

WILLIAM LAMB'S DIARY

July 6th, 1855

to

December 31, 1855

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Fragments of January

1856

JOURNAL

July 6th. ... I could not leave these scenes, familiar as the face of some old friend, dear as the memory of buried love with any peace, but a sweet home awaits me, the arms of a Mother, & a happy merry crowd of little ones with Father & Aunt. Blest am I undeserved it is. How long will this last. Not long. Amid the greatest joy some melancholy thought steals o'er the soul. Yes, when the sweet draught of freedom was on my lip, in it was mingled the bitterest of seperation. It should be so. Without trouble we could not feel for others. - if we did not feel for others God could or would not care for us, & without his care, our destiny would be damnation. I arrived safely at Norfolk, Father's house has been raised a story, & is greatly improved. I did not go to it. I proceeded right to Palestine, where late in the afternoon I met, all the dear ones, & am now safely ensconced. Tired, fatigued, but happy.

July 7th. To day father went to town. I have been unpacking. I read the last part of the 1st Vol of Geo Balcomb to day. I like the novel very much, there are some beautiful passages in it. I feel already refreshed by home.

Sunday July 8th. There is no church near Palestine so Father read us a lecture to day. I did not do much to day. In the afternoon I took a long walk. To Worrel's new house & around by his old one & the road home. In the morning father & I took a walk to the beach. The sabbath is sweet in the country, all so quiet, so serene. I had a talk to day with Father upon slavery, he is a strong Colonizationist.¹ I incline that way. With the many happy things connected with this "peculiar institution," there are some insuperable objections to it.

July 9th. Father went to town to day & when he returned he brought a piece from a Norfolk paper, speaking of some Gypsies that had played some curious pranks about Norfolk. Which account I have placed in this Journal. As these same Gypsies paid Father a visit on the 3d, he wrote down the facts, & I sent a piece about them to Baker P. Lee, to put in the News, which piece I have laid in this Journal

¹The American Colonization Society, founded in 1816 following principally Northern lines, was quite popular with Southern leaders in the early and mid-19th century. The function of the Society was to secure the return of negro freemen or slaves to Africa. In so doing, it became materially involved in establishing the state of Liberia. Although this antidote to slavery was admirably conceived and administered its early presidents were Bushrod Washington, Charles Carroll, James Madison, Henry Clay, and J.H.B. Latrobe--the gigantic task was beyond the abilities of this small organization.

I have commenced smoking regularly after dinner and supper. I sent \$1 to the Wash. union for its present volume. Father went fishing & had sport.

July 10th. To day I took my first ride. I rode Charley on the beach, he was restive at first, but finding I was determined he succumbed.

Mr. Griffith & the two Mr. Worrels went fishing with Father to day. They had good luck & we had a nice fish dinner.

Wilson & myself took a nice sail. I read my law to day. My cold is nearly well.

July 11th. Father & brother went to town. When there they saw the Gypsey examined before the Mayor. He laughed when he saw Father, & said he wanted the police to arrest him. I took a charming sail to axle tree point this morning. Old Jake was there fishing, two of his grand children were with him. Moses came out to day & brought the papers. I have placed in here the list of graduates. I drove Mother, Mary, Aunt Winnie & Charley to the beach this afternoon, while traveling on the shore the trace broke, & mending it, by tying it with a leather strap, returned home by myself & left them to come over with Bob & the children in the boat. After my return & that of the children, I got in the boat, with Mother in it, & tried to see the shortest time I could cross the creek, opposite our door. It took me one minute & a half. I felt fatigued & retired early to night.

July 12th. Father & Bob have gone out fishing. I am quite unwell to day. I took two pills last night & they are effecting me. We had a fine fish dinner to day, boiled roundhead, hogfish spots & flounders fried. Began to study latin to day. Took a sail with the family this afternoon. I feel weak from the effects of my medicine. I sent \$5 to Dr. Totten to day, & wrote a letter of thanks to Cardozo for the Judges cane.

July 13th. Have been suffering all day with something like dysentery, & have lost the whole day being able to do nothing.

July 14th. I am worse to day, confined to my bed, the severe cold I contracted at Wmsburg has gone to my bowels. Mrs. Tyler came out to day with Father. She is going to spend a week with us, her company is very delightful.

Sunday July 15th. Last night from about 2 ock I was in the most intense agony for nearly quarter of an hour, I was vomiting &

passing away as it seemed, my vital energies, & this was accompanied with complete prostration. The perspiration rolled off my face in large drops & drenched my garments. If it had lasted much longer I could not have lived, as it was I felt very much as if I was about to start for "that undiscovered country, from whose bowels no traveller returns." And I cried mightily on the Lord as if I had a single just claim on his mercy. Uncle Daniel came from town to see me, he has been a faithful servant, & he is so very attentive to us when sick, that I can forgive many faults.

Father, Mother & all are so kind & attentive, that it does much to alleviate my suffering.

July 16th. I am dreadfully disappointed to day. I did hope so much to feel better, but I am even worse than I was yesterday, I spent a miserable night last night. Little James was so ill that Liddie went in town to see her child die, but the little fellow has weathered this storm & is better.

July 17. Father went in town to day. He returned and brought cousin Lizzie out. Liddie has returned. I have been reading a part of Hawthorn's Scarlet Letter. I consider it a splendid novel. It strikes me I will, if ever I have ability to write a book, & bring in the trial of Grace Sherwood the P:An witch.¹ I was well enough to take a little sail this afternoon.

July 18th. To day I filled my Journal from July 13th & I have left I fear many things out, as in fact I do when I write it at night. I am a shade better this morning than I was yesterday morning. Mr. R. A. Worrell brought out today, Mr. Hartshorn, & Rev. Mr. Rosser, & also the Rev. Mr. Dibrell, both methodist divine. Father gave them a fish, and a fine fish dinner, in the afternoon he carried them all to the beach where they took a bath. All seemed delighted with the trip & grateful to Father, for his hospitality. Mr. Rosser said he could beat any one running, jumping or playing marbles. I was too unwell to go with them & enjoy the frolic. Coming from the beach after the bath, Mr. Rosser having the stern oar, asserted that he could row Mr. Dibrell who had the bow oar around. He then tried his best to do it, but failed. I retired early to night, my complaint is a little worse.

¹Grace Sherwood, of Princess Anne County, Virginia, was tried in 1705 for suspicion of witchcraft. After being searched by a group of "ancient women," and cast into the river she was absolved, surviving until 1741. See William and Mary Quarterly (ser.1), vol 1 (January 1893) 128-9; and also the reprints of various documents in Ibid., vol 3-4 (1894-1896).

July 19th. I spent a very bad night last night. Father & Bob are out fishing. We had quite a pleasant day out here to day, but in town it must have been scorching. The thermometer was at one time as high as 91° Far. Father reads Hawthorn's Scarlet letter alone every afternoon. We all are excited. Little Mary is quite sick.

July 20th. Better this morning. Father & Bob went to town. I ventured out to day to fish went in the creek with Uncle Brister & Wilson, no luck. Came back exhausted - refreshed by a julep. Wrote to Mr. Ewell to day, sent 6½ to Burgess for Gwynn's pin. Paid US 5 cents to have a letter registered. This is a new law. Father finished the Scarlet letter, we all were a little disappointed in its conclusion. It is something new in the novel line. Dear Mother is not very well. She contemplates going to New York last of this month or rather to Orange, N. Jersey, hope the trip may be of service.

July 21st. Father went to fish. Mother confined to her bed all day. I am much better. Began to read Ainsworth's Old St. Pauls.¹ Lizzie Lightfoot went to town to day. A heavy storm came up to night. I do hope to be able to resume my studies Monday. To night I fear will be warm. To day was intensely hot.

July 22d. Mr. Tyler came out to day. Father & Mr. Tyler, Bob Wilson & myself took a walk on the beach. Mother is quite sick & so is dear little Mary. Charley the baby is still unwell. It stormed hard in the night. It rained again to day. This weather will hurt the corn & oats. The country is delightful I have no desire to approach town. It is so charming here that if I thought it was healthy I would like to live here all summer. I am much better today.

July 23d. Peaches have come in abundance. Father went to town to day with Mr. Tyler. The yellow fever is in Gosport, there is a report that it has come to Norfolk.²

¹William H. Ainsworth, Old St. Paul's: a tale of the plagues and the fire (London, 1846).

²This is the first reference to the terrible epidemic that swept Norfolk, Portsmouth, and adjacent areas in the summer of 1855. The first death, occurring July 8th of that year, struck a laborer employed on the steamer "Ben Franklin" tied up at Gosport, the southern tip of Portsmouth. A number of poor families brought the disease across the Elizabeth to "Barry's Row," a slum area in Norfolk, where on July 30th the first outbreak occurred. Although this district was burned by some unknown public spirited arsonist, the disease broke out in several parts of the city. From this time until after frost, the disease claimed over 2,000 lives. See George D. Armstrong, The summer of the pestilence; a history of the ravages of the yellow fever in Norfolk, Va., A.D., 1855. (Phil., 1856); and Thos. J. Wertenbaker, Norfolk, historic southern port (Duke University Press), 209-214.

I feel stronger to day. Father brought some of Peel's Green ginger wine out to day. Mother is still confined to her bed.

July 24th. Went out fishing with Father & Bob. We caught about 30 hog fish, luck was bad. We caught a very large dog fish, several sharks played around our boat. I feel very much fatigued after my fish.

July 25. Father brought Lizzie & Aunt Mary the nurse out to day. He brought me a letter from Tom Smith also one from Mr. Ewell he recommends me to beware of the bowl, in a long sermon like letter. I am much stronger. The yellow fever is not in Norfolk. I finished Old St Pauls by Ainsworth, it is a fine work. I expect it contains as excellent a description of the great fire & famine in London as is to be found anywhere.

July 26th. Father went fishing to day and had fine sport. I have nearly recovered my strength. I wrote to Bloxham & Tom Smith to day, & also a six paged letter to Miss Mattie Page. To day has been quite warm. Delicious fruit abundatt.

July 27th. Mother and Father leave for the North next week. Father went to town to day. I took a sail to the Grove & declaimed the 1st Act in Richard the 3. My voice is exceedingly weak. I wrote the letter that I was requested to do, soliciting aid from the Alumni to publish a General Catalogue of Wm & Mary.¹ The weather continues exceedingly warm. Mother is much better & so is Mary. We partook of some delicious watermelons to day. Mr. Tyler's kindness supplied them.

July 28th. Father went to town to day. I sailed to Mr. Worrels to day. I carried him a basket of peaches. I had a magnificent sail there & back. I find Littell's Living Age very interesting & instructive. Dr. Thos Young,² of England, a man of great universality of talent, could read at the age of two years. Lizzie went home to night. I fear her father will not live long.

¹"A catalogue of the College of William and Mary in Virginia, from its foundation to the present time" was published in 1859. See The address delivered by His Exc'y John Tyler, and the poem recited by St. George Tucker, esq., on the 166th anniversary of the College... (Richmond 1859) (following p. 34).

²British physician and Egyptologist.

July 29. To day Mr. Tyler came out & we spent a delightful day. In the morning we took a delightful walk on the beach. I received Gwynn's badge yesterday, & to day I sent it to Charleston. Mr. Worrel came over to see us. I learnt to day that the Quakers dwelt about here, about 1700.¹

Father thinks of buying for me Jake Boush's tract, with the great sand beach. I read to day an able & interesting article in Church Review. In answer to the Physiological argument against the unity of the Human race. The article in question "Ethnology and the Scriptures" is in the July no of the Protes Epis Quarterly Review.

July 30th. Father went in town to day and brought sad and gloomy news. The yellow fever is raging in Barry's row Norfolk. This row of shanties is a perfect cess pool of pestilence. The Irish living there are almost in as degraded a state as they are in the half starved districts of Ireland. Poor unfortunate Norfolk, when, is thy good time coming. The reign of Know Nothingism has been visited by a curse. Dear Parents are obliged to put off their trip with the dear baby to the North.

July 31st. Father went in town to day and carried Mrs. Tyler, who was desirous to see her household now the fever had broke out. Father brought Mary Hunter (free women) & her daughter out. Mary Hunter was to have gone on with him, as the low bred & contemptible abolitionists of the North render it dangerous for Southern gentlemen to travel with their legal property.² I finished to day the different notices of Sydney Smith,³ I have been reading in Littell, from London Papers. From the notices I should take Sydney Smith, to be witty, worthy & wise, (just the opposite from a certain tadpole lawyer of that name in Wmsbg Va) - Economical without stinginess, Dignified when needs be, though generally gay & joyous without excess. Biting in his

¹A "well developed Quaker movement" in Nansemond Co., was in evidence by 1660, although there is ample evidence of members of that faith in Virginia prior to that date. See Annie L. Jester and Martha W. Hiden, Adventurers of purse and person, Virginia, 1607-1625 (Princeton, N.Y., 1956), p. 221, passim.

²Although Chief Justice Taney's decision in Dred Scot vs. Sanford was not given until 1857, enough publicity had been given the case to raise the question of the danger inherent in carrying a slave into a free state.

³Smith (1771-1845) contributed frequently to the Edinburgh Review Many were published in Works of the Rev. Sydney Smith (Philadelphia 1844), 3 v., and in subsequent editions.

sarcasm, though always polished. Devoted to his family and friends. A lover of truth and liberty, and a dispenser of tyranny and bad living. Dear little Charley is very sick, poor little sufferer he is hardly ever well. Little Mary & Mother are better. The fever still terrible in Norfolk. Hunter Woodis, noble soul, that he is doing all he can for his city.

August the 1st. Father went to town to day, & asked the Doctor to come out. It rained very hard for a long time to day the lightning was severe. The Doctor came out to see little Charley who is ill, he cut his gums to give him some relief in teething which unfortunately has come on during the little fellows sickness.

The Dr told father we must all go to town to morrow. He said the yellow fever was not so bad in Norfolk as people made out - that were more scared than hurt. I have got back to reading & studying law & latin.

August 2d. Today we all had to bid farewell to sweet Palestine, our sea side, our country home. Here I have spent a delightful month without any care to come to Norfolk, & although troubled with sickness I think I may safely say it was a happy time. Father, Mother, Mary & the baby, with the nurses, went in the buggy in the morning, the rest staid out with me & I packed up. The cart was duly despatched loaded down, after dinner, & we all followed late in the afternoon. Before six, we were all safely ensconced in Norfolk.

All the family but Bob & myself, occupied the two outer lower rooms - we sleeping in one of the rooms in the second story. The old house or rather our house (for tis not so old) looks like a strange one, since the upper story has been added, a wing & the change in so many of the rooms. I have a delightful room in the third story next to the library. In the evening I went to see cousin Sam. Lightfoot, he looks very bad. I slept none, comparatively speaking last night.

I read last evening of the death of poor Bob Wynne,¹ poor fellow, he was a noble, generous, young man, & he was a great friend of mine, but as he was dissipated I fear he was not prepared to go.

