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AS THE YEARS PASS—THE DIARIES OF
SETH SHALER ARNOLD (1788-1871),
VERMONT

EDITED

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Editor, Proceedings

Rare are the Vermont diaries of long ago which reveal an accurate, intelligent, trained mind, unmoved by bias or prejudice, noting with understanding and sympathy as the years pass the little details of living and the greater events that have their hour beneath the uneven surface of community and sectional life. We are giving you excerpts from a series of diaries that cover 397 single-spaced typewritten pages in copied form. Beginning in 1809, Mr. Arnold faithfully recorded a wide range of incidents, including routine matters of daily living merged with comments touching on the great issues of birth and death. The task of selecting items for publication from such rich material seemed hopeless and was. What we have tried to do, facing the stern challenge of limited space, was to choose material that might be of some value in giving actual facts and points of view with regard to the social, economic, industrial, and religious life of Vermont during years of pronounced changes. Here, for instance, is the first clear picture known to us of the early silkworm-growing

industry that promised, once, a prosperous future for Vermont—and vanished as so many Vermont dreams of comparatively easy living have vanished. Here is the coming of the first railroad, the slow fading of the strong religious convictions of the early years to a more indifferent attitude, not necessarily toward the Christian faith as toward the outward organizations of it; part of all this, Mr. Arnold was—and more. In and through the items we have woven a few which reflect various subjective phases of this our mortal life and the changeless aspects of human nature. We confess that we are far from satisfied with our selections in view of what the diaries offer, but here the results are—of significance, probably, only to our readers who can read between the lines. A master copy of the entire diaries is available, however, in the rooms of the Society, and those who wish to examine the entire story may do so. We suggest that readers of this issue may find it interesting and profitable to review our leading article, "Seth Shaler Arnold (1788-1871): Vermonter," in the Proceedings for December, 1939. We are grateful to Gladys Gage Rogers of Ascutneyville, Vermont, for permission to copy the complete diaries of her great-grandfather, and we recall with appreciation the interest and coöperation of her father, the late Seth Newton Gage, in the publication of the Arnold materials. Miss Dorothy C. Walter of East Burke, Vermont, prepared the research notes and two maps filed with the master copy, one showing the various communities associated with Mr. Arnold's life, and one covering the preaching territory related to Mr. Arnold's ministry. Editor.

1809

Sept. 8th Entered college at Middlebury—sophomore class.

1812

July 1st Tuesday August 19 graduated—Sept. 15, left home—19, arrived at Haddam—29, left Haddam in sch. Orbit, Capt. Chapman—9th oct, arrived at N. York—13, left N.Y.—14, arrived at N. Brunswick N.J.—15, arrived at Trenton—17, arrived at Philadelphia—19, left Phi. & arrived at Baltimore—Nov. 2^d left. Bal. & arrived at Bladensburg [*Maryland. Ed.*]—9, commenced school for one year—

1813

March 4th Was at the inauguration of President Madison—July and August served a militia-tour at Annapolis between 40 & 50

days first sergeant under Capt. James Veitch—Winter following was at Mount-vernon—

1814

Jan. 26. Left Bladensburg for home—Feb. 5th arrived at my fathers house—On my journey lost a fifty dollar note H.B. [*Hartford Bank. Ed.*]—Immediately commenced the study of Divinity under the direction of the Rev. Sylvester Sage. Sept. 27th received license to preach. . . . Oct. 4th half the day at Haddam—

1815

. . . Wednesday following 16th Aug. attended commencement at Middlebury and was honoured with the degree of Master of Arts.

1816

Jan. 1st Sab. preached at Alstead.—Jan 2^d sab. preached at Alstead E. P.—Jan 17th day I was ordained in Alstead over the first Congregational church and society—I now dedicate myself anew to the service of God—endeavoring by his grace, to be more humble, more prudent and discrete, and more faithful both to God and to men—also wishing that I may be truly useful to this people.—Jan 20th attended the funeral of Israel Brown's Child in Walpole.—Jan. 3^d sab. preached in the house where I was ordained.—January 4th Sab. administered the sacrament of the supper for the first time, the day first appeared silent, then solemn and important as eternity itself. . . . First sab. in May last year was the first time that I preached in this town.—O that the Lord would make me more humble and faithful for the year to come; and bless the labours of the weakest and vilest instrument. . . . June 6th changed very cold—8th some snow—froze considerable (nights) till the 11th.—Morning of the 9th of July ice found in Alstead which was made on the grass the night preceeding—July 10th formed a Catechetical society with a favourable prospect by the mercy of God.—August 28th night A severe frost in many places.—

1817

Jan. 8. I took the stage for Andover Conn. Arrived there 11th Was married on the evening of the 22^d—23^d Took the stage for home with my companion.—25 Arrived at Westminster

and 27th at Alstead.—28th Began to keep house.—Nov. 16th of the same year 20 minutes past 3 o'clock in the morning Mary Ann our first child was born.

