by many it being the first  
association ever formed in Mich. we hope  
it will bring about much good although the  
means the have been used by the Presbytery  
to carry this intent effect is very unpleasant  
but they must stand and call for themselves  
we are only responsible for our ~~own~~ own  
do not let God of Heaven grant that we  
follow the footsteps of our Saviour and the  
Apostles we need the example of Christ the  
Holy spirit to guide us in right path of  
unity to a heart alive to God a communion

season is unutterably solemn & that I could have  
a clearer evidence of my union with Christ had  
I could constantly have a lively sense of his im-  
mediate presence when I look back upon  
my life it appears to me but a blank what  
have I done for my God can one be a child  
of God and yet do so little towards promoting  
the course of God & there is so much sin in  
my heart I fear I have not yet put off the  
old man with his deeds my cry to is the day  
assist me O God in giving all for Christ  
help me to renew my covenant with thee

April 4<sup>th</sup> Friday This day has been a very inter-  
esting day to us the Association met  
here for the purpose of Ordaining Mr S  
they came here yesterday last eve. we  
had a lecture from the Rev Mr Pierce  
of Marshall today an Ordination see  
man by the Rev Mr Whapen charge by  
the same right hand fellowship by the  
Rev Mr Ware Mr Pierce administered  
the Sacrament Pleased be God for his ben-  
ediction shown unto us I how unworthy we have  
made ourselves by our ingratitude to God  
image I look into my own sinful heart  
and search out the motives by which I am  
actuated I fear after a critical exami-  
nation I find selfishness <sup>hard taken</sup> the most  
prominent ~~feature of all~~ place in  
my heart

April 11<sup>th</sup> Monday Am I a child of God do I love  
him with all my heart I fear I am deceived I can  
see so many imperfections so much indwelling  
sin yet remaining in my heart that I can be-  
arely raise my eyes to heaven this morning  
I am led to inquire is there any known sin that  
I indulge myself in any known duty I willingly  
by neglected do I walk in all the command-  
ments of the Lord blameless do I delight in the  
law of God after the inward man I may  
these inquiries be profitable unto me  
and may I endeavor by the help of God to  
live in love of conformity to God in all  
the duties he requires of me

On the third day of this month Mr Adams  
with his family came in here to stay in the  
he could up a house she is a member  
of our church a lovely woman he has been  
a professor but has given up religion  
O may I never be left to dishonor the  
covenant of my blessed Redeemer  
April 11<sup>th</sup> This is a delightful day <sup>it is celebrated to</sup> forth all the praises  
of the Christian you all the gratitude is due  
God I may I admire and adore the great  
beauteous the fowls of heaven sing praises to God  
and shall man be silent great is God and  
greatly to be praised I may I sing praises  
unto my God while he lends me breath

April 18<sup>th</sup> Today attended a Wedding at  
Otrago Mr S married them the first time  
he has ever performed a ceremony of <sup>that</sup> kind  
wine was as free as water we took a  
glass of <sup>water</sup> ~~cold~~ water in preference  
to it it gave ~~some~~ occasion for some  
blasphemous remarks in regard to our  
Saviour's turning water into wine but  
upon the whole we found a much more  
civil company than we expected where  
immorality is so prevalent

Jan 29 I fell unusually cold and stupid  
to day it is a wonder that God spares such  
a rebel as I O what loving kindness he  
manifests to such rebellious worms as  
I am can my God his wrath bear  
Me the chief of sinners spare  
When I look into my heart I can  
see nothing but confusion I can trace  
out no particular sin or sins but  
a multitude rush into view at once  
God save me from dishonouring thy  
glorious name <sup>public</sup> George will be first the  
2<sup>nd</sup> of June and he has never had been  
to school but one ~~day~~ <sup>day</sup> to day he can  
read well in readings spells well  
in words of two syllables can answer  
a great many questions in Geography  
Astronomy & the most accurate  
singer I ever heard for a child



April 27<sup>th</sup> Three weeks ago to day our usual  
prayers meetings commenced none have at-  
tended yet but sster Thompson sister  
Adams and our school teacher Miss Briggs  
we shall have them Thursdays in  
future we have had them on that day  
for two weeks past <sup>at</sup> our house  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> Today sort Mon. my little  
girl was taken very ill and Tues. last  
little George was attacked very viol-  
ently with the Ague ~~and~~ and fever  
as we supposed his fever continued  
to rage about twenty four hours  
after that he appeared to be better  
was again seized with the same and  
has now very sick it is nearly  
forty eight hours since his fever  
returned My little girl is better  
Mr S. has gone to Obago to pre-  
ach June 4<sup>th</sup> Today little G has been  
dangerously ill has had a course of the in-  
flammatory fever and inflammation of the  
Lungs his case was a doubtful one for  
some time he is now gaining although  
very deep made by the discharges from his  
head through his ears Two of our neighbours  
children have been in the same situation  
are now recovering O the long sharing

mercy of God how oft has he brought our  
children near the grave to humbly appear  
over and as oft restored again how com-  
worthy <sup>are we</sup> of blessings from <sup>so</sup> holy a being as  
Thou art I have need this <sup>day</sup> to reflect on my  
former sinful state and condemnation  
and on my present ill desert and im-  
perfections and from whom all these  
blessings flow Who has made me to differ  
from those that perish for lack of know-  
ledge I low may I feel dependance  
my weakness and obligation to live a  
holy life last Wednesday Mrs Adams left  
here after spending two months with  
the desire my prayers she is now in the  
woods four miles from any inhabitants  
in a critical time with our untimely  
husband may the God whom she serves  
be her all in all we shall feel her  
loop in society help me I low to  
double my diligent sickness has  
prevented me from attending  
the two last female prayer meetings  
I low give me a spirit of prayer

Prayer makes the darkest clouds withdraw  
Prayer oblates the ladder Jacob saw  
Gives exercise to faith and love

Prings every blessing from above

Mr. S. has gone to Obispo to preach  
may he be bold in denouncing the perils  
counsel of god whether he can well  
bear of us to bear

Sabbath 11<sup>th</sup> June The health of my children  
is so delicate that I remained at home  
altho' with much desire to be at the  
house of god Mr. S. preaches here today  
I fear his labours will wear fine out he  
walks three miles <sup>once or twice a fortnight</sup> and preaches three ser-  
mons and returns ~~back~~ both plea-  
sed he is obliged to lead the singing which  
renders it necessary for him to stand  
from the commencement to the close  
then the Sal School at intermission  
and a five o'clock meeting here he  
complains of a pain in his head after  
meeting every Sal I may not his be  
spent in vain but may he be suc-  
cessful in winning souls to Christ.  
O my God make me faithful in  
thy vineyard much depends on

on the side of a minister her pra-  
ers and example, towards enlarging  
the borders of Zion 14<sup>th</sup> June I have  
received a communication from the Co-  
Sec<sup>y</sup> of the N<sup>o</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> of General Moral Reform  
So. ~~and~~ an interesting letter  
full of good feeling and ~~and~~ <sup>interest</sup>  
for the cause of ~~the~~ Reform in this  
region of Country O Lord give wisdom  
and grace to persevere in this great  
enterprise July 14<sup>th</sup> This is the seventh  
year of our marriage and I have  
every season to thank my God for giving  
me so kind and affectionate a com-  
panion O how often have I violated  
the marriage vow indeed it is great  
grief to me that I so often throw off  
the yoke of our affectionate com. and  
Nother may it be my cry day and  
night Lord give me grace but  
So it was Communion season  
after Meeting I went home with  
br Chamberlains family Mr S preached  
in that neighbourhood it rained  
so hard and I was so feeble I did not  
attend Meeting visited Sister James

School Mon Morn found it very inter-  
esting was treated very kindly by Mr P's  
family a lovely family they brought  
us home last Ev. I have felt better  
today July 9<sup>th</sup> have attended meeting all  
day. Mr S has preached to a large con.  
his sermons were convincing his fore  
noon sermon was from God we must all  
appear before the judgement seat of Christ  
ye the afternoon from Turn you to the  
strong hold ye prisoners of hope & that  
his labours today may be the means  
of turning many to Christ a meeting was  
appointed today for the purpose of  
forming a female moral reform society  
on Thurs. 4 o'clock. Agreed to appoint  
ment we met on Thursday at 4 o'clock at the  
school house & formed a society called the  
Plainfield and Otsego female moral reform  
society auxiliary to the N.Y. female moral  
reform society we had an interesting meeting  
we have ten on the list and expect ten more  
it was unanimously voted that Mr S should  
preach on the seventh command. a week  
from today we shall meet a week from  
next Thurs. Mrs. Crittenden is the Director &  
Mey Ware 2<sup>nd</sup> Direct myself the Secretary  
Miss Hawn the Treasurer Miss R. Oton  
Mrs W. Briggs Executive Committee

July 29<sup>th</sup> Sat day. Mr S. gave us a sermon  
on the 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment the first I ever  
heard on that subject the house was crowded  
good attention generally some gentlemen kept  
their faces covered the whole of the sermon  
to which indicated something wrong I think if  
a virtuous could not hold their countenance  
during such a discourse as that it must be  
for the want of light on the subject and  
some christians shut their eyes and ears when  
this subject is presented to them it is too  
delicate when will christians be wiser  
some said in regard to it I must go and hear  
out of curiosity for there will be shouting  
and clapping of hands we think there must  
have been disappointment for a more  
attentive audience I never saw the past  
week pass away without hearing any contrary  
my minds expressed Sat day 30<sup>th</sup> July  
In getting up this morning to our surprise  
we found a wooden horse at the gate with  
a paper nailed to it with these words writ  
then on it as nearly as I can recollect

Mr Smith having recently been informed  
that you intended to preach the same  
sermon that you preached on Gen Plain  
last Sab therefore these few lines are  
to inform you if you do you will be put  
upon this horse and ten or three good strong  
fellows to want as for the whores you  
talked about last Sab we dont care any  
thing about them we dont care about  
having our young folks hear about  
how many bad women there are in  
London or N York your ~~at~~  
Society (alluding to the female moral  
reform society) you had better drop  
and let your neighbours live in peace

signed J. H.

True

Attest



It is not so surprising to us, when we hear  
the enemies of Christ opposing Moral reform  
as it is to hear the professed followers of  
Christ speaking all manner of evil again  
st some of better class have arrayed them  
selves against us. Mrs S has gone to Utzega  
to day he feels the need of more wisdom  
We met here on Thurs the 29<sup>th</sup> agreeably  
to adjournment voted to meet again in  
two weeks two members have taken off their  
names because of opposition they met  
with from their father. The time is coming  
when the virtuous will be separated from  
vicious when the line of distinction will be  
drawn between the Church and those  
that oppose Moral reform. God grant that  
the time may soon come when every  
member of Christ's body will feel that  
he or she has a part to act in this great  
enterprise. Professing Christians must  
come to the conclusion ere long that they  
are exerting an influence either for  
or against it (as far as their voice is  
heard or their example felt) their <sup>influence</sup> ~~power~~  
ever so ~~small~~ <sup>small</sup> (they may) is deep and wide.  
It is true a small number acting on  
right principles no way do something <sup>powerful</sup>  
crushing this high headed monster but  
our entire revolution will never take

place until the whole church takes bold  
(d) decided stand on the side of Moral  
Reform can we ever expect to cry victory  
while the professed friends of Christ use  
every means in their power to counteract  
the influence we exert over others as friends  
of purity and virtue, but others have left the  
Society the reason is best known to themselves  
~~of~~ of Thursday <sup>10th</sup> we met agreeably to adj<sup>mt</sup>  
announcement but few present a very inter-  
esting meeting we made choice of another  
Directress as our 15. Direc has left the  
Soci she proved herself to be an enemy  
to the Soci instead of a friend I hope  
God will give her repentance as she has  
gone so far as to call me a liar and a  
hypocrite we have reason suspect that  
she has made a great deal of mischief  
in the Soci she is now out of it and  
we would rather reduce our number  
to a few sincere honest discreet persons  
than to have our society destroyed and  
the cause injured by a Judas  
Sabbath  
Ch. & S. has gone to Obago Sister J is with  
me I have been quite unwell to have  
not been able to attend meetings  
O the riches of free grace how is it

that such a vile worm as I should  
taste of his dying love & what blessings  
are laid up in store for those that love  
God August 15<sup>th</sup> Brother Wm Powers came  
here from Ohio we had not seen him  
for four years Tues. 29<sup>th</sup> Today Brother Wm  
has left for home he made an engag-  
ement with Miss Briggs last evening she  
is a lovely girl the 10<sup>th</sup> of this month our  
Moral Reform society met again had  
a very interesting meeting Sept 4<sup>th</sup> Mon.  
Yesterday we had a communion season  
Mr. S changed with the Rev Mr Knapp  
Mrs Putnam White joined the church  
by letter If I cannot better describe my  
feelings than in the following lines  
Midst scenes of confusion and creature  
complaints  
How sweet to my soul is communion  
with saints  
at five Mr Knapp gave as a lecture  
on slavery the first time that subject  
has ever been brought up in this place  
we had an interesting day the subject  
in the former part of day was there-  
fore come out from among them  
and be separate

