

Diary of Julia Wilbur, 1864

Originals at Haverford College, Quaker and Special Collections Transcriptions by volunteers at Alexandria Archaeology

The transcribed pages that follow are from the diaries kept by Julia Wilbur, an abolitionist from Rochester, New York, who lived in Alexandria, Virginia, from October 1862 to February 1865. She moved to Washington, DC, where she lived until her death in 1895.

This file contains entries from 1864.

The diaries are in the form of packets of paper that she assembled and dated as she went along, approximately 4 by 7 inches. The diaries go from 1844 to 1873. (She also kept journals, which were smaller, pre-printed, leather-bound booklets, one per year through 1895.)

In a cooperative effort between Haverford and Alexandria Archaeology, pages of the diaries were scanned in Summer 2013 (March 7, 1860, through the early 1870s). Alexandria Archeology volunteers transcribed from March 7, 1860, through July 3, 1866.

Acknowledgments

Thanks go to Ann Upton and Diana Peterson at Haverford, to Alexandria Archaeology staff, especially Ruth Reeder and Fran Bromberg, and to Friends of Alexandria Archaeology, the nonprofit that helped fund the scanning project. In addition, the following people volunteered their time to transcribe and/or proofread the diary entries: Lori Arbuckle, Gale Carter (and her students at East Chicago High School), Melissa Carter, Laci Chelette, Tom D'Amore, Christopher Goodwin, Jill Grinsted, Tom Gross, Janet Hughes, Maureen Luran, Donna Martin, Wendy Miervaldis, Patty Morison, Mary Jane Nugent, Kim Ormiston, Trudy Pearson, Janet Penn, Mary Ray, Diane Riker, Kelly Rooney, Elizabeth Schneider, Cindy Slaton, Rachel Smith, Jeanne Springman, Paula Whitacre, Karen White, and Christina Wingate. Paula Whitacre coordinated the volunteers and compiled their work.

Key

Each diary page is one scanned file and was transcribed in Microsoft Word. In order to avoid having more than one thousand individual Word files, they are compiled as follows:

- A PDF of the entire period
- Seven PDFs by year (1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, and 1866)

For those wishing to consult the originals, the ID numbers given to different sections by Haverford are footnoted in regular intervals throughout the documents.

Some common things that readers will encounter:

- Dates are centered. Note that Wilbur did not consistently date the entries (i.e., month, date, year) and we have recorded them as she did (e.g., Sunday the 19th)
- Many different types of dashes, underlines, and hyphens were used to indicate breaks in thought. For consistency, we have used an em-dash (—) throughout.
- Where she crossed something out or underlined it, we did, too. Spellings as written (e.g., “staid” for “stayed”)
- &c. means “etc.” It was commonly used convention of the time, even appearing in newspaper headlines. “And” is usually represented by an ampersand (&).
- Where multiple transcribers/proofreaders were not able to decipher all or part of a word, we have indicated with [?]. Where Wilbur left a blank space or some other unusual thing, we have inserted an italicized *Transcriber’s note*.

If you use these files and encounter an error, please let us know so we can correct it in the next iteration.

Wilbur also kept parallel, smaller pocket diaries, the originals of which are at Haverford as well. They were separately transcribed, compiled, and annotated by Paula Whitacre for Alexandria Archeology in 2011-2012, using microfilmed versions in the Local History Collection at the Alexandria Public Library.

¹New Year, 1864!!
Cor. Washington & Wolfe Sts.
Alexandria, Va. Friday.

Bright, colder. Went to P.O. twice. Letter from Mr. Van Santvoord. Went to Anniversary meeting at Col^d. Meth. Church. Dr. Bigelow presided & read Lincoln's Proclamation of Emancipation, singing. —

The speakers were Rev. White, very black, formerly a slave of Petersburg Va. Now of Alex. Rev. Post of Penn; Mr. Pepper of Maine; Capt. Wyman of Alex.; Mr. Robinson of Alex. Mr. Turner of W., Mr. Drew of Boston; & Dr. Marks of [*Transcriber's note: Left blank*]. Speaking really good. Audience small. I wish all the colored people had been there, but I think they did not understand the import of the meeting. The free colored have much prejudice against Contrabands, & even the Methodists did not attend. They all need enlightening. I was the only white woman

present; but as I could not see myself it made no difference to me. —

Dined with Mrs. Jacobs, on Turkey presented to Mrs. J. & myself by Dr. Pettijohn. Folks in hospital out of wood. I sent them some this evening. I went into some of the rooms & they were dark & cold. But Dr. B. has presided at a meeting, & his name will appear in the papers as a friend of these people, & he has now gone to W. & left the people to freeze in the Hospital.

Mrs. J., Louisa & Virginia have spent the evening with me. They have now gone to Bethel Festival. —

Next New Year's day will probably find me far from here. I wonder where.

Jan. 2^d, 1864.

Coldest day here. Ther. at 10^{deg} above zero. I went first to P.O. Letter from Cousin Phebe C. who has sent barrel. Then to Journal Office & paid \$1.50 for 3 mo. Then for kerosene at .80 a gallon. Then I went alone to the Slave Pen. But few

men in the prison. & I left with them some of all the kinds of Anti Slavery Tracts & pamphlets & Anti Tobacco Tracts too. Thanks to Mrs. Coleman, who sent them to me. What an idea! Distributing F. Douglass' speeches, & Chas. Sumner's speeches in a Slave Pen in Alex. Va.! 3 yrs. ago, who, would have thought this possible? These men were eager for something to read. & this kind is new to many. —

There have been no colored women in the prison for several days.

There are 2 colored men there. One is accused of shooting a man on Christmas. He says he did not do it. & the Lieut. told him to day that they were convinced it was another man. The other was there for drinking & being out too late. This one cd. not read, but his sister could, & he knew she would like my tracts. The other man can read & he seemed much pleased with what I gave him. Then one of the guard came for some.

¹ Until further notation, entries correspond to Haverford scans HC13-26004_056 to HC13-26004_093 in their Folder entitled Nov. 20th 1863 to April 20 1864.

Then I went to the Soldier's Rest & saw them at dinner, the guard, & Conscripts too, who are stopping there. I went to the Grand Room & left all the Anti Slavery & Anti Tobacco documents that I had with me. They need reading, as they are not provided with any yet, & they received what I had with evident pleasure. Then I visited all the families at the Slave Pen. They are quite comfortable now, but they have to buy their wood. With the exception of a load once a mo. to be divided among 6 rooms.—Then I went to see the new hospital. It is not quite ready yet, then made 2 calls. —Mr. Parker of Boston has been here. Mrs. J. & I went with him to Grantville & to Summerville (on our way stopped at Christ Church, sat in W's pew, & Mr. P. lent me a knife to cut 3 buttons or tufts from the cushions. Those were about all there were left, & I thought I might as well have them as any body.) Mr. P. was much interested in what he saw. He saw some of the most comfortable houses

& some of the poorest ones. But none seemed to be starving or freezing as they were last winter. —Mr. P. left on 5 o'clock boat, but is coming again. We called at Dr. Shaw's rooms to see Mr. Fish, who is very ill. —Then to my supper. I have been out nearly all day; & it has been a busy day, also a satisfactory one. This evening I have done various things, alone as usual. Mrs. J. & girls gone out. —This morning I sent wood into all the rooms in hospital, hoping that some would be sent in the course of the A.M. —But it was 3 P.M. before any came, & there were 12 loads wh. are now in the cellar. & I am glad for them, for they suffered from cold yesterday, & indeed they have had none to speak of this week, Aunt Nancy Carroll said. She had fared hard during her long life, but she had always before this, wood enough to use, she says she sat trembling all day yesterday over a handful of fire.—I did not know the state of things till evening, when I sent them some.—

Sunday Jan. 3^d, 1864.

Bright, warmer. went to Water St. to carry a basket of things to Aunt Fanny.— Cleaned up generally. This P.M. Remond & Smith came. They, with 2 other colored gentlemen called on the President New Years & were received just like the others. Dr. Pettijohn has been sent to some other place. Left this P.M, so suddenly that we did not know it till after he had gone. Wonder what's in the wind now? Has Dr. B. anything to do with it, & is he to have control of things now?