1827

Feb. 15. I feel it my duty to record a few facts concerning one man who has recently died in my parish. The facts I have received from undoubted authority. He was a poor, but hard labouring man. He had worked for me considerably, by the day, and gave me good satisfaction. He appeared to be friendly for a number of years after he came to live near the meeting house; and sometimes attended meeting with his wife & children. But after awhile he did not appear to be so cordial, and neglected public worship almost entirely. About this time he had been to work for Dr. C. who was a universalist & a violent opposer to me; and being in a great measure under such influence, he drank into the same spirit and views; & declared that he would not attend upon my preaching any more. Above a year ago his wife, who had long indulged a hope of an interest in Christ, felt impressed with the duty of making a public profession of her faith; and expressed a wish to join the Ch'h of which I have the charge. But her husband, who was not of the best disposition, was violently opposed; and expressed the awful wish that he might never live to see her join the Ch'h. But she, to his great astonishment, knelt down in his presence to pray for his soul, which seemed to soften his asperity, at least for the time. But a variety of circumstances and much that was said, induced me to advise her delay. She however manifested her desires more and more to follow Christ publicly; and her husband finally gave his consent, and said he would go to meeting the day she should join the Church. On the eve. of the 19th of Dec. 1826 I called to settle with him, and he appeared to be friendly. On the 21st his wife with some others met at my house for examination with reference to a union with the Ch'h the 1st Sab. in Jan. 1827. He was to work that day, threshing for Mr. William Shepard, and after the examination, which was solem interesting & satisfactory; and the Church meeting had just closed;—before she left the house, the sad tidings came, that her husband, Nathaniel Wilson, had died instantly in the

barn, where he was to work. All were shocked! but the bereaved W^d, to whom I communicated the intelligence was wonderfully supported. The circumstances above related, were not generally known; nor some of them even to me, till of late.

1829

Nov. 26. Died this day Mrs. Shed wife of A.S. She and her husband had used ardent spirits to great excess, especially for a number of years since they lost their last child. In her last sickness spirits had a very injurious effect upon her. When she drank none for a number of days she appeared to get better, and when she commenced drinking she would run down again very soon. But for some time before she died her stomach loathed the sweetened poison that had shortened her days, as if nature would teach how to recover. Yet her husband who was not the most kind, prepared and disguised brandy or other distilled liquors, as I was credibly informed, and gave it, or, in a manner forced it upon her contrary to the prescription of the physician till she actually died in the course she had before chosen with her companion, although contrary to her wishes. The very means of former gratification now proved her torment and death. I understood by credible persons that the house was a scene of the most awful dissipation and wickedness for a week after the funeral.

[Between Book No. 1071 and the next in order of time, No. 1008, there is a gap of six years, and a decided change in the life plans of the Rev. Seth Shaler Arnold.

During the six years, he left the Alstead, New Hampshire, pastorate, where he had no doubt expected to remain for life, as his divinity teacher, the Rev. Sylvester Sage, did in his nearly half a hundred years as minister in Westminster, Vermont, and returned to help his father, who was now old and infirm, in carrying on the many affairs of the home farm. (At Alstead May 1815—April 1834.¹)

To do this, and still to save at least some time to go on with religious work, Mr. Arnold usually took into partnership for a stated period some other farmer who could oversee the farm work and carry it on alone, if necessary. So the ministerial career continued, well mixed with farming enterprises.

1. Hemenway: Vermont Historical Gazetteer, Vol. V.

Mr. Arnold acted as stated supply, interim pastor, or occasional preacher in a good many churches within horse-and-buggy distance of Westminster, usually going to his appointment on Saturday and returning Monday, unless he was using the Sunday engagement as a half-way stage to some other place where business called him but that was too far away to get to in one day's travel from home. One did not travel then on Sunday, except on the most urgent emergencies of necessity or mercy, and those terms were very strictly construed.

Much of the drama of the diaries lies in watching Mr. Arnold get himself from place to place, his plans laid well ahead to insure exchange of pulpits with other pastors and appropriate stopping-places on these longer trips, just as he had "preached his way" to Middlebury to get his Master of Arts degree in 1815, with a Sunday stop at Ludlow, and had successfully mixed "candidating" in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts with going courting in Connecticut.