There were some of our own faith (Presbyterians)  
that refused to Commune with on the ground  
of Congregationalism this was a very unhappy  
circumstance that for such a trifling conceit  
refuse to commune with the people of God  
what could opposers of religious say of could  
they say see how Christians love one another  
As they might say see how they are divided  
O that Christians could see how much  
injury they do the cause of Christ and  
that he is bleeding at every pore while  
this church is so divided that Christians  
might go heart and hand in <sup>the</sup> service of their  
God and uphold Sabt. Tues. 12<sup>th</sup> 1837 This  
day have I consecrated myself over to my  
God last evening in <sup>an</sup> <sup>my</sup> <sup>heart</sup>  
life I found much to weep for <sup>an</sup> humble  
myself before God I saw nothing that I  
had ever done for the Glory of God or  
the happiness of my family I found  
I had indulged myself in unblooming  
fe whenever any thing occurred to irritate  
me and this had given cause for much  
unhappiness between us and the question  
was how was this to be remedied it must

a cease away I must begin anew I shall  
ll ruin my family and destroy well I come  
before to my God whom I had so often off  
ended and sought <sup>the forgiveness of</sup> my dear husband whom  
I had made so unhappy and since  
a solemn engagement with my God that  
if he spare me one week it should be  
consecrated to him and my prayer to  
God give grace give me steadfast  
patience forbearance and submission  
to thy will. Last Sat. Mr S was  
absent and my little boy five years  
of age wanted permission to ask a  
blessing said I to him what will you  
say my son I say the Lords prayer  
that is very good blessing. I promise  
and he went through with it very  
regularly I replied do you think you  
have done ought I thank I have said  
he afterwards he requested me not to  
his father said are you ashamed of  
it I then quote Christs words He  
that is ashamed of me and my words  
we he thought a moment say that  
again Ma I repeat it well said  
he I am not ashamed of it

Oct 15<sup>th</sup> Yesterday Mr S went to Alligona to attend an institution the Rev Mr Lyon is to be the Pastor of that Church may that meeting be owned and blessed of God the Rev Mr <sup>W</sup> Warren preached to us to day from these words Remember Lots will it was an interesting discourse to me he showed to us plainly that many are well for a season and then turn backs to the beggarly elements of the world and perish and I a true follower of Jesus or shall I like Lots will be a pillar of salt

5<sup>th</sup> of Nov To day was to have been our Communion season at Otsego but on the the account of the inclemency of the weather we are detained this sabb the rever I had anticipated this as a happy season but feel willing to leave it to the disposal of Divine Providence who orders all things agreeable to the counsel of his own will The Rev Mr McEwin the agent for the Education Society called on us Part Mrs stayed with us over night we thought it of no care to call a meeting Mr S in con. with the agent called on a few families. them cold and indifferent of the subject very few of Presbyterians

scarcely treated them with common civility  
there are some people of this plain and  
well human appearance, the description  
of the Pharisees they carry a fair exterior  
while inwardly they are full of guile and  
wickedness my nearest neighbour Mrs  
Cutterden has called me a Hypocrite and  
her family has said in my presence  
that we were disturbers of the peace of Socy  
abounding the Moral Reformation. but  
all these things will work for our good  
she is a poor guilty woman contracting  
enemies and treasuring up wrath against  
the day of wrath I have been reading  
the 14<sup>th</sup> ch of St John with Henry's  
comments and I truly never saw the beauty  
and sublimity of that ch before well has  
a Platonic writer said that it ought to  
be written in letters of gold that I could  
fully comprehend the word of God  
The 15<sup>th</sup> of Nov an awful transaction took place  
on Ball's Prairie Mrs Pitt Giddings was killed  
at his own store door by James Ayer his nei-  
ghbour Mr G and Mr A were fighting and  
Mr A came to stop them Mr G says  
let them have their fight out at the  
Mr A caught up a brick bat and  
threw it at Mr G and struck him in  
the temple and they came down several  
blows with his fist he was but a few hours



Mr G. was an active member of the Pres-  
byterian church of that place he has left  
a wife a numerous relatives to mourn  
Mr G. had been considered a dangerous character  
ever since his residence there he has a wife  
and one child he is committed to prison  
there to await his trial Mon 27<sup>th</sup> This  
day completes my twenty ninth years so much  
of my life has fled never to return is not  
this a solemn thought O Lord teach me so to  
number my days that I may apply my heart  
unto wisdom 31<sup>st</sup> Thanksgivings day Mr  
S. has given us a sermon it was so gay  
that but few attended but we had a good  
meeting after meeting we were invited to  
take supper with Mr Russell's family a  
very interesting interview God grant that it  
may be a profitable season to all we  
have had a hard rain but a very  
warm one Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> Yesterday Mr S. went to  
Allegan the Co. seat to teach singing school for  
the first time returned this afternoon I have been  
alone with my little ones what a blessing they  
are I need more wisdom & patience to bring  
them up for God I can see my children take  
the advantage of my failings & inconsistencies  
I find that when excuse myself from duty think  
my I am too tired or unwell or pale by trifling  
excuses thinking a more convenient time will  
come and then I can better attend to them then

that they gain new strength and are more distinct  
and become more settled in their habits. Sabbath 31<sup>st</sup>  
been a very good day to day read two chapters in  
the new testament answered three chapters in  
the catechism read a hymn in Watts divine  
Songs & has requested me to pray with him  
Mr. S. has gone to Otsego to day we have no  
meeting here tillle I was quite sick with the  
ague last eve. is quite unwell to day this day  
closes this year & can I look back on your service  
in the service of God the answer is no O that I  
could feel on this subject Lord help me to feel  
and reflect with profit tillle I am singing

How do I pity those that dwell

in ~~the~~ ignorance and darkness receive

They know no heaven they fear no hell

Thou endless joys thou endless pains

Sabb 14<sup>th</sup>

Last Sab I was quite unwell and at  
our communion season I was deprived of the  
privilege of course with the people of God  
to day in communion with the Bap. I am not  
able to attend neither would I wish to being as  
we are shut out from home. O that the time  
may soon come when all Christ disciples will  
come to the table of the Lord together  
Mr. S. preacher at Otsego to day my eyes have  
pained with firing tears have run down  
my cheeks while seeing and hearing the un-  
believability of the people of this place he who was  
made but a little lower than the angels has  
so debased himself as to render himself obnox

cons in sight of a holy God and a nuisance to a  
Christian community. I have been pursuing the  
Advocate of Moral Reform what an exhibition  
of human depravity is there set forth

Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. To day I have sent my report  
the Female Moral Reform Society of Plainfield  
and Obeged to the Female Moral Reform So.  
our so. is auxiliary to theirs two dollars was  
raised by this So. the first term an old one  
subscriber obtained but could not send it  
with the report they reason of being able to  
obtain 1/2 money but shall send as  
soon as it can be procured I trust the  
Lord will bless our feeble efforts

Sat day 28<sup>th</sup> Reading to day the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vol of the  
Advocate a piece headed important facts  
and considerations - No. 2. I find there stated  
that the number of abandoned females in  
the City of Paris is 5143 2785 took to that  
of life either from sheer desperation or  
because the were orphans and had no one  
to care for them is this not enough to  
make a parents heart bleed that so  
many thousands should be left a sacrifice  
to the merciless destroyer without the true  
principles of virtue and religion implanted  
in their minds while young  
people brought forth that such a host should  
be cast into eternity without one ray of hope

He is very tedious to day Mr S has gone to  
Stago he is quite unwell is wearing himself  
out he walks to Allegan over a week  
teaches two singing schools and returns and  
teaches one here both ways make about  
twenty miles Lord give him strength  
and grace according to his day  
Lett G has commenced reading the New  
Testament by course to day

Oct 15<sup>th</sup> I have received by the hand of Mr. S  
presents from Mrs Lyons Mrs Elizabeth  
to the amount of five dollars  
previous to that I had received two yards  
and three quarters of calico from Mrs  
Lyons & 1<sup>st</sup> to day virtuous sister Thon  
she is very sad with the inflammation of  
the lungs she requested me to pray sing  
and read a chapter and she we have  
prayed together and been blessed O pray  
with me once more it may be the time  
of that said she she was very weak when  
I have not lived as I ought sing some  
penitent hymn I read a psalm and sang  
show pity Lord Lord forgive  
and prayed with her and I believe the Lord

helped me her fever soon kept her in  
a very low state I had no further  
opportunity for conversing with her I have  
had quite a sick turn since I returned  
Mr S has gone to visit her yesterday  
the Rev Mr. McCoy from hams river took  
dinner also Mr. Curtis our school teach  
er and Joseph Elliott an educated Indian  
and christian soon after they left Mr. Pei  
ckett an Indian called and took dinner

he is a member of the church at Mo-  
regon can talk good english on his learn-  
ing the Rev Mr. Lyons and wife and daugh-  
ter and Mr. Winslow and wife called  
and took some refreshment it was a  
fatiguing day with me but a pleasant  
one no one is more pleased to enter  
vain friends than I am March 3<sup>rd</sup>

To day Mr. M. C. returned by him-  
self received quite a number of presents  
from Mr. Lyons and Mrs. Winslow which  
were gratefully received 4<sup>th</sup> Mr. S. pre-  
sents here to day I have had quite a  
sick day I expect to be confined in  
about four weeks but I can say

The Lord is my strength

Sab day April 29<sup>th</sup>

I am recovering from my confinement  
March 30<sup>th</sup> seven in the Evng I was delivered  
of a fine little daughter she has been  
quite healthy I have had no Physicians  
with my two last children have succeeded  
much better than formerly only two  
females have attended me & with my  
last Mrs Stuart has been with me  
both times although I am now fifteen  
miles from the place of my former  
confinement Mr S did all that was  
necessary to be done I hope the time  
will soon come when all will be  
capable of rendering to their wives all  
necessary assistance and from the worth  
the abominable practice of Physicians  
and some of the Christian public will ere  
long examine this subject and treat the  
practice as one of destructive influence  
I was confined on Friday sister Jane came  
home on Sat. Sab. morn. news came that  
brother Ware was dead he had been sick  
but a few days died suddenly she being  
alone with her little ones Mr S preached  
his funeral sermon in the P.M. April 1<sup>st</sup>  
he had been a Pastor of a church in

Of a number of years came to this coun-  
try year ago last fall. brought him a  
forty acre lot was getting in a way to  
live he had joined the Congregational  
Association with Mrs. he had given  
up preaching on account of his pecuni-  
ary embarrassments he was an excep-  
tionary christian an ornament to this  
church of which he was a member but  
our loss is his gain "Blessed are the dead  
that die in the Lord" Since my sickness  
my Mrs. Winslow has annoyed me a great  
out of most a set of nice Crochery, may  
the Lord reward her tenfold also Mrs. Ely  
presented me with a Cambrie night  
gown and some small articles

Sed. May 9 1838 In company with sister  
Thompson and Russell visited Sister White  
on parting she embraced me very affection-  
ately ~~what~~ who in this world has more rea-  
son to love the people of God than the min-  
ister of Jesus Christ there is such a union of  
heart and feeling when all is right ~~what~~  
that this feeling might more extensively pre-  
vail is my prayer O that minister might  
feel their responsibility and that churches  
might come up to their highest privilege



shall sinners go down to hell and Christen.  
Sweet Lord help them to look about and see  
what they have to do

The 10<sup>th</sup> of May we came to Allegan found  
and stov<sup>e</sup> in our house we to A. B. M.  
Ligans ~~staid~~ <sup>found</sup> ~~no stov<sup>e</sup>~~ ~~our house~~  
staid until the 12<sup>th</sup>

Sat day 13<sup>th</sup> We are in our own hired dwelling  
very well situated Mr S preaches here to day  
I stay at home as it is inconvenient to take  
my little ones feel very dull I can realize  
but a little of any thing I have not  
life and spirit enough to thank God for his  
mercies and blessings what a wretched state  
I am in Lord shake my drowsy powers

Sat 20<sup>th</sup> Mr Smith started yesterday for Allegan  
to administer the sacrament to them which  
he promised to do when we left O what a  
blessed privilege this would be to my soul  
almost a year since I have communed with  
the people of God I am at present deprived  
the privilege of going to the house of God  
the thought of being <sup>not</sup> able to attend any this sum-  
mer is more than I can endure Little G<sup>W</sup>  
attended a Sabbath school last Sat. for the  
first time he learned the 9 last verses of the

6<sup>th</sup> Chap of Acts he has been <sup>in</sup> it well and has  
through a <sup>small</sup> school book has attended  
to day I think I can adopt the language of  
the poet I let me from this day be wholly thine  
So as God has this ev manifested his spirit  
of deep repentance for sin L<sup>r</sup> appeared very  
sublimely through the afternoon about  
Sun down he took his card and sang a few  
of the psalms previous to this I had  
conversed with him on the importance  
of giving himself to God he appeared quite  
solemn and meditative after singing he  
requested that he might lead in prayers I  
questioned in regard to his feeling and that  
God would not accept the prayers of the  
unrepentant tears rolled down his cheeks  
beseeching me to let him pray another  
I went to pray do let me pray we knelt  
down he prayed with much sincerity and  
consistency I was astonished to see so  
much of it in a little child we arose  
after I had prayed he sat down and  
we covered his face with this hands I  
asked him if he was sick he said no  
what is the matter my son said I  
I am such a sinner I cannot hold  
up my head I repeated some passages of

of scripture he burst into tears and said  
O mother I have seen so wicked I have  
never sored God in my life O mother  
I wish I had been a better boy I asked  
him if I should pray with him O yes  
said he and I want to pray again  
we both prayed he prayed sincerely to be  
to be forgiven after he arose from his  
knees he said mother I feel better  
how do you feel said he with some  
animation in his countenance I will  
feel as though I could sing and pray  
all the time

June 3<sup>d</sup> Sabbath all have attended meeting  
but myself last Sab. 29<sup>th</sup> we had our  
little daughter Arvilla Maria bap-  
tized Lord kept us to bring her up for God  
our little son Jed. has been a very good  
obedient boy the past week

June 7<sup>d</sup> Sunday To day Mr S. left us to be  
absent a week or two on his agency for the  
Indians a gloom overspreads every thing in  
his absence but duty calls and we submit  
July 5<sup>th</sup> Thurs. Reciev letters from husband  
to day he will not return untill next  
week he informs me that he has received

a draft from the A. S. Missionary Society  
of one hundred and fifty dollars for  
the past year it being a mistake our  
not seeing it before the Lord provides  
for the unworthy Sat. 7 My table has  
had the good grace to say all things are contro-  
lled by thee thou doest all things well  
It grieves me to see my little suffer so  
much yet the Lord doest it and must be  
still

August 14<sup>th</sup> Brother Wm. came from Chicago  
and brought <sup>with</sup> him Mr. & Mrs. Briggs  
from Gull Prairie they expect in a few  
days to be married

16<sup>th</sup> Bro. Wm. returned with Mrs. Briggs this  
afternoon 15<sup>th</sup> Husband hired a carriage paid  
ten dollars to carry us to Gull Prairie to  
attend for the wedding

Sat 19<sup>th</sup> attended meeting on Gull Prairie  
heard Bro. Shepherd preach from Lam-  
stock. Bro. Wm. was joined in matrimony  
to Mrs. Briggs by Br. Clark the minister  
they were married at the close of the five  
o'clock service at the meeting house the  
first couple I ever saw married at church  
was very much pleased with it indeed

it was truly a joyful occasion & as all  
may she discharge the duties of her station  
better than I have done & how unfruitful  
I have been. Lord help me to do my  
Duty to my dear companion and little  
ones than hast. given me may I have  
help from thee to train the others up  
in the way they should go that when  
they are old they will not depart from  
it what blessed promises to parents can  
I claim such promises as there Lord may  
my whole trust be in thee Guide me  
than great Jehovah.