August 3d. To days Herald contained a long & flattering account of commencement taking from the Wmsburg Gazette. I went down town to day, & saw numbers of my old friends. I procured some half a dozen

¹Robert E. Wynne, attended the College, 1850-51, 1852-53 (L.B. 1853).

Heralds & sent copies, to Rev. Henry Jones my old teacher in Bridgeport, Wm. Farnham, a friend of mine & an old classmate of Brother Richard. Miss Mary Ann Lighttripe, & cousins Isaac Kip & Agnes Suffern. Miss Margaret Reardon came to see us this evening & I walked home with her.

August 4th. Went in the country for father to day, & had a great many articles brought in. The yellow fever is raging terribly in Portsmouth, it is on the decline in Norfolk. All the sick have been removed from Barry's row to Oak Grove. Dr. Geo L. Upshur, Mayor Woodis, Father Okeefe & the Sisters of Charity have been particularly kind in their attentions to the sick.

The Richmond & New York Steamers stop at Old Point.¹ I hear the steamer from Norfolk is not allowed to land at Old Point. This is ridiculous. The Constellation left the Naval Anchorage to day, for I don't know where. Mrs. Tyler called to see us this afternoon. Cousin Sam, they say is better.

August 5th. Father and myself went to church to day. Mr. Jackson preached a sermon to day appropriate to this season of pestilence. The Yellow fever is distressingly bad. A case appeared on York street to day, near our section of the city. She brought it in her system from Barry's row. Poor Mrs. Barron Ihear is very ill on the Pennsylvania. I heard to day of the death of two of the most respectable people in Portsmouth.

Times are sad - a gloom has spread over ill fated Gosport, & the citizens of Portsmouth and Norfolk are leaving in crowds. Are we in a Christian land, or is selfishness the characteristic of our people? We ask this question because, unnecessarily every communication from Norfolk is very nearly cut away, we understand, letters have come from Suffolk, that if people continue to arrive there, they will pull the rails up from the R.R. track. The Richmond and New York boats stop at Old Point. But our citizens are not allowed to land there, we understand that they were driven off at the point of the bayonet. Shame! Dishonor upon Col. Smith, the cowardly commander. They would let a community of over 25,000 starve & die, rather than run a slight risk of having a few cases. Men are becoming brutes! I went to see cousin Sam to day, he is worse than he was yesterday. Dear Mother and Wilson are both unwell. Parents have gone in our room in the house and we (i.e. brother Robert and myself have come in the outer room.

¹Old Point Comfort.

Our house is far from being finished. I do hope dear Parents will be able to get off before the Baltimore boats are stopped.

August 6th. Father and myself rode to the farm to day, & sent a cart load of goods in. The fever in Norfolk is on the decrease, in Portsmouth on the increase. Mother continues unwell. Numerous exaggerations are alarming our citizens who act more like babies than bearded men. I saw to day an anecdote in the Herald about John Adams, reflecting unjustly on the character of Mathew Lyon,¹ one of the martyrs of the Alien and Sedition Laws. I shall write a piece to morrow in his defence.

August 7th. Again, Father & myself proceeded to Palestine. We sent in another cart load of goods. Father gave me half a dozen bottles of very old Madeira, bought by Mr. French in 1828. I wrote a piece for the News signed Vindex in defence of Mathew Lyon. Mother is a little better to day. Father seems very much distressed at the state of affairs, he dislikes to leave his family. I want him to go Friday. Mr. Jackson our pastor called on us to day, he informed me, he was elected a member of the Phi Beta Kappa.

August 8th. Did nothing of importance to day. Mr. David Glass a much respected citizen died to day. Every one looked very mournful as I rode down town to day. The fever which is said to be the malignant African is fearfully on the increase.

August 9th. Mother was well enough to ride to Palestine to day, as we were going out, we saw a sad sight, enough to shock the senses of humanity. Before we reached the road that passes the temporary hospital we saw a little boy on a dray weeping his little heart away, doubtless he had lost his parents. After passing by the pest grove, we passed on the outside of the Catholic cemetery, a box containing a coffin, on the ground, & a red pine coffin, bursted with heat, both alone. With the dead bodies of yellow fever patients awaiting some one to bury them, that frightful & fearful sight had lasted to our knowledge, as we heard it afterwards, one hour, how much longer we do not know. What a terrible thing it is, to have no one to dig & bury, as fast as the coffins are made. The Sisters of Charity are nursing the sick & comforting the afflicted in all quarters. 'Tis a noble a grand a glorious rebuke to Know Nothingism. Oh! how dare any wretch

¹Lyon was prosecuted for a letter criticising Adam's administration. He was sentenced to four months in jail and a fine of \$1,000. The money was refunded to his heirs by Act of Congress in 1840.

to charge these terrestrial angels of mercy with lewdness. What greater proof of virtue than the dauntless courage they display in arresting & ameliorating the stings of death in the most pestilential regions. Mrs. Barron a particular friend of our family, and many of our best citizens are being swept away by the grim monster. What a warning to poor humanity to fly to Jesus. The only saviour of the soul. Death makes us cowards, not the battle death, when glory leads the van, but death when it comes like the thief, & tears us away, unprepared unreckoned & unannaled. What would I do if taken, am I prepared? - conscience answers, no, the sins - the neglected opportunities of half a score of years answers - no. Sometimes I play the philosopher, but it is because I am in health, let the pestilence come, and like the morning mist, before the rising sun, my poor philosophy, vanishes into fear. Oh 'tis hard to think of the undiscovered country without the pang of fear. But one, can give assurance, and I have never asked it, and what I fear most is, I cannot humble myself so to do, - no, this is no time to fly & pray for grace, 'tis cowardice that drives me on, remove the cause & I dread lest the effect of present fear would not be lasting. I can at least pray, & ask my father what to do. To be a Christian from fear, I cannot be, love to God, must bring about the change, - that alone! The board of health reported for the last 24 hrs up to 2 P.M. to day 3 deaths from yellow fever within the city, and 1 death at Oak Grove Hospital.

The News of this afternoon contained my piece on Mathew Lyon signed Vindex.

August 10th. I felt quite unwell this morning. I think it was the paint. The fever still continues very bad. Last night the ill fated Barry's row, the infected district was set on fire in three places, & was entirely consumed. The firemen refused to play on it. This destruction was a consummation most devoutly wished for, - but it was a bad precedent. In the City there were 17 new cases and 4 deaths, up to 2 P.M. to day, at the Hospital 2 new cases & 7 deaths. I visited cousin Sam Lightfoot to night, he looks very badly. If there is one evil passion that dwells in the breast of man, more detestable, more loathsome than another, it is Selfishness. With truth perhaps, it was said, "By ambition the angels fell," but ambition is but the offspring of selfishness, - remove the latter, and the former ceases to exist. I cannot briefly portray, & I have no time to dwell on the evils of selfishness, - the fanishes rendered miserable the heart burnings, envyings & strifes, that are engendered by its insatiable appetite, but the most terrible of all its effects, is that which renders man, callous & impregnable to the sufferings of his fellows, on account of endangering self. I have witnessed an example of this, indeed I daily witness it, now that the fatal scourge (yellow fever) is ravaging our unfortunate city.

Although there have been comparatively few cases, although the increase is slow, & before it has fairly broken out in Norfolk, being

confined to the infected district, the inhabitants of all the pitiful villages & towns & even the Cities of Richmond & Petersburg (about the latter we are not certain), have stopped all intercourse with our city, thus cutting off nearly all escape for those who in perfect health, are desirous of removing their wives and little ones from the fearful grasp of the destroyer. The commandant at Old Point in total disregard of a treaty between the State of Va, & the Federal Gov, had those of our citizens who wished to land, & those of neighboring places who wished to return to their homes, driven back at the point of the bayonet. The citizens of Suffolk threaten to tear up the rails, if our inhabitants pass their insignificant village to escape to a healthy region. Isle of Wight has declared a Quaranteen. Booooo!!!! And the pitiful town of Weldon, (if these were not mournful times we would laugh in derision & scorn) threatens through its council to fine every white person, \$100, who has been within an infected city, for less than 15 days, slaves or free negroes \$20, or many stripes on their bare back. Surely this contemptible apology for a town must be peopled by arrant cowards or uncharitable heathens. But no one is the loser by this unparalled conduct, no sane man would sojourn in such an unhospitable hole in a healthy season, much less a sickly one, for \$100 a day. Seriously we ask, will not Providence punish with a righteous judgment, such conduct, such love towards neighbors. In all charity we pray not. But alas they have no good excuse, as we have no contageous disease, - & this will be an indellible blot on these villages & towns, which ages will not efface. What a comparison between these places and Mathews, Gloucester & the Eastern Shore, whose good people are extending the arm of charity & hospitality towards us, - but as Mrs. Malaprop would say, "comparisons are odorous."

August 11th. The Post Office has been moved to the Academy. To day I purchased a New York Herald, it contained an account of the Louisville Riot. It appears the Louisville Journal. (Prentice's Know Nothing paper.) contained several incendiary expressions on the morning of the Election while the Louisville Democrat, begged the people to vote peaceably. We conscientiously believe this riot was caused by the overbearing manner & contempt with which the before quiet foreign population was treated. The fever we believe does not increase as badly as I thought. There is too much needless fear. A little fear I must confess came over me on the night of the 9th, but I soon banished it. If possible I shall not leave Norfolk.

August 12th. This morning I was awoke by the Steamer J.E. Coffee, which lay right off our house. She took off several of our citizens & their families, where to - I don't know. City ferry boat & U.S. Steamer Engineer carried a U.S. Frigate down the Quaranteen this morning, she was dismantled & I suppose, she is to be a hospital ship.

Attended church to day. Mr. Talbot preached a sermon on death - text "For to me to live is Christ, to die is gain." The congregation was larger than I anticipated. In coming home with Father, we met the

Rev. Mr. Walke. He is a smooth easy sort of a man, he told us of the unnecessary panic, & told us how the old ladies were frightened at all the citizens going, & stating that fears were entertained of a negro insurrection. What a ridiculous & cowardly fears, seize our poor people. Lord have mercy on them! Capt. Cornick also had a chat with us. He also spoke of the exaggerated accounts. I do hope my parents will allow me to stay. I want now that I am young to have my nerves practised to all fears & panics so that in older life I will be equal to any emergency. On returning home, we learnt cousin Sam was very ill, perhaps dying. I went round, he was very low. I thought I discovered the death rattle in his breathing. I returned to dinner. In the afternoon I went there with Mother. I staid all night. I sat up with him all the time. He had two dreadful fits. Virginus Denby and Alexander Cunningham sat up also.

August 13th. Felt very much fatigued all day. Mr. Hugh Blair Grigsby called on me this morning. I tried to sleep to day, but did not succeed very well. Cousin Sam is very low I hardly think he can last.

August 14th. I staid at home most of to day. This afternoon I visited Cousin Sam & staid until nearly eleven P.M. He had twelve fits to day, they weakened him fearfully. To day was set aside by the citizens as a fast day of humiliation and prayer. God grant that the pestilence in our midst may be staid. Amen! The deaths yesterday in Norfolk were. (blank)

August 15th. To day, Father Mother, Maggie & little Charlie with his nurse left for New Jersey. We rode to Pomfret from whence Capt Russel had them conveyed in a life boat to the Louisiana, lying near the Craney Island light boat. I then proceeded to Palestine. I moved in many articles in the carriage & cart. In coming in I came through Queen street where I discovered crape on the bell knob which announced to me that Cousin Sam, was no more. So his sufferings are at an end, he died calmly, & his soul wended its flight to its maker, after a sojourn on earth of 50 years. God grant that his lamp was trimmed & he was prepared to enter in to the feast of the bridegroom. I pity his poor family. May a kind Providence provide for & protect them.

I am at the head of Father's family (that portion which is left) may I be spared to take care of them, & may our divided family have a happy reunion in this world.

There were 8 deaths for the last 24 hours up to 2 P.M. yesterday from Yellow fever. May God have mercy on our city.

August 16th. To day Cousin Samuel Lightfoot was buried at 5 ock. It was a small funeral, but large for this season. Three carriages & the hearse. The family were deeply affected.

I thought poor Sallie would break her heart, she has been a faithful nurse to her poor father, day & night she attended with Edwin his every want. She has more nerve than the other girls. I deeply sympathize with this afflicted family but sincerely believe their deep loss has been their father's eternal gain. Mrs. Tyler spent to day with us, she is a kind lady, & dearly loves our family.

There were yesterday (sic) up to 2 P.M. 5 deaths from the fever. I hear with joyful thankfulness, that Gosport is free from fever, & that it is abating in Portsmouth. May a kind & ever merciful Providence relieve our City from the noisome pestilence.

Many have left our city -- thousands. I am glad to see a reaction is about to take place among some of our neighbors the Editors of the Petersburg Express, & the Richmond Examiner are scorching the people of their cities with just editorials about their heartless & cruel treatment. Large subscriptions are being raised in Petersburg, Richmond, & Charleston for our aid.

God bless Northampton County, her people, have had a public meeting, inviting our citizens to come & they will give us all relief in their power. Poor Jim Henderson is dead.

Dr. Sylvester¹ (sic) one of our noblest physicians has falled a martyr to the disease he tried to cure in others. May he now be receiving his reward. Received a letter for Father, from Mr R.A. Worrell, and answered it. It seems perfectly healthy in Norfolk, excepting the awful fever, we on the point are blessed with health, & the most tempting fruit is abundant. The principal articles which we want in Norfolk is meal and butter, both are scarce, & enormously high. I heard to day H A Wise made a speech to his countymen, entreating for aid & a welcome to our panic stricken citizens, his generous & noble countymen responded cheerfully I am sure as we have had evidences of it. I further hear his house & barn is full of people. He is a noble man. how thankfull I am that he is Governor elect of Va. The elections going on, have hardly excited attention. I believe even the awful Know Nothing riot in Louisville has received little notice. The Yellow fever haunts the minds of our people all day, & awakens them in the dead hours of the night. May it have the blessed effect of bringing many from the paths of wickedness and vice.

¹Richard W. Silvester (1801-1855). His son Richard J., who had received the M.D. in 1854, also perished in the epidemic. Wyndham B. Blanton, Medicine in Virginia in the nineteenth century (Richmond, 1933), p. 234.

August 17th. I rode to Palestine to day with Edwin Lightfoot, & had some things pickles, preserves & c moved in.

We had a very severe thunder squawl this afternoon. immediately after the storm I saw a large dwelling towards the fair grounds in flames. no doubt the work of the lightning. I heard of the death to day of poor dear Sarah Taylor, an intimate friend of mine that was married about two years. truly a sweet and beautiful flower has been taken from our midst. Oh sad it is to see our friends dying with the pestilence, & to be unable to pay the last tribute of respect. What a warning. Know one knows whose turn next it will be. I sincerely trust the friend of my childhood has gone to a Saviour's bosom. There were 9 deaths from fever up to 2 PM yesterday, nearly double as many as the day before.