There is drama, too, in the conflicts between farming and religious work; in the long succession of hired help; in the illness and death of relatives and friends; and in the innumerable quarrels between church members which it was his duty, as a pastor, to drag into the daylight and see settled to the point where the participants could honestly give each other the "right hand of fellowship."

Three other daughters were born to the Arnolds after the birth of Mary Ann at Alstead in 1817: Sophia, Olivia, and Caroline.

In 1835, when the journals begin again, the Rev. Seth Shaler Arnold and his wife, Ann (House) Arnold, are both 47 years old, and he is preaching in Gilsum, New Hampshire, and paying toll to get over the Connecticut River to preaching engagements, sacramental lectures, mutual councils, and ministerial association meetings. Later, he decides to "hire the bridge" by the year.

Grandfather Seth Arnold and Grandmother Esther (Ranney) Arnold (Father and Mother of the journal entries), whose infirmities had brought their son and his family home, are now 88 and 71 years old.

Grandfather Arnold had had a full life. Left an orphan at three months with an older brother, Ambrose, he had saved \$1000 by the time of the Revolution. When the war, in which he served three years, was over, the \$1000 was gone—mainly through depreciation of currency. At 35, with a shilling for his sole wealth, he came to Westminster (about 1782), worked as shoemaker, tanner, and

farmer, married in October, 1786, and lived more and more prosperously as he brought up his family: Seth Shaler Arnold, Ambrose Tyler Arnold (who died young leaving sons, Ambrose and Fenelon, who are often spoken of in their Uncle Seth Shaler's journal), Esther, Joel, Ranney, Phebe, Olivia, who died in July, 1812, and the youngest, Abigail, who never married.

Grandfather Arnold made a public profession of religion at 89, and lived many years thereafter.

As to the Rev. Seth Shaler Arnold's daughters, Mary Ann in 1835 is 18, Sophia is 15, Olivia is 13, and little Caroline is 8.

And now let the Rev. Mr. Arnold tell the story.

D.C.W.]

1835

- Feb. 24. Attended the temperance address delivered by Rev. Mr. Sage—Myself, Sophia and Caroline became members (in Westminster E. P.) of the Temperance Society.
25. Bought a time piece of Mr. Warner of Walpole and paid him \$6.75
28. Went to Gilsum—cold—rode horseback
- March 1. Sab. administered the sacrament at Gilsum.
2. Attended monthly concert—sent \$1.50 by Deac. Brigham to Mr. Kingsbury to pay for the N.H. Observer the present year. Paid Mr. Sparhawk for crossing the bridge 4 four times with a team 48 cts. Returned home and found my sleigh was broken yesterday going to meeting & thankful nothing worse.
 3. Attended March meeting in the West Parish of Westminster. Brought forward the case of the change of road for damages, and the town voted to leave to the select men to decide & act accordingly. Mrs. A. went with me to make a visit to A. Ranney's.—
 8. Went to Gilsum, and found the bell hung on the new meeting house, as I had agreed with Mr. Kilburn.
 8. Sab. preached at Gilsum—held a Ch'h meeting at noon. Ch'h felt as if they must awake.
 9. Returned to Westminster—David Converse came with me, and agreed to cut 50 cords of wood 4 feet long and split it, for 30 cents per cord, and I board him. It was to be the hard wood at this price. And the pine, or soft wood he is to cut at 25 cents per cord.