Towards night a sick woman was brought here, & the women were determined not to give her a place, they disputed. There was no doctor here, & no responsible person in the building. Mrs. J. & I insisted upon their giving her a bed, & attending to her. As we were going out to a meeting, we met Dr. Hines & told him the state of things. He did'nt know that Dr. P. had gone, & said

he would come in the morning & see to things. —Dr. B. has not been here today. Mr. Smith, Mr. Remond, Mrs. J., Louisa, Va, & Sally & myself went to Barracks to meeting. 7 ministers there! Rev. F. W. Hunnicutt preached, & wrought up the feelings of the audience to the groaning & shouting pitch. There followed several prayers. The mourners having come forward & knelt down by the front seats. A part of the performance was well enough, but a part was very ludicrous.

Monday Jan. 4th.

Snowy & cold. Went to Water St. & to 68 Prince St. —Went to Slave Pen & soldiers' Rest. There were Mr. Smith, Mr. Remond, Louisa & Virginia who is quite dark. A white woman with all these niggers! At the Rest the soldiers & attendants were quite shy of us, quite unlike my reception on Saturday when I went alone. There were sneers & side glances & knowing

looks. A large number of Conscripts are here now. They came in yesterday, & will go to the front in a day or two. We went into the office of the Slave Pen & were told by the Sergt. that visitors could not go through the place without a pass from the Pro. Marshall. These orders had been lately given. The sergent & others looked daggers at me, but I did'nt seem to mind it. I only fear that going with this Co. will hinder my admission after this. —

Attended in Clothing room rest of day. Government has ordered an investigation of the rent system here, & says exorbitant rents shall not be asked of these people. Mr. G. is ordered by Gen. S. to do it, & probably his own part in these trans-transactions will be made to appear all right. I shall not expect justice of him. He will like to expose Dr. Bigelow, & others, & I am glad this is to be done.

Aunt Nancy Carroll left Hospital today.

Jan. 5th, 1864

Thawed this A.M, but colder this eve. I have only been out to my meals.—
Trimmed bonnet, washed & ironed collars & did various chores.

Jan, 6. Worked indoors, so cold. Went through Hos. All warm there. In evening heard Mr. Hunnicutt at Bap. Ch. on "Past, Present & Future Condition of the African race". Mr. H. was born in S.C. was always pro-slavery. If it were not for the rebellion he wd. probably have lived & died a pro slavery man. —All the excuse he offered was, If the Slaves sh. all be set free they cd. not take care of themselves, & they wd. be worse off than in Slavery. —Yet he thinks Slavery produces every evil, only evil & that continually & Bible does'nt sanction it. In short, he can depict its horrors & use all the arguments against it. How has he learned them so soon? how can an upholder of the system all his life change his mind so suddenly? I can hardly believe that his life has always been sincere. Some of our people here knew

him in Fredericksburg. Ed. of Chris. Banner, his wife is there now, he is a fugitive, he was a slaveholder, opposed to negroes walking on sidewalk, or smoking cigars or using a cane.—He seems now to have gone to the other extreme. He says the negroes will not go north, they will stay here until the war is over & then they will the land in small parcels of their former masters. He sees very plainly now that they can take care of themselves, for in slavery they earned their living & made their masters rich, & they can do as much certainly when free. —

The audience was delighted, some of them kept up a running accompaniment “That’s so. I know it, that’s true. that’s what they did, yes sir.” They understood it mostly & had never heard such plain speaking before on the subject of themselves. —

At the close there was some good singing, & then a plantation song, & dancing, for I can call it nothing less. —

Paper from my dear friend Mrs. Winans containing notice of her son Edwins death in Athens, Tenn. on the 9th, Dec. More sorrowing hearts, but multiply this by tens of thousands, & then!!

Jan 7, Thursday.

Coldest day yet. The water pipe in my room is frozen for the first time.

Cannot make fire enough to make my room or the Clothing room comfortable.

Letters from Neddy & Mary Julia. The first one I ever received from Neddy. All well but, very cold there.

The papers mention severe storms in west & North, great deal of snow, very cold, people been frozen, & soldiers suffer extremely. Barrell from Phebe C. Rochester. —

Called at P. & R’s school & left tracts. Went to Ex. Office, & waited on people in Clothing Room.

Dr. Webster here from Arlington He may be surgeon in charge here.

What mismanagement & frauds there are practiced towards the people in A. Col. Greene is seldom there. Nichols is there yet & of course these people will be wronged. Three of the farm Superintendents, have been slave overseers in Maryland. In short, these people are slaves yet, & are tyrannized over & oppressed by unfeeling men. They are not allowed to leave there when they choose, & the people that went from W. last are living in tents this cold weather.

Ben. Latham & H. Dickinson have been here, making further examination of Contraband affairs. A bill in relation to this is soon to be presented to Congress.

Dr. Bigelow, I think, is not quite so self-satisfied as formerly. Dr. Bentley went through this Hos. yesterday. Dr. B. was away. Also went to Claremont with Dr. B. & Mr. Gladwin.

I think something will come of it. I showed Dr. W. the Hos. here to day.—

Jan 8th. Bright, cold.

In Clothing room nearly all day. Numerous call. Went to P.O. letters from Mrs. Breed & Mrs. Marshall.—

Mrs. B. wants me to take charge of Col^d. Home in G. The matron sick & gone to P. But I am not equal to such a task. I am so sorry that she has asked me to do so. I cannot do it. Would like to go to W. to morrow, but the boats do not run, & it is so cold, & I have so much extra work now caused by the deluge. Snowed a little more last night. Sleighs run some.

About 5 P.M. the water pipe burst, & our Clothing room was flooded. I had to remove nearly all my things. Many of them were wet, & this evening I have been drying them. I was wet from head to foot, & have taken cold. Everything is topsy turvey now. It will add much to our labor. This is a cheerless place.

Jan. 9th.

Very cold, Bright. glorious sunset. Very uncomfortable here today. Plumbers have been here to work, & we cd. do nothing to the C. Room. They have cut off the water until freezing weather is over.

This P.M. went to Grantville. Louisa & Va. collected the children in the new house, chapel some call it, & some of the parents. This is the first time it has been used. It is warmed by 2 stoves that Mrs. J. bought, & it was very comfortable & pleasant; the children looked clean & bright & happy. Mrs. Jacobs & Miss Collier, Miss Wilbur & Louisa addressed the children. Miss Lawton is a good singer & they sung the John Brown song & others. We had provided apples, cakes & candies for them & these 100 children, I am sure, spent a happy hour & a half in the new school room. Louisa & Va. intend to begin their school there next Monday, & I intend to help them.

Dr. B. wishes to control the house & make the school subordinate to the Church. To have Miss Collier principal, & have a Baptist concern altogether, & have white men manage it. Mr. Gladwin wd. like to get the control of the house, & put ministers & teachers there after his own heart. He says colored folks have no influence & cant have for a great many years, & white folks must manage such things for them. He has been smelling around there, but the trustees to whom the land is leased, nearly all wish to control the Church themselves, choose their minister &c, & they want L. & Va. to teach the school.

This evening they met to organize a new Church. Rev. Samson White took the lead, & Mr. Parker of Boston who was present, said they did the business in a very creditable manner. To morrow P.M. a meeting is to be held, & the Church is to be recognized, & they will invite Dr. B. & Mr. Gladwin & his ministers, VIZ.:

Rev. Owen, Rev. Post, Rev. Scott, Rev. Vassar Rev. Pepper, &c. Only colored men took part this evening. I am glad they are trying to do something themselves. Very cold to night, & it required a great effort to leave my cheerful fire & writing table & go to Grantville again. But I wish to encourage the people, & my presence will do some good on such occasions.

Sunday Jan. 10th.

Very bright, cold. —In P.M. went to Grantville to meeting. Recognition of 3^d. Col^d. Bap. Ch. in Alex. The first Col^d. B. Ch. formed in 1804. —The house was crowded this P.M. & the Exercises were very interesting. Those that look part were Reverends Post, Pepper, Bigelow, 2 Parkers, Gladwin, Scott, White, Robinson, & Gen. Briggs & Mr. Loomis. — There are 12 members now & Mr. Marshall is their spokesman. I hope they will keep control of the Church, & manage it themselves.

Monday, Jan. 11th.

