A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life

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<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>





<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



Even of my very early years, memory, all cobwebbed and rubbish-encumbered as it is, does not reveal a time, when I did not long to attend at sometime our State University.

-Madelon Stockwell collection.

Photo Source: Boy on Ferry Field Gate, Commencement, University of Michigan. Alumni Association., Box 137, Commencement, 1937-1950

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Home > Exhibits > Daybook

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



Oct. 30, '01

Mr. Jas. R.H. Wagner 414 Wilcox Bldg. Los Angeles, Cal.

We desire to make the trip to the Pacific coast during the holidays, providing it can be made to pay. The University of Washington has written us in regard to a game at Seattle, and we would be willing to play them there Christmas. We would be glad to play the winner of the Stanford-California game at Los Angeles on New Years day. However, if this trip is made to the coast, it will be necessary for us to secure, in advance, a guarantee of expenses. To play two games it will be necessary for us to carry eighteen players, in addition to the two coaches, trainer and myself, or in other words, we must secure enough to cover the expenses of twenty-two men, traveling in first-class style...

Yours sincerely, Charles Baird

-Earl Henry Rathbun collection

Photo Source: Earl Henry Rathbun collection. [1901 University of Michigan Football team in Tournament of Roses Parade, enroute to first tournament of Roses Game, Jan 1, 1901. Fielding Yost holding pennant top right, standing to his left, Willie Heston, Charles Baird was director of outdoor athletics for the Student Athletic Association.]



<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



"Through the streets of Ann Arbor they gallop, astride horses, in whip-cord trousers. Out in the hills they tramp with their rifles, fling themselves behind a low embankment and fire at a target, bracing a strong shoulder for the "kick."

-Detroit News (30 October 1927) in University of Michigan. Women's Athletic Association collection.

Photo Source: Two U of M students on horseback, ca. 1925-1935; University of Michigan. Department of Physical Education for Women.



<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



"People were not so afraid of taking college girls this year; in fact, the Meyerses and Hodges, in Thompson and Jefferson Streets, actually advertised for girls. They had heard that girls were not so noisy as boys; that they took better care of their rooms; that they did not smoke and injure the wallpaper, nor spit tobacco-juice on the furniture; that they did not reel upstairs half-seas over, and go to bed in their hats and boots. In short, college-girls were no longer ostracised, except in families where there were marriageable daughters, where, of course, nice young men were preferred."

-[Olive Anderson]. An American Girl, and Her Four Years in a Boys' College. New York: D. Appleton and Co., 1878. p. 87.

Photo Source: Michiganensian collection.



Home > Exhibits > Daybook

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



"Score one point for each way you have used to meet a Michigan coed.

- ...5. I walk up the steps at Markley on a Friday night. Someone says, 'Bye, Whozits.' I walk up. 'Are you Whozits?' If she says, 'Are you Watchamakallit?' I say, 'Yes,' and walk out with Watchamakallit's date.
- 6. I say 'Hello.' She's afraid to admit she doesn't know me. She says, 'Hello.' That's a beginning.
- 7. When all seems lost, I call up a South Quad social chairman and ask who's walking around the corridors.
- $8.\ \ I$  plan to give up dating for a while in order to concentrate on my studies."
- -Mike Green and Richard Salay. "...and the Tenth One Goes to Michigan." [Ann Arbor?]: Mike Green Enterprises, [1964?]. p. 8.

Photo Source: Couples dancing at the Little Club, ca. 1945-1955; University of Michigan Alumni Association

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Home > Exhibits > Daybook

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



Name in full: Annie Smith Peck

Present occupation: Writer, Author, lecturer, noted as mountain climber, having reached a higher point on this hemisphere than has yet been attained by any North or South American man or woman. 21812 feet on Mt. Huascaran, Peru Sept. 2, 1908.

How would you characterize the influence of the University of Michigan on your life? None (My character and ideas were well formed before entering the University), aside from the naturally broadening influence of a four years' course of study...I decided in my teens that I would do what one woman could do to show that women had as much brains as men and could do things as well if she gave them her undivided attention.

-University of Michigan. Alumni Association records. Alumnae Survey.

