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Title: Journal of Charles F. Thomas

Date: July 9, 1859 - November 13, 1861

Location: I-Friends-1983-17

Contact:

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Dickinson College
Carlisle Penna
July 1859-
[July 9th] [*added in pencil*]

9- Junior Contest this evening- contestants were W.L. Cannon, JV Gotuals, RS Shreve, Hugh Gordon Seymour, B.F Ball, Geo Baylor, JL Shipley, Jno W Landis, W. Fisk Townsend, DM Eckman, C.G. Jackson, RE Shapley & SH Yocum.

~~Seymour~~ & Landis & Seymour obtained the medals. Weather very warm.

10th Sunday. Dr Durbin delivered Sermon before "Soc of Religious Inquiry"- Very good. At 8 P.M. Dr Johnston's Baccalaureate "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, &c."

Monday 11 Belles Anniversary. Geo Zimmerman, Alex Ege, JW Wright, CC Pennel, Tho Parker, & Dav. Stone were Speakers. Attended the Supper by invitation.

Tuesday 12. Union Exhibition. Speakers. Duke Slavens, RE Shapley, WW Merrick, JH Beckwith, [JD] Warfield, & JB Parker.

Notwithstanding the thermometer was said to stand at 113 on the stage, all passed off pleasantly. At the supper after spaking.

13 Wednesday. Chs Carrigan Esq of Phil. delivered the [one word illegible] Societies. Subject "Time, Faith, Energy." Very able.

14. Commencement proper passed off pleasantly.

15. Off for home. Rev S.H. Cummings ~~has~~ on my way home urged me to unite myself with the Garrett Bib Inst. in preference to the Concord Inst. Should I find it preferable I will decide it favor of it.

30 Sunday. At Mount Olive. J. Lester S- preached for me- he lacks energy. Intended to remain until Monday but feeling unwell started for home. Stopped on my way at Emmart's Church & heard Rev D.H. Muller preach. I closed for him.

7 Sunday At Ilchester. text "Good "Master what must I do to inherit eternal life." ES White preached in afternoon at Ridge Chapel. "Behold Lamb of God" &c.

Aug 10th. Our annual Camp Meeting commences to day. We have a company consisting of the following families, JC Smith, D Carson, JL Reese, Rev Jos Fa[nno?], & Rev Wm. Hirst, Mrs. Maria Thomas, BF Haines, Math Gault, & EC Thomas. Have excellent accommodations. 159 tents on ground.

19. Camp has concluded: we truly have had refreshing times: my strength has been renewed. A misunderstanding with Eugenia F- has caused me some unpleasant p feelings: She is a particular friend & I regret much to hurt her feelings

15. Sent Ginnie F- an apology & am once more on friendly terms.

I have concluded to go to Evanston instead of Concord: it is said to be much superior.

Aug 31 Sunday. Grand Auroral display. whole heavens resplendent. Red blue yellow &c lights. Eugenia F- & myself at Union S. Church. She was frightened [*passage handwriting style is different from previous passages-smaller, added later. May be a different person.*]

Sept 2. Bid farewell to friends and started this morning at 7 ½ for the West. arrived safely at 9 P.M. at Elmira New York- a beautiful city. another display of Northern lights- rather slight. [*last sentence added in same handwriting as added passage above*]

3 Sat. Started from Elmira at 6 A.M. for Niagara Falls. Passed through Canandaiqua & Rochester & arrived at 2 P.M. at the Wonder of the World. Put up at the Niagara House- rather poor accommodations.

I was so impatient to see the Wonder, that I scarce took time to brush off the dust from clothing 'ere I started on my tour of inspection.

I went first to this place & so that

& was upon the point of declaring Niagara a humbug when I fell in with a young man from N.Y. City who volunteered to escort me to Goat Island. Here I had a fine view of the Falls & was to a degree satisfied but still returned to my hotel with my ardor somewhat cooled.

4th Sunday. Stores are all opened & I know of no church to attend & hence have decided to worship God in his own temple. Walked (alone) to Suspension Bridge & walked across to the Cannada side & soon arrived at Table Rock

Saw a path with a sign directing to Table Rock took it. (after meeting a Mr Steward of Memphis Tenn.) & began the decent which proved to be a perillous one. After becoming rather wet, we arrived "behind the sheet." Now I beheld Niagara in all its grandeur. Oh I shall never forget the sight! Its thunders are even now in my ears & its angry dashing waters are now before my eyes.

Reluctantly we retraced our steps. The guides would not believe that we had descended alone. From the top of Table Rock we had another fine view.

With my friend (A Presbyterian) ~~we~~ visited in the afternoon Goat Island. At night I wandered alone to the bridge over the rapids & stood for a long time lost in thought, watching the waters hastening to their destiny. I admired the rapids almost as much as the falls. I descended during afternoon with Mr S- the Biddle stairway also & walked a long distance along the base until I arrived beneath the tower. Visited the falls by moonlight- full moon. Came near being left by the cars in the morning owing to my desire to pay a farewell visit. Wet to the skin, with wet shoes & socks. I embarked for Chicago Monday Morn. 5th

5th A pleasant trip through Queen Vic's dominions. My friend (Mr Steward) is a pleasant companion.

Arrived at Detroit at 8 P.M. & at once started for Chicago. Suffered much from the cold & could not sleep.

6th At 5 A.M. arrived at Michigan City, where I disembarked to get some breakfast & the cars left me taking with them my trunk, valise, umbrella, & high hat. Was coolly informed that next train passed at 7 P.M.!

Tried to walk "through town" but stuck in the sand. Freight train passed at 11 & I got on & in 5 hrs arrived at Chicago.

Had no trouble in recovering my baggage. Stopped at the Richmond House. Had much trouble in finding Clark & Co's to firm to which my box of books was consigned. Was detained in the city until the next evening. ✎

Visited all worth seeing in Chicago & am much pleased with all save the pavements.

At 8 P.M. left Chicago on Milwaukee train for Evanston where I arrived in the course of half an hour. I inquired at the depot for a hotel & was directed to one some distance up a dark road: a little boy carried up my trunk for me.

I retired to my room in a few minutes- to drown my thoughts for to speak candidly I had the blues for the first time.

8th Arose early, breakfasted & started for the Institute which was said to be about ½ a mile distant. I soon saw a large white building, frame, but rather cheerful in appearance, which I took for the Inst. Asked a little boy & he informed me that it was the "Bible College." North of the building stood ~~the~~ a grove, to which I directed my steps. I sat under a tree & spent some time in meditation

& prayer, praying for the Divine blessing upon my first efforts at the Garrett Bib. Inst. I then started for the buildings & met at the door Rev O. Huse the Agent of the Inst. He requested me to walk into the Chapel where Dr Kidder was lecturing on General Department. At its close I was introduced to Drs Dempster, Kidder, Bannister & Prof. Heminway. Dr B- at once recognized me as a correspondent.

Bro Huse soon placed at my disposal a very pleasant room & after removing much old furniture I began to arrange my rm. & by evening had all arranged.

Thursday Evening 22. Am now fully settled in my room & in the Inst. & have been pretty well acquainted with my fellow students who are all good hearted brethren. Went to prayer meeting this evening & walked home with Bro CT Vanantwerp- a good brother. He truly enjoys the blessing of

Sanctification. Oh would that I were perfect in Love! I was greatly blessed this evening waiting

upon him.

The students have had a company. I became acquainted with my of the Evanston ladies. The society is very good indeed quite superior: the town is composed ~~only~~ chiefly of Chicago Bankers & Merchants. The faculties of the three colleges generally lead the town. I have made the acquaintance of Bishop Simpson's daughter Anna & find her an agreeable young lady. Took dinner a few days since with Mrs Bragdon & met the wife of the late Prof Caldwell. of Dickinson College. Her son Cushman is expected on very shortly.