To day I received a Gazette from Williamsburg, it contained a piece on my valedictory, it was too complimentary. I know my friend & admirer John Nichols wrote it. I wrote to Father to day.

August 18th. There were 7 deaths up to 2 PM yesterday, the fever I learn is fearfully increasing, our Washerwomen says she saw 14 dead bodies, two in one hearse going to the silent grave, solitary & alone.

There are sad, grave, mournful & terrible times a warning to all, who are not prepared to go. Aunt Maria & Mary's nurse have become uneasy & desire to leave next Wednesday, tis sad to go, tho sadder to stay. It it is my duty, if I do any good I would rather brave the danger. I am striving earnestly to come to Jesus & while I am here I think the daily warnings beneficial.

August 19th. Yesterday & today, I took some of Gilbert's Anti billious pills, & they make me feel weak, but I think have cleared me of considerable bile. I heard with grief to day, of the death yesterday of R C Barclay, an intimate friend of myself and Father. Tis melancholy indeed, his poor wife begged him to leave. I hear of many distressing cases of fever. Dr. Stone of New Orleans, one in a small schooner anchored not far from shore & opposite our house. Mr. Grigsby called on me to day. I gave him some of our grapes. They were so delicious he thought they must be imported. We learn the coffin makers hammer rings the live long day, & that his candle burns from early eve til morn. I read a sermond of Bishop Meade's¹ to day in the So Churman (sic). I learn from that paper the distressing intelligence that a classmate of dear brother Richard, Rev Robt. Smith, died in Africa. He was a noble soldier of Christ, & now sleeps in Abraham's bosom.

¹Bishop William Meade (1789-1862), graduated from Princeton in 1808. After ordination he served at Christ Church, Alexandria, and as Assistant Bishop of Virginia. He was elected Bishop in 1841.

August 20th 1855. There were twelve deaths up to 2 P M on Saturday. Tom Keeling who staid in Vickery and Griffiths was the only one with whom I was acquainted. I wrote to Mr Wm Henry Smith to day to enquire how I could get on board the Roanoke or Jamestown for New York, but I find it is so difficult from his answer that I have determined to come by the Bay line. I received \$22, to day from King and Toy's (?) sent by Barry King to Father. Dr. Whitehead was kind enough to get it for me. The city is still filled with gloom & sadness, how I earnestly desire the cold spell with which we are now visited may be essential in stopping the fever. Cousin Mary Lightfoot and family moved to the residence of cousin Frank Robertson to day. I think it will be of service. I have been reading Hawthorns, House of the Seven Gables to day. I consider it a deeply interesting Romance. I am predisposed towards Hawthorn, having a taste for his peculiar style of writing. Another day has passed, and God has guarded me and mine. May his benificent grace, guard & protect us as kindly through life, and may I be deeply impressed with my unworthiness of, and the great debt I owe him for his many and inestimable blessings. Amen.

August 21st. There were 13 deaths from Yellow fever up to 2 P.M. yesterday. I regret to learn from good authority that the board of Health does not give all the deaths, in fact they can't get them. All business is suspended. Many cannot get nurses & die for want of attention. Our dear friend, Mr Tyler called on us to day, he lent me \$60, to enable me to reach New York, He is very bold I fear too daring among the fevered ones. he coffined a poor negro who had been 12 hours dead, it is well there are some to do these deeds of mercy, how I wish I was able. I leave with the remainder of our family tomorrow. I would be willing to stay, but I cannot live cooped up like a prisoner & Mother could not live if I went abroad. The people still talk of a rise among the negroes, poor fellows they never think of it. how idle & foolish these fears.

Aug: 22d 1855. To day I left with our family sweet Kenmore about 10 oclck for Pomphret. We (arrived) there at 3 oclck took the Steamer Louisiana & sailed up the Bay. A finer steamer never floated. Mrs Mayor Woodis & children were aboard. We had a delightful trip. Little Woodis lost his hat and I bought one for him. I met a Mr Pentz at Pomphret. he is a very gentlemany Baltimorean. Virgi Denby was very kind & attentive.

August 23d. We arrived safely in Baltimore. I proceeded to the Phil. cars, but when I went to buy tickets, they refused to let the nurse go, without my getting a Baltimorean to sign a bond, I was put to considerable trouble & was obliged to go & get Capt Russel to get Mr George, to go round & sign it for me. I met Wm & Jackson Denby in Balt: & they went with me to the Capt. After Mr. George signed the bond I was all O K, & took my seat in the cars. I was with Mr Talbot in Balt: a great deal before I started, he is a strange parson. I fear he has rather flimsy ideas about religion. I hope he is no specimen of our chaplains in the navy.

He reminds me of the English clergy. We arrived at Phil: in due time, & stopped at Bloodgoods Hotel, just opposite the Steamer we embarked in. After getting a good dinner we took the Steamer Washington & crossed to Camden, where we got in the cars which after the usual noise squeeling, puffing, snorting, & stopping, arrived at Newark about 9 1/2 P M. We reached the Newark City hotel tired & worn out at 10 clk, ordered supper, but they couldn't get it.

I then wandered out in search of a Resteraunt, I passed numbers of Lager Bier Saloons, into one I went, asked for a cup of Coffee, answered with a ridiculous sneer & gruff voice by two Germans, don't keep it. went out hating Germans almost as bad as a Know Nothing. Soon found an English house, entered & got a cup of coffee & some bread, quite relieved I returned. I met a ⊕ D X on the cars from Balt: to Phil: he recognised my badge, & gave the sign, we had a pleasant time, it is delightful thus to meet friends & there is a novelty in a mans being a stranger one minute & a brother the next. The young man's name was Smith (rather indefinite) from Springfield Mass. he has been staying in Fred:burg Va. He joined at Troy. I was much prepossessed in his favor.

Aug 24th. Slept pretty well last night. Walked out to look at Newark, hadn't seen the city for two years. first thing I saw was a German then a Lager Bier saloon. The city is composed principally of Germans & Lager Bier saloons & Lager Bier saloons & Germans. I was so tired of seeing Lager Bier before I reached the Morris & Essex depot, that I wished every dirty German was drowned in a sea of Lager, & that the sea of Lager could be so far off, as neither to disturbe my eyes or nose. I left all in Newark & went to Orange in the cars. Saw father & mother & all, found them well. They went back to Newark with me. We returned with Aunt, Bob & co & were all duly quartered in Orange by noon. I engaged board at the Park House. I wrote myself from Norfolk and they made me scratch the Norfolk out. I took tea at cousin Henrietta's.

Aug. 25. Saturday. Went to Newark to day & purchased a pair of pants & a coat. from Perry's corner of Broad & Market streets. I bought some wine & gin to day on Washington street. I took a walke this afternoon with Miss Mary Ann Lighttripe & Miss Adeline Carrol of St Helena. We saw some very pretty grounds on Orange mt. We continue to hear terrible news from Norfolk, friends dying fast.

Sunday. 26th. Discovered my new coat was single breasted & that I wished a double breasted one. Went to church morning & evening heard two splendid discourses from a Dr. (blank) of Phil.

Monday 27th. Went to Newark this morning & bought a basket of peaches. While there I determined to go to New York to see Hackett¹ the great comedien perform. Had my measure taken for a coat, so did Bob & Father. I left Newark for New York where I arrived about 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ oclk. I took dinner at Taylor's saloon. It had degenerated, it no longer wore the appearance of a fairy palace. I went to French's & took a room for which I paid 50 cts. I went to see Wm. Farnham an old classmate of brother's. He was delighted to see me, & made me go home with him. I met several Norfolk People in the streets to day.

At half past seven oclk, I went to Le Farge's Metropolitan Theatre, to see Hacket. The Merry wives of Windsor was admirable performed, indeed Hacket as Falstaff, is inimitable. The play was exceedingly well acted, although the other performers were of no note. This is the first of Shakespeare's plays I ever saw performed, how immeasurably superior to the miserable tragedies & comedies I have witnessed. The farce of the "New footman" was a poor thing, & seemed pitiful & silly, after that greatest of comedies, by immortal Will.

Tuesday 28th. I slept last evening with Wm. T. Farnham or rather at his house. I went with him to his office this morning. I then met Father, Mother & Maggie at the boat. While waiting for them I was pestered by offers of obscene books. I dined at Delmonicos. I bought a lot of old pamphlets at an "old book stand," Went to Uncle Leonard's office, saw Mr. Young, met Father & co. there who were to have met me at the Irving House but who missed me.

I returned to Orange this evening. What sights are to be seen in Old New York, wealth & poverty, satins & sin rags & righteousness. I looked with interest for an hour or two at the passers by, their different dressed. Their gaits, physiogomy, all attracted my attention. It had been two years since I had been to New York, it seemed unchanged, although it had really changed more than I could conceive. The tidings from poor Norfolk are fearful death is abroad laying waste the fair city.

I have heard of the death of many acquaintances & friends. Among them, the death of Young Debree, that I heard of while I passed through Baltimore. I will keep no regular record of the fever as I shall preserve the papers. The Customs House has been removed to Hampton.

Wednesday 29th of August. I have got acquainted with a very nice young lady. Miss Carrol of St. Helena. Miss Maryk Ann Lighttripe, Miss Carrol, Bobbie, Edward Ingram & myself went to Eagle Rock on Orange Mt. it is a beautiful walk, the scenery from the Rock is

¹James H. Hackett, noted for his treatment of Falstaff and Rip Van Winkle.

grand in the extreme, it embraces an indistinct view of New York City & Jersey City, a fine view of Newark, Orange & a score of small towns. The rivers & bays in the distance with the white sails & smoking chimneys, & the flying trains on land, lend enchantment to the view. I neglected to mention that I had become acquainted with another cousin - Edward Ingram. When I arrived in Orange I went to Lewis Lighttripe's grocery, & found him in his shirt sleeves, dealing out the groceries. I soon became acquainted with him. I found him a great Phrenologist & rather an enthusiast. We have had many long talks on Slavery, Phrenology &c.

The News from Norfolk still awful. I see by the papers, Pres. Pierce is paying a visit to the White Sulphur. John Tyler met him with a graceful speech.

Thursday 30th. I went to Newark to day. My coat is not finished. I returned to Orange. Bob left this afternoon for Schooley's Mt., to get rooms. I returned to Newark this afternoon got my new coat, for which I paid \$20., came back to Orange. Called on Mrs. Snyder this afternoon.

To day our heart was saddened by the mournful tidings of the death of that noble soul, Hunter Woodis, Mayor of Norfolk. generous, brave, philanthropic, he has fallen. God bless him. His memory will never die, as long as gratitude has a place in the hearts of Norfolk people. He nursed the sick, & comforted the bereaved until the reaper Death, garnered him, into his last home. Scores of our best citizens are dying daily. The city is like a ship afloat without rudder or compass, hardly all authority is gone. The Howard association¹ is doing it noble work.

I have just heard of a terrible calamity on the Camden & Amboy R. R. 30 human beings were massacred & scores injured.

Friday August 31st 1855.

This morning I left with Father Mother & Maggie, with Mary & the babe, for Schooley's Mt. After a delightful ride on the cars, we arrived safely at Hacketstown, there we met Bob - & Mr. Noe, the gentlemanly proprietor of the Forest Grove House. We rode from the depot 4 miles up a beautiful Mt. side, & after passing the Heath, & Belmont Houses, we reached our Mountain resort. I staid in the parlor tonight, we played several games among them the lawyer¹ a Mr. Thomas of New York amused us very much with his ventriloquism &c. They have a fine band of music here. I took a walk to day.

¹The association was founded on August 10, 1855, to provide assistance for the sick, to bury the dead, and to give what comfort it could to the survivors. cf. Lower Norfolk County, Virginia Antiquary, vol. 5 (1904), p. 23-25.

September 1st. To day most of the Guests left the Forest Grove House. Mr. Thomas remained with his wife are very agreeable people. I danced a little to night. The News - (blank) I walked to day.

Sunday Sept 2d. We did not go to church to day it rained a little. A Sunday in the country when you can't ride to church always seems dull.

The fearful news from Norfolk has made us all desponding. Father's oldest and dearest friends are dying off.

Monday Sept 3d. I went to a store to day, near the Belmont, & procured a line an artificial fly, a sinker &c. I then walked to a saw mill that has a Spring near it, here I saw the man who lived there, & with whom Father & myself had had a talk. He was very kind, he lent me a pole, dug worms for me to fish with, & went with me to the Fishing ground. I fished in the Muskenetcong. (Musconetcong).

I told them when I left the Forest Grove, I would not return without a bunch of fish, & so I did not. I brought back a bunch of chubs & one sun fish. When I returned I found Father, Mother & the rest had gone to Germantown & had gotten wringing wet. This made dear Mother quite sick. By the way I forgot to mention that it rained while I was fishing, & for a while I was standing in water, having slipped from the stones & had the rain pouring on me, but nevertheless I fished away. I spent quite a pleasant night in the parlor. The news is still heart rending from Norfolk.

Tuesday Sept 4th.

Mr. Thomas & myself tried to fish to day, but not having tackle, we merely had a little fun, fishing for killeys (as he called them) in ditches. Mr. Thomas is an amusing man, & truly agreeable companion. I am having a delightful time with my friends up here. Schoolie's Mt. is a delightful place. The walks are beautiful, the scenery is pretty, & the waterfalls are lovely. I think it is the sweetest summer residence I ever visited. Everything at the Forest Grove house is so much like home, all the guests assemble in the parlor at night & each strives to amuse the others. Mother is still unwell. The news from poor Norfolk is awful.

Wednesday Sept 5th. We have been desiring to make an excursion to Budds lake, but time slips away so pleasantly we have not made the arrangements, & I fear we will be disappointed. I took a walk yesterday afternoon with Mr. & Mrs. Thomas, we went to a place where there

was a beautiful spring, there was a chub & a lovely trout in it, & we amused ourselves by feeding them with worms. (I forgot to put this in yesterday's journal, & as I had such a pleasant time I thought I wouldn't neglect to insert it.

This afternoon I again walked with Mr. & Mrs. Thomas, we walked to Springstown, we had another charming walk. We had a delightful time in the parlor to night. In writing my journal I have so much talking around me that I make many terrible blunders. Father is in the habit of reading aloud, & I often have to write my journal while Father is reading an exciting scene in a Romance.

Thursday, September 6th 1855.

Mr. Thomas & Wife left for New York. Our family is now the only guests at the Forest Grove House.

