

The 1855 Diary of Henry Eldred Sackett

Copyright © 2026, Jeffrey B Randall



First edition, 2026

**The Henry Eldred Sackett diary is located at the Gunn Historical Museum
(5 Wykeham Road, PO Box 1273, Washington, CT 06793) in the
Hine/Sackett/Randall collection.**

Table of Contents

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Preface | 3 |
| Sample Diary Pages | 5 |
| Henry's Family and Relatives | 6 |
| 1859 Map of Warren, Connecticut | 9 |
| The Diary | 10 |
| Endnotes | 49 |

Preface

After an April 2023 family history trip to Washington, Connecticut with my two daughters, I felt the need to get back to Washington to continue my family history discovery. During that initial trip, we spent time at the Gunn Memorial Library and Museum copying several diaries of my second great-grandmother, Rebecca “Marilla” Hine (1834-1880). In October 2025, I returned to Washington, along with my brother, Mark, and spent time copying additional diaries, including several from Henry Eldred Sackett (1832-1868), who married Marilla Hine in 1857.

One of Henry’s diaries at the Gunn Museum is from 1855. It is a small pocket diary, pre-published with dates from the New York publisher A. S. Barnes & Co. Born in 1832 in Warren, Connecticut, to Benjamin Sackett (1799-1885) and Thalia Moulthrop (1801-1885), Henry died at the early age of 35, leaving his wife Marilla and three young children, Clara, Flora (my great-grandmother), and Mary. His siblings were Achsah Minerva (1828-1855), William Clark (1829-1833), Sarah Raymond (1834-1856), Frederick Clark (1838-1841), and Mary E (1841-1855). The year 1855 was an eventful year for Henry’s family—his family left their homeland to migrate west, settling in Garnavillo, Iowa, selling the family farm in Warren. The diary recounts Henry’s work as a schoolteacher, a farmer, his relationship with his future wife, and also his connections with his extended family and friends.

His diary is still fairly legible. With the help of my brother, we took pictures of all the pages—this is the transcription of that daily diary. I have included reference materials and end notes, including a map of Warren, Connecticut drawn in 1859, his family tree, and other notes to help the reader have context for events, family members, and others in his life in 1855. He frequently used one-letter abbreviations for both people and places, and I have attempted to spell these out where possible for the benefit of the reader. Of interest, Marilla often referred to Henry in her 1854 diary as “friend H.” Henry referred to her as “M” in his 1855 diary. The diary provides insights into life in 1855 Connecticut, as well as how he traveled out to the territory of Iowa, which had only recently become a state in 1846. Most importantly to

me, this diary has given me an appreciation for who Henry was a person, including his talents, way of expressing himself, and how he dealt with challenges. As with my second great-grandmother Marilla, I am impressed with his devotion to God and to his family and friends.

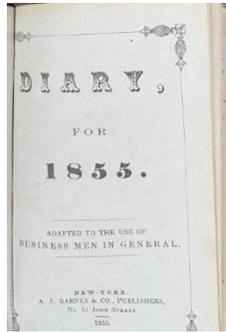
As a key to reading, here are a few pointers. In cases where the writing is illegible and indeterminable, I have used brackets []. I have bracketed names of people or places where I was unsure of the spelling. My objective was to stay true to his grammar, writing style, and spelling, although in some cases I have spelled words correctly where he had obvious mistakes. I have also included the text of Biblical references in the Endnotes when he references scripture chapter and verses from Sunday sermons. For his one-letter references to people and places, I have left them as written when I could not definitively identify who or what place it referenced. At the end of the dated diary pages, there were several pages labeled Memorandum. In this section, Henry wrote in further detail about several experiences he had over the course of the year. He wrote the dates when he recorded these, and I have referenced these “Memorandum” entries in the dated section of the diary, so the entries can be read together.

I am glad to bring this diary to light and share it with others, especially those whose ancestries include Randall, Sackett, and Moulthrop surnames. Henry is the only child of Benjamin and Thalia who survived to adulthood and had children. I express my sincere thanks to Corrine Tabolt of the Gunn Museum, who made the materials available for our visit, Heather Forstmann of the Warren Historical Society, who provided maps, pictures, and other reference materials for Warren, Connecticut, my brother Mark, who helped in digitalizing the pages, and to my wife Alison, for supporting my continued passion for seeking out and bringing to life my ancestors. I also recognize Ancestry.com for providing many of the tools and resources used in research, including Newspapers.com, from which I have shared multiple news clippings in the Endnotes.

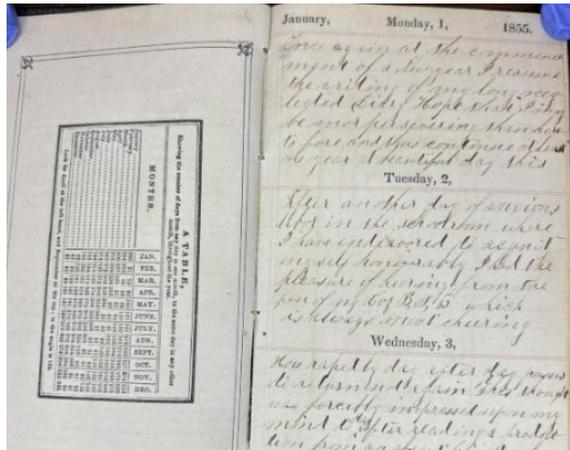
Jeffrey Behm Randall – a second great-grandson of Henry Sackett

Sample Diary Pages

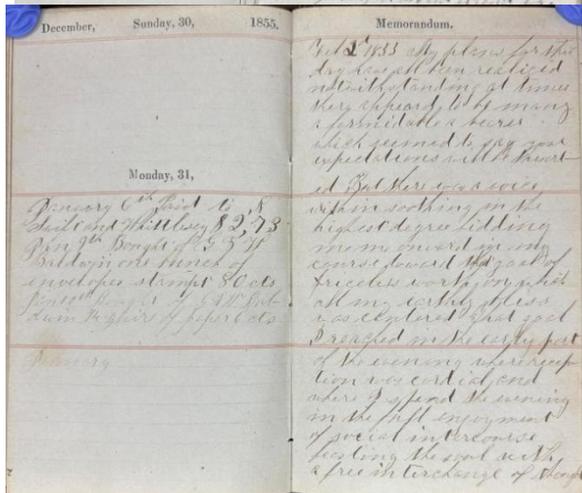
Diary Publisher Page



First Dated Diary Page



Last Dated Diary Page



Henry's Family and Relatives

Parents (m 1827)

- Benjamin Sackett (1799-1885)
- Thalia Moulthrop (1801-1885)

Siblings

- Achsah Minerva (1828-1855)
- William Clark (1829-1833)
- Sarah Raymond (1834-1856)
- Frederick Clark (1838-1841)
- Mary E (1841-1855)

Father's siblings (and place of residence in 1855)

- Justus Sackett (1784-1846), m Mary Polly Bradley 1812 – Warren, CT
- Achsah Sackett (1787-1849) m David Hine 1806 – Canfield, Ohio
- Myron Sackett (1787-1849), m Orpha Amelia Dean 1817 – Canfield, Ohio
- Simmons Sackett (1788-1863), m Edith Hayes 1815 – Canfield, Ohio
- Lydia Sackett (1790-1872), m Erastus Chidester 1815 – Canfield, Ohio
- Clark A Sackett (1793-1862), m Cynthia Preson 1816 (other marriages) - Ohio
- Moses Sackett (1795-1871), m Cordelia Lavina Fox 1816 – Ohio
- Joanna Sackett (1797-1875), m Charles Lord Bingham 1821 - Ohio
- Orpha Sackett (1801-1885), m Daniel Elliot Brinsmade 1837 – Washington, CT
- Minerva Sackett (1803-1883), m Silas Comstock 1838 – Washington, CT

Mother's siblings (and place of residence in 1855)

- Orrin Moulthrop (1795-1806)
- Jacob Moulthrop (1797-1800)
- Thalia Moulthrop (1799-1800)
- Anna Moulthrop (1804-1805)
- Marian Moulthrop (1807- ?)
- Melinda Moulthrop (1809- 1881) – Litchfield, CT
- William Moulthrop (1812-1819)
- Erastus Moulthrop (1815-1899), m Mary E Wetmore 1845 – Litchfield, CT
- Harriet Moulthrop (1818-1850), m Hiram Gross Kilbourn 1840 – Morris, CT

Selected cousins referenced in the diary and documented in Henry's family tree

- Benjamin Hine (1814-1873), son of David Hine and Achsah
- Benjamin Sackett Bingham (1832-1917), son of Charles Bingham and Joanna
- Betsey Bingham (1825-1898), daughter of Charles Bingham and Joanna
- Edward Sackett (1836-1861), son of Homer Sackett and Flora Skiff (2nd cousin)
- Homer Skiff Sackett (1836-1899), son of Homer Sackett and Flora Skiff (2nd cousin)
- Lysander Augustus Sackett (1820-1893), son of Moses Sackett and Cordelia
- Malinda Tanner Sackett (1827-1881), daughter of Moses Sackett and Cordelia
- Mary Joann Sackett (1819-1894), daughter of Justus Sackett and Mary-Polly
- Myron Sackett Hine (1808-1872), son of Myron Sackett and Orpha

- Ralph C Curtiss (1831-1902), son of Erastus Curtiss (1789-1859) and Harriet Tanner (1795-1837) (2nd cousin)
- Samuel Eldred Tanner (1834-1903), son of Ebenezer Tanner (1791-1862) (3rd cousin)
- Simeon Dwight Ford (1822-1911), cousin by marriage (husband of Malinda Sackett)

1859 Map of Warren, Connecticut



Red box shows location of the Sackett farm

Border towns: Litchfield is east (right), Washington is south, Kent is west, and Cornwall north

The Diary

January

Monday, 1. Once again at the commencement of a new year, I resume the writing of my long neglected diary. Hope that I may be more persevering than heretofore and thus continue at least one year. A beautiful day this.

Tuesday, 2. After another day of anxious labor in the schoolroom where I have endeavored to acquit myself honorably, I had the pleasure of hearing from the pen of my Coz¹ B S B², which is always most cheering.

Wednesday, 3. How rapidly day after day passes to return not again. The thought was forcibly impressed upon my mind today after receiving a production from an absent friend who seemingly was with me yesterday, yet in reality was not for more than a year.

Thursday, 4. Nothing out of usual course has transpired today in my dominion. The evening has been spent in a social manner. Conversation however being confined to commonplace matters of little interest.

Friday, 5. I have had a horseback ride this evening. Came home from Litchfield. Enjoyed the ride quite well as there was a fine time for meditation while breathing the pure air of heaven.

Saturday, 6. Called this morning at cousin L³. Visited with cousins and Fanny Luttington this afternoon. Spent a little time at Mr. Wakeman's⁴ this evening. Went home with Cousin L with whom I had a nice talk.

Sunday, 7. Listened to a most excellent sermon by Mr. Wakeman from 1st Corinthians 11:28-30⁵. A discourse intended to awaken the professed Christian to ask himself whether or not he deserves the Savior at his table.

Monday, 8. Received a call in school today, and the scholars being unusually troublesome this afternoon with almost entire failures at

the recitations, made it very unpleasant for me and it was indeed trying to my patience.

Tuesday, 9. Each day spreads a newly written page before us to gather for memory's storehouse. Things both new and old to refresh us and give us pleasure when in after years it may please us to draw therefrom.

Wednesday, 10. School was visited again this afternoon, and things went rather more to my liking than before. Yet there is still much room for improvement, which I hope will be made use of.

Thursday, 11. Cousin L and Treat⁶ gave me a call this eve. Went down to the village with them. We ate some oysters together after which they left for Washington. Then called upon Marsh and Mr. Pain with whom I spent the rest of the eve and night.

Friday, 12. Feeling somewhat dull. Have spent the evening (save a little in conversing with Mr. Blak) rather illiterately as books and papers have not spoken with me, for I felt too indolent to put forth one called for excelling.

Saturday, 13. Have spent the day at home, most of it in writing copies just before evening. Walked down to the village. Returned and in a short time was happily surprised by the appearance of friend Tanner⁷.

Sunday, 14. Listened to a discourse (or discourses rather) from a converted Catholic, taken from Luke 12:21⁸ and John 16:7⁹. Have been down into the village with T. Called on Paine, who examined our heads, making a very [] demonstration.

Monday, 15. Received a letter from Fenn¹⁰ this evening, which did indeed bespeak kindly feelings. Yet it failed to dispel the gloomy forebodings which seemed to have gathered around in this, my very evening's meditation.

Tuesday, 16. Today the snow has been falling, thus spreading anew its mistained¹¹ mantel of white, the purity of which seems quite in contrast with the darkened character of him (a Bishop of the C) of whom I have been reading¹² and who caused such evil.

Wednesday, 17. Half of another week has gone, bearing onward in its course towards the goal of our existence as poor mortals who are stamping our existence with holy life or with fiery darts.

Thursday, 18. After the duties of the day, sealed myself to hear and read from a book which so plainly revealed the persecuting spirit of popery that it almost shocks the imagination to listen to the recital of the atrocious crimes practiced by this official.

Friday, 19. Have now finished the period of that which did in a most striking manner depict the suffering of one who had renounced the Catholic faith and in its stead looked away to Christ for help instead of bowing the knee to mortals.

Saturday, 20. My uncle and myself together have rambled over hill and dale on foot mainly for the purpose of viewing a farm, belonging to a Mr. Buell, about three o'clock. In company with Mr. B., left Litchfield for Warren, arriving there about seven this eve.

Sunday, 21. Mr. Wakeman spoke to us today from Proverbs 22:1¹³ and 13:6¹⁴. He showed us that it was necessary to acquire a good reputation among our fellows if we would succeed well. And then showed us that it was of infinitely more importance to be in good reputation with our Maker.

Monday, 22. Awoke this morn. Found that the wind together with the rain made its power known by causing the house to tremble. Consequently, made my school quite thin this morning. Received a letter from S.

Tuesday, 23. My usual number again in school today. The weather so cold that it has not thawed but very little in the sunniest places. Feel a little daunting for word as well as thoughts at this time.

Wednesday, 24. Quite cold this morning with snow this afternoon. Such change that one can hardly make his wardrobe meet every demand without submitting himself to many inconveniences. So it is.

Thursday, 25. After school received an invitation to attend a donation visit at the Rev. Mr. Brown's. Accepted it accordingly. Baldwin and I sat and soon found ourselves there in the enjoyment of it.

Friday, 26. Awoke this morn and found to my surprise that instead of a clear sky to gaze upon, thick clouds had gathered around and were giving forth their dourly stare and have with increased fury continued their scattering all day.

Saturday, 27. Have just finished the perusal of a most welcome missive. Have visited a school this afternoon where I made some remarks to close up. With this recap, my second attempt, my first being at Milton¹⁵ in Fenn's school.

Sunday, 28. Another holy Sabbath has gone with the past and it does therefore become set to consider the manner in which we have spent it. That we may know what account we can give at the last when called before our God.

Monday, 29. Have just completed a letter to Cousin B¹⁶. The rains of last night melted away the snow so much as to spoil the sleighing and make it very spooky, which makes it very unpleasant moving about of the house.

Tuesday, 30. Quite cold but not stormy. School as usual. Day soon gone. Spent the evening at Mr. [Gibbond's]. All sat quite social, something desirous to promote peace on such occasions, almost indispensable.

Wednesday, 31. The ice in the park afforded ample means for amusement to the urchins, whose voices, although not entirely harmonious, fell on the ice with tones of joy, speaking the happiness of the youngsters.

February

Thursday, 1. Tired and wearied by this day's exertion, found it enlivening to the spirit to chat a while with a Miss Plinn, after which commenced the reading of *The Lamplighter*¹⁷ and was relieved by my uncle, who in his tone read aloud, which gave some rest.