Oct 5. Have received letters from Gussie Gere & J Lester Shipley informing me of the death of my dear friend Hugh Gordon Seymour. He died Sept 29. 59.
A consistent Christian, he has gone to his reward

Oct 29. Have gotten along very well in my studies with the exception of Hebrew which I have been compelled to relinquish on account of my weak eyes. I can study every thing save that. I cannot see the vowel points ~~see~~ without much straining. ~~the vowel points~~.
I do no study in the evening & hence they generally pass off very unpleasantly.
I have however made some very pleasant friends in town with whom I pass some pleasant evenings.

Nov 29. Left this morning for my home. Arrived at 7 P.M. at Indianapolis. was here unable to make the connection for Dayton & hence laid over. Passed some fine towns (e.g. La Fayette). Also saw the old battle ground of Tippecanoe where the great Tecumseh fell.
20. Left Indianapolis at 6 A.M. for Dayton. They delayed Breakfast so long at the hotel that I declined to take it

prefering none to being compelled to stop before fairly underway. At about 10 A.M. I succeeded in getting a cup of coffee & some crackers. I travelled with a gent. from Indiana- he was good company. We had a good time passing through ~~on our way~~ Dayton, Zenia, B Columbus & Gainesville & arriving at the Ohio (Benwood) at 9 P.M. which we crossed & took B.&O. cars for Balto. My ~~friend~~ companion left me at Newark O. I regreted much that I could not pass by daylight over the mountains.

21 [*number appears in the left margin at the beginning of line*] Took Breakfast at daylight at Cumberland. Stopped at Harpers Ferry. found it filled with soldiers guarding John Brown & his party. Scenery here is grand. The prisoners were in Charlestown. Arrived at home at 5 PM

22. "Thanksgiving day." Visited in morning ES White & Rev HB Ridgeway.

2[2?] Nov. Passed my examination this evening before Fayette St Quarterly Conf.

& received Local P's license.

Nov 25 At Ilchester with Bro White (E.S.). Went in Omnibus & when we arrived at the Mt DesSales lane met Father who was waiting with his carriage to take us to my Bro A-'s. He & my bro ~~with~~ went with us. not however by my permission.

Dec 9th. Preached at Spring Garden Chapel in morning. Bro Lester (my leader) & many of my companions were present. Our fireman Wm Smith ~~I understand~~ told me that he thought it the poorest sermon he ever heard. He repeated the same to my Bro & Cousin.

Dec 30. Friday. Rev Ths. Lewall P.E. called at our office this morning & informed Father that he desired me to go with him to his quarterly meeting on Severn Circuit hinting at the time that I might probable be requested to fill a vacancy there.

I met him at the B.&O. Depot & accompanied

him to Annapolis. After retiring for the evening he informed me that I would be expected to preach the next morning. I was greatly surprised, but could not be excused .

31.[*number in left margin at beginning of line*] The next day was bitterly cold: we crossed the Severn & after waiting an hour for a carriage one made its appearance & we started for the Church distant 4 miles.

A new church was to be dedicated next day but as it was not in order we had service in the school-house. Bro Sewall insisted upon my officiating which I did as best I could taking into consideration the presence of 7 preachers. My text was Nahum 1-7.

After service we took dinner with Dr Hammond & afterwards rode to a Bro Nichols where we spent the night. Thermometer was 30 below zero. covering scarce & of course we suffered from the cold. Arose & breakfasted at 9 ½ AM! It was at 11 AM before the darkies brought the carriages! Mr N- owns many slaves but does not understand governing & they

therefore manage to have their own way.

Bro S- dedicated the church: the congregation though very small nobly paid all the remaining debt of \$700.-.

At dinner at Bro Joyce's. Rev Sewall warned me on our way thither to beware of the ladies. but I was nevertheless unprepared to meet such a housefull.

Bro S- preached again in the evening, after which we returned to Bro Joyce's, where we spent the night.

January 1860 [*written in space between entries*]

1 Monday. Preaching at 10 & communion. Bro S & myself (& Bro Richardson) left before the latter service for the Ferry. The weather still very cold & after riding 5 miles found that the river was frozen over! We had no other alternative but to return which we did & stopped for dinner at Mr Nichols. Found that in our absence his little daughter had been severely injured by gunpowder: her hand & face were badly burned

We determined to ride to Millersville where we could take the cars in the morning for Balto. During the 12 miles we suffered much less from the cold than in our morning ride Bro N- having kindly provided warm bricks & blankets in abundance.

We stopped at Bro Jone's overnight & in the morning took an early train for Balto.

Bro Gantt has kindly provided a horse & I am to be at his house next Saturday.

1860

Jan 2. 3. 4 & 5th 6 Was kept busy trying to compose one or two sermons to start with. The Sermon I preached at Quarterly Meeting is the only one I have which I dare preach which one single exception & I am to preach three times next Sunday & ride 16 miles.

Saturday 7th. Found me early at depot saddle-bags & valise in hand. I was met at Millersville by Bro Gantt who kindly invited me to make his house my home, which invitation I accepted.

It rained all day & most fondly did I hope that it would be rainy upon the next day, but alas I was doomed to be disappointed!

8th Lovely morning. Bro Ezekiel Richardson accompanied me to Waugh Chapel- a large unfinished church. The only pulpit was a little stand. the Bible very diminutive. I found my notes were larger than the Bible so determined to refrain from their use. I succeeded as well without as with them. In afternoon at X roads. The largest congregation on the circuit. At night I determined to try my horse. He trots very hard. was very glad to exchange places with Bro Richardson & returned in a buggy with Bro Chs Joyce (a young preacher).

I started Tuesday for Broad Neck. Stopped ~~the~~ first at Dr Hammond. I felt quite at home at this portion of my work, having previously made their acquaintance

At Bro Joyce's Friday- Saturday had intended to go to Broad Neck proper but Saturday was very rainy & I remained at Bro J's. Preached at Broad Neck Sunday morning & at Asbury Chapel in afternoon.

Started early Monday morning for home distant 25 miles arrived at 1 ½ PM. Intended leaving Friday or Sat. for Magothy & Town Neck but being unwell I obtained the services of my friend ES White who kindly filled my place.

During visit I met Rev Peter Cartwright at Bro Sewall's also heard him lecture in the evening at Fayette St.

Returned the following week to Cross Roads & preached

Jan 29. At Sulpher Springs in Morning & Fork of Patuxent in the evening.

~~Jan~~ Feb 12 Preached my farewell at Broad Neck & Asbury.

Monday 13. Bid farewell to Bro Joyce & family. I sincerely regretted parting from them.

Returned to Bro Gantt's & bid them

farewell & returned home the same evening. And thus ends my first Circuit experience. Pleasant indeed has it been.

Feb 28. Off for the West! Parting was sad but particularly so from my Father. I fear he is not long for this world. He said at parting (Oh may I ever remember the words) "Charlie! do not fall into the habit of preaching for worldly show but preach the simple plain Gospel". May God help me so to do. At Harpers Ferry met my future chum ES White. Delayed 30 miles from Grafton by an impediment on the track. a previous train had run off.

At Grafton took N. West. Virg. Cars for Parkersburg. arrived too late for boat to Marietta. Laid over 'till morn. P- is within sight of Blennerhassett's Island.

30 Mar 1 [One word illegible] morning took a boat up the Ohio 8 miles to junction of M. & C. RR. Here we crossed a mountain by [a?] Z or Y

We were delayed several hours at the base of a heavy grade. Our iron steed refusing to carry us up. We were too late to make connection for Chicago at Cincinnati & concluded to lay over until Friday evening as neither of us had ever seen the city.

Mar 2. Spent the day in visiting the points of interest. We were dissatisfied in entering the Observatory. Visited Newport & Covington Ky. At latter place found the office of Dr CF Thomas. Chum entered & left my card. (CFT- Balto Md)

Found upon my arrival at Chicago that my trunk had been opened & robbed of articles to the value of 10 or 15\$.

We arrived at Evanston at 1 ½ PM Saturday I have taken appointments at Ridge S. House. Oh, that the Lord may make me useful!

