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

EDITED

By ARTHUR W. PEACH

*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*

tuition of Olivia \$5.00—Saw B. Cook and he has 126 Histories of Alstead to be sold of which I am to have one half.

18. Burnt a note against Enoch Hale, on which about \$4.00 were due with interest a number of years.—
22. Committed \$6.00 to Doct. Safford as the 3<sup>d</sup> year's pledge for Caroline's life-membership of the A.S.S. Union to be transmitted for the benefit of the South.
28. Settled with Mr. Ewing for varnishing my Barouch waggon—\$3.50
28. Settled with Mr. Blanchard for my shoes \$2. and Mrs. Arnolds \$1.20 = \$3.20 Settled with Mr. Warner for Thermometer \$1.87—for mustard spoon, 19 cts, and cream spoon \$1.75 = \$3.81. Left \$5.00 with Deac. Seaver for the volume enterprize—to distribute volumes of tracts—and to be refunded if the books sell to the amount.

July 5. Went to Bellows-Falls—Carried butter and traded with Wentworth & Bingham—

12. Mr. Hayward came here—gave me a recipe for lamplight.—Father gave me his old table-chair.
18. Paid Miss Chipman for making my pantaloons and those of Moses Fish \$1.17
19. Moses Fish paid me for the National preacher and making his pantaloons.—and said his account book and mine were square or alike.—Paid Miss Jones for making my vest 71 cts. Got sugar & molasses at Mr. Seaver's.

August 1. Settled my taxes at Gilsum—highway taxes and all, for the last year with Mr. Hayward 94 cents—Also with Deac. Brigham for the taxes due to Mr. Ware \$1.20 the year before.—Returned home—Brought and delivered a letter to Mr. Howland from Mr. Chapman. Settled all due to the Post office at Gilsum—12½ cts. gave to Mrs. Gerould for Mr. Hutchinson. Mr. Mack said he was satisfied—Attended the Monthly Concert at Walpole—Contribution \$5.60—

4. Visited at Mrs. Roberson's—attended at the vestry at ½ past 5 for examining candidates—But not even the committee were there.
13. Bought 9½ lbs of beef of Mr. Pitcher at 7 cts. not paid for at the time.—Mrs. Arnold selected 3 fleeces of wool weight 6 lbs 15 oz Mother selected one fleece weight 2½ lbs

18. Paid Mr. Pitcher for beef 64 cts. and sold him my dun heifer at \$20—to be paid when he takes her—25 cts. Mrs. A. to F. Missions—Attended at the vestry with the examining Com. Mr. John Woodbury—Mrs. Mary Ann Dixon Buffum—& Miss Parmela Wightman were examined. Attended Conference in the eve.

Father has agreed to pay \$76 for bringing the water here in stone of one inch bore; and that I may have the income of the use of the branches taken off at the house till I get full compensation for all the expense I am at, over the 76 dollars.—Mr. Stoddard & Ambrose are to give \$3 a year each, for one share, or what is necessary for a family's use at one standard—expecting to make use of the waste water for their barn yards. M.F. went to Gilsum.

22. M.F. came home—Hired Mr. Ellis for \$12 per month on condition that his hand fails for our business, or he does not answer our purpose, he is to close any time.
27. Took the Rail road cars for Andover paid \$1.00 Then to Bradford in the stage paid 50 cts. and stopped with Rev. Mr. Monroe.—
29. Visited Miss Hazelton's school, heard the young ladies recite their Bible-lesson—and addressed them, about 90 in number. Took the stage after dinner and went to Exeter for 1 dollar—
- Sept. 7. Burnt new land.

8. Mr. Allbee called and took my account of of wood made out against Mr. Hodges; and said, he would see that I be paid.— The whole quantity of wood taken—was  $21\frac{1}{2}$  cords at 7/ per cord = \$25.08.
11. Preached at Marlboro by exchange with Mr. Grosvenor—
28. Paid Mr. Warner \$1.00 for cleansing my watch.—
30. A.S. Hutchinson & Capt. C. Brooks and wives came here—to dinner—
- October 14. Agreed to give Sophia—& Mary Ann \$5.00 each to abstain from meat, butter and cheese for one year—and Olivia \$2.00 for the same term.—
15. Left 5 shillings at Mr. Blake's to pay Miss Ellen for two days work.
21. Paid Ann Cowan one dollar in full for Carolines schooling through the summer.