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11. Agreed with Mr. Dorothy to work one year from the 1st of March 1835. He is to work evenings in time of corn harvest as is usual, *husking*; and 3 evenings in a week on an average during the time that mechanics usually work, and he is to have \$12 per month or \$144 for the year. He is to have the privilege, after corn harvesting is completed, of taking 3 months to attend school, if he wishes, to be deducted from the year, or to be made up afterwards, as he and I shall agree at the time. In the afternoon David Converse & his brother came to commence cutting wood.—
12. Agreed to pay Mr. David Converse 14 cts. per running cord for chopping and splitting fine the east pile of wood in the door yard.
13. Went to Lempster—paid for Mary Ann's board, tuition &c \$27.32—
18. Paid Mr. Geo. Kilburn \$5.45 for hanging the bell. attended the installation of Rev. B.B. Beckwith at Walpole.
19. Bought 2 hogsheads of Plaster Paris of Bellows and Co. \$9 with the privilege of returning the casks for both of which I am to have 50 cts. Bought also half barrel of mackerel \$4.75 & paid for the whole. Went to Gilsum with two sleighs—Martin drove one—Returned home—brought stove—large red trunk and large basket of crockery—put up stove.
23. Settled with the building committee for the meeting house—My account with them was \$1652.22 and they had borrowed \$400 making all the expense \$2052.22.
25. Cut a large pine tree and drew some of it for shingles.
27. Went to Alstead—attended meeting in the afternoon Mr. Barber preached—Very much overcome with a sense of the goodness of God in the conversion of souls in my old parish—souls for which I had had great anxiety for many years.
30. Attended an inquiring meeting at 9 A.M. and the funeral of Mr. Elisha Smith at 11. full house—Went to Esq. Hatches to dine and left a note with him of \$9 and some odd cents against Wilson Dart to be collected and paid over to me. While I was at Alstead Deac. Rand paid me \$1.00 for use of my horse shed the past year. Returned home and called on Rev. Mr. Beckwith—left a letter with Mr. T. Sparhawk for Dolly Gould.
- April 3. Paid Dr. Safford \$2.00 for the New England Farmer which commenced March 11, 1835—Took up a small note of Mr. Joel Ranney \$6.00

14. Sowed 3 bushels of wheat & a peck of peas.—
16. Went with father to look at timber and corners.
29. Mr. Dorothy unwell—went to Alstead. I paid Mr. Joel Ranney \$52.75 and took up the note which had been given May 28. 1834. Mr. Ranney said he would give for a bell \$25 if a few who are able and wish for a bell will make up sufficient without urging those who are poor—who feel as if it was asking too much of them; and in this way create talk, quarrelling and opposition.
30. Mr. Dorothy came back from Alstead and brought a pack of beans from Mr J. Kingsbury, to be paid for at some future time.
- May 2. Paid Mr. B. Fisher of Keene \$15.00 for Joseph Dorothy for his Bass Viol \$7 in cash and note for 100 Mulberry trees \$8.00 Mulberry trees to be delivered at Mr. Fisher's 13th day of May.
5. Consulted with Mr. Colman concerning book of music "Family Choir."
7. Bible So. of C. Co. met at 9 A.M. contribution over \$9.00 and \$10 towards life membership by Deac. Baker of Troy.
8. Borrowed \$15 of father and gave my note.
12. Let Messrs. Cole and Mead four acres of ground on shares—I am to find plaister Paris, and have half of the crop. They have paid me for ploughing. Attended the fire engine meeting, which was adjourned to the first Monday in January.
13. Mr. Dorothy went to Alstead to carry 100 mulberry trees to Mr. Fisher of Keene—
20. Returned home—Paid for my hat which I bought of Mr. Anderson last year \$4 Paid for the trimming and making of coat and pantaloons to White & Lyon \$6.25—
22. Bought of Wentworth and Bingham peck of salt & fish 49 cts.
23. Went to Lempster—Saw Mr. W. Dart. He said he would pay me by way of cart wheels. Rev. Mr. Adams paid me \$100, a part on book account and a part on note.
25. Consulted with Mr. Colman about singing book and going to Boston.
26. Maj. Warner offered me \$25 for horse shed & pew Mr. Cragin offered me for body pew what it cost me—both to pay out of the store—I am to trade more than the value of pew & shed with Mr. Warner.

27. Mr. Cutler agreed to take 2 acres of corn land and to pay me \$2 an acre for ploughing & harrowing to pay in work—find one half of the seed and I find plaster Paris.
28. Went to paper-mill village—sold a horse shed No. 10 and slip No. 8. for \$25. and bought goods \$35.23 not paid for except the 25 dollars.
30. Went to Keene and carried Olivia to live with Mrs. Newcomb for another year. Gave Mrs. N. \$5.00 to defray Olivia's expenses. Paid my tax to the Cheshire Co. Bible Society the present year and took a bible 95 cts & paid 45 cts. over the tax. Also left \$6.00 with Deac. Jaquith for the southern fund of the A.S.S. Union, as the second annual payment to make Caroline life member of the A.S.S. Union. Deac. J. said he would send it to Mr. Evans of Concord to be transmitted. Went to Gilsum.
- June 13. Meetinghouse in Westminster raised.
23. Took the stage for Boston—Took lodgings at Kilburn's Coffee House
24. Went to Hooper's, Holbrook's office and the Revere Brass foundry to see about a meeting house bell—See the publishers of books—
25. Left the house keeper with Russel and Odiorne to print—and received proposals for the Family Quire.
27. Morn. arrived at home—Mr. Odiorne is to print the House Keeper—to secure the Copy-Right for me—in my name—advertise and be at all the trouble—for the commission of $33\frac{1}{3}$ percent on the sale. I pay for printing paper and binding.
- July 27. Commenced gathering rye. Mr. Cutter worked till noon preparing his cradle.
- Aug. 12. Returned home—On the way paid Azel Hatch Esq. fourteen dollars towards a pair of cart wheels in addition to a note on Wilson Dart of ten dollars & thirty five cents, making in all for the wheels \$24.25. The wheels I left with Esq. Hatch till I could conveniently get them, with the direction that he might sell them if he could at \$24.00—Called at Mr. Kings. Mr. Dorothy had finished haying, and paid W^m Morse \$1.37 for half week's work. I paid Mr. Sprague \$5 for 5 days work, & he closed at noon.—Take the Quarterly Register another year & paid for the same to Mr. Gerould \$1.50
22. Went to Gilsum. attended Ch'h meeting at 5 P.M.—Con-