Friday, 2ⁱ. The sun rose this morning in all its splendor, but its brightness was shut out by the clouds which gathered and overspread the sky, producing a change. Not altogether pleasing as in the snowing, I did make arrangements for a ride.

Saturday, 3. Spent the morning with one whose presence is nicer to me than all earthly goods. About noon called at Uncle B¹⁸, then at Cousin S F¹⁹. Cousin C S²⁰ came to Warren with me. Enjoyed the ride much.

Sunday, 4. Listened to the reading of two sermons by Mr. Hine, one from Psalms 119:37²¹. Did not remember the text of the other. Went from church to Mr. Tanner's²². Sam²³ and I rode to Litchfield in the evening. After arriving took a race on foot.

Monday, 5. Laboring again with the dear youth under my instruction. Although it is very pleasant, yet the anxiety attending it makes one almost disposed to yield and make way for more able ones.

Tuesday, 6. The thermometer has stood today between 10 and 20. Sealed myself this eve after the duties of the day were accomplished and spoke with the language of the pen to a friend whose particular friend is my particular friend's particular friend.

Wednesday, 7. This morning the thermometer was down at 20. Not quite as cold tonight, for it was snowing and blowing, making it seem dreary without thus calling out expressions of thankfulness from us who are well cared for.

Thursday, 8. The snow still continues to fall and the wind to blow. Who can but think as they sit in their quiet, comfortable homes, of the suffering of those who with their portion sit and tremble over the fading embers which must not be kindled for fear of robbing [illegible]?

Friday, 9. It is much more mild this evening. It has ceased snowing and there is now indication of rain. But few scholars in school for the three days past. This eve has not been very literary.

ⁱ See memorandum entry dated February 2, 1855.

Saturday, 10. Have spent most of the day in writing letters. Took a ride, however, with my uncle two miles out of town. Called at Mr. Spa. After tea, walked down to the post office. Did not get a letter as I hoped to.

Sunday, 11. Attended Mr. Swan's²⁴ church. Listened to two sermons, one from Matthew 21:10²⁵, the other from Galatians 5:3²⁶. How pleasant for us who delight in holy things to enter the sanctuary and hear the dispensations of the precious word.

Monday, 12. After my school duties had been performed, walked over to Mr. Wooding's, where I spent the evening and night. Enjoyed myself quite well as they seemed very much pleased with my being there.

Tuesday, 13. Walked over to my school this morning and as it was a bright beautiful morn, took much in my lone walk. After school met Coz Ted²⁷, who is to spend the night at Uncle's. Mr. and Mrs. Woodard were here at tea and spent a part of the eve.

Wednesday, 14. Many a time have my pupils visited the Post Office today to see if some valentine²⁸ had come for them. Some on their return sparkled with joy at success. Others rather sad on being disappointed. The day has been stormy. The rain freezing as it loaded the trees.

Thursday, 15. The rain has fallen during most of the day. The ice has dropped from the trees and melted off the ground. Just as my school closed, friend Carter²⁹ surprised me by his appearance. We sat down in my office and had a chat.

Friday, 16. Carter stayed with me last night and before sleep stole upon us the cries of the [] broke forth in their usual strains. Struck a light and found it to be half past two. Some company in school this afternoon – [Rev. Herd, Miss C Lord, S Codgers].

Saturday, 17. Spent last night at Mr. Thomas, one of my patrons. In the evening, participated in the children's amusements. Came home this morning and read some. Went down to the village. Returned and resumed my reading.

Sunday, 18. Another holy day has taken passage on the car of time. Attended Mr. Swan's Church. He addressed us from Job 1:9³⁰, Hosea 10:2³¹, first clause. How ought we to number this precious day that we may give a good account of them at last.

Monday, 19. Found this morning that my schoolhouse had been visited during the interval³². Called this evening at Mr. Bronson's and took tea. Had a very pleasant visit, as conversation did not seem to drag.

Tuesday, 20. School has varied in its course some days, like as it has been today. There is much pleasure in mingling with and instructing the young. At other times discord there is in all the movements, for all is wrong.

Wednesday, 21. Have just completed an epistle to one who above all earthly things I adore most. But alas, in this world of change we know not but that our hope may be blighted and we made to drink of life's bitter dregs.

Thursday, 22. Just as my school closed met E Pierce³³, who with Coz L, Hine, Treat and some others had come to Litchfield to hear the Hon. Horace Greeley³⁴ lecture. His subject "Education as it should be and from the word" as his text, he gave us a superior lecture.

Friday, 23. Dismissed my school a little before twelve today to accompany Achsah and Coz L, F, and S Carter³⁵ to Uncle's. In the afternoon, left my school for a time to take care of itself and went out shopping with Achsah. On my return found all quiet and in good order.

Saturday, 24. This day has been quite cold, more so than any day since the extreme weather three weeks ago. I have spent the day most of it in the house by the fire, which made me feel rather dull as I had nothing to do to call out any action.

Sunday, 25. It has been my privilege again to enjoy the hallowed influence of another holy day. Mr. Swan preached this morning from Proverbs 6:6³⁶, first clause. Mr. Yael addressed the congregation this afternoon from Luke 15:10³⁷.

Monday, 26. My usual daily task I have done. And evening shadows once again have come. Not much to interrupt its passing away save a rap tat tap at my entrance. Yes, some friends of mine did come this way to call on me. They made little delay, which proved to me they did not [] to say.

Tuesday, 27. Received two letters this evening, one from [Sate], the other from a long unheard of friend, L A Horton. How past events flit across the mind when the welcome sound of an absent friend breaks upon the ear to show they still are true.

Wednesday, 28. After being in school during the midday, I seated myself in the carriage and drove out to Bantam. Took in S and F and passed on to Washington, where we listened to a lecture, after which drove over to Mr. Hine's with Marilla³⁸ where we enjoyed a fine evening visit.

March

Thursday, 1. This morning at quarter past four, S, F and myself found ourselves just ready to enter our home (that is my Litchfield home). When we had made ready we returned and took a two hour's nap. We then arose, took breakfast, and repaired³⁹ to our schools, where it felt quite dull. Such a time to write it never [].

Friday, 2. This has been a beautiful day, like the one yesterday. Numbers have been to visit my school this afternoon to witness our exhibition in oratory.. Hope that expectations were not too high that they might not have been disappointed.

Saturday, 3. Drove from Litchfield to Warren this morning. Took dinner at Cousin S Ford's⁴⁰ with Cousin C and wife and several others, after which came up to Warren with S B and Cousin S and H and Aunt Polly's⁴¹ where we all took tea then separated for our homes.

Sunday, 4. How good to hear one's own dear pastor. He spoke from Isaiah 60:2⁴² this afternoon. He addressed in particular those who a year ago made their public expression to Christ⁴³. Oh, how blessed these dear communion seasons may be made.

Monday, 5. This morning bright, but lowery this evening. Took tea this afternoon at Mr. H Trowbridge's and before the evening was hardly commenced was surprised by the announcement of S Tanner. I sallied forth with him and [B...] called in at a store or two. Then had an oyster stew and separated.

Tuesday, 6. This beautiful spring weather makes me long to be free from the confinement of the schoolroom that I may indulge myself in the pure air of nature. Called this evening at Mr. [Voldet]. Met with Mr. Hull and his lady love.

Wednesday, 7. A call from S T this evening which I enjoyed much. After he withdrew, seated myself and addressed a dear friend in silence, letting the pen speak while the tongue kept silence. The tongue in my own case seems more fluent than the pen.

Thursday, 8. Having an invitation to take tea and spend the evening at Mr. LeForest, I complied with it and now very agreeably entertained by the host and hostess, who spared no pains in their endeavors to make all pleasant.

Friday, 9. As this day draws to a close, I am reminded that ere another Friday is at hand, I shall be freed from the teacher's yoke. This afternoon I found it in keeping with my word to use a prickly kind of moral suasion. Not a very pleasant task however.

Saturday, 10. A blustering March day this has been, and while I was a whiling the time away writing, who should appear but Sam Carter, who took me down to the Daguerreon Hall⁴⁴ where Achsah was in waiting for her picture. Achsah and Sam were served. After we came up and had tea, soon after which they left for Warren.

Sunday, 11. Attended the Episcopal Church this afternoon. The text was taken from 1 Peter 4:7⁴⁵. Also attended a five o'clock meeting at the Methodist Church pastor Rev. Mr. Weed⁴⁶. Spent the evening at William Lord's very agreeably.

Monday, 12. Left my pupils alone in the schoolroom at their request to escort some unknown plan that they wished me to remain ignorant of.

Called my committees and spent the evening. Only 4 days more in school.

Tuesday, 13. Had an invitation to take tea at Mr. Rodgers this afternoon. So after school went home with one of the boys, but found on arriving there that I was right in the midst of several ladies which quite surprised me, as I expected to meet none except the family.

Wednesday, 14. On account of the storm last eve, I remain at Mr. Rodger's during the night. Had quite a pleasant time. This eve called down to Mr. Grossman. Heard a little music and returned home at an early hour.

Thursday, 15. Although my head complains tonight, I feel on the whole quite well for my school examination, which has borne down upon me with much weight. Has been through with which thing has relieved my musing wonderfully.

Friday, 16. Closed my school today and received from my pupils a most beautiful gold pencil as token of affection and fond regard. As I received it from them the emotions of my heart were greater than words can tell.ⁱⁱ

Saturday, 17. As I awoke this morning found to my surprise that the snow was falling fast. And it has been a lowery, unpleasant day, such a day as makes one feel depressed instead of animated.

Sunday, 18. How pleasant to be a listener to the dispersal of the sacred truths of that blessed book when was given to man as an effectual means in the rescuing of man from death.

Monday, 19. Rode over to Litchfield on horseback this morning. Made several calls there and then drove down to Washington. Took tea at Aunt's and then repaired to meet her whose presence gives pleasure to me.

Tuesday, 20. This morning Marilla and myself started for Warren and a pleasant ride we had, arriving there about noon. Took dinner at home

ⁱⁱ See memorandum entry dated March 17, 1855.

then went up and attended Cousin L's examination, which was good. Marilla and myself at singing school this eve.

Wednesday, 21. This morning spent in no particular way, but after dinner brought F, F and M down to our house. Enjoyed a nice visit with them and Pierce and Treat. How grateful ought we to be that we have dear friends.

Thursday, 22. At quite an early hour Marilla and I started for Washington. We were alone for the first three miles, which part of the way we did truly enjoy. As well as all the rest, for we had the company of our dear Fanny T⁴⁷, who is as nice and fine a girl as is often found.

Friday, 23. Went yesterday from Washington to Woodbury with P and T. Called on H Crane, who is soon I think to bid adieu to earthly things and enter into eternity. In the evening came up to Cousin S Ford's, where I spent the night.

Saturday, 24ⁱⁱⁱ. Yesterday morn came from Washington. Home in the afternoon. Canvassed the wood for whipstacks⁴⁸. Today at home except that I have been to the center. Called at Mr. Wakeman's and at the stores. Returned home and did up the chores. (in left margin "Was then this evening for one week back").

Sunday, 25. The pleasures of attending upon the worship of God in his own sanctuary are known save by those alone who joy and rejoice in his fullness in all things. Malachi 3:6⁴⁹, Matthew 22:42⁵⁰. I believe.

Monday, 26. This morning was bright and the sun's rays were strong in their power. But this afternoon the clouds gathered around and scattered the feathery snowflakes over the brown earth.

Tuesday, 27. Last evening waited upon Miss A Tanner to the wedding party of Mr. F Colman⁵¹. Arrived home about two in the morning. We met there quite a social gathering. Have been to New Preston to mill today. A cold day it has been.

ⁱⁱⁱ See memorandum entry dated March 24, 1855.

Wednesday, 28. In account of taking a severe cold yesterday, I have kept house most of the time. Pierce and Treat came from Woodbury today. This has been a very cold day much more like winter than spring.

Thursday, 29. After spending the morning at home, I thought of no more pleasant or preferable manner of passing the afternoon than in meeting with others at our weekly prayer meeting. A blessed place to assemble to worship God.

Friday, 30. This is the first spring-like day we have had for some time. Old winter so reluctant to give place to its more mild successor. Has struggles had and seems to glory in its power to keep at bay spring, that lovely time welcome by all. I visited at [M...], Potter's and then H.

Saturday, 31. I have just been re-perusing a letter that I took from the office this afternoon from her it was who to me surpasses all that earth can give. Have been to Cornwall Bridge⁵² today with Mr. Wakeman. Enjoyed the ride with him very much. Day has been abundantly blessed.

April

Sunday, 1. Mr. Wakeman preached from Jeremiah 29:12⁵³, Psalms 31: 15⁵⁴, 17:15⁵⁵. Such words as we do hear from Sabbath to Sabbath rich to instruct and benefit all who can have the privilege of having them drop upon their ears.

Monday, 2. The spring election came off today. E Hayes⁵⁶ elected representative. He stood 25 ahead of L Hine. This vote shows us the rum triumph. How strange that humanity should become so depraved as to fold to satan's vicegerent.

Tuesday, 3. A very cold day this has been. Cousin L and I have been to Lime Rock⁵⁷. I met there some of my old patrons who seemed to welcome me most cordially to their respective homes.

Wednesday, 4. Attended the grand concert given at our church by our worthy choir, who have now closed their winter's school. Had it not

been that some were suffering from very hard colds, they should have succeeded admirably.

Thursday, 5. We are having very changeable weather. Several sorts in a day and I find that these many changes do not induce the greatest recovery from depression within the head.

Friday, 6. Our annual fast⁵⁸ has again rolled around and we have been summoned to appear at the house of God, where a few of us did assemble and there hear a pleasant word of him who giveth us to come up helping him to sing his praise and look for him in all.

Saturday 7. After meeting yesterday Achsah and I went over to Uncle E. P M spent the night and returned home this morning. Have been to mill this afternoon. On my return, my dear old friend R C at Swift's store⁵⁹.

Sunday, 8⁶⁰. Another Sabbath has passed away and what has the recording angel registered for me. I fear a wandering mind while listening in his sacred temple. Mr. H preached from Psalms 145:7⁶¹, Deuteronomy.

Monday, 9. Last evening, Pierce and myself visited at Uncle E Curtiss⁶². Rode over both on one horse. Have been to work a little this forenoon, but the rain broke us off at noon. Since that time have passed most of the time in the house nodding a good share of the afternoon. Have been rather sleepy for the most part.

Tuesday, 10. The morning was pleasant, but the rain began to fall about two and continued lowery during most of the afternoon and evening. Aunt O, Uncle B⁶³, Uncle H and wife⁶⁴ and the children have been here today.

Wednesday, 11^{iv}. On my return home from the mill, found cousin M H and C H⁶⁵ here. Also Uncle E, [], M, who stayed with us last night. They all took dinner with us, soon after which uncle E left us for home while C and M spent a part of the afternoon with us.

^{iv} See memorandum entry dated April 11, 1855.

Thursday, 12. A cold blustering April day this has been. The funeral of Mrs. R Swift⁶⁶ was attended at nine o'clock this morning. I have been down to Chitenden's corners⁶⁷ today and took dinner at S Weston's⁶⁸.

Friday, 13. There is not much that is worth the penning that has transpired under my observation in my dominion this spring day. Have been to work trying to get initiated to my summer's business.

Saturday, 14. This morning after due deliberation on monied matters, it was thought best that I should go to Litchfield and exchange bills for drafts and gold. E P⁶⁹ has been with me and Aunt M came home with us. Shared times about the west.

Sunday, 15. This day the best sad offices of appreciation and respect have been paid to the mortal remains of Mr. Rufus Swift^v. The funeral sermon by Rev. Mr. Wakeman from Psalms 90:10⁷⁰. A most excellent discourse which I hope may profit all who heard.