Milder. Cleaned my part of Clothing Room & regulated things, & waited on people. This P.M. went to Office. No letters for several days. Papers from Ella, severe snow storms in Michigan, & Illinois. —Tried to find andirons, but did not succeed, bought wash basin, &c.

Hear that Gen S. has ordered Mr. G. to put windows in rooms at old mill, & make stairs. result of Mr. Latham's visit to Gen. S. But Mr. G. supposed they saw Gen. S. when they were here before; he took the alarm & has already done it; so he thinks he has got the start of Gen. S. once.

Small pox boy removed from this Hos. yesterday. —People ordered to come here to be vaccinated, but Dr. Bigelow has been away all day, & people have waited here all day for him. Want of management somewhere. —Louisa & Virginia had 80 scholars today. I gave the school 2 doz. Slates.

Tuesday Jan. 12th.

Warmer, bright. —Attended to washing. Ironed some, cleaned my room. About 4 P.M. Miss C. Hancock & Mrs. Childs came in Ambulance from ~~to~~ Washington.

Mrs. J. got lunch for them, then they drove to Slave Pen, Soldiers Rest, round by Marshall House &c, & I went to W. with them.

The roads are fine. Met great many carriages, as we can only go by land now. Such fast driving. The river is entirely frozen over, & most of surface very rough. The Long Bridge is a crowded thoroughfare, & must be dangerous. A new Railroad Bridge is commissioned[?]. It seems strange to me to go out where people are stirring. I dare say I appear queer & awkward. —Walked from Avenue to Mrs. Breeds. —Mrs. B. urges my acceptance of the matronship of the Home. I feel unequal to the task. I am not the person for such a place. I have named Mrs. Coleman to Mrs. B.

Mr. Latham called, & Mr. Bourne. Mr. L. is getting facts about Contraband affairs. They are after Col. Greene now. It appears he is not immaculate. —

Dr. B. vaccinated me this evening with black vaccine! only think of it!

Wednesday Jan. 13th.

Hazy. Left Mrs. Breed's about 10 A.M. Called on Judge Day. Met Miss Hancock & sister. Met Col. Tate. spent an hour or more in finding out when Omnibus left for Alex. Then went to Capitol. Draped in black. Ex. Sec. of Interior, Caleb Smith is dead. went into House & heard Mr. Channing open the session with prayer. Nothing interesting said or done, staid an hour or so, bought some views in W. & went to Senate Chamber, so full could not affect an entrance for some time. People rushed to hear Garrett Davis of Ky. speak in his own defense. Sen. Wilson having offered a Resolution a few days since for his

Expulsion on account of disloyal words uttered in the Sen. Chamber. Davis's seat is quite near Wilson's, & he faced him most of the time. He tried to be very severe on W. who was as unmoved as a stone. such a pushing & crowding in the galleries. I obtained a seat after awhile & staid till 3½ P.M. then left him speaking, & for aught I know he is speaking yet.

In car met Mr. Johnson & Mrs. Gibbons. A long Omnibus drawn by 6 horses conveyed me to Alex. not crowded, had pleasant ride for one dollar only. —

Surgeon of the 7th Pa. Reserves a passenger. had some pleasant conversation. Reached Alex. At 5, stopped at W. House for supper, & arrived at my own room at dark. Things all safe, & feel very well. Boy with telegram startled me a little, but it is from Mr. Gibbard to say he intends to be in Alex. tomorrow morning. Intends to take girl back with him.

Jan. 14th, Thursday.

Warm & pleasant. Went with Caroline Washington to get Pass to go to W. —About 11 A.M. Rev. I. Gibbard came & staid till 1. P.M. —& Caroline is to go tomorrow to W. & go on home with him. We have been waiting a month for him & it will be a relief to me to know that she is safely away & well provided for. She is to go to Burdett N.Y. — Ironed this P.M.—But few calls. Letters from Angeline & Elisabeth. Hear that Dr. Webster is to take care of new Hospital, & Dr. Bigelow is to have Claremont & live in this house where Hos. is now. —

Lord, have mercy on these poor people! for Dr. B. seems devoid of common humanity. Reports come to us of great abuses practiced on those people along the Mississippi. They are Haves yet, & fare worse under the lessees of the plantations, than under their old masters. Many have the same old slave drivers over them now!

²Jan. 29th, Friday. Very warm.

Did various chores. About noon Charlotte & Sis came. They got back from Culpepper yesterday & had a good time.—They dined with me at Washington House. Then I went with them to Barracks, but they wd. not go in. Went to new Hospital but they were afraid of that although it is not finished & nobody in it. Met Dr. Bentley there. He does not like the way it is made.—

C & Sis refused to go the Slave Pen. I could not show them anything & they were evidently not interested, especially sis, who seemed to care for nothing but getting back to W. again. But I suppose both were tired after their jaunt to C. So they rested while I got ready & we took the 4 P.M. boat to W.—The day has been bright & remarkably warm. Parasols quite necessary for comfort.—Sis showed no interest in anything on the trip, & at last I let her alone. She does not deserve nor appreciate the privileges she has.

We went to Markham's & took tea. Then to Brown's where C. & Sis are stopping with Mr. J. Griffin & wife.—Charlotte brought Passes from the front for myself &c. wh. had been procured there previous to her going, & if she had waited a little, we could all have gone together. She offered to go back with me, but I cannot allow her to do so & leave Mary Julia in Washington, for several days with a person of Mrs. J.W. G's stamp. I should take no comfort, & neither wd. C.—for Sis needs watching.

Mr. G. took the papers to Gen. Martindale who thinks they are all right. I would so like to go; but I will not be so selfish. Brown's is a large house & full of boarders, & Sis is so pretty that she receives a great deal of attention. It was after dark when I went to Dr. B's. so Sis & Mr. Moore walked over there with me. So tomorrow we are to spend in sight seeing.

Jan. 29 30th. Misty & damp.

This morning C. & Sis & Mrs. G. called for me & we went first to Patent Office & saw all that we wished there. They are painting & making improvements. What a world of things. About 3000 models are received every year. Then we went to the Smithsonian & saw all that we cared about seeing. Sis admired nothing but the stuffed birds, some of these gay plumaged ones “would be so beautiful to wear on a bonnet.”

Took lunch at Stanton's on 7th St.—Then went to Reception at White House. But few present. C & I would have staid awhile to see the people as they came in & rested[?] in the East Room. But Mrs. G. & Sis were in a hurry to get back to dress for dinner & away they went & we followed. The President wore no gloves today & walked about as usual. Mrs. Lincoln was dressed in black velvet, trimmed with white, in very good taste She looked a little flushed & excited

² Until further notation, entries correspond to Haverford scans HC13-26004_094 to HC13-26004_182 in their Folder entitled Nov. 20, 1863 to April 20th 1864.

Went to Brown's & rested awhile. Mrs. G., C. & Sis were to go to Markham's to dine & then Sis was to go to the Theater with a strange gentleman. How can C. let her do so! I asked Sis to go & stay all night with me, but she began to cry & pout; I said no more about it. And this is the child that was so dear to me once, & whose mother was jealous of her love for me. Now changed and not for the better. She seems to enjoy nothing but dress & frivolous company.

I went to Mrs. Lake's & took dinner & returned to Dr. B's about dark, very, very tired. Raining hard this evening.

Sunday Jan. 31st. 1864

Have given up going to Culpepper for the present, but still hope to go some time. Went to Unitarian Ch. & heard Mr. Channing from Micah 6-8. Fine discourse. He was himself entirely.

In P.M. C. & I went with Dr. & Mrs. B. & Meena to Georgetown to Colored Home.

Sickness & 2 small pox panics have turned things topsy turvey. It is discouraging to see things in such condition. Mrs. Holt, the new matron, is to come tomorrow, & it is to be hoped things will be regulated & looked after as they should be. Had interesting ride.

Monday Feb. 1st. '64. Washington.

Little rain. Called at Brown's & went with Mrs. G., & C. & Sis to Capitol. We wandered "up ~~down~~ stairs & down stairs & in my lady's chamber," & also in subterranean regions. About 11 1/2 Mr. G. came; we bought pictures & had a lunch. There are refreshment rooms & ice cream rooms &c below. Then went into Supreme C. Room & sat awhile. Then to the Hall of Reps. & heard Mr. Channing open the Session with prayer, to which there was pretty good attention. Sat an hour, various bills were presented, but nothing interesting was said or done. & we journeyed over to the Senate Chamber.