Photo Source: Annie Peck [UM, AB 1878, AM 1881] in mountaineering outfit. University of Michigan Student Portraits.

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<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



"It is needless to say that the "Junior Hop" is looked forward to with keen anticipation. ... The Grand March generally begins at 10 o'clock, led by the Chairman of the Reception Committee. The most interesting feature of this march is the "Varsity M," which is formed extending the entire length of the floor. The dance continues until late in the night, and at times in the past it has been known to continue until daylight."

-Walter Penfield. "A History of the Junior Hop." *The Inlander*, February 1901, pp. 187-188.

Photo Source: Junior Hop, 1920. University of Michigan Photographs Vertical File, Special Events.

<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



Ann Arbor 10th mo. 16th 1854

Dear friend

...The chief objects of industry...are Education and Religion. The schools & colleges fill it right up to the brim, & the churches & Pastors are piled up a dozen deep on top. If a fellow gets a little too boozy to navigate in a straight line along the street, & happens to stagger over to one side, he is sure to hit a school house, & when reaction causes him to stagger back to the opposite side, he is just as likely to bring up against the consecrated walls of some church...

I remain truly,

Frank

-Francis Thomas collection.

Photo Source: View of Ann Arbor Taken from the West (Sunset Hill), ca. 1880; Ann Arbor (Mich.) Photographs Vertical File

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<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



"Miss Mary H. Graham, of this city, the only colored lady who ever graduated at the university, and who took the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy at the recent commencement, is to go to Missouri next September as an instructor in Lincoln University, at Jefferson City. She has proven herself to be a person of unusual intellect, and is entitled to much credit for her perseverance in pushing her way through the university. She is only 22 years of age."

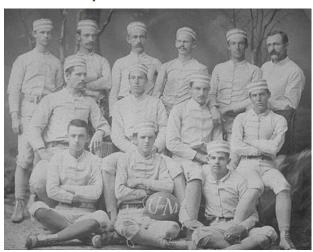
-Local Notes column. Ann Arbor Courier, 16 July 1880, p. 3. (26)

Photo Source: Mary Graham, ca. 1880; Mary Henrietta Graham collection



Home > Exhibits > Daybook

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



"On the 30th of May the game with Racine was played on the White Stocking Grounds in Chicago. Although the betting was heavily against Michigan, she won the game. In fact the Racine boys did not force the ball nearer to our goal than the middle of the field. The reception which greeted the one lone man of the Eleven who returned to Ann Arbor in advance of the rest, is spoken of as something entirely unsurpassed in the annals of history. We can hardly imagine the feelings of the passengers on the Train when they saw and heard, especially heard, three or four hundred wildmen, rushing over, through and under the cars, seize upon one man and bear him away to the accompanyment of bone music; jaw bone music!"

-Pond Family collection.

Photo Source: 1879 Michigan football team; University of Michigan photographs vertical file [Irving Pond, left end in the middle row, scored Michigan's first intercollegiate touchdown in the Racine game. He later became a noted architect, designing both the Michigan Union and Women's League.]

<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



IN CONCLUSION WE WISH TO SAY

A college publication is pleasant to read no doubt, But you haven't the slightest notion of the trouble in getting it out, So if we chance to please you, and all your hopes fulfill, Please buy the book for all your friends and help us fill the till.

-The Palladium, 1890, p[171]

Photo Source: Daily News Editorial Staff., 1930; University of Michigan photographs vertical file

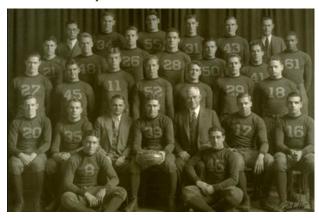
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Home > Exhibits > Daybook

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



Dear Mr. Kipke:

I want to thank you and Mrs. Kipke for entertaining me so wonderfully during my visit in Ann Arbor. I had a marvelous time and fully enjoyed every minute of the stay and if there is any way in which I can repay you I certainly would.