Father, brother & myself, walked to the trout spring this afternoon. The news from Norfolk & Portsmouth is sad, sad, & gloomy. The scenes of affliction continue as the fatal fever advances. 'Tis too terrible to dwell on. Among my friends & acquaintances dead are the following (date Norfolk Sep 2d) Ignatius Higgs (Teller in Va bank), a gentleman who spoke to me kindly & enquired after our family, the day before I left. Dennis O'Brien, of the firm of O'Brien & Quick. Wm H. Garnet, an active office of the Howard Association. Young Wm. Sylvester, an old schoolmate of mine. Wm. Dunbar, a clothier. There are not coffins enough yet to bury the dead, the news states, 15 are now lying for over thirty hours waiting for coffins, & spreading death. Oh, horrible! The attempt to lay the submarine cable between New Foundland & Cape North, has failed. Martial law has been proclaimed in Norfolk to obtain vehicles to bury the dead, & convey the doctors & nurses about. The Gosport Navy Yard has been closed by order of the President.

Friday. September 7th 1855.

To day is my twentieth birthday. I have stepped out of my teens, & am now approaching the years of my majority. 'Tis a sad birth day, the only tidings that greet my ears are the sad tidings of trouble & woe, that each paper bears to its readers. The mournful wail that is borne on the wings of the Southern gale, pierces my heart & chills my blood. No language can describe the woe, the suffering, the terror of God stricken Norfolk. No coffins - the hole, reeking with disease & death. We all left Schoolie's Mt. this afternoon for Orange. Father & myself took a walk this morning, we looked at a farm that was offered for sale. We arrived safely at our destination. In the evening I went to see Mr. Dovenus's stained glass rooms. It was a beautiful sight. I walked home with Miss Adeline, M. Carrol and Miss Mary Ann Lighttripe. I never was sadder

in all my life than I have been to day, there is a weight on my heart, so many of my most beloved friends are gone, Oh! it is misery indeed, to find in every paper the sad announcement of others gone. (On side margin: "Price of land \$27 an acre")

Saturday September 8th 1855

Nothing of importance transpired to me this day. I have a dull time from home. I am never settled & can sit down to do nothing. The accounts from Norfolk & Portsmouth are of the same terrible description, & there is great suffering from famine as well as from pestilence. I have determined to keep the New York papers & therefore will record less in my journal about Norfolk. The great actress Rachel¹ is creating quite a sensation among the New Yorkers. Having got my Journal misplaced I have had to write several days up, & thus it is much more imperfect, than it would otherwise be.

Sunday morning & evening Sept 9th 1855

I went to hear the Rev. Mr. Williams this morning. Bishop Whittingham² of Maryland read part of the service. He looks to me like an Irishman, he is very infirm, he is in action a little like Bishop Johns, my old & esteemed preceptor. Mr. Williams has a bad delivery and I was not very attentive. I went to hear Mr. Boush preach this evening. I went with the young ladies. I met young Osborn on the way, & he told me there was a bundle at the Park House for me. I heard a fine sermon from Mr. Boush who was until lately a lawyer. He is about to have a new church built, he preaches now in a public hall. St. Mark's church is now the only Episcopal church in Orange. I received no newspaper to day as it was Sunday.

Monday Sept 10th 1855

I misplaced my Journal as I am wandering about so much, and have lost the piece of paper on which I had written to day's events. I went to Newark to day for Father. This evening I received a present from Mr. Thomas, a beautiful magic cigar case, & two cinnamon cigars. The very things he had heard me wishing for at the Forest Grove. I don't think anything else of consequence transpired to day.

A terrible report has reached us that the small pox has broken out in Norfolk, & is adding to the suffering of the poor people. The fever still rages terribly. There are 1000 sick in the city. Cousin Maria Whitehead a most estimable lady is dead, she leaves two little orphans. The Relief fund has reached \$86,418. Baltimore has

¹This great French actress opened the 1855 season in the Metropolitan Theatre with a series of French plays which received rare notices. See George C. Odell, Annals of the New York stage, vol VI, 1850-1857 (NY 1931, p. 447-9.)

²The Rt. Rev. William R. Whittingham served as Bishop of Maryland. 1840-1879.

contributed the highest \$17,500, Phil. next & N York next.

Tuesday. Sept. 11th 1855.

I went to the milliners this morning with Mother, Maggie, and Miss Mary Ann. I stopped at Mr. Lighthisse's store & found some valuable political speeches. For something better to do, I read one of Paul de Kocks works to day 'twas trashy & silly, especially after Hawthorne. Norfolk news still heart rending. Father was counting up to day, the gentleman friends he had lost in Norfolk, many his dearest & most intimate. The list contained 46 names.

The election for State officers in Maine took place yesterday. The candidates for Gov. were Anson P. Morrill, fusionist & republican. Sam Wells, democrat & anti liquor law, & Isaac Read whig. Morrill recd a plurality of votes & the election has gone to the house. So a majority of votes in Maine have decided against the old humbug Maine liquor law. Santa Anna¹ has abdicated his throne. A strange fly has appeared in Norfolk called the plague fly. The Express of to day, contains much valuable news from Norfolk.

Orange New Jersey

Wednesday September 12th 1855

I went to Newark to day in search of board, saw some tolerable good rooms at the City Hotel at \$5. a week.

Went in the cars to Elizabeth City, from there walked to Elizabethport; on my way stopped in a Grocery, while there I told a fellow I wanted to go to the port, he kindly offered me a seat in his vehicle. I went out delighted, anticipating a ride instead of a hot walk, But lo! & behold! it was a dirty coal cart. I told my friend, I'd rather walk. I went to the Eagle Hotel, didn't like it, 'twas a low place. Took dinner at the Eliza.port Hotel kept by a Mr. Schank, board \$4 a week. I like it very well & told the proprietor I would bring my father over the next day.

I returned to Orange. In Newark I was left by the Orange train, & as I turned away disappointed, I met the stage. I held a parasol before a young lady to keep the sun off, all the way to the village, she was a wild girl.

Had a long talk about slavery with driver & a young man. I flatter myself I am a pretty good defender of this Divine & humane institution. The long hot walk from E. town (or city) to E.port, gave me a terrible headache & have it now raging awfully.

This evening we acted charades at Cousin Lighthisses. I figured as Mr. Smith in Be- Shrew. - (beshrew). They also acted. In - spectre (inspector) and Vex - A - Shun (vexation).

¹Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna (1795-1876), President of Mexico.

The papers state, the fever has broken out at Suffolk, sixteen miles from Portsmouth, & the people are flying panic stricken. There were forty deaths in Norfolk & six in Portsmouth from yellow fever, on Sunday.

Queen Victoria has returned to England, from her visit to France. Think of England's Queen, visiting the fortunate demagogue (Napoleon) kissing him, & also bowing over the tomb of Napoleon the great. Shades of Henry VIII & good old George! Dr. Higgins has died of the fever in Philadelphia, he was a tenant of father's in Norfolk. He had a relapse.

A correspondent of the Rich. Dispatch says, a portion of the freight of the Louisiana last night, on her downward trip were barrels of bread & crackers, boxes of candles & lemons, & other things to sustain & cheer life among the stricken ones, 150 coffins, all for Norfolk and Portsmouth. Thirty of these were a present from a kind hearted undertaker in Baltimore. God bless him for his generosity - but only think of such a present, a present of thirty coffins.

A writer from Norfolk says, the fidelity of the negroes is not the least noticeable feature. It is difficult, nearly impossible, to separate servants and mistresses. Forbidden to enter the sick chamber, the blacks will creep into concealed places, hide beneath the beds, crouch in corners, employ every artifice, to remain in attendance upon the mistress. Left to themselves, the negroes are abject, refuse to take remedies and die rapidly. Their last wish often is that they may be buried near their mistresses. What a commentary on Slavery!

Sept. 13th Orange. Thursday. 1855

Went with Father & Wilson, to Elizabethtown to day, via Newark. We walked to Eliz.port, in crossing the fields, we met with swarms of mosquitoes. We returned in the Steamer Wyoming, & through New York. We dined on turtle soup &c at Irving. I played whist to night, Miss Mary Ann, was my partner, we played against Miss Addie Carrol & Bobbie. They beat us, two out of three. Every exertion is being made in different parts of the Union to raise money for the Norfolk sufferers. Dr. Collins pres of Seaboard & Roanoke RR is dead, he is a great loss. They spoke at a public meeting in Hampton, of raising a shaft to the memory of Hunter Woodis. The South Side Democrat hopes the monument will be erected by the state of Virginia. I thought of this, when I first heard of this noble man's death, & when I return I shall make all endeavors to have it consummated. I continue to hear daily of the death of dear friends. The plague fly has left Norfolk. I would soon fill my journal if I daily recorded those of my friends & acquaintances, who I hear are dead.

To day I see the following are gone. 1 R.S. Bernard, Druggist. 2 W.B. Sorey, U.S. Marshall, 3 Cousin Elizabeth Whitehead, a sweet girl. 4 Mrs. John Seldon. 5 Miss Virginia Seldon 6 Mrs. Lise Holden. 7 Miss Martha Holden. 8 Mrs. Aristides Smith. 9 Theodore Cunningham. A member of the Washington Institute, and a great favorite of mine.

10 Cousin Maria Whitehead, wife of W C Whitehead ll and Walter H. Taylor, one of Father's most valued friends. Oh! 'tis heart rending. 'tis terrible!

Orange. Friday. September 14th 1855 & Elizabeth port Early this morning I visited the Orange medicated spring and drank of the water. I again searched through Mr. Lighthisse's cellar & got a good many political papers and also some vile infidel pamphlets. I again left for Elizabethport, brother went with me. We dined in Newark. stayed a short time in Elizabeth city & supped at the port. On my journey I read a book called Humors of Love. I found to my surprise it was rather a vulgar one, and although harmless in my hands, a dangerous one for some. How many books falsely pretending to expose the misery of vice, are but a creator of viscious passions. We found a new bar keeper at the Elizabethport Hotel, he is a great brag, named Bellows. He never allows any man to strike him, but shoots them down. Oh! human nature how diversified art thou! I dont think I will forget the wind of that bellows for a long time. The accounts from Norfolk are still of the same melancholy character. There were known to be 56 deaths on Monday, 53 on Tuesday, and 45 on Wednesday, with 50 new cases on the latter day.

Elizabethport. Saturday 15th 1855. This morning after spending a tolerably pleasant night, I left this place for Elizabethtown at 11 oclk, in an omnibus to meet Father & Mother.

While at the depot I met a very clever young man, and we had quite a long and pleasant chat, I did not find out his name. I wrote to cousin Lizzie Lightfoot to day. Father & the rest arrived late at Elizabethtown & we took a private conveyance for this place. Both Father & Mother are quite well pleased with the place, the fare is not quite as good as they expected. I read a horrible infidel sermon to day, called Judas Iscariot vindicated. I burnt it up to night.

Yellow fever still rages in my native city, & no abatement. For want of coffins many have been interred with out boxes or coffins or any thing else save the blanket upon which they died. Several of our wealthiest citizens have been buried in rough square boxes, & the graves dug by their friends. In one instance I heard of a father digging the graves of his only two daughters, & as many as nineteen to twenty bodies have been lying on the ground at the Cemetery waiting their turn for interment as soon as the holes were dug, for in many instances they were not more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep. The report about the small pox in Norfolk is false.

Sunday. September 16th 1855. Elizabethport. After retiring last night and just as I was falling to sleep, I was awoke by Father's rapping at my door, he was looking for a mosquito net, as he was

nearly devoured. I looked about but in vain, and at last followed the advice of bragging Bellows, by taking a light in one hand, and a towel in the other, and giving the wall a severe thrashing, which brought down the mosquitoes in crowds.

I spent a restless night with little or no sleep. Little Charley was peppered with bites. To day after breakfast Father and Bob went to church, it rained & as we had only one umbrella, I did not go.

After their return and just before dinner the servant announced that a gentleman wanted to see Father. It proved ~~be~~ (sic) be Mr. Lewis Lighttipe, who had rode all the way from Orange to bring a sad, sad letter from Mr. Tyler. It contained the death of two intimate neighbors, Miss Margaret Wilkinson & Miss L. Kieling. But most mournful of all, the death of our faithful servant Daniel Grimes. It was indeed a shock. For he was like a near & dear relation. He was everything to Father. An inmate of our home for many many years. he knew our ways and never allowed us to want for anything. He took care of all Father's property when he was gone, & was the first always to welcome us on our return. He would not desert his post during the fever & like a Noble soul (as he was) fell at his place guarding his beloved masters property.

His place can never be filled.

He was known to all the community as honest and obliging and very many besides his master's family will miss Daniel. My first manly tears were shed to day, on hearing the death of this noble slave. May he now be in Heaven resting from his earthly toil in Abraham's bosom. Uncle Daniel died on Wednesday at 10 ock of yellow fever, he was about 45 yrs. old. Bobbie returned to Orange with Mr. Lighttipe, poor boy, his heart was full. Uncle Daniel truly loved him. I went to the Episcopal church this afternoon a lay reader officiated. The news from Norfolk is still awful, but the skies are brightening a little. There is a small decrease in the mortality.

Newark: New Jersey. Monday September 17th 55. I slept better in E:port last night though troubled with mosquitoes. This morning I left early in the Red Jacket for N York. I called on Dr Sayre, he seemed pleased to see me, he was a beloved friend of dear brother Richard, & when he spoke of him to me he could not restraine from tears. I called at the Union bank and got a check for \$100, cashed, & then I went & met the family at the wharf. They then proceeded to see Dr Sayre. They allowed our colored nurse to ride in the omnibus, this is unusual, the equality of the blacks at the North, being "all in my eye." I left soon for Newark. I engaged rooms at the City Hotel, got my dinner at the Astor lunch & left for Elizabethtown,

there I hired a Jersey wagon, picked up an idle negro & rode to the Port, & returned with the baggage, after paying our board & bedding our generous host farewell, I arrived duly at Newark.

I noticed in the N Y Tribune of this morning a contemptible piece concerning the health of Norfolk, displaying both profound ignorance & dangerous malichousnêss. It was well answered in the Evening Express. The N Y Express in heralding the death of uncle Daniel, had ("Mr. Daniel Grymes' (colored)" this was a mark of respect no other colored servant received. The mortality is still heartsickning although said to be in a decline. Among my friends are the following recorded dead.

Mrs. Cath. Baylor, principal of a feemale school, and an accomplished & talented lady. She was always fond of my parents children. Jas R Johnson, jeweller, Thos Hardy, one of our principal merchants. There are 1200 known to have died in Norfolk from the fever. In Cedarwood & Elmgrove Cemetaryies 892, have been known to be buried. In the Catholic 111, in the Jewish, 7, in Oak Grove, 47, at (Lulappi?) 40, many have been buried unknown to the recorder of deaths. Well truly "in the midst of life we are in death." Father, mother & myself took a stroll this evening, we visited the Gardens near the Park House.