23. Preached at Walpole twice—Mr. Bates, an Andover student attended meeting in the eve. Miss Eleanor Livingston and Mr. Samuel Watts Griffin were propounded.
25. Butchered 2 year old heifer weight 251.
- Nov. 23. Allen Wells bought 3 bushels of rye at \$1.50. \$4.50  
Said he would pay in a few weeks—
30. Paid Miss Jones for making vest & pant. \$2.15 Bought 6 morus multicaulis of Mr. Adams at 30 cts.
- Dec. 4. Preached 3 times on exchange with Mr. Barstow, & attended to Bible class at noon.
6. Mrs. A. gave 25 cts. towards Mrs. Shipman's grave stones.—
11. Preached 3 times at Walpole.
12. Settled with Mr. Dale—Left a note of \$4.00 against Mr. Brown the tinman, with Mr. Ruggles to receive the pay and allow me the face of the note.
15. Met with the committee of examination at Walpole. None presented themselves. gave Mrs. Ruggles the life of Brainard.—
17. Snow storm—with rain—Paid Mr. Hamblin for a pair of shoes, to Mr. Burk—\$1.12½
24. Little girls society met here, from Walpole—
25. Preached at Walpole 3 times.—Mrs. Nancy Lathrop was examined and propounded for admission to the Ch'h—
26. Carried stove funnel to Mr. Howlands—Went to the plain—Settled with Mr. Sturtevant, and called the waste in two barrels of flour \$1.00. Called at Maj. Eaton's & saw Mrs. Eaton die a little after 1 o'clock—

1837

- Jan. 1. Preached 3 times at Walpole and administered the Lord's supper—
6. Butchered two hogs weight 667 lbs—
8. Preached at Chester on exchange with Mr. Burnap.—
13. Rev. Mr. Bellows made me a call—
15. Preached at Walpole 3 times—Meeting house at W. lighted by a new Set of lamps.—
17. Butchered an ox weight about 850—sold half of it to Mr. Watkins. The beef that we salted for ourselves was about 310 lbs. The hide weighed 106 lbs. & the tallow 74½ lbs.
18. Settled with Geo. Kilburn, & Mr. Howland. Mr. Stratton said he would ask nothing for hooping barrel—

20. Settled with Mr. Buffum. Enclosed in a letter to the Treasurer of the A.S.S.U. \$6.00—as the pledge 4 <sup>th</sup> of Caroline's life-membership—also \$4.00 from the Juvenile Society in Walpole for the benefit of the Sab. School in Du Buque (Wisconsin Territory)	
21. Settled my taxes for the year past Company taxes town & state—	\$13.04 4-35
	<hr/> \$17.39
My own taxes . . . . . Town . . . . .	1.62
Do. . . . . State . . . . .	.54
	<hr/> \$19.55

22. More wind very stormy—Preached twice at Walpole—

*Here ends Note-book No. 1013 to be followed with no break by "No. 1015. Journal for 1837—March 8, 1838." D.C.W.*

25. In the evening the northern lights assumed an uncommon appearance. There was one broad belt of a scarlet red from the west and from the east meeting over head, and throwing its rays considerably to the south. There were some faint streaks of rays shooting up from the north west; but in the north it was quite dark, while the belt itself was so red and shining, as to give the snow and other objects on the earth a very red, glowing appearance.
30. Went to B. Falls—Agreed with the Book merchant to take intellectual house keepers to sell at 12½ percent—Settled with him up to this date
31. Settled with Mr. Bardwell for bringing up Claudius D. Crackbon.—Paid Mr. Seaver for pint of wine—Mr. Warner cleaned father's clock—Carried 4 bushels of rye to mill for father—Left 10 Intellectual House keepers at Bellows Falls-Book store—
- Feb. 1. Settled with father for his portion of rye and meslin—and put 8½ bushels in the east end of the chest, 3 pecks of which was meslin.
2. David N. Harris acknowledged, that he stole 3½ bushels of rye—
3. David N. Harris absconded before the family were up in the morning.

