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DIARY OF DANIEL McCALLAY

Given to the Middletown Public Library

by

Louis McCallay, Grandson, Jan. 31, 1963.

Daniel McCallay

Became a member of young mens mercantile library association of Cincinnati August 25.th 1865. Recommended by George Wolf Esq. Amount paid for balance of Year 1865 three dollars and fifty five cents (\$3.55). First book drawn, "Views Afoot," By Bayard Taylor. Very interesting and would recommend it to all young readers. Contains 506 pages.

His feeling and description of London very much like Prof. Wilsons of Scotland. As for instance, "Entering the main artery of this mighty city, we passed on through Aldgate & Comhill, to St. Paul's with still increasing wonder. Further on through Fleet Street and the strand--what a world! Here come the ever-thronging, ever-rolling waves of life, pressing and whirling on in this tumultuous career. These\* day and night, hours streams of human beings, seeming amid the roar and din and clatter of the passing vehicles, like the tide of some great combat. How lonely it makes one to stand still and feel that of all the mighty throng which divides itself around him, not a being knows or cares for him! What knows he too of the thousands who pass him by! How many who bear the impress of godlike virtue, or hide beneath a goodly countenance a heart black with crime! How many fiery spirits all glowing with hope for the yet unclouded future or brooding over a darkened and desolate past in the agony of despair. There is a sublimity in this human Niagara that makes one look on his own race with something of awe" (Taylor)

"Now were we in the eddies--the vortices--whirlpools of the great soaring sea of life: And away we were carried, Not afraid, yet somewhat trembling in the awe of our own delight, into the heart of the habitations of all the worlds most imperial, most servile, most tyrannous, and most slavish passions! All that was most elevating and most degrading, most startling and most subduing too! most trying by temptation of pleasure, and by repulsion of pain: into the heart of all joy and all grief: all calm and all storm; All dangerous trouble and more dangerous rest; All rapture and all agony--crime, guilt, misery, madness, despair." (Wilson)

August 8 1867

This is a beautiful morning. Went to market at five o'clock but did not get much in vegetable line. Thursday market always poor--Health good this morning and the family all well--My Horse John is having some trouble with a quarter crack in the foot, noticed blood on his hoof this morning--Mary says he stumbled so much last night--Think that the trouble is with his foot. Having very pleasant times now. Don't go to the store until 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock giving two and half hours around the house before business. Business at this season being dull does not require my being at the store before this time. I expect to start east for the new goods on the 15th of this month. Am delighted to think I shall have such pleasant company as Johnston. Traveled with him before and know him to be a good companion.

Made the remark at breakfast that I was getting tired of fruit but I would not like to say I could do without it a week. Pleasantful fruit crops this season and we are enjoying it very much.

August 9. Behind time getting up this morning, suppose the atmosphere had something to do with it--dense fog--weather very dry-- suffering for want of rain. Paid Mr. Wm. Walden one hundred and six dollars part payment on back lot, am to pay him one hundred more in one year from date with ten percent interest. Paid at the rate of six hundred dollars per acre for the ground. Had considerable of a job to get my horse clean this morning, was <sup>DRIVEN</sup> yesterday by Father Leibee. He has some folks visiting him from Jersey--Mr. Conovess I think. Bought peaches yesterday at \$2.00 per Bus. Think they will be much cheaper in a day or two as the crop is abundant in this neighborhood. Family all well this morning for which I am very Thankful.

August 10, 1867 To day I am twenty eight years of age. And this the first birthday I have spent in my new home. How few young men at my age have such interesting surroundings. How much I have to be thankful for--coming to Middletown ten years ago a poor boy, I am to day in possession of a home that is worth not less than twelve thousand Dollars-- Not only this for I have a business that will make me comfortable for life by proper attention for the next ten years. Have a wife that is all the heart could desire. And Little May of whom we expect much-- This is the first birthday I have ever recorded, but I hope from this on to record all until the hand becomes so tremulous by age that it will no more do its bidding-- Some think it very foolish to keep such a book as this, but I do not-- and am only sorry that I did not commence one at the age of Eighteen. My wife accompanied me to market this morning for the first time. We were quite extravagant buying 2 chickens 30¢ total 60¢ 2 Beef steaks \$1.10 water mellow 40¢ nut meg 15¢ loz. corn 15 Total \$2.40 Yes and four quarts of black berries total 40¢ Making \$2.80. This is more than I allow each market morning generally spending from \$1.25 to \$1.50 three times per week. I would keep an a/c of what it costs to live-- but that I know it will go so far beyond My calculations that it would be very apt to frighten me. We are still wanting rain and I fear the corn crop will suffer if we do not get some soon. All well this morning except May is complaining a little of the stomach ache.

August 11, Sunday. Had a fine shower yesterday afternoon but not enough rain to supply our suffering crops. Talking with a farmer yesterday about his working too hard: acknowledged that he did but says that he can not make a living if he did not. Has two hundred and eight acres of land and <sup>DOES</sup> all the rough work himself. Keeps no hired hand, and has only the help of two boys. I have some notion of farming but if I thought I could not do better than they do--I should soon want to quit it. Joe and I think strongly of buying a farm as soon as I get able to pay for my part of it.

Think I could have more time to devote to my family <sup>AND</sup> books if I had a good farm and all paid for. I am writing this down now to see whether I will ever be able to realize my dreams of what I call a useful life. If we can purchase a farm in about four years and three months from this date I shall be well pleased. I shall always expect to work and think that Joe and myself will do as much work as one good farmer can-- If we do this I think we can not help but live well. (While writing this Father & Henry drove up and invited us to their house to dinner. This has put me out of all sorts for I have only Sunday to spend in my pleasant home--and to be invited away to dinner on that day is decidedly a bore--) This morning was cloudy and cool but the indications are that it will be very hot by noon. Joe and myself took our Sunday morning bath before breakfast which after this will be our established time for Sunday bathing.

Monday Aug. 12. 1867 Splendid morning-- the atmosphere pure and beautiful. How much more we enjoy life in our new home. Our folks up town no doubt think us very selfish for wishing to remain at home on Sunday-- Don't think they will invite us to Sunday dinner again, for my wife expressed herself quite freely about Sunday being my only day at home. Had a splendid drive after tea, drove about twelve miles through some of the finest farms in the county. Joe and myself criticising quite freely when a farmer did not come up to our standard of neatness and good farming. In all our looking around we seem to like the Garrison farm about as well as any that are said to have much richer soil. Hope I can work Father Leiber into the notion of going in with us in a year from this date and buying it. It will cost about sixteen thousand dollars. Looking out of my back window here I see Mr. McKecknie trying to keep his cow away from the fence but she is quite head strong like all cows and I abjure having anything to do with them. All well this morning except May's stomach of which she is complaining--

August 13 1867 The morning pleasant, going to be very warm to day. Am to start East in the morning or rather go to Cincinnati and start from there in the evening. How much delight some would take in making this trip and yet I have almost persuaded myself that I would rather remain at home. We are going to take tickets to Buffalo and from there to Albany and thence down the Hudson river by steam to New York. Take a boat there and go to Long Branch and remain over Sunday. Expect to be among my beloved family again on next Sunday week. All well this morning and hope they will remain so during my absence. Will be the first time in these years that I have left them well on going east. Thoughts and nerves too unsettled this morning to write much.

August 14 1867 Off for New York this morning, the weather splendid for traveling. Don't seem like or can not think that but a few hours hence and I will be a thousand miles away from all I have "Dear on earth to me." Hope to have good luck and a pleasant trip. Family not in extra health this morning. The weather damp and foggy had a heavy rain yesterday, Good-by Journal and every body for ten days-----

Notes taken of my trip to New York.

Left home at 8 o'clock AM. Henry & May taking me to the depot in my carriage. Arrived in Cincinnati all OK and met Mr. Johnston as per agreement. Bought ticket to Buffalo at a cost of \$14. expended some money for a pocket dictionary cost \$1.00. Took dinner at St. Lawrence at a cost of eighty cents. Dinner good. The street stands full of nice ripe peaches, could not resist the temptation of purchasing. Spent about 25¢ for fruit. Had my life assured for \$5000, for the benefit of my family. We take the train at 8 o'clock this evening well prepared with sleeping car tickets ~~and~~. Sleeping car none of the best and must say do not compare with Atlantic & G. W. R. R. Did not sleep well. Kept a constant dreaming and waking up every few minutes. Mr. Johnston's Father & Brother accompanied us as far as Shelby, then leaving us at this place for Sandusky. Mr. Johnston Sen. health very poor. I fear Jim will not have a Father very long. The crops through Ohio seem to be very good. The corn much better in Northern Ohio than I ever noticed it before. Dusty--Dusty--Dusty. Poor Jim had no duster and his black suit of clothes looked very much like he had been thrown down on a dusty pike and rolled over a time or <sup>two</sup>. Had breakfast at Cleveland not very good-- too much mixed up for me. Could not help but notice along the road how some poor fellows have to dig for a living. More than one miserable log hut with a large family trying to clear a spot out of a swampy forest large enough to raise bread and ~~corn~~ to maintain the family. The ride from Cleveland to Buffalo very pleasant, not quite so dusty but yet more than we cared for. Had a lunch dinner at Buffalo which cost 80¢ for two--think that cheap. Had some fine views of the lake which seemed to be in considerable trouble for her waters were quite restless. Noticed the different colors the water presented from the shore at least five or six shades. No Rail Road could possibly be smoother than this road. Bought tickets in Buffalo for Albany at a cost of \$6.25. Had a sleeping car that was grand--took a section at a cost of \$3.00 for two. This part of New York can not boast of very good farming land. But will acknowledge that the N. Y. farmer surpasses our western farmers in keeping up repairs, beautifying homes, in fruiting their grounds and in fact there is a general appearance of comfort & thriftiness that delights one to look at. Think of these men gathering year after year the stone from their fields to fence in & divide up into fields of the right size farms of from one to two hundred acres. Reminding one of the ancient Chinese wall celebrated & read of in history. Not only a farm or two fenced in this way, but the greater part of all this section of country has this substantial and everlasting fence. Corn through New York is very small and <sup>CAN</sup> not amount to much. Noticed some in tassal not over 12 in. high, but could not see where the ear was to come in. Noticed a new way of producing clover on poor land. Suppose it must have been drilled in rows <sup>about</sup> ten inches apart. Every thing in the way of grass <sup>CLOSELY</sup> harvested and cleaned up for winter. Even swamp grass made into little stacks. I suppose for winter food for cattle. We enjoyed the ride through this section of country very much. Had a splendid supper at Syracuse cost 75 cents each. Went to bed at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$

o'clock slept well until we arrived within a few miles of Albany. Arriving at this place about 1½ o'clock at night. Pouring down rain and had to take a bus for the Delaware House. Gave us a very pleasant room and slept well until 6 o'clock. Had a fine breakfast enjoyed it very much. Knew something about the Delaware House, having spent some five days there with my wife on our wedding tour. Charged us \$2.50 each for part of a nights rest and breakfast. Took a bus (on account of rain) for the Hudson river boat Chauncy Vibbard. Got aboard at 8 o'clock. The boat left her ward at 8:30 A. M. To describe our ride down the Hudson is more than I at this writing will attempt to do. It was grand all the <sup>with</sup> the rain came down all day It was never the less delightfull. We had a very gay cargo of passenge rs very near all New Yorkers returning from trips over Moundains, Lakes, & Rivers. What an extravagant people-you can not help but notice it.. They spend what they have to-day not knowing what tomorrow will bring forth. Some love-sick folks on board attracting the attention of passengers by their spoucyness. Took dinner on board the boat costing \$1.50 each. We arrived in New York @ 5½ o'clock. Walked up Canal Street to Broadway up Broadway to Metropolitan Hotel. Gave us room no 17 on first floor. Took Jim to see Blk Crook thought he did not want to go, but I insisted and we went. The consequence is that Jim has had Blk Crook on the brain ever since. I think its the grandest thing ever presented on the stage and it makes all theaters & acting seem tame by the side or in comparison with this highly wrought entertainment. Payed our bill next morning--walked to the foot Chambers street and took a steamer for Long Branch. The ride was grand. The scenery far beyond any pen picture I can give of it. So I will not make the attempt but let memory feast upon it for years to come. Arrived at Long Branch about 1½ o'clock. Did not go to a hotel until we had gone to the beach and had a good look at the sea. The first time in my life I had ever had an unobstructed view of the great deep. After looking at the land swells- the vessels passing to & fro and ~~swallowing~~ inhaling a few gulps of sea breeze, we began to think it time to feed the stomach or at least the stomach thought it time to be feed. Took a room and dinner at the Continental Hotel ~~exactly~~ expecting to remain until Monday morning. After dinner we walked down to the edge of the water and I hunting a few shells for May- while Jim sat watching some bathers. I found some (word indistinguishable) specimans and had good enough luck to notice something bright in the water. And when the swell receded I picked up a very handsome nut c cracker which I supposed must have been dropped by some ~~of~~ the servents of some hotel. About four o'clock the fashionable bells begin to commence bathing--and such a funny disgusting sight I have never seen before. How indiferent now to exposing their bosoms legs and forms. The men helping them to resist the land swells as they came in and all mixed up promiscuously. They would no doubt object to dancing in the same room with all these persons gazing at them yet fashion makes it all right and proper to expose themselves in this style without remark. This may be fun and fashion and yet it was

to much for me. About five o'clock carriages of every description shape and style began to make their appearances--don't know how many. But any number of carriages and horses cost wfrom three to five thousand Dollars.

Saturday, August 24, 1867,

Returned from New York this morning and am thankful to be at home sweet home again. Met many going to market. Everything looks well about home except the grass which must be suffering for rain-- rained hard this afternoon.

Aug. 25<sup>1867</sup> Not well but feeling better. Hope to be all night in a day or two. Cousin Kate and <sup>MARION</sup> Mason have been here for ten days past company for my wife in my absence. Put the day in resting.

August 26<sup>1867</sup> Cool & pleasant this morning. I am a little nervous from over exercise this morning. Expenses a/c cash \$92.40.

August 27<sup>1867</sup> Delightful morning. Went to market at 5 o'clock. Bought some Nut Meg Melons. Tomatoes & corn are very plenty. Bought 2 doz ears for 15 cents, 2 Bus. Tomatoes for canning @ 75 cent per bus. I enjoy these cool mornings very much and autumn weather has more charms for me than any other season of the year. I can not say that sadness <sup>DOES</sup> not blend some what with my feelings for how little time until grim winter asserts his frosty authority and lays all vegetation low. There is quite a difference in the length of days. Daylight ~~night~~ and morning taking off a few minutes will soon give us long nights again to spend at home by the fireside. Bought a cord wood yesterday at \$6.00.

August 28, 1867 Rained last night not very hard but the indications are that we will have more before night. Cousin Kate & ~~Mary~~ Marion leave this morning for Eaton. Commence mowing the grass in my front yard this morning. Expect to receive ~~new~~ goods this morning and must make short notes-- received eight boxes goods today--marked them by noon. Hitched up John to the carriage and hauled tomatoes up town to be soddened.

Aug. 29<sup>1867</sup> Went to market-- fixed cubbard-- and received more goods and marked them.

August 30<sup>1867</sup> Beautiful morning weather cool and delightfull. May wanted a fire in the grate this morning. It will be warm enough in ~~the~~ an hour or two. Cutting grass in front yard. Feel better this morning than I have since my return from N. Y. Think I am happiest when I live strictly a regular life.

Sunday morning Sept. 1 1867 The sky gloomy this morning and a light drizzly rain falling. But the weather this morning has had no influence in depressing my spirits or bringing on what is termed blues so often brought on by this state of atmosphere. I can say this--for I am in a delightfull state of mind-- not melancholy nor very boyant--but just between-- kind of a dreamy contented feeling that is delightfull. Such a morning as one enjoys <sup>IN</sup> a pleasant and happy home-- thankful that he has so many warm hearts to cling to, and that I have been able to provide for them and myself such a comfortable abiding place.