Friday Mar 23. My poor eyes! While at Severn they did not trouble me I could even use them at night: but since my return

I feel them again growing weak & much fear they will cause me again to relinquish study. I had intended to pursue four studies per day ~~with~~ exclusive of chapel exercises, compositions, & sermons: but already I have given up Hasi Church History. I manage however to ~~return~~ attend the recitations in it & thus gain some knowledge of it & hope soon to take my place regularly in the class.

Visited Bish Simpson's last Friday evening. spent a pleasant evening. Dr Kidder's daughter Katie is at home I find her a pleasant friend. Bish S- joins with many others in cordially welcoming the students to his bright & pleasant fireside. Have lately attended several "Sociables" but have not enjoyed them. (Mr Igleharts & Bro Stewarts) As they are often given for our especial benefit I feel under obligations to attend them! May God bless the kind friends of Evanston!

Mar 26. Dr Foster has been for some time favoring us with a most eloquent & instructive course

of lecture on the "Existence & Attributes of God"! They are delivered Sunday morning at 9 A.M. Bish. Simpson preaches for us as often as he has the time at his command. Dr Dempster's fame is world-wide & Prof Godman of the N.W. University & Drs Bannister & Kidder of G.B.I. are also a fine preacher. Thus we have no scarcity of fine preachers. Father sent me last week \$30.- for Bro Ryce. a good brother from Norway. May the Lord make him very useful: I have purchased him several articles: he is very grateful. Have this evening been reading some of my past entries in this book. find in one place (1858) the following "This night by God's help I begin a new life"! Alas! how often have I made the same resolve but to break it. The spirit is strong, but the flesh Oh! how weak! Oh for entire sanctifica-

tion! By God's help I'll have it!

Wednesday Mar 29. How Abraham Lincoln of Illinois favored us with a visit this afternoon. We were practising in the Gymnasium when he rode up with Dr Evans & another gent: He requested us to proceed with our practise & appeared quite pleased. He seems to be a plain, honest, unassuming man.

My chum has visited a lady & I am alone. I have improved the time by holding sweet commune with my Savior. There is still a space dividing me from God. I have tried to give God my all but fear I have not succeeded. I feel confident while on my knees but so soon as I arise the old doubts return! I can never preach Jesus without entire Sanctification!

Later- I now feel very happy. I think I can say

"'Tis done thou dost this moment save"

Apr 4th Bought myself a spring overcoat & gave my shawl to Bro Craml. I think he will be a useful man.

Preached at the Ridge last Sunday Evening. Oh for more of the love of God.

Sunday Eve. 6th Apr. Bro Ryce has just left my room & left his Ambrotype. He bought a hat in Chicago yesterday & I find has written upon it "Presented to P.C. Rice by Rev CF Thomas" I could scarce persuade him to tear it out!

Have felt much peace for the past few days. have had a calm heavenly joy! I think I have given up all.

Spoke last Friday afternoon in the Chapel on "Progression" There were present several town ladies viz- Katie Kidder Mary Bannister Miss Willards, Simpsons &c.

Monday 9th Had some few disagreeable words with my Chum. The enemy told me I had sinned! Knelt in prayer & thank

God soon felt peace again in my heart. I will conquer him by love!

Received a box last week from home containing some 6 or 8 books which I gave to Bro Wardle. He is poor & I only allowed him to pay the freight.

Wed May 2nd. Last Sunday Dr R S Foster preached his farewell sermon. His feelings overcame him & he was compelled to take his seat. Yesterday I attended some of the Senior examinations at the N.W. U-

We yesterday raised \$35.- to present to Dr Foster. We feel under obligations to him for his invaluable Sunday lectures. He was compelled to sell his library.

May 16 Attended Republican Convention. Abram Lincoln nominated for President. Last Sat week at Bro Harrington's I received a gracious & blessing. Since then have had much peace.

24 May. Have left Bro White & am now rooming ~~with~~ at Bro Harrington's with Bro Elam Jeffrys of Pike N.York. Am but a few rods from the Institute

June 2nd & 4th In Chicago with my Bro Wm. He is much sun burnt from a horseback tour through Kansas & Nebraska.

3rd Attended Clark St. in morning & Wigwam in afternoon.

July 25. Have at last been able to cast myself upon Christ & trust him for a full & free Salvation. Was playing ball near Campus, heard singing & left & went to Bro Springers where they were holding a prayer meeting.

I wrestled in prayer for some time & at last arose & spoke to the brethren of my feelings. I attempted to sit down by fell to the floor & for a few moments the Lord showed me my wicked heart. but Glory to God after suffering for a moment

untold agony I felt the load removed & was able to trust in God. I do not doubt now. All is joy & peace.

Aug 12. A glorious meeting last night. at Bro Harrington's & afterward up in my room. Kept it up until after 10 O'clock

15th Nearly all at Dr Kidder's: he gives his session party this evening. I declined to go 1st Because I had no desire 2nd Because I thought I would not be missed.

Attended Bro [Fursy's?] class yesterday evening, enjoyed it more than my own. I always feel embarrasse at Dr Kidder's.

Mary Bannister has returned from Wisconsin. She is my favorite of all the ladies of Evanston. I can spend an evening with her & not feel on my return that I have misimproved the evening. I return feeling braver & stronger & better. Would that there were more like her!

Aug 25. Received a letter from Father last Tuesday informing me that he had met with some heavy losses & had retired from business. I have since been informed indirectly through Dr Ryan that he has failed. I have written home to know the truth & shall return at once if it be true. I will not remain a burden to him longer. The enemy has used this pretext to torment me most grievously, telling me that my present sad feelings are because I have trusted in riches & not in God. I asked this evening for Divine direction & my eye fell upon the chapter where God humbled Nebuchanezar. Perhaps I too have said "Is not this kingdom mine"? If so I thank God that he has showed me my weakness.

Monday 28. Father has written me informing me that he has only obtained an extension of time & that he will save enough to live off. He requests me

not to return: says there is no need of it whatever.

Was on an excursion about two weeks since (of our S. School) to Kenosha, Wisconsin. (16 or 17) We had a most delightful time. Although we took no ladies, the young ones prepared a nice dinner for us & thus took noble revenge for our neglect.

It occurred two days after Dr K's party & as I was previously informed that Miss Katie was displeased because I had not attended. It was of course my duty to make proper apologies, but as I had no excuse it was hard work. I took occasion however during the day to take a walk with her & informed her that I had no special reason for my neglect save that "I did not wish to go." We have had several other very pleasant picnics. Among others was one on the 4th July- to Lake Forrest. I accompanied on that occasion Miss Mary Willard. The gentlemen were all "Biblicals"

The ladies furnished a nice dinner. Chs H Fowler gave us an address.

Made also an attempt to go upon a picnic to Kankakee but the cars in Chicago left us & we were of course detained. I received a complimentary ticket from Anne Simpson. Katie K- accompanied us.

Aug 29 to Sept 5. At a Camp Meeting which will never be forgotten by me-150 converted & very many reclaimed- the whole ~~churc~~ district has been revived.

I mixed freely among the outsiders exhorting them to come to Christ. [None?] spoke to me rudely. I labored for two nights & a day with a dissolute young man from Chicago & at last had the pleasure of seeing him converted (Webb)

Bish Simpson preached a powerful sermon Sunday morning.

From the second day to the last the altar was crowded with mourners. At 12 o'clock on the last night the

Spirit was at its height. When Dr Eddy proposed a triumphant march & the whole congregation numbering 1000- took up the march. Webb's tears of sorrow were during the march changed to

tears of joy. I shall never, never, forget the scene. We shouted & praised God & sang triumphant songs until the very trees seemed to join in the glad hallelujah's. Corydon Chamberlin of Miss exclaimed to me "Why this must be Heaven"! Finally we all surrounded the Altar & joined in singing "On Jordan's Stormy banks I stand" ~~where~~ after which we intended to disperse but one after another presented themselves at the bench & we adjourned to a large tent where many continued until daylight. The students gained much credit by their labors. many received the blessing of sanctification. We erected a tent & had our ~~board~~ food sent out to us each day.