4. Moses Fish went to mill—Carried two bushels of Meslin for father, and got 4 bushels of rye flour—
  5. Preached 3 times at Walpole.
  7. President Bates of Mid. Col. Preached in the eve. II Tim. 3: 16.17
  8. Went to mill, and brought home two bushels of meslin flour for father—
  9. Settled with Deac. Seaver. Left the 1<sup>st</sup> volume of Dwight with Mr. Janes.
  12. Preached 3 times.—
  15. Attended a lecture at Walpole on optics by Dr. Weber.—
  22. My birthday—and very pleasant—Received a visit from Maj. Jenison & wife—Mr. Stratton and wife—Mr. Rust & Miss Tenney & Mr. Elisha Fish.
  26. Preached 3 times at Walpole—Preached on keeping the Sab.—
  28. Attended the examination of the Academy in Walpole. The scholars appeared very well—
- March 4. Had an interview with Mr. Ewing on the subject of temperance.
14. March meeting in New Hampshire—In the morning a dreadful providence occurred. The Charlestown stage with 5 passengers and the driver fell with Cold river bridge, while crossing, into the stream. The water was deep and violent, then clearing out the ice. The driver and one of the passengers made their escape by siezing the limb of a tree. One man—crawled out of the stage and by swimming reached the west bank of Connecticut river, carrying a small trunk with him, and also one woman till he was obliged to leave her to perish near the shore. 3 women were drowned—the stage and horses were thrown across the connecticut river, amidst ice and water, while the ice remained unbroken below in the Connecticut. The stage was dashed to pieces, and only one horse was saved alive.—
  20. Received letters concerning *Family quire*.
  23. Mr. John Dinsmore commenced work for 8 months at 15 dollars per month.
  28. Gave father two notes for all that is due to him. The latter he agreed to give up to me as soon as I shall make two strings of fences—one on the medow-side in front, and the other on the west side of the main street and set out two rows of trees—and use my influence to bring the street to the width of 6 rods.

31. Attended the adjourned temperance-convention in the eve. Committee presented their report and constitution. It was moved and seconded to adopt it, when Mr. Giles commenced his talk with great irregularity and violent abuse, till it was seen that order could not be easily maintained, and I relinquished the chair. The meeting was finally broken up near 9 o'clock by his uncivil and disorderly course. In all my acquaintance with public life I have never seen so much disregard to propriety in any meeting, of any kind, by any other individual.
- April 4. Attended Con. at Mr. Ranney's—One of the women found who was drowned—found about against Mr. Albee's—
5. Mr. Wood made a prayer at Mr. Huntington's & She was conveyed to the tomb.—
7. I paid \$5.00 in advance to cross the bridge the ensuing year.
11. We concluded that Mary Ann might go to Cleveland—Mr. B. said he was not afraid to engage for her support, if she should be well.
17. Mr. Stoddard gave me one dollar for Mr. Ormsby—Father gave the children 5 dollars each—and I borrowed \$5.
20. I carried Mary Ann to Bellows Falls to take the stage for Cleveland, Ohio, with E. Bingham Esq.
21. Mr. Crain brought up the family Choir & Maj Jennison's Piano. The latter cost 250. and freight \$4.90 = 254.90. The freight of my book \$1.30.
24. Took up about 130 maple trees on Mr. Cones land. He said he should not ask me any thing for them.
25. Set out the trees—
26. Commenced the garden & planted peas.
- May 11. Finished meadow fence—Bought 1 bushel of seed corn of Mr. Oliver Huntington \$3.00—got pair of shoes of Mr. Rice for Claudius \$1.25 Mrs. Arnold got spectacle eyes changed 2/6—bought silk gown for Sophia. Moses F. went after cow. Did not get the cow—
15. Went to Newport and carried 800 copies of the family Choir to Mr. Wellington He engaged to bind them for \$12 Rev. Mr. Colman is to take one hundred at cost viz. \$8.39 Mr. C. will send 100 copies to Boston and Mr. Barstows recommendation. Bought 2 books of Mr. Wood—Returned to Lempster and staid over night—called on Mr. Bingham.