Mr. Mickel spent part the day with us. Hitched John to the carriage at 4 o'clock and took a two hours ride. Day cool, and quite pleasant in the afternoon.

Monday Sept. 2 1867 Weather cool this morning almost fresh. ~~At~~<sup>at</sup> breakfast with the windows all down. Think if this weather continues will have to fire one of the grates. Little behind time this morning. Received my bill of notions to day. They have been behind time. May was delighted with a handsome box I bought east for her.

Tuesday Sept. 3 <sup>1867</sup> The weather not so cool this morning. Went to market at 5 o'clock. Very heavy fogg. Must take John to get shod this morning, he cast a shoe yesterday. Mary drove to woods to gather moss. Will take my harness to the saddlers for <sup>REPAIRS</sup> and have them oiled up for winter.

Wednesday Sept. 4 <sup>1867</sup> Going to Cincinnati to day on business. Bought two bushels yesterday for canning @ 75 cents per bush. also 2 Dz cans \$5.00. Very expensive and troublesome business-- But in winter we forget this in the enjoyment of fruit out of season. Weather warmer and quite summerish again. ~~Evening~~ Spent the day working hard buying goods. Bought 2 pecks plums in the city for canning, paid at the rate of \$2.50 per bush. for damsel plum and \$6 per bushel for a very fine large blue plum. The large plum I think very fine we realized 4 quart cans from a peck.

September 5 <sup>1867</sup> The weather very warm thermometer stood at 80°-- Joe and Henry out posting bills all day. Hired Muligan to clean up the cellar mow the grass back of the house. He also leveled off the drive and took the grass out. I am very glad I got him for three quarters of a day for I had too much work for mornings. By the time I go to market- get my horse attended to- I haven't much time for work. Got my harness from the saddlers and was very much pleased with the way he repaired them. He gave them a stitch where ever they needed one (and they needed a good many) took them all apart and soaped them off and oiled them for the sum of seventy five cents. I think that remarkable for the times. Don't like to stay in the store with so little help as we had today. Father and I were all alone.

September 6. <sup>1867</sup> The morning very warm. Henry & Joe out posting bills again today. They drove John about 35 or forty miles and the old fellow was a little leg weary to night. I think he will enjoy his supper for the boys gave him no dinner. We had quite a nice rain this afternoon but not as much as we need. It is impossible for farmers to plow for wheat the weather has been very dry for the past three weeks. The rain did not extend over the river. There is quite a change in the atmosphere the thermometer ran down from 80 to 68°.

September 7 This morning very cool. Got up this morning at 5 o'clock. Market tolerably good bought some fine peaches at \$2.00 per bushel. Butter very scarce sells at 35 cents per lbd. Enjoying extra health now-- life has more charms for me now than ever.

Sunday Sept. 8 Another Sunday-- how fast they come and how much I enjoy them. The weeks roll around almost before we know it. How thankful one should feel for almost perfect happiness. I say almost--for I fear to record perfect-- for they say that this can never be attained. I know that I am supremely happy and it is with feeling of awe that I sometimes pause to think can this last for a life time. ~~But~~

"What thing so good which not some harm may bring?"

Even to be happy is a dangerous thing."

Went to church hearing a splendid sermon from Mr. Rupert. Took dinner enjoying it very much-- after dinner lighting our cigars we walked over to Grandfather Lefferson's woods. Returned at two o'clock. Joe going to Sunday school. I writing a letter to Brother Ed. Took a ride in the afternoon but it was too hot for enjoyment. Father Leibee & mother called in the evening and we sat out in front of the house until 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock. Beautiful moon light night and the air very pleasant. It is growing much warmer again.

Sept 10.th Yesterday was quite warm. We had a very fine business. Have to record the death of E. M. Jacoby, the first young man I made myself acquainted with on coming to Middletown. The weather changed in the evening and we had a few drops of rain but not enough to do any good. It is quite cool and fall like this morning and could not help but notice the sear and yellow leaves from sycamore-- trees in front of Doct. Corstans. Not long until other trees will begin to shed their foliage. Bought corn 25, mellons 10, peaches 50 and meat 100 in market this morning. Have our finest market Tuesday mornings.

Sept. 11 Very cool this morning thermometer down to 55°. Almost too cool to do without fire. I am well pleased with business. But I have been unfortunate in making an investment in the M. Agricultural works. I closed out my stock yesterday to C. F. Funckel at loss of not less than \$1400. This has been out three years and paid me nothing what ever. I closed out for fear of the thing becoming insolvent and coming on to one for the 100 percent for which amount we were liable. This has learned me a lesson which I never can forget. To think I should lose so much money at this time when I need every cent is almost enough to discourage one. Father lost by the same concern \$4500.

Sept. 12 Thermometer 45° very cold to us almost winter.

Sept. 13 Thermometer 55° Cool & pleasant. Summerish all day wind from the south indication of rain. Hope it will for we need it very much. Farmers have been grumbling for the past three weeks. They can't put in wheat until we have a good soaking rain for plowing. If rain holds off two weeks longer I think wheat will be much higher. I think some of buying five Bbls flour @ \$ 10. 50.

Sept. 14 Warm and quite summer like. Market not very good. Succeeded in getting our Sunday chicken, that with sweet potatoes, corn, tomatoes, and peach pie will make us a good Sunday dinner. We all expect a few

extras on Sunday and we think the chicken is just what we want.

Sept. 15. Very warm this morning thermometer run up to 88°. much warmer than it has been for the past three weeks. Father Leibe, Henry, Joe & myself each took a basket, got three pecks of nice ones (peaches) for 60 cents. I think if I were a farmer I would most assuredly try and harvest more closely what God in his great abundance had given for my lot. It is always with feelings of sadness I look upon such <sup>SCENES</sup> as fruit, grain or vegetables going to waste for the want of proper management. It rained this afternoon made the air quite pleasant until this evening it is quite close and hot again. Have put in the day mostly reading. Dick, Mary and myself taking short nap this afternoon.

Monday Sept. 16 Very warm Thermometer above ninety. This has been a busy day. I picked nearly a bushel of tomatoes this morning for making catsup. We received two bus. peaches in the afternoon for which I paid \$2.25 per bushel. I stayed from the store in the afternoon helping Mary. It took us until 9½ o'clock to stir off the marmalade. I shall be glad when canning season is over for Mary is not well and I don't like to see her work.

Sept. 17 Hot! Hot! Hot dry weather is all the rage. Every thing suffering for the want of rain. Hitched up John for Mary in the afternoon. Took a very short ride around by the fast road.

Sept. 18 Very pleasant morning but still hot. Thermometer near 90° in the shade. I have had a touch of blues to day but can assign no particular reason for them. It is strange what curious turns of melancholy the mind will take and we may do all we can to work it off-- yet like an evil spirit at every turn will defy our efforts. This hot weather is almost discouraging--I have resumed my linen coats again after thinking some two weeks ago that I should not want them before next season. I shall be very sorry if this continued drouth shall influence farmers to hold their wheat out of market. And I believe they will demand much higher prices for grain unless we have a good soaking rain within the next two weeks. Flour now is \$10.50 per bbl. and I would not be surprised to see it up to \$15 again.

Sept. 19 "eather warm and dry. Not much in market this morning. Bought two nice nut meg mellons. Bought sweet potatoes @ 50¢ per peck. cheaper by ten cents than I have bought them before. Thermometer run up to 91° in the shade and remained there the greater part of the day.

Friday 20 Sept. Warm and dry. The weather now like July than autumn. Very pleasant for one getting up early in the morning. Mary health is improving for which I am very thankful. Thermometer 92°. The evening cloudy-- tomorrow equinoctial storms set in and I hope for rain.

Sept. 21 Arose quite early to go market. Joe accompanied me. He spent \$2.20 Bought two chickens. The air is much cooler this morning it having rained a few drops during the night.

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Sunday Sept. 22 Another delightful morning if it would only rain. Lighted the bath room fire this morning early and took a good bath before breakfast. After breakfast went to Barney Kopp's peach orchard. Had a delightful ride and got some very nice peaches. I only wish fate would so will it that Joe could live with us as long as we can get along so agreeably. Joe and I have plans for the future if we succeed in carrying them out—we will pass down the road to ripe old age having the consolation that we were friends from youth and no preventing providence we will divide the enjoyment and cares of a lifetime. Am eating a great deal of fruit. My health at this time is good I have gained in weight since I moved down here some 8lbs. I now weigh 131 lbs. I felt quite discouraged when I had some trouble in pulling down 122½ lbs. This has been a delightful day Mary & myself sitting up stairs in Mary's room most of the afternoon. I enjoying myself looking over Joe's Journal written when he lived on his farm up in Shelby County. I am hoping the hot weather is over for the season. The air this evening is delightful. Yet we will hardly have frost until October. I hitched up John at 5½ o'clock and after supper Mary, May & myself took a ride. We enjoyed the ride very much. I notice farmers are cutting corn to shock for winter feed for cattle. I am becoming more in the notion every day that the life of a farmer is the most independent. better for physical development. And I have no doubt in the world but what I shall be well pleased with the avocation after I get fixed as I want to be. Father & Mother Leibee were down and spent the evening. Joe and Henry were after pau paus this afternoon and brought home the first of the season. May is the only one of the family that likes them.

Monday Sept 23. Another beautiful morning. How I enjoy these cool pleasant mornings—no one can tell until he knows the difference between sleeping until 5 o'clock and one who sleeps the most pleasant parts of the day away not getting up until 7 o'clock. I almost forgot to record that Mr. Johnston presented me with a bottle of Kelleys island wine made from Delaware grapes. Uncle of Mr. Caskey arrived here about one o'clock. He left in the evening taking Laura along home with him.

Tuesday Sept 24 Very pleasant morning-- not much market. The great drought has destroyed almost every thing in the vegetable line. Thermometer stood about 53° early this morning. Father & Mother Leibee start off on a little trip this morning. Going to the State Fair and several other places before they return. Mary took with her old disorder of cramp colic about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Had it quite severely until half past five. I think Doct. Lynn's remedies did some good and I am in hopes he can control this disorder.

Wednesday Sept. 25 Morning pleasant. Mary rested well all night. May came to the store for me about 9 o'clock saying that Mary was sick again. I was home all day taking care of her. She suffered very much. Did not get any relief until about 2½ o'clock in the afternoon. She then only rested from most excessive pain for one hour. The Doctor called six times during the day. Strong wind blowing most all day.

Thursday Sept. 26. Mary is better this morning for which am thankful. Robt. & Edna were here last night until after ten o'clock. Mary did not rest very well--yet enough to refresh her some what. The weather still dry and dusty. This morning was quite cool Thermometer run down to 51°. Edna is staying with Mary to day. Bridget has gone to the fair.

Friday Sept 27 Weather cool this morning Ther. 44° one degree colder than we have had it this season. Mary is feeling quite good and had just a tolerable nights rest. I look for Father Leibee home this morning. Business not very good the past two days. The state fair may have something to do with it. Doctor Owens of Lebanon came over to day to consult with Doct. Linn on Mary case. They think they can cure her without doubt. It seems as though her case has been greatly mistreated. I paid Doctor Owens ten dollars for consultation fee and if he does her as much good as they say they can-- I would not begrudge one hundred times ten Dollars-- Father Leibee returned in the evening about 5 $\frac{11}{2}$  o'clock.

Saturday Sept. 28 Morning pleasant not so cool this morning. Yet I had to set a grate for Mary and we had the first fire in the sitting room. Grate does very well and it looked quite cheerful and nice after I got a fire started. I gave Mary a sits bath to day for the first. She is to take one every day for a year to come. And wear a compress every night. I am greatly encouraged to think the physicians are so confident of curing her. Mother Leibee was here to dinner. Father went to Bethany to a union meeting.

Sunday Afternoon September 29, 1867 Not another Sunday in this September but soon my favorite month will be ushered in--and will pass all to soon for me. I love October with her mellow rich garment of brown & yellow--bracing fresh air-- and her warning notes of approaching winter. This morning Mary May and myself took a delightful ride. The atmosphere has almost every appearance of Indian summer. There has been a strong breeze from the north all day and yet there is nothing unpleasant about it. Joe and I opened a bottle of wine presented by Mr. Johnston and refreshed our selves with a glass -- which proved to be a very superior article. Enjoyed a good dinner and after dinner a cigar and walk down to Grandfather Lefferson's woods. Homer Peck called in the afternoon and I learned he had purchased the Garrison farm for which he says he paid \$110 per acre. He says he will sell it when ever we want to purchase it-- Mary H--- & Clayton E-- called and spent the evening. Altogether the day passed off very pleasantly and like all my Sundays I enjoyed it very much.

Monday Sept. 30, 1867 Growing cooler Ther. 41° Mary is geting along very nicely with her colic. as they used to call it. Had fire in the grate all day looks quite cheerful to see a grate fire if it will only keep us warm this winter.

Tuesday Oct. 1 Frost this morning Ther. 35. sun down since last night from 47. This is the first perceptable frost this autumn. Still dry and dusty and no prospect of rain. How gladly I should welcome a good soaking rain. Very slim market.

Wednesday Oct. 2 Cloudy this morning. It has been trying to rain. But I fear it will not succeed. I am going to take Mary & May to the fair tomorrow if Mary is well enough. It will be a dusty drive. It is quite warm this

morning Ther. 55° ~~More anon~~-- Well the day has passed without giving us rain but I am strong with hope to night. For as I sit here writing I hear the sullen roar of rumbling thunder in the distance and I am in hopes that it will not only give us rain but much rain is what we want. Joe has been away all day I hope enjoying himself at the fair. The atmosphere has been very delightful to day. The sky having every appearance of hazy Indian summer.

Thursday Oct. 3 Slept late this morning did not get home from market until 6 o'clock. But the long expected rain came last night. It rained all night and part of the time very hard. It was quite cool all morning. The sun never making his appearance all day. We had quite a pleasant time at the fair and May seemed to be delighted with her picnic as she called it. We had quite a nice dinner and Mary May & myself doing full justice / It commenced raining again about half past one o'clock so that we thought best to leave the fair ground for home. It pleased May very much to ride in the carriage all closed up. She thought John the great sufferer by the rain. We arrived at home at three o'clock. I put in the balance of the day arranging some books that would not go in the library. This is the first holiday I have taken for a long time. This fair was well attended and I thought quite a great deal on exhibition.

Friday Oct. 4 Cool & cloudy nothing to record today

Saturday Oct 5 Did not get to market until six o'clock. Bought Beef \$1.10 chicken 35¢ squirrel 40¢ Very cloudy this morning and think we will have more rain. It gave us quite a copious rain last night.

Sunday Oct. 5 It did not rain yesterday. Father Leiber went to Cincinnati. Henry<sup>rd</sup> to Springfield. Joe and myself had the store to ourselves. Trade was quite dull and I was in a dissatisfied state of mind all day. I am allowing myself to think too much of what I expect to do in the future and not satisfied with my business as I should be. This must not continue for I may have to sell dry goods a long time before I shall be able to buy a farm. My great desire is to be out of doors and my thoughts will dwell on the grain fields, cattle, horses, and various things that do not belong to my present business. I am a great admirer of nature and I believe that alone would induce me to follow a more laborious occupation. Not only desire to be out of doors but I do believe, "From labour health, from health contentment springs." Well the day is almost gone and Oh! how short. I lay around the house until after dinner when Joe and I took a stroll down through the hay fields-- through Grandfather Lefferson's grove-- out to the pike and thence home. Hitched John up took Mary & May a good long ride. Atmosphere delightfull Therm. stands at 55° temperate. Since the rain every thing in the grass way is becoming green again. Our front yard is looking very well altho the sod is burnt out much to the house in front. Have fire in the grate all day.