The more I see of Ann Arbor, the University, and the fellows who go there, the more I desire to attend school at Michigan. I've always wanted to be a student at the University since I was able to read about the prowess of their athletic teams and now it is almost a certainty that it will come true. Danny Rose is getting me a job for my board, so that will help the expense account to some extent and with the money earned this

summer I can get by the first year.

Again I wish to thank you and Mrs. Kipke for being such fine hosts while I was in Ann Arbor. Sincerely yours.

Gerald Ford June 8, 1931

-University of Michigan. Board in Control of Intercollegiate Athletics collection.

Photo Source: 1932 Football Team Photo, University of Michigan. Board in Control of Intercollegiate Athletics. [Gerald Ford, #48, won varsity letters in 1932,1933 and 1934. He was selected the team most valuable player in 1934. Ford's letter was written following a recruiting visit to Ann Arbor.]



Home > Exhibits > Daybook

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



May 1929

Dearest Sister:

...Wednesday night was the League Installation banquet. It was held in the Ball Room, called the Myra Beach Jordan Assembly Room. There were 480 there. Then after that, about 70 girls, including our crowd, stayed all night at the building, the first ones ever to sleep in the new League Building. We stayed in all the bedrooms and the dormitory. We had food served at 11:30. An orchestra serenaded us at 12. Then we played around and finally got to bed at 2:30. Slept well, but not very long...

Dearest love, sweetheart,

Sister

-Jessie Church Wetherell collection.

Photo Source: U. of M. Women's League Bldg. Laying of Corner Stone, March 29, 1928, Pond family papers, 1841-1939.

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Home > Exhibits > Daybook

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



Ann Arbor 10th mo. 16th 1854

Dear friend

...This is a great town we live in. It is laid out in the extensive proportions of a city-several miles square with streets enough to supply a large population with avenues of circulation. They are not paved in the middle, of course, but on the sides they are all planked. The plank sidewalks, the scattering houses and large yards, orchards, etc. right in town give the place a very primitive Western air...

I remain truly,

Frank

-Francis Thomas collection.

Photo Source: Northwest corner of Diagonal [Diag] with top of fencepost, ca. 1895-1905; University of Michigan photographs vertical file

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<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



"When the boys came-often without notice-they bounded up the stairs and thumped on the door. What did we do? Well, sometimes we went to Grangers which was a dance hall we all loved, but that cost the boys money. So we often just talked, told jokes, played cards or made fudge in the chaffing dish. And about ten everybody got sleepy and off they went. It was a garden of innocence! There was an occasional rumor about some too adventurous girl; but in our minds she was clearly in the class with those who couldn't pass their quizzes. Why did she come to Ann Arbor anyway?"

-Hearty Brown Nelson. Growing Up in Michigan. Lawrence, Kansas, 1969. p. 11.

Photo Source: University of Michigan student room, 1902; Christian A. Burck photograph collection

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Home > Exhibits > Daybook

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



I remain truly,
Frank
-Francis Thomas collection.

Ann Arbor 10th mo. 16th 1854 Dear friend

...The students are a very gentlemanly set of young men...Of course there are some rough, coarse specimens of humanity with us, but "birds of a feather flock together" & we that can so maneuvre take care to be found flying in with the rest of the geese. There are some young fellows here I would like to introduce to thee & the rest of my lady friends. They are just my idea of masculine perfection....

Photo Source: Four unidentified male students in the Smokers Club, ca. 1890, University of Michigan photographs vertical file

<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

#### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



"And I know too, that it is no easy matter for a Sophomore in the plenitude of his magnificence to conceive that college is anything but a cabinet of curiosities in which the members of the other classes are collected as zoological specimens designed for his own especial benefit."

-Frederick B. Porter collection.

Photo Source: A Case of Anatomical Models, ca. 1893; Medical School (University of Michigan) records, 1850- [ongoing]

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<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

#### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



"One of the most noteworthy features of the institution is the absence of the dormitory system, and the freedom from disorder and the other evils generally admitted to be inseparably connected with it. The students board in private houses, and are thus brought within the sphere of domestic influences and social restraints, of which they would otherwise be almost entirely deprived."

-"General Compendium of Collegiate Information." University Castalia, 1867, p. 47.