20. Borrowed \$12 of Mr. Stratton to be paid in specie—gave note on demand—
24. Claudius disobeyed me in not straightening nails as he was told, and seemed to lie in saying he forgot—He asked Mr. Fish if he wished him to stand before the oxen, when he knew I had told him to do another thing. He promises hereafter to do what I tell him, without asking Mr. F. if he may do something else; & he will always tell Mr. Fish first what I have told him to do. If he disobeys again he is to be punished—above all if he tells a lie.—
- June 1. Settled with Mr. Ruggles. Bought his share  $\frac{1}{3}$  of pew No. 8 in the new meeting house in Westminster. Visited Mr. Gilmores
18. Preached at Walpole 3 times.—
26. Called with Deac. Seaver and Mr. Kilburn on Mr. W.H. Blanchard to hear him concerning Mr. Nichols accusation. Mr. Nichols had been to me before.—
- July 16. Preached 3 times at Walpole—
18. Paid Mr. Woodbury \$1.00 for pair of shoes made by Mr. Ray. —Paid Mr. Rice for 3 pairs of shoes \$3.84.—Paid Mr. Warner 42 cts. for spectacle-glasses.—Carried calf skin to Mr. Biscoes—weight 10 lbs at 9 cts. 90 cts.
24. Got my Barouch Waggon ironed—
25. Mr. Stoddard paid me for my carriage to Ludlow \$1.75. Bought of Peck and Bellows  $3\frac{1}{4}$  yards of cloth for coat & pantaloons at \$4.00 = \$13.00—Sent a letter to Mary Ann, requesting her to come home. Got coat.
- Aug. 7. Mr. Jackson left for Surry. Mr. Field left for Keene.— I went to B. Falls and got wool that was carded 22 pounds, and paid \$1.54 for carding. Miss McLaughlin said there was not quite 24 pounds after it was cleansed, sheet & all. And, it would seem as if there could not have been 30 pounds in the fleece. Sometime previous to this Mrs. Cobb commenced sitting in my father's pew and then changed to mine—Mrs. Nutting has sit there more than a year. And Mr. Hollis Wrights family have just commenced sitting there The two former at 75 cts each and the latter at about 2 dollars.
31. Agreed with Esq. Chipman to thresh our wheat for 10 cts. a shock—and rye for 10 cts. a bushel—and oats for 5 cts. a bushel, to board himself, and help clean up the grain. Killed a sheep.—

Left  $\frac{1}{2}$  bushel of wheat with Mr. Kilburn for Mr. Barstow. Settled with Mr. Ewing. Sent a letter by Mr. Ewing to the publisher of the New E.F. enclosing money \$1.25 all due for the paper—The oats for 1837 measured 34 bushels less than when they were thrashed—When thrashed, they made 413 bushels.

Sept. 11. Settled with Maj. Jennison for board—13 weeks \$19.50—and moved my things to Westminster.

13. Mr. Rawson took my carriage to go a journey of 140 miles. Mr. Wellington came here. I started to go to Mr. T. Sparhawk's horse back—Girt broke by a little start of the horse, Saddle came off, & I fell very hard, and to considerable injury of the spine.

20. Painted fire place—

22. Bought  $9\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. of beef of Mr. Pitcher at 6 cts. 55. Picked 10 winter squashes which weighed 363 lbs—average over 36 lbs each. The largest weighed 41 lbs—The smallest  $29\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.—There were 6 or 8 more smaller—all growing from 5 or 6 seeds 3 or 4 hills

26. We laid down logs from the house to the barn.

28. Gathered some apples—Claudius fell from a tree, and it was of the Lord's mercy that his life was saved.—

30. Mr. Arnold left.

Mr. Hollis Wright's family hired my pew one year from the present week all except two seats, for \$1.75. The other two seats are occupied by Mrs. Nutting & Mrs. Cobb.—

Oct. 3. Settled Post Office bill at Walpole \$1.23.

5. Sold 6 pigs to Mr. Wolfe for \$12.00

11. Rev. Mr. Grosvenor proposed to the Asso. in substance Whether an offending brother who is excommunicated, and is grieved by what he considers the unjust decision of the Ch'h, has a right to a mutual council, unless he have submitted to the investigation of the Ch'h. (that is, afforded them a fair opportunity and all the light he could, for an impartial trial of the case) unless he have made known his wish for a mutual council during the progress of the trial—at the time of the decision, or soon after?