Monday Oct. 7 Quite cold this morning frost last night. I see the dutchman has hired Muligan to split the wood. I am to pay \$15.00 to <sup>S.O.W.</sup> sun, split, & put in the cellar 5 cords and half wood I think it a good bargain for myself. Thermometer stood at 38° this morning.

Tuesday Oct. 8. Beautiful morning just such a one as only October can produce. This is election day and I shall vote for negro suffrage. I am in strong hopes that we will carry the state ticket by a large majority.

Wednesday Oct. 9 We have had a splendid rain—it commenced early this morning and rained until eleven o'clock. I think this will let farmers out of their drag. Well the election is not as we hoped for or expected. The Democracy have made large gains and we are in some doubt in regards to the result for Governor. Our township did not run behind so very far only giving 44 majority for Thurman. It has learned us that we can not force an unpopular measure upon the citizens of any state without losing or at least endangering the success of our party. The weather since the rain is quite mild and makes it quite delightful to be out of an evening. Mary H--- & Clayton E--- were here last evening. We had quite a nice game of seven-up. They remained until about eleven o'clock. To night for the first time I bought my beef in the evening. I am getting quite lazy mornings. I don't think I shall continue to sleep quite so late.

Thursday Oct. 10 There is so much sameness in every day life that a journal can not help but be a little dull at times. There has been some excitement on the street today over the result of the election. The Democracy are more surprised than any one else over their victory. What a strange freak the people have taken.

Friday Oct. 11 Cloudy all day with quite a chilly atmosphere. The election news not quite as bad as first reported. We have elected our Governor but have lost the Legislature and with it our U.S. Senator. Felt quite dull all day.

Saturday Oct. 12 Dullness has left me and I am feeling quite bouyant today. I guess every one ~~knows I have as little cause for them~~ has their feelings or moods of depression for I know I have as little cause for them and yet they will visit my mind once in a while. Market has about played out and I think I shall get my meat evenings after this. Cloudy all day with a drizzly rain falling. The sun made an effort once or twice to clear off the heavy gloom but was unsuccessful.

Sunday Oct. 13 Sunday almost gone-- how soon the hours pass. This must surely be contentment. Did not get up very early so that it was all I could do to get John cleaned off and build fire in the bath room and set the grate in the sitting room agoing. After breakfast set the grate up in Joe's room and we soon had a bright cheerful fire lighted. I am well pleased with the way the grates behave themselves. There is certainly nothing that can add more to the cheerfulness of a room than the bright glowing grate fire. About half past ten o'clock Mary and I took a bath. I am so delighted to think that Mary is recovering her health again I hardly know how to be thankful enough. I have been reading in Dick today but not as much as I should.. I am inclined to idle away considerable time in looking into the fire-- walking about the lot-- and talking with ~~Joe~~ about past boyhood days. After eating a

good dinner we concluded to take a ride. So we set out about two o'clock-- Drove down the Yankee road and out by Garret Lefferson. We stopped at Larmer's woods and clubbed a few hickory nuts. They were quite fine. The air was quite cool but we all enjoyed the ride unless May should be made an exception. She claimed that she was cold and sleepy. The fire felt congenial and I soon had the grate glowing with red hot coals. Mother & Father Leibee called and remained until supper time. After supper time Joe and I covered ~~ov~~ er the tomatoes fearing the frost would destroy them to night, the prospect being good for a very heavy one. We had tomatoes for supper and it may be the last of the season but I hope not. I am thinking now that I shall make a great effort to have a good garden next season. We ~~h~~ have derived a great deal of good from the patch this season altho it furnishes only cabbages and tomatoes. There is much more relish to food furnished by your own labor than what we buy.

Monday Oct. 14 Very foggy this morning the air chill with the Thermometer standing 40°. For the first time I neglected to take care of my horse last night. Poor fellow had no supper and I suppose did not lay down all night. The carpenters are to come this morning to fix the doors down stairs--they needing a third hinge. The front door to be enlarged and straightened up. I am off for the store now. I may write more to night of our ride yesterday. Business good sold two hundred & three dollars worth of goods. If a man will devote twenty years of the best part of his life to an active business I think he has done his duty to man & self. But that a man shall devote his entire life time to a business that requires his constant attention from day light till dark can not for a moment enter my mind. I am fully determined that as soon as I can make a comfortable living by working a farm of my own I shall leave a more profitable business for one that will give me more freedom-- less care-- more home hours-- fewer insults-- more of God's pure air-- and less of turmoil-- more honest occupation with less temptation to sin against God and man.

Tuesday Oct. 15 Still foggy this morning but the air not quite as chill. The carpenters did not get here until this morning. Mary, ~~May~~, Father Leibee & Mother ~~here/untill/~~ this went to the nursery this morning. Mary bought two roses, fish geranium and several other plants. She expended \$2.55. In time with care and a liberal expenditure of money we will have a very desirable place.

Wednesday Oct. 16. This has been a summer day in October. How delightful the morning was. I worked at flower beds until eight o'clock. There was a heavy ~~fog~~ <sup>fog</sup> early but the sun soon cleared it up and made every thing bright and beautiful. We all think this is Indian summer if so it will be a warm one. I anticipate a pleasant time tomorrow for Mary May & myself intend spending the day in the woods.

Thursday Oct. 17 Morning clear & bright. Hatched up John to the carriage and was off for the woods by 8½ o'clock. The ride was delightful nature putting forth her best effort to assume her summer appearance again. Earnest & May were quite jubilant and could hardly wait until we arrived at the woods. I stopped at Barret Shhenk to get a gun



belonging to Thom Mc Addams. Think some of buying it for twenty dollars. We drove back into the woods some distance until we found a desirable place to unhitch. Took the harness off of John put on his halter and tied him to a tree so that he might jump and play as much as he liked without danger. Unloaded the folks from the carriage and nut gathering commenced in earnest. We found them quite scarce at first but about half past ten we found a tree that supplied us quite freely from its great abundance. We succeeded in getting about a half bushel by twelve o'clock when the children commenced thinking they were very hungry so that we started back for the carriage. It was all Mary could do to keep them entertained while I took a bucket to go after water for our dinner. I started with the bucket for a farm house but did not have to go to the ~~house~~ for I found a very nice running spring in a meadow from which I soon learned that it supplied the house and all the stock on the farm with water. I found nice cool water on the children's hands and let them bathe their faces & necks & heads so that they felt quite refreshed before dinner. We found a very nice place on a bank to spread our cloth for dinner to which we did ample justice. <sup>No</sup> ~~Any~~ one that has never enjoyed the great luxury of eating a meal in the woods can form any conception of the reality. After dinner we gathered quite a lot making in all about one bushel so that by three o'clock we thought it time to commence fixing for home. The children were quite thirsty again by this time so that I took them with me to the spring and let them drink their fill taking a cup full for Mary with us to the woods. We arrived at home about five o'clock feeling a little worn and tired. But such sports as these keep one young and if entered into by the family are made doubly enjoyable. I like them and love to take Mary & May with me on all such excursions. The day has been quite warm the thermometer standing at 78°.

Friday Oct. 18. Warm and summer-like bidding fair for a good old fashioned indian summer. The thermometer stood at 78° again to day.

Saturday Oct. 19 This morning spent in fixing a foundation under one corner of the porch. We also took down our stove at the store and had it blacked. It looks quite like a new one. We had a fine business sold one hundred & seventy six dollars worth of goods. Father was away all day, making it very agreeable for all.

Thermometer stood at 76° to day.

Sunday Oct. 20, 1867 This has been a lazy day for me. I got up early but have accomplished little. The day has been warm the thermometer standing near 80° in the shade. We could not go to church on account of Ma y having a gathered face or gum. I idled away most of the forenoon playing and amusing May. After dinner Joe, Gmeckel & myself took a stroll spent most of the afternoon in the back yard talking to Gmeckel. Hitched up at 5 o'clock and enjoyed a very pleasant carriage ride.

Monday Oct. 21 This forenoon warm and dusty but commenced clouding up about noon and by two o'clock it began showering. The day has been dull and I have idled the greater part of my time away talking. I have work to do but not the snap to get at it and push it along. I think

GUNCKEL  
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the weather has something to do with it for I am very certain I can do more writing of a cool day than I can on a warm sultry one. I am a queer mortal for I do allow myself to be affected more by atmosphere than I should. Talked with Mr. Wageman on farming to day and was much pleased with his conversation. Told him of my intentions and he encouraged me in them and thought I would succeed. Father Leibe has been away all day.

Tuesday Received letters from Bro. Ed.

Wednesday Oct. 23 Set the grate in the parlor-- invited company to tea. Had quite a pleasant evening. The parlor looks quite cheerful with a grate fire. Cold expecting a heavy frost to night.

Thursday October 24 Very heavy frost this morning. Spent the day in Cincinnati. Not feeling very well. Mary was out to tea at C. Barnitz. Had to call for May at Father Leibe's we then went after Mary. Joe says had a good business at the store to day. Did not get to bed until ten o'clock.

Friday Oct. 25 Has been cloudy all day. Hitched up John for Mary & Mary H-- to go and make a call on the Miss F--'s. Trade dull. Looks very much like rain to night Uncle Geo Leibe arrived to night. I see they (Lattanner) brought me ten bushel potatoes yesterday. I want fifteen bushel more and I will be all right for winter. Purchased a bushel of apples to day.

Saturday Oct. 26 The day pleasant and warm altho we had fire in the store yet we kept the doors open. I think summer days can not possibly last much longer. Let Uncle George Leibe have my horse and carriage to go to the country. Had a fine business sold \$166 worth of goods. Bought a load of straw this week for which I paid seven dollars.

Sunday Oct. 27 The day dawned bright and clear like most of our sabbaths have been for the past three months. Arose at half past six lighted the bath room fire also the fire in the front room. Cleaned off John, and took a bath before breakfast. Had fresh fish for breakfast the first we have had for some time. Went to church and heard a very fine discourse by Mr. Russel. Remained at home all afternoon expecting Uncle Geo & others to make a call in the afternoon but they did not come before evening. Joe and myself took a little stroll down through the meadows and woods. Spant most of my time reading in the Atlantic for Nov. Some very good reading enjoyed one primitive little story very much Mary & I taking turns reading aloud. On Wednesday of this week past the seventh anniversary of our marriage occured. We had a few friends invited to take tea and spend the evening. My hope is that we may have many of these years of love and prosperity to celebrate together. My wife's health is fast improving and I am in great hopes she will never have a return of her old disorder.

Monday Oct. 28 This has been a cloudy drizzly day. Not cold and yet too chilly to do without fire. My fifteen bushel of peaches/ ~~blow~~ potatoes came to day they are very fine. I sent Ed's pay rool to S. Louis for collection to day they could not pay me in Cincinnati it being out of their district. I have payed out some money for a step ladder \$4.00 for a halter chain 50¢ half soling boots \$1.00 for meat 90¢. I read a few pages in Dick in the evening and finished by reading two articles in the Atlantic for November.

Tuesday Oct. 29 Cloudy & November like. the first snow of the season last night after dark. Am not reading much in Dick just now. He is a little to solid for me I prefer Biography or history yet I will worry through.

Thursday Oct. 31 Father & Mother Leibee Mary & May took the carriage and spent the day over at Uncle John Barkalows. Mary brought home quite a nice lot of rose slips and bushes. I had a flower stand made for the sitting room out of part of May's swingingradle it is very handsome every one admires it. This morning was cloudy but it turned out very pleasant in the afternoon. I bought a lantern yesterday paid \$1.25 for it. I needed it this evening to put up John, the folks getting home late.

Friday Nov. 1 I expected winter by this time but it has not come yet warm and windy all day. Father & Henry went after hickory nuts in the afternoon. Worked in yard until ten o'clock this morning putting out bushes of different kinds. The air was perfectly balmy-felt like being out of the store all day but of course could not. Want a farm when ever a pleasant day comes along. I imagine I should like to husk corn such weather as this wonder whether I will when I have it to do. I think I must have farm on the brain for my thoughts run that way about half the time. I never felt that I am interested in fine looking corn and grain of different kinds until within the last year. Think I can give a good reason if I wished to.

Saturday Nov. 2 Warm, had the store open on both streets all day and late in the evening. Trade dull but town full of farmers sight seeing I suppose.

Sunday Nov. 3 This has been in every sense of the word a rainy day,  
 "Dashing in big drops on the narrow pane,  
 And making mournful music for the mind,  
 While plays his interlude the niggard wing,  
 I I hear the singing of the frequent rain."

Just such a day as one like to have to himself with book, and pleasant home, and a good conscience. This world can be made a happy place if men will only obey the laws of God. I have enjoyed Dick to day very much reading some of seven or eight chapters solid. He gives us some beautiful ideas and I think from this on I can read him with satisfaction. Commenced a letter to Bro. Ed but did not finish seem not to be in the letter writing mood. Had our first turkey of the season for dinner all enjoyed the gobbler very much being done brown and tender. For the want of rain water we had to do without our morning bath. Called Lang Sheff & Geo Foster in and took them through the house. Expressed themselves very much pleased with it. Hoping the rain will continue all night.

I will chose to day's report by saying long sing & flourish the "Aeolian Harp".

Monday November 4. High wind & cool. The rain did some good but not enough to give us a quantity in the cistern. Went to market in the evening. Expecting a heavy frost in the morning.

Tuesday Nov. 5 Very much like winter this morning froze ground & nipped every thing in the vegetable line. There was ice  $\frac{1}{2}$  of in. thick in the tub that we caught rain water in Sunday. Beautiful morning -- the ground--fences-- & house roofs all covered with a very heavy white frost. Mary & I received a letter & invitation to a wedding of Lou Zimmer of Miamisburg, O. Good business to day. Came home this evening and found Mary has been having a touch of her old disorder. Did not go back to the store after supper. Father Mother, Henry, & Doctor all called in the evening.

Wednesday Nov. 6 Spent the day in Cincinnati collecting rent for Father and buying goods. Some goods quite cheap. Bought Mary a sack & puzzle. Bought a coat for myself. Mr. J-- was down we enjoyed a fine dinner at the Lawrence.

Thursday Nov. 7 Not very well, worked hard setting out trees & rose bushes. Expended \$31.00 for trees & shrubs of different kinds. Set out four plumb trees. I want to get a good lot of peach & apple trees say 30 of all kinds this fall. We took the 5 o'clock P. M. train for Miamisburg to attend the wedding of Jacob Leonhart & Lou Zimmer. Enjoyed the trip very much counting home on the 8 o'clock mail train. Had a very fine supper with some excellent wine. The Zimmer family all good friends of mine and I enjoy their society very much. ~~Friday~~

Friday Nov 8 Not well-- grumbling considerable about my health. I want rain. ache all over. Went to bed cross at no one in particular but not feeling good.

Saturday Nov. 9 Well the rain did come last night-- with a heavy storm. The hatchway blew off and the rain poured into us for some time. Had to get on the roof at 12 o'clock at night to fix the thing on amidst a severe storm. Feel much better--since the rain every thing looks refreshed. Had a splendid business to day sold \$275 nearly all cash. Joe went to Miamisburg to stay over Sunday.

Sunday Oct. 10 Beautiful morning but did not get up very early. Had our breakfast by eight o'clock. Took most of the morning getting ready for church. Had a splendid sermon on Truth by Mr. Rupel. Took a ride in the afternoon. Had quite a number of gentlemen in to look at our house. All seemed to like it very much. Spent the evening with Mary H-- & co. Gave us some splendid apples and grapes enjoyed them very much. We invited them to tea Thursday evening.