Monday, 16. The beautiful, bright and balmy spring morn, father left us (in company with Mr. H, Uncle E and Mr. Osborn) for the western world, to see if perchance he can find a place which may promise to make us a home after that shall compensate us for our sacrifice in leaving here⁷¹.

Tuesday, 17. So much was accomplished by me. I found that night was spreading her sable curtains around, hastened on by the threatening storms. And now as I am about to make preparations for returning, the pattering upon the windows tells to my ears that it is now raining.

Wednesday, 18. Who knoweth how much earthly happiness there is to be found in converse with one that seems of a nature a kin to your own, save one that now and then enjoy such past times. I spent the evening at the Hine's⁷² with Marilla.

^v See prior Endnote several days earlier recounting the death of his wife Lydia Swift.

Thursday, 19. The last of our corn was taken away today. Also sold a ton of hay, half of which is taken away. Have had many interruptions during the day, being called from the field several times.

Friday, 20. The weather which but yesterday was mild and pleasant is now and has been through the day quite unpleasant. A cold storm of rain has poured down upon us. All have retired save myself and Sam [illegible] to enjoy the blazing wood fire.

Saturday, 21. How rapidly one day after another is shut off from the sight and we know it went in memory now. But how quickly will the few remaining days of our present life be spent and then again may well [] past.

Sunday, 22^{vi}. On account of Mr. Wakeman's absence, we have not had any preaching in our church today. Cousin S read two sermons, one from John 9:39⁷³, the other from Ecclesiastes 12:7⁷⁴, both most excellent sermons and well read.

Monday, 23. Today we have commenced our spring's plowing. Fixed the ground in very good order. Sow comes on a very busy time of the year with farmers, for they must prepare the ground and scatter the seed if they would reap a harvest.

Tuesday, 24. Loctor⁷⁵ and myself have just had a very hearty laugh over the rehearsal of the passing events of the day. This morning sis and I drove down to Mr. G Taylor⁷⁶ and brought up Miss Mary⁷⁷. Sold [name illegible] 1/2 ton of hay.

Wednesday, 25. There has not been much to call forth any great effort save of the body in order that we might keep all the right while following a pair of steer plowing. E, P and A took tea with us tonight.

Thursday, 26. Have just been writing to father. May he wisely in selecting a home for us, if so be that he does select one. Let us not be troubled as to the future, for God is our all and he ruleth in the affairs of men as well as in the armies of heaven.

^{vi} See memorandum entry dated April 22, 1855.

Friday, 27. This morning I found myself breaking up the oat ground. Never before did I wallow a team in the mud plowing. Rode over to H Frisbey this afternoon with Aunt Melinda⁷⁸. A very blustering day this has been, for the wind was blown most terribly.

Saturday, 28. I find this as I am filling up my diary for a day or two back that I have made a mistake. My work of today is what I write for yesterday while my whole business yesterday was breaking the ground. Commenced plowing for planting yesterday.

Sunday, 29^{vii}. Listened today to a most excellent sermon read by Cousin S. The words of the text were taken from Philippians 4:13⁷⁹. Who will turn a deaf ear to such sermons? None I think save those who are careless and unconcerned as to their future prospect.

Monday, 30. A very dark and unpleasant day this has been, for it has been lowery and quite foggy all of the time. This April leaves us with darkness, knowing its face failed as it bid farewell until another year shall have passed away.

May

Tuesday, 1. Various kinds of work have I engaged in today. The one most worthy of note is that of climbing a tree to sever some of its branches to make [] for repairing the fence which lies prostrate around our potato garden.

Wednesday, 2. Commenced sowing our oats today and nearly finished plowing in the larger piece. The day fine and but very little going. A nice time for scattering the seed.

Thursday, 3. Treat finished sowing our oats this morning and Pierce has been harrowing with the old horse. Simply [...ing] that he may be the better filled for his arduous duties which are alike common to all freshman.

^{vii} See memorandum entry dated April 29, 1855.

Friday, 4. Loctor and myself finished dragging the oats this morning, while we have been engaged this afternoon in thinning the trees, making preparation to plant some time when practical.

Saturday, 5. M and Eva have been here today, but farming duties prevented me from sitting down any length of time for social intercourse with them. Terrible wind today.

Sunday, 6^{viii}. Sabbath after Sabbath pass away and how do we improve them? Not simply I hope as the other days of the week, for this is Lord's holy day, sanctified and set apart for his worship

Monday, 7. Again to work breaking up the turf, which is slow and rigid business here among the rocks and stones that give not back at man's approach, but stand a formidable barrier before his marble brow.

Tuesday, 8. Commenced plowing this morning but was broken up by the rain, which began to fall about noon. Loctor and I have been to the center. On our return found friend Treat here, who spent the night with me.

Wednesday, 9^{ix}. Our storm still continues with snow this evening, which has clothed the ground in pearly whiteness. Cousin L assisted me in mending a break in the pipe which the water runs through. Today we had two [] at it.

Thursday, 10. How moves along the plow from day to day, leaving in its track the troubled turf, which has been scored from its long resting place. S wife in tonight.

Friday, 11. [Illegible list of initials] here this eve in short time. Once again, I have insured the seed of the potato beneath the surface of mother earth, that in its turn and time we may find in its confined home a rich supply of its consequences.

Saturday, 12. One more week has gone the way of all terrestrial things, and this last day of the week has been spent following after the furrow

^{viii} See memorandum entry dated May 6, 1855.

^{ix} See memorandum entry dated May 9, 1855.

in the handles of the plow to team upon which being ever and anon displaced keep the body active.

Sunday, 13. After listening to two great sermons read by Mr. Hine, in consequence of the absence of our pastor, thought to while away the evening with Marilla and a happy little spell of time it was.

Monday, 14. One more day has passed away, while as yet we are in the same calling as last week, that of a plow. Often a calling not entirely without honor, for mother earth is acted upon in such an operation or end.

Tuesday, 15^x. All hopes of leaving these rock round hills seem dashed to the ground, for like the timid bird of the wood ([]) was sent in search of a new spot of earth), have been [] by the dropping dead to take refuge under some massive hill of rocks.

Wednesday, 16. Finished plowing the corn ground. Weighed some hay to Layton and Berman and commenced marking for planting. So flies time while in the anxious pursuit of the [] of providence.

Thursday, 17. Rode horse to market this morning. At noon secured Vanderson for the same labor and Harry and I have been to W for [Suanna]. Arrived home about one. Found S Carter here.

Friday, 18. Arose this morning as usual. Was enquire of by [] if I knew father was home, to which I replied in the affirmative, without knowing any thing about it. But soon found that he had never [illegible] yesterday in my absence. Commenced to plant today.

Saturday, 19. The rain of this afternoon stopped our planting, so went over to the center and found Mr. Wakeman had just arrived home. Went up and made him a call. Rode home with cousin D. I and P and Mr. B have been to Litchfield.

^x See memorandum entry dated May 15, 1855.

Sunday, 20^{xi}. Our minister returned to his place in the pulpit today and addressed to us two most excellent sermons, which are indeed a feast to the soul. Psalms 17:5, 1:2 and 2:9⁸⁰.

Monday, 21. Finished planting corn this afternoon and a more blustering time to place the seed beneath mother earth. We do not often have the wind that will almost take the hats from the head.

Tuesday, 22. Finished out our field planting this morning and repaired the fence around the west pasture this afternoon. Also rode over to the center this evening and back from there in company with Coz S.

Wednesday, 23. Gardening has been my principal employment today. And the mild warm sun sent forth its rays of heat this afternoon in season indicative of the quick return of summer.

Thursday, 24. Have been to take Coz H to Litchfield. Dinner at the M, tea at [] E. On our return from Lichfield, Marilla and I took a short ride, which whiled away a little time just at the close of day very pleasantly.

Friday, 25. Planted garden awhile. Helped to [] the oxen. Fixed fences and some several other little chores and the day was done. And what is accomplished? Very little I fear that ought to be.

Saturday, 26. Rode up to Mr. Shiff in Cornwall this morning to receive pay for some veal. Found the gentleman could not or would not pay me. He was taken rather irritable, like small banking []. Just been waiting [].

Sunday, 27. One more Sabbath is not and the hallowed influence pending as we gathered in the sanctuary lives only in memory, which must ever produce pleasant read. Psalms 87⁸¹: Matthew 24:44⁸².

Monday, 28. Have been planting at Cousin C and this evening enjoyed a very fine ride with Coz E P⁸³ to Milton. He expatriated at some length upon various subjects, none of which failed to animate and enliven the mind.

^{xi} See memorandum entry dated May 20, 1855.

Tuesday, 29. Rode into the center this morning. Fell in company with Treat, who returned with me. He improved our time in conversations, and although we rode leisurely the time passed quickly.

Wednesday, 30. This evening as I passed over to Milton, my thoughts turned towards nature's works. And in silent contemplation as I mused, I seemed to feel a nearness to the creator of these things.

Thursday, 31. Lector and myself have washed the carriage and chained⁸⁴ around the farm today. Coz L managed the compass. Father led the way. Treat kept tally and Van carried the sticks. Uncle E, Mary and sis were here today.

June

Friday, 1^{xii}. Rode over to the center this morning. But after dinner M and I repaired to Wolcottville⁸⁵. It commenced to rain soon after we left home. It also rained some in the evening.

Saturday, 2. Spent the day in W. I was occupied in reciting the principle [illegible words] and making a call at F's School. At her request, made a few remarks. R wanted a [] for Coz L to [].

Sunday, 3. Mr. H and I attended a funeral this morning. We then in company with Miss F and H returned to their usual place of worship, where we listened to two good preachers. We all walked up this eve and made a call to Mr. Allen's.

Monday, 4. After a shower this morn about six, the wind then shifted to the northwest and the clouds which had over spread the sky since Friday were driven from before [illegible] and M and I returned home. [] Treat and I to W posting bills.

Tuesday, 5. Lector and I have been crossing our buckwheat piece today and I and Treat called, where then we met Coz Hat and L on horseback just as we were returning to the house after taking the carriage to the north barn.

^{xii} See memorandum entry dated June 1 and June 4, 1855.

Wednesday, 6. Left home this morning about six o'clock with Mother and Achsah for Wolcottville. Called at Uncle's. Took in Aunt M, arrived in Wolcottville near eleven. Fanny T called upon us at the store. We made out a bill of CC and C⁸⁶. Returned as far as Uncle E, where we spent the night.

Thursday, 7. Indulged myself in sleep this morning until breakfast was announced. As the rain prevented us from either returning to Litchfield to finish our trading or leave for home, I took a line to see if I could tempt some fish to the appeal at my hook. Unsuccessful in the attempt.

Friday, 8. Wrote a letter to Fenn and did several other little things of so small as not to be worth the time of writing them. And so life goes, being made up of man's littles which are soon gone over.

Saturday, 9. We have commenced our hoeing today. The corn looks quite small for the season of the year, yet the refreshing showers which we have almost daily, with the anticipated warm weather, will cause it to grow rapidly after it starts.

Sunday, 10. A rainy morning. I stopped however about ten. I then took Mary to New Preston to have a tooth extracted. Dr. E. L. did it. We then returned home. I was rather late to church however.

Monday, 11. No sleep last night, for after passing a very pleasant evening (as usual) with Marilla, Coz C and I left her house about one o'clock for [... East]. Myron⁸⁷ also went with us. We arrived in [] a little past six. [illegible perpendicular writing].

Tuesday, 12. The weather continues cool with frequent rains. Spent a part of the morning traveling about with the gun. Shot a chip squirrel⁸⁸ and shot at a red one. Out hoeing again this afternoon.

Wednesday, 13. Each passing day comes and goes and hardly leaves any trace behind. For today seems as yesterday on account of the same labor which it seems necessary to do.

Thursday, 14. The annual meeting of the first ecclesiastical society was held today. I attended and had the pleasure of listening to the

eloquence of some of its members, while discussing the change of the parsonage.

Friday, 15. Mr. [W], Coz L, J, H and myself left home about 5 o'clock for Litchfield. Had a very pleasant ride. Returned about two this morning. Have enjoyed a fine ride on horseback. Our company consisted of C, E, R, M, [], B, T, E, K and myself.

Saturday, 16. Spent part of the day in the place where rests the dust of many who have gone to rest in their narrow home. Today I have helped to turf anew the graves of my brothers two. Yes, [] have gone and left me alone without a brother⁸⁹.

Sunday, 17. After attending church, L Munson, Mary and I went over to the three o'clock meeting at the Brick⁹⁰. This eve received calls from Miss S Carter and Brother [S] Tompkins. Also C Hine, M Hine. S Brinsmade⁹¹ came over and at his arrival, rose to meet him and said [] S Carter [] quite all night.

Monday, 18. About six this morning Marilla, Achsah and myself left Warren for Litchfield as the morning was pleasant. We had a very fine drive of about two hours when we arrived in Litchfield. Did some shopping. Came back to uncle E. Took dinner and soon after was on the road homeward.

Tuesday, 19. It is now Thursday eve, and so long it is since this space ought to have been filled that I hardly know what ought to be inserted here to refresh the memory, should I chance at some future time to turn and look upon this day⁹².

Wednesday, 20. A lowery morning this, which seemed to say that the contemplated ride of today must be abandoned. But the cloud in part passed away and some, a couple of us have enjoyed a nice ride past the Lake⁹³ into New Preston.

Thursday, 21. Aunt M, O and Uncle B here. Mary's first ride on horseback to tea. After returning from the ride yesterday eve, I remained and spent the eve with Marilla. A most pleasant past time it was too, for pleasure unbound is mine when in her cozy sitting room we may sit and pass a social evening.

Friday, 22. My feelings what are they? Sad, yes. Sad indeed and even now the tears that gather in my eyes well stop my sight. Once again have I been to walk in the graveyard repairing the neglected home of the dead.

Saturday, 23. This morning spent rather at leisure. But the afternoon passed with Marilla at Kent Falls⁹⁴. It was there we sat and together conversed upon the grandeur and greatness of the sublime scene which there stood forth to view.

Sunday, 24. Marilla and I visited at Mr. Tanner's. How pleasant this hallowed last eve. Did not return days when we may go home until moving up to the house of God and there listen to the voice of the human teacher as he directs our minds toward that cross which bore the Savior while in agonies of death.

Monday, 25. Took Mary to school this morning on horseback. Called at [Ao 11] for a moment. Only Mr. Coe at the same. This afternoon there was assembled here numbers to witness the sale of the farm⁹⁵ to [] off about five o'clock. Called at [Ao 11] but found it lacked [] sleep for its inmate the night before.

Tuesday, 26. Hoeing corn today until the sower. After chores, Pierce, Coz L, H Hellbank and Hibbert all went over and bathed in Taylor's dam⁹⁶. A very pleasant time of it.

Wednesday, 27. After spending the fore part of the day cultivating the soil for the corn, I seated myself with Marilla and Achsah in the carriage, drove down to Dr. Peters⁹⁷ to the sewing circle⁹⁸. Spent this eve with Marilla.

Thursday, 28. Quite a variety of weather. Almost a constant change from sunshine to rain and from rain back again to sunshine. Coz Hattie⁹⁹ here this afternoon with Hellen. Also, Coz L at tea. Pierce, Treat and [] called after tea. Pierce and I together most of the time.

Friday, 29. Rose from my couch a little before four and immediately set about preparing to go to New Millford with cheese. The day very warm, which made my ride rather unpleasant.

Saturday, 30. After spending most of the day in the corn field, Aunt Melinda, Uncle E, and myself repaired to Litchfield. I remained there but a short time and then rode home in the evening, although alone yet not alone.

July

Sunday, 1. Once again I have enjoyed the high privilege of a communion. Rode home from church with Cal Carter. S, F and I attended three o'clock meeting at the [Farin's]. T, V and I called at Lea Rouse's this eve.