Room No 89. Tuesday Sept 18. City Hotel, Newark. I went to Orange early to day in the cars, to let Aunt Winnie, know of the death of her husband. I found all well. I felt so sad I could not see her, so I left immediately in the stage for Newark. I bought six rolling collars in Newark to day. Father, Mother, and myself took a long walk up Broad street this afternoon, and saw many elegant churches and handsome dwellings. I was struck by the imposing appearance of a new Methodist church; and also of a Presbyterian church, being constructed of a new and singular colored stone. We are disappointed with this Hotel, the fare is tolerable, but the sleeping apartments are miserable indeed. Father had to put his bug ridden bed on the floor, where Mother, the baby, & himself rested ill. There is a Doctress at this Hotel, who is a vile imposter, she occupies a suite of the best rooms, and we heartily wish she was gone. Sad tidings still come from Norfolk. I saw the death of no intimate friend to day.

Sept 19th Wednesday. Room No 76. City Hotel Newark. I walked to Orange this morning having nothing else to do. Edward Ingram has returned from a trip to Alexandria. All the children had colds. Aunt Maria is quite unwell. I returned in the 2 oclk accomodation train. The fever is abating in Norfolk, this is glorious news. We received letters to day from Mr. Tyler, and Sammy Lightfoot. Little Charley is still very sick. We to day moved into much more comfortable quarters

at the City Hotel. We have now two bed rooms (rather small) leading into a private parlour. Father, Mother, & the baby occupies No 77 and Bobbie & myself No 78, while Aunt Maria sleeps on a pallet in the parlour. I am suffering with "ennui," and consequently feel low spirited. The Mortality in Norfolk is still terrible. The greatest number that died in one day in Norfolk, 83. This would be equal to about 11,000 a day in New York. The great American Naval Revolution has come about, fulfilling the "act to promote the efficiency of the Navy, approved 28, February, 1855.

Newark. September 20th Thursday, 1855. Brother carried Charley & his nurse to Orange to day. I read a great deal in Bennetts Memoirs¹ to day. I am much pleased with the work, & think every journalist & Statesman, should read it. Father is a personal friend of Mr Bennett & for that reason I take an interest in his life. I was quite unwell this morning, my cold distresses me very much. I met Mr Ivers at the Market at depot this afternoon. I heard mournful tidings from Norfolk to day. Dr Upshur,² a brilliant man, & eminent doctor is dead. he was a great friend to St. Paul's church.

This was a mistake. (Rev Aristides S. Smith is also dead. he was principal of the Norfolk Female Institute.

Ex mayor Delaney is also dead, & numbers of my friends. Oh! will the recitals of deaths--the tale of sufferings never cease? Lotty, the indian girl that lived next door to the school I went to when very young, has fallen by the fever. Lotty then lived with Mrs. Tom Newton the wife of an ex Congressman. She was quite a pretty maiden, but used to terrify us school children very often at play time, by giving a yell & rushing out at us, from Some hiding place.

Friday Sept 21st 1855. Newark N Jersey. I bought a map of the seat of War to day for 25 cents, it is about the best I have seen. The news from Norfolk is terribly distressing, I have lost a warm and former roommate at College, Leonidas W Smith, he was a member of the ODX.

This was incorrect. (Another member has died David Godwin, of Portsmouth, a young lawyer of much promise.

¹Pray, Isaac C. Memoirs of Jas. Gordon Bennett and his times (New York, 1855).

²George Littleton Upshur (born George Upshur Nottingham, but changed his name in youth) attended William and Mary, 1837-1840, and the University of Pennsylvania medical school. He served hundreds of yellow fever victims and assembled notes for future publication but died toward the end of the epidemic.

Dr. Robert H. Gordon, the inefficient health officer, has had the black vomit, but is not dead.

Newark Saturday September 22d 1855. It is rather dull for me in Newark, I do long to go home.

I am still perusing and enjoying Bennett's memoirs. I went to Orange to day to see the children, While there received a note which proved to be a very kind invitation from Capt Snyder, to accompany his corp the Union Blues, on a target excursion to Morristown. The news from Norfolk is still sad. The fever seems to have an insatiable thirst for human life.

Newark. Sunday. September 23d 1855. I went to hear Mr. Stewart at Grace church this morning. We heard the Rev. Geo H Doane, (the eldest son of the Bishop of New Jersey) deposed from the Episcopal ministry. Mr Stewart gave quite an address on the occasion. It seems young Doane once studied law, and then took the degree of M D, and following his impulsive nature entered the ministry. He then resigned on a false pretence and joined the Catholic church. The Rev Minister ascribed his conduct to an ill ballanced mind. I walked to Orange this afternoon in order to accompany the Union Blues on their excursion. In going to Orange, I saw near a grove a great crowd, on going up I discovered the dead body of a man who had wandered from his home, and expired in a fit. He was a hatter named Wm Murray. his distressed widow had covered his face with her handkerchief. I went with Miss Mary Ann to Mr Boush's church to night a stranger preached. I have a bad sore throat and cold. The accounts from Norfolk are still sad and gloomy.

Newark, Monday, Septe 24. 1855.

Early to day I repaired to Masonic Hall, Orange and met Capt Snyder and his company. I accompanied them on their target excursion to Morristown. While on the cars the Capt handed me the prizes & informed me I would have the honor of presenting them. I did not understand him, and paid no attention to it, never dreaming I would have to speak. If I had understood him so, I would have refused as I was extremely hoarse. After landing at Morristown, I marched with three gentlemen directly in the rear of the band & in front of the company. We marched through the principal streets to the Hotel. On our way a pair of horses attached to a carriage, becoming alarmed rushed off & squashed the carriage top, throwing the careless darkey driver, some distance. From the Hotel we marched to Fort Nonsense a fort that Washington (who winter quartered in Morristown) had constructed to keep his men busy, to prevent scurvey. Here a target was set up about 80 yards from the company. The men fired by numbers, as they would fire I would mark the ball their number. The firing was good. After the firing we marched to the Hotel where myself as the

chief & three other judges, awarded the prizes. No 18 was the successful number. There were ten prizes. After dinner the company was formed on front of the Hotel, & I was unexpectedly called on to present the prizes.

I did my best. If I had not been hoarse I would have finished with a speech, (anticipating perhaps a toast I had thought over one coming in the cars. I had a delightful day & returned late to Newark as the engine of the up train was out of order & delayed our trains. I got acquainted with a shallow pated editor to day. Mr. Vance of the Jerseyman. To day is Charles' birthday. Mr. Ferguson President of the Howard Association in Norfolk is dead. Another noble sould gone!

There were 40 interments on Thursday & 28 on Friday last. At Portsmouth on Thursday there were 22 deaths on Friday 25, and on Saturday about 30. Dr. Alex. Galt our worthy postmaster is dead.

City Hotel. Newark. Tuesday 25th September. I staid at home to day. Uncle Leonard, Aunt Suffern. Cousins Agnes, Willie and Anna came to see us yesterday. We were very glad to see them. I took a walk around Newark to day. This evening I bought a very cheap silver pencil case, with gold pen, and a fine six bladed knife. The news from the localities of the pestilence continues distressing in the extreme. Friends are still dying off.

Newark. Wednesday 26th of September. My cold is excessively bad. Father & the rest have gone to Orange. I have staid at home reading nearly all day. "The News from the doomed cities, Norfolk and Portsmouth, is of the same sad and disheartning character. The disease seems rather to increase then abate in malignancy, & the deaths, when the reduced population is considered, are more numerous than at any period during the prevalence of the scourge. One incident is noted, of a truly distressing nature, ten deaths out of a family of eleven persons! Our correspondence to day is pretty full, & we need not add, (say the N Y Express, which paper we have kept) will be received on all hands with melancholy interest." Language, seems to be wholly inadequate to depict the horrors of which the infected district is now daily the theatre. The accounts contain the names of many of my friends. Verily the account freezes ones blood. I have just seen that 5 physicians died on Saturday Charley Beale, an able writer, a farmer, editor of the Norfolk News and a great friend of mine has gone to his last account.

City Hall, Newark. Thursday, September 27th 1855. To day Father gave me an eloquent speech of C W Carrigan in Philadelphia on the anniversary of the adoption of the Federal Constitution. I read, &

have preserved, it. I heard to night by the evening paper, that Sebastopol had fallen, that the French had lost 15,000, the English 2,000 & the Russians about 15,000. What wholesale slaughter. And all for what?

Mr. Grimsby an Englishman told me to day that a green card is most useful in reading in the Rail car. The card covers the lines above the one you are reading & you move it as you read. (Written on left side of paper "Green Card for Rail Road.")

The Pestilence at Norfolk is still terrific, but there are slight indications of abatement, During the last week there were 217 interments known of in Norfolk, estimated pop: 4000. John D Gordon Broker is dead. Another valuable pew holder in St Pauls Church. The poor old church I fear will fare badly: its chief supporters are dying. Mrs. Tyler is dead. O! God what a blow. As dear a friend as one could have. To my Mother she was a sister, to my Mothers' children devoted. Oh poor dear lady. She is in heaven. & her poor husband is left to mourn with us. Oh! what will Norfolk be like. Changed! changed!! changed!!!

New York. Friday. September 28th 1845 (sic) I went to N York to day at two oclk to hear Madam Rachel. I called on Mr Thomas in Pearl street. He was delighted to see me. We had a fine time together, he told me many amusing circumstances about himself: & showed me some very ingenious inventions. Thomas is certainly (in vulgar parlance) a trump. I went to Aunt Suffern's 11 Washington Square about 5 oclk. Cousin Agnes had written to me, that her brother would engage seats for me, but as they did not receive my note till late, & as they did not like play, they failed to do so. So brother & myself were considerably disappointed. To night I went to see Cousin Mary Hamilton. Tom Suffern treated me to some fried oysters to night. Mr Thomas is desirous that brother & myself call on him Monday evening. Sebastopol is taken. At last the press groan to day with this (to my Russian sympathising heart) bad news.

I heard no news from Norfolk.

Newark. Saturday. September 29th 1855. This morning I visited an artist who was taking my rich Irish uncle's portrait, it was quite a handsom painting, not likeness. I then visited artificial mantel piece stores, & priced them. They were, Lyon & Lamb, Corner of Broadway & Walker street, & Richardson & Boynton 314 Broadway. I visited the artificial stone store 340 Broadway. The material looks very much like brown sand stone. The handsome busts of Clay & Calhoun were \$10 a piece. I crossed to Newark with cousin Thomas & brother, I intended to return with him to N York, but felt too unwell. There was a fire

in Newark this afternoon. I went to it. 'twas on the outskirts of the town. The Engines here are very small compared to those in Norfolk they are piano shaped. Ex Gov. Seymour delivered a tremendous speech at Old Tammany Hall last evening. He gave the (liquour?) law--the Know Nothings, & Massachusetts, particular fits. The Daily Times called it a rally of the Softs. The news from Norfolk still terrible.

Newark. Sunday 30th of September. The last of this fearful month's past, a month of horror & of death to poor Godforsaken Norfolk & Portsmouth. What a fearful record on the book of time has this month written for my unahappy city. The beautiful girl has been swept away, & laid coffinless in the pestilential grave. The mother has been torn from her children, & thrown carelessly in the fearful plague pit. The sweet wife has been snatched from the devoted husband, the kind husband from the loving wife, the beloved sister from the doting brother, & laid promiscuously in loathsome trenches of rolling dead. God Grant we may never hear the blood freezing tidings that the pestilence is again in Norfolk. I was too unwell to go to church to day. The Yellow fever is still abating in Norfolk. There were seven deaths on Thursday.

Newark. Monday October 1st. It rained all day to day, & I have kept pretty close. Brother is quite unwell with a boil on his arm. The "Carnival of death" is nearly finished in Norfolk, its course is nearly run. Friends still fall as leaves in wintry weather.

Newark, & Orange. Tuesday October 2d. To day I started to go to Orange by the cars, but being left by them, I walked to Orange, I saw the children & Aunt (Reah) they were well. I returned to dinner. I attended the Newark Theatre to night. Saw M'lle. Marie Duret as Portia in the Merchant of Venice, and as Helen McGregor in Rob Roy. She is a fine actress. I also saw J B Roberts the eminent tragedian as Shylock and Rob Roy. The acting of the company was not good. Mrs. Place a large "Irish washer women" looking female make a ridiculous Die Vernon. I got to the hotel at 1/4 to 12, having stopped for a glass of beer. Brother was too unwell to go with me. I saw to day in Orange, Virginius Ingram, a cousin from the West, he is about to go to sea. Cousin S_gm Lightfoot is dead. He was a good boy. A correspondent of a Richmond paper records among other deaths that of Samuel Lightfoot, aged only 16 years, clerk in the post office; an estimable, intelligent, gentle youth, comely in person and amicable in character, the prop of his affectionate mother widowed but a few weeks ago. She & his fond sisters, whose pride & joy he was, gathered around his youthful form, as it lay still & pale in the cold arms of death, & a scene of the most intensely painful & heart rendering interest was witnessed; & this is but one of many of the kind.

Newark. Wednesday. October 3d 1855. To day the children & Aunt Winnie the nurse came to see us from Orange. Uncle Leonard, Aunt Anna, & Cousins Henrietta, Isaac & Virginius visited us to day. Aunt Anna looks much better than she did two years ago. I have become very well acquainted with an old conceited Englishman named Grimsby, he is very talkative & but for my having nothing better to do, than listen to his verbose conversation, I would vote him a bore. At Norfolk on Sunday, there were only 4 deaths. Fifty four Southern Doctors & nurses have left. Mr. Jackson our beloved pastor is very ill. The wife & daughter of Chief Justice Taney died at old Point on Sunday. The daughter died of Yellow Fever.

Newark. Thursday October 4th 1855. City Hotel. Miss Mary Ann Lighttripe called on us to day. Brother's arm is/not/better, it is now in a sling, & he seems to suffer much from his troublesome boil. To night Mr Grimsby presented me with a beautiful little map of the Crimea & adjacent country. It is exquisitely engraved, & is certainly something neat. It has made his conversation sound 10 pr cent better, yea, improved it as much, as mustard does the cold meat we have saved from dinner & served at supper, at this Hotel. No news from the City of the dead.

New York. Friday October 5th 1855. This morning dear parents went to Orange they returned after dinner with Mag & Wilson. I am now reading a silly book called Fashion and Famine written by a fashionable authoress (Mrs. Ann Stevens,) who^a had she to depend upon my patronage would be a famished one also. The more I read the Daily papers, so much the more I long to be a Journalist. I feel & see the influence of the Press, & long to exert an influence through its means. Uncle Leonard came over this afternoon for Maggie & kindly invited me to stay until Tuesday in New York. I accepted his invitation & we three left Newark at 5 1/2 for the Empire City. I had the honor of carrying a "yaller kivered" bandbox. Shades of Caudle (?) how delightfully delicious it is to tote a conspicuous & indispensable article of Women's gear, through the public thoroughfare. I visited the Metropolitan Theatre to night & saw Angelo played. Rachel's acting is superb, It truly beggars my description. Her counterfeit of nature would pass current anywhere. M'lle Felex as Cathanna equalled, to my mind in her acting her renowned sister in Tisbe. So I thought perhaps a coinnoisseur (sic) of these things would consider me "green." I had read the translation of Angelo the week before / I read it before / & between the different acts, & being a tolerable French scholar, I enjoyed & appreciated the play far beyond all expectation. The gesticulation of Rachel surpasses /that of/ any one I ever saw, even my old preceptor of Moral Philosophy, Bishop Johns of Virginia. This one thing I remarked, that all Rachel

appeared to strive to do, she did, & that excellently. I shall dream of Tisbe, Catharina, & myself stumping in old Virginia to night. No news from Norfolk of importance.