- tinued till about dark, and adjourned till after services Sunday—
24. Ch'h met at my room, and Mr. Bingham finally came to an agreement.—I paid my subscription to the home Miss. So. of Gilsum. \$1. & sent by Mr. Hall to the treasurer of the County Society \$29.71—\$16 for the society of Gilsum—\$3.71 from the Charity-box—\$5 for Mrs. Arnold's life membership 3^d instalment & \$5 for Mary Ann's life membership 2^d instalment.
- Sept. 2. Had a deed of 8¼ acres of land executed from father to me, and paid him by \$30 in cash \$30 note to him & \$30 note to E. Hills. Had my colt altered. Returned a razor to Erastus Holton which I had on trial.
10. Brother Holton and family started for Illinois about 4 o'clock P.M.
11. I went to Keene—Received \$50 dollars of Mr. Barstow from the N.H. Miss. Society for Gilsum. Went to Gilsum—stayed at Mr. Fishes over night.
18. Agreed with Doct. Safford to send for the Youth's Companion—attended the funeral of Levi Peck aged 78. Sold Mr. Cole & Mead all the produce on the 4 acres taken for \$40. to be paid in Jan. 1836. Father said he would accept of \$19 for his part.
30. Sold Mr. Watkins two heifers—one for \$9 the other for \$14 am to take a quarter of the smallest at \$3 per cwt.
- Oct. 15. Rev. Mr. Merrill, & Grosvenor with their delegates met at Mr. D. Smith's about 10 A.M. About 11 Rev. Mr. Morton without a delegate came and joined them. As a council they then proceeded to business, and the case between the Ch'h and Mr. Bingham was then considered. Rev. Mr. Robinson presented the cause in behalf of the Ch'h and the Rev. Mr. Barstow for Mr. Bingham. After hearing the evidence and pleas on both sides the council resulted, that they recommend to the Ch'h that he [Mr. B.] be placed on probation for four months as a test of penitence; and provided in the judgment of the Ch'h he walk orderly for this time, that he then be restored to the full fellowship of the church; but if, contrary to our hopes, he should walk disorderly then the former sentence of exclusion be considered valid and in full force.
- By explanation of the council afterwards Mr. B. is to be considered as walking orderly and to come into the fellowship of the Ch'h at the end of 4 months, without any formal vote or act of

the Ch'h, unless he be notified in a regular gospel way, of misconduct before the term of 4 months expire. The result was declared between 9 & 10 in the eve. and the parties were exhorted to be reconciled and to say as little about the matter as possible—by allusion or any other way. Rev. Mr. Robinson preached in the eve. at the vestry.

16. In the morning went to see Mrs. Wetherbee concerning what she had against Deac. Brigham. She wished to have it settled, and expected to have had a time appointed sooner. And now she preferred to go to Dea. Brigham's rather than to have him and Mr. Hayward come to her house, and she wished to have me attend with them. Accordingly this evening was agreed upon. In the eve. Mr. Hayward—Mrs. Wetherbee—Deac. B. met at my room. Afterwards Mrs. Brigham came in and staid thro the interview.

I first proposed to Mrs. Wetherbee to state her grievances against Deac. B. which were then written down as we proceeded with much care that they were well understood by all present.