Monday Nov. 11 Snow storm this morning. I don't think it will amount to much. Yet it gives us a foretaste of what we may expect in a few

short weeks. About noon got Mr. Folk to work at a new chicken coop. Something I have been needing ever since I moved. Cold all day Thermometer down to  $31^{\circ}$  all day.

Tuesday Nov. 12 Snow again this morning got Muting to put away my winter cabbage, and Mr. Folk finished the chicken coop. I am very well pleased with it. I think it will answer our purpose very well. Must look out now for Thanksgiving turkey. Think I will buy about six. Muligan hitched John to the cart and hauled manure on the garden nearly all day. The old fellow don't like to pull a cart as well as he <sup>does</sup> a buggy or carriage. I got a fine lot of cabbages about sixty five head for winter. Set up the stove in the dining room to day it cost me a dollar and forty five cents for a new stove pipe. Pd. \$3.00 for chicken coop roof.

Thursday Nov. 14 Delightful weather the atmosphere hazy looks like Indian summer. The Thermometer stands at about  $30^{\circ}$  little to cool I think to be much on the summer order. Bought a pair of turkeys @ 2.25 per pair. Paid Mr. Folk for building the coop and putting strip on the back doors \$3.75. Like to work these mornings splendid to breath the fine fresh air and exercise ones muscles.

Friday Nov. 15 Another delightful day-- fine weather for November. The air pure and bracing. Business very unsatisfactory selling goods too cheap to make any money.

Saturday Nov. 16 Very pleasant but did not enjoy the day for the reason that trade was highing and hard. But I notice that we have just about two such days in every month. Work hard all day on small sales, at night have about a half days work in the drawer. Had Miligan working for me yesterday putting out grapes and falling up the grape trenches with loam. Think I will have grapes in abundance after I once get the m to growing nicely. Mr. Prester gave me a very nice apple tree I shall try and keep his history to see whether it will grow and yield good fruit. A great number of farmers in town to day I suppose corn husking is about over. Cash sales \$100.00

Sunday November 17. Pleasant sunday to record again. Went to church and listened to a very interesting sermon by a stranger. Smoked after dinner and took a ride. We drove up over the Manchester bridge through Post town and around by Uncle John Barkalou's home. Enjoyed the ride-- but nature is beginning to assume her winter garb of grey and brown. The wheat is looking very nice and prospects so far are good.

Monday, November 18. Beautiful winter <sup>morning</sup> put manure around the rose bushes this morning. We are having splendid winter weather. Trade good enjoyed the day.

Tuesday, November 19. Spent the day in Cincinnati buying furs and dry goods. The day clear but a kind of a hazy indian summer atmosphere. Delayed on the road home by the engine of the 5 o'clock train getting out of fix. did not get to hear Doct. Burts lecture on Constantinople. Bought Ed a very handsome pipe for which I paid twenty dollars.

Wednesday Nov. 20 Hazy very thick to day sun looks like a ball of fire. Worked until half past eight this morning. Every one thinks we have Indian summer. Trade good done business to the amount of \$201--

Thursday Nov. 21. Our Hazy atmosphere still continues with warm pleasant weather. Father Leibee away to day-- had a good trade and pleasant business.

Friday Nov. 22 Weather about the same with the thermometer standing at temperate. Must record the fact that we had the store doors open to day and this the 22nd of November.

Saturday Nov. 23 This about the foggiest morning ever seen could not see Taylor's house nor our chicken coop from the back porch. Kittie left a rat on the porch last night to let us know I suppose she is earning her milk & meat. The day has turned out very pleasant had the doors open in the store very near all day. good business sold \$223--

Sunday Nov. 24 Very pleasant-- most delightful day. Mary & May went to church I remained at home and wrote a long letter to Brother Ed. Spent most of the day in the house altho the air was balmy and summerish. The thermometer stood at 62°. We took a walk in the afternoon. Am reading Western Annals very interesting.

Monday Nov. 25. Glorious rain if it would only come a little more copiously. John was badly kicked by Cola last night in the pasture field. Sent Ed his pipe and other articles to day.

Tuesday Nov. 26 Still cloudy with some rain.

Wednesday Nov. 27 Rain all day-- more of a drizzle than any thing else. We all thought it would certainly turn cold but it is quite like March weather. All the dry goods stores agree to close tomorrow to keep Thanksgiving. We expected to go a hunting but the rain has interfeared with our arrangements.

Thursday November 28 Thanksgiving day cloudy with a heavy atmosphere. Spent the day at home very pleasantly. Had our turkey all to ourselves. Enjoy a day of this kind very much wish we had more holidays to spend with our families. In the evening our friends Clayton E--- and Mary H--- were married. We were the only friends invited not related to the family. Enjoyed the evening very much. Hope they may be as happy in married life as ---- well as I am myself for I don't know of any stronger term nor do I believe there can be any one that enjoys such a life any better than myself. In life there can certainly be no better enjoyment than the pleasures afforded by the family circle at home and sweet affections of a trusted companion.

Friday November 29. Much rain. Very much rain with high winds. Turned colder in the afternoon and gave us some snow. The wind whistles around the house to night with the Thermometer below thirty. Very dull in business point of view.

Saturday November 30 This the last day of Autumn and a very severe one it is. The thermometer stood at  $10^{\circ}$  this morning with every thing frozen. Both our cistern & well pumps were frozen tight with ice three in. thick in a tub or rain water. Windows frozen both at the house and store. The thermometer did not drop below  $18^{\circ}$  all day. This has been a hard day to keep the rooms warm with grate fires.

Sunday Dec. 1 If this the first day is an indication of what winter is to be I am thinking it will be a cold one. This being Sunday morning we built a fire in the front room and it was a long time before the room was comfortable enough to sit in. Went to church and heard a good sermon. Had a good dinner of oysters, &c. After dinner Mary took a very severe attack of her old disorder. Called the Doctor but she got no relief until after ten o'clock p.m. Snowed during the afternoon and evening. Doctor was here three times during afternoon & evening.

Monday Dec. 2 Mary rested badly last night altho she had no return of severe pains she was affected all through the night. Ground covered with snow this morning and hear a few sleigh bells jungling but should think it poor fun. Snow thawed some through the day.

Tuesday Dec. 3 Mary rested well last night and am glad to think is improving. Weather quite mild. This evening commenced snowing again.

Wednesday Dec. 4 Ground covered with snow giving every thing the appearance of winter. Spent the day in Cincinnati.- business. Mary is getting along very nicely.

Thursday Dec. 5 Experienced some trouble in keeping warm with grates. It would be all right if we had the same fire at the store. The heat from grates being quite different from stove heat. Rather gloomy all day.

Friday Dec. 6 Had quite a drizzly rain all day. Gloomy weather but we are needing rain very much to raise the rivers. Coal is very high in the city and if we do not have high water before the river freezes up for winter there will be much suffering.

Saturday Dec. 7 Cold and winter like to day. Stiff cold breeze blowing all day. Had Joan rough shod yesterday. Very good business mostly cash. I am still reading Western Annals like it very much. Gives me a great deal of information.

Sunday Dec. 8 Very cold thermometer stood at  $16^{\circ}$  with sky bright and clear. Fixed a piece of sheet iron on the top of chimney leading from Joe's room by which we improved the draught of grate. Quite a stroke of good luck to think of for we can now make the room comfortable. Wrote a long letter to Bro. Ed this morning. Did not go to church. Clayton E--& Lady called in the afternoon both looking well. Almost impossible to keep good and warm Sunday evening.

Monday Dec. 9 Delightful winter day such a one that if winter furnished more such days would be conducive to good health and high spirits. Trade good with a rather pleasant get along to it.

Tuesday Dec. 10 Cloudy and warm. Commenced misting before noon but no good big drops of rain. Just such a day as one terms gloomy. altho we did a good business.

Wednesday Dec. 11 Mist--mist--misting all day long with no rain drops. Town looked blue to day and was in sympathy with the atmosphere. Trade dull but am collecting some. Closed the store at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock with the rain coming more in drops. Think we will have a rainy night of it. Enjoy the grate's cheerful blaze to night for it affords heat enough for comfort when the atmosphere is at this stage.

Thursday December 12 Was awakened this morning by the noise of sleet rattling against the windows forced by heavy dashes of wind. The noise so great could not go to sleep again. On looking out of the window discovered the ground covered with snow which has continued falling all day with strong wind blowing the snow up into banks of every conceivable shape, and seeking out every crevis by which to find access into houses and stables. Just about one such day in a whole winter and sometimes not one, for it is seldom we have such a continuous storm without some intermission. Very few people on the street for they were at times almost impassible by the wind driving such quantities of fine snow that it was blinding to attempt walking. The wind has not yet ceased to blow hard and is making mournful music at different angles around the house and his searching efforts to gain admission are in part successful for we feel his cooling influence on our backs to night as we sit around the glowing grate trying to keep comfortable. A day of this kind will do once in a great while but if you please don't send them too often.

December 13 Clear & cold with the thermometer ranging between 11 & 16 to day. Colder weather than we generally have it seems to me so early in winter. The streets were thronged to day with sleighs. I believe I would rather sit by the fire than side on such a day as this or at least for pleasure as I see some trying to eat out enjoyment from red noses frozen feet and ears-- laughing with their teeth chattering at their supposed happiness.

December 14th Saturday Sleighing is good and I suppose there was as great a number of sleighs in town as Middletown could supply hitching posts. Some snow fell last night and it continued to snow some all day long in a kind of a stragling manner. This snow will help our wheat crop if it will only lay long enough. Business not very agreeable to day.

Sunday December 15. Sunday with her home enjoyments has nearly passed and as I sit by the grate this evening to make my daily record I can not help but feel how short the day. We at home all enjoy Sunday and I am frequently surprised to hear people say they are affected with ennui on this day more than any other. The day has been very pleasant with good sleighing but not the number of sleighs out one would expect to see on such a delightful winter day. Went to church to day and was pleased with Mr. Russel's sermon. Called on Edna & Robert in the afternoon. Succeeded in keeping the sitting room warm to day from the fact I suppose of there not being much wind to disturb or seek out all the little channels of access to ventilate rooms not remarkable for warmth.



Tuesday Dec. 31 The old year will leave us in a white shroud the most fitting and appropriate garment she can assume. For

Gently as lilies shed their leaves,  
 When summer days are fair,  
 The feathery snow comes floating down,  
 Like blossoms on the air.  
 And over the world like an angel's wing  
 Unfolding soft and white.  
 It broods above the brown, sere earth.  
 And fills with forms of light  
 The dead and desolate domain.  
 Where winter holds his iron reign.

January 1. 1868 White. Some sleighing. Spent the day in the store. Joe and I had a good hot punch for dinner with roast duck &c &c.

Thursday Jan. 2, 1868 Spent the day in Cincinnati very unpleasant. The streets were a perfect slush with rain all day. Felt very mean all evening.

Saturday Jan 4 Very warm and spring like quite a thaw.

Sunday Jan. 5 Very pleasant winter day. Hitched John to the carriage and had a very pleasant day or rather after the ride, put my time in reading January Atlantic quite an interesting number. Like to stay at home Sundays enjoy the day much better at home than I can visiting.

Monday Jan. 6 Commenced raining last night at bed time and has been raining up to this writing 7 o'clock P. M. High water without a doubt but I hope not over bank full. Altho a flood at this time can do less damage to the farming community than at any other season of the year. The atmosphere had rather a peculiar aspect to day. Being as smokey as Indian summer with the air quite warm and mild. Business very dull to day cash sales not over eleven dollars. Father Leibe was away all day. Hamilton.

Tuesday Jan. 7 Gloomy morning with a slight mist falling. Felt very unwell all day came very near giving up sick. Taken cold and settled on my chest. Such miserable weather I only hope it will freeze up to night and remain so for some time. This evening there is sleet falling and the pavement is quite slippery. Business dull.

Wednesday, January 8 Awoke this morning to find snow on the ground. Very fine snow falling more or less all day but has not succeeded in covering the ground thoroughly. Am feeling much better to day altho not well yet. Business improving some but not all we would like to have. Dry goods trade not very agreeable hope there will be a change in our favor after while.

Thursday Jan. 9 This so far has been the coldest day of the year the thermometer standing at 7 degrees in the morning and not going above 12 degrees all day. This will make ice if it will only hold on for a few days.

Saturday Jan. 11 Joe left for a visit up north. "ill be gone a week. Hope he will have pleasant weather. Most sick all day with cold.

Sunday Jan. 12 Remained at home all day. Think I read more pages to day than ever before in one day. Reading life of Genl. Sherman. very interesting like it very much. Health improving to day think I will be most well for Monday. Bath room pipe bursted last night from hard freezing.

Monday Jan. 13. Still cold. Men are all cutting ice this morning which looks clear and nice. About five inches thick. Suffered so much from cold after I came from the store that I determined to put business on the increase to day.

Tuesday Jan. 14 Set up the stove in time to have fire to night. Seems as tho we have lost a friend in taking out the grate. But the atmosphere is more comfortable. Grates are very nice to look at but not much for warmth. The ground covered with snow this morning.

Wednesday Jan. 15 Delightful winter weather altho cold and clear. Business quite active and pleasant to day.

Thursday Jan. 16 Weather still pleasant but very cold. I am delighted to think we can keep so warm with a stove. I can sit by the window to night and find it plenty warm enough. Going to make maple mollasses candy to night.

Sunday Jan. 19 Very cold last night found that it had frozen a little in the cellar for the first time this winter. Does not take very long to get the room comfortable with the stove. The trees and in fact every thing was covered with a very heavy coat of frosting. The day proved quite pleasant for a winter day so much so that I took a little horse back ride for John's benefit. Remained in the house very near all day reading Venetian life by Howells. Mary, May & myself all afflicted with colds. I am getting very tired of winter.

Monday Jan. 20 "All day the snow came down" and quite hard at times yet the weather was unfavorable for sleigh riders. So warm that the road was bare at dinner time. To night it is still snowing but I hear the music of the water spouts saying that the thaw is not done yet.

Sunday Feb'y 2. High wind and not a pleasant day. Weather cold. Did not go to church Bridget sick abed. Reading Greeley's American Conflict. Very fine and interesting. Also read last week the life of Genl. Sherman very highly entertained. Think the letter Sherman wrote to Grant on his being commissioned General of the armies splendid and should be published more extensively.

Wednesday Feby 5. Delightful winter day more like spring than any day we have had yet. The thermometer dropped down to twelve this morning but at 3 o'clock it was 52 degrees in the sun. Charle's stable has commenced to shape its foundation to day I mean the timber.

Friday Feby 14 Very pleasant winter day. More cold weather and steadier than it has been for years. I am getting ready to start east but Mary took with the cramp colic I can't tell whether I will get to go Monday or not. Her attack was not so hard as the one in December. Sun comes out warm during the day but the air is very chill the thermometer going down to 10 & 12 degrees every night. Hope I can take the stove out by the last of this month and run the grate.

Tuesday Feby 18 Started for New York by A&G W. Railroad. Hard trip arrived in New York 22 hours behind time. Found the whole northern country ice bound and looked very much like mid winter.

Thursday Feby 27. Returned from New York this afternoon twenty three hours behind time. Very glad to get home. Any number of RR accidents now days. Father Leibee brought down Doct. Smith and introduced him. He gave Mary one treatment before leaving. Hope he will cure her altho I haven't much faith. Animal magnetism and rubbing is the treatment he gives.

Sunday March 1 Mary is improving some with her treatment. Snowed in the evening. Altho it was warm im the morning and commenced raining after dinner. Went out to church and heard a good sermon.

Monday March 2. Quite a snow storm. Took out the stove and set up the grate again in the sitting room. Doct. Smith is continuing his treatment with some success I think.