Photo Source: Students on porch of UM rooming house, 1942; University of Michigan photographs vertical file.

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<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



"Another expense we face today is incurred in ice-cream parlors. No date is successful or complete unless a sojourn is made somewhere for refreshments. (These used to come with the dances.) And the student who escapes from any of these places for less than fifty cents is either extremely lucky or a diplomat."

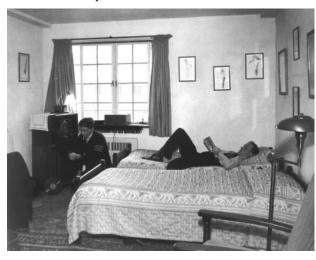
Clancy Forbes. "Courting Costs-Has the Overhead Increased?" Michigan Chimes, October 1924, p. 39.

Photo Source: Students at malt shop, ca 1950-1960; Alumni Association (University of Michigan) records, 1859-1998

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Home > Exhibits > Daybook

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



ARE YOU GOING - To make our mother's sons street walkers? Please rent us an apt., room, garage, or closet. Dick Wakefield, Buck Dawson. Phone 2-3256.

DOES YOUR SON - Like baseball players? Do you want to write a book? We need a room. Dick Wakefield-professional baseball player and student. Buck Dawson-author and student. Phone 2-3256

ARE YOUR EVENINGS - Long and dull? Do you need company? We laugh at all jokes and won't study if it bothers you. All we need is a room. Dick Wakefield, Buck Dawson. Phone 2-3256.

WE BOUNCE CHERUBS - On our cherubs. We even bounce babies for a room. Wakefield bounces good babies on his bad knee and Dawson bounces bad babies on his good knee. Dick Wakefield, Buck Dawson. Phone 2-3256.

-Ann Arbor News (November 1941) in William F. Dawson collection.

[Buck Dawson, UM, 1939-1942, 1946-1948, was editor of the 1948 Michiganensian, raconteur and general man about campus. Dick Wakefield was the star of the 1941 UM baseball before signing one of the first "bonus baby" contracts with the Detroit Tigers.]

Photo Source: Two student's in men's dorm room, ca, 1940-1945; Alumni Association (University of Michigan) records, 1859-1998.



<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



"I was skating along on that perfectly marvelous bit of sidewalk behind the medical building," she said, "when the wind blew my scarf directly across my face and around my head. I could not stop immediately, and so coasted on, attempting to unwind my scarf. Suddenly I was conscious of a jolt, and was saved from falling only by a firm hand. 'Well, Miss Mary Gorown,' I heard a masculine voice saying, 'I see you prefer physical to mental gymnastics.' It was my calculus professor. I never was so embarrassed in my whole life, and never again will I wear a scarf."

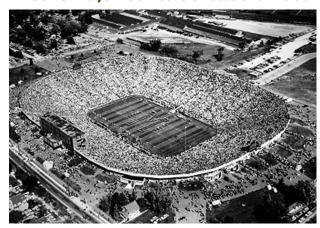
-"Skating May Change Fashion of Women's Clothes in Future." Michigan Daily, 29 April 1927, p. 5.

Photo Source: Students rollerskating in front of Angell Hall at the University of Michigan, April 30, 1927; University of Michigan photographs vertical file



<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

#### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



-James B. Angell collection.

Photo Source: Aerial view of Michigan Stadium

Ann Arbor Oct. 9, 1889 My dear Mr. Adams,

...Our numbers are so large as to be somewhat embarrassing, the increase being mainly in the Lit. and Law Depts. In the former before the year is out we shall go well towards 1000, I guess, and in the latter well over 500. Our registration stands tonight 1892, we shall of course pass easily the line of 2000. I have always hoped to reach that. And really I have no ambition to go much higher though I should like to make the proportion in the Lit. Dept. greater and in the Professional schools less by raising the requirements in the latter....

Yours as ever, James B. Angell

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<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



"We are Black, Chicano, Asian American, Native American and other Third World students at the University of Michigan....What unites us is a common struggle and concern for each other. We also want to build respect and understanding of each other's ways. As students, the focus of our struggle is on the University."

-Third World Student Voice (1 November 1976) in Daniel Tsang collection.