The first cause of grief was an alleged falsehood in Dec. 1834—

1. She said—Deac. Brigham asked Luther Wetherbee [her son] did you give the girls liberty to go to the spelling school? Luther W. said, No. Deac. B. said, nor I, [That is, nor I, neither, as explained.] But it was maintained by Mrs. W. & attested by the girls that Deac. B. did give them liberty.
2. Second cause of grief—falsehood. Said Mrs. W. Deac. B. said, he found that the girls would leave if he didn't get a new overseer. But Mrs. W. says he had hired the new overseer before he knew anything about the girls dissatisfaction or leaving.
3. Mr. Wetherbee told Deac. Brigham that he [Mr. W.] had the account & order against Mrs. K. (or Mr. Kingsbury) of Sullivan. Afterwards Mrs. K. [or Mr. K.] paid the money to Mr. W. After this, when Mrs. K. came to settle [with Deac. B.] Deac. B. said it was a mystery to him how Mr. W. came by the order &c. and Mrs. K. thought it implied, [or intimated] a charge of Mr. W's stealing them.
4. Reported—that Mr. Evelith said that Deac. B. said he had

not seen Mr. Howe. But Luther Wetherbee said, it was an absolute falsehood, he [Deac. B.] had seen him & shook hands with him.

5. Hardness—Because Deac. B. did not pay L.W. \$15 per month, as L.W. contracted with Mr. Howe.—

Mrs. W. said these were all that she could think of to hinder fellowship with Deac. B.

Deac. B. was then called upon to explain or acknowledge to satisfaction.

1. Charge. Deac. B. said he did give the girls liberty to go to the spelling school & did not deny this to L.W. But when L.W. said he was not willing the girls should go, to leave their work, Deac. B. said, nor I neither. although he afterwards consented to their going.

Mrs. W. said she was satisfied with this explanation, if Deac. B. would also explain the misunderstanding to the girls concerned, now in town, to which Deac. B. agreed.

2. Deac. B. satisfied Mrs. W. that he did not hire a new Overseer till after the dissatisfaction of the girls.
3. On examination there appeared no ground of complaint against Deac. B. as to the order and account—Mrs. W. seemed satisfied.
4. The report of seeing Mr. Howe. Deac. B. said he did not see Mr. H. till after he told Mr. Evelith he had not, and then it was at the distance from his own house to the brick house, and did not shake hands with him at all.—

It had now become about 10 o'clock eve. and we had a strong desire to close this business. But Mr. Wetherbee came for his wife and appeared to be put out. I asked him to come in & told him I wished he had been here. I understood Mrs. W. that she had invited him to come. But she went with him and the investigation closed for the time.

17. Deac. Brigham & myself went to Mr. Wetherbee's & Mr. W. soon came in, and the subject of last eve. was laid open before him. Mrs. W. did not now feel satisfied with respect to the first charge, but became satisfied by Deac. B's engaging to write to L.W. his explanation on giving the girls liberty to go to the spelling school.

On the 4th cause of grief—The report of seeing Mr. H. It

stands as stated above, with the following additions. Mr. W. says that Mr. Howe told him that Deac. B. saw him and spoke with him.—When this matter was spoken of by Mr. Evelith and others present, Mr. W. says, the people [present] understood Mr. E. [to say] that there was a lie somewhere, and he [Mr. E.] knew where it was, and spoke in such a manner as to attribute it [the lie] to Deac. B.—Mrs. W. expressed confidence in Deac. B's word in this matter, wishing for more investigation and inquiry of Mr. E. and was satisfied, unless other circumstances should yet make against Deac. B.

On the 5th cause of grievance Deac. B. agreed to pay L.W. \$15 per month if L.W. would say it was the agreement between him and Mr. Howe, that he should have so much.—

After Deac. B. had mentioned his grievances, and Mr. W. had mentioned all things that he wished to—and some explanations, concessions and confessions on both sides Deac. B. & Mrs. W. gave the hand of fellowship, and they parted with the profession of christian union.

19. Returned home. Let out a job of wall to Mr. Griswold and Sumner for 75 cts a rod, 30, or 40 rods. The wall is to be 4 feet high, except from the bottom to the top of the steepest part of the hill, which is to be 3½ feet high. Mr. Fairbrother commenced chopping.
20. Mr. F. got released from chopping one fortnight. Began to make cider.
26. Exchanged 1 peck of chesnuts for 1 peck of walnuts even, with Mr. E.S. Fish—Found 100 of the intellectual House Keeper at Deac. Seaver's store.
- Nov. 10. Mr. Zacheus Cole agreed to take all the wood in the south grove of the Jethro lot to cut on shares. He is to cut and cord one half of the whole, as that I have already done, 4 feet wood, and he is to have the other half for chopping, splitting and piling mine. With the understanding that I am to reserve such pine trees as I see fit for fencing and such hard wood trees as I may wish for timber. If fencing posts are cut from the hardwood-trees I am to have one half.
11. This morning my white mare died, being 8 years old past, for which I gave \$100 at 5 years past.
14. Had water-works repaired—Dan C. Griswold finished 27 rods