Saturday March 6. Very warm thermometer stands at 60 degrees. Rained all day yesterday and the indications are that we will have more warm weather in spring is always attended with wind. Received new goods yesterday but not all of them. Some of my goods have been out two weeks. Trade is very dull but am in hopes that it will look up as soon as we get out our bills. Settled with Doct. Corsen yesterday. Paid him forty-eight dollars for doing Mary more harm than good. Must give John some exercise tomorrow. He has not been out of the stable for near three weeks. How hard it must be for the old fellow to stand day after day with out any thing to break up the monotony of stable life. Must get the carriage fixed it is needing some new straps for I am thinking it will come into use before very long. Doct. Smith is now treating Mary she thinks she is getting better gradually. I only hope that he will succeed in effecting a permanent cure. Her case is of long standing and will be obstinate. How much she has been mistreated by men that did not know what they were Doctoring for. I think Doct. Smith has learned us how to treat ourselves for some things.

Sunday March 7 Most a delightful morning, birds welcomed a bright clear sun rise with carols of music. Every one should feel thankful for such a day. Exercised John a little. Attend church with Mary & May. Air most balmy all day long.

Friday March 12. After seige of rain and flood we were delighted with a summer day in March. Such a day as we all look for towards the latter part of May. We had a very pleasant company to tea last night all seemed to enjoy the evening very much. The young grass is beginning to make its appearance and soon the foot prints of old winter will be hid from sight by a beautiful coloring of green. I must mention that Doct. Smith has returned to New York and that Mary now depends on me for medical assistance. I am very much encouraged with the prospect and am strong with hope.

Sunday evening March 21. Well I am not keeping a very close or I may say not a daily or weekly record of current events. I can report progress in my wife's case and believe she is improving in health. May is sick with ~~ulcerated sore~~ <sup>throat</sup> and we called Doct. Lynn to day and I think May much better this evening. This week or more correctly last week has been rather cold and March like with the exception of one day of summer like atmosphere. We have been cleaning off the grass in front of the house and I am taking the manure from the rose bushes. I had quite a lot of manure hauled on the garden. Last week is eventful for one thing if nothing more. We had the pleasure of moving into Mr. ~~Garrett's~~ <sup>Garrett's</sup> stable last night and I can not help but think John is delighted with his quarters. for I know that I am if he is not so appreciative. It will be work morning-- noon-- and at night now for a while until we get the garden and yard all in good order. But nature will pay good interest for our trouble if we will only give her a fair chance. We have trees to set out, flowers to sprout, and the vegetable garden to get in order for next week.

April 1, 1868 Mary and I drove to the Franklin nursery yesterday for rose bushes we were not as successful as I hoped to be. We bought home several varieties grown from slips, for which I paid \$3.00. I had the garden lot plowed to day. It ~~does~~ <sup>does</sup> much better than it did last year breaking up so that it can be worked. The weather is pleasant more like May than April. I must get me another thermometer and record the state of atmosphere.

April, 2, 1868. Mary & I planted corn, peas, beans, & cabbage. Mary sowed the flower seed in the hot bed yesterday. The front yard looks very nice and green.

Friday, April 3, Made bed for onions and put them out this morning. Find a great many stone and quite hard labor to work the ground mellow. Trade has been very dull so far this spring but I hope for better times soon. The wheat crop prospects being so short throws a damper on trade.

Tuesday April 7, Sunday cold-- went to church in the morning, but remained in the house in the balance of the day. Father grafted a few trees in the morning. Awoke Monday morning to find ice and quite a cold breeze. Commenced fixing a chicken yard. This morning found the ground covered with snow. Don't know whether the fruit is frozen or not some say yes some say no. This seems quite like winter after having such pleasant weather. Business not very good.

Friday Evening April 10. Yesterday we were in mid winter. It snowed hard all day long and at night the out door world looked very much like it ~~does~~ <sup>does</sup> after a January snow storm. We had to ~~put~~ <sup>put</sup> our over coats to go to the store it freezing hard with a strong wind. We all fear the fruit crop will be short but hope for the best. Trade of course is awful dull and blues are plenty. This morning would pass well for December. The ground covered with snow and the atmosphere cold with a clouded sky. Made out my income tax today and was allowed

to deduct our foundry losses. So that I will not have to pay my 5 per cent tax for last year. I wonder how long it will be before I am out of debt and will not have to pay interest. It cleared off this afternoon and it promises fair weather. The snow is fast disappearing and I hope it will be the last until next winter. We burn about as much coal as we did in mid winter. Fine for gardens all snowed under in April. I bought a very handsome rose bush in Cincinnati Wednesday.

Sunday April 12. This Easter Sunday and such a day. I fear we will have to give up our last lingering hope for the fruit crop. The trees to night are covered with an iced sleet that this howling freezing wind bids fair to drive to the very marrow of all fruit trees & bushes. This bids fair to be a season of hard times and I doubt not but what we shall have them. Spent the day in the house not going to church nor stepping out side the yard this day. Wrote a letter to Ed and marked an Easter Egg for May. Grate fire seemed genial and pleasant compared with out door gloominess.

Friday, May 8, 1868 Robert and Edna came up from the city last evening and will remain over Sunday. We were much alarmed last evening thinking that Jack Frost would make us another visit. I covered my tomato plants and beans for fear they might be nipped. I have corn up and potatoes getting along nicely. I have mowed my grass in the front yard this week. Received a long letter from Bro. Ed today.

Wednesday, May 13. It has been raining ever since yesterday morning and this is 12 n. Garden truck is very backward these cold rains seem to do more harm than good. The wife feels good and one does not like to leave the grate after being comfortably seated. Remained at home this morning working at my windows. never could get them to work well at least those that run to the floor. I think they are all right now.

Sunday June 21, After long silence I again resume my Journal. For some time past I have been debating whether to quit writing or whether to continue to keep an account of every day occurrences. My garden I believe has driven me to this writing for it is looking so nicely and doing us so much good that I thought it would be very nice to draw comparison with other seasons. It furnished us with peas.

June 7th and we have been having them plentiful ever since. Our first beets were furnished June 14th and our first string beans June 21st. Thus making these important vegetables come in just oneweek apart. I could dig new potatoes to day but having bought some yesterday we will have to defer until another time. We have had a flood last week destroying everything in the valley making it hard for farmers that have not had good crops for the past two years. Such is life and we know not at what hour nature may do her utmost to destroy all we possess. I was out hunting on Friday and succeeded in killing ten sq irrel doing very well for an amature. Chas. Barnitz was my companion. The atmosphere is damp and chillye to day quite in contrast with last sabbath it being very warm and pleasant, the thermometer running up to ninety one degrees in the shade.

Evening. This has been an autumn day for a chill wind kept reminding us that there is a north and it will send us a cold blast even in the midst of June roses. Did not do much of any thing to day but lay around the house. Took a ride in the afternoon. Enjoyed a good dinner of squirrels. Beans-- string beans-- and new potatoes. Smoked two cigars &c &c.

Sunday Evening June 28. Nothing of importance this week. I am anxious to receive a letter from Bro. Ed it has been several weeks since I last heard from him. Joe left Saturday morning for a visit up to Shelby Co. The weather for the past week has been very nice and pleasant. Our garden furnished its first head of cabbage to day. We commenced using our potatoes on Wednesday the 24th. I was out to church to day and enjoyed a sermon that seemed to bore every one else. I find that I like to dress Sunday mornings so that I have an hour or two before church time. Enjoyed my cold bath to day immeasurably think I have felt better ever since. Naped this afternoon and in fact can say that enjoyed the day very well. Had a delightful drive after supper. Read two articles in the Atlantic.

Sunday, July 5. Robert & Edna came up Friday evening as per invitation extended to Robt to come up and go hunting on the 4th. The weather dry and warm but we made an early start for the woods getting there at 6 o'clock. Robert's health not very good and the day being one of the warmest of the season it set very hard. Yet we enjoyed the day's sport getting nine squirrel &c. Joe & Robert not doing very well in shooting. This morning we felt very tired and spent the entire day laying around the house. Bob's hard work yesterday cured his diarrhea and he is looking much better this morning. We thought yesterday we had enough hunting to last for a season but Tuesday morning we plan to go out again. A little hard work is the spice of life and a good seasoner for healthy

Tuesday night July 7. Robert & myself spent the day in the woods. Had a splendid time. Did not work quite so hard as we did the 4th. and was more successful. We shot thirteen squirrels. Robt doing better to day he shooting five out of thirteen. I am thinking myself quite a Nimrod in doing so well hunting. We are getting tired of squirrels for once in our lives. Notice some splendid black berries out where we have been hunting to day.

Sunday July 26. We have had four weeks of <sup>DRY</sup> dry weather and it has come near taking all the life out of vegetation. Our garden looks very old and dried up. We get our first mess of tomatoes today from our own vines. I am going to have a stable built next week. Can hardly spare the money to build one but can't make up my mind to wait any longer. Must mention the peculiar state of the atmosphere. Regular Indian summer only more so. So very hazy can hardly see the depot at times. But oh! how delightful though. The sun seemed to melt the very life out of me and I was fast losing weight, animation, and I do believe life itself when all at once a change. And for that change I must give credit to a liquid called beer. Beer made from malt and hops. Joe and myself invested two dollars in a quarter keg and it would not

surprise me much and we would continue the investment on the plan of the builders association (so much per week). Loaned my horse and carriage to Mr. Gmckel to go to funeral of Joe Williamson. Wrote part of a letter to Ed to day will finish this afternoon. John was in the lot this morning eating roasting ears when I looked out of the window. I suppose he has a relish for such things as well as myself.

Sunday August 2. Delightful day thermometer 85 in the shade. Had a fine rain yesterday after a long drouth. Am in hopes it will be in time to save the corn, Tomatoes are doing very well now supplying our tables very bountifully. Mother, Father & Henry Leibee will be here to dinner. Commence preparing to build my stable by having foundation dug out. Hope to be into it in two weeks. Am sorry to record here an event that I hoped never would take place and that is Joe's leaving us. I had had hoped his stay with us might be for all time to come, but such is fate--parting the best of friends without consulting feeling. Hope the day will come that our relation both in business interests and friendship will work together. I hear father down stairs so I will have to close.

Sunday, August 9. Beautiful September weather thermometer 73 degrees to day. We had a very fine rain on Friday afternoon. Getting along nicely with my stable. Joe left Monday morning and has been away all week. Don't know when he will return. Feel quite lonely. Find on looking back this day one year ago that I complained of having trouble now. My back lot saves me a great deal of work by letting my horse run nights. Peaches yesterday \$3.00 per bus. Took a ride this afternoon the country is looking fine since the rain. The air was so chilly this evening that I had to don my overcoat. Business very very dull. All last week.

Sunday August 16. Last week's business dull but weather nice and cool. Joe and I took a long walk this morning. They have been a little slow this week with my stable. Hope to be into it by next Sunday. The corn crop is looking very well and think there will be a good yield. Peaches a mess from Grand Father Lefferson 's field for dinner. Peaches are coming in a little more plentiful. Feel good this morning after my bath. Joe not very well.

August, 22, Sunday. We had company, Robert, Edna, & William Wilson. Robert, William, Joe and myself went to peach orchard. A very fine sight--got all the peaches we could eat for the picking up. Nature again favoring this section with a delicious crop. Mr. Hartly has the finest orchard I have ever seen. The carpenters finished my stable Saturday about 11 o'clock. Very much pleased with it. Having delightful weather. Water mellons are plenty and good. This season of the year furnishes us the most bountiful tables. Walked out to Mr. Doty's in the afternoon with my guest.

Wednesday, August 26 Moved into my new stable today at noon. John looks around rather more like a stranger than a person at home should do. Bought fifty bus. oats @ 55¢ per bus. \$27.50 hauling and putting away 75 cents. I want to know what it will cost this year

to keep a horse. Robert and his brother mowed my back yard around the house for which I am thankful. I don't like mowing because I can't keep my scythe sharp.

Sunday, Sept. 6th The day cloudy & cool. Attended church with Aunt Sarah. Took a long ride after dinner. Corn prospects look very flattering. Enjoying the day very much. Reading a little in Beacher's Norwood. This is my favorite season of the year. We are getting some tomatoes for canning. I believe we have only eleven cans up to this time. I got both hay and straw last week costing for all \$23.50. Bought a barrel of flour yesterday. This evening after supper Joe and I took a stroll down through the meadow and up by Grandfather Leffersno's house. It almost makes me sick to think that one more Sunday will end these pleasant walks and talks with Joe, for some time to come. How much I wish things could go on just as they have I need not try to write, but will endeavor to make the separation as short as possible. I some times think it will be better for both, for I have no doubt but what he tires of our quiet life and wishes for change. Yet I have the hope that he will wish to return and long to rest in the room that was almost specially built for his occupation. We can not appreciate such friendship as ours until we are denied the pleasure of chatting and talking when ever the mood moves us to seek company. My friendships are few but I believe I can safely say lasting.

Monday, Sept. 7 This has been quite an important event in May's life. She started to school this morning to Miss Sallie Taylor. I thought at first of sending her just in the forenoon but after going in the morning she would not listen to remaining at home in the afternoon. I have Milligan sawing up a lot of old rails in the back lot. ~~One~~ going to the city in the morning. Had to buy my first Irish potatoes this evening.

Sunday Sept. 13. This morning cool and gloomy. The past week has been one of rain and mud. I have been buying a few goods and find that trade improves under the inducement of low prices. I got half bushel quinces on Friday evening. think it quite early for this fruit. We think of canning about three bushels of peaches. I have been extravagant the past week in buying cloth. Bought coat or rather over coat \$23. Hat \$3.50 boots \$9.50. Will have to have a winter coat & vest and that will finish the bill of expense. My mind for the last ten days has been in rather a pleasanter train of thought than it was three weeks ago. We sometimes get to anxious for events to take place that will come if we only have patience and perserverance. Discontent with my business or I may say longing for more out door exercise and God's pure air, makes me impatient of the slow process of making money to buy a farm. Yet I am so well fixed and have things almost my own way that I get disgusted with myself for not having more of that good ingredient CONTENTMENT. For among all my numerous acquaintances, there is not one that I could exchange business relations with. For I believe I take more pleasure in the home circle than any of them and it is perhaps this restraint of business that makes the few hours at home doubly dear to me. We undoubtedly always want for something, and are perhaps never just what we wish to be.



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Wednesday, Sept. 16 Very cool. Had fire in the store all day. Set one of our grates in the evening. Set the grate in Joe's room and found the room none too warm for comfort. Joe left us this morning. I don't know when we will see each other again. I am in hopes that he will be able to buy out Thos. Wilson hard ware establishment. Bought Cling peaches again to day for canning & pickles. Have bought  $\frac{3}{4}$  bushels of free stone & 2 Bus & a peck of clings. Sum total spent for peaches to can \$ 12.25. I get a bushel of tomatoes tomorrow morning.

Thursday Spet. 17, 1868 The first frost this morning. They say it froze ice last night-can't say, did not see any myself. Had fire in the store all day. Canned some peaches to sent to Brother Ed. Going to the city in the morning.

Sunday Sept. 20. Rainy day. It has been raining all night long and still continues at this writing. Such gloomy weather we enjoy our pleasant rooms. Have fire in Joe's room and find it none too warm. The 35th Ohio regiment had their reunion here yesterday. Mary, May & myself rode out to the grove in the afternoon. Received a letter from Bro. Ed. More anon. Evening. It has cleared off cool and gives us a moonlit night. Had a call from Gmckel & Johnston wanted to know how we liked Cannel coal. Took a short nap and did not feel well over it. Been rather a dull day.

Tuesday Night, Sept. 22 I have received one and written two letters to Brother Ed today. It seems quite pleasant again to be so near on paper. For I receive his letter in four days after he directs them. I shall be delighted to welcome him to our new home sometime this winter. Received the first letter from Joe today of what I hope will be a long and pleasant correspondence. The day was rainy and dull with a small business. I had a new pair of front shoes and the hind ones looked over for John. Also left an order for May a pair of calf skin shoes. Bought  $2\frac{1}{2}$  bus. sweet potatoes at \$1.75 per bushel. want anothe r bushel.