Monday, 2. Finished hoeing our corn today. Took a bathe this eve and then went home with Marilla from our house and spent the evening. How pleasant to enjoy the society of those most dear to us. Yes, such seasons are sweet but then how quickly do they pass away.

Tuesday, 3. Helped Lr to commence plowing for buckwheat. Then went down and plowed some corn for Comstock's¹⁰⁰. Sit and chatted some time with the ladies in the house. Then Lr, S and I washed the carriage in the [base] brook.

Wednesday, 4. The 79 of our American Independence has passed away. Our picnic at Bantam Lake was fun as the day has proved very favorable. Only a little shower this afternoon, which laid the dust¹⁰¹.

Thursday, 5. Various has been my employment today. A little reading, a little lounging about and this afternoon sowed a little buckwheat and then rode over this evening to cousin Myron's.

Friday, 6. Have been over to Litchfield after a load of goods. Uncle E arrived at home just in season to escape a hard shower. Took Cousin [L...]¹⁰² home and found he had just returned from Ohio. Spent a part of the evening with him and a part with Marilla.

Saturday, 7. It has been raining most of the time since it commenced last evening. The streams are very high and the rain does not yet abate much. Yet I hope for a pleasant Sabbath on the morrow.

Sunday, 8. After attending church during the day, we at three o'clock had a prayer meeting at the schoolhouse and an interesting one.

Walked up to Cousin L with Ralph, where I spent the evening with Marilla and took a short walk which we enjoyed.

Monday, 9^{xiii}. As I send to pen for this day, I think that perhaps six weeks from this time I shall be away. A and I have been up this eve to see M. From this the land of my nativity. A wedding this is to see about [] of the []. This morning I went to Litchfield and brought over Uncle Erastus' family who are now expecting to remain in Warren¹⁰³.

Tuesday, 10. Finished hoeing potatoes this morning and this afternoon have commenced mowing. Spent the evening with Marilla, with one who is a little world of happiness to me.

Wednesday, 11. Took some scrap iron to the blacksmith. Went to New Preston for the doctor to come and see Mary. Plowed some corn and then went up to Lea Rouse's with Marilla to attend a party. A pleasant time we had, but the pleasantest part was on the ride home.

Thursday, 12. Sam stayed with me last night and as we were out rather late last night. We did not rise very early this morning. Mowing again today. Think of going up to see Marilla.

Friday, 13. The weather not very favorable for making hay, for the frequent rains render it necessary to be on the lookout so much that much time is wasted.

Saturday, 14. Finished mowing the orchard in the morning and heaped up the hay this afternoon. We have not got any hay in the barn yet. The orchard looks [] from my windows, all dotted over with heaps of new mown hay. Marilla came to take a ride across the flat rock into Hardscrabble¹⁰⁴ and then returned home from the south.

Sunday, 15. How hallowed is this sacred day, which when such a state of happiness around those who delight in heaven and heavenly things, for its return does indeed call up from things below to look above. Yes, on light to gaze.

^{xiii} This entry has several words that are illegible, and it appears that a couple of lines were inserted, possibly out of order, making it difficult to transcribe.

Monday, 16. Commenced to hoe this morn, but about nine set about securing some of the hay in the barns. At noon, left the meadow and about four o'clock or little before, Marilla and I rode down. Called on Fanny, then started out. Met our little company. We then all sallied forth on horseback and enjoyed a fine ride [illegible perpendicular writing].

Tuesday, 17. One more hard day's work is accomplished, and I must walk up to the [] to spend as I suppose the last eve that Marilla is there with her. How delightful the many hours I have spent with her and hope then many more for me to spend in like manner.

Wednesday, 18. Yesterday afternoon attended the last public exercise that Coz L will likely have in Warren. We met at the church. There was a paper edited and published by the school that was read. Also an address on education by Coz L. The closing piece and [] was written by our pastor for the [] in school [illegible perpendicular writing].

Thursday, 19. Think I have finished my plowing in Warren for the present. Yes, yesterday I took the horse and plow from the corn field. Loc gave three cheers that I was through as I hoped with plowing [].

Friday, 20. I put in the barn yesterday the hay that grew on the barn's meadow. I mowed some in the meadow east today. Finished it and then left off work on account of the weather. Much rain has fallen today. Brought Marilla down here this forenoon. Took her home at [] and spent the [illegible perpendicular and upside down writing].

Saturday, 21. After spending this rainy morning at home, I enjoyed the afternoon in a ride to Washington with Marilla and took tea with her.

Sunday, 22. Have attended church in Washington. Heard two excellent sermons, one from Mr. Lyman¹⁰⁵, the other from his brother []. Called upon Marilla this eve. Sat but a short time and then started home, arriving here quarter past twelve o'clock.

Monday, 23. Rose rather late this morning after breakfast. Bid them goodbye just at one o'clock. Last walked up to town. I found Coe, E, P and T there. Spent a little time there, then went up to [] Ward's for a

call and then went to the Bridge¹⁰⁶ with cousin L, who took [] and P down to start for Ohio.

Tuesday, 24. Uncle E and I have been to Mr. Seeley's and into Milton. Returned home little past noon. Had been to home but a short time before S Carter called upon me. Took tea at Mr. Wakeman, then went to the pond [illegible] a rainy ride.

Wednesday, 25. This morning Lr and I washed the carriage, then [] and I oiled it over. Since dinner, we have been moving. Father and Mother have visited at Mr. Gilbert's¹⁰⁷ this afternoon.

Thursday, 26. Our physical frame each night seems wearied and almost exhausted in laboring to lay up for the beast his winter's store, which is his sustenance while [] is not.

Friday, 27. All the hay that we mowed is now in the barn. We have taken to the barn today four loads. I rode over to the center this eve with R Curtis. Came home with Coz S Hine.

Saturday, 28. Sleep this morning stole gently over me and held me in my couch till well nigh eight o'clock. Walked up to Cousin L in the forenoon. He was not at home. Came back, found E S here. He left soon after dinner. [illegible perpendicular writing].

Sunday, 29. Have attended church. Also, the three o'clock prayer meeting at the Brick. Spent the evening at uncle E Tanner's with some friends. T Taylor and I passed the great part of the eve in converse [] of the rest of the company.

Monday, 30. Lr and I have been mowing the greater part of the day. Uncle E has been cradling¹⁰⁸ the rye. Some rain this evening and the prospect for fair weather is not very flattering. Such a succession of cloudy days with some rains is very concerning.

Tuesday, 31. After breakfast this morning, I repaired to my room, readied myself, and penned a few thoughts for Fanny's album. After dinner took my scythe and strolled out into the meadow to crop the herbage¹⁰⁹ for the beast's [].

August

Wednesday 1. The morning cloudy, but finally the clouds in part disappeared and the sun shone forth, so that we have had a tolerable day for haying. I have had the pleasure of helping and stack some rye.

Thursday, 2. After spending the morning in various little duties, I rode down to Washington this afternoon. This eve, while sitting with Marilla, Mrs. Hine came into the end small steps. In a very little, I rose, closed the door which was open, when she left the room. And then turned to Mrs. Hine to acquaint her with what portends concerning Marilla and myself. Yes, I there made known to her my feelings, and asked if it was satisfactory to her. She said Marilla must act for herself, although she hated much to have her leave home for she was their only.

Friday, 3. (referred to as yesterday in next entry)

Saturday, 4. Yesterday, Marilla and I came to Warren by the way of Litchfield. We had a pleasant ride. Called over to Mr. Gilbert's in the evening. Today we have been haying. Had a shower just at night but we succeeded in getting our hay all in.

Sunday, 5. This day Achsah has taken upon her the solemn vows of matrimony in the presence of a high and holy God as well as before a large congregation at Warren¹¹⁰.

Monday, 6. Early this morn, Marilla and I left home for Washington by the way of Litchfield. We called at the Daguerreans¹¹¹. Marilla sat for a picture several times, but we at last succeeded in getting a very good one. Arrived at Coz S Lord's rather late for dinner.

Tuesday, 7. We all, that is M, S, H and myself took tea at Uncle's. I spent the night with H. We took tea at M tonight. Sam and Achsah, Aunt M and myself left Washington for Warren about three before we reached home. Was anew taken with a shower, a tempestuous one too which pushed the rain into the carriage.

Wednesday, 8. Have been haying in the meadow below the schoolhouse. Cut the north end of the pieces across the brook, also the little meadow north. This eve Lr and I called at Coz B.

Thursday, 9. Cousin Harriet¹¹² left Warren today. It rained in the morning, but it cleared away before noon. Took dinner with the downhillers over to Geo Lymon's¹¹³. Aunt Minerva was there. Took tea at Mr. Ebbins. Spent the night there.

Friday, 10. Achsah, Sam, Treat and myself after breakfast this morning have been to W Kent today at Mr. Tanners. I bid Fanny and Fanny Luttn¹¹⁴ goodbye. Rode up to the benches with Sam. Walked home. Found [P Crane] here, who came last eve. We rode over to Carter's to see Achsah.

Saturday, 11. This has been a beautiful hay day and we have improved it. And now night has closed in upon us and it becomes us to fit ourselves for the full enjoyment of the morrow, the Holy Sabbath.

Sunday, 12. Mr. P Taylor preached to us this morning. In the afternoon Mr. Rouse. This eve meeting at the schoolhouse there was no minister present, so Benj took the chair.

Monday, 13. Mowed a while this morn, then went to raking oats¹¹⁵. Finished them. Afterwards, set about raking and finding some timothy,¹¹⁶ which Uncle E had been cradling since dinner.

Tuesday, 14. Rode down to Mr. Titus's in Washington this morning on horseback. Rode back from New Preston with Mr. Wakeman. This afternoon Uncle B, Aunt O and M, Colonel C and wife, [F...] and Broth have visited at our house. Wrote a letter to M this eve.

Wednesday, 15. Commenced today packing our things for the west. How sad it seems to be removing everything from its wanted place and compress it to the smallest possible magnitude though it may be transferred to another clime¹¹⁷.

Thursday, 16. Packing has been the business of the day. Everything is confusion and disorder for everyone seems in a great hurry and yet they know not what to do next.

Friday, 17. Have been to Cornwall Bridge¹¹⁸ twice today with goods. It now appears as if we were about to leave this place of abode, this home of our childhood.

Saturday, 18. Sam and I have been to the Bridge today with the last of our things to be shipped, which finishes up a good job and one that has been much readied.

Sunday, 19. Attended church as usual today and heard one of our minister's good sermons. Cousin L and I have been to the Brick to the five o'clock meeting. Mr. Beeby was present and made some good remarks.

Monday, 20. Walked down to cousin Homer's¹¹⁹ this morning. Edward¹²⁰ took Mr. and Mrs. Cooly and self to the Bridge. They went south and I to Albany, arriving there half past four, making good time.

Tuesday, 21. Stopped at Stanwix Hall¹²¹ last night. This morning made a contract for the transportation of our things from this city to Chicago¹²². Spent the rest of the day roaming about. Went up to Troy just at night.

Wednesday, 22. [Jerden] came to Albany last night and stopped with me. This morning left at quarter past five for Warren. Walked up from the Bridge home quarter to two. Climbed up the express [Maline¹²³], which runs between Warren and Cornwall Bridge.

Thursday, 23. Have been down to the Center today as well as attended Cousin L's auction. He had a good number present. Things sold as well as might be expected as goes Warren.

Friday, 24. Made some preparation for our auction this morning. Helped wash the carriage this afternoon. After, walked down (or rather rode) down to the center and walked back. Was disappointed in not getting a letter from Marilla this eve.

Saturday, 25. Our auction sale has come off today. Things have sold as well as might be expected¹²⁴. Have taken up Cousin M note so that I have now by me 600 dollars, the most I ever had that belonged to me.

Sunday, 26. Prepared myself this morning for church, but it rained so much that I did not finally go. The eve at cousin [H...]. Spent a very pleasant eve.

Monday, 27. This morning after divesting myself of serious little duties which it seemed not well to put off. [illegible]. Mary and myself left home for Litchfield [...] teeth extracted.

Tuesday, 28. S Tanner¹²⁵ called here last eve . Went with him over to the center. Then over to Ralph¹²⁶ where I slept. I and S found little time for sleep. Came home this morn. Wrote a letter to Uncle Clark¹²⁷ this afternoon (not much to do).

Wednesday, 29. Last night was spent at Cousin Homer's with Edward. Took dinner at Mr. Store, then rode up to H Taylor's with Whittlesey.¹²⁸ We took some ladies there to the sewing circle.

Thursday, 30. Called at F Coleman's on Lib's last eve. Then went and spent the night with G Humphrey. Came down to Washington today to visit Marilla for the last time previous to going west.

Friday, 31. Spent last night at Captain Hine's¹²⁹ home. Been with Marilla all day. We took a short ride on horseback just at eve, which we enjoyed much as it was our last.

September

Saturday, 1. This day has been one of some sadness to me, for I have bid one goodbye who is the dearest friend I have here below. Yet such is life. We meet to part with our dearest friends.

Sunday, 2. Have been to church in the Warren today for the last time for a while. As it was communion, we had a most solemn and I hope profitable day.

Monday, 3. Left the land of my nativity, yes, the home of my birth, this morn about ten o'clock. Had a pleasant trip to Albany, where we spent the night¹³⁰.

Tuesday, 4. Left Albany this morning half past seven hrs. In Syracuse little past one. Changed cars for Oswego¹³¹, arriving there about four. Left in the boat for Toronto half past seven.

Wednesday, 5. Arrived in Toronto about ten this morning. Remained there until half past three, then left for Collingwood¹³², arriving there about nine o'clock. Went on board the boat Queen City¹³³.

Thursday, 6. Have been in Collingwood harbor during the day. Walked out into the town some, which has rather of a wild appearance. The buildings being most of them of an inferior quality, [illegible] hovels in appearance.

Friday, 7. Left Collingwood last eve and have since that time been born of the waters toward our western home. Arrived at Mackinaw¹³⁴ about or little before sunset. Visited the fort as well as the sites of the town.

Saturday, 8. Our course has been onward toward Chicago. We make an occasional stop on the lake at the various ports of [] which border on Lake Michigan. We have made some [] of a stop at Sheboygan.¹³⁵

Sunday, 9. This morning about nine o'clock we came into Chicago. The busy hum of the multitude renders the scene anything but pleasant for the holy sabbath. Attended church here [in the afternoon and eve.

Monday, 10. Mary is quite unwell as well as Achsah¹³⁶. Yet, we thought it better to leave the city than to remain. We left half past nine and arrived in [Dugbok]¹³⁷ near sunset. Took the boat and started up the Mississippi.

Tuesday, 11. We came into Clayton¹³⁸ about four o'clock this morning. Our ladies found a place to rest a little, while we waited patiently till the morning light. We came up to Garnavillo.

Wednesday, 12. This for Tuesday. We came up to Garnavillo from Clayton¹³⁹ this morning. Achsah and Mary went immediately to bed. Seems an introduction to a new home is anything but pleasant, but may we not complain.

Tuesday, 13. A shower last eve has turned into quite a rain. [] was yester instead of today. I have been with Achsah all of the time today save when at my meals.

Friday, 14. Last night sat up with Achsah and Mary, two sick ones as it was ever my lot to be with. Today have been to bed a part of the time. Fenn¹⁴⁰ came into town about noon.

Saturday, 15. Today it has rained. All things appear rather dark and the prospect not flattering. Yet such is life to every as it seems.

Sunday, 16. Instead of attending church as I had purposed to do the first Sabbath in Iowa, my services have been required in the sick room.

Monday, 17. Mud is the principal thing you encounter as you step out the door. It is of the same nature as past, loading on to one's boots in masses.

Tuesday, 18. The sick require all the attention of the well part of our company. O, how painful to see friends suffer from the effects of disease.

Wednesday, 19. Not any change for the better in either of my sisters. I fear that soon we may be called to see their eyes closed in death.