NEW YORK. Saturday October 6th. 55 Bleeker st. To day it is storming, the rain falls in torrents. I nevertheless rode down town, & bought six collars \$1.25 from John Van Buskert (?) I went to see Mr Thomas, he gave me a nice cigar, he was as cheerful & pleasant as ever. He is a noble fellow. I read Shakespeares Merchant of Venice to day. With Daniel Webster, (when asked which of Shakespeare's plays he liked best) I can say, "the last which I have read." There was a meeting at the Metropolitan Theatre to night in behalf of the Orphans of Norfolk and Portsmouth. Several eminent speakers are expected. The whole proceeds of the renowned Pyne & Harrison Opera troupe at Nibla's to night will be given to the Norfolk & Portsmouth Orphans. I attended & heard the celebrated American Opera, Rip Van Winkle. I was charmed. The scenery & singing are fine. I did not like Harrison singing much. But the opera is charming. I shall dream to night of old Rip Van Winkle. I hear the fever still abates in Norfolk.

NEW YORK. Sunday October 7th 1855. I went this morning to Grace Church, the music was delightful, very much like the Opera as far as fine voices were concerned. Both the preacher & church were very cold, & as I was getting cold I left before the sermon was over. Heard the sad sad tidings of the death of our beloved pastor, Mr. William Jackson. Oh! What a loss! Like a faithful soldier of the cross he braved the disease & now in Heaven he reaps his reward. O Grave where is thy victory? O Death where is thy sting. Went to Broome St. R(eformed) D(utch) Church this afternoon, heard quite a fine sermon from a young and eloquent preacher. Read in to days Sunday Herald the speeches delivered about Norfolk at Metropolitan meeting last night. I did not go to church to night.

NEW YORK. Monday Morning Oct. 8th. Early this morning brother Robert came to New York. Father sent word that I might carry Mag and himself to see Forrest act Hamlet to night. To night is his first appearance this season. I went early, about 10 1/2 oclck to secure three seats and found great difficulty in procuring good ones. I got three on sofa No 2. During the first act a gentleman on the front seat, gave Maggie a seat beside him. I visited Aunt Suffern to day, met cousins Henrietta & Virginius there. Called on my friend Mr. Thomas to day, & met Mr Whipple in the street, who told me to come down to his office 33 Water street at any time & see him. He is a spruce Englishman, & has a very sweet & kind lady for a wife. I was delighted with Forrest, he is I believe considered perfect in his style, which is

too passionate for my taste. The company generally are fine. Mme Ponisi as the Queen acted her part splendidly. She would not pale in Rachel's light. I had at times an indescribable glow of enthusiasm coursing my veins from the joy which I experienced in the life like actions of Forrest as he counterfeited unhappy Hamlet. I read Hamlet to day. All the papers are noticing the death of Rev Wm Jackson, so many have listened to the eloquence of his voice that tears will be shed in many a household. Truly, a "good man in Israel has fallen." Mr. Jackson was about 48 or 50 years old. Rev Aristides Smith buried him. The Grave-Digger Gone. Mr. Dubbs after superintending the burial of a great part of 2,300, his wife among, has at last followed them into the common mother earth!

NEW YORK. Tuesday October 9th 1855. Father came over to New York to day. he bought an umbrella cane as he came up. I see by the papers the fever is fast abating. Most of the new cases & deaths are those who have prematurely returned. I saw several Norfolk gentlemen in New York to day. Last night was the great public amusement night of the season, every house was well filled. Over \$10,000 was taken in by the different exhibitions. To night I went with Bob to see my friend T Frederick Thomas, he is a good soul. His wife was very kind and attentive, & all the family seemed to endeavor to make brother Robert & myself pleased. His wife has a very pretty sister named Juliet. I read Shakespeares King Lear to day. Mr. Thomas showed us some magic to night. The Daily News made its appearance again in Norfolk /yesterday/ the stores are opening an Market Square, but the fever still lingers, loth to quite its horrid hold.

NEWARK. Wednesday (sic) October 10 1855. I left New York early this morning, and arrived early at Newark with Maggie & Bob. The Tribune contained a speech this morning of that vile demagogue Henry Wilson, I have kept the paper as it will be useful next campaign. To day a fine company of soldiers came from Brooklyn & held their anniversary at this Hotel. There were some excellent & some poor speeches from some of the soldiers and their guests. I was pleased with an anecdote of a fellow who considered himself an Irishman, having seen so many drawings of Cork (from bottles). There was a great parade at Patterson to day. The invincible Democracy have carried the Empire State of the South--Georgia, & the Glorious Old Key Stone--Pennsylvania. Baltimore has gone for the Democracy, & Ohio, I fear has played the truant. News from Norfolk still report an abatement in the fever, there were 4 deaths on Sunday.

NEWARK, Thursday, October 11th, 1855. To day dear parents went to New York. The Herald of day contained a long an interesting account of the celebration of the Battle of King's Mountain. The Speeches of Preston & Bancroft are very superior. The Norfolk News is cheering, the

fever is rapidly abating, & the city begins to assume a rather more lively appearance, there are some stores open & doing a little business on Main St & Market Sqr. The merchants on the wharves are having their stores opened, ventilated & cleansed. Aunt Winnie brought Mary over to see us to day. Father bought two seats on sofa No. 2 at the Broadway Theatre for last evening. Bob & myself left Newark at 6 ock & arrived at the Theatre in ample time to get our supper in the saloon beneath, & to see the play commence. We saw Forrest as Othello. His acting was superior, but too vehement. Fisher as Iago did certainly excell, we prefer his acting to that of Forrest. Both Forrest & Fisher were called out after the play closed. We did not stay to see the farce, but returned in the 12 M oclck train.

NEWARK, Friday October 12, 1855. The glad tidings of the safe return of Dr Kane of Arctic expedition, was received to day in the New York Herald. I have kept the Herald with the long and interesting account. This Artic expedition in search of the great English Navigator Sir John Franklin left New York on the 31st of May 1853, and it was thought by many that Dr. Kane was lost in this humane search. The yellow fever has nearly disappeared from Norfolk's & Portsmouth. The Rev Francis Devlin¹, pastor of the Roman Catholic Church, Portsmouth, is dead. I heard to night that Mr. Bennet, gives 50 cents a square for all matter sent to him, that he puts in his columns. Cousin Edward Ingram came and told us good bye this afternoon, he goes to the West, on Monday. The politics of New York State, are in a state of confusion worse confounded. The Democracy are split into three parts, the whigs have a small corporal's guard only. the niggers have a party, & the Republicans or fusionist seem to have the best forces. The Hindoos or Know Nothings, being almost disbanded from desertions & quarrels. The Philadelphia Convention killed them dead. We prophesied there final end would soon come & it is even so. I played three games of tenpins last night with Mr. Whipple. I beat all three. I rolled either balls & he took ponies. I made 137 in one game.

NEWARK, Saturday October 13th 1855.

Mr. Grimsby this morning told me he had a plan which would make this country the first country in the world. He gave me a copy of his plan which I copy below ---

¹Rev. Devlin, of St. Paul's church, was a native of Langford, Ireland. An obituary from the Portsmouth Transcript of October 10, 1855, appears in J.N. Schoolfield, "Sketch of the yellow fever," in Portsmouth Relief Association, Report...to the contributors (Richmond 1856), p. 173-4.

System of Qualification for
a true Democrat

Christianity
Literature
Liberty
Justice

To be sworn before a justice of the Peace.
Sir! Have you read the Bible through?

We had a long discussion about this, he made quite a good defence of it, but had evidently not thought but little about his system. I contended that a person's being able to swear he had read the bible through would not necessarily make him a Christian a Literary man, a Liberal man or a Just man, but yet he thought it would keep many worthless vagabonds from the ballot box & Jury box. I shall think over this, yet I think it directly opposed to the anti religious test of our Constitution. The Jew, the Catholic, & the Unitarian must all have different ideas about the Bible, consequently this test would be to some a species of tyranny & then many honest, upright men have not had the opportunities for learning to read, & consequently would be debarred from an inestimable franchise. I read to day a very interesting lecture on Carman(?) by Thos F Meagher, at the Tabernacle, New York. I think I shall go to hear him on Monday evening next. The news from Norfolk is cheering. they have had three frosts this week. The inhabitants are returning I fear to fast.

NEWARK, Sunday, October 14th 1855. This morning I attended Grace church, or rather Trinity, I suffered dreadfully with cold feet. The sermon was an excellent one. He spoke of the Norfolk sufferers, read letters from Mr Chisholm & Jackson, & also read handsome tributes to the services of both. I have been thinking for several days that I would write to the Norfolk Daily News and propose a Convention of the citizens of Norfolk and Portsmouth, to be held in Norfolk on the 15th of November, Thanksgiving day for the purpose of paying a tribute to the dead, & to express our heartfelt thanks to the individuals and communities who have so nobly assisted us in time of need. And for any other purpose that may be desirable. I forgot to mention that a collection was taken up in Trinity to day, but on account of the rainy damp day a small congregation was present, & it was not liberally responded to. Aunt Maria and Miss Mary Ann visited us yesterday, with dear little Mary. I walked to the Morris & Essex depot with them, they left in the six oclock train. I suffered extremely with cold while waiting, & I find when I am very cold I almost lose the power of speech. I fear this will interfere with my speaking at the Bar.

NEWARK, Monday, October 15th Brother leaves to morrow for college. Father & himself went over to New York to day to see about some books & to tell his Aunts Good bye. Aunt Janet Suffern was too unwell to see him. I fear dear Aunt has not long to live. Oh! Death, thou art every where! I have been thinking several days of taking a short trip to Providence, we have a chapter of the ~~ODX~~ there & I want to see them. I went to the Newark Library to day, they allowed me admission. In looking at the Colonial Hist. of our country in order to brush my knowledge of Rhode Island up, I find that Roger Williams had neither bread nor bed, & no shelter from the rude wintry blast but the hollow of a tree. He won the confidence of Massasoit and Canonicus. They would not sell but gave him free use of the land between the Pawtucket and Mashasuck rivers. T'was in Rhode Island that Philip the Narraganset chief met with his great defeat and lost 1000 warriors. Rhode Island came nobly to the rescue of her sister colonies during the Revolutionary struggle. She gave a Nathaniel Green & nearly 6000 brave souls to the cause of Freedom. With these facts I am prepared to make quite a dashing speech if I should be called on. I was shown to day a gutta percha piano cover, it was highly ornamented. I believe they will soon make every article of household use with this gutta percha, we now /have/ cloaks, horse covers, shoes, horse boots, isthmus bags, life preservers, crumb cloths, fire buckets, bathing tubs, acid vats, gas bags, hot water bags, railroad springs, combs, knife handles (sic) walking canes & as a substitute in many things for ivory, horn, shell, bone, pearl &c. I expect 'ere long we will live in gutta percha houses, sleep in gutta percha beds, & be buried in gutta percha coffins. I went to over to New York this evening to hear Thos F Meagher but he did not lecture at the Tabernacle as was anticipated and I was disappointed. I called in to see the Christy & Wood's Minstrels, they were "highly entertaining and extremely amusing." Father bought a rare work to day, it was a translation to Cicero's Brutus, \$3.00. The fever still clings with dreadful pertinacity to poor Norfolk. The deaths are few, still no one expected new cases or deaths from fever after frost. Mr Noah Stall commonly known as the "wandering Jew, was found Oct 12, seated on the sofa dead of the fever. Mr. Thos G Broughton Sr. Editor of the Norfolk Herald, an old & esteemed friend of mine is sick with the fever. A long letter appeared in day's New Yorks Herald (which I have preserved) going to prove that the Steamer Ben Franklin did not bring the Yellow fever into Norfolk. We have no faith in this. It seems the Anti Slavery Society of Boston has written a letter to Hon H A Wise asking him to deliver one of a course of lectures in that city on the subject of slavery. Mr Wise answered them in a characteristic letter telling them he would do no such thing, & that the particular phase of the subject that he will present is "deliberately to fight if we must." Bravo! Wise I think will be the Democratic candidate for the next Presidency, but Qui vivra verra -- he that lives shall see.

✓ NEWARK Tuesday, October 16th 1855.

Dear brother Robert went off happily this morning to college, he

seemed in good spirits. What a sad vacation he has had. Father and Mother went to New York to day, and dined at Uncle Leonard's. I staid at Home and wrote and read. I am preparing a statement about the Yellow Fever in Norfolk. The News from Norfolk showed no material change in the fever, it still hung on. The inhabitants away are notified not to return before the 1st of November. The people of the North seem considerably stirred up on the Kansas Question, on the great question, Whether Kansas will be a slave or a free state? We have no doubt that when it asks for admission it will be with a proslavery constitution, but it is doubtful whether Congress will admit her, at least without some terrible row. No doubt the Union will be dissolved a half dozen times during the next few years by the abolitionists, but such a dissolution as the fire eaters of the south have always brought about -- all smoke. I will miss brother to night, he is such an amiable boy that he has won the love of all whom he has met. I have found old Grimsby to be a conceited and obstinate old fellow, he is a regular John Bull. So thorough, that he won't own the English were whipped at New Orleans or in the war of 12.

NEWARK, Wednesday, October 17th 1855. This morning, I went to see the patent rifle and gun manufactory with Col Smeltzer and Father. The rifles & guns load at the breech, & can be discharged ten times in a minute. They are beautifully & scientifically constructed. They feed themselves with caps, whenever loaded. The rifles cost about \$30 & the fowling pieces \$25.

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We also went to a Leather Company. The leather can be tanned in 1 days (sic) They take though about three months. They are not obliged to use bark, but may use acorns from Leghorn. Everything was very complete in this establishment. We also saw some fine carriage making. The foreman or one of the proprietors of the carriage manufactory, advised us to buy a carriage of Lawrence, Tomlinson & Wood or some of those large factory owners, but to beware of McKinstry in Broadway. I went to night to see the Boon Children but had such a small audience that they declined performing. The news from Norfolk states, the fever is slowly disappearing. Mr Jackson's death has elicited many handsome tributes to his memory.