Wednesday Sept. 23 Weather cool had fire all day. Trade good in the evening or late in the afternoon sold \$139-- Peaches getting scarce, haven't had any since Sunday. Apples are 2 dollars per bushel.

Thursday, Sept. 24 Rained all day long. Commenced about twelve o'clock last night and is raining at this writing 8.30 P. M. Buying corn cheap now 3 Dozen for twenty five cents. Had fire all day in Joe's room, also at the store. The first day we have had to keep the store doors closed. I pulled 4 Dozen peppers off of seven plants. Think that is doing well. Tomato vines are furnishing the table and that is about all.

Sunday Night, Sept. 27. Cool & pleasant. Built fire in the sitting room and kept it up all day. Spent a very pleasant day. Got dressed in time to read an article in Lippencotts magazine on Strength and how to use it. before dinner. In the afternoon Gmckel and I talked and smoked out on the front step until three o'clock. Hitched up John

and took a ride—enjoyed it muchly. The country shows the effect of our cool <sup>SNAP</sup> and frosts. The season is about two weeks earlier than last year. I must give my front yard its last mowing this week for the season!

Sunday October 4 This my favorite month but I ~~had~~ <sup>HAD</sup> some fears that we were not going to have our usual number of balmy days and hazy atmosphere. But the greater part of last week was delightful. Some call it Indian Summer, but I guess it is a little soon for that peculiar weather to set in. Last week was one of work with me for I gave my front yard its last mowing with the small sickle. It was quite a job and I got so tired of it I got a hand to help me out. Mary cleaned house and that gave me some extra labor altho It would seem that it was none of my mix. Yet I always manage to share the labor. May and I went to the woods and gathered ~~????~~ for under the carpets. I had a man taking all the weeds out of my garden and am well satisfied it payed for there was a tremendous crop. Had the wood put in the cellar and the man caught a dozen young rats all one litter in the wood pile-- call that good business. Have spent the day pleasantly. Did not get dressed until almost noon. Took a bath and experienced the usual symptoms of languor., and stupidity this evening but felt well all day. Hitched up John about four o'clock and took aside to the woods—did not return until after supper time. Enjoyed the ride very much the air was pleasant. Received a letter from Joe and also one from Ed both wrote encouraging. The kind I like to receive. Felt more lonesome this afternoon than any time since Joe left and wished for his company very much. Did not talk to a man this day and do not desire to cultivate any special friendships. I believe it will not be long before Ed or Joe will resume the vacant chair. I like to have some one about the house to talk to when books and other subjects loose their interest. Did not read any thing to day the first Sunday in a long time that I have not read a number of pages. Father Leabee & Henry were both at Carlisle station yesterday to what they say was the largest political meeting they ever attended. I run the store along. May brought me my dinner.

Tuesday Evening, Oct 6, 1868. Well, our great Union demonstration was a dedided success. We have surpassed any thing that has ever taken place of this nature in Middletown before. We numbered three hundred and fifty Cavalry & eight hundred Infantry all supplied with torches. Our column reached from the rail road depot to the U. S. Hotel and that with the lights and flags displayed by our citizens made a sight worth looking at. I turned out in the cavalry and John behaved remarkably well. He showed some spirit when the fire works were set going but will give him a long mark for good conduct. This was the first torch I have carried since the days when Lincoln first ran for President. I spent the greater part of yesterday at a Political meeting in Miptonville and heard one of the finest speeches of my life delivered by Gov. Cox. Enjoyed this day of excitement very well and would not mind spending another just such a day and night at some future time. We have some fears that Gen Schenk might possibly be defeated for Congress and I should feel badly indeed if we should have

to put up with the traitor Valandighan for our Congressman. I have hopes that the good sense of a majority of the people will controll this affair, but whiskey is playing the mischief with our calculation in this township. I am going to the city in the morning. The weather to day has been delightful and I wish it would continue just so for a long time. We did not have fire in the store to day and kept the doors open without suffering with the cold altho the air was a little chill in the morning. I had Mr. Falk fix up a full set of planes that used to belong to Father and find they work well. Much better than a new one I bought.

Sunday, Oct. 11. The election will take place day after tomorrow and I shall be glad indeed after it is over. The past week has been one continual strain on my nervous system. I am very much interested in the result and I believe every business man takes more interest this season than usual for the reason that we believe in the election of republicans--we shall have peace and quiet for the next four years to come. Gen. Schenk's majority I set down here as a guess at (600) six hundred. On Thursday morning we had a very severe frost destroying almost all of our flowers, tomatoes &c. It froze ice in the gutter back of the house. Since then we have taken up what few flowers we wish to winter in the house. I bought a new stove for our dining room and a new white spread for Joe's bed. We have changed things around some in Joe's room and I believe for winter I like the new arrangement better than the old. Last night the paper mill of Geo. C. Barnitz was almost destroyed by fire. I worked at the engine until I am so sore that I can hardly get around to day. The sight was grand, it being the second large fire I have seen so far in life. This day is beautiful--grand--sublime. I can not say too much for it. The air is filled with gassamers and the hazy atmosphere gives everything a deep mellowness that one only sees in nature in the month of October. Yet there is a feeling of loneliness that will come and with it the wish that fate had so arranged events that Joe might have shared the ups and downs of life with us. The Sunday chats--vs--smoke--chew--farm talk--future--life--pleasure--dinner--ride--walk--church--and in fact all things were up for discussion and enjoyment on this our day of rest from care & business. We had our first oysters for this season to day for dinner and we all did justice to a very good oyster stew. The girl has gone away--May to Sunday school--Mary asleep. And I am alone with pencil and Journal trying to amuse myself for a while and I believe I have succeeded.

Sunday, October 18. Yesterday made us think of winter for the air was chill and cold from the north. Last night being the coldest night we have had this season. Well, the election is over and the republican party have great reason for rejoicing. We have done well and worked hard. Our democratic friends have not overcome their surprise yet over the result of Lemon township. Gen'l Schenk's majority in the district is something over five hundred. Our township went democratic by fifteen Majority for Vallandingham. A Union gain of twenty seven over last fall. They expected not less than seventy five majority after spending not less than two thousand dollars in buying up voters. Father received a dispatch yesterday giving word that Aunt Mary Taturd died very suddenly. He has gone to the city.

Sunday Oct. 25 The wind blew strong & chill from the south this morning but the sun loomed up warm and bright and by ten o'clock the day promised a balmy Indian Summer atmosphere. <sup>By ten o'clock</sup> Buckel, Johnston and myself sat in the back yard until nearly eleven o'clock and it was all I could do to dress in time to go up town and get oysters for dinner. After dinner we took a ride and I gathered a few hickory nuts for May. The roads are very pleasant to drive on now being hard and smooth. Enjoyed the day very much and did not have a feeling of loneliness. Wish we could have more such pleasant Sundays before winter sets her mark on all out door creation.

Sunday November 1st We report progress in fixing up things the past week. Had gravel hauled in the gutter in front of the house. Tan bark for grape arbor and have taken up rose bushes and stored them in the cellar. Bought four barrels of winter apples at 4.50 per bus. They are very fine. Have used half barrel of bell flowers already. This day has been winterish looking for all the world like December. The weather was delightful up until Friday morning, no, it was Saturday morning that it commenced raining continuing all the forenoon. This day has been spent in writing letters to Ed & Joe. I received a good letter from each and was <sup>glad</sup> to hear from them. Ed's letter was bright and cheerful and did me a great deal of good. I find that if I do not wish to get lonesome, I must keep my time employed or I will be wishing for Joe back. I have not taken a step out side the yard to day and have had no company except Father & Mother Leibe were here a while in the afternoon. May wrote her first note to her Uncle Ed today writing it in capital letters. We are hoping to see Ed home by Christmas.

Sunday Nov. 8 The weather for the past week can be called pleasant for it was very nice November weather. Today has been warm and summerish with a strong wind from the South. Had Mulligan one day setting fence posts and taking stone out of the garden. Had to set a fence back of the hedge it looked very hard with the boards & stones stuck in to keep the pigs from getting through. Tan barked the grape walk. I was put on a committee to solicit funds to repair or gravel road to the depot. Put in the greater part of the week. Today I have been affected with loneliness for I had no good reading to put in the time with. Must get me some good books. I find that my periodicals will not keep me going. We have had fire in the grate and also in the store every day the past week. As warm as it was out of doors today it was chill in the house. We had oysters today for dinner we can get them quite cheap now— seventy cents per can or half can. We have used <sup>over</sup> one barrel apples since I bought winter supply.

Sunday November 15. Our spell of good weather still continues. Today has been very much like summer. I hitched up John this morning and in company with May & Mr. Johnston took a ride. We visited Mr. Voss' farm. Last week I bought a corn crib of Mr. Johnston and had it remodeled into a very good rat proof one costing me when finished about twenty five dollars. Had it and the chicken coop fence and coal house white washed at an expense of three dollars. I have enjoyed the day laying around not reading

an article all day long. Bought a pair of turkeys to fatten for Ed's return—hope he will not be disappointed in getting his leave of absence. Bought twenty five head of cabbage of Mr. Falk and put them away for winter use. Twenty five or six bushel of corn @ 60 cents per bushel. I have been engaged for the last two weeks with a committee soliciting funds and working to get our road to the rail road graveled. We have been very successful and if our good weather will hold on this week will let us out all right.

Sunday, Nov. 22, 1868 Time brings forth great events for families as well as for thw world in general. And our little family has really had an event. In the shape of a Boy added to the family circle. The little fellow came to light about two o'clock Wednesday morning and happy am I to record the birth of a bright little boy. May he prove a blessing & a great gift to parents that give him a hearty welcome. It is hard to tell which member of the family is the most delighted. The past few days have been real winter. We have had snow, ice & sleet. It snowed all day Friday and part of yesterday. To day it is bright and clear. I commenced to tie up my rose bushes with straw but have not yet finished, the cold weather interrupting me. I bought fifteen bushel of potatoes last week but don't believe they will last me. I have taken my setting <sup>room</sup> some lounge to be covered, intending a surprise for Mary when she comes down stairs. I have been in hopes we would be able to keep the house warm with our grates this winter but I fear that Kennel coal will not make enough difference to keep us comfortable. I should like to do without stores.

Thursday, November 26th. Thanksgiving day spent working around the house. We had an oyster dinner because Mary could not be down wtairs to roast the turkey. I hauled manure on the flower beds and fixed the rose bushes for winter. Buried the cabbage and got things ready generally for winter. Worked until three o'clock.

Sunday November 29th The day bright clear and cold. Spent the day upstairs with Mary. The boy is doing well and Mary is getting along nicely. Mary hopes to be down stairs by the middle of the week. Looking for real winter now soon. We have had a delightful fall and would be content if we could keep our rooms so nice and warm all through the winter weather. May & I took a walk late in the afternoon.

Sunday Dec. 6 The weather cloudy with damp cold wind blowing all day. Did not step out side the gate today but kept in the house most of the time. Enjoyed myself reading the Atlantic and taking care of the baby. Mary and the boy were down to dinner for the first time. Our girl got us up a very nice dinner and it was made doubly enjoyable by Mary's presence. I changed underclothing today putting on my red flannel. We have been expecting winter but we had no weather yet but what we have been able to keep the rooms warm and comfortable. Looked for a letter from Bro Ed all last week but did not get one yet. Setting the time for his coming. Another panic commenced among the dry goods men on last Tuesday. We are selling some goods less than cost. This is one of the disagreeable<sup>ness</sup> of the dry goods trade. Have been blessed with an agreeable train of thoughts all day.

Friday, Dec. 11 Today we have had winter in earnest. The thermometer ran down to about ten degrees and tonight is the first we have not been able to keep comfortable in front of the grate. Mary had a return of her old disease on Tuesday night and suffered dreadfully all night long. Today she is much better being able to set up and take care of the baby. The little fellow is not well having taken cold on we know not what. We have all been very free from colds up to this time but I fear May & I are both in a fair way for one to night.

Sunday, Dec. 13 This day has been cold and cloudy with indications of snow, yet none comes to carry out appearances. Spent the day at home in the house not reading much but trying to keep the house warm. We had to set up a stove in our sitting room to keep comfortable. The thermometer has touched five degrees above zero. I think colder than we had it last season up to this date. Mary was able to be down stairs today and it is to be hoped she will continue to improve from this on. Business last week was very good, topping out with a two hundred dollar day Saturday. We are having oysters now quite frequently they are sold for 50 cents half can—we had them for dinner and supper today with rabbit for breakfast.

Sunday, Dec. 20 Mild pleasant weather set in day before yesterday. And today it was very much like spring weather. The thermometer was below freezing point the sun being warm enough to dry up the mud thawed out on the pike. Spent the day mostly in the house reading Longfellow and the January Atlantic. Had a call from Will Harnish—was very glad he called for after showing him through the house we took a very pleasant walk. Baby has been very good today making <sup>us</sup> no all love him for his sweetness. Mary health is quite good again and we do hope she will continue well. I received a letter from Bro Ed yesterday saying he could not be with us Christmas. This will be a great disappointment to all for we have been looking forward to this Christmas with expectations of a family dinner with all present to enjoy the turkey. Today we set in the front <sup>SAT</sup> the first day spent in this room for months. Would like if this mild weather would last half the winter.

Christmas Friday Dec. 25 Nature did more this season for a merry Christmas than last year, for we had a clear day with some snow on the ground. Edna and Robert came up Thursday evening and there was quite a time getting ready for the next morning. May was all excitement with her expectations from old Kris Kingle. And as usual she received a great number of gifts. How happy this day can be made for all with first a little thought on the subject. For however small the gift it is doubly appreciated on this day. I received a scarf from Mary an article I have been wishing for all season and unexpected from the fact that I did not think she had time to knit one. From Edna I received some very nice stationery lettered McC. and from Robert a very handsome cigar case with which I am very much pleased. This article will make a beautiful mantle ornament and a cigar taken from this will always remind one of the giver. From Father Leibe all the family received a five dollar green

back. Mary, Mary & Harry all received gifts from sister Edna. The turkey & oysters were enjoyed by all and had Bro Ed only been able to have joined the family circle our comfort and happiness would have been greatly increased. Hoping however he will soon be allowed to come we shall all hold our Christmas gifts for him in trust until his benign face makes its appearance among us.

Sunday, Dec. 27 Well this day has been very pleasantly spent in company with Robert and Edna. The weather has been bright and cheerful with about two to three inches of snow on the ground. Not enough to make sleighing yet two or three parties have passed the house in sleighs--trying on horse flesh I should think. We had oysters and chickens for dinner to which all did ample justice. Robert and I drinking cider that still has some of its original sweetness. In the afternoon Robert and I took a long walk out on the hill to see some new houses being built by E---- and Newman. We had fire in the front room the grate keeping us quite comfortable. Mr. Gmckel came over and enjoyed a cigar from our new case.

Sunday, Jan. 3, 1869 Well the new year has come and with it some changes in my business relations. Father Leibee gave up his interest to Henry so that from this on he will be classed among the retired merchants. Mary, May & myself spent New Years day up town with Father Leibee. The past week has been one of mist, rain, thaw and mud. Today the weather was like spring, it being very pleasand to stand around out of doors. I fear we will have to pay for this remarkable warm weather before winter is over. This one would judge was very much like a Southern winter. I have spent the day mostly in the house writing a short note to Bro Ed and reading papers and magazines. In the afternoon I packed Joe's books and old coat to sent to him by express. I felt like I was parting with old friends to get these a articles together. It is to be hoped the next time these books come into the house it will be never to be sent away again. I am thinking strongly of keeping an expense a/c I wonder whether I will be able to keep it up all the year.