Brown & Henderson of Missouri & Sumner spoke in reference to the death of Noell, member from Mo. Sumner was eloquent, every word told. Mr. Noell was the first man from a Slave State who proposed immediate Emancipation.

Mr. Grimes made a speech on Naval affairs. Adjourned at 2 1/2 P.M. Sis did not seem to enjoy it. "How long you going to stay here?" was asked more once.

Went to Sanitary Fair. Cor Seventh & Pa. Av. Nothing very remarkable about it. bought some pictures.

Went to Brown's oh! so tired. I said goodbye to C. & Sis who intend to leave for home tomorrow evening. & I went to Dr. B.'s.

Tuesday Feb. 2d.

'Clarred' off. Bright P.M. Took leave of Mrs. B. about 10 A.M. Called on Mrs. Munson, & on Mr. Van Santvoord & to see Miss Wheelock, who has gone to the front for a few days.

Came back on 1 P.M. boat. Made the acquaintance of The Black Swan who was coming to Alex. to sing this evening.

Had a general & thorough cleaning up. Mrs. Reeves called & will go to the front with me if I go & can get passes for us both. In evening went to the Fair. Few present. Sales small, of course.

Wednesday 3d,

Did various chores. Hospital not moved yet. Dr. Bigelow is not to have charge of the hospitals, but is to be an Ass. Surgeon.

Went to Fair in evening. After 11 when we got back, was tired. I sold a 50 cent pin-cushion to a half drunk German Zouave, a waste of time & very tedious for me.

Thursday Feb. 4th.

Swept & regulated Clothing room. At 2 P.M. went to Mr. Dogan's funeral. Congress has Resolved to inquire into the Military Administration of Alex. punishment at Slave Pen, showering &c.—

I rejoice at this & hope something good will result from it. Wrote to Mr. Breed. In evening went to Fair, very tiresome. Nearly 12 when we left.

Friday, Feb 5th, '64. Fine.

Cleaned my room, attended to washing. Went to Pro. Mar, office & got pass for the month. This P.M. ironed, etc.

About 3 1/2 P.M. Louisa & Virginia went with me to the Cemetery. First to the Potters Field to see where Contrabands are packed away. Talked with a grave digger, says he has been told to put 3 or 4 into one grave. I intend to complain of the state of things here. It is disgraceful to have such a state of things exist.

In another part of the Cemetery, we saw the burial of a colored child. The pretty little coffin was borne by 4 little boys, with long white hat bands. The father of this child is dark, but the mother would pass for a white woman, has light hair & light eyes & is good looking.

Then we went to the Soldiers Burying Ground. A large number of workmen are employed here all the while to improve it & make it beautiful. What a contrast to the burying place of the Contrabands. Much of the fence that enclosed the cemetery has been destroyed; & the 11th Regulars are encamped so near, that graves are trampled upon.

This seems unnecessary, & wantonly destructive & insulting on the part of the military. They were having a dress parade, & we looked at them awhile. They have a fine band, They played some sad tunes wh. seemed quite in keeping with the surroundings.

Cannot go to Fair tonight, must rest. Letter from Mary. Joe is coming home on 30 days furlough, & she is almost beside herself with joy. I am glad for her. Has not decided yet whether to re-enlist. I trust & pray that he will get home safely & be spared to see many happy years with his family.

Saturday Feb. 6th.

Went to W. on 9 A.M. boat. Went to 359 I St. & Dr. & Mrs. B. went with me to call on Sen. Wilson at W. House, but he had gone out. Then we went to call on Sen. Julian, & he was gone also. But we had a very pleasant interview with Mrs. Julian. She is the daughter of J.R. Giddings & lately married.

Dr. & Mrs. B. drove to landing with me & I came back on 1 P.M. boat. Stopped at Fair wh. was open this P.M. for children. At 5 went to tea, & then back again; after 12 when we got home & tired enough. A goodly number in attendance & we sold considerable. It is to be opened again next Monday evening.

Sunday Feb. 7th.

Fair. cooler. So tired this morning. It was almost impossible to get up, but I made a desperate effort after 8 o'clock, & got up & went to breakfast.—Then I had a general cleaning up., & picking up things, & it was dinner time before I was ready to sit down to write & rest.

It has not seemed like Sunday. Two companies of the Invalid Corps who are quartered in the Friends Meeting H. use the vacant lot opposite our house for a parade ground. Morning & evening there is a lively time & people will stop to look; & today I have stood & looked at them, there is a fascination in such precision of movements. Their blue uniforms look neat & tidy & comfortable. Their gloves are very white. Their arms are bright, but I can see no use in so much drilling.

This evening went to Barracks to hear [*Transcriber's note: Blank space left*] preach! A negro woman too. Has been 5 yrs. in Africa, I must learn something more about her. She spoke there, Barracks this morning. & there was a great crowd this evening, again all around outside as well as inside. Mrs. J. & I succeeded in getting into the room; but it was at the peril of our bones & clothes. When we got in, the people were singing, shaking hands, swaying to & fro & having a good

Time. Even "Brothers Owen & Gladwin" cd. get no seats. The preacher wore a plain quaker garment, black dress, muslin underkerchief, white shawl. & plain cap, consisting of one piece, the hem in front turned back. This is the dress of an old time methodist, I think, but she is probably an old time Baptist. She has woolly hair, is quite dark, & has a very pleasant expression of countenance, & of middle age.

She read "Oh! for a closer walk with God" very impressively. & it was sung with much feeling & energy; there followed an earnest prayer which moved the audience excessively. Then came groans, & shouts, & the wailing sounds peculiar to these people. Indeed they were mightily moved. A person hearing such, & seeing such an assemblage for the first time, might well be frightened. I knew they were harmless. & moreover I am not very susceptible but the impression this scene gave me, I cannot describe.—

The text was "As Moses lifted up the serpent," &c. Pharaoh & the children of Israel were treated of in a style quite new to me. She saw & heard everything she spoke of. "I see the water on each side in pendicular hills, I see the Lord feeling for the linchpins in Pharaoh's chariot wheels. She went on & at last compared very briefly the going out from Egypt to the freeing of the slaves & said if God will give you a crust of bread & a drink of water, take it & be thankful that you are free & that your children will be free. But beware that you do not murmur because everything is not as you wd. like to have it.—Her gestures were very correct[?] & her manner very impassioned. When speaking of the love & sufferings of Christ, she said "who is it that comes from Boozah with garments dyed with blood; they scourged him with wire whips. & we learn that the ground is stained with blood till this day." "His groans they split the rock. Honies, didn't you hear the ring of them hammers when they nailed my Jesus

to the cross?" She raised the feelings of the audience to the highest pitch, & when she had done there were "glories & hallelujahs." Tomorrow evening she is to lecture about Africa. but I cannot go to hear her as I must attend to the Fair.

Monday

Last evening of Fair. good attendance. & very lively. I have sold about \$15 worth in all, After 12 when we got back & tired enough. I am glad it is over. It has been very tiresome. The city is very quiet in the night. Fighting at the front last Saturday.

Tuesday

Last evening Boxes came from R. Society & from Phebe C. This A.M. I unpacked them. This P.M. Mrs. Henry called, I have had headache & feel fagged out.

Wednesday, Feb. 10,

Wintry day. Went to Soldiers Rest & left papers & magazines. Called at one room in Slave Pen. Went to Grantville school.

Thursday 11

Cold. Very busy day waited on people in C. Room all day. The new goods have gone off rapidly. Sold about \$35 worth.

Letter from Joe Van B. dated Knoxville Dec. 28—well then & expecting to go home. This evening, although very tired, I went with Louisa J. to Concert Hall to see Mr. Jones Exhibition of paintings. He is col^d, he sings also. & makes it quite interesting. Has patriotic songs for sale, I wish he wd. exhibit at Grantville school. Returned after 10 but streets all quite.

Friday 12.

Went to Commissary, drew rations under the new order. They receive 3000 for 10 days making 300 a day.—I supposed, including children, there are 400 who draw rations here.—

Waited on people in clothing room. Too tired to go to sewing school at Grantville.