- of wall, & I gave him liberty to leave the rest. I paid him 75 cts. per rod.
17. Killed two pigs.
 18. New meeting house in Westminster dedicated—a pleasant day and full house. I invoked the blessing and read the scriptures. Rev. Mr. Beckwith made the first prayer—Rev. Mr. Sage preached from Ps. 93:5. Mr. Fields made dedicatory prayer—and Mr. Barber the concluding prayer. Mr. Taylor preached in the after noon. Mr. Starks in the eve. from Acts 3:19.—Monadnock Asso. to meet at Walpole May 17, 1836. I am to deliver the Concis. Question. Is it expedient to baptize by immersion? or to receive members who neglect the baptism of their households? or to give any encouragement to the same?
 22. Preached at Gilsum—Received a call to settle.
 24. Went to Keene—gave 1 Intellectual housekeeper to Mr. Cook—1 to Miss Fisk—left 6 with Mr. Kingsbury for Mr. Newell—& 6 for Mr. Rawson. Returned to Westminster cold—in eve.
 25. Attended the sale of the pews in new Meeting house Westminster. Bid off one for Esther—two for father and one for myself and Mr. Ruggles.
 27. Visited Mr. O. Wilsons and took dinner there. Wrote and presented an answer to the call of Gilsum—Ch'h.
 28. Mr. Dorothy's horse came here at noon.
- Dec. 1. Call affectionately renewed to me from the Ch'h and Society in Gilsum. I still declined acceptance, though with much trial of feeling, and brought their request to Mr. Jennison. He had sold two cows for \$30 and sent a pair of oxen to Boston. Found the first notice of Intellectual House-Keeper in N.H.O. of Nov. 13. 1835.—
4. Settled for pews—Received deeds—2 for father—1 for myself and Mr. Ruggles—Settled with Joel Ranney—Paid Mr. Stoddard 66 cts for the back sill of the horse shed. Paid all that I am to pay towards the horse shed, except to Mr. H. Goodridge.
 5. Rev. Mr. Jennison agreed to go to Gilsum—Got a fire fender. Went to mill with 2 bushels of wheat—5 rye—2 corn.
 8. Went to mill—Went to Walpole—Engaged Mr. Buffum 20 cords of hard wood at \$2. Mr. Jennison cannot go to Gilsum.
 9. Butchered 1 cow which weighed 570 lbs. and 3 hogs which weighed 745.—My portion of the beef $\frac{3}{4}$ ^{ths} 354 lbs.—My por-

tion of the pork 559 lbs.—Besides the above quantity we have meat on hand to last to the 1st of Jan. 1836. My portion of tried tallow 30 lbs.

10. Abel S. Wolfe sold my cattle and paid me over as the avails \$45.66. and charged me \$4.50 for driving. The cattle weighed in market 1254—at \$4.00 per cwt.—Killed two old sheep.
11. Sold 2 old sheep; & 2 lambs poor for \$3.67. Settled with Wentworth & Bingham. Moses F. & myself went after oxen.
14. Returned home and brought a buck from Mr. Hayward's—to have the use of him for \$1.00
21. Returned by Alstead—called on Mr. Gerould & Adams Settled with Mr. Breed and Maj. Warner. Maj. Tufts told me that the Baptist meeting house was moved in the summer of 1828 and dedicated June 10. 1829.—that it was stipulated that the universalists should have the occupancy of the house $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the time, and the baptists the other $\frac{3}{4}$ ^{ths}.
23. Mr. May had 1 ton of straw—to give me \$5
24. Measured Mr. Fairbrother's wood and paid him for chopping $19\frac{1}{2}$ cords \$7.04
25. Mr. Dorothy began to feed his horse straw.

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- Jan. 1. Divided to my father his portion of peas & beans
4. M. Fish returned home with his mother—We agreed to keep Mr. Hayward's buck at \$9—We made the oxen, buck, ox sled and chopping wood equal by Moses Fish giving me a note for one half the amount. Wrote a letter to send to the Editors of the Vermont Chronicle with a copy of the Intellectual House Keeper. Engaged to supply Walpole if they should want.
7. Finished cleaning oats and settled with father for his part. There were 100 bushels on a small piece a little over an acre.
14. To day finished threshing and cleaning winter rye 130 bushels in all—about 9 acres.
18. Butchered 5 pigs—sent 3 to Mr. Wentworth's. Received the interest on bank stock \$2.00 Took back 6 Intellectual House Keepers from Bellows Falls Book Store.
19. Went to Alstead to obtain some statistics. Borrowed 5 books of James Hale. Settled with Rev. Mr. Adams for Theological class books. Esq. Hatch settled with me for one copy of Intellectual House Keeper and the bottles borrowed for Dr. Woods.