I believe it was the unanimous opinion of the Association, or nearly so, that the Ch'h is not bound to unite in a mutual council without these preliminaries. Yet there arising an important

question concerning the length of time that may transpire after the decision of the Ch'h, before application is made for a mutual council, or the intention of an appeal to a council is made known to the Ch'h, another question was proposed by Mr. Grosvenor, that is, Whether the excommunicated person ought not to present satisfactory, or good reasons to the Ch'h for such delay in making known his wish, or intention of appealing to a mutual council?

I believe the Association were of the unanimous opinion, that there should be good reasons given; and I think, with the exception of Mr. Danforth, all were agreed that the reasons should be satisfactory to the Ch'h to entitle such person to a hearing. There might be one, or two of the brethren beside Mr. D. that thought the Ch'h should not judge of the reasons in the case. But if so, it was unknown to me.

24. Went to Walpole—Mr. Bellows paid for wood—Attended singing school in the evening and sent a letter to Mary Ann.

25. Weighed all the fleece-wool, & made 268¾ lbs, and the pulled wool about 15 lbs.

28. Carried all the wool to Mr. Weatherbee's mill—	lbs	oz.
It weighed there 283 lbs. & 12 ozs. . . . .	283	. 12
I had received wool before . . . . .	36	. 15
Father had received before . . . . .	10	.

Making all of 2 clips & pulled wool . . . . .	330	. 11
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Father's quarter of the above . . . . .	82	. 11
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Leaving for Fish & Arnold . . . . .	248	. 0
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which deducted from the quantity carried to the } mill leaves . . . . . }	35	. 12
over and above the company's wool, belonging to S.S. Arnold.		

Nov. 6. Attended monthly concert—Paid Mr. Sage my subscription \$8.00 & contributed 25 cts. to foreign missions.

27. Paid \$1.91 for stove casting. Brought Miss Fanny Hitchcock to commence school tomorrow at \$1.50 per week 3 months.

28. Miss Fanny Hitchcock commenced school. I went to Walpole. Bought Mrs. Arnold a pair of calfskin shoes \$1.50. Got

a Sabbath School map \$1.50. Father got his buildings insured for a \$1000.00 at 5 per ct. I signed the application for a policy of the Vt. mutual insurance company for him, by his wish, in his stead, and in his name—and also a note of \$50.00, on which he paid 2 dollars.

- Dec. 4. Attended monthly concert, contributed 25 cts. Paid my subscription to the Sab. School library and received pay for the map \$1.50 Killed a beef-creature weight 540.
11. Got flannel of Mrs. McLaughlin 40½ yds and paid \$9.64 for it—Paid for a map of Palestine for my own \$1.50—Had Caroline measured for a pair of shoes at Mr. Davises, to be 7/ done next monday.
12. Carried hide to Mr. Bisco's yard and sold it for 5 cts per pound = \$2.95—Left 5 sheep-skins there to be sold. Called on Mrs. Dickinson by request.
17. Attended Mr. Sages meeting—Tried to make the Bible-class interesting—feel that much need be done here.
31. Attended Mr. Sage's meeting—Some of the singers left the seats—offended with Mr. Sage.

1838

- Jan. 3. Sent beef to Mr. Holland's 92 lbs—left 193 lbs for Mrs. Dickinson at Mr. Watkins Slaughter house.
- Feb. 5. Called on Mr. Cole—Mr. I. Eaton—Dr. Safford to converse on the misconduct of their children. Also on young Messrs. Jones and Russel.
7. Went to Mill with wheat, provender and corn.
16. Mr. Allbe commenced thrashing, & wished to take dinners here, for which he is to pay. He is to thrash grain same as Esq. Chipman did—5 cts. per bushel for oats & 10 for rye—
17. Paid Miss. Fanny Hitchcock \$18 her wages for teaching school 12 weeks—which money I received of Mr. Stoddard as collector of town.
18. Attended Mr. Sages meeting. Mr. Burdit met with the Choir and sung, as the close of the school. Mr. Sage communicated his intention of closing his labors. I gave a singing lecture in the eve.
24. Paid Erastus Holton 50 cts. for the Temperance Journal one year advance pay.