Dec 17<sup>th</sup> <sup>School</sup> Sharlin began the Indian school  
they have returned very anxious for a school  
and is the decision of the Society that  
Sharlin shall teach a day singing school  
and preach Sab day to them an interpreter  
has been employed and he boards  
with us

21<sup>st</sup> Joseph Elliott and wife have returned  
she had her to the Prairie has lost  
his child she will spend the winter  
with us she is anxious to learn to work

Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> The Indians have assem-  
bled at our house to day to hear Mrs  
Ford preach to them they gave good atten-  
tion while he told them of the impor-  
tance of understanding the scriptures  
Lord give them understanding hearts

26<sup>th</sup> Husband began his school this after-  
noon may he have wisdom and grace give  
him from on high

Jan 30<sup>th</sup> Husband preaches to the Indians  
at the school house today he says he had  
a full house this forenoon  
may they seek to know Jesus and  
abandon their Catholic notions

Jan 27<sup>th</sup> 1824  
Sabbath day eve How attended meeting  
with the Indians had a full house it gave  
me great delight to see those benighted  
brethren listen so attentively to word of God  
may it work like leaven in their hearts

April 1<sup>st</sup> My husband started with ten Indians  
on the land expedition I have reason to thank  
God that he has given me children to comp-  
ort me in my dear companions absence  
may the Lord go and ~~and~~ come with him

April 13<sup>th</sup> Sat.

We all started for the mouth of Nelamason  
My husband intending to go on with the Indians  
to Mackinaw it was a beautiful day  
5 Indians in the boat <sup>with me</sup> ~~that I was~~ all  
paid to their oars such harmony in all  
their movements I never saw before  
we arrived at Nework before dark found  
Cousins family well the Indians went  
on to the mouth husband was quite unwell  
had a bad swelling on his leg

~~24<sup>th</sup> night~~ Mary Jane was very sick through  
the night last night has continued  
so through the day she has an attack  
of the being fever she had a severe  
cold and her system is very bilious  
she has vomited a great quantity of  
bile Gab. she has been very sick  
through the day I think her fever  
abates a little this afternoon Mr Coe



the Indian Missionary has called here  
to know if he could have a meeting  
with the Indians Thursday <sup>afternoon</sup> Mary Jane  
is now free from fever which is the first  
since the ~~first~~ first attack she has  
been a very sick child I have not had  
my clothes off since she was taken  
Mr J does not return sister is with me  
which adds greatly to my happiness  
Friday afternoon. Little daughter has  
been quite comfortable since her fever  
left her but her fever is returning  
again O how distressing it is to see  
children so sick and no companion  
to consult with or take off some  
of the responsibility I & Goodnet has  
been exceeding kind which has greatly  
relieved my anxiety thus the Lord  
is good to bring our <sup>friend</sup> when he takes  
another Sab. Sister Jane was obliged  
to leave me yesterday for her it was  
painful for us both Mary J is on the  
gain but I am alone I have no one  
to look to for comfort but the O God  
Sab 12<sup>th</sup> Mary Mr J has not returned this  
is the fourth week since she left  
he was intending to be gone only sixteen  
days

Friday both my little girls were quiescent and I was alone they both had the ague but the Lord takes care of me

Thurs Morning. My dear husband has not yet returned & the anxieties fears I never knew them to the extent that I now do I ~~sits~~ sit there myself down in my rocking chair to summate on lonely condition I can see him in imagination in the lake struggling for life the rolling waves perhaps trying to repeat the <sup>amid</sup> name of his dear companion and little one again I see him on the barren shore of the ~~last~~ great Mich. Lake almost dying with fear calling for his dear wife perhaps he is waiting for the winds to subside with no society but the natives homeless hardly enough to eat with nothing but the cold ground for a bed worn out with fatigue and hardship there I must see my dear one more I say one more if it be the Lord will but if it be not the loss can never be made up he is the companion of my youth I gave my heart to him and no one else can ever have it I pray the Lord to take care of them and if we are not

permitted to meet again on the earth and we  
rejoice in heaven to part no more

Sat day Five weeks has expired and my dear  
husband is again with us I could not express  
my joy also at his success The Lord has been  
with him he suffered much yet the Lord prosper-  
ed his way 21 Indians returned with him  
and sixteen hundred dollars with them for the  
purpose of buying land in this region they are  
all very intelligent & respectable might say  
gentlemen they have every appearance in  
dignified manners free of being so The chief is  
a fine looking fellow

June 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat day Since husband has returned from  
the north much has been achieved a war held  
and it was the decision that Mr Kellogg husband  
and 8 Indians go to Lonia enter land Wednes.  
Mon. 22<sup>nd</sup> the Indians hired two waggons and star-  
ted for the said place Sat night about midnight  
husband returned after walking 13<sup>th</sup> miles weary  
and fatigued I fear sometimes my dear will  
be worn out before much good will be accom-  
plished but a blessed promise is at hand as they  
D<sup>o</sup> so shall thy strength be this promise has  
been verified with all those that labour in the  
Lord Husband with all the Indians and surveyor  
started for the location intending to survey and

get a little crop into the ground the Lord  
sent Brother Lee to keep us from hunger  
a little while he presented us with more  
than a bushel of <sup>corn</sup> meal and more than the  
quantity of flour and a little pork we were  
and knew not where to go for the next my merc-  
ies have been greater than my afflictions  
all my life through I will rejoice in God  
our children are all well could I know  
that I, my husband & my mind would be at  
rest it would be my happiness to be with him  
even in the wilderness may the Lord help him  
to do good to day it is communion to day  
with this church I could not get out  
may they commune with their God may  
his spirit descend upon them I hope to see  
a renewal of religion in this place before I  
leave you me a praying spirit O God for  
thy sons sake

June 15<sup>th</sup> Sat I have just witnessed the  
death of an aged friend Mrs Lilla Johnson  
she died as she lived a child of God she  
was the mother of twelve children all  
professors but one may my last and be  
like hers 14 have returned from the Gen-  
eral husband quite as well 16 husband  
has left me again to day to go black  
since he will be five miles from any  
living being O God protect him

Jan 20<sup>th</sup> Our little George Nelsons birth  
day a very stormy day very unlike the day  
of his <sup>birth</sup> seven years old he is when I look back  
upon it it seems but a day he has recited a  
long lesson to day seems quite <sup>serious</sup> he is a child  
of reflection I hope he is one of Gods chosen  
ones 21<sup>st</sup> I has been a good boy since his father  
left he has recited five lessons in Geography  
I have just reciev'd a letter from husband  
he has been detained at the mouth of this  
river from winds and rain how soon he will  
return he knows <sup>not</sup> my God only knows my  
anxiety for him

Tod day 23 George continues to be a good  
boy which is a great comfort to me till  
all so improves in good conduct I have pun-  
ished her for disobedience she appears very  
humble & submissive & that the spirit  
of God would rest upon my dear family  
I have felt more than usual anxious  
about the souls of my children they will soon  
go from their parents if they live the true  
principles of christianity is the only safe-  
ard that Lord would change their hearts  
is the prayer of a mother

July 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs This is the 9 anniversary of our  
marriage our mercies have been for grea-  
ter than our afflictions God has carefully  
provided for us We have been blessed with  
four children one of the little flock God has  
taken to himself ~~and~~ We are all well  
to day and of the people of Chellegan are  
celebrating the day as for we enjoy our own  
little family best as circumstances render  
it necessary to be at home how little we  
know what nine years will bring about  
may we continue to live in the discharge  
of every duty to God and one another

5<sup>th</sup> The visited brother <sup>Wm</sup> found him  
quite out of health he has lost all his  
property through the villainy of a man  
he was in Co. with he was a <sup>the</sup> husband  
of my cousin his name was <sup>Gory</sup> Carpenter  
may the Lord reward him for his meanness  
Sat 21 We soon expect this is the last

Sat we shall spend with civilized people  
we expect to go this week may the Lord  
go with us

August 1<sup>st</sup> Thurs. We are nearly in readiness  
to leave Chellegan expect to ~~go~~ <sup>start</sup> morrow for  
Black River to a land of strangers

August 2<sup>nd</sup> I called on Mrs Lyons to agree  
retain whether they intended we should take  
the remainder of the box or not consisting  
of prints cards books &c desired by the ladies  
in Rochester to for their colony and to be  
delivered into my hands she at first refused  
to let them go but some plain con-  
solation with her they both concluded to let them  
go with us in part on good terms but whether  
they all is not right Alas the Great God for  
give the sins of us all Mrs S called on the  
afternoon (or was sent for by Mr S) and took  
away the cards and prints the water map the  
delivered for some reason we know not as we  
shall get it Mrs S promised me Mr S should  
have ten dollars for every Sol. that he preached  
they promised us a bed brass kettle some other  
things which they would have

Sept Sol. The second of August in the after-  
noon as late as five o'clock we st sail Dr  
Goodrick and wife Mr Emerson and wife  
came to the place we were to start from they  
were friends indeed Alas the Lord reward them  
Trust and quite in well our canoe sailed very  
pretty we arrived at Mr Wests at nine in  
eve all in all we had come some miles



after dark halle to run on to snags and shoals and logs we could see nothing but the Lord preserved us in this hour of danger. Blessed be his name the people were very kind Mr J was quite sick through the night started quite for the month it being sat felt anxious to get through arrived at Richmond five o'clock Mr Manns people would have us stay to tea we were very much fatigued I had requested my husband in paddling to buy new business to <sup>me</sup> ~~two~~ we very much arrived at the mouth about eight in the eve found our connections all well sister Jane was in her school stand at Mr Langhins over Sab. Husband quite unwell preached at Mr Butlers five o'clock.

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Wind blew very hard over <sup>here</sup> men came in the afternoon to take us up the lake we all went to the mouth in hope starting out but the sea was not calm untill eve we returned to Newark.

Tuesday it blowed again from the west in the afternoon Capt Macy and wife in a sail boat to take us up the lake he was volunteering on his part. Wednesday we started with a fair land breeze for the village of Superior arrived about nine at Mo. took breakfast at Mr Pikes in the afternoon took possession of our habitations.