Photo Source: People's Rights Rally, January 1, 1981; Image from Michiganensian, 1981. University of Michigan



<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



"I want to express my thanks to you, as a graduate of the Michigan of the East, Harvard University....How many of you, who are going to be doctors, are willing to spend your days in Ghana? Technicians or engineers, how many of you are willing to work in the Foreign Service and spend your lives traveling around the world? On your willingness to do that, not merely to serve one year or two years in the service, but on your willingness to contribute part of your life to this country, I think will depend the answer whether a free society can compete. I think it can!" University of Michigan. Broadcasting

Service (Radio). John F. Kennedy at

Ann Arbor, October 14, 1960.

Photo Source: John F. Kennedy on the Michigan Union steps--Peace Corps speech, Oct. 14, 1960; News and Information Services (University of Michigan) records

<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



November 12th, 1924

My Dear Tom,

...Gay and myself, with 12 others made the famous trip to the East to play Harvard-Yale and Princeton all in one week, Monday-Tuesday and Friday. What would a foot ball team think these days of going and playing three games in a week and only having 14 players? When we got ready to go from New York to Princeton, our captain refused to go, for some unknown reason. Before coming to AA he attended Princeton and something kept him from going, so we had but thirteen players. Another thing a team of to-day would balk at. A subscription was taken up at A A to help defray expenses, but with the amount subscribed in A A and our portion of gate receipts, did not pay our expenses, and each one of us had to dig up out of our scant pockets, if I remember about \$6.00. This was back in 1881. We were beaten all three

games, but not badly. The Boston papers came out, on our arrival, and called us the Michigan GIANTS. Whew, what a slander on our size. Red Ayers, our heaviest man (Later a Prof at Harvard) weighed stripped 178 pounds, I think. I was the HEAVY WEIGHT? weighing with all clothes on 130 pounds, playing half back and Gay other half weighing 144 pounds. When we got back to AA we went to our several homes, with out seeing a familiar face. BUT WE HAD A DANDY TIME ANYWAY....

With best of regards, William O. DePuy

-William Otis DePuy collection.

Photo Source: University of Michigan football players, 1895, Gibson & Clark Photographers; University of Michigan photographs vertical file [I. to r.: Forest Hall, James Baird, Bert Carr, James Hooper]

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<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



Ann Arbor, Mich. Nov. 6, 1870 Dear Father & Mother,

...I was up in the dissecting room one day last week and seen the medical students cutting up human bodies for the advancement of science. I counted twenty five subjects in one room and two in another. It looked rather singular to me to see the boys cutting away on the human forms and whistling and singing as merry as birds in a corn field. But there are a great many strange things to be seen here and are very interesting to a backwoods man like me....

I will sign myself as ever, Milton Barnard Milton Barnard collection.

Photo Source: Surgery and anatomy class, ca. 1893; ; Medical School (University of Michigan) records, 1850- [ongoing] [On verso: Jas. A. Breakey, Ann Arbor, Mich.; Laurence C. Grosh, Toledo, O. Attached caption: Howard H. Herrington (M '94), [center]; Laurence C. Grosh (M '96), [left front]; Stephen Clifton Glidden (M '94) [right front]; [donated by] Edwin Andrew Murbach (M '94) [left back]; James F. Breakey (m '94) [right back]

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Home > Exhibits > Daybook

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"During my freshman year there were of course no conveniences for girls. We never removed our hats. We had to wear our wraps during the class hour, or throw them on the desk in front of us. These desks, scored with the names of former students, were of the rudest character. In the old Latin room they were the length of the long benches on which we sat. Girls were given the front seats and were therefore unduly prominent. We were in truth pioneers. On our success or failure depended in a marked degree the status of the girls who were to follow us."

-University of Michigan. Alumni Association collection.

Photo Source: Lecture on General Chemistry, ca. 1893; Gibson, J. Jefferson; Medical School (University of Michigan) records, 1850- [ongoing]

<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

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"Eventually you would come across the name of a girl who was yours for a time. The name alone brightens your eyes, piques your interest. To you the name is of someone mysterious, bubbly, intricate, sincere, exciting, lonely, unique, beautiful. Attainable, once attainable, unattainable. At one time there was a girl. She went to Michigan."