Downing, Remond & Smith here.—Hospital not moved yet. Have been through this to day. This evening wrote letters—

Alex. Saturday. Feb. 13, 1864

Fine.—Busy day. Went for kerosene & to P.O.—

Letter from Mr. Griffin. He was in the fight at Barrett's Ford. Have skirmishes every week & are liable to be ordered to move at any time. Will get papers if I wish. but cannot promise to see me if I come, can get poor board in Culpepper at \$2 per day. I see that I must give up going to the front. for I do not care about going unless I can see Mr. G. as he is the only one I know.

Yesterday I sent for Dr. Collins. I wished him to see the room that Patsey is in. She has Consumption & is unable to sit up now. Phebe, a nurse, occupies the same room. A few weeks since a woman was put in there having the worst of all diseases & the stench is horrible. Dr. B. says he can't stay there a minute & yet Phebe sleeps there & Patsey stays there through it all. & dies by inches. I can stay there only a few minutes at a time. Dr. C. came this morning but I was out, I did not see him, so sorry.

He came again this P.M. & I was away. So in my desperation I went to Dr. Bigelow & asked if Patsy could not be moved into the other room, as one woman had lately left it. He said yes, & I made all the arrangements necessary offering to take Phebe into my room for a few nights.—But to our great joy he then said, he would send this woman to Claremont immediately & he did so. There she should have been taken at first, the poor creature! The room has been cleaned out & Patsey is comparatively comfortable & I feel greatly relieved. & so do the nurses.—But it has made me a little sick since yesterday. & affects my appetite.

I thank Dr. B. for this; but he should have done it at first.—

This A.M. I visited every family at the Slave Pen. It is not crowded now, & it is all quite comfortable. but some rooms are very filthy. The women tell me that soldiers are not showered quite so often lately. But colored

men have been showered this winter. But Lieut. Donn does not swear & kick them about as Barnelo did. & the guard are not allowed to blackguard the women prisoners as was done last summer. One Lieutenant's family live there now. & things are managed much more decently.—This P.M. I visited all the lower rooms in two of the barracks. But few of them are at all tidy. & some of the families are very destitute. The rations have been withheld & the men have had no pay in 3 months. Quite a number sick, & have no medical care worth mentioning. Two bodies carried to cemetery this P.M. & both put in one grave. Only a few of the rooms are crowded now, & although it is Saturday but few floors had been scrubbed. At one time they were obliged to do it every Sat. While I was

there, 8 or 9 gentlemen appeared in the yard. I only knew Gladwin, Owen & Gen. Slough. Some of them looked into the rooms. But Mr. G. seemed about one foot taller

than usual. —I think this is the Com. who are to look into the way military affairs are conducted here. & taking the representations of the accompanying gentlemen, all will be well & properly done, no doubt. & things will go on in the same old way. The mills of the gods grind most too slow.

Sunday, Feb. 14th. 1864

high wind. went to Christ Ch. heard Mr. Drumm but did not like the sound particularly, & found myself nodding.—wrote this P.M. Mr. Downing here getting recruits for Mass. Cav. Regt.—Patsey died this P.M. & a woman died yesterday in Hos. —P. had been here since last summer.& leaves a little boy that we must care for.

Last night I dreamed of seeing Louisa & Virginia drowned. I was in great distress. Today a report is in circulation that these girls have been kidnapped by doctors from the north for dissection. Also that they seized a man & his wife in the st. the other night, but the woman was so poor they let her go, & took only the man. Some of the colored folks are afraid to go out in the night. They are harassed in every way.

Monday, Feb. 15th. 1864

Cold. In P.M. snowed. Patsey was carried out to day & I rode in the ambulance to the Potters Field. her boy went too. Quite a number have been buried since last Friday week. & I hear nothing more of a new burying ground. We must take Jackson to the Geoⁿ. Home.

I hear that Dr. Bigelow has been discharged. Too good to be true. Went to Barracks to take things to sick boy. Went into school. Leland there. Mr. Axe gone today. Leland says "he does'nt teach much now, he attends to his mission principal." I think Mr. G. has made him a missionary at large, something like myself. I went into the new Hospital. It is being made very nice, & as it should be. Two portable furnaces in each ward, & more rooms have been made, I am afraid the colored folks will not have it long if they go into it; it will be "good enough for white folks," & they will be put into it eventually.

Went to meeting this eve to Col^d. Bap. Ch, to hear Downing & Remond. but few present. They seem afraid of being asked to enlist.

Tuesday Feb. 16th. 1864

Windy & cold. Have been out but little. Every thing has been moved from this Hospital today into the new one on Prince St. & Paine St. It looks lonely enough in the North House now. I should not care about going through those rooms alone to night. & yet I claim to be as free from superstition as any body. Too many unpleasant associations connected with that house. What sad sights, what suffering from neglect, what uncomfotableness I have seen there. I hope & pray that a new order of things will be

instituted in the new hospital. & that a matron will be provided for it.—Phebe who sleeps in the room where Patsey died, thinks she & Jackson (Patsey's boy) had a visit from a

ghost last night. They think it was Patsey's, I suppose. It made a rustling at first. It was all in white, & put its arms around the boy's neck; remained a short time & then vanished. Phebe was never so frightened before. I cannot persuade her that she is mistaken.—Well, ghosts may have it all to themselves there tonight.

Mr. G. says they have staked out a new burying ground, near the Catholic ground.

I have indulged myself in the luxury of reading the Tribunes & doing various chores today. I have not felt like going out.

Feb. 17th.

Intensely cold, high wind.

Went to Hospital, not warm there. They nearly froze last night. Met Dr. Barker for the first time. He is to have charge of the Hos. or to be the Surgeon there. It is not finished yet.—This P.M. went again & took Mr. G.'s Cav. pants to Isaac. He is old & just come in from 3 mi. out.

Went to Slave pen. Frances Brooks gave me a pair of handcuffs found in the Slave pen prison, when it was cleaned out. I am told that soldiers have been showered today. How barbarous in such weather. I can hardly keep comfortable sitting by the fire with my shawl on. The water does not run. I fear the pipes will burst again.

Thursday 18th.

Coldest day yet, we cannot make fire enough to keep warm. How the poor people must suffer! Waited on people in C. room. Letter from Mrs. Earle, has sent another bbl. River frozen over. boats do not run to W.

Friday

Went to hospital. I almost froze, they cannot warm the rooms there. & it is a dismal, uncomfortable place now.

Waited on people & given away blankets & various things. We cannot keep warm in this house even.

About 5 P.M. Mr. & Mrs. Marshall & Lieut. Sweet & wife came from N.Y. on the steamer Mississippi with a Regiment which is going to Brandy Station. The ladies will stop here & in W.—They are now at the W. House & I have spent a pleasant evening with them.

My bedstead & mattress have been taken from me today. Dr. Bentley does not seem disposed to oblige us.

Saturday Feb. 20th,

Not quite so cold. Miserable couch last night. did not sleep well & do not feel first rate today. Mrs. M. & Mrs. L. came over this A.M. awhile. Lieut. S. quite ill. This P.M. went with Mrs. J. for bedstead & straw. Worked a little. Water pipe burst, but my part of the

room was not deluged as badly as before. Mrs. J's goods considerably wet. It seems as if the old Nick was after us. Letter from Ella. All well. Strange I do not hear from Frances or Charlotte, I am lonely & dispirited.

Mr. Bush of Portsmouth, Va. is here attending the Convention which is being held for the purpose of taking measures to abolish Slavery in VA. Mr. B. is interested in the colored folks & is the only member of the Convention who is willing to give the negro his rights. The rest are in favor of abolishing slavery, now, hoping for compensation. They see that it must come, & they mean to make the most of it. Mr. Bush wants information on the subject, therefore made us a call,

I spent most of the evening at W. House.

Sunday, Feb. 21st.

Warmer. Felt miserably & did not rise till 10 A.M. Cleaned myself thoroughly & felt some better. At noon went to W. House. Mr. Marshall left this morning with the 40th. N.Y. for Brandy Station. Lieut. Sweet is no better & had just been taken to Hallowell S. Hospital. Has pleurapneumonia & is seriously ill.—Mrs. Marshall is miserable, at 1 P.M. went to W. with her brother Mr. Hiram

Berry. After dinner I went with Mrs. Sweet to the Hos. she will stay with her husband at present.—I am not in a mood for reading, writing or doing anything this P.M.—Perhaps the weather affects me. It is cloudy & signs of a storm. I feel so discouraged somehow.