Sept Sab day It is almost a fortnight since  
X husband left here for Allegany expecting  
to be gone only a week & the anxiety a wife  
feels for a husband indeed I do not know  
that there is any sin in having those anxious  
feelings for the welfare of a dear companion  
I have given him into the hands of God shall  
I feel a desire to hear from him or see him  
may the Lord prosper his way and his path  
brighten and brighter may he commune  
with his God while separated from his family  
& often try to realize my situation were he  
taken away by death when I am mourn-  
ing over my lonely situation this summer  
while after ~~an absence~~ <sup>an absence</sup> of a week or few weeks  
~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> returned to the embrace of his family  
but what joy we feel  
but God is able to remove him from whence  
there would no return this though at times  
seems more than I can endure God has  
promised as thy day is so shall thy strength  
be God Mr D and our hired man come for  
the purpose of taking us to our intended  
home husband said the house was not  
comfortable the logs <sup>were at</sup> and a poor roof and  
a small piece of the floor and a very little  
chinking was all that constituted the  
house but my mind was made up to

So all circumstances rendered it necessary  
to do so as our man must leave and Mr  
S must necessarily work alone in the  
woods six miles from any inhabitants  
all things considered we felt it a duty to  
go, trusting in God for deliverance from  
difficulties and dangers accordingly we set  
sail on Friday morning in a stiff and towed  
a worn boat loaded down with necessary  
articles having no one to steer but myself  
little George seven years old new business  
for us both it was with the greatest difficul-  
ty that we reached the landing in time  
to make our way through the house  
before dark husband was worn out with fatigue  
we found our man at the landing he had  
taken the cow across I started with my three  
little children alone leaving the men to  
load their backs with beds and articles  
for the night it being very near night  
the trail somewhat blind I lost my way  
but Providence they overtook before  
I got far out of the way we were soon over-  
taken by the darkness of the night but  
by means of some birch bark I put in  
my work bag we made our way through  
happy to find a shelter for our wearied  
bodies our man left a storm came on

one poor roof did us but little good we were  
obliged to take our lodging on the ground. Monday  
Mr J and little J went to Superior a heavy  
storm came on and they were obliged  
to camp on the ground in an Indian  
wigwam and I staid alone in the woods  
with my two little children - Builla was  
quite sick I suffered much in mind  
with the awful prospect before of being  
left alone here. without provisions and  
for any fears were that they were  
drowned, but Providence favored me  
with their company the next morning  
before I was dreyed Sat. a young Indian  
educated at Oberlin institute and  
the old chief called on us Wednesday  
13 Mr J left for Alligon bearing me  
with a boy 13 years old Sat day little J  
has had the ague very hard we are  
very lonely we have seen a human  
being since Mr J. left the Lord  
is our comfort I have not had a  
night rest since Mr J. left

The little Mary Lane was four years old  
the 14<sup>th</sup> day of this month she is a very  
slender child and a more restless little  
creature I never saw I am at a loss to know  
on what course to take with her I often

feel the need of more patience and  
wisdom I need wisdom from the Lord  
which will enable me to train her  
up in the way she should go she app-  
ears often very thoughtful and makes some  
very sensible remarks she puts question  
that I am not able to answer but ~~the~~  
~~one of~~ only that spirit of restlessness  
is overcome she will be ruined I fear  
the Lord forbid that any of our dear  
little ones should be lost through  
the mismanagement of their parents  
may we as faithful stewards bring  
them up for God and fit them for  
his kingdom above is the prayer  
of an anxious mother for her little  
one Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> My dear husband  
returned on Sat last after an ab-  
sence of ten days never was I hap-  
py to see him Two Indians were all  
we had seen since he left our prairie  
sons were almost spent I had sent the  
boys out two miles As I had sent the  
cow a few potatoes to an Indian to  
not finding this way they returned with  
out any but the Lord brought us a piece  
just in time what shall I render unto  
the Lord for all his mercies how often  
when sinking in despair has he raised  
me up I can truly say How great was

Lord and my God that I could live  
continually in light of thy covenant and  
Thou unchangeable Deity who fillest immen-  
sity with thy presence who kindly watches  
over us whether sleeping or waking at home  
or a broad sea. 27<sup>th</sup> Was my birth day, I was <sup>my</sup>  
very sick with the ague <sup>31</sup> years of my life <sup>are</sup> past and what  
I have accomplished for my heavenly Father my days have  
fast away as a dream many important things which  
transpired years ago seem but as yesterday. yet how many  
changes have taken place ten years ago I knew not the  
cores of a Mother <sup>then I was</sup> in my own native land one of  
the number of ten children all situated near one  
another now a thousand miles separates some of us  
I with my little family of three children and hus-  
band are acting in the capacity of missionaries  
of the cross of Christ not a family within five  
miles ~~of~~ but is my situation altered for the better  
or worse I can answer for the former thing con-  
tained ~~with~~ the man whose object is to benefit a little  
portion of mankind and also to be one with him  
in testimony our little ones for future usefulness  
and a glorious inheritance in the Kingdom of  
God ~~know~~ an is happiness beyond what I deserve  
how unworthy of such blessing what an unpropria-  
ble servant I have been in the service of  
so bountiful a master the Lord make me more  
faithful may I be more constant at the throne  
of grace prayer makes the darkest clouds withdraw

Saturday 22 Dec The Chief came last night  
to spend the night with us said he you will  
get lonesome if we do not come and see  
you ~~now~~ now and then he brought us a  
ham of a deer as a present he asked  
Mr S how came the Indians on this  
continent Mr S gave the history of the  
Israelites which took him till midnight  
I was quite sick heard only a part of it  
which was very interesting it appeared very  
obvious from some remarks the old man  
made that he believed the Indians were  
the descendants of the ten tribes expressed  
much gratitude for the instruction  
Mr S had given him called him brother  
said he should often call to ask questions  
and that we should often get a piece of  
venison to season our soup when they  
should understand they hunting better  
it is truly astonishing to see with what  
eagerness they grasp at the truth while  
many enlightened people treat it as not  
worth their attention So day Mr S gives  
them an on temperance 25<sup>th</sup> Christ-  
day Mr S preaches to them on the birth  
of the saviour So day 29<sup>th</sup> the ears of  
my family ~~are~~ my whole town



our room is only twelve by seven teen not  
a shelf or cupboard of any kind two beds a stove  
chairs table trunks ~~to~~ to fill and sometimes  
a half a dozen Indian also I have all <sup>services</sup> my  
same Mr S coats to do knitting housework  
~~to~~ not any one to save me a step all  
this with the care of three children is suffi-  
cient to keep me engaged in business from  
rising till late bed time I often feel an  
uneasiness about it as I earnestly desire a  
little more leisure to devote exclusively  
to my children but this particular I  
fear will never be granted as my <sup>husband</sup> <sup>is</sup> of  
the opinion that a wife ought to perform  
her own domestic concerns her self and  
leave the instruction of her children  
but the <sup>question</sup> with me is can a mother of a  
slender constitution perform all the  
labour necessary in family and at the  
same time discharge the particular  
duties to her children as she ought to  
know not but some may do it I feel  
unqualified for the task and often feel  
ready to sink under the weight may the  
Lord strengthen and support me under every  
trial and while I am deprived of every  
privilege but <sup>the</sup> comfort of my family and  
while my hands are constantly em-  
ployed in supplying ~~the~~ wants my

the Lord give me a supply of His grace  
and enable me to discharge my duties  
to my children as a dying mother to dying  
children

Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> 1840 Another year has fled and we are  
yet monuments of the mercy and  
grace of God ~~WHA~~ what shame and regret  
do I look back on the past year & that I  
may be wiser and consider my better and  
and with the New Year begin anew in  
the service of Christ We have had quite  
an interesting day 31 of our Indians or  
more took supper they brought a deer for  
the occasion and we cooked it they showed  
much respect for us in their conduct.

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Husband left for Allegon to attend  
the annual meeting of the society I am  
alone and much out of health.

Sabb day Husband returned yesterday  
a great quantity of snow has fallen since  
he left and very cold weather and no one  
to assist me but my little boy seven  
years old the interpreters wife and another  
Indian woman has slept here every ~~my~~

night except one we have not seen  
a man since he left had one very  
seen part of the Agve husband returned  
with quite a pack on his back through  
the deep snow no road almost worn  
out with fatigue how heart cheering  
it is to meet with a companion after an  
absence

Feb 17<sup>th</sup> Husband left 8 days for Lonia for  
the purpose of entering the lot we now live  
on it a beautiful day I am alone with  
my little ones one Indian woman is all  
the society I have within two miles or more  
she lives near I have had some as bulky  
feelings as I ever experienced but I find comfort  
in the Lord in him is my hope and trust  
I may I never forsake the Lord my God  
whom have I in heaven but them or who  
on the earth beside thee

Sad day 23<sup>rd</sup> Husband has not yet returned  
I have been a most lonely being little M<sup>r</sup>.  
was very sick Friday little A was sick last  
night I slept but little till I has been quite  
well and a very good boy he has brought in  
all the wood I have great reason to ~~trust~~ trust the Lord  
for three such sweet children they are a great

comfort to me in my lonely condition  
the interperter and wife true near but are  
no company for me I am alone night and  
day my health has been very poor have been  
afflicted with a severe headache which has  
made me feel that yearsome days and nights  
are appointed unto me feel some better to day  
my heart rises to God in thankfulness for  
his great care over us the past week O for more  
faith and love to him I feel very stupid  
in my ~~my~~ mind when I feel a relief from  
pain I have no mind of my own but  
my fervent prayer that I may do my  
duty to my little ones & for his grace  
to assist me I can do nothing with it  
may the Lord be with my dear in his  
absence I hope to see him to morrow it  
will be heart to see him <sup>cheerfully</sup> in this world  
have no charms without him I should  
have no wish to stay only to bring up  
my children  
March 25<sup>th</sup> My dear husband left this  
morning for Plainfield for the purpose  
of uniting in two couple in marriage  
one is sister Jane & Mr McC Martin  
she would have preferred being married  
here had it not been for the difficulty  
of getting here it truly a pleasure

to me to have seen at this important  
moment as she ~~has~~ has made her home  
with us seven years she is one of our fam-  
ily but it is so ordered that I must remain  
at home with my little ones no other  
being within ~~ten~~ miles of me I was quite  
sick all night had a hard ague about  
the time husband left feel very weak  
hardly feel to keep about but the Lord  
is able to protect he will never for-  
sake and I thank if I am not deceiv-  
ed he has been my comfort and support to day  
they have of my soul bless and praise his  
holy name 26<sup>th</sup> I suffered much last  
night sleep departed from me my nerves were  
very weak and irritable my dog, my only  
defence left me was gone most of the night  
after he returned he seemed very uneasy  
would run to the mat door and growl  
which alarmed me much I shook as  
hard as I ever did with a severe ague but  
feel much distressed to day have not  
been able to sit up all day I suppose sister  
Jane has taken the marriage vow ere this  
time hope and trust she will her place

better than I had done I poor husband  
will not enjoy himself at all thinking of  
his family 27<sup>th</sup> Tho' a an age this have  
not been able to sit up but a part of the  
day have not seen but one person since  
husband left have felt very melancholy  
this afternoon opened my ~~letter~~ the name  
by first: praline first caught my eye it was  
<sup>so</sup> applicable to my situation that it rei-  
ved me much how much consolation  
the word of God affords I should sink  
were it not for it <sup>about</sup> 30 Bella Azulla As  
is two years old so day has been a very  
healthy child with the exception of the  
ague I now help us to bring her up for three  
husband returned 28<sup>th</sup> drenched with rain  
having walked about thirty miles in it  
with a large pack on his back I was very  
happy to see him Sister Jane is married  
which relieves me from many anxieties  
April 19<sup>th</sup> Sister Superior last Thursday saw the  
first white <sup>winter</sup> since last Oct. walked two and  
a half miles to get there rained most of the  
time while there came home Sat.  
husband brought three loads of goods to the

landing I was very tired finally we all were  
I felt contented to get home and stay at  
least a while to take three little chil-  
dren such a distance through thick woods  
no roads must and will be attended with  
great difficulty 19<sup>th</sup> <sup>the</sup> husband has walked  
five miles and back to preach to the In-  
dians found them all gone we are entire-  
ly alone our cows left us Friday for all  
again we expect we do not expect to see  
her again very soon she was all our depend-  
ance as we are out of meat butter but very  
little sugar we hoped to have sent by the  
Indians on their subject had a letter written  
but they have left and we know not what  
or how to this teaches us a lesson of dependence  
on God "The Lord is our shepherd we shall not  
want may this be our song in times of  
darkness and distress" <sup>past</sup>  
25<sup>th</sup> "So the winter is the rain is over the  
flower appear on the earth the time of singing  
of birds is come" <sup>we</sup> we are yet alone we have  
from the Indians only by the by that they  
were at the mouth of Kalamazoo selling  
whiskey to some other Indians we do not  
credit it notwithstanding our lonely situ-



ation yet the opening of spring gives us fresh  
vigour all nature seems to rejoice at the  
return of this beautiful season the beautiful  
sun the sweetness of air the flowers spring-  
ing from the earth the birds singing to  
their Creator all these should call forth  
our gratitude to him who hath all things  
for his own glory our little ones are  
all well little I have learned <sup>Twenty three Ps</sup>  
The Lord is my shepherd <sup>1</sup> it is my greatest  
desire that they may glorify God in their  
youth O Lord thou hast given them to us pre-  
cious gifts for a season help us to manure  
them as plants that are to be transplanted  
into thy garden of Paradise above

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Husband left for Allegan I am  
alone with my children we have heard  
nothing from the cow or provisions and  
we are now about destitute of every thing  
I am scarcely able to sit up day before had  
a hard fit of the chow we have looked very  
anxiously for Mr Lovels the agent that  
was employed to go to that post fall we are  
are very needy unless God sees fit to supply  
our wants we must suffer the Indians have  
not yet returned we have heard nothing  
from them O Lord strengthen our faith  
confirm our hopes and may we trust

in My promises which will <sup>never</sup> fall. O what  
faithless and perverse beings ~~what~~ we are justice  
would say leave them to themselves. They <sup>that</sup>  
have distrusted me let them trust in their  
own strength what would be our condition <sup>if</sup>  
if this should be Job. day 17<sup>th</sup> About three  
oclock Friday Mr Coules arrived he come  
from Allegan with the Indians. His deliv-  
rance come when the last hope had nearly  
fled the Indians brought us a barrel of flour  
and a little pork Mr C can relieve us  
from a debt which will take off our  
minds a great burden. Husband returned  
about five o'clock much lighter at heart  
he found that the Indians had gone down  
the river with our pork and flour but he  
so nothing from Mr C or the law but  
on account of my ill health he made his  
way home and found the good Lord had bro-  
ght around all things right and we will  
praise and bless thee thou great deliverer  
for thy great mercy towards us while so  
unworthy or unbelieving. O forgive our sins  
of unbelief and may we henceforth have full  
and unwearying confidence in all thy pro-  
vices. Husband and Mr C have gone to meet with  
the Indians to do their good Lord bless the labors  
of thy servant may thy spirit descend upon  
them and some souls be brought to thy

Kingdom to day may they grow to plants  
in every heart of these poor natives and we  
behold them rejoicing in God what a glorious  
time would this be O unworthy as we are  
may we see the day soon come that their  
forests will resound with praises to God and  
the Land from these poor ignorant outcast  
Jeshians increase our faith fill us with  
love and with thy spirit