Sunday, January 10. Such a beautiful spring day we seldom have in mid winter. So far this has been a very mild January. Gmckel & myself sat out in front of the house and smoked our cigars with much comfort. Spent the day mostly in the house. Mary & I were out to church for the first time since Harry's birth., and a long time before perhaps. I have not been inside of a church for four months. Would gladly welcome a continuation of such weather.

Sunday, Feby 7 Since I opened my expense diary this one is neglected. I do not intend to write in this often but will try and not drop it altogether. The weather since my last writing has been remarkable for its mildness. Every Sunday has given any number of promenaders. Sabbath days have been noted for their beauty and warmth. Mary had a return of her old disorder last week but we believe a little milder than the attack before this. We have been making a great improvement in our house by heating it with a furnace. So far we like it very much altho we have had no cold weather to test its greatest heating capacity. I am looking for letters from Ed & Joe and hope certainly to receive one from each this coming week. On the



14th of this month Father Leibee presented us with ten thousand dollars for which we are very thankful. This gives us our home free of debt and gives a good working business capital. I was never more surprised in my life. Such generosity is truly great. For how few men would have been so thoughtful of their children's welfare. I think this will give us such a start in life that from this on we can travel with more smoothness and have fewer omens of ill luck for ever staring us in the face. Had I not met with my laundry loss, I would have been in much better condition. But it is to be hoped that this will be such a lesson that I will forever after avoid all stock companies.

Wednesday Evening Feby 10. I have been looking for letters every day for the past week from Ed and Joe but have not received them yet. I know one thing, and that is they will not receive any more letters for some time from me. This weather has rather a blue influence on one. I have felt blue all day. Our business is doing about as well as we could expect considering the tightness of the money market. The goods we sell now are principally domestic. I enjoy business much better since I take more time at home with no grumbling to encounter at the store for not being there early and late. Henry went to Cincinnati today and will not be home before tomorrow night. My reading this winter has been very much interrupted from sickness in the family. Also baby's colic of evenings is not a very good invitation to books and writing. There is several books I would like to purchase did I not feel too poor. One of them is Greeley's recollections of a busy life. I think I must try and get to read this work for I believe I would enjoy it very much. I liked his American Conflict. This weather makes us think of our gardens and I have some grape racks to fix before spring sets in for good.

Monday, Feby 15. It is a pleasure to have a journal to amuse one's self with if it should never afford any thing readable for a second person. Yesterday we had rain until three o'clock when the sun came out and gave everything the appearance of having gone through an April shower. Today we have winter and the sky looks heavy and dull with a few flakes of snow spitting now and then as if to threaten us with another return of old winter. We have had no spring in mid winter since January 1st six weeks of spring in mid winter. It is worth remembering. Business is very dull, almost enough so to make one blue. But what have I to be blue about—we are doing business in or with less expense than any house in our town with half our sales. Not only that, we sell very near all for cash and consequently do a much pleasanter business. May started to school again after an absence of just four weeks. Received a short letter from Bro. Ed today but says we need not look for him home soon. Tonight the wind howls around the house and we feel thankful for the warm influence of the furnace.

Wednesday, Feby 17. I would have written a letter tonight had I thought either of my correspondents deserved one. But I feel as tho Ed and Joe both treat my letters with almost too much indifference. I wrote to Joe on the 17th of November and one letter since then but have received no answer. I spent yesterday in Cincinnati and came home feeling much better than usual after such a trip. I bought Edna up home to stay a week in the country believing country air would benefit her health. Trade still continues dull but I am prone to take things as they come now without greiving myself to death

because I cannot make a fortune in dull times. We have our stock in good shape. I would not wonder much to find winter at our door again in the morning, from the way the night looks, but guess his efforts from this on will be very spasmodic and not like winter of past years.

Wednesday, Feby 24 Received letters from Bro Ed since my last writing. Wrote to him last evening. Weather has turned winter again. There is snow on the ground that has layed for forty eight hours. Business is awful dull altho we sell from \$38 to \$60 per day. But the expense of living is so much we hate to make a small fortune to support our families.

Tuesday March 9 We are still having winter. We thought we could drop the furnace about this time but we have colder weather now than we had in January. Business is blue, in fact very blue, but we hope for better times anon. Received a letter from Bro Ed today saying he will be home soon. I hope to see him by the first of April. I expect to start for New York by Friday week.

Sunday March 14. Well this morning bid fair for a spring day. But tonight the wind howls & rain and sleet make music by beating against the windows from all quarters. Thought this morning we would have warm weather and tonight am thinking how cold it will get. Went to church— will not write here what I think of such sermons but wonder whether the man that preached it believed it himself. Took a walk with the family in the afternoon. Called on <sup>GUNCKEL</sup> Emckel in the evening.

Wednesday, August 15 We have had a very fine rain helping every thing of a growing nature wonderfully. Our trees were fast going to distraction, in fact we have lost several of our finest shade or ornamental trees.

Sunday, August 29 This is such an enjoyable day that I cannot help but write a little. It is raining so quiet & nicely that one cannot help but have pleasant thoughts. I was out to Moyer's peach orchard yesterday and of all the orchards I have ever seen this was the most beautiful. Father & I picked about 2 Bus. ~~of fine peaches for which we paid \$1.50 per bushel.~~ I getting  $1\frac{1}{2}$  Bus. & Father Leibe  $\frac{1}{2}$  Bus. I remained at home most of the day helping Mary. She got thirty three cans out of our one & a half bushels. This season is quite in contrast with last season in regard to tomatoes. I find I did not can them until the middle of Sept. while this season my vines furnished 2 Bus. by the middle of August. The vines will not do much from this out. I wish for Joe's company very much this morning—wonder what he is doing.

Wednesday Morning, Sept. 1, 1869 This the opening day of autumn warns us that there is cool weather on hand. It was almost frost this morning & Mary wanted to know whether we had not better have a grate set up. I am having the square place on my roof fixed so that the wind cannot blow the rains underneath.

Sunday, September 25th, 1869 I have such pleasant and agreeable thoughts this morning that I cannot help but write a few lines in this book. For it is here that I come when I wish to give thoughts expression. I have

felt so glad & joyful over Joe's coming back that it has put me in better humor with myself and all mankind. What a great bound my heart gave when I opened Joe's letter and read that he desired to make a change and was willing to come back and go into business. And as I sit here today anticipating how delightful it will be to resume our old chats and habits I cannot help but thank a creator for such blessings of friendship. Not only can we resume the old enjoyments but they can now be extended, for we can take the same days for recreation as we will not be engaged in the same store. So time has brought about what I have been wishing for these many days. The weather this morning has not had its usual effect on me for it has been gloomy enough out of doors. We think our equinoctial storm set in yesterday morning for the weather has grown very cold and raw. Yesterday it rained all day long and part of last night. I should like to see frost keep off a couple of weeks yet. And then let it come for we will be prepared for winter.

Monday, Sept. 26 Kept a fire in the grate all day Sunday. This morning almost frost but indicates a pleasant day after the sun gets high enough to have full power. Too cool & unpleasant yesterday to take our Sunday ride.

Thursday, Sept. 22, 1870 (One year almost since I have written on these pages.) In looking over the Journal this morning I find we have dry weather in August and September and this season will be no exception to the general rule. We are having very delightful weather now with cool nights for sleeping.

Sunday Oct. 2, 1870 The atmosphere cool with a strong wind from the north. Hardly cool enough for fire yet Harry hearing us talk of fire wanted one built so I fired the grate in the Library. I am well pleased with my sanctum and believe I will enjoy it more than any room in the house.

January 19, 1872 I often think I will continue this Journal just to look over some ten or fifteen years hence (should I live so long) to see whether I have been a progressive being. I am not sorry that I have written this much for I find that it affords me some pleasure to look over what has been written some four or five years ago. When I first commenced writing I had just moved in this house and was very much in debt and I cannot help but feel thankful for prosperity. My business at this time pleases me and I have much pleasure in doing business and do not feel like I was dragging through life as I did in dry goods. My health is better and I have my evening at home with the family circle. But how fast we learn to enlarge our ideas of comfort & happiness with an increased income. I have seen the day that I thought I should be very sick indeed with an income of two thousand dollars per year. While my income for this year from all sources has reached seven thousand dollars (\$7000) And yet I take it as matter of course. We are now just getting over our poor streak which has held on for so long and can from this on I hope enjoy a little more

travel--operas--lectures in cities & keep up some pleasures & attractions with literature, pictures & ornaments of different varieties. One more year of prosperity will give me a competence and then I hope to see more of the world than some do that have the wealth but not the inclination. The weather since January 1st has been mild with very little sleighing. We had a heavy snow storm today but tonight the music of the down spouts indicates there will not be much snow in the morning.

Sunday, January 21. At this writing 9 o'clock A.M. I am ready for church & can devote the hour & half before church to reading & writing. I believe I can say with truth that I am enjoying church-going better than ever before from the fact that my occupations are so different that I do not begrudge the hour or two away from home. I hope in time to cultivate church society & its good influences to such an extent that real happiness will be dependent on performing duty towards God & man. I hope to be relieved from skeptical doubts & do that which men have done before me to accept the word of God without question, for how little we know when all is said. It will take time to eradicate these doubts & until such time I must have to myself. For I will not do that which is inconsistent.

Sunday, Oct. 13, 1872 ( On Prayer Meeting Attendance) Coming so recently among you I don't know that I can say anything that would be of interest. I might however come nearer giving you the feelings & impressions of an outsider than any of your older members. I am now beginning to feel and see why it was that our former pastor frequently called attention to the importance of prayer meeting attendance. I have seen the day that I thought it would be a great tax on time and inclination to spend one evening each week in singing & praying. How differently I feel now I need not express. Satisfied as I am that it is not only a duty but that we are all benefited by this coming together in the midst of business & forgiveness of sins & be thankful for many blessings. We not doubt often allow little trivial excuses to keep us away from what should be a very pleasant duty. And if we the rank and file of this church could only manifest the same feeling & interest in our work that its officers do we would not have so many empty chairs here on Wednesday evenings. To make our meetings interesting we must have numbers, for that alone is a manifestation of interest in our work. I am happy in saying that the ladies are far more zealous in their work and hope to have them exert all the influence they can bring to bear to make our meetings what they should be. Hoping that I have not said that which will work harm, I for one will do all in my power to bring people to these meetings.

The history of a happy hour. Thoughts <sup>crowd</sup> upon us so rapidly as we begin to write that we hardly know where to make a commencement. The dull damp day out of doors makes us turn to the comforts of our glowing library grate with satisfaction and as we lay aside the new cut leaves of our magazine and take up pen to record our thoughts on paper we feel that for the moment we have lost sight of the discomforts of life and enjoy fully the comforts of home. There is a lazy satisfaction in drawing up in front of the grate and easy armchair and abandoning oneself

to the enjoyments of his surroundings that to me is truly delightful. I suppose that this condition of mind has prompted me to jot down these thoughts in defence of what. Before I tell you I should like to get my practical hearer to lay aside his prejudices. My devout friend to unbend for the occasion and listen to a few words in defence of Novel reading. I find as I grow older that pleasure derived from this source has not faded away and that if novels are made from myth, the characters ~~we~~ we read of stand out fully as strong today as they did in the years gone by when awaited the arrival of weekly paper by mail and run home from the post office in haste that not a moment should be lost in learning the fate of our hero. How well we remember the delightful evenings spent in the quiet of our grandmothers rooms reading of hair breadth escapes and learning of other worlds, to us then, but later in life find it was not a dream after all. I believe that in reading these romances I was acuated to covet the good and shun the evil, to appreciate the beautiful and abhor the horrid, In fact it taught me that honesty had its own reward and vilany most always suffered in the end. What boy is there that will ever forget.

Bought an interest in the Tobacco business November 1st 1877. Robert Wilson & myself buying out all the interest of Wilson ~~Serg~~, Auer. Took the real estate & machinery at \$17,500. Stock \$22,500. And about forty thousand dollars in a/cs & notes. Mr Wilson at the time owned  $\frac{1}{3}$  interest. The balance was paid to Sorg & Auer  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$  in 30 days,  $\frac{1}{3}$  in 60 days  $\frac{1}{3}$  in 90 days  $\frac{1}{3}$  in 120 days. We made all our payments without any trouble. Doing this from the business and making a net profit the first year of \$56,000.

Remarks for 1884 Prospects good for business in our line. Very sorry did not commence to keep annual statement when I first started in tobacco business.

Commenced the improvement of my residence late in July, 1883. Finished inside work for Christmas 1883 but much work on outside with filling of yard for spring of 1884. Spent in living & improving in year 1883 about \$14,000.

Remarks for 1885 Prospects good. Have spent a large sum of mney in improving factory buildings & machinery. New building, new office. So that we have more capital in business, better buildings & better machinery than ever before. Expended in the year 1884 over \$35,000 in factory improvements.

Business for 1885 was very trying. We had much to contend with in getting up a number of schemes under Mr. Killick's management that were partial failures. We expended large sums on traveling -- cutters and gave away incash this year to trade \$22,300. mostly to salesmen that travel for jobbers. Some \$27,000 to retail salesmen and on top of this rebated stock in hands of trade to cover with checks on our new defaction for 1886 \$24060. Showing that the business did splendid.

It will be noticed that working year of 1886 for myself was not very satisfactory for profits. It is the first year since I have been in tobacco business that we showed no profits but an actual loss. We had bad luck first half the year in small sales and making rebates and in exchanging unsatisfactory goods and a very heavy shrinkage in prices of leaf tobacco. The actual shrinkage ran up into thousands of dollars. In addition to this we placed on the market the last half of the year "Merry War" at a loss but by doing this helped out our agents and increased our business over 1,000,000 pounds over former year. It was thought that our difference in standing in the year to commence with Jan 1st 1887 was worth all of \$50,000 over former years in advertisements & for future business. The story can best be told when I write up next year which I hope I may not only be spared to do but that I may have much more satisfaction in so doing.

As predicted last January the year 1887 proved profitable in the tobacco manufacturing and the year closed <sup>more</sup> much more satisfactorily than any year since I have been in the business. The year started in with manufacturing at a slight loss but kept growing better & better from the fact that we were working on an advancing market. Leaf started in low & and with a short crop kept advancing and from present lookout will continue to advance during year 1888. We used more money in our business than ever before and increase d our ourput to over 5,000,000 lbs. What a change since the first year when we had run up the production from 400,000 lbs. to 900,000 lbs. We have fine prospects for profit in 1888. Mr. Wilson & myself have sold to Brother Ed 10 shares of stock to Mr. McDonald 15 shares of stock to Mr. Boykin 6 shares of stock and to Mr. Andrews 6 shares of stock. Each of us selling  $18\frac{1}{2}$  shares @ 1750 per share. This was done to encourage younger men and get their hearty support in future work. The conditions upon which we sold this stock was that the parties give their note and let us hold the stock as colateral until payment in full is made for the stock from dividends declared from time to time on the stock from net earnings. The notes to draw 6% interest until paid. The year 1887 was quite an eventful year in the lives of all the family for we left Middletown late in May for New York and sailed for Europe on board the "Aurania" Gunard steamer. We were in Europe taking in England, France, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, and Germany remaining away from home until September 15th we returned on the "Etruria" and we had a delightful trip and my health was much improved by the rest & change the trip gave me. I returned in time to take an active part in the years' business for the bulk of the profits were in the last three months of the year. I found the situation such that we thought it to our interest to borrow more money and invest in tobacco and it now looks as tho we did well to make the effort to increase our holdings of raw material. While away from home the Fidelity-~~Nutt~~ <sup>Natl Bank</sup> Bank of Cincinnati failed and I was alarmed while in London & Paris for fear our own Bank might be caught for a

large sum of money. It turned out the Bank was caught for some ten thousand dollars of which we will no doubt get back one half or more having up to this time received some 25% in <sup>full</sup> fail payment. I forgot to mention that in this year I made two other business ventures, one in taking  $\frac{1}{4}$  interest in Middletown Irvin Co. with capital \$40,000. And the other ~~ma~~ half interest in farm & brick yard above town. This has been an expensive year for me but I have no regrets over this for my family as well as myself feel that we have been well paid for the money so invested. As near as I can get at ~~my~~ income aside from Estate which I turned over to my wife as collected as well as rent from new house I gave her last year. Her total income from property must have been \$1800 to \$2000.