NEWARK Thursday, October 18th 1855. I went to New York early this morning. Called on Mr Thomas & Mr Sturgess. I spent nearly all the morning at the Tombs New York. I saw sights that sickened my heart. Old and young criminals came up by dozens and were thrown in the dungeons. Several nymphs du pave, one of whom was very young and pretty were caged. What for? I didn't hear! I met a young man who staid in Norfolk with M A Santos & son. I didn't find out his name. Dined with Father and

Mother at Taylor's Saloon. Returned to Newark to tea. The Tribune to day contained a list of those who had come to the assistance of the sufferers in Norfolk, & those who had died. It had a ridiculous article on "Fallen Virginia." (I have kept it.) The Atlantic has arrived from Europe. Sebastopol is to be blown up. The Russians have been defeated in a Cavalry battle near Eupatoria. A money crisis is about to arise in England. Look out for a blow up!

NEWARK Friday, October 19th 1855. Today is the anniversary of the Surrender of Conwallis (sic) at Yorktown Va. I went to the fair of the American Institute at the Crystal Palace to day. I staid all day at the fair, from about 10 ocl^k until nearly six. The fair disappointed me. There were some very beautiful things, however, & some valuable inventions. There were some handsome pieces of statuery at the Palace, left from the old Worlds fair that I attended two years ago. Some of the pieces were rather too much like nature. The manufactured dry goods, apartments were rather bare. The Machine Department was pretty good. Fancy Articles abounded. The statues of Webster, Washington, & the Amazon Warrior, looked very handsome. We did not like the appearance of the Goddess of Liberty, it was tolerable at a distance, & might suit the taste of some. We purchased for 25 cts each one of Foster's Pencil Sharpeners (an opposition to the pen knife -- a very quick & perfect way of sharpening the Pencil, without injury to the lead.) and one of the new door fasteners. An excellent article for fastening a door at a Hotel, a light article that may be carried in the pocket. I saw so many wonderful inventions that it would be useless to enumerate them. I saw the Palace lit up by gas it was a splendid sight. I returned to Newark in time for supper to night. The fever still clings to my sweet sweet home. Oh! that the cold might come, & destroy the terrible Pestilence. The Free Love Society, a sort of respectable house of ill-fame in Broadway has been broken up by the Police. The papers contain full accounts of it.

NEWARK Saturday October 20th 1855. I have been feeling unwell all day. I went to Perry's corner of Market and Broad, and got measured for a black silk velvet vest, and for a pair of handsome black cloth pants. It is rainy and stormy to day. I carried the Southern Argus which we received from Norfolk yesterday, to Dr Goble, a gentleman who very kindly called on us /day before/ yesterday.

NEWARK Sunday October 21st 1855. Went to Trinity church to day. It was damp and wet all day. Nothing occured worthy of note.

Newark Monday October 22d 1855. Bought a pair of patent leather gaiters from Peschine's to day. I am so busy preparing to leave tomorrow for Providence that I have no time to write anything. As I could not carry my Journal with me I shall not be as correct in my a ccount of the

Trip to Providence.

Octo 23d Tuesday morning I left Newark for New York, having shopping around in New York. taking my dinner at Leary's Temperance Hotel, (which is a humbug) & I embarked at 5 P M on the magnificent steamer Plymouth Rock for Stonington, I slept well at night on the sound & next morning (Octo 24, Wednesday) I awoke at Stonington, I took the accomodation train for Providence. It was very rainy & disagreeable & I saw very little of the hunting grounds of Canonicus & Massasoit, or rather the working grounds of the Down Easters. I arrived at Providence during a storm, & proceeded to the City Hotel. I there found delightful fare & accomodations. The house was very much crowded, there was a Unitarian Convention in town. I saw at this house several very distinguished men among them Rufus Choate¹. In the afternoon I purchased an umbrella at the Arcade and sauntered up to college, & after mistaking the Greek professor² for a student, & chatting very familiarly with him about college secret societies,³ & I found a Theta Delta Chi, named Stone,⁴ he soon carried me around & I got introduced to a large number of my brethren. I supped with Stone. Next morning -----

Thursday October 25th I staid at the Hotel talking with gentlemen. I went again to see the fellows & took a walk with Clarence Bate⁵ of Kentucky & Pond⁶ from R Island. There was a grand service of troops to day, by the Governor, we went down town to see it. I never saw so many females together in my life, the women here are very pretty, & don't think I ever saw so much beauty collected together in my life. I am delighted with Providence, the streets are very handsome & some of the edifices very imposing. The college buildings are not remarkably

¹Prominent lawyer and orator; congressman (1830-34) and senator from Massachusetts (1841-45).

²Albert Harkness (1822-1907). This was his first year as Professor of Greek, a position he was to occupy for fifty-two years.

³The Corporation of Brown University went on record in 1844 as disapproving of secret societies, although a few years later a policy of regulation was adopted. Walter C. Bronson, The History of Brown University (Providence 1914), p. 241.

⁴Probably William Leete Stone (1835-1908). See Historical Catalogue of Brown University, 1764-1934 (Providence, 1936), p. 206.

⁵Clarence Smollet Bate (1837-1898). Ibid., p. 203.

⁶Daniel Bullard Pond (1830-1896). Ibid., p. 201.

handsome, but the students rooms are very comfortable & neat. The weather here is very cold. Pond and Bate carried me to Forbes' Theatre¹ to night. We saw Mrs Howard² perform in Francine & Jenny Lind a comedy & farce. Mrs Howard is the prettiest star actress I ever saw the comedietta of Who Speaks first? As we were going to the Theatre we met the soldiers, marching by torchlight, the streets & buildings were thronged with ladies & fireworks were set off, along the line of march. The Theatre was finely illuminated. I supped with Pond & Bate.

Friday Octo 26th I enjoyed myself very much to day, walking around town & in the company of my friends. I saw Messrs Allyn & Hartshorn two Norfolk gentlemen in the street to day.

Saturday, I called on Mrs Chaffee to whom I had a letter of introduction, she was engaged at the time, & not knowing who it was /excused herself/ I told the servant I would call again, but Mr. Chaffee came to the Hotel for me & I made an engagement to call at his house next day. I attended a meeting of the ODX this evening & responded to a call by giving them a short speech. After the meeting my friends gave me a handsome supper. After spending a delightful evening I returned to the Hotel satisfied the Brown's Univ. ODX's³ were as generous & hospitable as the O D's of the South. Rhea accompanied me to the Hotel. Pond carried me to the Library. On yesterday, I neglected to mention it. They have a very superior one at this University.

Sunday the 28th. I called on Mrs Chaffee this morning, she introduced me to her daughter Miss Sarah⁴, a charming girl who was

¹This "commodious edifice" was built by George A Howard the site of an earlier Theatre destroyed by fire in 1853. Charles Blake, An historical account of the Providence Stage (Providence 1868), p. 259.

²Mrs. G. C. Howard (the former Miss Caroline Fox) who played "Topsy" in Uncle Tom's Cabin for over 300 performances in New York during the 1853-54 season. George D. Odell, Annals of the New York Stage Vol VI, 1850-1857 (New York, 1931), p. 238.

³Among the members of Theta Delta Chi at Brown was John Hay, lawyer, diplomat, U.S. Secretary of State, and author of a life of Abraham Lincoln.

⁴Lamb's future wife. They were married September 7, 1857 in Providence. See Lamb's "Diary, 1859-1860," p. 30. (College of William and Mary Library).

very kind and attentive to me, as was her Mother. I accompanied Miss Sarah to Grace church & back, when I was forced to leave to go to the Hotel to dine with my friends, Burdge¹ & Bate. In the afternoon I again went to church with Sarah, & heard a splendid sermon from Bishop Clark. I took tea with the Chaffee's & became acquainted with all of this interesting family. Mrs. Chaffee fancied my manners were like a beloved son she had lost, & for this reason all the family were unusually kind to me, for I know no merits of mine could have induced /them/ to treat a stranger so cordially. Young Mr Chaffee presented me with some pear seeds from So. America, where his brother died of the yellow fever.

Monday 29th Mrs Chaffee took me a long ride over the prettiest parts of Providence this morning. Miss Sarah accompanied us. I dined with them to day, & spent a very delightful morning. I intended to leave early in the afternoon in the Bradford Durfee, but was left. I saw the fellows this afternoon & bid them goodbye. I got a set of ODX studs for \$5 to day. I bought an autograph book while here, & most of the fellows put their names in it. I mean ODX's. Burdge accompanied me to New York. I left this afternoon in the train for Stonington. The fellows saw me off from the depot. I never spent a more delightful week away from my parents than the one just passed. Mrs Chaffee lent me a very interesting book by Gilfillan. I returned to New York in the Plymouth Rock.

Tuesday Octo 30th I arrived in Newark early in the morning & nothing particular transpired.

Wednesday Octo 31. Went to N York to day could not find Burdge whom I promised to call on.

Thursday. Nov 1st

Friday Nov 2d. I am so busy flying about &c that I cannot keep my Journal properly. I went with Father, Wilson & Maggie to see the So: Burlesque Opera troupe.

Saturday Nov 3d. I go over to N York so constantly that I think it not worth while to record it. I took dinner with Dr Sayre in N York to day, & he gave me a letter of introduction to Dr. Parker. I did not find him in.

¹Franklin Burdge (1835-1908). Historical Catalogue, p. 196.

Sunday Nov 4th. I went to Trinity church Newark to day.

Monday 5th. I went to the city to see Dr Parker about dear little sister Mary's deafness. he appointed tomorrow at 10, as the hour /& day/ for my call.

Tuesday 6th. Carried little Mary to see Dr Parker, she would not allow him to do anything not even to make an examination. I carried her to the Museum. I dined at the Irving with Father.

Wednesday, Nov 7th. The only important event of to day was attending a lecture by Geo Jones Adams late Professor of Elocution in Illinois College, on Elocution. His declamation I did not admire.

Thursday Nov 8th. Nothing of much interest that I can recollect transpired to day.

Friday November 9th. I carried Mary again to see Dr Parker, she nearly went into a paroxysm as she remembered the place, finding he could do nothing, he told me to call on Tuesday & he would endeavor to have an examination by some physicians. I carried her to Newark, & returned in the afternoon to see Burton in the Lerious family & the Toddes. I never laughed so heartily in all my life it wrinkled my face for several days. Uncle Leonard Kip was over to see us to day. he visits us occasionally.

Saturday Nov 10th I went to Greenwood with Uncle Leonard, & dined with him. I saw very many beautiful sights at Greenwood. I find it impossible to write regularly in my Journal. I am so busy preparing to return home.

Sunday Nov 11th. Went to Mr Henderson's church to day.

Monday Nov 12th (I have written from this date to Dec from memory as this book got misplaced. I may therefore be a little incorrect as to the particular day.

Mr Snyder of Orange came in his buggie for me to day, & carried me to a great many different factories in Newark. In one hat factory I saw hundreds of young girls, many very beautiful, but looking very delicate. I visited so many factories that I find it impossible to write an account of this day sufficiently condensed for a Journal.

The malleable iron foundry was truly curious. The tanneries are pleasant enough to visit in the upper stories, but the vat rooms are horrible to smell. The most beautiful sight I remember was the India Rubber Factory. The most wonderful, the furblovers, where they manufacture cones to make hats. To night I had the delightful pleasure of hearing Thomas Francis Meagher, on the present prospects of Ireland. He was eloquent, witty and wise.

Tuesday Nov. 13th. To day I went to New York, I saw Dr. Parker and paid him \$10 for his advice to little Mary. I went to see Aunt Janet Suffern, & told her good bye.

Wednesday Nov. 14th. To day Mrs Chaffee & daughter arrived in Newark. I was delighted to see them. Mrs. Chaffee when I left gave me an interesting book, by Gilfillan, & Miss Sarah gave me Longfellows Hiawatha. After bidding all my new made friends at the Hotel good bye I left for New York, where after visiting Aunt Anna, I embarked on the Steamer Roanoke for Norfolk. I had a delightful passage, employed my time by talking to friends & reading "The Song of Hiawatha."

Thursday Nov 15th After a smooth passage this morning, we arrived in Norfolk. I cannot describe the feelings I had, at once more returning to my old city, after an exile of several months. Norfolk was the same in its outward appearance.*

(In margin: * But one was missing at our household hearth. Uncle Daniel. I cannot mention without a sigh, think of him without a tear. I trust he is with God.)

To day was the first Thanksgiving day in Virginia. Mr. Minnegerode pastor of Christ church addressed his flock to day for the first time after his return. As we came up to the wharf which was crowded with people a negro hackman yelled out, "Sebastopol's done taken, but there's a few of us left.!" Our servants were delighted to see us. Tom said if the Spirit of the Lord had been coming one way, & Master William the other, he'd hardly known which way to look first. Friends came to greet us home to night, each had a tale of woe.

Friday Nov 16th. I spent a restless night. I came home & found the house unprepared, & I had to go with little Mary & Aunt into the outer rooms. The weather was excessively warm, & I was certain the Yellow Fever would break out again. I went busily to work to day to get Father's house ready.

Saturday. Nov 17th Went to Palestine to day. It was excessively warm. The people in Norfolk are very sad, although on the street this is not apparent.

Nov 18th Went to Christ church to day, heard Mr. Minnegerode deliver his Salutatory sermon to his congregation after his visit to Europe. He deplored his absence & described the torture he endured at being separated by the Atlantic from his beloved charge. Her sermon was very eloquent.

Nov Monday 19th I am so busy preparing the house for Father that I can find no time to go out or to write in my Journal, as in the day I am moving furniture &c. & at night am so tired & fatigued that I can hardly keep my eyes open. I now & then find a little time to read Esop's fables.

Tuesday Nov 20th. Time drags heavily without dear parents. We have had cold weather & my fears about the Yellow fever are dispelled. How soon I fear the moral effect of the Pestilence will wear away, already I notice the most appalling scenes are spoken lightly of in conversation.

Wednesday November 21st. I stay principally at home working away, tacking down carpets & doing other corporeal labor, insomuch that at night I feel anything /but/ like writing, & as I am & have been since my return obliged to sit by the Laundry fire or none at all, & cannot conveniently have my Journal & writing materials. I think of setting it aside until my dear parents return & I am completely settled. This Journal has I must to myself confess been carelessly kept, & it demonstrates to me the unpleasant fact, that I cannot be as regular as is needful to keep a strict data to my thoughts & actions. I have always deferred the writing of my Journal until I was fatigued by the day's labor, & then my mind was in no state to invent or suggest ideas & thoughts, & my recollection was impaired by the listless inderference which characterises a man, half-asleep.

Thursday, Nov. 22d. When I first arrived & found the painting & other works unfinished in the house, I felt so disappointed that I wrote to Father to defer his return until I had fully completed the necessary preparations for his comfort. But Mr Belote the painter being too unwell to paint I have since written to them to return immediately, & hope to see them perhaps to morrow. Dear little sister Mary is a sweet earthly angel. She is such a little happiness creating elf that a misanthrope would smile & smile again if in her company.

Oh! that she could talk, & hear Her sweet prattle, if I can judge by her actions now, would be so full of quaint sayings & unconscious wit, that she would be incomparably the sweetest girl in the mundane sphere. Those eyes, beaming with mischief & intelligence, those strong but finely formed limbs, giving graceful strength to her movements, all give promise of a noble woman /truly/ Heavens last best gift. But what is she be dumb & mute. Oh! kind Providence ordain it otherwise.