25. Did not attend public worship on account of ill health—  
 March 2. Sent 3950 lbs of straw to Mr. Armstrong  
 3. Mr. Huntington paid me for the straw \$7.90  
 8. Attended donation party at Mr. Sages—gave 2 dols. for myself  
 —1 for father & 1 for Sophia & Olivia. Stormy—about 80 at-  
 tended—

*Thus ends Note-book "No. 1015 Journal for 1837—March 8 1838." In the next book, "No. 1026. 1838. Journal March 31. 1839" the jottings continue, after a five-day interval. D.C.W.*

- March 20. Went with Mr. Allbe to look at wood for cutting, and agreed to give him 50 cts. per Ch'rd.
- April 4. Mr. Gardener Brown came here in the morning. I engaged to supply him at Hinsdale 3 months from, or beginning 3<sup>d</sup> sab. in May. Am to let him know soon if I cannot.—Deac. Hayward came here, and stayed till after dinner. Capt. Dart came here, wishing me to go to Surry. Engaged me to preach the last two sabbaths this month.
5. Went to mill at Walpole 2½ bushels of provinder. Settled Post office bill—settled Bridge toll \$.57 cts. Recd 50 dols. on Walpole-Society-note. Bought 2915 of Plaster Paris. at \$16 per ton
6. Attended Mr. Sages meeting—on Fast—Father taken sick.
7. Father very sick and helpless—moved to front room
9. Got Plaster ground & paid for it. Father very sick through the night. I watched with him.
10. He spoke of religion—Christ his only hope & trust—& a willingness to go.
14. Called to see Mr. Sage, and he said he would preach at Hinsdale, that I might preach here.
15. Staid with Father, instead of going to meeting.
16. Continues very cold, requiring considerable fire in the sick room night and day. Father appears rather more feeble this morning.—
17. Delivered to Dr. Safford \$6.00 as the 5<sup>th</sup> & last pledge of Carolines life-membership to the A.S.S.U.
22. Preached at Surry 2 sermons
28. Got father lemons—cloves &c. 19 cts. at Bing. & W. Paid Mr. H. Nutting 9 dollars for wood for the school district.—

29. Attended Mr. Sages meeting. He preached his farewell sermon from Philipians 1:27. with faithful addresses to the Ch'h and people—to the impenitent—to parents and the young and warned them against "the Soul-destroying doctrine of universalism." Full meeting—numbers were affected—It has been about 48 years since he was settled here. I made a statement of the conditions of my preaching here.—A pleasant day—most like summer of any we have had this season.
- May 6. I preached on the Sabbath for the first time on my engagement with the committee for a supply—and administered the Lord's supper—rainy day. Attended to hear a methodist minister at 5 oclock at the old meeting house.
10. Mr. Cato a coloured minister of the Dutch Reformed Ch'h stayed with us over night—spoke and prayed in prayer meeting.
12. Received an anonomous letter from Walpole with a piece of newspaper in it, giving some indications of a revengful Spirit. I pity the man who sent it. He must be unhappy. He had better look to God in prayer. He might thus have saved himself from many unhappy feelings and me a little *postage and time*.
13. Preached in Westminster twice—Mr. Sage went to Walpole—Mr. Cato the coloured preacher addressed the people at a third service in the old meeting house and took a collection of \$3.57 for aiding his contemplated settlement.—in Maine.
15. Gave Mr. Cato his money \$4.09—Received of Mr. Weatherbee 5 full pieces of cloth (2 black 20 yards each—2 drab 23 yards each. 1 grey 25 yards.—
20. Preached twice at the meeting house and once at the south schoolhouse—Mr. Dearborn—(Methodist) preached at the old meeting house.—
24. Brethren, at the south part of the town, agreed to have a meeting every other sabbath—beginning next Sabbath. Dr. Safford, Mr. Averil & Mr. Stoddard agreed to go to the brick school house by Mr. Tower's.—Ch'h agreed to have a day of fasting and prayer next wednesday—
- June 3. Rev. Mr. Cross preached 3 times. I preached a third service at the brick school house by Mr. Towers.—
8. Called to see Mr. Wilders paintings—Visited Mr. Grouts, and called on Mr. Azariah Dickinson, who appeared to be dying.
10. Preached 2 sermons at the meeting house and 1 at the south school house—very warm day.—