Thursday, 20. Achsah is worse. Mary is the dear that calls unbidden as I think of her suffering. O, would that it might please God to restore her to health.

Friday, 21. Last night Sam has Father thinking that Achsah would soon die. She lingered until near eleven today¹⁴¹. O, that I could be with my friends at such a trying hour.

Saturday, 22. Today we have attended the funeral of Achsah. Father and myself of our family were the only ones that could go to the grave. Our dead sister sleeps now until the resurrection morn.

Sunday, 23. I fear that Mary will soon leave us to join the absent one. God has seen fit today to lay his hand heavily upon us, yet may we not curse at his ways for they are right.

Monday, 24. Have moved Mary to Mr. Atkin's¹⁴². She seems much more comforted, for freed from the noise of the hotel¹⁴³, we hope she may be soon better.

Tuesday, 25. Mary has been better today than for some days before. Hope she is indeed improving. Carter¹⁴⁴ appears strangely. The doctor says he is better than he's been in some respects.

Wednesday, 26. Today the fair at Elkader¹⁴⁵ has caused many of the people to be absent from this place. Not as many, however, as will be away tomorrow.

Thursday, 27. All seem to be leaving for the fair. Little business will be done here today. We moved Carter from the tavern¹⁴⁶ to Mr. Gay's this morning.

Friday, 28. Have been this morning for some Slippery Elm¹⁴⁷. for Mary and Carter. Mr. Atkins accompanied me. We took his fowling piece¹⁴⁸, shot a pigeon. Yesterday they commenced threshing our grain. The first threshing I ever saw done with a machine.

Saturday, 29. Some rain has fallen today. Never did I see so much stormy weather. Mary not as well today. O, must she too be taken from us. Can it be must she go?

Sunday, 30. Mary seems to be failing. My hope which I have kept alive (as to her recovery) is nearly gone. I fear before another Sabbath her spirit will have left us.

October^{xiv}

Monday, 1. Edward J Angel¹⁴⁹ Binghamton []

^{xiv} In October, Henry stops writing daily, with several pages having references to names or business transactions for which there is no context. I have not been able to determine the cause of this. One of my suppositions is that the heartache of losing his sisters may have caused it to be too painful to write, and he therefore focused on other things. As stated in the Endnotes, his little sister Mary died on October 3, yet there is no mention of this. On October 23, his short entry simply states that he has headed back to Connecticut. On October 31, he does reference having "passed through great affliction."

Tuesday, 2. Bal Due \$156.00

Wednesday, 3¹⁵⁰. E C Byam Mt Vernon Leinn Co Iowa¹⁵¹

Oct 4-9. No entries (this being the week after his sister Mary's death).

Wednesday, 10. Father, Fenn, myself and our driver have been to Elkader. We bought 1 yoke of oxen¹⁵² for \$100. Drove them home. Took dinner with Carter.

Thursday, 11^{xv}. This [m...] over with Samuel Achsah affairs. After dinner came to Clayton. Bought 2 cows and 1 calf and her [illegible].

Tuesday, 23. Left here for Connecticut.

Wednesday, 31. I have again met my dearest friend below after an absence of a few weeks during which time I have passed through great affliction.

November

1-10. No entries.

Sunday, 11. Attended church in Washington today and spent the evening with Marilla. Had a pleasant visit. When may I enjoy another such? May I ever again? God only knows.

Friday, 16. This eve returned to Iowa. Came up the river on the Albany¹⁵³.

Saturday, 17. Reach home today. Yes, once again I can sit down in this cabin, sober with a sad heart. I meditate on our loss. Tears alone can give relief.

Nov 18-30. No entries.

December

Dec 1-22. No entries.

^{xv} Not only does Henry write less frequently at this point, but his handwriting has degraded, making it very difficult to read the entries in this period.

Sunday, 23. Have been to meeting. Heard a boy preach and on returning froze my ear. This is rather [] after such [].

Monday, 31¹⁵⁴. January 6th paid to R Swift and Whittlesey \$2.73. Jan 9th bought of G V H Baldwin one bunch of envelopes stamps 80 cents. Jan 10th. Bought of GVW Baldwin ¼ quire¹⁵⁵ of paper 6 cents.

End of dated diary pages

Memorandum pages

February 2. My plans for this day have all been realized notwithstanding at times there appeared to be many a formidable bearer which seemed to say your expectations will be thwarted. But there was a voice within soothing in the highest degree bidding me onward in my course toward that goal of priceless worth on which all my earthly bliss was centered. That goal I reached in the early part of the evening where reception was cordial, and where I spent the evening in the full enjoyment of social intercourse, feasting the soul with a free interchange of thoughts and feeling, which issued forth from the heart's pure devotion, giving life to those cords of affection which grow strong in proportion to their development and mutual actions. Ah, what is life without the enjoyment given to us by our Heavenly Father, whose we are by creation and preservation. May we ever realize that he has given to us such enjoy out of his bounty and that we must ever remain indebted to him for thus ordering things, which he that knoweth not God cannot partake of.

Saturday, March 17. As I sit in my own quiet home this eve (having just returned after an absence of about 3 months), my thoughts revert to scenes that have passed under my observation during this brief period. And with particular interest do I meditate on that which is most intimately connected with my school, or the last day of it. We gathered together on our last morning of our union, and after reading as usual for the last time, we sent up our petitions to him who heareth and answereth prayer. Who knoweth the feelings that permeate the bosom save the ones that have realized such a peculiar moment? But soon the morning had passed us by a short interval and we met again to bid farewell and go out to mingle more entirely with the world and

its distractions. I bid all lay aside their books and give to me a moment's attention. I arose from my seat when one of the number came forward and surprised me with a beautiful present, which in behalf of the school he gave to me. My feelings I cannot depict. I told them that they had made such a manifestation of their respect and affection for me that their memories would ever remain dear to me, and that I hoped and trusted that we might walk together in uprightness as pilgrims here and at last walk together above in heavenly places of rest.

March 24. We are again reminded of the near approach of another holy day. And as I look back upon this departed moment of time I find written by memory many pleasant recollections. For in this short space of time many a social moment have I passed with her that gives expression to all my earthly hopes and helps to make more bright the sunlight of a blessed immortality which awaits the departure of the soul from the body to reunite it with things that are undying. And like the spirit which gives a time to man's being, so do the very good things of earth when properly used make man to come forth in God-like beauty.

Wednesday, April 11. I thought to while away a portion of the afternoon in recounting the pleasures of yesterday. Yes, those happy hours I spent with her who makes so full my cup of happiness. After my morning's drive to Washington through the mud, which is scored ever deeper than at present, I was most cordially welcomed by Marilla and her father and mother. Stayed there but a short time, but was afflicted with a headache, which threatened me same as in bygone days. In short, I thought it expedient to try the open air for relief, the only remedy which I thought would be expedient. I told Marilla if she was ready we would soon turn towards Warren.

It is now Thursday eve and I again resume the writing of these few thoughts which rise up for utterance, making joyous the spell of meditation which I may hope to spend relative to my ride on Tuesday. Who but those that have tasted realize at all the joys that emanate from social converse with one congenial spirit, one who gives existence of thought common with your own and seeks to make the

hours that are given to us for our care uninterrupted intercourse past times of untold happiness, such as God alone can give. And may we ever live mindful of him as the author of all and give to him our supreme love and leaving in his hands our all, both for time and eternity.

For the evening of April 22. This little spell of time which I have been allowed to spend with her who contributes so much toward my negating the sorrow of this life as well as makes so pure and bright each moment which we do spend together is I trust but a foretaste of what we may enjoy in future should we so wish before our Heavenly Father, as not to call down upon us his wrath, but to summon his mercy and providence ever ready to overshadow those who are watchful of their way and seek to do his will whether man applauds us or sneers at our course of proceeding.

For the evening of April 29. As the shades of this holy day begin to gather around and night's sable curtains were being spread over the earth, I turned my course toward the places where I anticipated meeting one whose person ever fills my heart with expression of unutterable gratitude to him who has given me such a friend in whom I can place such implicit confidence and whose voice falls on my ears in times more pleasing and pleasant than those which it has ever been able to polish or practice perfect. Such seasons are I hope and trust but a foretaste of what I may yet enjoy with her who of all earth's blessings is the greatest and the best. May he who is above help me to acknowledge his manyfold blessings, and so to live as never to need his chastening rod to make [illegible] and thank him for his goodness.

May 6. The evening of this holy day been rich in its endowments of happiness, me unworthy as I am. For to receive such seasons of gladdening to us who are of the "earth, earthy"¹⁵⁶ are stressed enough to lead us to know whence come these things..

May 9. Have attended the funeral of Aunt Lucina Curtis¹⁵⁷ today. Cousin L rode over with me and as they had not been successful in securing the services of a minister (as ours is absent), he was called upon to make a few remarks and lead in prayer, which he did in a

manner highly creditable to himself and well pleasing to the friends of the deceased as well as others who were there. "Be ye also ready, for unto such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." These words above are literally true in the case just mentioned, for in a few short hours the departed was prostrated with disease and called into the immediate presence of him who gives life and at his pleasure taketh it again, thus making manifest his power in showing his great strength. And may we not be admonished by this sudden dispensation and endeavor to profit by its teaching and so live that when our summons comes, we may be found with our work done and well done is readiness for the spirit land [].

May 15. Our hopes alas are too often blighted and our future prospects nipped in the bud while they seem just ready to bloom, yet such is life. Only a spell of disappointment and the cup which we drink of is at times filled with sad draughts, but ere we are aware of it, sweetness is turned into bitterness.

May 20. This evening, oh, pleasantly has it glided off into the past, becoming a spell well pleasing to memory as past times spent with one who is of all things here below the greatest and the best. And with all the designs of the [] were a total failure for their troop of musical instruments were not called to service, but left all in quell to be carefully cared for at an early hour [illegible] string.

June 1 and 4th. When we find our cup of earthly happiness, yielding to richest and most pleasant draughts, it is then we forget for a time that these seasons are soon gone. Yet when we find ourselves with one for whose chances nought can make amends, it is then our time forgetting darkness and despair and live in [] our trust in God and fear not.

Wickes S Co. to 38.5 South Broad¹⁵⁸

L C Cone¹⁵⁹

O C Buck

John Bally

End of Diary

Endnotes

¹ Coz was a short, familiar form of cousin in the 1800s.

² Likely Benjamin Sackett Bingham (1832-1917), son of Charles Bingham and Joanna Sackett, living in Ohio.

³ Cousin L has not been positively identified at this point. One possibility, Henry's cousin Lysander Sackett (1820-1893), son of Moses and Cordelia, was living out west in 1855.

⁴ Reverend Montgomery R Wakeman - minister of Warren Congregational Church 1854-1856. See the book *Congregation Church, Warren, Connecticut 1756-1956* (<https://warrenthistoricalsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Church-History.compressed.pdf>) This history of the local church has several mentions of the Sacketts in its pages.

⁵ Scripture reference text: 28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. 29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. 30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

⁶ Treat is referenced many times in this diary. He does not appear to be a relative, and he has not yet been uniquely identified.

⁷ Possibly Samuel Tanner, son of Ebenezer Tanner.

⁸ Scripture reference text: 21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

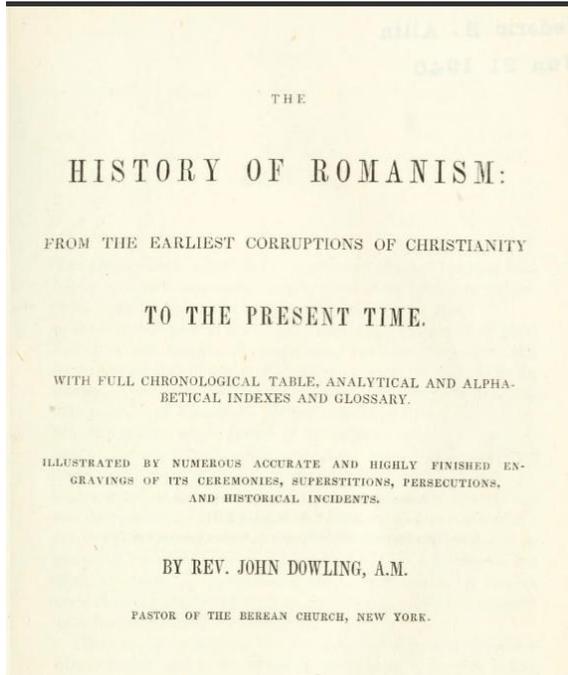
⁹ Scripture reference text: 7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

¹⁰ Most likely this is Fenn Woodcock, a student in the area who is also mentioned in Rebecca Marilla Hine's 1854 diary (Henry's future wife, who went by Marilla). Source - Ancestry.com. *Connecticut, U.S., Church Record Abstracts, 1630-1920*.

| | | |
|--|---|-------|
| WOODCOCK, Anna E & Sarah E., adm.ch.Mar.5,1854, on profession; dism. Jan.31,1857 to Williamstown, Mass. | 5 | 94-5 |
| Fenn adm.ch.Mar.5,1854, on profession; dis. Jan.28,1868, to Harrison, Minn. | 5 | 92-3 |
| Fenn adm.ch.Mar.5,1854; dism. Jan.28,1868 to Harrison, Minnesota; also Frances E. Woodcock | 5 | 100-1 |

¹¹ Mistained is possibly a 19th century archaic usage of the word mistain--to stain, soil, or taint improperly

¹² Possibly *The History of Romanism*, published in 1845 by Reverend John Dowling. It is a protestant perspective of the Catholic church, discussing corruptions of Christianity.



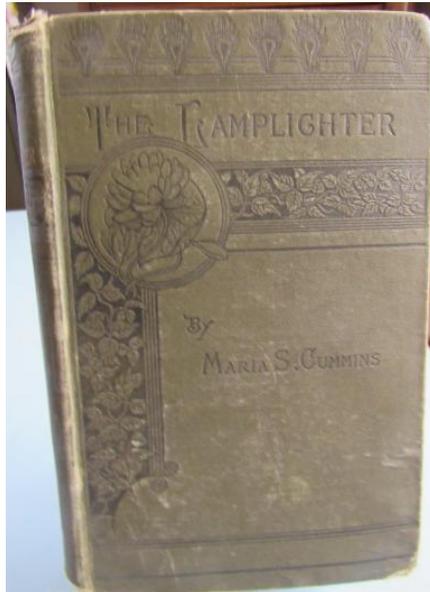
¹³ Scripture reference text: 1 A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.

¹⁴ Scripture reference text: 6 Righteousness keepeth him that is upright in the way: but wickedness overthroweth the sinner.

¹⁵ Milton is a historic nineteenth century village located in the northwestern part of the town of Litchfield, Connecticut.

¹⁶ Possible cousins could be Benjamin Hine (1814-1873) son of David Hine and Achsah Sackett, who lived in Ohio, or Benjamin (1832-1917) or Betsey Bingham (1825-1898), children of Charles Bingham and Joanna Sackett, who also lived in Ohio.

¹⁷ *The Lamplighter* is a novel written by Maria Susanna Cummins and published in March 1854. *The Lamplighter* tells the story of Gertrude Flint, an abandoned and mistreated orphan rescued at the age of eight by Trueman Flint, a lamplighter, from her abusive guardian, Nan Grant. Gertrude is lovingly raised and taught virtues and religious faith. She becomes a moralistic woman. In adulthood, she is rewarded for her long suffering with marriage to a childhood friend.



¹⁸ Possibly Daniel Eliot Brinsmade, who married Orpha Sackett, a sister of Henry's dad. He lived in Washington, Connecticut.

¹⁹ Most likely refers to Simeon Dwight Ford (1822-1911), son-in-law of Moses Sackett and Cordelia Fox, who married Henry's first cousin Malinda Sackett (1827-1881).