I walked home through a heavy rain & much mud nearly 15 miles. Arrived at home in time to dress & visit Miss Ella Simpson, Mary Bannister & Katie Kidder who left in the 6 PM train. Ella & Katie for ~~Female~~ Wesleyan Fem. Col. Cincinnati where they will attend school. & Mary for Tennessee to teach in a family.

Sept 8th Saturday. We received this morning a telegram from Chicago to proceed at once to Wynetka to aid if possible in saving the passengers of the Lady Elzin which was run into by a [~~stern?~~] ~~sail~~. schooner at 2 A.M.

I obtained a seat in Mr Hen. Kidders wagon & after a ride of 4 miles arrived at the scene of the disaster. The sight was appalling- about 50 poor struggling wretches were [then?] sight battling with the fierce breakers. A terrific storm raged at the time & no boat could live in the storm. The bluff in many places was 30 ft high

& almost perpendicular. The party (the majority an excursion party from Milwaukee) consisting of over 400 started at 11 PM Friday in high glee: they waited until the Theatre ~~warrant~~ exercises were concluded before they started. Many were intoxicated. They were dancing when the boat ~~went down~~. was struck.

They would come in quite safely until within a few feet of us when the waves would dash their raft to pieces & they would be carried by the undercurrent far out to. Bros Spencer & Cramb exerted themselves nobly. We saved about 25. Only 98 out of over 400 were ~~S~~ saved!

15 Sept. Dr Dempster has offered me a place as Missionary to Buenos Ayres. I have declined because I cannot feel it my duty to go. The condition were to go unmarried & remain two years.

Tuesday Sept 25. Bro Messmore bid us farewell this morning to start for India. He has desired for 18 mos. to engage in the work but not until last Wednesday did he receive orders to go. The vessel sails Oct 10th. He at once began preparations: was examined last evening at the Quarterly Conf. & left this morning at 10.15. for the seat of the Mich. Conf. He resides in Cannada where he expected to stop only 24 hours. We had a season of prayer in his room at 8 A.M. after which we formed in line & proceeded to the church. Exercises were opened by Bro Boring P.E. after which Dr Dempster addressed us, followed by some very touching remarks by Bro Messmore.

There were few dry eyes. We then proceeded to the cars where we had scarce arrived before the cars came along when with a hurried shake of the hand & a "God bless you," "Bro Mess" passed from our sight perhaps for ever. As he embarked we sang through our tears "From Greenland's Icy Mountains"

[in smaller writing at bottom of page] [He] was delayed some time perhaps 2 weeks.

Oct 15th My eyes have again failed me I cannot read ten consecutive minutes. I have been for the past six months taking double study, & as I cannot study at night have been kept very busy by day. I had no intimation of the entire failure of my eyes until it suddenly came upon me. I will not now be able to graduate in the two yrs course as I cannot pass my examinations. I shall return home so soon as I receive my money as it is hard to remain here & see all hard at work & I unable to take part. Well the Lord's will be done! Amen!

25 Oct. Bid farewell, perhaps for ever to Evanston, not without many regrets for I love it & have many kind friends there whom I will never cease to love. Farewell!

At 7 ½ took Pittsburgh & Ft Wayne cars

26th The scenery through Ohio is very fine, especially at this season of the year.

Arrived at Pittsburgh- the "Smoke-house of America" at 4 P.M. Made immediate connection for Harrisburg where we arrived at 1 A.M. & Balto 7 A.M. (27)

Nov 21. Have to day completed the work of transcribing my diary. have destroyed the old one. I have preached since my return at Grove Chapel (twice) & Frederick Avenue. I do not mention in my diary that I relinquished my appointments at the Ridge in the month of May. I gave them to Bro Blowers. I had not the time to devote to them. After Camp Meeting I took semimonthly appointments at Bowmansville. I visited twice Northfield: at both places made some kind friends.

I have opened a correspondence with Mary B- I have made it a subject of much prayer & feel that I am not

departing from the path of duty in so doing. Bro LM Reese has probably a vacancy in N. Penn. which I will fill until Conf.

Nov 27. Preached last Sunday (25) evening at Spring Garden Chapel for Bro Hirst. Have not yet heard from Bro Reese.

My old friend Rev SH Cummings dined with me to day.

Bro D. Creamer some weeks since wrote to Dr Thos. Sommers of Nashvill Tenn. for information concerning Church South for the benefit of J Lester Shipley & myself.

He received a letter last week from him requesting us to visit the Virginia Conf. then in session. Lester was already provided with ee recommendations to some Annual Conf. which I lacked. I

decided however to visit the Conf. although I did not look with any favor upon it. I visited Bro Sewall Thurs. morn. & he said he could furnish me with the documents by applying at the Hanover St Quarterly Conf. which met that evening: but when I went to his

house in the evening to accompany him he informed me that he could not, without incurring the displeasure of his Conf. aid me in joining the Southern Church. He very soon convinced me that it was not to my interest to join. I afterwards met Bro J S Martin ~~to~~ who strongly urged me to unite with it but I decided not to do so especially as I would be compelled to travel a year under the Elder. J.L. S- went alone & has united his destinies with that Church. I feel that it is not my sphere. May God direct me.

Upon the occasion of my preaching at Spring Garden Chapel Rev Thos. E. Carson was present. He is the station preacher & was my class leader nearly eight yrs ago. When I was converted (in '52 (August)) I united with Bro Thos. Lesters Class but left in a few months & joined another class which was very shortly given to Bro Carson he kept it until he joined the Balto Conf. which was a few mos. afterward.

Dec 10th. Have been quite unwell for several days past. was not able yesterday to fill appointments at Ridge Chapel & St Luke (Summerfield Circuit). Secession is the order of the day both in Church & State. Where will it end? The "Laymen's Convention" assembled in the Eutaw M.E. Church last Wednesday (5th) at 12 M. The delegation consisted of one for every preacher. It was better attended than was at first expected. Resolutions petitioning our Conf. to withdraw all connection with the Church North, passed by a vote of 100 in favor to 8 neg. I was present during its entire sitting. Bro B S Brown stayed with us. Many of our Ministers came to city to be present. I have received another letter from Mary H. B-. full of the true spirit. She is earnestly inquiring how she may advance higher in divine life. Oh that I may direct her eye to the true road. She is not satisfied with Justification but

thirsts for a more perfect peace. Have I that peace? I believe I have given my all to the Lord but oh! my feet yet slip. Oh that I may soon be wholly swallowed up. Amen

December 14th. I heard again from Bro L M Reese (Wednesday last (12)). He now offers me a place at Muncy, Lycoming Co. Penna, which I shall accept. I received a letter last week informing me that the other circuit was not vacant. I expect to leave ([LV?]) here Tuesday next for Carlisle where I will spend a few day after which present myself to the good people of Muncy Circuit. Bro T.D Gotwaltz will be me Senior preacher. Carlisle Penna

Dec 19. Have arrived safely in Carlisle. Am with kind Bro Gere's family. They were all delighted to see me & do all they can to make my stay comfortable & pleasant. My bros children

(E's) are here. My Bro has not yet returned from Pike's Peak.

We are very uneasy about him.

The old college looks very familiar, but how many well-remembered faces are missing! I feel ten yrs older as I meet those who were Freshmen or "Preps" when I ~~met~~ last saw but who are now reverend Seniors. My old friend McCurley is the only one left whom I cared much about.

Dec 20. Attended this evening what ~~is~~ was [added later in pencil] nominally a "Choir rehearsal" but in reality a "Social party". Was introduced to two or three young ladies whom I well remember as little school girls.

Muncy Lycoming Co.

Dec 21. In company with Bro Gere left Carlisle at 10.15 A.M. with very great regret. It is hard to leave the company of dear friends to go among strangers & I fear among those who will not sympathise with me. I arrived at 7 at Muncy Station & after riding in an Omnibus perhaps a mile ~~was~~ found myself at Bro Gotwalt's door

His lady met me & after partaking of a bountiful supper, I stepped next door to the church where I learned a revival was in progress. I soon found by the many curious glances directed towards my seat that I was recognized. Soon the Minister Bro Gotwalt & the Junior P- Bro Cuddy gave me a hearty welcome.