Monday 22^d vaccinated today

such a busy day. So many people have called. went out & bought bedstead, straw, etc. Have made tick & filled it & now have a high, sound, hard bed. I am getting tired living in this way. shut out from society, with so many discomforts to undergo. & the work is so hard & wearing. If I cd. have the society of a few intelligent white people occasionally it would be such a relief. Well, this will not always last.— Letters from Frances & Henrietta. Mrs. P. is to move soon.—F. is in R.—No good news. Did I allow myself, I might be sick over what she writes about

some who have been near & dear to me. One person can make a hundred others unhappy. To bad, too bad, yet none of us have any reason to be surprised, for "as we sow so must we reap", no help for it. The law is fixed.—

Tuesday 23^d. 1864

Fine. warm. Feel so tired & worn out today. Worked in my room & clothing room till noon. Mrs. Jacobs is ill; has overworked probably. After dinner I went to the Slave Pen & Barracks & Hospital. Frances Brooks went with me to look for hand-cuffs (when old iron is collected). Such a filthy place! I only wonder that a plague of some kind does not seize the people of this town. At the foot of Washington St. near Hunting Ck. Bridge is a common where filth of all kinds is deposited, & when a S. wind blows, the air is too vile to breathe.—

A funeral from the Barracks, Mrs. Lane's grandchild. There was a nice coffin carried in a hearse, & 2 or 3 hacks & a procession of the friends went to the grave. Quite unusual for a Contraband funeral.

The new Hospital is all unsettled yet. & far from being finished. work goes on slowly. Another man with Small pox taken away this morning. These cases are owing to Dr. Bigelow's neglect while in the Hos. here.—Phebe A. Turner tells me that she was at the Slave Pen for water last Wednesday morning & saw a Soldier showered. It was bitter cold. & I think it is outrageous. Two other persons were showered Sunday P.M., one white & one colored.

A few days since a colored woman was publicly whipped. She received 39 lashes by order of the civil authorities here, & is now in jail for 30 days. It seems she accused Mr. Brice of killing a soldier & burying him on the premises. The house was searched & the yard & cellar dug up & a great stir made. I am told she says now that she told a lie.— It seems from this that the black laws are in full force here. glorious land this. Most Sacred soil! One law for the white & another for the black. I am heart sick.

The second Corps at Brandy Station gave a ball last night. Distinguished persons went down from W. in a special train, of course at government expense, as it is a Mil. R. Road. all for the pleasure of officers. No privates partake of such amusements. They can perform the labor of it all. It must be a great trial of their patience. Today I have seen drunken, swearing soldiers. Last night at the Ball in Chappell's Hall, there was a shooting affray. It is only a few yards from here.—A guard of Zouaves is enough to demoralize any city. It is more disorderly lately. The colored folks still believe there are doctors here seizing & killing folks for dissection. From what I hear of the School at the Barracks, it is a place where children should not go. Mr. Axe, beats the children, & jerks & throws them about in a rough & brutal manner. And the (?), sanctimonious Superintendent keeps such a man there.

Wednesday Feb. 24. 1864.

High wind. Went on 9 A.M. boat to W. but with no one to speak with I did not half enjoy it. Went to Mrs. Breed's, then had a hunt for the Am. Tel. of. but Mrs. Berry was away. Went to Capitol & directly to the Senate, The 1st hour was not interesting. But after that the Res. to make Gen. Grant a Lieut. Gen. was taken up. Speeches were made by Grimes against it & by Hale. Wilson, Rev. Johnson [*Transcriber's note: blank space*] of Ohio & [*Transcriber's note: blank space*] of Mich. in favor of it. I enjoyed it although I think it a waste of time. I should say wait till the war's over & then will be time enough then to bestow honors. I think with Grimes that Grant can do very well with \$6000 a year. & wd. hesitate before I wd. give \$14000 to any body. But the pros & cons were curious to hear.

Hale would confer this honor; for if we withhold it the people will resent it & make him the next President. All have a high opinion of Grant. But there is no precedent for doing this,

There have been only 2 instances, Washington & Scott. W.'s was after 15 yrs. of service to his country. —Fessenden was speaking when I left at 3 1/2 P.M., in favor.—Called to see Mrs. Marshall at Clarendon House. She has been sick in bed since she left Alex. last Sunday. Poor woman, She thinks it is a severe influenza! But Consumption will claim her for its victim soon. I very much fear.—

Left on 5 P.M. boat. The dust has been dreadful today. I should think people wd. have sore eyes & lung complaints in consequence.—No good news.

Formation of a Freedmen's Bureau meets with much opposition. Nichols is at Arlington yet, the scamp! but what shall we say of those who retain him there?

Mrs. B. says the Home does not prosper. There is a great deal of sickness there for some cause, & Miss Mann is dreadful. I wish they would remove her too.—

Thursday, Feb. 25th

Pleasant weather. Waited on people all the A.M. In P.M. went to Hospital. The building is being improved. Another man died this morning.

The 183d Penn., 800 of them, were here on their way to the front. At the Soldiers Rest now.

At 2 P.M. went to Barracks, to School Anniversary. A portion of 4 schools there. A number strangers happened in. The speakers were Maj. Silvey, Capt. Wyman, Owen, Scott, Robinson, Denman, Powell of N.Y. & gentlemen from Troy & Albany. The children appeared well & it was an interesting slight. Mrs. Jacobs spoke & Miss Collier also. When Mr. Gladwin asked me to speak, I said "I have no school here, you took possession of my room & broke up my school & if I speak, that is what I shall say." He didn't urge the matter any further.—

He has been in his glory today, thinking his fame will go abroad with these strangers. His first words this P.M. were a misrepresentation of facts in regard to the schools.

Maj. Silvey said, "Come over & see us." Come down and tell me how you are on it for comforts." "They have had me up for doing what I did." I said, "Thank you. I have supplied myself. I have what I want." "no matter."—

I cannot think him sincere in his professions of kindness.—

Capt. W. came in with 8 ladies. I think they were from Washington. but some of them did not appear to like the idea of sitting down with niggers, & insisted upon standing. The Capt. was all smiles, spoke well, as he always does. but began by calling Mr. G. "his warm friend." Capt. W. ought to see through Mr. G. & if he does not, it is probably

because he will not. His influence keeps Mr. G. where he is, & at the expense of the best interests of these people. ____

Mr. Owen is a man of small abilities, but good as far as he goes perhaps.—I devoutly wish both Robinson & Barker were better informed & more talented than they are.

Feb 26th.

Oh! the wind & the dust. Too bad to be in the street. I have only been out to my meals & to the P.O.— Water pipes fixed today. Hope they will not burst again. Waited on people nearly all day, sewed a little. Tired tonight.

27th

Fine. Called on Miss Collier & Mrs. Sweet. Her husband is some better. Then cleaned my room & myself which took till 4 P.M.— Called at Mrs. Henry's but she was out. such an old secesh house! This evening went to Barracks to hear Remond, but he was not there, so the prayer meeting went on. Peter & Leland were the most prominent actors. Peter prayed thus "Oh lord, bless the President of the U.S. if thou wilt; bless the Cabinet kitchen if thou wilt," "Look over Jasper's white walls down on to thy footstool." May we pull together like the Company of Pharaoh's horses in ancient

times. may we be like two doves in one nest." Oh, Lord, shake thy table cloth down among us, & may we get some of the crumbs." The grammar is so awkward that in a minute after it is said I find myself unable to repeat it. I had no pencil nor paper & could not take notes. There are[?] 2 or 8 mourners, Peter said, "we came before thee knee-bent & body bowed. There are several whose knees have been made acquainted with the floor this evening." &c, &c. Several soldiers were present & took part. Rev. Mr. Sluby made some good remarks during the Prodigal's Son. This was very good.