- 1 copy of I. H. Keeper at Dan Hatches & Mrs. Adams returned one.
26. Went to Bellows Falls—made a contract for 3000 of Plaister Paris at \$16 per ton by returning the tierces to the landing by the Walpole Bridge—to pay in corn at \$1.00 per bush.
 27. Went to Keene—carried 148 copies of the sketches of Alstead, a manuscript sermon and additional sketches in manuscript, and left them with Benaiah Cook for publication. Paid Mr. Kingsbury for the Mother's Magazine a year in advance. & stopped the Observer. M. Mag. to be sent to Walpole for \$1.00 per year.
 30. Sent 15 bushels of corn—4 bushels of rye—& 1 bushel of beans to Wentworth & Bingham \$21. Sent 10 bushels of oats to Mr. Buffum \$5.00
- Feb. 3. Visited the school in my father's district.
16. Bought a grindstone of Bingham & Wentworth. 144 lbs. at 2½ cts. per pound.
 22. My birthday—Have as much to repent of, & be sorry for as ever—Will try to do more for the cause of Christ for the year to come, if the Lord should see fit to spare my life—keep me in the right way and in the right state of feeling.
 26. Paid Mr. Brown for putty and painting half barrel 20 cts.
 27. Carried 2 bushels of rye to mill—
- March 10. Met the Ch'h at Walpole in the afternoon and inquired of them all concerning their fellowship and kind feeling towards all the members of their body. All express fellowship and a desire for a revival. Chose a committee of 5 to visit with me all the members of the Ch'h. S. Sparhawk—Mr. Ewing—Deac. Knowlton—Mr. Chapin—Mr. Barnet.
14. Moses Fish started for Boston. I delivered to him \$110 to be paid over to Russel, Shattuck & Co. towards the Intellectual House Keeper, and he is to bring up 400 copies, and is expected to return on Friday. I borrowed \$70 of father.
 15. Three men from Rindge staid with me over night & bought 32 bushels of rye—7 of corn & 8 of oats.
 16. Paid Mr. Blanchard \$2.50 for two pairs of bootees—Took up two notes of Fathers against me \$30. \$13.65.
 23. Bought a plough, and brought it home. \$6.50. Moses sold 2 bushels of rye and received pay—

25. Settled with my father for all wood drawn up to this date.
26. Sold 12 bushels of rye at \$1.07—
28. Sold 6 bushels of oats at 50 cents.
31. Fast in N.H. Preached twice at Walpole—Mr. Harris came just at night to commence work for 9 months at 13 dols. per month—took my horse and sleigh to go after his clothes.
- April 6. Delivered 16 bushels of oats to Geo. Kilburn's man for him, and 13 small cherry boards, to be measured by Mr. K. and to pay me for them when he pays for the oats. The oats at 50 cts per bushel \$8.00
10. Preached at Walpole—omitted the evening lecture on account of the badness of the walking.
21. Appointed solicitors to collect money for the Sab. school.
- May 3. M.F. Went to Alstead, got some mulberry trees at Mr. Adams and returned home.
5. I visited 3 families in Walpole—made arrangements for a branch Sab. School in the South district, and attended conference in the eve. I left \$5.00 with Mr. Sam^l Sparhawk for a certificate to pass the bridge the present year.
6. Received a certificate for passing the bridge. Made 7 calls in walpole, & made arrangements for Sab. school in the valley.—
10. Attended to grafting—

Grafting

Roxbury Russetting	No. 1.	No 1
Yellow Newton Pippin	No 2.	No 42
Lyscom	No 3.—	No 2
Irveline	No 4.	No 24
Baldwin	No 5.—	No 4
Sopsovine	6 —	No 6.
August Sweeting	7 —	No 102
Pumpkin apple	8 —	No 17
Fall Sopsovine	9 —	No 23
Orange sweeting	10.	

13. Commenced planting corn—
16. Received pay of Mr. Peck for two Pigs which he had of me one year ago. Father gave me his part.
27. Pedler came here and staid over night—
- June 1. Went to Keene & back—Settled with Miss Fiske for the