The year 1888 has been peculiar for the Tobacco business. We started in with fine prospects and good stock of leaf and had every expectation of making a profitable year. But the very fact that all the large factories had stock and a quiet trade prevented them keeping in leaf market and sustaining prices. Aside from this over production brought about a war among manufactures and forced prices down resulting in loss and closing out the only year since I have been in the tobacco with a positive loss as my statement will show in the tobacco business but made up by outside profits.

The year 1889 opened unfavorable for us in the tobacco business trade dull and with high priced stock on hand with a decline in prospects we did not feel very much encouraged. But with luck & hard work we pushed for business and it resulted in the largest business we ever did, our output reaching over six million pounds but the small profit of 2¢ per pound or \$120,000 net profits after running the first half of the year at a loss. I made a good turn in the Irwin business. Profit in the sale of stock & in the business making me clear \$19000.

The year 1890 proved a good year for business. Conditions were favorable all the year. Our Tobacco Co. thought it a good time to push for increase of business and did so making a gain of 33%. This was expensive work but we sold some 8,000,000 pounds of plug tobacco but at an average profit of a little less than 2¢ per pound. The Tobacco Co. declared a dividend of 75% on the capital stock of 200 dollars. I made another good turn in the Irwin Co. giving me a profit in cash & stock of \$12,000. Also sold 10 shares Tobacco factory stock to <sup>clear</sup> H. Barkew @ \$12,500 over last years invoice with interest from January 1st.

#### "Preaching on Trial"

On coming out of church the first words that greet one are "how did you like him." Some give expressions of satisfaction others are not pleased and I believe as a general thing the displeased are in the majority. We are having these trial sermons now in our church and from what I can learn, what pleases me does not seem to satisfy my most Christian Brother church member. Perhaps I am not

[SENTENCE NOT COMPLETED]

Sunday, Jan. 5, 1873

I have often thought, on having some men express an opinion or judging an action, that I was happy in thinking they were not a <sup>LAW</sup> making power. Yet this same individual would be the first to resent any encroachment on his political or personal rights. So I think we are all affected more or less with this same thoughtless judging of <sup>OTHERS</sup> toehers' motives & actions. In accepting this religion of Christ I have always felt that we should come out of ourselves and not be so contracted in our <sup>S</sup> strictness but be more generous toward others. I think Christ teaches this in so many of his beautiful sayings. And we should not forget it. But apply it to our every day lives. There is not an individual here but would dislike to select any one of his or her actions, not only religiously, but socially and yet some of us do often sit in judgement. My friend may make prayers that are all sadness and full of sorrow. Yet I should not like to have him think me less a Christian should mine spring from gladness and joy. My thinking that our religion is beautiful & full of happiness that can be enjoyed in this world need not keep his thoughts from dwelling constantly on the sinfulness of <sup>F</sup> the world & its poor miserable creatures. While I may desire to do that in my everyday life that would advance our church and its teachings. Yet it is only our Christ that we can plead after all to any that are not with us. For how few of us are not stumbling blocks to many a needy sinner.

Brothers and sisters as this is the beginning of new year it might be well enough to take a retrospection view of the past year and see where we can improve in actions & words in the year to come. How much good we might do by a word dropped <sup>HAVE</sup> here and there we know not until we hear after a long time felt the good effects upon ourselves. In starting out upon this new year we should give generous offerings & judgements a large place both in word & actions and never allow ourselves to doubt a fellow Christian religion. My Brothers prayers may spring from sadness and sorrow yet should mine spring from gladness & joy I would not like to be considered any less a Christian.

Prayer Jan. 24, 1873

Oh Lord we come unto this evening in weakness praying for strength. Will Thou oh God teach us to do thy work in a cheerful and acceptable manner. Forbid that we shirk any of the duties devolved upon us, but give us grace and strength and purpose to work for Thy glory. May we be ever mindful that we are one of Thy children and may this thought keep and guard us from sin. Thou oh God knowest how foolish & what little things some times tempt us. We pray thee enable us to choose the good from the bad. We <sup>PRAY</sup> would pray for <sup>THOSE</sup> Thou who are unable from what ever cause from meeting with us here this night to be with them & watch over them & keep them from harm. We desire to thank Thee for permitting us to come here this evening to praise thee for the many blessings we have received in the past week. And may we remember in our prayers that Thou art with us in joy as well as in sorrow if <sup>WE</sup> but acknowledge thee at all times. Oh God we would pray for Thy <sup>W</sup> spirit to be with us in our evening worship. To forgive our sins & bless each individual here tonight in a way that may be remembered. We ask it all in the name of Thy Dear Son Christ Jesus Amen.



Oh God: we feel tonight like giving expression in prayer. We feel that thou hast given a manifestation of thy working spirit. We thank thee for this, and may those that have confessed before thee feel how much better. [INCOMPLETE]

Chicago, Dec. 14th, 1891

Mr. I.R. McDonald  
Middletown O.

My dear Sir

I am in receipt of your letter of the 12th and only wish to say that the action taken by Mr. Wilson and myself was brought about by your own conduct. It was not a question as to whether we would strengthen our board of Directors by leaving you out, or the amount of salary you were worth to the company, but whether we wished to continue business relations with you on any terms. That having been decided it remains with yourself whether you will do your work and conduct yourself in such a way that we may have no further cause to regret a continuation of business relations.

Very Respectfully Yours,  
D. McCallay

"We lay aside letters never to read them again, and at last we destroy them out of discretion. And so disappears the most beautiful, the most immediate breath of life irrecoverably for ourselves and for others. Goethe's Elective Affinities

If we do not go astray of our own will and caprice, circumstances, passions, accidents, necessity, and one does not know what besides, manage it for us. Same

Chicago 1894

The day is lost that has no greeting.  
In store for you and I a meeting  
For time is passing and we are older  
Age thins the blood and makes one colder  
But in the days and years to come  
Let each know that our hearts are young  
For with love and passion we know not age  
For life is youth-- and youth is sage.

"Washing his hands with invisible soap in imperceptible water."  
Don't know.

From a history of Butler County published in 1882, we learn these facts about my grandfather: Daniel McCallay was born August 10, 1839, at Dayton, Ohio. He was the son of Henry and Anna (McKnight) McCallay. The father was a native of Pennsylvania, the mother came from New Jersey, and they migrated with their parents to Ohio in 1830. The father took up the wagon maker's trade, first in Miamisburg, and later in Dayton. Then the family returned to Miamisburg, and the father started a hotel, McCallay House. About 1857 they moved to Middletown and the father ~~founded~~ ran the U.S. Hotel. (It is now the Chase Hotel at 34 South Main Street.) Henry McCallay died in 1862 at the age of 49 and his widow died in 1865 at 49. Daniel worked three years as a clerk in the dry goods store of Jacob Leibee until he was made a partner in 1863, and the store was renamed Leibee and McCallay. Daniel withdrew from the business in 1870 and entered the lumber and grain trade with J.M. Robinson as a silent partner. In 1877 Daniel again changed businesses and joined with his brother-in-law Robert Wilson in forming the Wilson and McCallay Tobacco Company. In 1878 he sold assorted real estate holdings in Middletown and invested in First National Bank stock. Daniel was made a director of the bank in 1879 and served as its president from 1882 to 1891. He became a member of the Presbyterian Church in 1875. In 1859 he married Mary E. Leibee, daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Lefferson) Leibee. Daniel and Mary had three children: May born 1862, Harry mentioned in the diary, and my father Edwin born in 1873. Sarah Leibee died in 1875 and Jacob in 1876.

Of the people mentioned in the diary I can add but little information. Henry was the brother of Mary Leibee. In later years he married Minnie Morgan of Buffalo, N. Y., and for a long time lived at 508 South Main Street, one block south of the McCallay home, but after World War I they moved to Buffalo. They had one child, Gertrude, who died in 1959. She had one son and one grandson, both now living. Daniel had one known brother, Edmund, who in the early part of the diary was in the regular army. Later I believe he left that profession and worked for Wilson and McCallay as a salesman. He married Henrietta Wampler and had no children. Daniel had one known sister, Edna, twin of Edmund, who married Robert Wilson of Cincinnati, originally from Canada, and they had five children: Robert, Jr., who died in infancy, Willie who died at 19, Harry, Edna, and Bess. The last three have living descendants and Bess is the only one still living. The Wilson family lived for many years at 116 South Main Street, site of the American Legion. May McCally, Daniel and Mary's daughter, married (Kentucky) Col. Morris Renick and had two sons, William and Robert now deceased, who have living descendants. The Renicks lived at 509 South Main Street. May died about 1915. Of Harry nothing is known except the mention of him in the diary. He must have died young. (Woodside Cemetery) (11-1-1915)  
Edwin, my father, died in 1929 and I am his only child. Daniel himself died about 1916, and his wife a year later. But who is Joe? Could that very dear friend be J. M. Robinson? It is the mystery of the diary.

When my father married Louise Barkelew about 1901 they lived at 614 South Main Street. But my mother died when I was born in 1910, and so my father, my nurse Miss Griffin, and I moved into my

grandfather's house, which is at 228 South Main Street, and there I still live. This house number, and those given above, are the new numbers which were bestowed in the early 1920's. In my grandfather's time his house was known as 532 South Main Street, and quite a house it was. Kept in the very top of condition by the home-loving Daniel, it had undergone many additions, embellishments, and improvements, and this has continued until the present time. So numerous have been the changes that it would make quite an interesting story in itself if there had been some record kept of them and why they had been made.

In 1867 I feel sure the house was a mere shell of what it later became. To this as time went on, and Daniel's fortunes increased, and he lavishly poured money into it, porches, bay windows, alcoves, and rooms were added. Probably the present back living room (in the diary, called the library) and the bed room above were additions. The elaborate woodwork came later. As a little child I can just remember it as it was when at the peak of my grandfather's tenure. It was very ugly by present day standards of taste. The grounds were immaculate. A wrought iron fence with gates barred entry from the street. An oval drive way encircled an ornamental area north of the house, which faces east. Within the circle were a large wrought iron flower container, a cast iron elk and a huge cast iron dog. When these things were disposed of, the elk went to the Elk's Temple, and the dog with tail may now be seen in front of the McCoy-Leffler Funeral Home. But in those days, outraging my grandfather's sense of absolute orderliness, the tail was usually off, knocked off by certain little brats trying to climb on the animal. Fine grass and unusual trees and many flower beds completed the setting. The drive way was gravel, and at its farthest point from the street, there was a barn with stables, ample room for five automobiles, and a hay loft. Beside this was a small house for Albert, the caretaker, and his wife and five children, my best friends. Behind the barn and small house and behind a wire fence which separated the back lawn from the gardens were about two acres set out in vegetables and a chicken yard and coop. Behind all this was a vacant lot, at one time used for a cow.

The Victorian style house itself, of brick with an orange and red tile and stone and wood front porch, and an ornate wooden porte-cochere, was painted light brown with dark brown trim. Atop the sloping slate roof was a cast iron decorative grill work. Inside it was very gloomy and crowded-looking. The ceilings downstairs are 14 feet high, upstairs about 12 feet. In the central hall the stair well was enclosed in a veritable cage of carved spindles, banisters, and other woodwork. Oak paneling, stained an unattractive light brown, lined the walls of the hall and dining room to a height of five feet. The sitting room was to the right upon entering. It was a comfortable green-looking room with lace curtains, a music box in the far corner, a green velvet couch with elevated head rest in another corner, a round table with a metal lamp with vari-colored glass shade in the center, surrounded by several chairs, a coal burning fireplace bright with gleaming brass implements and coal box. This and every other room with an alcove had a <sup>KIND</sup> of fancy carved wooden portcullis extending down from the ceiling about three or four feet, setting off the alcove, and every room had an extravagantly twisting chandelier with bare electric light bulbs and gas light fixtures intermixed.

All rooms were carpeted except hall and dining room. All rooms, including the carpeted ones, were strewn with oriental rugs. The parlor across the hall was supposed to be French, and perhaps the delicate gilt chairs and cabinets might have seemed in high style even today, had they not been so overhung and laden with excessive decoration. A massive easel holding a heavily framed picture stood by a grotesque wooden fireplace, in the center of the carvings of which was an arched colored glass window framing a porcelain pair of lovers in a swing. Statuary and bric-a-brac abounded. Superimposed on heavy lace curtains, draped over corners of furnishings, and hanging in the doorways as portieres, were swaths of heavy dark material fringed in gold tassels. The walls were pink and blue. The room was seldom used. In the library behind, the theme was dark red with a massive top border stenciled on the walls. Many of the upper halves of the windows in the house were in leaded colored glass of intricate design. Again crossing the hall, to the dining room behind the sitting room, I seem to recall its features only dimly. Much of its furniture remains, the sideboard cut down from its original massive size. The kitchen area contained <sup>MANY</sup> ~~many~~ stoves and pantries--two gas stoves, a coal stove, a central eating space for servants, a low wooden sink, crude laundry tubs, and two hand pumps as well as running water.

The upstairs was comparatively simple. Bright figured wall paper on the walls, brass beds, small closets, augmented by things called wardrobes. Three of the plainest of bathrooms with wood-enclosed wash basins, tubs on high legs, Toilets with water tank above where one could literally "pull the chain," all painted brown. There were four bedrooms, and in the rear down five steps, two servants bedrooms.

All this my grandfather could easily afford, and he also spared no expense in clothing his own person and his wife. Before my time his carriages and horses were said to be the smartest. He was probably vain, and certainly loved to have his picture taken. The attic is full of photographs of him seen from every angle and in various outfits. He was short, dapper, and had a well trimmed beard and glasses. With no federal income tax to pay, he could live on a high scale and still have money to reinvest in additional enterprises. But these, as my father writes, did not prosper. Only the home <sup>land</sup>. I wonder if it galled him to have his rival, Sorg, start an even bigger tobacco company in 1879 (this was all plug tobacco), and later ~~start an even bigger~~ build a great castle-like mansion right in the same block with the McCallay house, dwarfing the latter and all others. Sorg even beat him to building an Opera House. My grandfather had plans to build a theater, with a brass-railed enclosure tenth row center for the McCallay family. However, amenities were maintained by ceremonious visits to and by all the neighbors. In their heyday my grandparents also maintained a big house in Chicago. They did not keep it long. There Danial was like a little fish in a big pond. Here he was a big fish in a little pond.

I did not really see much of my grandfather, who was very gruff toward me. I was kept out of sight, in the back, or up in the attic playroom, most of the time. I probably got on his nerves, he

being beyond caring about small children. Besides, he and his wife had a house in St. Petersburg, Florida, where they went all the winter after Christmas, and I was taken to Michigan all summer by my Grandma Barkelew and my nurse. I can remember Grandma McCallay a little bit better. She was deaf, roly-polly, and elaborately dressed. She would tickle me and say baby words. Mostly she sat in the sitting room, whereas Grandpa would be uptown, probably at the bank, or napping in their bedroom, much of the day. But sometimes she would retire to the kitchen, which had a small, livelier back-stairs population of its own, and she would cook and stir and stew, and would emerge with cakes and confections, looking very pleased.