²⁰ Possibly Charles Theodore Sackett, son of Moses Sackett and Cordelia Fox. The two cousins are brothers, so this would make sense they would be at the same place. But Charles was living in Ohio and Iowa areas by 1850 per census records (maybe he was visiting).

²¹ Scripture reference text: 37 Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way.

²² Possibly Ebenezer Tanner (1791-1862), a farmer in Warren, and Henry's second cousin once-removed. He had a son Samuel Eldred Tanner (1834-1903), who would be Henry's third cousin.

²³ Either Samuel Tanner, his third cousin, or his future brother-in-law Samuel W Carter (1828-1911), who marries his sister Achsah on August 5 of this year.

²⁴ Benjamin L Swan, who was the pastor of the Congregational Church in Litchfield for 10 years by 1856, per a Jun 5, 1856 article in the Litchfield Enquirer (newspapers.com). He graduated from Yale Divinity School in 1844. Source: Ancestry.com. *U.S., School Catalogs, 1765-1935*.

| INDEX. | | | 1856. |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 142 | | | |
| 1817 Roswell | 1802 Nathan <i>h</i> | Swan | Talmadge |
| 1832 <i>Collins</i> | 1803 Georgius W. | 1802 <i>Roswell R.</i> | 1795 <i>Matthias B.</i> |
| " <i>Rollin S.</i> | 1806 <i>Henricus</i> | 1815 <i>Aegidius H.</i> | 1818 <i>Johannes S.</i> |
| 1837 <i>Andreas L.</i> | " <i>Johannes</i> | 1844 <i>Benjamin L. h</i> | Talmage |

²⁵ Scripture reference text: 10 And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this?

²⁶ Scripture reference text: 3 For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.

²⁷ Possibly Charles Theodore Sackett again. He lived out west, but he could have been visiting.

²⁸ Valentine's day became popular in the late 1840s, thanks in part to Esther Howland (1828-1904), an artist and entrepreneur based in Worcester, Massachusetts, who began mass-producing Valentine's Day greeting cards starting just a few years earlier.

²⁹ Not able to identify this individual, who is frequently mentioned in Henry's diary in 1855. It could be his future brother-in-law Samuel Carter, who would marry his sister Achsah in September.

³⁰ Scripture reference text: 9 Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought?

³¹ Scripture reference text: 2 Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty: he shall break down their altars, he shall spoil their images.

³² Intervals were the equivalent of recess. They were also called nooning when it was the lunch interval.

³³ Both E Pierce and Treat (mentioned in the same diary entry) are mentioned frequently, and seemed to be both friends and farm workers with Henry. However, I have not been able to establish their full names or anything further about them.

³⁴ Horace Greeley (1811-1872) was a prominent American newspaper editor, publisher, and politician during the 19th century, known for his significant influence on public opinion and his advocacy for social reforms. Often referred to as "Honorable Horace Greeley" due to his public standing and brief service in the U.S. House of Representatives, he was a pivotal figure in the years leading up to and during the Civil War. The picture below is from the National Portrait Gallery, London.



³⁵ Samuel W Carter (1828-1911), admitted to Warren Church of Christ on March 5, 1854, later moving to Oregon in 1859. He married Henry's sister Achsah on August 5.

³⁶ Scripture reference text: 6 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise.

³⁷ Scripture reference text: 10 Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

³⁸ Rebecca "Marilla" Hine (1934-1880), Henry's future wife. Her transcribed 1854 diary is available on FamilySearch, and hard copy versions are available on lulu.com or amazon.com.

³⁹ In the 1800s, repaired also had the meaning "to go to" or "betook oneself to" a place (archaic).

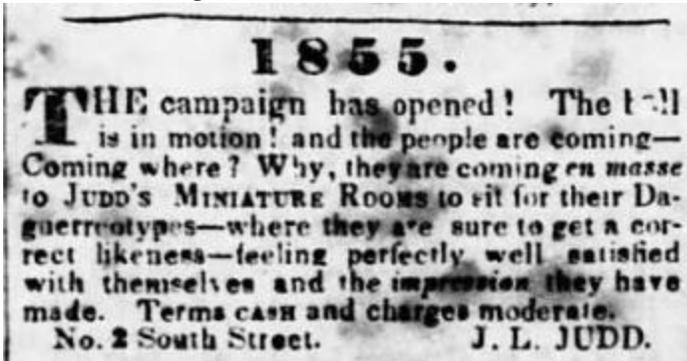
⁴⁰ Most likely Simeon Dwight Ford (1822-1911), who married Malinda Tanner Sackett (Henry's 1st cousin through Moses Sackett and Cordelia Fox) in 1849.

⁴¹ Possibly Mary Polly Bradley (1787-1867), wife of Justus Sackett (1784-1846)

⁴² Scripture reference text: 2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

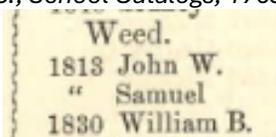
⁴³ In Rebecca Marilla Hine's 1854 transcribed diary, she recounts this meeting, which took place on March 5, 1854. At this meeting, thirty-three individuals (including herself) became members of the Congregational Church in Warren.

⁴⁴ Possibly a Daguerreotype photography place such as the one in Litchfield advertised below. Source: newspapers.com, Litchfield Enquirer, Thursday, March 1, 1855 edition, Page 3



⁴⁵ Scripture reference text: 7 But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.

⁴⁶ Most likely William B Weed (1811-1860), who graduated from Yale in 1830. Source: Ancestry.com. *U.S., School Catalogs, 1765-1935*.



⁴⁷ Fanny is referred to often in Marilla's 1854 journal.

⁴⁸ Likely meant haystacks.

⁴⁹ Scripture reference text: 6 For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

⁵⁰ Scripture reference text: 42 Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, The Son of David.

⁵¹ This was likely a wedding reception for Frederick Coleman, who married Jane Ann Dutcher March 20 in Dover, New York. Source: newspapers.com, Litchfield Enquirer, March 29, 1855 edition, page 3.



⁵² A small hamlet area of Cornwall, CT, about 16 miles north of Washington. There was a bridge crossing the Housatonic River in this area.

⁵³ Scripture reference text: 12 Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.

⁵⁴ Scripture reference text: 15 My times are in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.

⁵⁵ Scripture reference text: 15 As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

⁵⁶ Elijah Hayes, as reflected in Litchfield Enquirer, April 5, 1855 edition, page 2.

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>THE ELECTION.</p> <p>The returns from every part of the State heard from indicate that the United Whig and American parties have achieved a complete and glorious victory. There is no choice of State Officers by the people, but both branches of the Legislature will have a large majority of members of the new party. Minor and Ingham run nearly even, while Dutton falls considerably behind. Our candidates for Congress are all elected by good pluralities. Of the Senators in this county, Belden, elected in the Fifteenth District, was the candidate of the Whig and Know Nothing parties, Bercher, in the 16th, of the Democratic, and Wheaton in the 17th, of the Know Nothing. Our returns are not sufficiently complete to enable us to give the vote for Governor by towns. The Representatives elected in this County, are:</p> | <p>Litchfield—P. S. Beebe, Sam'l Brooker, Jr. Goshen—Erastus Merwin, C. P. Wheeler. Cornwall—Earl Johnson, — Barnes. New Milford—Royal I. Canfield, † Sherman Peck. † Watertown—Wm B. Hotchkiss. Barkhamsted—Geo. Kellogg, Ed. Young. Plymouth—Lewis F. Grant. Woodbury—Lewis Judd. † another dem. Winchester—J D Bidwell, S A Hubbard. Warren—Elijah Hayes. Kent—Bethuel Millsbaugh. Torrington—Nelson Roberts, C A Winship Washington—Guy C Ford, Joel Morehouse. Bethlem—Wm. Hayes † Sharon—Norman E Wheeler, Horace Dunbar. Norfolk—Jeremiah Johnson, Levi P Gaylord. Salisbury—Charles E. Botsford, Henry M. Knight. Canaan—Jesse F. Millsbaugh, — Lawrence. Harwinton—Augustus S. Johnson, Alphonzo Candee.</p> |
|--|---|

⁵⁷ Lime Rock was a thriving industrial village about 22 miles north of Warren, and was the headquarters of the Barnum and Richardson Company, a major manufacturer in the iron industry, particularly of railroad car wheels.

⁵⁸ In Connecticut during the 1800s, the Friday before Easter (Good Friday) was generally an established fast day, often officially proclaimed by the state governor as a day of "Fasting and Prayer". This was part of a long-standing New England tradition that predated the 19th century. See the following notice, published in the Hartford Courant on page 2 of the Tuesday, March 27, 1855 edition, wherein Henry Dutton (1796-1869), 38th governor of Connecticut, proclaimed April 6 a fast day.

Fast Day.
Gov. Dutton has appointed Friday, the sixth of April, as the day for the annual State Fast.

⁵⁹ This is the Warren general store owned by the Swift family. A history of the store is recounted by Orlando B. Swift in 1968, who was a descendant. The store originated around 1782 by Benjamin and John Talmadge, with it passing to a son-in-law of the family, Orlando Swift. See <https://warrencthistoricalsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Oral-History-Transcript-OB-Swift-General-Store.pdf>

⁶⁰ This was Easter Sunday in 1855.

⁶¹ Scripture reference text: 7 They shall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodness, and shall sing of thy righteousness.

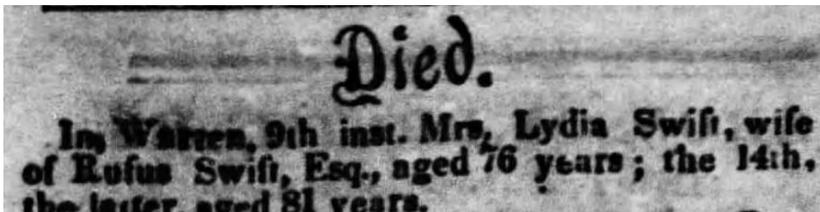
⁶² Most likely Erastus Curtiss (1789-1859), son of Augustine Curtis (1761-1832) and Lodema Sackett (1767-1844). Lodema was the sister of Henry's grandfather, Benjamin Sackett, making her Henry's great aunt.

⁶³ Most likely Daniel Elliot Brinsmade (1792-1863) and his wife Orpha Sackett (1801-1885).

⁶⁴ Possibly Hiram Gross Kilbourn (1814-1887). Although his first wife Harriet Moulthrop (1818-1850), who was Henry's aunt, the sister of his mother, had died, he married Adelia Barnes in 1851.

⁶⁵ Possibly Myron Hine (1808-1872) and Charles Hine (1820-1895), sons of David Hine and Achsah Sackett who lived in the area.

⁶⁶ Litchfield Enquirer April 19, 1855. Lydia Swift, wife of Rufus Smith, Esq, aged 76 years died April 9 in Warren, Ct. He then died on April 14 at age 81.



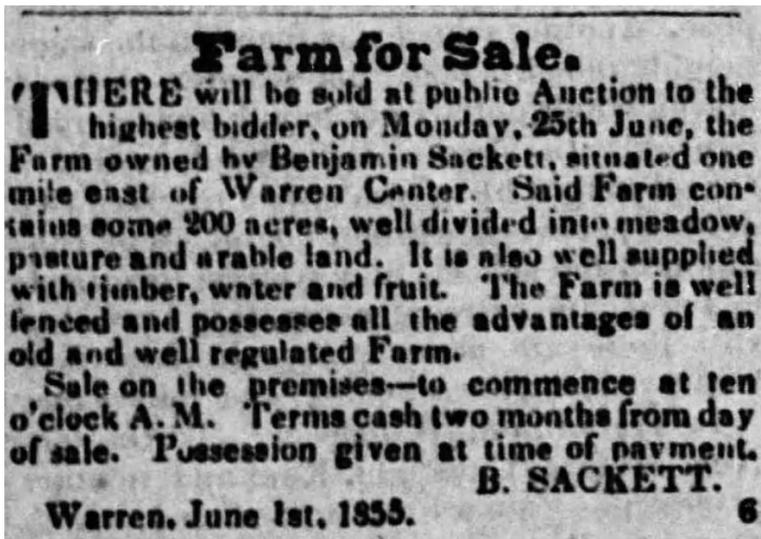
⁶⁷ There is a F Chittenden in the lower village of Woodville (part of Washington) on the Warren map. F Chittenden is also noted as a lawyer in US tax assessment lists in the early 1860s.

⁶⁸ Likely Samuel H Weston, a farmer in the Washington area (100-acre farm in 1850 per US Federal Census records). An S H Weston is located on the Warren map near the Chittenden residence in the same Woodville area.

⁶⁹ Possibly Henry's uncle Erastus P Moulthrop (1815-1899). His wife Mary E Westmore (1817-1892) could be Aunt M referred to the same day.

⁷⁰ Scripture reference text: 10 The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

⁷¹ Henry's father Benjamin Sackett's 200-acre farm is listed for sale in the June 7, 14, and 21 editions of the Litchfield Enquirer. See listing below, which also established the location being east of Warren Center.



⁷² Herman Hine (1782-1865) and Rebecca Pond (1800-1887), parents of Rebecca Marilla Hine, Henry's future wife. They lived in Washington.

⁷³ Scripture reference text: 39 And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.

⁷⁴ Scripture reference text: 7 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

⁷⁵ Have not been able to identify this individual, who is referenced multiple times in the diary. The first names Loctor or Doctor (capital L and capital D are hard to distinguish in his writing) are highly unusual, so it is likely a surname—Henry refers to some people by their surname in the diary.

⁷⁶ There is a G Taylor on the 1859 Warren map, just north of a stream running into Lake Waramaug. This is possibly where Taylor's dam was located, which is mentioned June 26.

⁷⁷ Most likely Henry's younger sister Mary (1841-1855).

⁷⁸ Melinda Moulthrop (1809-1881), sister of Henry's mother Thalia.

⁷⁹ Scripture reference text: 13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

⁸⁰ Scripture reference text: 5 Hold up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not. 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. 9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

⁸¹ Scripture reference text: 1 His foundation *is* in the holy mountains.
2 The Lord loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.
3 Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Selah. 4 I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me: behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this *man* was born there. 5 And of Zion it shall be said, This and that man was born in her: and the highest himself shall establish her. 6 The Lord shall count, when he writeth up the people, *that* this *man* was born there. Selah.
7 As well the singers as the players on instruments *shall be there*: all my springs *are* in thee.

⁸² Scripture reference text: 44 Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

⁸³ Possibly Elijah Phelps Lyman (1808-1896), son of Charles Bingham and Joanna Sackett (Henry's aunt)

⁸⁴ Refers to the use of a chain to measure or establish property boundaries. It was likely a Gunter's Chain, which measured 66 feet, with 100 links. These were used for measuring property boundaries, requiring two chainmen and often paired with a compass for accuracy. Sample picture of a Gunter's chain below.



⁸⁵ Wolcottville was how the downtown section of Torrington of referred to until 1881.

⁸⁶ Likely some sort of financial document, such as "Cash, Commission & Charges" or "Cash credit".

⁸⁷ Likely his cousin Myron Sackett Hine (1808-1872), son of Myron Sackett and Orpha Dean.

⁸⁸ 1800s term for a chipmunk.

⁸⁹ Henry's brothers William Clark and Frederick Clark Sackett both died at young ages--William at age 3 on August 30, 1833 (born December 15, 1829) and Frederick at age 2 on Jan 2, 1841 (born April 20, 1838). They are buried in Old Warren Center Cemetery.



⁹⁰ The Brick Schoolhouse operated in Warren until 1924, and now serves as a local landmark maintained by the Warren Historical Society. The photo of the schoolhouse below is courtesy of Warren Historical Society. On the 1859 map, it is designated S.H., in north Warren (near the property of H W Carter).