13. Attended Ch'h-prayer meeting—after which the Ch'h decided to suspend Mrs. Fanny Lord & Harriet Ann Holton unanimously.
17. Preached in the new meeting house twice—Dined with consul Jarvis. Stayed over night with general Bowen.
19. Went to Windham—attended the consociation, and association. Next association at Wardsboro 1<sup>st</sup> Tues. in Aug. Next Consocia. a year from Sept. in connexion with the anniversaries of benevolent societies.
24. Preached 3 times in the new meeting house. A powerful rain.—
25. Hired Mr. Ephraim Clark for one month beginning the 16<sup>th</sup> of July for 20 dollars.
- July 6. Went to the Falls—Carried pantaloons and gown to Mrs. Wallace to make—
13. Mr. Benj. Wood staid with us over night—I bought 5 brooms of him.—
14. Went to Lempster—Settled with Mr. Milton Bingham for the expence of Mary Ann coming home from Cleveland, & paid him \$26.53—Took the remainder of the Family Choir at Rev. Mr. Colman's—Preached a lecture at the East Meeting house in Lempster—quite unwell.
29. Preached 3 times at Hinsdale—very warm—
- Aug. 4. Brought home from mill flour. 4 bushels—provender 3 bushels of oats & 1 of corn for fattening hogs—Received \$6.00 as dividends on bank stock Bellows Falls.—
12. Preached twice—and took contribution for repairing the Bass viol.
15. Paid Mr. Clark 20 dols. for 1 months work, & carried him home. Took my note of Esq. Hatch & gave him 2 dols.
16. Sold my wool to Mr. Huntington for 40 cts. per lb. Sent my wool to Walpole—
28. Settled with Eliza Sparhawk for teaching school 4 months, & paid her \$35.00—Paid Mr. Coburn 5 dollars for preaching for me last Sabbath.—
30. Preached Sacramental Lecture—Gave one dollar for foreign missions, myself—and paid one for father—to Mr. Averill
31. Bought a horse of Mr. Nichols 5 years old and gave him 75 dollars for it.
- Sept. 10. I returned home at 11 oclock, and paid Mr. Mason Six dollars for preaching for me last sabbath.—

18. I went to the West parish to attend the anniversaries of the county—
22. Carried new corn to mill—Paid for carding wool at the Falls 67 cts. and left 25 yards of cloth Wentworth's and Bingham's.—
28. Still more unwell.—Sent for Dr. Safford & was bled—
29. Dr. Safford came again—Concluded could not preach tomorrow—
30. So unwell that I did not attend meeting. Dr. Safford read 2 of Dwight's Sermons on Regeneration.
- Oct. 1. Still unwell—Unable to attend the monthly Concert—and temperance meeting.
4. Health better—Attended the funeral Amy Francis, a colored girl, aged 24.—Certified in favour of W<sup>d</sup> Hall, concerning her husband being in the Revolutionary service.
7. Preached 3 times—to the youth in the eve.
8. Delivered to Mr. S.S. Stoddard 2 dollars to pay the assessment of father's insurance note 1 dollar bill on tradesman's bank N.Y. 1 Do. on Fitchburg bank—
14. Preached at Acworth—Rev. Mr. Griswold here—I lodged at Mr. Lincoln's—
- Nov. 28. Mr. B. preached from "The heart is deceitful above all things & desperately wicked.
30. Brot. Walker preached the eve. preceding—& twice to day Ps. 62: 5. By my Spirit saith the Lord—about the jailer on the next forenoon (Dec. 1. Brot. Barbour preached in the eve. on the marriage supper and about 60 of a full congregation came forward to be prayed for—
- Dec. 2. I preached in the forenoon Matt. 23:13. Very full house Brot. B. preached P.M. Ye do always resist the Holy G. In the eve. about C. being lifted up as the serpent in the wilderness.
6. Thanksgiving day—very interesting—Brot Barbour preached in the eve. On Them gave he power to become the sons of God—Solemn—large number separated themselves for prayer—
7. Held an inquiry meeting 36 attended, most of which professed submission to God. I preached in the eve.
12. Attended inquiry meeting. 27 professed submission.
14. Attended inquiry meeting—interesting—all willing to come into a class between 20 & 30—I preached in the eve.
15. I preached in the eve. Mr. Grout paid me \$100