Sab June 7<sup>th</sup> Have been afflicted with a bilious  
complaint for a month past feel wholly inca-  
pable of doing my work but necessity compels  
and I must toil it through however severe it  
may be I think sometimes if a change could  
be if I could be converted into a husband  
I should make an effort to have a wife  
fairly different from what I do I do not  
think husband realizes it as he ought I  
well know he makes more account of  
expenses than of my comfort and improve-  
ment which is a great grief to me I have  
swept in silence over it I often feel uncon-  
ciled on comparing my advantages with others  
whom prospects are no better than ours if  
I was confident that all would result well  
in the end I would submit cheerfully but  
such <sup>is</sup> my health generally that it is impossible  
for me to discharge the duties of a mother to  
my children without more ~~to~~ God prosper

meditation and study. It is the burden of  
my mind what will be the character  
of my children will they be repro-  
bated that will neither regard God nor man or will  
the Lord answer the prayers of an unworthy  
woman and convert them to himself he only  
knows my desires and anxieties for them  
may his grace follow them whether I am  
spared to bring them up or taken away  
in early life

June 20<sup>th</sup> Fr day our little son George is  
eight years old may he grow in grace and  
wisdom and knowledge wrote to sister Achilla  
and also Mrs Goodrich on the subject of helping  
me in my destitute condition may the  
Lord put it into their hearts to help me  
Sally feel better to day but the moushe-  
two are so thick I cannot write

July 4<sup>th</sup> Sat Today completed the tenth  
year of our marriage and blessed be God  
for each a union but the black spots  
of my life I cannot work out but if God  
should spare my life for ten years to  
come they shall be less Gods grace helping  
me sister Jane has been here a few  
days on a visit has left to day  
I am alone feel quite unwell  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Mr Cowles has left us  
to day for Grand river four or five

weeks will bring the time of my confine-  
ment but little prospect of any one  
with me but my husband although  
he is to me more than any one else  
yet more help will be needed what  
our circumstances will be is known  
only to God and into his hands will I  
cast myself and all that is mine

Saturday August 23<sup>d</sup> Through the great mercy  
of God we can record the birth of an-  
other daughter due weeks to morrow morn-  
ing the Lord delivered me of this daughter  
with no other human being within six mi-  
les distance ~~in~~ but my dear companion  
and little children I was taken sick Sat-  
afternoon continued so through the night  
at four in the morning <sup>10<sup>th</sup> of August</sup> was delivered hus-  
band and myself were up all night the chi-  
ldren were quite restless especially little  
Abigail as she had been accustomed lay-  
ing on my arm this was somewhat grievous  
to us to hear her mourn for mother but  
as the good Lord so ordered it they were all  
quietly asleep at the time of my delivery  
and remained so until I was comfortably ar-  
rived The state of my health had been such  
ofor months previous that we had anticipa-  
ted serious difficulties when the critical

period should arrive yet I believe we had  
cast ourselves upon the Lord and surely his  
kind hand has helped us through this trying  
time I have had the most comfortable time  
that with all my little ones. The day of the  
birth two Indian <sup>women</sup> came staid a few hours took  
care of ~~our~~ <sup>my</sup> ~~body~~ <sup>body</sup> after they left Dr Goodrich from  
Allegan and Mr Cowls came staid over  
night in the morning Capt. kept Mr C for  
Richmond for the box of Goods which had  
been sent from Phil for our use and the  
Dr for home Wednes. Mr C returned with  
the box which he left at Superior I do not  
feel as well to day as I did last <sup>sole</sup> probably I  
have been too smart as husband has had  
all to do I have felt anxious to assist as  
much as lay in my power Mr C returned  
from Allegan brought us three letters  
from friends one from Mother one from  
sister Aurelia the other of from Sister Ad-  
eline

August 31<sup>th</sup> Mr S left for Allegan and other  
places in pursuit of the cow little George  
has been a very good boy he has showed quite  
a manlike disposition and a few exceptions  
has been very obedient to day <sup>Sept 1<sup>st</sup></sup> six years ago  
to day our little boy died Sat. day <sup>Sept 6<sup>th</sup></sup>  
This morning Mr S returned he came  
with in a mile and a quarter of home was  
over taken in the dark the woods being thick

the cow being a great hindrance to him  
he lost his way and was obliged to lay  
down on the bare ground with no shelter  
but the canopy of heaven little G has been  
a great comfort to me since his father  
left but little Mary Jane is a great  
grief to her mother O that the Lord  
would direct me in the right path of  
duty Nov 14 Mary Jane is five years old to  
day how swift time passes away it seems  
but a moment of time since the Lord gave  
her to us she has ever been a pebble child

27<sup>th</sup> This day completes 32 years of  
my life what is life but a vapour  
a dream O that every moment of my  
time might be filled up with use  
fulnes to my family and those around  
O Lord enable me to redeem ~~my~~ <sup>the</sup> time  
I have spent in folly and vanity  
14 Dec husband commenced school  
in our kitchen I hope it will  
be a prosperous one altho' it  
small.



1741<sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup>  
Jan 1<sup>st</sup>

It is by the great mercy of God  
I am permitted to record another new  
year yet I cannot realize it as I should  
the past year has been crowned with  
many mercies from his all bountiful  
hand instead of taking away he has  
given us another flower to crown  
~~his~~ his garden of our earthly paradise  
below What ungrateful returns have  
I made him! what have I done that  
has been acceptable in the sight of a  
holy God! yet what excuser have I now  
that will stand the test in the great  
day of account O Lord break my heart  
in pieces subdue all my evil propen-  
sities and unholy desires <sup>inward</sup> show  
all show pity Lord O Lord forgive

Jan 10<sup>th</sup> Our little one Esther is five  
months old to day she has been a  
very healthy child she has not been  
baptized we wish for some christian  
brethren to be present we fear she  
is an idol in our affections may we  
have a true and consistent affection  
for all our sweet babes and be an-  
nihilated to say Lord they are thine or  
with them or beneath thee good

yesterday an Indian came and in-  
formed us of the death a child wanted  
five candles how horrible they  
should be subjects to such supersti-  
tious ceremonies when will there  
things cease to be Mr S. visits them  
to day I am quite unwell

my right side has been very painful  
for several months I fear I shall never  
be any better until I can be released  
from labour having a school in our  
house has a bad effect on my health  
but the children will be benefitted by  
it for reason I am willing to forego  
all differently March 30<sup>th</sup> Arvilla  
Aurelia is three years old today  
May the Lord make her his

The winter past has been one of  
trial and sickness we have felt some  
what friendless as we wrote to Obligation  
for some necessary articles for our com-  
fort such as candles groceries but heard  
nothing from them for nearly four  
months we were shut out from all  
civilized society that length of time  
with severely, the comforts of life  
being nearly two months with no

other light but that of ~~the~~ stove  
indeed the Lord provided us friends in  
the Indians had they not been more  
than usually kind we must have suf-  
fered very much the chief went to  
Grand Haven and made our state known  
to ~~the~~ Rev. Ferry and Mr. Jucery and  
received from them groceries candles  
to the amount of four dollars or  
more this was received by <sup>us</sup> with grateful  
hearts never shall we forget them  
may the Lord reward them with blessings  
that will not perish by using but  
will abide faith them in the Kingdom  
of our God

Sab May 2d about there <sup>dup</sup> since  
the Rev Mr. Kyle came from Allegan  
in company with Mr. Cowels to visit us  
and acquaint himself with our situation  
he is the corresponding Secretary of the  
Society and being lately from New-  
England was a stranger to the whole  
matter excepting what information

he could get from the records of the  
old Society from them he could learn  
nothing of the State of matters here  
he seemed somewhat surprised that  
we had no team school not even  
a pony he treated us with much  
severity what his motives are for  
so doing is mysterious to us he visited  
the Indians Sat day I was quite sick  
and alone with my little ones had  
a very ill turn would have been  
happy to have seen a human being  
I thought I must die alone was quite  
sick on Mon when he left felt  
letter in the afternoon The Thurs.

following he returned with Mr C  
who had gone to get sister Adelaide  
to come and stay with she writes  
she cannot come Mr Hyde came  
to assist in putting up the school  
house Friday the Indians were sent  
for seven cows the body of the house  
was put up before night we gave  
them a dinner and supper my  
health was very poor Mr B assisted  
me with his help and some provision  
cooked Mr B brought greatly relieved me

Date Mr Hyde left assuring us some  
thing should be done for our relief  
May 2<sup>d</sup> Sat. 1841

Two weeks ago to day I had an inter-  
esting day with our little son George  
I observed him in tears while reading  
the child at home I inquired the cause  
he seemed too full to speak he said  
I feel very bad what do you feel  
bad for O I am so wicked how long  
have you felt so there or four days  
on searching him closely I found  
him earnestly inquiring the  
way to Zion I read to him the  
fifty first psalm sung and prayed  
he seemed deeply affected and said  
he was willing to give himself to  
God he was bathed in tears during  
the whole and so affecting was the  
scene that the two little girls M  
I and A. B. wept aloud  
at the close of my last prayer he  
prayed he seemed very humble  
we sang sovereign grace

he joined in it with all his heart seems  
to forget his tears at the close I said  
if God could forgive the thief on  
cross will he not forgive you  
Yes ma I believe he has I feel  
better I told there was danger  
of our being deceived he must  
examine himself and pray and give  
himself wholly to the Lord ma  
I have I dont feel as I could  
ever do wrong again.

he seems to give evidence of a  
change of heart his inquiries are  
very matured and indicate a  
serious and thoughtful state of mind  
we need not look for perfection  
in such a child if we who have  
long in fields of battle are so often  
overtaken by the of souls how can  
we expect our children to be first  
lets for more grace for more  
holiness of heart

We intended to have had our babe  
baptized during Mr Hyde's stay  
but the final conclusion was  
that I must go out soon but  
my health is much better and  
the difficulty so great I think  
I shall remain here almost  
two years has gone by I have only  
seen the faces of three white women.

July 18<sup>th</sup> Sab. One week yesterday  
we arrived here from a visit of two  
months having visited most of my  
friends in that time found brother  
wife quite sick apparently in the  
consumption with a babe six months  
old sweet little creature may the  
Lord preserve its dear mother to bring  
it up in the fear of God Sister Jane  
Mrs Martin expected to be confined  
in four weeks after it left that  
length of time has more than ex-  
pired I feel anxious about her  
met with Adaline for the first time  
in eight years she was very much  
altered she has promised to come as  
soon as her school closes and here



The winter we arrived at the mouth  
of Kalamazoo a week last Sunday  
found Mrs Mary Ann Willard had  
just arrived from Green Bay she is to  
be our interpreter this was Providence  
that she should be ready to come  
with us come through or that it was  
beautiful on Lake Michigan  
we rowed home just at night tired  
and hungry having rode <sup>on</sup> water  
about twenty miles and <sup>walked</sup> two and  
a half by land with all our little  
ones we all had reason to rejoice  
that we had found home once more  
after so long a time separated and broken  
up and visiting with so many children  
it is reasonable to suppose that home  
would be a happy place

August 15<sup>th</sup> Sabbath  
A week ago a company of men  
women and children were taking an excursion  
up the Kalamazoo river a gale of wind upset  
their skiff and plunged them all into the river  
and five of number were drowned among those  
that were drowned was cousin Abigail Mc  
Laughlin wife of James McLaughlin at Kew  
ark her two children were saved a Mr Bellinger  
was all that could swim he saved three of his  
own and three with his wife were lost

O what a shocking <sup>thought</sup> that they have gone  
before an avenging God unprepared breaking  
his law - pleasing themselves heaping up wrath  
against the day of wrath when will men  
be wise and think on their latter end how long  
will little children have to suffer for the  
sins of their parents instead of being trained up  
in the way they should go they are led on  
from one sin to another untill their doom  
is sealed for eternity Abigail would have  
been an interesting woman if christianity  
had been her ruling principle but instead  
of that her selfish and uncontrolled passion  
which was like many waters let loose made  
her an unhappy woman often in her family  
she had been a professed of religion was  
anxious to have meetings and seemed  
sometimes to realize the imposture of it  
I feel condemned I have <sup>and</sup> no more faith  
with O may I never <sup>think</sup> from odium  
portant a duty as to warn the sinner to  
flee from the wrath to come O may  
this awful night be a warning to others  
not to trifle <sup>with</sup> Gods holy day

Mrs Willard is now absent at Grandview  
she has been gone some weeks my health  
is very poor wishing Mr or Mrs me for  
any service during the rest of the  
year there is much to be done how  
Strength wisdom grace meekness pati-  
ence of forbearance we do as a mother

need to train her children in the way  
they should go yet this is the written  
word of God shall at <sup>right</sup> one moment that  
he will not give ~~us~~ <sup>us</sup> ~~at~~ <sup>ask</sup> ~~ask~~ <sup>no</sup> ~~for~~ <sup>for</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~father~~ <sup>father</sup>  
heavenly father, although of honors such  
pledges of <sup>love</sup> give me more energy of body  
soul and mind more faith more of a  
spirit of prayer fervent effectual ~~prayer~~  
~~and~~ prayer that will prevail with thee  
that will bring down blessings on the  
beloved ones thou hast given me

Sept 20<sup>th</sup> Now be being alone this  
husband having gone out to see a sick  
Indian family till Mary five years  
of age having gone to bed after laying  
a few minutes probably in thought  
says I love the Sabbath I wish  
it was Sabbath all the time No day is  
ter and I it is lost as God has made  
well I wish all the days but one  
were Sabbath day because it is  
so pleasant the day looks no  
different does it me but we  
look different yet said I am free  
different than too yes she says

many other remarks she made especially interesting

Oct 31<sup>st</sup> Sabbath Time has rolled us of another Sabbath and here I advance one Sabbath days journey towards the kingdom of my God I fear I am not, my heart is cold and lifeless my faith inactive my wish that by some means may arise this lifeless soul to a new and lively faith the exercise of which will blessings upon my dear family and those around me to day I led my ~~self~~ my two little daughters as usual into the woods to pray with them after I had prayed Mary Jane desired to pray she did and was affected to tears she seemed really to realize her sinfulness in the sight of God her expression was I have given myself to God I will love God all my life and then I will <sup>love</sup> some of the poor little Indian Children about God Ma I will love to do it she had seemed to be in a deep study all day once she remarked Ma what would there be if there was no devil

after I answered her she enquired  
again what would there be if there  
were no God many such enquiries  
show an active mind O that I  
may grow in wisdom and grace  
and in the true knowledge of the  
vainness that I may lead these  
precious lambs the great shepherd  
of souls if I know any thing of my own  
heart it is my earnest desire our  
prayer and I desire how dear to  
this heart of mine I cannot fully  
know myself Lord show me what  
I am

~~Nov. 4th~~  
~~1792~~

Nov 4<sup>th</sup> Six years to day since the  
birth of my little daughter Mary  
I am many precious seasons have  
I enjoyed with her I thank thee O Father  
for entrusting such an unworthy woman  
with such precious jewels

Dec Thurs.