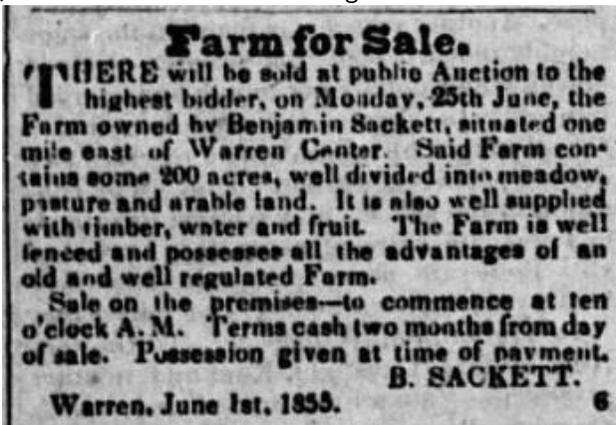
⁹¹ Likely Sherman Brinsmade (1821-1893), son of Henry's Uncle Daniel Brinsmade through a previous wife. Of note, Marilla would later marry Sherman's younger brother Frederick Augustus Brinsmade (1824-1907) five years after Henry's death.

⁹² This helps us understand that Henry didn't always write on a daily basis, but might write for several days at once. He references in other entries that he made an error on which day an entry was for, such as April 28 and August 12.

⁹³ Lake Waramaug, which is located in the southwest corner of Warren (shown on 1859 Warren map). The lake has about 7 miles of shoreline. It was not yet used for recreational purposes in 1855, but used for agricultural support (including ice harvesting, support for mills and water access for livestock) and fishing.

⁹⁴ Kent Falls is the tallest waterfall in Connecticut, dropping in a series of cascades about 250 feet. Located in Kent, which is about 8 miles west of Warren.

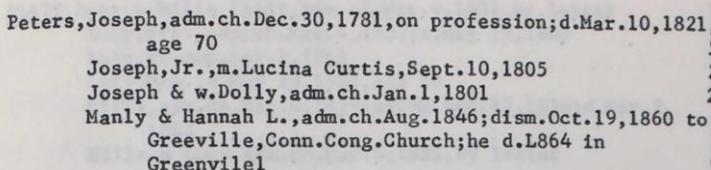
⁹⁵ As noted in the Sackett farm auction notice in the Litchfield Enquirer (snippet below), the auction was scheduled to take place on June 25. So this entry must be a reference to the auction occurring on that date. Some of Henry's writing is illegible, so it is difficult to get the full context of what "Ao 11" means, and some of the other wording.



Farm for Sale.
THERE will be sold at public Auction to the highest bidder, on Monday, 25th June, the Farm owned by Benjamin Sackett, situated one mile east of Warren Center. Said Farm contains some 300 acres, well divided into meadow, pasture and arable land. It is also well supplied with timber, water and fruit. The Farm is well fenced and possesses all the advantages of an old and well regulated Farm.
Sale on the premises—to commence at ten o'clock A. M. Terms cash two months from day of sale. Possession given at time of payment.
B. SACKETT.
Warren, June 1st, 1855. 6

⁹⁶ No Taylor's dam has been identified.. However, there was a G Taylor, mentioned on April 24, who had a property just north of Lake Waramaug, which would have been close to Waramaug brook, which feeds the lake from the north. Possibly they had a dam in that brook.

⁹⁷ Doctor Manly Peters (1798-1863), an established physician in the Litchfield area. He and his wife were members of the Warren Congregational Church at the time. Source: Ancestry.com. *Connecticut, U.S., Church Record Abstracts, 1630-1920.*



Peters, Joseph, adm. ch. Dec. 30, 1781, on profession; d. Mar. 10, 1821 age 70
Joseph, Jr., m. Lucina Curtis, Sept. 10, 1805
Joseph & w. Dolly, adm. ch. Jan. 1, 1801
Manly & Hannah L., adm. ch. Aug. 1846; dism. Oct. 19, 1860 to Greenville, Conn. Cong. Church; he d. 1864 in Greenville

⁹⁸ At this time period, sewing circles were vital community hubs for women, blending social connection with charitable work and even activism, especially for the growing abolitionist movement, where they sewed goods for the needy or to raise funds, shared news, built solidarity, and discussed societal issues like slavery and inequality

⁹⁹ Most likely Henrietta Sackett (1816-1874), daughter of Moses and Cordelia, along with her sister Helen Sophronia Sackett (1840-1890)

¹⁰⁰ Possibly James H Comstock, who bought the Sackett farm in 1858 from Erastus P Moulthrop (Henry's uncle who bought the farm in August 1855).

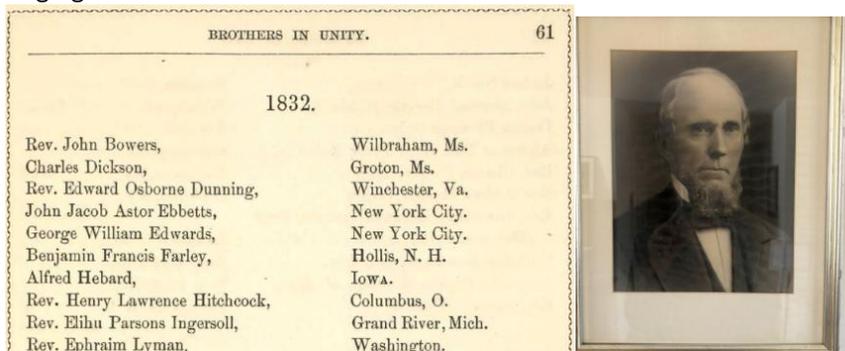
¹⁰¹ 1800s saying for rain showers that settled the dust of the streets and roads. Henry spelled it "laied" in the diary.

¹⁰² Henry's uncle Moses Sackett lived in Ohio, so may be his son Lysander (1820-1893), with a different spelling of the name.

¹⁰³ Likely Henry's uncle Erastus Moulthrop. He ends up buying the farm, and he remains in Litchfield until his death in 1899. It appears the family had considered moving out west.

¹⁰⁴ Hardscrabble is likely a historical name for a tough, rocky region in the Warren area. There is a Hardscrabble Road now in Warren, which intersects going south and then east from Melius Road, which is the road on which the Sackett's farm was located in 1855.

¹⁰⁵ Ephraim Lyman was the paster in Washington from 1852-1863. He graduated from Yale in 1832 (source Ancestry.com. *U.S., School Catalogs, 1765-1935*). His picture below currently hangs in the Washington Congregational Church.



¹⁰⁶ Cornwall Bridge, as noted in earlier entries.

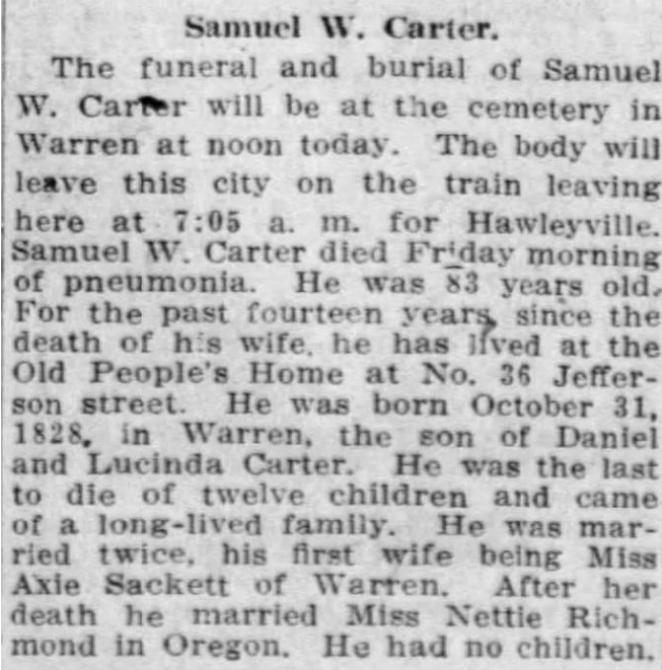
¹⁰⁷ There is a B Gilbert shown near the Congregational Church in downtown Warren on the 1859 map. He had a store, which was used by the local tax collector in the mid-1850s as a tax collection location in September each year (per Litchfield Enquirer notices in 1853 and 1854), but have not been able to definitively identify who B Gilbert was.

¹⁰⁸ In this time period, "cradling rye" meant harvesting grain, specifically rye, using a special tool called a grain cradle, which allowed farmers to cut stalks

cleanly and lay them in neat rows for efficient gathering. This was a faster method than using sickles.

¹⁰⁹ Crop the herbage is a term related to the grazing of animals on herbaceous plants.

¹¹⁰ Achsah's marriage to Samuel W Carter. Samuel's obituary below is from the December 25, 1911 edition of the Hartford Courant, relating his marriage to Achsah and another marriage later following her death.

A black and white photograph of a newspaper obituary for Samuel W. Carter. The text is centered and reads: "Samuel W. Carter. The funeral and burial of Samuel W. Carter will be at the cemetery in Warren at noon today. The body will leave this city on the train leaving here at 7:05 a. m. for Hawleyville. Samuel W. Carter died Friday morning of pneumonia. He was 83 years old. For the past fourteen years, since the death of his wife, he has lived at the Old People's Home at No. 36 Jefferson street. He was born October 31, 1828, in Warren, the son of Daniel and Lucinda Carter. He was the last to die of twelve children and came of a long-lived family. He was married twice, his first wife being Miss Axie Sackett of Warren. After her death he married Miss Nettie Richmond in Oregon. He had no children." The text is in a serif font, typical of early 20th-century newspapers.

Samuel W. Carter.
The funeral and burial of Samuel W. Carter will be at the cemetery in Warren at noon today. The body will leave this city on the train leaving here at 7:05 a. m. for Hawleyville. Samuel W. Carter died Friday morning of pneumonia. He was 83 years old. For the past fourteen years, since the death of his wife, he has lived at the Old People's Home at No. 36 Jefferson street. He was born October 31, 1828, in Warren, the son of Daniel and Lucinda Carter. He was the last to die of twelve children and came of a long-lived family. He was married twice, his first wife being Miss Axie Sackett of Warren. After her death he married Miss Nettie Richmond in Oregon. He had no children.

¹¹¹ Daguerreans at this time were pioneers of the first practical photographic process, the daguerreotype, invented by Louis Daguerre in 1839. the process created mirror-like images on silver-plated copper plates, popularizing portraiture with long exposures that gradually shortened, making photography accessible, before the arrival of other methods like wet-plate collodion and dry plates later in the nineteenth century.

¹¹² Possibly Harriet Amelia Bridges (1828-1874), wife of David Hine (1822-1872), Henry's first cousin, son of David Hine and Achsah Sackett.

¹¹³ George S Lyman (1818-1905), a farmer in Warren , married to Mary Joanna Sackett (1819-1894), who was Henry's first cousin, the daughter of Justus Sackett and Mary Polly Bradley. Henry's aunt Minerva, also mentioned being at the home, is Mary Joanna's aunt as well. They are referred to as "downhillers" given they lived just north of the town center (you can pick out the Lyman residence on the Warren map) which is at lower elevations than most of the surrounding area.

¹¹⁴ Fanny Luttington, who is referenced with her last name fully spelled out in Henry's January 6 entry.

¹¹⁵ "Raking oats" refers to the agricultural task of gathering cut oat stalks into piles or rows to dry.

¹¹⁶ Timothy grass (*Phleum pratense*) was a common grass grown on farms throughout the 19th century in the Northern colonies and states, including Connecticut.

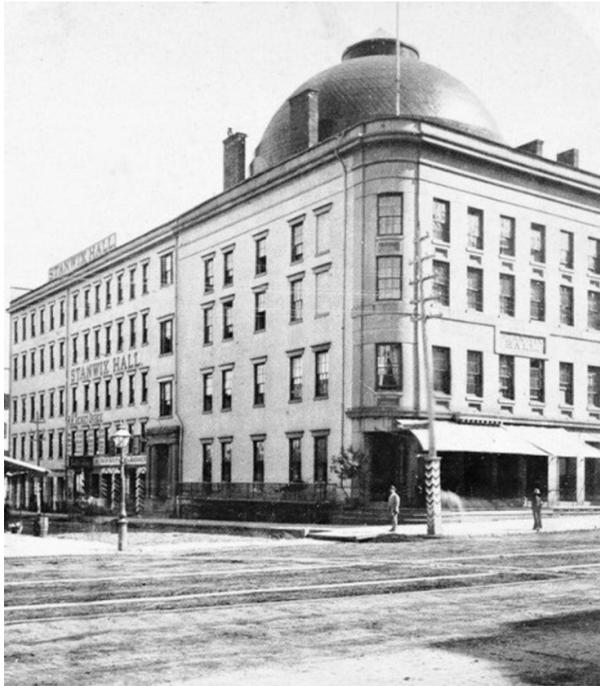
¹¹⁷ Clime refers to a region or territory, with particular reference to its climate.

¹¹⁸ Cornwall Bridge was a travel hub with inns in 1855. There were bridges crossing the Housatonic River, including one built in 1841 to replace a bridge destroyed by a flood in 1837. There were stagecoach stops there, and the Housatonic railroad may have had a stop in Cornwall.

¹¹⁹ Henry's second cousin Homer Skiff Sackett (1836-1899), son of Homer Sackett and Flora Skiff, and brother of Edward mentioned in same entry.

¹²⁰ Henry's second cousin Edward Sackett (1836-1861), also a son of Homer Sackett and Flora Skiff.

¹²¹ Stanwix Hall was a prominent hotel, built in 1833 by Peter and Herman Gansevoort, uncles of the author Herman Melville.



Stanwix Hall Hotel, circa 1870 Broadway Albany NY

¹²² In his diary, Henry typically misspells the city name Chicago, generally as Schiego or similarly.

¹²³ Have not been able to find either a stagecoach or rail line in 1855 named anything like Maline. It could be a misspelling, or else there are simply no extant records of such a named stage operator for that time period.

¹²⁴ Erastus Moulthrop, Henry's uncle (brother of his mother) purchased the farm. The following land record is for 102 Melis Road, courtesy of a scan from the Warren Historical Society. Much of the work on compiling these land records was done by Margery Hereth in 1967. Included below is a scan of the land record work and the property. As noted, the farmhouse was built by Benjamin Sackett (1762-1844), Henry's paternal grandfather, around 1799. Erastus sold the farm to James Comstock on April 1, 1858.

Volume 10 Page 335

Know Ye That Benjamin Sackett of Warren, County of Litchfield and State of Connecticut for the consideration of Five Thousand Dollars received to my full satisfaction of Erastus P Moulthrop of Sd Warren Do Give, Grant, Bargain, Sell and Confirm unto the said Moulthrop his heirs and assigns forever a certain tract or form of land situated in said Warren about one mile northeast of the meeting house in said Warren with a dwelling house, barn and other buildings situated thereon. Said farm is bounded as follows to wit North on land of Charles Hine, East on the land of said Hine, Elijah Hays and the [?] of Polly Sackett. South on land of said Polly Sackett, Lucinda and Alma Strong and George S. Lyman. Reserving for public travel the highway [?] East & West and North and South across said farm also the School House and a ground on which it stands, containing about one hundred and seventy five acres be the same more or less.

Set by my hand and seal this 25th day of August A. S. 1855
Witnessed in the presence of
Myron S. Hine
Edwin M. Kellogg
Received September 5th, 1855 and recorded by E. R. Swift, Town Clerk

LOCATION: NORTHEAST SECTION OF WARREN AT INTERSECTION OF MELIUS ROAD AND HARD SCRABBLE ROAD (KNOWN AS GREYSTONES)



HOUSE BUILT BY BENJAMIN SACKETT AROUND 1799
BENJAMIN SACKETT TO E MOULTHROP
E MOULTHROP TO JAMES COMSTOCK

VOLUME 10 PAGE 335 1855
1858

7
3
7
8
9
5
0
0
1
1
1
6

¹²⁵ Probably Samuel Eldred Tanner, son of Ebenezer Tanner (1791-1862) and Dimmis Eldred (1793-1869), a great uncle and aunt of Henry.