16. Sab. I preached in the fore noon and Mr. Sage in the after noon—Acts 11:14. I preached in the eve. to an attentive audience & full.—
18. Held an inquiry meeting—or rather attended to a class of inquirers.—
20. Attended inquiry meeting—Examined Fanny Goodridge and Mr. Nic[h]ols to be propounded for admission to the Ch'h—and preached in the eve.—
21. Attended the funeral of Thankful Burk & preached from Ps. 62:11.—At 12 O'clock—Butchered 4 hogs, and made out father's quarter of pork to him, with good understanding.—

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- Jan. 1. Temperance meeting—Rev. Mr. Barbour address—the people.
20. Preached 3 times—
  21. Received a letter from Keene Ch'h—
  22. Rev. Mr. Hodges preached in the eve. from . Goodness of God leadeth to repentence. very cold weather—
  24. Thermometer stood at 20 deg. below Zero a little before sun rise. Rev. Mr. Hodges preached in the eve. from one thing is needful.
  26. Very powerful rain. Charlestown Bridge swept off.
  27. River rose up over the meadows and road. Preached 3 times—
- Feb. 12. Mr. Clark began work again in the morn. At Parish meeting voted to raise 2½ cts. on the dollar to repair old meeting house.—To my great grief, one of the young converts, Charles Thrasher overcome by temptation joined an oister party in the eve. when there was a prayer meeting at the meeting house.
17. Preached 3 times. 18. I attended astronomical lecture.
  25. Rev. Messrs Barbours called upon me—Mr. Isaac Richmond Barbour of Charleton Mass. borrowed two hundred dollars of me to be paid any time I want it, on a few weeks notice.
- March 5. Agreed with Ahaz Blodget to work for one year from the 19<sup>th</sup> of Feb. for \$186.00 with no conditions of giving him any time—But to give him the use of a horse to the value of 4 times to his friends at Chesterfield.—
18. Mary Ann began to go to school to Walpole—Rainy—

19. Sophia began to go to school—
27. Sold 13 bushels of corn—Mr. Willard said on the 25<sup>th</sup> if I could sell the corn he would prefer that I should—Paid Mr. A. Wells \$9.00 for load of hay—

*The end of Note-book No. 1026. With hardly a long breath between, the record continues in "No. 1027. Journal for 1839—Nov. 27." D.C.W.*

- April 1st Returned from Westmoreland.—Paid Mr. Wolfe \$9.00 for ton of hay.—Attended monthly concert in the eve. Mr. Bishop took tea with us.
7. Preached twice at Westmoreland—Full meeting.
  8. Returned home and Mr. Esty with me—I went with E. to see Mr. Wells' place—Settled with Dr. Safford 4 quarter bills of Post office. Saw a professed *run away* negro.—From West Florida—from his Master Charles Robeson.
  9. Miss Blake came to work—Mr. Esty—& Mr. Wells came here—made contract. Traded at Mr. Bingham's \$27.31.—To make it even I am to send him 16 bushels of corn—
  16. Paid Mr. Warner for the accordion—
  18. Bought 16 fruit trees 2/ each
- May 1<sup>st</sup>—Mr. Allbe, oxen and cart went to levelling around the meeting house about 9 o'clock A.M. and worked till night—I worked in the afternoon.—
4. Returned home—Mr. Bishop came here, and I paid him \$36 dols for preaching for me 6 sabbaths, embracing tomorrow—the next sabbath. Set out a few Alpine mulberry's—
  7. Received a letter from Brot. Joel—
  9. Mr. Reding planted his Mulberry trees
  13. Mr. Reding finished putting down mulberries—took 42 rods, and is to pay 14 dollars.
  19. Preached twice at Westminster.
  20. Bought Presidents lives—and church history of Mr. Briggs.—
  24. Went to Westmoreland, and attended to the case between Capt. White & judge Baker. A. Blodget carried down 20 bushels of rye & 10 of corn to Mr. Starkeys, & brought home ½ barrel of Molasses & waggon bought before. I returned home about 8 in the eve.—Sent to Mr. Kingsbury for 2 copies of Mitchel's guide.
  28. Finished door yard fence and settled with Mr. Franklin Stod-