28th Sunday,

Went to W. on the 10 A.M. boat. No other lady passenger. talked with Mary Whiting the stewardess, born in Alex. has been North once. She does not believe that the time will ever come when colored women will be admitted to the cabin with white women. That is too much altogether.—No cars run on Sunday & I walked from landing to Clarendon

Hotel Cor. 6th & Pa. Av. Found Mrs. Marshall some better. I shall stay with her until tomorrow. I found here "Hannah Thurston," B. Taylor's new book, & I am quite interested in it. Mrs. Angle thinks there is a similarity between Hannah & myself. I only see it yet in our both being A. Slavery, Improving Women Rights, & a resolution to live in single blessedness.

W. is a dismal place today. The atmosphere is filled with dust. Not much of the usual stir. No cars running.

Monday 29th Feb.

Last day of winter. Cloudy, rain in N.Y. this morning, it will probably reach here in about 24 hrs. The whole army is moving. Even the Potomac Part of it has reached the Rapidan. They have waited till the fine weather is over, & a storm is expected. The men have left their log houses wh. they had made quite comfortable. & now will

be exposed to a severe storm probably, & in a few days will come back again to Culpepper vicinity.

Mrs. Marshall feels much better this morning. & rested some last night. But I nearly finished Hannah Thurston before retiring & then I did not sleep much. Hannah concludes to get married. She does not speak in public any more. & asks her husband to resume smoking &c. Many of the characters are true to the life. I have seen just such reformers, but I am not quite prepared to accept all the conclusions.

About 10 I went to find "All quiet" &c" after a long walk went to Fair of San. Com. in Patent Of.— Fine Collection of things, but having very high prices—

Went back to Hotel to dinner & took leave of Mrs. M. at 4 & came back to Alex. Very tired, but I have been to Barracks this evening to hear Remond & Downing.

& I enjoyed very much. It is refreshing to hear somebody speak that has sense & refinement. I hoped the usual singing & praying would be dispensed with for once, but no, one third of the time at least was occupied with lining[?] & drawling[?] "Amazing grace" & "Show pity," &c. & Mr. Gladwin saw fit to speak to apologize to Peter for not giving him a chance to speak too. Mr. G. knows just about as much as Peter & some others.—

After meeting our set went to the Fair at Connoway's Hall. I was tired enough, before this. & it was 11 when we got home. The avails of this Fair is to get a banner for the Odd Fellows & I did not care to patronize it, even by my presence. A number of the people were nearly white. but the table tenders were strangers to me, a new set altogether. I was too tired to be interested. Downing & Remond have policy in mingling with the

people. They are getting recruits for the Mass. Cav. Regt. & they are very successful. Snowing this evening, very dark.

Alex. March 1st. 1864.—

Rainy day, yet I have enjoyed it, I have had but few interruptions. I felt so tired I did not rise till 9 & had no breakfast of course. I have done various chores & written some. Yesterday a package came from Phebe. Two pieces of Calico at 25 cents a yd. & a piece of sheeting at 35- cents.—Such as was formerly sold for 12 ½ cents, both cal. & cot.

Mr. Downing here. He intends to leave with 18 men tomorrow. I am glad. Detroit paper today. The 2d. Mich. reached Detroit on the 24th inst. about 200 men. the city

welcomed them & the Hotels entertained them. They are to be quartered at Fort Wayne for the present. The time seems long to many. I am sure.

I have not felt so devoutly thankful before. That her husband is one of the few that has lived to return after so many perils. I do not know how to be thankful enough for her sake as well as his.

Letter from Frances. Trouble yet with & Mary J.—What will they do?

Dr. Pettijohn came back last evening to fill the same place as before. We are so disappointed.—

Mar. 2d. Wednesday

Bright & colder. Attended to washing. Then went to the jail & saw the girl who was whipped. but Mr. Bushby, the jailor was present, & I could not say much to her, shall try to go again.

Called at Hospital & saw Lieut. Sweet, he is better.—About noon Miss Jackson & 2 other ladies came from W. I got carriage for them & we went to Fairfax Seminary. Went up into the steeple. Fine view. —Only 20 sick men in the Hospital. some making bead collars, one man

making picture frames. Named Hillman from Canandaigua. Left antislavery books & papers with them.—

An interesting ride. On return called at Soldier's Rest &c. drove round by Christ Church, then to Landing.—

This evening I have ironed & I am very tired tonight.

Mrs. Henry & Miss Collier called.

Barrel came from Worcester.

Mar. 3^d—

Find. Cold. Attended in clothing room all day. Hard day's work & I am tired tonight. Miss Owen came today. She is to teach but I don't know where. Miss Collier called. Mr. G does not consent to her having a room & she now thinks he is a very strange man.

Mar 4th

Attended in clothing room all day & am very tired tonight. No particular news.

March 5th. Saturday

Rainy so I shall not go to W. to day.

Evening, I have only been to my meals & to P.O.—I have written several letters. It has been a sad day for me. A line from home informs me that father is about leaving his house & farm to Henry & he is going to hire a house in E. Avon for himself & wife. It is hard to have my home occupied in such a way, & myself driven from it, as it were. It is a severe blow. It hardly seems as if my father would do so. I suppose I shall be obliged to go home & dispose of my things. It is hard, very hard to leave the place that was once

my own dear Mother's home. Oh dear, I will try not to think of the future, although it will be a serious matter for me no doubt.

Mr. G. had told Mrs. Jacobs that he wants us to move into the other house. She told him she should not leave this unless Gen. Slough ordered her to do so. But neither of us

will go into the other house. Too many disagreeable associations connected with it. We have seen too much misery there, too many of the neglected sick & dying & dead. And then the rooms are not half as pleasant as these. But I dare say Mr. G. will have it all his own way before he gives it up. & I shall try to find a boarding place elsewhere. He is thoroughly selfish, & as small a person as I ever knew.—And I have but very slight respect for Mr. Owen who seems to be in awe of Mr. G.

Sunday Mar. 6th, 1864

Have only been out to my meals & to P.O.— Have mailed ever so many papers. Have looked over letters & destroyed a quantity & arranged all my papers. Situated as I am here, I think it best to keep every thing straight & as snug as possible. —It was 218 weeks yesterday since my darling Freda was taken from me.

Monday Mar. 7th. 1864

Fine. Called on Lieut. & Mrs. Sweet. Went for passes. Telegram from Mrs. Marshall for me to come to W. intend to go tomorrow with Mrs. S. Been to our Hos. twice. Sick people have nothing but the poor rations which are issued under the last order. They suffer for want of nourishment. Dr. Bentley is making an effort to get something more for them. Been there 3 wks. & no washing done yet. Will it ever be any better. The clerk informed me that “Government is down on the Contrabands.” He is, evidently. It is so strange that Gov. will not employ the friends of these people to have charge of them, instead of those who hate them or are indifferent to them. I am told there is a prospect of Gen. Slough's being removed, & Gen. Briggs is to take his place.

This evening been to hear Frederick Brown, brother of John, who spoke at Bap. Ch., also Remond & Downing. Brown is not a man of large talents, is not educated, & no orator, as

Brutus is, otherwise Remond. Downing & R. succeed well in getting men to go to Mass.—Brown thinks & says he expects to be Superintendent of Contrabands somewhere. perhaps here.—

Tuesday, 8th. Rainy

Mrs. Sweet called. Letter from Mrs. Barnes. Box from R. came yesterday. It contained a nice woolen shawl, a gift from the Society.

Large numbers of troops are passing through here now to the front.

Wednesday, 9th.

Dense fog in morning. Fine day. Mrs. Sweet went with me to W. in 10 A.M. boat.—Miss Collier too. Went to Clarendon & found Mrs. Marshall better. Her husband is sick at Brandy Station. —Went to Capitol with Mrs. S. Sat awhile in the House & also in the Senate. Nothing very interesting being done. Left Davis of Ky. making speech in favor of Slavery. He says it is too bad for Gov. to offer only \$300 for the slaves of loyal masters, when but

for the aggressive policy of the Gov! these slaves would be worth \$1200. He proposes to have the negro troops disbanded & then employ the men as laborers & teamsters. He talked until only 8 members remained on his side of the House & 5 on the other. & some of these were reading & others writing, & nearly all had left the galleries.—

Mrs. S. went back to Alex. at 5 & I called at Dr. Breed's. Met Mrs. Kryzerwoski, wife of a Polish Gen. now in the field.—

Returned to Clarendon to stay with Mrs. M. Saw an officer's funeral, but could not ascertain the name. Such is fame. Gen. Grant arrived last night.