Saturday 22. Rainy. At Bro Gotwalt's during the forenoon. ~~In~~ During the afternoon many young ladies called. Strange not one married lady visited Sister G- Took tea at Bro Willett's. a genuine Penna Supper. Table loaded with good things. I preached in the evening to a full house. The church is quite as large as many of our citey churches. I am to use Bro Cuddy's ~~house~~ &c. Sunday 23. Rode 5 miles to Hughesville. preached & dined with Rev. Kelly. Preached in Afternoon at Penna Mills & returned to Muncy very much fatig-

ued. Supper at Bro Willetts & afterwards visited Bro Kramer's. At 6 ½ P.M. proceeded to church. The crowd was so dense that I could scarce [*previous word added in pencil*] get into the church: the gallery, isles, & altar were packed. In much weakness I arose & the Lord helped me! Praise his holy name! We had five conversions during the evening. And thus have I began the work! The circuit is large & the work heavy but I must rely on God.

Dec 25. Ate a hearty Christmas dinner at Bro Gotwalts at 12 M. & then off for the Alleghanies to attend a country wedding. Found plenty fine sleighing on the mountains. It was my first visit to a country wedding & I found plenty to amuse me: I fear indeed that my countenance expressed very little of the clerical dignity.

I regreted my inability to do justice to the dinner which was truly ~~immense~~ enormous. I counted 28 dishes: some however were duplicates. I preached at night in Muncy

27th. Thursday. After tea started for Billman's S.H. three or four miles up the Mountains. As usual I lost my way but fortunately did not wander very far.

30th Sunday. Started rather later for Moreland. Snowed hard all day. was in a buggy which was a slight protection. I lost my way & wandered three miles off my road. Congregations at Moreland & Green Valley both very small. a fine turn out at Hughesville in the evening. I rode 18 miles through the snow.

-1861-

Jan 1, 1861. At a company at Bro Scull's.

Jan 2. Took Bro Gotwalt's wife & company to Hughesville in a large sled. Sister Gotwalt, & little daughter & Misses Mary Gotwalt, Jennie Woodruff, Fanny Haughawaut, Emma Shultz, & myself constituted the company. We spent a pleasant day at Dr Rishel's.

3rd At another wedding on the Alleghanies. at Bro Gortner's. Our same party of yesterday with the addition of Miss Calder [*name added in pencil*]. In my sleigh were Misses Mary G. & Jennie W-. On our way home Mary lost her fur cape. Miss Jennie & myself drove nearly the whole way back but could not find it. Miss Mary returned with Bro G- Night overtook us & it became so dark that we could not see the road & the horse would not keep in it. Therefore as a natural consequence we had an upset, resulting in no disadvantage to myself but which quietly removed Jennie from her seat by my side to one in the snow. Our revival is still in progress. two conversions last evening. I have preached 13 times during the past 11 days.

5th I attempted to preach last evening, but failed in the effort, my throat being so sore I could scarcely speak. I talked perhaps 15 mins & immediately left the church.

The work on the circuit is too much for me. I ~~am~~ have not been accustomed to ~~it~~ preach nearly every evening as I am now compelled to do & it goes rather hard with me. I do not think I ~~shall~~ could join this Conference in the Spring were it for no other reason than that the work is so hard. Note. S. Carolina has seceded & great danger threatens the whole Country.

Jan 9 My throat not yet recovered. I preached however Sunday (6th) at Muncy & Turbutville. & went to Green Valley Monday to take charge of the protracted Meeting at that appointment. preached Tuesday evening. Bro G- leaves this evening for Green Valley when I will be left in charge of the meeting here (Muncy).

I shall not preach however. Bro Gotwalt's throat is quite bad.

11th Saturday Weather cold & windy I rode to Gortners (8 miles) & stopped at Bro Chs. Websters. Preached in evening at Gortner's.

12th. Coldest weather I have ever experienced. Thermometer stood at Hughesville at 23° below zero! It must have been at least 35 25° below at Gortners, (which is up among the Mountains). I left Bro Websters for Hileman's on horseback. & had not ridden 15 mins. before my left ear was frozen. I rode about ¾ hr & alighted at a farm house to warm & found to my joy that I was within half a mile of the School house. Dined at Bro Frantz. rode 10 miles & arrived at Muncy rather the worse for my ride. preached at Muncy in evening to a crowded house. I closed the protracted meeting. My ear is very painful to day. I had the pleasure last week at Green Valley of sleeping on straw & covering up with feathers!

14 Tuesday Again at Green Valley remained until after preaching Wed. Eve. Our meeting a failure. The accommodations at G.V.

were very poor. Rode to Muncy after preaching Wednesday evening.

The last letter I received from home informed me that no certain intelligence had been received of my bro. Edward.

I have not heard from Mary B- for some time: Her last letter was dated Indianapolis & was Dec 23rd: She was then en rout for home. her mother's health & the unsettled state of affairs being the reasons assigned. Why does she not write?

Jan 17th This evening visited Death bed of Mr Wells. Poor man he is most miserable. no hope in this life nor in that to come.

19. Mr W- is dead! He is said to have died in peace.

21. Preached yesterday three times. Am now at Turbutville holding another protracted meeting. We have a fine little town ~~but we~~ with three large brick churches. but none for our Society

We worship in the town Academy, where we have a crowded house each evening. God will hear prayers from the school house as well as the lofty temple. I have received a letter from Mary. it has re-energized me.

23rd Rode from Turbutville to Bro [Dinn's?], where I met some twenty of the Muncy people. Yesterday visited Bro LM Reese P.E. at Lewisburg. He solicited greatly for my name & at last I promised to answer him in one week. He has offered me Berwick C't. said to be ~~one of the~~ best in the District.

Have been making an effort to buy a horse but have not yet succeeded.

20th. Have returned to Muncy suffering greatly with a severe cold.

30. Yesterday Bro Gotwalt & myself visited Bro Reese. Bro G- is much elated by a promise of Williamsport next year. I have Bro R. a positive answer: my lot will hence forth be cast with the E.B. Conf. May the Lord prosper me.

Bro Warren preached for us this evening. he was much interrupted by persons leaving the house. February 1st Friday. Bro Langley of Milton Station preached. When he first began he was

compelled to reprove some young men for leaving. Soon I saw some misbehaving in the lower part of the house & descended from the stand & took my seat in their midst. Bro L. concluded after which I exhorted. Upon the conclusion of the exercises I arose & remarked that an apology was doubtless due to Bro L. for the conduct of ~~many~~ a portion of the congregation but that I would inform him that they are no respecters of persons, that their regular ministers are treated with disrespect & that all strangers meet with the same treatment. (~~speaking~~ I spoke of Bro Warren). I also remarked that he would doubtless be much surprised to learn that many thus acting were professed Christians, members of sister churches.

Wednesday 6th. Visited Williamsport with Bro Gotwalt. Stayed over night with Bro T Mitchel Principal of the Dickinson Seminary. I spent the evening very pleasantly with my old friend Prof Geo. John. a portion of the time was enlivened by the company of Miss Mary J. Rishel of Hughesville. A parishoner.

I fear Bro Cuddy's horse will lose one or both of her eyes.

13. Bro Robt R Pott & Bro Deal have paid us visits. My recommendation from Balto. has been decided insufficient I expect to go to Danville Saturday to pass another examination. Bro Deal at Sister Pott spoke very feelingly of Father as a "model lay men".

16th & 19th Feb. Saturday. In company with Rob Pott. left for Danville. had the pleasure of meeting Miss Jennie Woodruff in the train: she was en rout for home. We seperated at Milton. Bro Reese met us at the latter place.

Bro Pott proceeded to his circuit (Catawissa). We put up at Bro Duncan Hartman's. I had expected to return to Muncy Sat. Eve. but could not as our Conf. was not convened until after evening preaching. I preached in the evening to a very full house.

Sunday afternoon I visited two S. Schools. afterwards call on old Father's Rickitts & Harris. two old saints. Father R- has heard Wesley preached also has seen very frequently Tom Paine. ~~B. Told~~ Gave us an interesting account of an effigy burning of Paine.