-Mike Green and Richard Salay. "and the Tenth One Goes to Michigan." [Ann Arbor?]: Mike Green Enterprises, [1964?]. p. 5.

Photo Source: Female student with Coca-Cola, ca. 1940-1945; Alumni Association (University of Michigan) records, 1859-1998

<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

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"The last week of preparation at home has finally come, the old trunk is brought down and packed to overflowing, good-byes are said, and one more hungry soul is off to college. We arrive at last. We find the picturesque station crowded full of students with arms full of bundles. Where shall we go? What shall we do? There stands a sophomore. Oh, how we envy her!-oh, how she looks down upon us! See the hacks fly away bearing sophs, juniors, and seniors to the rooms which await them. We poor little freshmen are left behind to take care of ourselves as best we may, and we follow the crowd up the long street, shaded by majestic oaks and maples."

-Edith Lois Sheffield. "Student Life in the University of Michigan." Cosmopolitan, June 1889, p. 107.

Photo Source: Michigan Central train station, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1937/38; Alumni Association (University of Michigan) records, 1859-1998

<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

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Mich. University Ann Arbor Sept. 1846

Dear Brother

I have returned in very good health to Ann Arbor and am pursuing my last years course of studies. Undoubtedly the pleasantest part of my life is fast passing away, that is my college life. So if I may believe what all educated men say it is indeed the pleasantest part and if I could appeal to my own feelings I should also say the same. Never indeed does a person feel the ennobling character of the mind within him so much as when diving deep into the mysteries around him he compels nature to show him rarest treasures, and unlocking the musty volumes of the ancient sages, he then sees mind grappling with error and dashing it to earth with the force of a giant. But I must stop this train of thought,

else I shall put the love of the classics into you, and you will be tempted to leave "your wife and little one" and "go to college"....Believe me

Your Aff. Brother

J.S. Newberry

-John S. Newberry collection.

Photo Source:

Home > Exhibits > Daybook

### A Book of Days: 150 Years of Student Life at Michigan



The examinations are over, and the second semester has begun. The usual number of 'aspiring youths' have had their blossoming hopes rudely crushed by the cruel hand of some relentless Professor, and have left us, to return no more, alas! to academic groves on Huron's banks. The usual number of timid Fresh or Sophs, who 'sighed like furnace' at thought of the approaching ordeal, have wreathed their faces anew in smiles, and now look with augmented love and devotion upon the college dignitaries. The usual number of upper class men have learned, greatly to their wonder, that their proficiency in their studies is not fully appreciated by their instructors, and nobody wonders at it but themselves.

-"College Items." University Magazine, February 1868, p. 195. (3)

Photo Source: West Quad room; University of Michigan. Alumni Association., Box 138, Student Life, undated, ca. 1940'2-1950's

<u>Home</u> > <u>Exhibits</u> > <u>Daybook</u>

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For four long years he toiled, known, it may be, to none but a classmate who sat beside him in his "math" or German. Now he is acknowledged. He struts about among his younger colleagues in most amazing garb, observed of all observers. He is the Senior, full-blown, grave, and great.

-"At the Sign of the Ass's Head." The Inlander, April 1904, p. 317. (28)

Photo Source: Swing Out; University of Michigan. Alumni Association., Box 138, Swing Out

Home > Exhibits > Daybook

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-Enoch Jones Price collection.

Ann Arbor, Mich. June 25, 1891 My Darling Louise:

...Commencement exercises occurred at 10 this a.m....One thing that looked strange to me was to see the ladies marching in the procession with the boys and going upon the platform with them. Every class, I think, except the law had one or more ladies. Even the Doctors of Philosophy of which there were four contained one lady. The medical classes each contained several ladies. In the class of Pharmaceutical Chemists Miss Greaves was the only lady to 29 boys. I never saw her before. She is quite pretty, isn't she - far beyond the vast majority of "sweet girl graduates" of today....

Photo Source: Graduation; University of Michigan. Bentley Historical Library, Box 10, Daybook