Mr J. F. Littlejohn arrived here today  
bringing the painful intelligence that  
brother Sam Powers wife and child have  
been called away by death she was  
a lovely woman her example was  
that of a devoted follower of Jesus I  
spent a week with her last summer  
she was then for advanced <sup>in</sup> consump-  
tion what a sleep exchange has he  
made exchanged a world of sorrow  
for a world of glory who should mourn  
for her may this truly afflictive  
dispensation of providence be sanctified  
to the saving of his soul may he  
feel to kiss the rod that has cured  
the smart

Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> One more year is gone  
why am I spared it that I may  
benefit of my family my fellow  
beings if so how little have I done  
or either O such a worthless being  
am I am in such responsi-

Stations in this life I truly feel  
worse than wells in the place  
I occupy I now pray to God that  
he will forgive and blot out my  
sins from his book of remembrance  
and renewably consecrate myself  
to God to be his and all that I have  
and am shall be his in the  
strength of my redeemer may  
then all my inward foes be slain  
Nor Satan vex my peace again  
Little Mary Jane says to me  
Maury the devil is wicked  
people's God isn't he what  
if there was no God no devil  
and we had no souls what  
would we be

Jan 9<sup>th</sup> Held meeting in our  
new house today for the  
first time the principal part  
of the Indians being present  
They had a prayer meeting  
their long Catholic  
were truly tedious ~~the~~



first time I thought it would  
be the last was compelled by  
necessity to stay poor deluded  
creatures how long will it be  
so with you Sab 16<sup>th</sup> Few attend  
worship to day

Feb 6<sup>th</sup> only ten were present  
to day last Sab. none came  
a few days before Miss Willard  
and myself gave the Chief a  
plain talk it came to  
close to please therefore  
to show us their determination  
to hold on they stand at  
home and worshipped in  
their own way  
For my talk with the Chief

I commenced with the importance  
of a change of heart after dealing  
with him plainly on this subject  
I told him plainly what the  
Bible said on baptism, and that  
it would never save him ~~with~~  
ough his priests had taught him  
so if he depended on it he would  
be proved his error when it was

would be too late I then told  
him this priests had no power  
to forgive sins that only belongs  
to God and much more in a  
plain but kind manner  
our Miss Willard added when  
you confess to your priests you  
will never be any better  
he replied we cannot get up  
to heaven to find God  
we answered him that God  
was every where if you repent  
of your sins and go in the  
woods alone and pray he will  
hear you he showed at  
first some signs of anger  
but became quite calm

March 13<sup>th</sup> Our son and daughter George  
Helson and Mary Jane have promised today  
that they will submit to the rules of the  
family at table also during family worship

1<sup>st</sup> The rules are these  
Attention must be paid to washing  
and combing the head before coming  
to the table

2<sup>nd</sup> Observe good manners in coming  
to the table after being seated pay

strict attention to good order  
talk no more than what is neces-  
sary no loud laughter rude gestures  
or running away from the table  
can be allowed unless absolutely  
necessary therefore they must speak  
to their parents if before they leave  
the table

3<sup>rd</sup> Further they must ready when  
their parents are for family worship  
unless special business calls them away  
after all are seated and reading  
is commenced no noise is to be  
allowed from those old enough  
to understand the design of family  
worship

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March

George and Mary have thus far  
carried out their resolutions which  
makes me to rejoice may God  
help them to overcome every evil  
word and work and put off the old  
man with deeds and put on the  
new man Christ Jesus

April 9 and 10 are improving slowly  
I feel a great earnestness to see them  
following after their saviour & that  
I may wrestle like Jacob and prevail  
like Israel for them

a few nights since I dreamed of sailing  
with my little children up a river in  
the night trying hard to get to some  
port after many trials and difficulties  
I discovered something that had the  
appearance of one I steered for it  
and after wading through quite deep  
water with the children I set my feet  
on land I then had my small glass lamps  
in my hand but the faint glimmering  
light afforded me but little help I  
directed my course to a new but  
small house having come to it  
I found I must climb a high picket

fence the first thought was impossible  
itly but try I must which did without  
any difficulty I went with trembling  
steps to the door all was dark and silent  
I entered with very lamps I could see  
that the appearance of the house was  
rough and uncomely and also very nar-  
row I saw on entering a flight of  
stairs before me they were straight  
and narrow with great fear and dis-  
crep of mind I with reached the top  
of them with my children behind  
me before me was a door I opened  
it doubting whether I should get  
admittance but what was my surpris-  
e on opening the door on beholding  
a beautiful room with beds already  
made and a lamp beside the door  
I sat my children on the bed and sat  
down myself I had now no need of  
my lamps that came and went I  
knew not how I thought to myself  
why have I been directed here or who  
lives here that is so kind to me I was  
afraid every step I took I trembled when  
I took hold of the catch of the door  
but how happy I might be here if  
my husband was here but I am alone  
in a moment the door opened and  
a woman came in her appearance

was not handsome but when she  
spoke it seemd more than human  
voice she says to me this room is  
yours but we have been waiting  
for you to come and pray with  
some of your Indians are below  
wanting to hear ~~that~~ I prayd we  
had our interesting time but they  
all left but the woman she said  
to me you see that ~~my~~ <sup>camp</sup> what  
~~it~~ <sup>is</sup> it said I am  
equivalent <sup>camp</sup> said she  
look at it she said I examined it  
it was it was made of <sup>iron</sup> she  
said to me you must <sup>turn</sup>  
it around every <sup>way</sup> night I turne  
it a beautiful <sup>little</sup>  
I said to her <sup>it</sup> <sup>came</sup> out  
almost gone <sup>the</sup> <sup>oil</sup> <sup>is</sup>  
I did and surely a <sup>great</sup> <sup>pleasure</sup> I saw  
she then left me I then <sup>left</sup> the  
children in bed and was preparing  
to go myself when she called to me  
and said Mr. S was below I went  
to the room where he was and  
saw him but did not speak to him  
then I awoken

June

Brother <sup>Mr</sup> Sister Adaline husband  
Francis Mills also Eliza Mills came  
in here on a visit came with a horse  
conceage as far as Richmond the women  
took horses and rode through on horse  
back ten miles very bad road  
I had not seen them for a year it  
was truly a joyful sight to me  
there having never been but three  
white females before Sat 5<sup>th</sup> 1843  
Mr J. joined Brother <sup>Mr</sup> to Eliza  
Mills in matrimony we had a  
pleasant visit with them  
the Indians unbeknown to us had  
sent for a Catholic priest this detained  
them attending meetings on the  
Sat this was a sore disappointment  
to us and also our friends they left  
us on Tuesday following



Jan 25<sup>th</sup> Mon

Today makes our little son George  
ten years old during these few years  
many changes have taken place  
in our family what new events  
will be brought about in the  
same length of time to come  
is only known to God I may this  
dear son be guided by the holy  
spirit and be fitted and prepared  
to work in the vineyard of the Lord  
is the prayer of his mother

August 10<sup>th</sup> 1842

Today our little E is two years old  
she is a very promising child when  
a year and a half she could sing and  
talk any thing she heard said or sing  
I say she early know Jesus  
and as did the children in temple  
viz Hosaanna to the son of David

14 August Sat

I am slowly recovering from sickness  
caused by abortion which took place  
July 26<sup>th</sup> I had advanced two or three  
months all had the appearance of decay  
probably all circulation had ceased for  
two weeks or more have been very feeble  
most of the time was obliged to take the  
care of my family the third day and prob-  
ably have more than I have been  
able as there has been no one in the  
house or out of it to do any thing, but  
husband it too much for one to do  
I hope and trust this affliction  
will be a special benefit to my soul  
I feel my own frailty and dependence  
on God and a nearness which I have  
felt before yet show sin separates  
between God and my soul it seems  
but mockery that I have ever  
tried to serve my God what a mercy  
that he has not cut me off in my  
sins or left me to my own bent desires  
I can say Lord let me live or die  
just as it pleases thee only glorify  
thyself in me chosen

Valdes Oct 30<sup>th</sup>

conversing with my little daughters  
to day on the all important subject  
of religion found very tender and  
accessible I then proposed praying  
with them my eldest daughter  
Mary Jane aged seven wished to  
pray first she made a humble  
and penitent prayer during the  
time our little son came in  
and almost as soon as I commen-  
ced praying they began weeping and  
continued so full until the  
close of the prayer till all  
then gone full went to her  
bedding and wept aloud for some  
time I pointed her to Jesus the  
friend of sinners she says I feel  
that I have been so wicked  
I replied to her it is through fear  
of being punished that makes you  
cry so O no ma I dont think  
think of that it is because I am  
such a sinner I tremble ma I

well so do let me pray ma. o  
what shall I do she then fell  
in her arms I knelt by her side  
she prayed the prayer of a penitent  
child I prayed again she contin-  
ued to cry only louder and more  
more earnestly. Then perped  
upon her the duty of giving herself  
to God she said how shall I  
know when God pardons me  
I answered her and then told her  
to go with her little sister A who  
was weeping and pray alone I heard  
her praying very earnest she came to  
me looking quite cheerful now  
I feel better on my impurity  
how she felt in a love every body  
not their wicked actions but their  
souls I never want to any thing  
wrong again

This eve. while I was reading the  
narrative of Catharine Gates she  
wept bitterly saying she trembled  
because she was so great a sinner  
and she wanted to be like that girl  
prepared to die

O that God would carry on the  
work begun in her heart and  
make her an heir of grace  
and a new born babe in Christ  
Gems this is the earnest prayer  
of her dear mother

October 10 I feel to thank my dear  
husband that he has in some measure  
pointed out some particular sins  
may the <sup>Lord</sup> make them more  
plain before me I have feared  
that I have been travelling  
the broad road to death and finding  
nothing in the way but thorns  
and briars and tearing my own  
flesh and disturbing the peace  
of my surroundings and complaints  
of those that would walk in  
the way that leads to God  
my prayer is to be undeceived  
I feel too unworthy to address  
the throne of my heavenly  
father

I feel that love for my God  
and Saviour that I would  
not exchange for worlds  
Jesus I love thy charming name  
Thy music to my ear

I have dwell much on the  
happiness of heaven can such  
a simple be permitted to  
enter that holy place and  
sing redeeming love

I have been quite well  
for a few days past but feel  
tells this afternoon my heart  
has been burning for the souls  
of these poor Indians

In their own due time remove the  
veil which blinds their hearts  
and turn their feet from the  
way to perdition I feel encour-  
aged to go forward in this great  
work and count the precious  
nothing if we can be the means  
in the hands of God in saving our  
souls but I feel to say who is  
supercareful for these things

Jan 1 1843

Another new year has presented itself to me in circumstances of mercy and love O the careless and wicked manner in which I have lived the past year I am filled with shame and confusion when I reflect upon my past conduct and can only exclaim God be merciful to me a sinner

But I will now in the presence of a holy and righteous God make a new and solemn covenant with him to be his for time and eternity all that I have shall be his my unborn infant shall be his for thy grace and Spirit do I pray to assist me in fulfilling this my engagement with thee my God and King

Commenced teaching three Indian children (which are all that are here with our children in our house the second day of Jan. have continued four weeks have done according to the best of my ability feeling most of the time unable to do any thing it has been with pleasure that I have seen them advancing slowly in reading and spelling



Feb. 29 1840.

One more beautiful day I am  
permitted to spend on the earth  
perhaps the last another may  
close my mortal career I remain  
at home from ill health  
I may have heard the last sermon  
from my dear <sup>husband's</sup> lips well if so right  
in I have long abused his kindness  
and affection (I sincerely believe he  
loves me) that I hardly dare ask  
for pardon from <sup>him</sup> and <sup>and</sup> scarcely ex-  
pect a look or expression of kindness  
Lord forgive a thoughtless sinful crea-  
ture of time help me to devote the  
moments of time allotted here to the  
glory of thy name and happiness  
of my dear family then if it seem  
eth thee good to ~~send me~~ <sup>remove me</sup> and <sup>and</sup> unworship  
worn I pray ~~that~~ <sup>your</sup> my dear  
companion a wife of deep and lasting  
piety that will render life agreeable  
to him and not a burden give my  
children a mother that is filled  
with the holy Spirit affectionate and  
kind at all times this do I pray thee  
that thine honor may be promoted.