¹²⁶ Likely Ralph C. Curtiss, second cousin of Henry, and son of Erastus Curtiss (1789-1859) and Hariett Tanner (1795-1837).

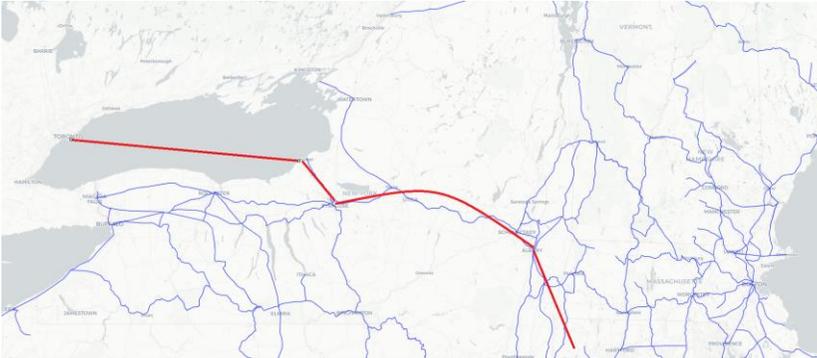
¹²⁷ Likely Clark A. Sackett (1793-1862), older brother of Henry's father, who was living in Ohio.

¹²⁸ There are several Whittleseys and Whittleseys in the area, including a Fanny P who was one of their children.

¹²⁹ Marilla's father Herman Hine reached the rank of Captain in the military on May 17, 1815 (the document is available in ancestry.com and FamilySearch).

¹³⁰ Henry is traveling at least with his sisters Mary (age 13) and Achsah (age 26), along with Achsah's new husband Samuel Carter. Not sure if there were any others, such as Henry's other sister Sarah (age 21), because no one else is specifically named.

¹³¹The map below shows the railway lines available in 1855. The map is sourced from from Thomas, William G., 1964- (2006). *Railroad System, United States, 1855*. University of Nebraska--Lincoln. See the website <https://purl.stanford.edu/sg805fy3196>. The red line shows the route they took, going through Albany and catching a boat to Toronto, Canada from Oswego, New York.



¹³² In 1855, rail service from Toronto extended to Collingwood, primarily via the Ontario, Huron, and Simcoe Railway (OHSR). OHSR, later known as the Northern Railway of Canada, completed its key line to Collingwood on Lake Huron in this year of 1855, connecting it to Lake Ontario via Toronto.

¹³³ The "Queen City" was a steamboat built in 1848. It was built at Buffalo, NY, with the following documented: Vessel Type: Steamer Hull; Ship Length: 242'; Beam:30' 7"; Depth:12' 7"; Materials: Wood; Builder Name: Bidwell & Banta; Master Carpenter: Jacob W. Banta; Original Owner and Location: Charles H. Reed et al, Erie, PA. In November 1854, the ship broke a its pillar block near Detroit, MI. In 1855, it was chartered by Simcoe & Lake Huron Railway Co. and ran freight between Collingwood, Ontario and Chicago. In October 1855 (one month after this trip), it was damaged and repaired in

Buffalo, New York. It wrecked in 1863 in 45 feet of water, and the wreckage was discovered in October 1991. Below is an article in the Detroit Free Press on May 13, 1855, discussing steamships crossing the Great Lakes from Collingwood, including the Queen City.

COLLINGWOOD LINE INAUGURATED.—The steamer *Keystone State*, Capt. Richards, left the dock of A. T. Spencer & Co., for Collingwood, Canada West, at eight o'clock last evening. This is the inauguration of the line of steamers, consisting of the *Keystone State*, *Lady Elgin*, *Niagara* and *Queen City*, forming communication from Chicago to Lake Ontario at Toronto by railroad from the head of Georgian Bay.—*Chicago Press, Friday.*

See another report below from the Detroit Free Press on September 22, 1855 (likely was the next voyage to Chicago).

The Queen City.—Nothing heard from the *Queen* at the hour of going to press. She is bound to Chicago from Collingwood, and was due here on Tuesday.

LATER.

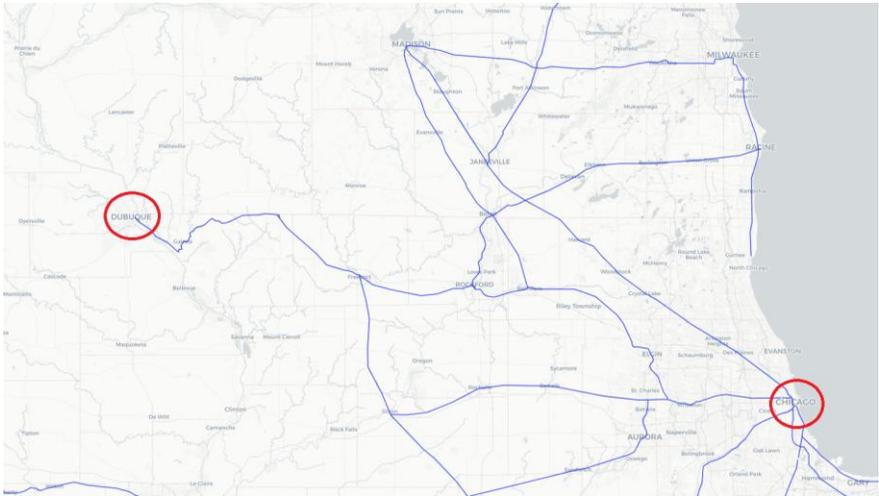
Since writing the above, we have conversed with a gentleman from Milwaukee, who says that, just as he was leaving, a report was received there that a large steamer was ashore at Sheboygan, and that another one was in the same stress near Port Washington—supposed to be the *Queen City* and *Baltimore*. We give the report for what it is worth.

¹³⁴ Mackinaw, also referred to as Mackinac, was a steamship docking point in Michigan in 1855. Fort Mackinac, which Henry references visiting, was still an active United States military installation, guarding the Great Lakes and the fur trade.

¹³⁵ Sheboygan, Wisconsin was a bustling port town in 1855, having undergone harbor improvements in the 1852-1854 period and becoming a city in March 1853. It was a key entry point for immigrants to the U.S.

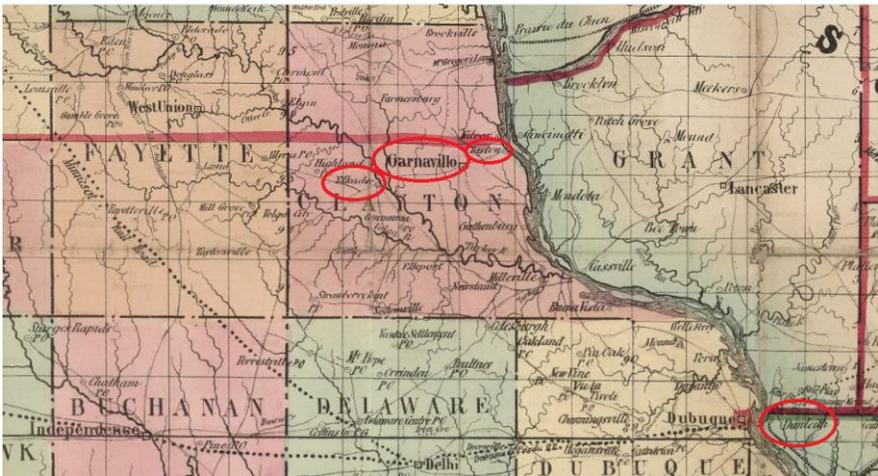
¹³⁶ It is unknown what illness they both had, given death records have not been found for Henry's sister, but both Achsah and Mary would succumb to this illness within the month.

¹³⁷ This is a misspelling of Dubuque, Iowa, which was an end stop on a railroad line from Chicago, as shown in the following map (sourced from Thomas, William G., 1964- (2006). *Railroad System, United States, 1855*. University of Nebraska—Lincoln). This was run by the Illinois Central Railroad (IC). The end of the rail line was actually on the east side of the Mississippi River, at Dunleith, which in 1879 was renamed East Dubuque.



¹³⁸ Clayton, Iowa was a developing frontier town on the Mississippi River in 1855.

¹³⁹ Garnavillo, Iowa was a developing frontier settlement in 1855. Garnavillo, along with Clayton and Elkader, Iowa and Dunleith, Illinois (all locations referred to by Henry) are shown on the following map of Iowa, drawn in 1855. It includes the train line ending in Dunleith. The map extract was taken from “A Township Map of the State of Iowa” from Henn, Williams & Co in 1855, published in Fairfield, Iowa, courtesy of David Ramsey Map Collection online.



The full journey is depicted on the following 1855 map of the United States. The source is an 1855 pocket map of the United States by J.H. Colton.



¹⁴⁰ Most likely Fenn Woodcock (1834-1897) (first mentioned in Henry's January 15 diary entry). Church records show him ultimately transferring church records to Harrison, Minnesota in 1868, after he had been a soldier in the Civil War. Source: Ancestry.com. *Connecticut, U.S., Church Record Abstracts, 1630-1920*.

WOODCOCK, Anna E & Sarah E., adm.ch.Mar.5,1854,on profession;dism.
Jan.31,1857 to Williamstown,Mass.
Fenn adm.ch.Mar.5,1854,on profession;dis.Jan.28,1868, to
Harrison,Minn.
Fenn adm.ch.Mar.5,1854;dism.Jan.28,1868 to Harrison,
Minnesota;also Frances E.Woodcock

¹⁴¹ Death of Achsah. The headstone photo from the Garnavillo Cemetery is courtesy of Find a Grave website.

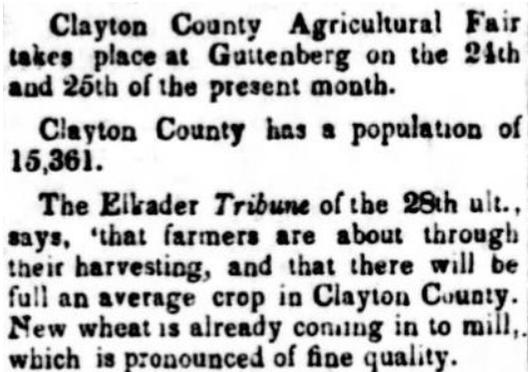


¹⁴² Possibly a E P Atkins, who is listed on some records in Garnavillo in 1852 and 1854 (ancestry.com). The census and other records for these frontier towns were not as robust as other more established parts of the United States at this time, and many were transplants from other areas. There are thus several individuals referenced by Henry in Iowa that cannot be definitively identified.

¹⁴³ Possibly a type of medical care location in Garnavillo. While hospitals weren't typically called hotels in 1855 Iowa, the terms were sometimes used interchangeably for places offering lodging and care, especially in early frontier settlements where makeshift infirmaries or boarding houses served the sick, stemming from older European terms like "hôtel-Dieu" (Hostel of God), signifying a religious hospital.

¹⁴⁴ The assumption is that this is Achsah's husband Samuel, who may also have been ill. Henry has referred to him both as Sam and as Carter in different entries over the year.

¹⁴⁵ The Clayton County (Iowa) fair website states that its first fair was held in Garnavillo on October 3, 1854. It is likely that the 1855 fair was held in Elkader. Page 2 of the September 13, 1856 edition of the Tipton Advertiser (source: newspapers.com), as shown in the excerpt below, states that the 1856 Clayton county fair took place in Gauenberg, Iowa on September 24 and 25 (likely a misspelling of Guttenberg, Iowa). So the 1855 fair referenced by Henry is likely the county fair, which would move locations annually, given Elkader's town fair did not start until 1899.



Clayton County Agricultural Fair
takes place at Guttenberg on the 24th
and 25th of the present month.

Clayton County has a population of
15,361.

The Elkader Tribune of the 29th ult.,
says, 'that farmers are about through
their harvesting, and that there will be
full an average crop in Clayton County.
New wheat is already coming in to mill,
which is pronounced of fine quality.'

¹⁴⁶ In 1855, Garnavillo, Iowa, like many other pioneer communities, did not have a dedicated hospital. Taverns and inns in colonial and pioneer America served a variety of essential community functions beyond just lodging and drinking, which could include housing the sick if no other facilities were available. This is similar to the prior reference of Mary being moved from a "hotel."

¹⁴⁷ In the 1800s, slippery elm was a widely used medicinal plant in North America, relied upon by Native Americans and early European settlers for

treating a variety of ailments, including coughs, sore throats, and digestive issues.

¹⁴⁸ A fowling piece is an historical term for a smoothbore sporting long gun designed for hunting low-flying birds, wild fowl and other small game. It was the precursor to the modern shotgun.

¹⁴⁹ There is no context for this entry of Edward J Angel. There is an Illinois public land purchase record 27 Nov 1855 for an Edward J Angel.

¹⁵⁰ October 3 is the date Henry's sister Mary died. There are no entries for over a week. Was it too traumatic for him to speak of? Headstone picture from the Garnavillo cemetery is courtesy of Find a Grave website.



¹⁵¹ E C Byam is an aide-de-camp, (French: "camp assistant"), which would be an officer on the personal staff of a high-ranking military commander who would act as his secretary in routine matters in Linn County, Iowa. There is no context for this name being in Henry's diary. Source: Ancestry.com. *U.S., Adjutant General Military Records, 1631-1976*

| MILITARY DEPARTMENT. | |
|--|---------------------|
| COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF AND STAFF. | |
| Samuel J. Kirkwood, | Commander-in-Chief. |
| Nathaniel B. Baker, | Adjutant General. |
| John C. Calhoun, resigned, resignation to take effect Jan. 1, 1862, | Asst " " |
| Hiram Price, | Pay Master General. |
| AIDES-DE-CAMP. | |
| John Edwards | Clinton. |
| Rush Clark, | Iowa City. |
| David B. Hillis, | Kwakuk. |
| Frank Gardner Noyes, | Clinton. |
| SPECIAL AIDES-DE-CAMP. | |
| William B. Allison | Dubuque. |
| A. J. Kynett, | Lyons. |
| E. C. Byam | Mt. Vernon. |
| H. C. Nutt, | Council Bluffs. |

¹⁵² A yoke of oxen would be a pair.

¹⁵³ The reference would likely be to a steamship on the Mississippi, given it was the day before reaching Garnavillo again. But no records show a ship Albany on the Mississippi in 1855. It could also refer to the waterways of Albany, New York, which would be the Hudson River, but this does not seem to be the correct context given the date.

¹⁵⁴ Not sure of context of this entry, nor the date of January 6. January 6, 1856 was a Sunday. But based on the names Swift, Whittlesey, and Baldwin, this

was likely back in Warren, Connecticut. The general store owned by the Swifts was previously mentioned by Henry.

¹⁵⁵ In the 1800s, a "quire" of paper was a common measure, typically referring to 25 sheets of writing paper, being 1/20th of a ream.

¹⁵⁶ This is a reference from 1 Corinthians 15:47 in the Bible's New Testament. "The first man is of the *earth*, *earthy*: the second man is the Lord from heaven."

¹⁵⁷ Miss Lucina Curtiss died May 7 at age 69, in Warren Connecticut. She was the granddaughter of Justus Sackett (1730-1815) and Lydia Newcomb (1731-1808) through their daughter Lodena Sackett (married Augustine Curtiss). She would be Henry's first cousin once removed.

¹⁵⁸ Have not identified a business or address matching this, nor context for the entry in the diary.

¹⁵⁹ L.C. Cone is listed as a person subject to military duty in Ward, Monroe County, Iowa. O.C. Buck is listed as a person subject to military duty from McGregor, Clayton County, Iowa. John Bally is listed as a person subject to military duty from Mendon Township, Clayton County, Iowa. The source for these is ancestry.com's *Iowa, U.S., Records of Persons Subject to Military Duty, 1862-1910*. There is no context as to why Henry wrote these names in his diary.