Friday Nov. 23d 1855. From this date to December, my Journal is written up & is not therefore as full as it otherwise would probably have been. I went to the wharf to day but dear Parents did not come. Tom drove me down. Tom, & not uncle Daniel. Any why was this, did Father & Mother ever arrive in Norfolk without Daniel to greet them at the wharf, why was not his familiar face there to smile a welcome home. Go ask the Pestilence, no, perhaps that is not right the hand of God may be there, & I dare not rebuke, though I may sorrow. Faithful Daniel staid at his post, he gave his life in his endeavors to serve his Earthly master, I believe his soul he has given to his Heavenly slave. He was a perfect pattern of a noble Virginia slave, who while he bore the name of slave, was as happy & far more free than thousands who call themselves free. It is pretty cold.

Saturday November 24 1855. I feel ashamed that I should have been so amiss in writing in my Journal. I was terribly disappointed at Father's not coming to day, it was cold & disagreeable at the wharf. I am glad we are having much cold weather. I devoutly wish that it may exterminate all that may have remained of the awful scourge. I have had the dining room, parlor & bedroom carpeted. Norfolk looks far brighter than I anticipated, trade is exceedingly brisk. Providence smiles on us again.

Sunday 25th of November, 1855. To day was so cold & disagreeable that I did not attend church. I staid at home and read Paley's Theology. My dear friend Mr Tyler comes to see us occasionally. He is a noble man, and I love him much.

Monday 26th. I am already for dear parents. It is astonishing how I miss them from home, it scarcely seems like home without them. Without Father I feel that all the responsibility of the house hold devolves upon myself. I cannot imagine how I could bear to lose my parents, no earthly torture could wring from me a consent to part with them, & I would suffer death sooner. And yet how strange it is, a child feeling as I do, should not conform readily to their wishes. I know that I do not always willing, although I may know my nonconformityi may give them mental pain. I must for want of something else attribute

this to an innate selfishness in man that is so inherent in our breasts that even the love of earthly parents cannot wholly irradiate or diminish it to any very considerable degree.

(In margin: I omitted to mention to day a special election was held to fill the place of Wm D Roberts deceased. I kept the poll book & received my first fee of \$2.50 on next day. Dr. Mallory was elected. W T Hendsen (sic) conducted the election. Monday 26th.)

Tuesday 27th of November 1855. Dear Aunt Maria, sweet little Mary, and myself still constitute our household. Aunt Maria! what associations of love and pleasure are connected with those two words. Among my earliest recollections away off in the by past, I remember kind Aunt Maria who went up to bed with me, nestled me under the covering and sung my baby eyes to sleep with, "Sinners turn" . . . & other hymns. As I grew older, the same fond affection characterised her actions towards me, & it is continued until this day, when I have reached the verge of manhood, & she has grown gray with years & affliction at the loss of those who once were her companions in life's journey. How I would like to know her feelings as she takes a survey of the world around, & misses this, that, & the other, familiar face that greeted her with friendship's smile. It must take away much of the desire of life to have all of those who have so long journeyed with us taken away, or perchance like the vine that has grown & clung to some neighboring post, if the post is taken away, & is replaced by another, with culture the vine will entwine itself around the new post as it did the old one. Affection & kindness will cause humanity to cling to a new friend, as it did to one past away. But I must stop, a person should always think over a figure before he puts it on paper.

Wednesday 28th. To day nothing that I can recollect of interest occurred. I am now writing up from Jan 14th. This is shameful neglect, but I cannot now avoid.

Thursday 29th. My dear parents arrived to day. Oh! how delightful it is to have them once again at home.

Friday 30th. Busy as a bee, working for Father.

December Saturday 1st I cannot recollect of any special incident that occurred to day.

Sunday Dec 2d. Went to church with Father to day. The church was dressed in mourning to day in respect to Mr Jackson. Mr Miller

& Mr Smith read the service. Dr. McCabe preached (as it were) the funeral discourse, & Bishop Meade followed with a pathetic & solemn closing address.

Monday Dec: 3d. Mr Miller our former pastor at St Paul's, called on us (to) day, & took dinner. I wrote a letter to Mrs. Chaffee to day.

Tuesday, I intended to day to go to Williamsburg, but unfortunately got left by the Augusta.

Wmsburg Wednesday. 5th of December. I left Norfolk this morning early, in the steamer Curtis Peck & arrived safely at dear Old Williamsburg, the place was little changed, the new C House, was the only alteration I noticed. I found only a few of the old students had returned, it made me feel sad to see the old college, thus neglected. The fever had injured the prospects of the college seriously. All my old friends & acquaintances welcomed me back cordially.

Thursday 6th. I remained in Wmsburg to day, going around & seeing my old friends. I attended also to the society matters which called me up here. I had a delightful time to day, I was invited to a grand party at Col. Henly's given to night in honor of two brides.

Friday 7th although I expected to return to day I did not, I neglected to state that yesterday I dined with Mr Ewell, I believe him to be a true friend of mine. I spent yesterday evening at Mrs Tucker's & this evening at Mrs Maupin's. I became acquainted with Mr Minor, the new law professor.

Saturday 8th. Dear brother Robert seems to be getting on excellently well here at college, he seems to be as happy as we could desire. dear brother is a noble boy. I feel sad while here, I could not bear to stay another session in old Williamsburg, so many things are changed. Old Hill Carter & a host of other dear friends are absent. I left Wmsburg & returned home to day.

Sunday 9th. Mr Smith gave us an excellent sermon to day.

Monday 10th. I am engaged now fixing Father's office & arranging my papers.

Tuesday Dec 11th Attended sale of poor Woodis's books to day. I bought many law books & the files of the Weekly Beacon for many years.

Wednesday. I engaged myself to day fixing books at home & doing a little business for Father.

Thursday. Dec 13th 1855. Running errands for Father, & attending auctions here & there & fixing my books.

Friday Dec 14. ditto

Saturday " 15 "

Sunday, 16th I think I attended church to day & heard Mr Smith.

Monday, 17th Attended the auction of Barclays sale & bought a great many books for the Phenix Society & myself.

Tuesday 18th Attended Barclay's sale.

Wednesday 19th " " "

Thursday 20th " " "

Friday 21st " " " Dear brother Robert came from Wmsburg to day, his smiling face cheered us all amazingly.

Saturday 22d Attended Barclay's sale & in the morning flew around for Father & myself. I have bought so many books that many think I am going to set up a bookstore.

Sunday 23d. Went to Church I think. As I am writing this on Jan 22d, I would not swear to it.

Monday. 24th Weather is miserable, consequently we have a very bad Christmas Eve market. I went to Barclay's Auction to night. I also

bought presents for the children. (In margin) The kidnapping case came before court to day, but was adjourned over to 4th Monday in Jan. (next term.)

Tuesday 25. Christmas is on us, another year has past, a year of sufferning & of anguish to our poor city. May God, deliver us from another visitation so fearfully distressing. Every Christmas, as I grow older seems different. It is not merry as it was in early youth, but it is a happy Christmas. I wish I had time here to portray my feelings to day, sad & pleasant. Sad, as my memory carries me back to Christmasses spent with those whose bodies now rest in the cold church yard, & whose souls are in that "land of sure delight," pleasant when I see the happy faces around me, full of joy, & when I reflect on God's mercy in giving such a home, such a family, such devoted parents. May Our Heavenly Father grant me & my household many a Christmas like the last. Amen.

Wednesday 26. I do little else than attend auctions, & fix my books at home & make myself generally useful to father.

Thursday 27 ditto

Friday 28th "

Saturday 29. I am anxious to practise law but I am not old enough. I was also desirous of obtaining a Notary Public's place but I am not old enough to give a bond.

(Fragment)

Dec 31st. Monday. I went down town & transacted some little business.

Dec 30th attended S^r Pauls morning & evening & heard two excellent sermons from Mr Smith our pastor pro tempore.

Dec 29th It has rained nearly all this week, to day is very disagreeable. I went inside of Dr Newton's house to day, it is elegantly finished, I met G P R James, there, he resided in this house this last year, but moved to Portsmouth this week because he did not wish to keep house, & he could not engage good rooms in Norfolk to board in.

Dec 28th. I removed the remainder of my articles from Barclays book store.

(Fragment)

January 1st (1856) It rained all day. I did not leave the house. Wrote letters to Mrs Chaffee & Miss Sarah. Jan 2d Brother left for Wmsburg to day /write something about Bob. / I sent up about sixty dollars worth of books to the Phenix Library. I commenced collecting for St Pauls to day, had tolerable luck. Collecting is very unpleasant. I had my first personal interview with G P R James to day. He was so very busy with his consulate affairs he could not attend to his pew rent. I confess I was worried with him. Mr. Leonard editor of the Argus, met me to day, & after thanking me for a pamphlet I had sent him, he made a proposal that I should buy half of the Argus & edit the paper with him. I am now reflecting upon this proposal. I will set aside all my law, save the Admiralty Practice.

January 3d. To day I collected a small amount for St Pauls. I called on Mr Leonard paid him \$80 for Father's office, & had a long confab about going in partnership with him. I have reflected gravely on this subject, & the more I ponder on it, the greater my disposition to edit the paper. (about cat to Littell) I paid Hathaway a bill to day for Citizen, N Y Herald & some pamphlet holders. A very handsome desk that Father purchased for me arrived at his office to day. Father has been & is now reading /aloud/ occasionally assisted by me, Hawthorn's Blithedale Romance. There is a pleasant peculiarity about Hawthorn's works that I admire, he has to an eminent degree the happy faculty of /irreperably/ interweaving the most trivial circumstance or thing into his narritave, which relieves the monotony of the romance, by having being episodes of ~~natural~~ commonplace affairs. Lee's request.

January 4th. To day was the first clear day we have had this year. It is the coldest we have had this winter. I saw a great deal of ice to day. I did a small amount of collecting for St Pauls. I sent to day \$9 to L.C.Derby of N York for Littell & Harper for the ensuing year & for three certificates in the Cosopolitan Art Association. I had a long confab with Joe Deming to day. I have recommended him to Father as our next Commissioner of the Revenue. I handed Baker P Lee an editorial for the News, headed, Comm. of Rev. Legislative Reform needed. I bought a large quantity of Mag & a file of the Spirit of the Times & of the London Times from the W J (?) for \$5. I made some excellent pamphlet holders of out some paper tea boxes to night. Father continues the Blithedale, how sweet it is for a Father to read, with his family as auditors, & his own home the lecture room. May God grant I may ever be as happy as I am now. Hawthorne says, The summer /season/ can never be lived over again; How melancholyly true. Every year has

its changes, & our lives of necessity confirm these mutations. Last night I felt in a religious mood & I trust it is unabated to night. If dear Mr Jackson was here, what a delightful (in margin) conversation I could have with him, & perchance what a blessed one it might have proven. Lord renew a right spirit within me.

(Fragment)

part of Jan 15.

As Mr Grigsby is deaf I had to act as as (sic) an interpreter as it were. He /((Gov Tazewell)/ spoke of his being the only one of the students who took a degree at Wm & Mary,² He said when he took the degree sometime had elapsed since one was taken. Hugh Nelson taking the one before him.³ He mentioned that he had a room with Carter in the 2d story of the Presidents house. He lived in the family of Bishop Madison, the president. He often played chess with the Bishop. He came near being suspended once, twas for associating with Thompson who had been dismissed.

¹Littleton Waller Tazewell (1774-1860), had been a member of the House of Delegates and the Constitutional Convention of 1829/30, and had been elected Senator from Virginia prior to his service as Governor, 1834-36.

²According to the 1859 Catalogue, Gov. Tazewell received an A.B. in 1791.

³Hugh Nelson (attended in 1791) is not known to received a degree.

(Fragment)

He was not infringe the college law; so he got his Father to invite him to dinner, where he met Thompson. When the Faculty had him up his Father wrote a letter to him, that got him excused. He did not seem to appreciate the merits of the General Catalogue of the college. that it was made of the matriculation book. I told him it was the only data we had to go by, he said it was the devil of a data too.-----

He spoke a great deal on political subjects & about Norfolk. He stated that it was probable that Dr McClung who was a delegate to the Convention that framed our Federal Constitution once resided in Norfolk, as he owned. the property opposited Mrs Richard Taylor's on Free Mason street. He gave as an argument that Dr McClung was favorably to the present Constitution, that Washington offered him the place of Secretary of the Treasury & that W would never have done if he had not been fav. to it. He discussed many other subjects I was delighted with my visit.

Jan 16. I prepared an article to day on Mr Grigsby's Address. I called at the National to see Mr Chapin, editor of the New York Day Book. I found him a very agreeable young gentleman.

Jan. 17th. Prepared an article on Merchants' Licenses for the Argus. I also wrote for Saturday's Argus, the first letter of a series, purporting to be written in London. Received a letter from Mrs Chaffee & her daughter Sarah. I copied for Saturday's Argus a piece from her letter on Thackeray's lectures. Prepared a local article. Received three pamphlets from Mr Rives.

Jan. 18th. Chapin the Editor of the Day Book has become a troublesome visitor, perhaps poor fellow, he is not aware of it. I wrote only a short piece to day, on the Speakership. I am delighted with an Editors life, but I am yet to learn experience.

Jan. 19. Prepared an article on Young Men's Christian Association.

Jan. 20 ~~It was-----In the evening~~

Jan 20. Disagreeable day. did not go to church.

Jan. 21. Prepared an article on President Pierce & Central American Question. laid it over as we were full of editorial matter. Received a complimentary card from Col Jno: S. Cunningham & wrote to him.

(Fragment)

2.

The hospitality of his home was unexcelled in a community famed far & wide for its kindness to strangers & generosity in entertainment, and in such an atmosphere the boy was bound to imbibe unselfishness & it was his chief characteristic from childhood to his untimely death.

He was born the day after Washington's birthday, thus escaping by one day adding another to the number of Eastern Virginia boys, who were named after the father of their country, for prior to the War between the states it was a sacred custom with every Mother in Tidewater Virginia who gave birth to a son on the 22d of February to call him Washington. Instead of that illustrious name, he was given two, more precious to his own household, Wilson after his mother's father, & Kerr after her grandfather, both of whom were born in Scotland, one coming to North Carolina, before, & the other to New York after the American Revolution.

(Fragment)

	4.	
Reserve. 13.	guns	old tonnage.
A D Vance.	XX.	
Alabama.	XX 10.	1,264
Brittannia.	XX 5.	495
Cherokee.	XX 6.	606
Emma.	XX 8.	350
Gettysburg.	XX 9.	726
Governor Buckingham	XX 6.	886
Howquah.	4.	397
Keystone State.	6	1,364
Lilian	2.	630
Little Ada.	2.	196
Moccasin.	3.	192
Nansemond.	3.	340
Tristan Shandy	3.	444
Wilderness.	3.	390