Jan 1849

Five months my diary has been neglected from sickness but my kind Father in Heaven is again restoring me to health and the society of dear family. The first of February I was taken sick with symptoms of confinement (as we we supposed the full time had come not supposing we were mistaken in regard to the time) then continued more than a week 26 of Feb. the same symptoms again appeared for ten days I suffered severely from travail pains without any advance of the birth after a week of distress and after making use of all the means in our power for promoting it without any effect and my strength fast failing we sent for Dr Goodrich of Allegan he arrived here before light in the morning after travelling thirty miles through the deepest snow we have ever known

after a thorough investigation of  
all my previous symptoms he decided  
that instead of travel pains it was an  
inflammation of the womb (as it had  
advanced so far as we supposed it to  
be the membranes and Mr S made  
an effort to break them but found  
it impossible) and also his opinion  
was that I should not be confined  
under two months more I was  
from this time confined to my  
bed (being much ~~in~~ distress from  
~~the pressure of my~~ being necessitated  
to lie upon my back with my  
hips raised) ~~until~~ <sup>most of</sup> the time of  
my delivery which was the first  
day of May the Lord was pleased  
to give us a little daughter  
it weighed three pounds and three years  
since being much disfigured from the  
manner of its birth it lived ten hours  
the Lord gave the Lord hath taken  
away another of our precious ones <sup>to</sup>  
inhabit heaven Pleased be his name  
I was myself quite comfortably  
My husband made the coffin and  
buried it with his own hands with several  
other attendants that his family and an  
old Indian woman

I have been out to visit our friend  
with our family Miss Willard accom-  
panied us had a pleasant visit our  
children all caught the whooping  
cough left George with sister John  
to attend school since our return  
little G has been very sick,  
have had but little expectation  
of her recovery has not walked  
a step for months one of legs  
has caused her much distress  
for nearly a year she is now  
a little more comfortable  
had an interesting conversation  
with the chief mother she is  
earnestly inquiring the way to  
heaven O Lord open her eyes that  
she may see

Our little G is a very happy child I  
do not know how to live without  
her she has ever been an object of so much  
delight that this world would be almost  
empty without her I cannot let her  
go O my heavenly father I pray her  
spare her to be a comfort and solace  
of my poor heart

Old Spring March 29<sup>th</sup> 1844

Esther Gage Smith was born in Old Spring  
Allegan County Mich. August 10<sup>th</sup>  
1841 & died March 18<sup>th</sup> being 3 years & 4 months  
8 days old in this we feel the heavy  
hand of affliction the Lord has taken  
from us a lovely promising flower  
one of the choicest of blessings the delight  
of her parents the greatest earthly comfort  
in their their solitude surrounded only  
by the red men of the forest many  
very many sorrowful hours has she render  
so cheerful and pleasant by her sweet  
and cheerful conversation her melo-  
dious music this room where I  
have spent so many happy hours  
alone with this beloved child is shrou-  
led with gloom in vain do I wander  
from one room to another to find  
my precious one I call she does not  
answer I feel my affection to be  
real wave after wave rolls through my  
sterile heart I kissed her sweet  
warm lips for the last time I retired  
to rest my worn out exhaust body  
but her sweet spirit took its departure  
before I was able to see her my beloved  
like your awful agonies are over you

Your Saviour has taken you to his  
bosom the coffin and grave holds the  
dust of my precious child but I see the  
yet the yellow locks parted on that  
sweet and noble forehead also those lovely  
blue eyes that were completely filled  
with intelligence now half closed with an  
expression of the glories of heaven a  
sweet and heavenly smile rests on thy  
cherub face those precious lips that  
have been the charmer of my life  
have received the least and parting  
kiss from your dear mother your  
need no more the care and tender-  
ness of a mother months has she  
watched over you with ~~anxious~~  
anxieties that only a mother can  
feel God will take of my dear child  
one year less sweet to think that  
pain nor grief will ever more  
disturb that lovely one my heavenly  
father will take care of your pre-  
cious sweet dust until the morn-  
ing of resurrection my soul prepare to  
meet the happy spirit of thy darling  
one to join with her again in  
singing praise to him who shall  
make thine heart <sup>not</sup> so desolate  
O my poor broken heart it can

never be repaired when shall I go  
darkness is on every side even the  
songs of the birds speak in tones of  
sorrow to my saviour I will go  
thou canst heal the wound thou  
hast made weep for thy sins which  
have brought this heavy affliction  
upon thee forget not the work I have  
given thee to do thou hast other  
souls in thy keeping take care  
of them and I will give thee thy  
wages thou art still in the wilderness  
where souls are perishing for lack  
of knowledge look around upon the  
work which I have given thee to do  
think not on those past scenes remem-  
ber another link is added to the  
chain that binds thy soul to heaven  
I who am the Almighty hath  
broken that tie so dear that bound  
me your soul to earth so still  
and know that I am God  
A cup of sorrow I indeed have  
given thee to drink but how  
thy head in meekness and drink  
to the very dregs sweet will be  
the effects upon your soul



April 12 I was delivered of a little daughter  
she gave symptoms of health at first  
which made our poor broken hearts  
rejoice I named her Esther & her weight  
was 4<sup>lb</sup> three quarters my heart  
was light my pains forgotten I God had  
given another little & there saw a stri-  
king resemblance and so there was  
for her groans were the same atten-  
ded with a sleep eight for seven hours  
my beloved husband labored hard  
to save it but all in vain she  
expired in the arms of Miss Willson  
7 hours from her birth she closed  
its eyes and laid it out making the  
third one she has laid out in less  
than a year Lord how deep and  
dark are thy ways past finding out  
hast thou not a controversy  
with us our hearts are bleeding our  
spirits are broken prop us up by thine  
omnipotent arm before we sink into  
this heavy affliction this is the painful  
time the angel of death hath visited  
us and plucked sweet precious  
flowers these had just began  
to bloom ere they were cut

from the stalk the other a triennial  
rose ever blooming ever sweet its per-  
fume gave sweetness to all around  
its lively hue gave delight to every  
heart neither sorrow disappointme-  
nt pain or distress could blight its  
beauty even death did not mar its  
~~beauty~~ loveliness the eyes could gaze  
upon it with delight even the grave  
had not rolled it of all its charms  
it has been transplanted from earth  
to heaven where the heat of the sun  
nor the chilling winds of winter can no  
more chill it the tender bloom  
where it no more needs nourishing care  
of parents than it ever blooms in all  
its beauty and fragrance for angels to  
gaze upon cherished by the kind hand of  
her dear Redeemer

June 18 Another Sabbath had returned  
I have just been with the little girls  
to visit the place where our precious  
babes lie while gazing upon the flowers  
that so beautifully flourish on their  
precious dust my thoughts were turned  
to heaven where all is peace joy and  
love when God and the the Redeemer  
angels and saints dwell together one  
in ~~heart~~ in heart and soul loving

each other and him who makes them  
blessed forever O why should I have a  
thought to call them back preconsalt  
O you would not leave such a happy  
place for earth again No not for your  
parents you loved so dearly for your  
sweet spirit lingers there while your  
dear <sup>Mother</sup> fingers around your waiting dart  
wishing to catch one glimpse of your love-  
ly face now could you speak to your  
heart broken Mother you with liping lips  
would say please Mamma but Etta stay  
have you will <sup>soon</sup> to stay with Etta soon  
Lord hark there murmurings quick  
their rising fears and make me to  
rejoice that I am counted worthy  
of adding to number of the redeemed  
in heaven

Our son G left June 10 for Gall  
Prairie in company with Brother  
Wm and brother Francis Mills who  
came to make us a visit. Brother Wm  
propose ~~to~~ board ~~and~~ send him to  
school O what a ~~trial~~ trial to part  
we only two with us all I and of  
the farmer has left and we expect  
Miss W to go every day O Lord be thou  
our comfort and support Amen

June 16<sup>th</sup> A Brief memoir of Esther Eliza Smith

She possessed from her earliest infancy a mild and affectional disposition and as she grew those happy traits of character which made her lovely to all who knew her grew with her growth and strengthened with her strength. She was naturally of a delicate constitution <sup>until</sup> at a very early period she manifested a great fondness for music at the sound of the bass viol she would drop her play things and creep to her <sup>mother</sup> to join with her in singing. She was always cheerful pleasant and happy zealous and submissive tender hearted and obliging never at any time known to have been angry always grieved if she ~~was~~ <sup>thought</sup> displeas'd with her at the age of twelve months she began to talk at fifteen to sing with the family her voice was clear as a flute her whole soul seemed to be engaged in it. She was especially fond of children when they were happy when they cried they ~~were~~ was always grieved

her countenance was always cheerful  
and happy, lively and animating yet  
there was a seriousness and gravity in  
her appearance that indicated that  
her thoughts were of heavenly origin  
and such was her conversation that  
no one could hear it without being  
~~strongly~~ strongly impressed with that  
she was fast preparing for the upper  
world in her affections, <sup>affections</sup> sympathies and  
attachments she was a child but a  
woman in all her actions words and  
thoughts her questions and remarks  
were far above her years. She thought  
herself competent to do any thing  
she saw others do when not two years  
of age she would bring large sticks  
of ~~wood~~ wood if her mother offered  
her she would say Etc wants to do  
it herself after accomplishing the  
object would exclaim now and Etc  
a good girl to help mamma

For ~~her~~ ago she learned to use her  
needle very young and great pleasure  
in sitting by the side of her mother  
to sew she would get her mother  
knitting work and very please learn  
Etc to knit but her mother heard  
it would tax her mind too much

to would tell her she was too young  
She would always reply *Ma* mam-  
ma she is old enough she will knit  
very nice she will knit *in* mama  
some stockings but seeing could  
not be prevented or she would  
burst into tears this her mother  
recalls with deep regret that  
she ever denied her so pleasant  
a gratification she had a great  
pleasure in wiping dishes charming this  
she continued to do but a short  
time before her death she has  
often persevered and brought the  
butter after the others had left it  
in her <sup>responsibility</sup> *responsibility* with children  
she would always yield the point  
in every thing she would give up  
the last plaything sooner than contend  
she often requested a piece of dough  
to make little cakes which she  
would distribute to everyone and  
would express great sorrow if any  
one was forgetful and would be  
sure to redeem it next time  
there was a seriousness and marked attention  
even when very young that is not common  
her early like disposition was the occasion  
of *gambol* often she remarkably lively  
of during her hours of play she *feared*

laugh and clapping of his hands and  
Mother see etc can never be forgotten  
her curious remarks and reproaches has  
been a matter of astonishment to them  
that <sup>heard</sup> them it has often been remarked  
that <sup>she</sup> knew her that <sup>she</sup> was not long  
for this world the winter after she was  
two years old she <sup>she</sup> slipped up on the floor  
it seemed to hurt her very bad  
at the time but we apprehended no  
danger resulting from <sup>it</sup> she continued  
lame until the former part of the  
next summer when she seemed better  
we went out to visit our friends on  
~~our~~ <sup>our</sup> return she was taken with the  
hooping cough and the cough as we  
supposed both now knows it to have  
been the disease that she died with  
she suffered severely from the cough  
her fever was raging with great prostra-  
tion and sweating was and no appetite  
I took her cradle from under her  
and gave it to our father for his babe  
she gave it up cheerfully although very  
much attached to it I sat two soaking  
chairs together during her paroxysms  
of fever she would cry mama this  
is not so nice ~~as~~ etc cradle but  
little Edie Boyson wants it now



than Ete because he cries so much  
He succeeded in breaking up the fever  
but her <sup>infirmities</sup> ~~laments~~ increased so much  
that was with much difficulty that she  
could walk at all In Dec. she was  
again attacked her distress seemed to be  
centered in her leg for three weeks.  
She was the most suffering little  
creature I ever beheld especially nights  
yet she bore it with heavenly patience  
and meekness her whole soul was deli-  
gated reading the scriptures singing and  
praying talking of God and heaven ever  
when her agony is great

During her short life she always had a great  
respect for the worship of God her behavior  
was that of a mature Christian ~~at~~  
at meeting during family worship and  
at table when blessing was asked her  
whole attention was riveted to the subject  
her dear parents never had occasion  
to correct her for misbehavior at any  
out time set apart for the worship of  
God her little hands would be folded  
together and her eyes partly closed while  
the blessing was craved upon the meal  
as if at any time her sister had  
said near her did any thing that she  
thought was wrong she would shake her  
her head with looks that spoke more than  
words she would afterwards say alrea-  
that was very wrong to do <sup>so</sup> you should

put your hands together or Ete does some-  
times she would appeal to her father or <sup>her</sup> ~~mother~~  
mother to know if she was right <sup>and others</sup>  
that he was her Mother's little woman and  
mother she would reply Ete is not a woman  
Ete is mother's little girl this was always  
her reply or being told that she was a  
woman once she replied mother what  
makes you call Ete a woman see  
Ete's little fingers and feet I ~~know~~ <sup>know</sup> yes  
they are very small well will you call  
Ete woman any more I told her she  
was mother's little girl she a <sup>moment</sup>  
in deep thought Mother if Ete lives she  
will be big like you she said yes I said  
she <sup>asked</sup> what makes us grow I said God  
well she said Ete knows that but how  
do we grow Ete can't see herself grow  
after explaining it to her she replied Ete  
don't <sup>want</sup> to be a woman why Ete said  
the Indian woman living with us don't  
you want to be a woman and work like  
your mother yes she said Ete can work  
now but Ete wants to be a little girl  
and always live and sleep with Mauna  
before she could speak plain she would  
say to her sisters that was what to do  
it's best about <sup>come</sup> you (meaning Christ)  
she was then <sup>1</sup> years old when she saw  
a white child after she had seen she  
said to her mother do them white and  
children know any thing about God

many other remarks which showed the excess  
of her mind at the time which I have forgotten  
previous to her sickness in Dec. after we were  
all in bed on hearing the farmers children  
spunkily Mother she said does Ede payson  
love God when he cries so on being told that  
he was too young to know any thing about  
God well she said Ete thinks Ede payson  
will love God when he gets old enough because  
God takes care of him all the time then she  
said do you think God loves him when  
he gets angry. I told her that we loved little  
children but he did not to see them angry  
well I think God dont love him when he  
is angry I said dont you love Ede payson  
yes very much but Ete dont love to see  
him get angry and cry so hard Ete hopes  
he will be a good boy and love God when  
he gets old like Ete Mother she said again  
do all children love God I said no Mother  
Ete has loved God a great while dont you  
think God loves Ete I wish all little children  
loved God then God would love them Mother  
Ete loves to pray and hear pa and ma pray  
many other things she said which have gone  
from my memory after all was silent and  
we supposed all were asleep I heard her say  
ing forth this prayer O Lord Bless pa and ma  
Bless little Ete make her a good girl Bless  
her and her Derges Amen and immortality hell  
a sleep