During our visit Bro R. related an incident of ~~Father~~ which I never before heard. Father Hersey of Balto. is renowned for his asceticism- in his eyes- costly dress furniture &c are abomination ~~to~~ not to be tolerated. ~~He~~ he particularly abhors all musical instruments. Some three yrs ago he was our City Missionary & drew up my Father for

large sums of money. He came in the office upon one occassion & gave an account of a family once wealthy but now destitute. ~~by~~ A daughter understood music but had no instrument. Father sat down.- signed a check & delivered it to the old Gent. with a remark "she shall have the piano & you shall buy it"

The old man was taken aback- but finally finding no door of escape open, made purchase of the "ungodly instrument"!

Returned to Muncy Monday 18th.

28 February. Thursday. This is my last week on the Muncy Circuit. The friends at the parsonage are busy packing their goods. They are constantly interrupted by visitors both from town & from abroad. I am almost ready to forswear forever married life.

I sent Bro Cuddy's horse to old Bro Gortners yesterday. She will be well taken care of. Bro L.M. R- owes Father some money & will purchase a horse for me in payment thereof.

Mar 3. My last day (Sunday) on the circuit. Bro Cuddy arrived last evening- health some what improved. I preached in morning in Muncy & in afternoon at Turbutville. returned in time to hear Bro Gotwalt in the evening. He had a very crowded house. We settled up our finances last evening by paying in full. Bro G- & myself left with a poor opinion of the generosity of our recording Steward. My stay on Muncy Circuit has been a pleasant one not unmingled with some very unpleasant scenes.

March 4-13. At home. found all well. Heard Bishop Scott preach Sunday morn 10th & Bishop Simpson in evening. The former in Light St Church on "Sanctification" the latter in Chas. St Church on "If a man die will he live again."

March 13. Wednesday. Started for Conference Stopped overnight at Carlisle. I brought word from my Bro Edd who is still at Denver City. Wm. Tough his

partner has returned to the city ~~to~~ on a very short visit.

March 14-21. Conference Week. Bro R. Norris kindly obtained for me a bed in a Mr. Col [*previous word added in pencil*] Stumbaugh's house. a kind whole souled man. a member of the Lutheran Church. I have not come among strangers. All the older members know my Father, whose good name is a ready passport to favor.

Saturday afternoon I went with Bro Gotwalt & others to assist him (Bro G-) in his preaching at Shippensburg. I stopped with Rev L. Gotwalt of Lutheran Church for whom I preached Sunday afternoon at Green Village. In evening I preached in the Winebrenarian Church at Shippensburg. Bro Luther Gotwalt is an earnest conscientious Christian & will I think make a promising prominent man. We returned early Monday Morning by private conveyance to Chambersburgh.

Monday evening a Missionary Meeting Bro MaClay of China formerly of our Conf. spoke as also Dr Durbin.

Tuesday Morning we had an interesting session. We bid faræwell to Bro McC- during which four bretheren offered themselves for the Missionary work viz WW Hicks, Brown, Drum, & DC John. The former has been accepted by the Bishop. His emphatic "I will go" nerved me to renewed vigor. Our appointments were given to us Thursday Morning at 5 A.M. I am to travel Milton Circuit. The Lord give me stenght to do his work.

Very many of the good people of Chambersburg waited upon us a the cars. & apparently regreted our departure. I have never known a kinder people.

M'EWENSVILLE Apr. 8-61-

I left Baltimore Friday 29th and arrived safely at Sunbury where I met Bros L.M. Reese & Jno Swanger. Bro Reese had partially

bargained for ~~my~~ Bro Swanger's horse & sulky for my use. A few minutes only were sufficient to obtain my consent for I soon saw that the horse was a valuable animal for the price. She is a full blooded Canadian, rather old but I think good for ten years longer. I only give 90 or 95 Dollars for the whole.

I have preached eight times since my arrival upon the Circuit and am so far much pleased with the people. Oh that the Lord may fully sanctify me that I may properly do his work! I received a valise this morning from Balto. in which was a short note from Lizzie informing me of the death of my Bro Edward's youngest child. (Laura) She died at the residence of Bro Gere but her remains were removed to Balto & buried from our house, yesterday (Sunday)

My colleague Bro Warren is a most excellent man. I already esteem him very highly.

Bro. Antrims' Dewart Apr 16-1861.

We held our first quarterly meeting last Saturday & Sunday at Elimsport. I went in company with Bro Jno Ashelman. had an excellent meeting. A committee ~~were~~ was appointed to procure me a home. my salary was fixed at \$150.-

"The war hath actually begun"!! Fort Sumpter has been stormed & taken began Friday last April 12 all hope I fear is now over. excitement is intense every where. even here among the hills we feel much of it. A man was tared & feathered in Sunbury a day or two since for expressing Southern Sentiments. Pres. Lincoln has called for 75,000 troops. Every thing has the appearance of civil war. Our consolation is that God rules over our destinies.

I spent a portion of last week at Sodom. Bro Jno Cummings is a fine young man. I already love him. We took quite a stroll upon the hills Friday morning accompanied by his sisters & Mattw Kramer

of Muncy. Bro C- is our recording Steward. but was born without hands. one arm is off ~~at the~~ elbow. above the elbow while the other extends about two inches below his elbow. upon the end of one arm is a slight protuberance ½ inch in length. I never saw a more beautiful writer. in fact he can manage to do everything nearly as well as any one except button his shirt collar. He shaves himself very well. He will shortly be a Candidate for County Recorder: he is very intelligent. ~~Why~~ Why does Mary not write?

Bro Jno Voris' Chilisqueque 19 Apr 1861

I visited Lewisburg this morning and saw one hundred Volunteers start for the South much enthusiasm was displayed.

Bro L.M. Reese addressed the crowd in an speak of over half an hour. he is filled with love for the Union. All is excitement. never in the history of our country have we had as stirring times. It is reported that the Southern troops have siezed Harpers

Ferry & killed the entire Garrison.

The people here are not as yet a unit for the North many declaring their intention to take an opposite side. Rev- McDaniels of Lewisburg went as temporary Captain this morning with the company. Maryland is the only S. Border State which has not refused to furnish their quota of troops. All the Border States will doubtless take up arms against the ~~South~~ North. What an account must the leaders North & South who have brought this war upon us render! May God forgive them!

I have not yet a home Bro Reese says he will shortly furnish a boarding house in town (Lewisburg) & charge to the Circuit. I am rapidly losing my good opinion of the hospitality of Pennsylvania.

Monday 22. Washingtonville Bro J. Sayers. I have just returned from Danville. All is excitement. none think of

business. 600 volunteers from Luzerne Co passed through town en rout for Harrisburg. Harper's Ferry was vacated by the Federal troops. The first blood has been spilled! Troops from Massachusetts & Pennsylvania attempted to pass through Balto. & were attacked by a ~~bad~~ mob and several on each side killed. The affair has greatly exasperated the North. Spent a pleasant morning with Bro BB Hamlin.

I have just heard the report that Baltimore has been burned to ashes but do no credit it.

26 April At Bro Hess' Elimsport. The report of the burning of Balto. grew out of the fact that the Secessionists burned several Roman Cath. Churches (?) because they displayed the Stars & Stripes. The rails have been removed from the R.R. near Baltimore & the telegraph wires cut thereby destroying all connection with Balt. The city is under Military law and is in danger both from North & South. The Navy yard at Norfolk has been vacated

& destroyed by the Federal troops.

I feel very uneasy about my friends. What will become of them! Perhaps I will never more see their faces! Oh God give me grace! I enjoyed sweet commune with God this morning both on my way here, as also after my arrival. He will not suffer the righteous to be forsaken! I can trust Him for all which is to come.

It is said that at Williamsport, Lock Haven, _____ & Harrisburg (?) an Eagle has shown itself in a very singular manner. Whilst raising a pole at Williamsport & ~~H one~~ it alighted & perched upon it & immediately flew towards the South. Yesterday at Lock Haven while the troops were embarking it hovered over the cars & again flew South. Many superstitious ones consider it a good omen for the North.