17  
She appeared to recover from this severe attack  
in Dec. But could not walk a step her  
leg was useless except she could swing when  
sitting in her chair and also creep about  
the floor. But O Me happy sweet spirit she  
pined could I but enjoy life with as sweet  
a rest a cloudless horizon christianly would  
shine brighter in my character. When it now  
does her greatest delight consisted in singing  
prayer and reading during her distressing  
sickness spoken above she must sit in her  
chair with her Bible and read her verse in  
turn her voice was heard distinctly above  
the rest although it seemed like taking her  
life to move her she could not be per-  
suaded on to sit or lie down but she  
must kneel down with the family and  
repeat the Lords prayer never can those  
interesting scenes be forgotten while  
memory lives

from the time of her recovery to the last of  
Feb she seemed to enjoy comfortable health  
and spirits ~~and~~ still we could see a slow de-  
cline and a rapid growth in grace she would  
sit hours with intense interest over the pic-  
tures representing the persecutions of christians  
culling one and another to look at them too  
making remarks that might call the attention  
of a mature christian she said to me one  
morning Mother do you think God will  
make it well I told I hoped he would  
well Mother will you pray to him to make  
it well and he will pray for them I think

God will mak Ete get well but Ee cant see  
God can you Mother and I said but God can  
see you and hear you She then closed her  
eyes and seemed fait engaged in prayer She  
seemed after that to take new courage that  
she would recover

Feb 22 Mr B myself M J and A started for  
Newark we left the little girls at Mr Shavmens  
left Esther & I and J with Miss Willard she had  
appeared more unwell than usual for some  
days but we little that she was so soon <sup>to</sup> go  
she remarked on hearing me say I was going  
Mother do take Ete with you Ete must go  
with Mother I told her it would hurt her leg to  
ride and Mother would come quick She said  
no more but made an extra effort to be  
cheerful but I see an inward anguish of  
mind which she strove to conceal the morn  
we left she appeared all the glee and mirth she  
was master of we intended to have returned the  
second day but were necessarily detained the  
the third till noon found her feverish and  
cut down Miss W said she enjoyed herself  
well the first day but when night came on  
her fever returned she weaned for her Mother  
during the night in the morning she appe  
ared better but in the afternoon her  
fever came on the disappointment of  
not seeing us increased her sufferings another  
restly night she passed without her parents the  
next day was one of anxiety and gloom

the day we came she asked for her high chair  
to sit by the window that she might see  
us when we came after sitting apparently in  
deep study of books while she was thinking  
on I was thinking of pa what was your  
thinking about he said well I thinking I would  
give him a good scolding if he took my mother  
away again then smiled which was the only  
time since the first day she continued to  
grow worse every day today I paroxysms  
of fever panting at every breath laboring hard  
at every breath small quick pulse turns of  
strengthening blood settled under her nails but  
in all her weakness and distress not a complaint  
is heard from sweet lips when she saw me weep-  
ing over her she would say what makes you  
cry because she is so sick I would answer Mother  
she isn't very sick only little she's big pain her  
little this was always her reply her love for  
family worship continued while she had her  
reason she had that exquisite delight in  
singing as could not be equalled by any spirit  
of earth a week previous to her death she was  
struck with death she with her father alone  
carried her own part with astonishing independence  
while he played on the lute or viol the hymns  
were her share Come let us anew, turn Gorton  
this was her favorite she would sing till she  
came to the last but one then she would sing  
now father sing I that each in the day then  
the last she would sing the same O that each

from the Lord she seem to appreciate the  
meaning of that excellent hymn another of her  
stanzas was <sup>When</sup> overwhelmed with grief true  
Dunbar another thought troubles assail as and  
dangers afflict another Behold thy waiting  
servant Lord true Blackburn Also ~~do~~ on  
some lonely chudding to him Sparrows move  
another Awake my soul and with the sun  
the dawn another stanza one was I'll awake  
at dawn on the Sabbath day These two  
last were her morn. hymns two days pre-  
vious to her death we had thought her dying  
just before she called to sit by her side and  
sing to her I sung some holy spirit heavenly  
done in Blackburn she struck in an hour  
with me and with such clearness that Miss  
M heard her in the kitchen came to see  
if it was her that same morn. she repe-  
ated the verse after her father O Lord we  
bark and praise thy great and glorious  
name, at family joined in singing  
but when the time came for kneeling  
she raised her heavenly blue eyes on us  
all with an anxious look which seemed  
to say this is the last time truly it was  
the last time her voice was heard to praise  
her God below she soon after fell into  
a state of unconsciousness and ground away  
her life the last night but one before her



death I gone to take a little rest her father  
had laid down by her I her groaning bitterly  
I went to her found her alone with the Joed  
she asked where is pa I told her that he  
lay by her side cant you see pa I said  
to her no she I cant see pa then she  
said Mother lay down by the side of the  
this was the last words she ever uttered  
I laid down by her side but her agony was  
so great I could endure no longer I arose  
and retired to bed but not to sleep it  
seemed almost that my soul and body  
came together into one this was Friday  
night she continued in the agony some  
times shrieking and groaning every breath  
till Mon. Morn. <sup>at five</sup> her soul was released  
from its earthly tabernacle to join the  
angelic throng above in praises to God  
and the Lamb

March 15<sup>th</sup> 1847 A year ago this morning our  
precious & went to the bosom of her saviour  
then to bask in the glorious sunbeams of  
her God she so much loved O the happiness  
she now enjoys what tongue can tell  
no language can describe the unspeakable  
joy which God has prepared for that dear  
Lamb that the anguish of my heart  
the men against which I feel when can  
I go but to Jesus he will heal all my  
sorrows

I am sick to day. The Lord was pleased to give  
14 April 1845  
us another son but was also pleased to take it  
away it survived an hour and a half.

"See the lovely blooming flower  
fades and withers in an hour

So near transient comforts fly

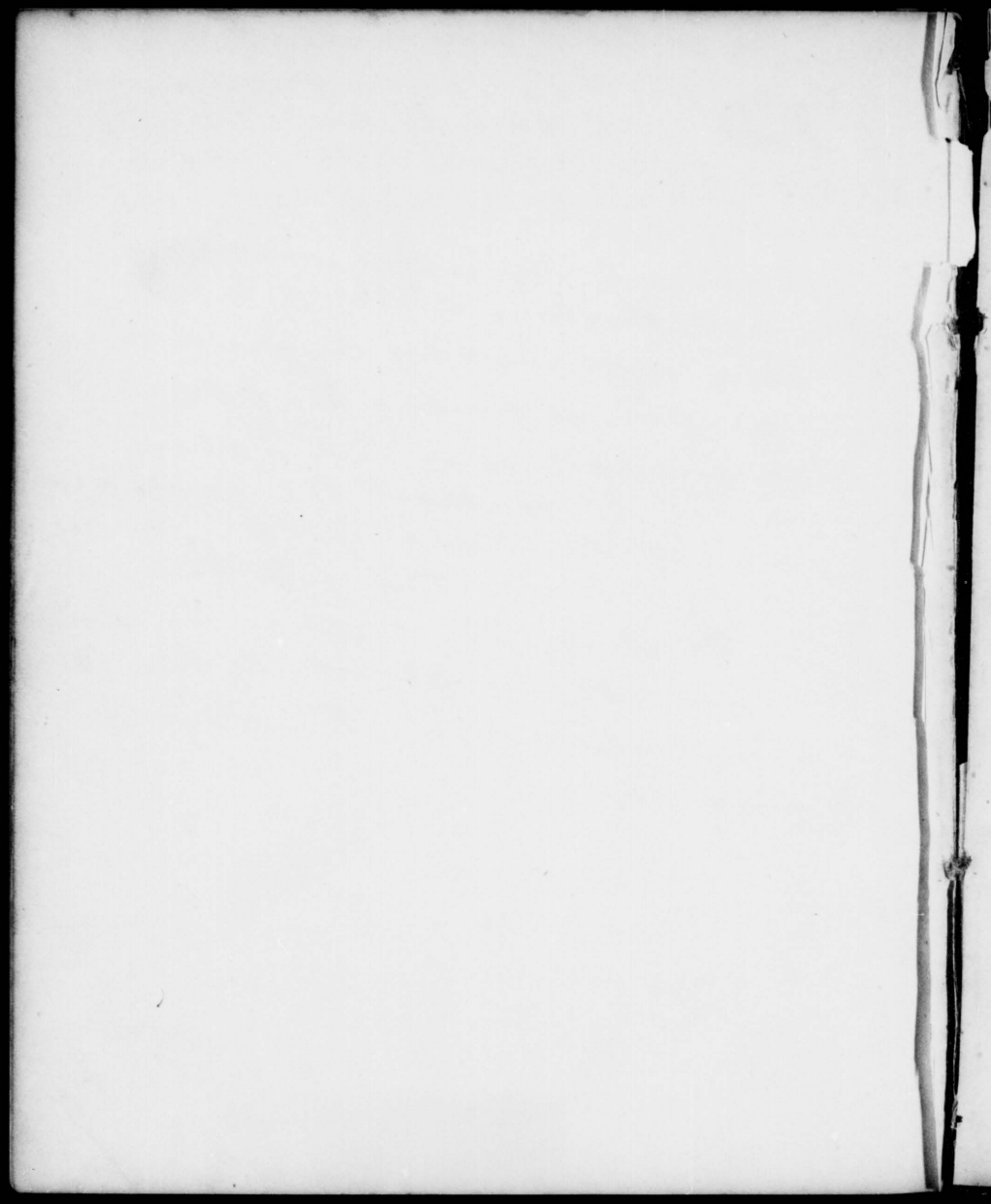
Pleasures only bloom to die B

Yes I think I fully realize these words  
I had anticipated the birth of this precious  
jewel with the greatest pleasure at the  
same time know that most severe  
could be the only alternative in bring-  
ing it into being that what are the  
pangs of child bearing compared with the  
grief & loss of so sweet a treasure or it is  
enjoyed five times more than smitten  
me O Lord is it not enough my heart  
is broken with grief I could say my head  
in dust as asks you I could weep day &  
night O Lord God if thine anger had turn  
away from us stay us not O Lord in  
thy hot displeasure but spare us ~~the~~ in  
pity that we may yet rejoice in  
our most precious gift from the  
heavenly Father O Lord that thou wilt  
bless us thy servants one more  
child it shall be the Lord's by consecration

grant us this our desire and a double  
portion of thy grace to train it for thee  
only & other dear ones than heart left  
unto us O Lord of hosts four pledges  
of our low host than taken from us  
in a little less than three years my  
eyes beheld the little heaps of earth  
side by side under the shades of forest  
pleasant trees my sighs and tears than  
most seen, forgive my murmuring  
& complainings remove from me all  
iniquity & transgression remember me  
in thy compassion reach forth thine  
hand & save thy servant for I am but  
dust & ashes

My death was such we thought duty  
called hand upon us to try a change  
of climate accordingly we set out  
for ~~part~~ our native state in June  
had a pleasant voyage found all  
our relatives living except husband's  
eldest sister she died a short time  
before our arrival Father Smith is in  
a sad condition being seriously  
afflicted with the St. Anthony's dance  
it was truly an affecting sight for us  
we returned after a pleasant visit of

Three months to our much loved home  
bringing Mother Powers sister Aurelia  
& little girl also brother David or  
for as Gull Prairie left father Powers  
to come in the spring saw happy to  
be again softly lodged in our own  
pleasant dwelling although instead  
of being surrounded by our dear rela-  
tives & friends among the pleasant  
hills and valleys of our native land  
we have in contrast the woods and  
ravines of the forest yet the change  
of all is pleasant if with them I  
can be doing the will of the Lord  
We have all improved by the journey  
both in body & mind the Lord be  
praised amen





To meet thy smile of tenderness,  
And catch the feeble tone

Of kindness ever breathed to slaps,  
And I'll <sup>feel</sup> be alone.

To mark thy strength each hour decays,  
And yet thy hopes grow stronger,  
As filled with heaven-ward trust they say  
Earth may not claim thee longer:

May dearest tis' God much this heart  
Must break when thou art gone,

It must not be - we may not part,  
I could not live alone!

Jan 26 1833

Arvilla A. Smith

Swanton Vt.

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Poultice

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Nero the 6th emperor of Rome

1608

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MICHIGAN HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

1608

AA Smith, Arvilla Almira  
Diary