Bro Hollowpeter's Watsontown

May 4th. Saturday night. I have a very severe sore throat- ~~bad cold~~. arising

from bad cold. Baltimore is “all right”!! Governor called session of [*previous two words added in pencil*] legislature when it became necessary to elect delegates from Balt. Only one ticket was nominated viz Secession which obtained only 8,500 votes. The Union men finding themselves in a great majority took courage. & once more spread to the breeze the glorious Stars & Stripes!! The legislature have refused to consider Secession petitions. The Union feeling is fast gaining throughout the State. Western Virginia refuses to secede with the rest of the State. I have spent the greater part of the week at Clinton Mills with Bro Kinsey & family. I had two teeth extracted by Dr Smith who administered Ether. I was conscious of a little pain; enough to detect the operation. I was quite helpless although had to an ~~extan~~ extent my mental powers. I took Miss Mary K- to Muncy last Thursday. Spent the day at Bro McMichael’s returned in evening & preached at Clinton

as I was detained Sunday (owing to the rain) at Elimsport. Bro Kinsey has very kindly offered me a home. I have utterly failed to secure one elsewhere. At all the eligible points the people are either too poor or too penurious. The latter especially at Sodom. The name, by the way, is well chosen. One Bro there told me after giving many very poor reasons why I could not make his house my home, that I “might come some time & spend two or three days at his house”! & he would “show me where the corn was kept & I could eat at the table, what his family ~~did~~ “eat”!! The brother is worth at least \$50,000, lives in a very large brick house &c &c. Many others are quite as bad. May the Lord forgive them! I could not well accept of a home among such people. In K- & family consisting of himself wife 2 sons & five daughters, are some of the salt of the Earth judging from their hospitality.

Bro Fritz of Mt. Z- thinks I’m not sound on the Union Question & should be watched. The good bro is very rabid but unfortunately cannot read & though in conversation with him I thought I expressed pretty strong sentiments yet it seems he is not satisfied. It is some times very provoking to be schatechised by every host, many of whom never read the papers & hence are ignorant, but It is the only way to get along. Perhaps I do not make as great an effort as I should to introduce religious topics.

New Columbia.

Thursday May 9. At Mother Robins. a good old Sister very simple hearted lives with here three single daughters. Mother R is a stanch Democrat. I had been in the house but a few minutes before she asked me whether I was a Republican & upon my giving a negative answer she began a tirade against the Republicans She bore very heavily upon the “old line Whigs”

accusing them among other things of being very tricky not to be trusted. Soon she showed signs

of slacking up a little when I told her I was myself an Old Whig & that I took all her talk to myself. It was amusing to see how she attempted to talke back her charges. She was much surprised when informed that Jeff. Davis &c were Democrats.

I have again written to Bro Wm Afmith to ascertain why I hear no word from my Evanston friends.

May 10th. Received a letter from Mary B. unusual engagements prevented a more prompt reply to my last. A military company has been formed in the G.B. Inst. Bro Chs J Fowler Capt. Bish Simpson's wife has presented them with a fine flag.

May 16. At Williamsport with Miss Mary Kinsey.

Monday Morning 27. Returned to my "home" last evening much fatigued ~~have~~ had a good time yesterday at

Mt Zion also last Sunday evening at Washingtonville. (19th).

I received a letter from Father yesterday which leads me to fear in fact to know that all my family are secessionists. He insists upon my not expressing in future in my letters any opinion on the war. I cannot help but feel very badly to think I'm compelled to differ upon so important a subject but still am decided to take a firm stand, while, at the same time I will not express my sentiments to those to whom they may be obnoxious. Col Elsworth of the Zouaves has been shot at Alexandria whilst removing a secession flag. Alexandria has been seized by the Federal troops. Also Pt Sewell (contradicted) May God help the right! Father, Will, Sam &c have all removed to a ~~far~~ my Bro A's farm. Father has become quite a farmer I'm informed.

Later- Have just returned from Muncy.

Tuesday 28th Accompanied the ladies to the Summit of "Penny Hill." The view is one of the best in the country: pen cannot describe it.

19 June. Wednesday. The weather has been very cool this season but has at last given us a little taste of Summer. I wrote to Father & expressed my sentiments firmly upon National Affairs. He answers that it was read with "surprise astonishment & regret" & denominates "the most fanatical thing he ever read all things considered"! He letter has been read by me with at least equal regret. & surprise.

Poor man how my heart bleeds for him! I fear Secession has already ruined him & yet he cannot see the true source of his trouble. May God help him in this his time of need!

The rebels have fled from Harper's Ferry after having destroyed the magnificent buildings & bridges. The Government

property has now all been destroyed I believe. The piers still remain in the river & the bridges can soon be repaired.

A fight occurred at Great Beshel Va. in which we were repulsed with a loss of 25 killed & 100 wounded. The attack was foolishly made by an incompetent officer.

Williamsport Pa. has done probably more than any other town ~~for~~ of equal size for her country.

England still falters in her attachment but France seems firmly upon our side. I shall attend Dickinson Sem Commencement this afternoon & evening.

20 June. Attended the Commencement exercises at Dickinson Seminary. returned with Misses Emma & Mary K- at about 2 A.M. Bro Robt Pott spends today with me. He furnishes endless amusement to all by the performance of his wonderful "humble bee" &c.

28 June. Have been visiting Muncy where I met Bro Pott & the Misses Eyer from Bloomsburg. I cut my finger quite severely. Dr Smith sewed the wound during which I fainted & had a slight spasm.

29 & 30. Quarterly Meeting at Dewart. Bro Reese dissapointed us. I preached Saturday (29) morning although very week from ~~exhausting~~ fainting &c the previous day. I exchanged with Bro Langly at Milton Sunday morning.

11 July. Bro Jno AJ Cummings was married to day. I acted as groomsman with Miss Rosetta Ent, of Light Street Columbia Co. Penna Our ride to Light St was a very pleasant one. We remained last evening at Bloomsburg & met the party at Light St at 7 A.M. & left at once for Danville. The Ceremony was performed at the Danville House by Bro Warren. After refreshments &c we left for Chilisquaque. Bro C's

residence. He has a fine little wife. (Miss Hellen M Sisty formerly)

Tuesday 16th Took Miss Ent to her home. Spent the evening at Father Eyer's.

Wednesday & Thursday 17 & 18. At District S School Convention at Danville. A pleasant meeting. Stooped with Bro Thos Woods.

Our Army's have gained some victories in Virginia & Missouri. Among the most important might be mentioned Gen M'Clelland's, in which 1000 prisoners were taken. The enemy in great force are at Richmond & Manassas Junction at the latter place a battle is every hour expected. The Marshall of Police & police Commissioners have been arrested in Balto. many arms were found secreted in Marshall's office &c.

July 25. A great battle occurred near Manassas Junction (21?) which finally resulted in the defeat of our forces. great

loss upon ~~first~~ both sides. Bro Wm. writes me that Father started for Denver City P's Peak upon the 23rd in search of Bro Edward. God grant he may be successfull in his search!

Monday July 29-[4?] Aug. I left Watsontown this morning for Baltimore

Never before have I crossed the line with other than joyous feelings: but today I entered Maryland with feelings nigh akin to grief if not shame! Poor Maryland harbors many traitors to our Country. We found the road from the line to Balt. closely guarded by troops to prevent the rebels from again burning the bridges &c!!

Arrived in Balt. at 6 P.M. remained with my old friend Isaac McCurley (whom I found a sound Unionist) until Noon Tuesday when I went with my bro Wm. to Catonsville. I found all the family well & very comfortably situated. They are

all avowed Secessionists. indeed ~~nearly~~ half of my friends are upon that side.

Poor Balt is ruined! her buisness men are all bankrupt, and her churches are rent into factions & bereft of the true spirit of Godliness.

I preached at Catonsville for Bro Wm- P-ry whom I found a Secessionist, denying the sin of slavery & opposed to the temperance movement. Alas! such is the tendency of Secession!! No important movement has taken place in our Army since the unfortunate defeat at Bull's Run.

There would be much suffering in the City among the poor were it not for Mr Thos Winans who is furnishing soup & bread daily for about 5000 persons. also Mrs Geo Brown for 500 persons.

It is said that the former has also given Jeff. Davis. one million Dolls. Father is still at Leavenworth where he will remain at least until he

shall hear for Edward.

My old Chum J L Shipley now connected with the Virginia Conf. is occupying his weekdays by taking charge of a farm, the owner having gone to the wars!!

Aug 23. At Bro Benj Troxells.

I visited Cattawissa Camp Meeting last Monday (19) & remained until Wednesday evening. We had a good meeting. I have been travelling through deep waters of late I have not been satisfied for many months with my religious experience. While at home I resolved immediately upon my return to my work that I would at once begin with greater zeal than ever before to seek after entire Sanctification. But alas the work is arduous: clouds & black darkness only obscure my sky. oh that God would help! I'm reolved never to cease striving. I'll dying ~~me~~ seeking it. and no lesser blessing

will suffice! And yet I ought to thank him for a the crumbs. Well: I'll receive the crumbs thankfully but cry aloud for the full ~~meal~~ feast. May the Lord help. I have entered into a solemn covenant with God.

Sept. 3. Tuesday. At Washingtonville We held our 3rd Quarterly Meeting here last Sat & Sunday. (31-1), which proved a most gracious season. We are now holding a protracted Meeting: Last evening the Lord was in our midst. We had a regular shout in the Camp, which I trust will terrify the Heathen around about.

Matters politically look dark. a great Army is now at the threshold of our Capital & emboldened by an apparent victory at Bull's Run are making great threats. A strong peace party, composed mostly of Breckinridge Democrats, ~~wt~~ many of whom strongly sympathise with Jeff. Davis, is in our midst.

and by their sympath efforts are weakening the Administration. Lincoln has already issued orders to suppress their organs. The "N.Y. Day Book" cannot now pass through the mails. All militia organized or unorganized are ordered to march at once to the Capital where they will serve as Federal troops.

My spiritual sky has been scarcely less dark than our political.

I'm still grooping in the dark although at times a light breaks in yet for the most part darkness reigns. Oh may God have pity! I fasted much of last ~~Friday~~ Tuesday (27) but never have I been so dull & lifeless. the entire morning was spent in prayer & meditation together with reading of Scripture & works on Sanctification. I doubtless placed dependence in the means not looking alone to God to giver.

Gen Butler has captured two forts on the coast of North Carolina taking 715 prisoners 1000 arms & 25 cannon.

Sept 6th. Our meeting is increasing in interest. At my last regular appointment at this place I made a very lenient remark concerning the Roman Catholics, at which a young lady has taken great offence. I have no occasion in fact was more lenient that I thought I should have been. My throat already troubles me but I find great relief from the use of [Millea?] leaves which I ~~sp~~ smoke in a pipe.

13 Sept. Friday. Our meeting still in progress. not as many forward as I should like to see. Last Monday I rode down to Danville to secure Bro Hamlin's help for the evening but failed to do so. I had fully relied upon it & was quite unprepared to preach myself. Just upon the eve of leaving ~~the~~ Bro Sayers for Church Father Laney suggested the text

"Behold I stand at the door & knock" &c. I accepted it though I never before thought of it & in 10 minutes was at the Church, where I preached for 45. mins and strange to say the people said I never did better! What a premium for idleness is offered!

Political affairs seem more encouraging a reaction is evidently taking place in N. Carolina. many having volontairely presented themselves at a Cape Henlopen & sworn allegiance.

Oct. 2-9. At Mt Zion. We are holding our protracted meeting at this point. The prospect I fear is not very good although I have still faith to expect a work to be done.

By request I visited Sister S-maker yesterday on my way from Washingtonville. Her son has been a seeker for more than a year and in her anxiety after his wellfare she has made ship-wreck of her own faith. Her husband ~~was~~ is said to have

been a unusually pious & useful man. I have never seen so distressing a case. I fear she will lose her mind if she continues in her present state. I was so deep in the valley myself that I almost feared to offer advice & prayer. I labored with her however for a long time, but was at last compelled to leave her. She neglects everything in her trouble. May God help!

When I left I resolved in my heart that I would myself seek & obtain at once a deeper work. In my trouble I had myself almost fallen into the slough of Despond. My heart indeed seemed to be as hard as their own. But last night at Bro Ellenberger's near Union Town, I received peace & since then, I have felt very joyful. But oh! I have deceived my self so often that I seem scarcely to have faith to believe. Lord increase my faith.

National affairs still very dark.

Last ~~the~~ Thursday of September was observed generally as a day of fasting & prayer. I am glad to find that this was the case in Baltimore.

The Confederates have withdrawn from around Washington (They were within 6 or 4 miles of our lines) They are however still in the neighborhood.

Mulligen has surrendered with about 3500 of our troops at Lexington Mo. The Confeds in great numbers have invaded Kentucky. The Governor is Secession but the Legislature loyal. Thus the clouds thicken. Our only help is in God.

Oct 9. I have enjoyed a great peace since Monday night. I look upon Monday Oct 7 1861. as my second spiritual birth day, for God then Sanctified my soul.

I trust in Him as my entire Savior. Glory to God in the highest! I have received great peace to day in reading the

memoir of Carvosso.

Oct 11. I preached last evening with probably greater liberty than ever before from Ecel x1-9. I felt that the Lord was with me and although I could see no fruits yet I know he owned my effort. My feelings were most awful when ~~he~~ we closed the meetings. I fear some have heard their last warning. We closed permanently, with only one conversions. very many I am confident however were under conviction but we gave them every opportunity but they refused. May God have mercy upon them!

My peace & joy still continue to be great. No doubt has crossed my mind thank the Lord for Sanctification.

Oct. 24. At Limestoneville. We are upon the eve of closing another protracted meeting. Eight have professed conversion.

We are holding ~~an~~ a meeting at Dewart, but I find with little success. The members do not take an interest in the meeting many do not so much as attend the

services. May God revive the Church.

My peace is still great & unbroken. Never for a moment have I doubted the great work wrought in me. I am at times tempted greatly but I can ever look to the Lord and claim his promises.

Glory to God for sanctifying grace. At times I have been compelled to hold on to ~~my~~ the cross by bare faith and have trembled lest I should lose my hold. but I have held on to the cross and the storm has passed leaving with it a brighter evidence of my acceptance. My cry still is

“Nearer my Lord, nearer to thee”! Oh that every breath were prayer. Oh Lord come & possess me whole! Oh how much easier now to preach Christ! What a sweet pleasure to labor in his cause.

Oct 31. We closed one meeting last evening at Dewart, with no visable marks of success. How awfully solemn were my feeling when we closed. Greatly do I fear that some my be

lost. Oh that the Lord would make me more zealous in his cause. I feel a lack of zeal, a want of love for souls. I want my every action my every thought to be labor & prayer. I still feel calm & peaceful although I have walked through deep waters. The Devil has used every means in his power to deprive me of my blessing, but thus far he has not been successful, nor ever shall be by God’s help.

Wednesday Nov 13. Have just returned from Hedrickson’s S. House, where we are now holding a prosperous meeting. What an awful account must those who oppose friends in religion render on the last day. We have persons of this class at nearly all our meetings. Last evening I made it a subject of special remark after which a Mother & Son presented themselves at the Altar, both subjects of opposition from the Father & husband

They were both I trust savingly converted. May God give them grace to withstand every opposition. but meeting has been a good one. and I trust that some will eternity point to it as the date of their salvation.

My faith is still strong. thank God for the witness of the Spirit! it ever whispers in my poor heart that I am a child of God. Satan would have me to sift as wheat but Christ protects & saves me & will keep me to the end. Hallelujah! praise be to Him who hath redeemed & Sanctified by his precious blood.

[I?] expect to morrow evening (providence permitting) to be initiated into the [illegible word] of Masonry at Muncy.

Finished Wednesday Nov. 13. 1861
at Bro Benjn Troxell’s
Near Milton
Pa