Washington, Mar. 10th.

Rainy day. Went to Dr. B.'s & with Mrs. B. called at rooms of Sanitary Com. Saw Mr. Fowler. He thinks it outrageous that a man like Gladwin should be kept in the position he occupies & spoke his mind very freely concerning him—

Mrs. F. is willing we should have some things for our sick people. & I intend to come over in an ambulance & get them. Pouring rain so I staid with Mrs. B. till night & had a good visit. Then went to Clarendon to spend the night with Mrs. M. she has sat up some today. Last night I slept but little. So much noise in the street & there was a fire not far off. Large quantity of hay was burned. Then a serenade to Gen. Grant who stops at Willards kept me awake. It was very beautiful.

Friday Mar. 11th Washington

Went to Mrs B.'s to return shawl &c. Then went to Capitol. Studied the Bronze Door. It is an exquisite work of art. Cost only \$30,000 in gold. It is ~~20~~ 17 feet high & 9 ft. wide, weighs 20000 lbs. Designed by Rogers, an American Artist in 1858 & cast in bronze by F. von Muller at Munich. It is in Alto relievo. History of Columbus.

Sat in the House awhile. Among the bills presented was one drawn up by Mrs. Breed to aid the Colored Schools. There was a debate on a contested seat &c. When I went into the Senate the everlasting Reverdy Johnson was speaking. I cd. not make out the burden of his song.

Sen. Harris of N.Y. offered a Resolution to aid the Cadets of W. Point, increase their pay, &c. It is now \$30 a mo. He says many of them are ragged & shoeless & they are in debt to the Commissary \$15,000. Mr. Pomeroy said many of these were the sons of rich men & such need not suffer for want of clothes. \$30 & rations ought to support them. Mr.

Anthony R.I. made a speech upon it. Fessenden, Wilson & others spoke on Finance Resolution.

Pouring rain this P.M. so that I do not go back to Alex. Mrs. M. very comfortable today—There was great rejoicing in Alex. yesterday. All the bells

were rung & 100 guns were fired. At 12 o'clock, Slavery was forever abolished in the State by the Constitutional Convention, only one dissenting voice.—

Many people thought there was a great fire, others thought the rebels has come surely & some of the secesh expected soon to embrace their friends. At the Government Corral the horses & mules were frightened & many ran away. Some individuals thought the day of doom had come.—But when it was understood by the people, many hearts beating under dark skins rejoiced as never before. Some noble speeches were made Convention on the subject. Downey, Hawxhurst, Boush & Watson, etc.

March 12th

Fine, warm. Came back to Alex. Letters from Phebe C. & Mary Van B. — Sister M. is happy now. Joe is at home, but it seems he is going back again.—

Went to P.O. & to see Lucinda. A soldier was murdered yesterday in the tunnel between Royal & Fairfax St—Probably by another soldier who robbed him first.—Louisa went with me to Hospital to take some things to the sick. Some improvement. New patients from Claremont.

Called to see Lieut. & Mrs. Sweet. They were out, so he must be better.

Did a little shopping, etc.

This evening Miss Howland & Miss Nichols & Capt. Ferree have been here.

Kilpatrick's Raiders have been coming in for several days from Old Point on their way to join Meade. The horses are nearly used up. They have been within the defenses of Richmond & have performed a bold & dashing exploit.—

It is 219 weeks since my little darling was taken from us. & oh! it is so long since I have heard from her! I have no way now to hear any thing from her.

Sunday, Mar. 13th. 1864

Have only been out to my meals. Made a thorough toilet & felt refreshed. Have written all the while since 12 o'clock. It is now 8. I will stop & read awhile. I have enjoyed the day. I have had no interruptions.

Monday

Attended in clothing room all day. Took in \$45, the most I have ever taken in in one day. Gave away some things. New persons came in last week from Rappahannock.

Very tired tonight—Went to meeting this evening to Mr. Crow's S. house. Mr. Pepper a queer man, is trying to do I know not what. The meeting was a failure.

Tuesday. Snow Squall. cold.

Genuine March weather.

This morning with Miss Collier went to the jail wishing to be there when Mahala Ann Grady was released. but she had already gone. She was not allowed to

stop in the house where she formerly staid with some colored people, but had gone to see her Mother. We hope to find & help her to do something for herself. She had no bonnet, & no clothes but what she wears. If she cannot find a place to work, what will the poor girl do?

I called to see Lieut. & Mrs. Sweet. Then did some cleaning & regulated things. This P.M. evening have read the papers & wrote some.

A number of people came in to-day from Rappahannock. Bought some things. Their master was about to send them south, & they left .

A boy & a girl, both having smallpox. came & stayed in the hall an hour or so this P.M. waiting to see Dr. P. or Mr. G. that they might be sent to the Hospital. I understand that it is now in all the Hospitals, soldiers are brought in sick, & not until they break out can the

surgeons tell whether they have small pox. & then they are sent away to Claremont I suppose.—

Mr. Brooks, another new Missionary from the Home Mis. Soc. has come to labor here. There may be more Missionaries than there are people, after a time.

John Rush of the 72d N.Y. Vol. has been arrested for the murder of the soldier, John Scotten, in the R.R. tunnel. But nothing is proved against him yet. & I think it is quite as likely to be the man who says he found the man murdered in the tunnel.—

We knew Rush, & thought him a good young man. He has led prayer meetings here till within a month. But lately he has been reckless & dissipated.—

I am told people are knocked down in the streets about every night by some of the low citizens. The jailer, Mr. Bushby, says this is a very bad place.—

Wednesday Mar. 16th.

Cold as winter. Went on 9 A.M. boat to W. to hear debate on repeal of Fugitive S. Bill. Called to see Mrs. Marshall. then went to Whitehursts sat for photograph.

Very dusty & the wind makes it almost intolerable in the streets. Went to Capitol & sat in the Senate from 11 1/2 A.M. until 4 1/2 P.M. Instead of the debate we expected to hear, there was first the Bill for increasing the pay of certain Consuls debated at length.

Then the Bill to incorporate the Masonic Societies of the City of W. 17 in number. They wish to purchase land & build a Temple. B.B. French & Robt. McMurdy the controlling spirits. Mr. Grimes introduced the Bill. I was highly gratified to hear the objections made to the Bill by Morrell, Doolittle, Howard, Anthony. It was referred to Com. on Dist. of Col. I shall be sorry if there is not enough of the Anti Masonic spirit left to head off such an attempt to gain power & influence by the Masons.

The W. Metropolitan R.R. Bill was taken up. It received numerous amendments by Leneyck & Morrill &c & a proviso by Sumner that no person should be excluded on acct. of color! This brought Saulsbury to his feet, & there was some loud talk. Massachusetts & Boston & Sumner had to suffer. He talked of the superior race being degraded by riding with negros, of Dr. Augusta, etc.

Mr. Sumner has a speech ready, I am sure, for there was a pile on his desk & he was busy all the time writing & referring to books, & yet seemed to know all about what was going on.

Miss C. left for 4 o'clock boat but I staid another hour.—When I returned, among the passengers were 2 young women, who called for brandy twice on the trip, & were evidently disreputable persons. They were richly dressed & it was a sad sight to see them. one was quite a young girl.—Any body can get liquor on the boats.

It has been a hard day's work. The cold, the wind & the dust. & having no dinner. have been about as much as I can endure.

Mar. 17th. Thursday.

Cool. Called at Hos. to see Mrs. Sweet. Mahala Jane Grady came & I gave her some clothes. This is the girl that was whipped. She was released from jail day before yesterday, & Miss C. has found a place for her. & we hope she will do well.

About 10 A.M. with Mrs. Jacobs & Mrs. Sweet went in Ambulance to Georgetown to take Jackson Craig to the Home. Nice ride. Things look better there than formerly. Mrs. Holt appears to be doing well. We went into the school. The room is fitted up comfortably but the children did not look happy. Hayward & Willis Paine were there but they seemed afraid to speak to me. Miss Mann is cold & stern, & I think has succeeded in crushing their childish spirits. They evidently fear her very much.

Then we drove to W. to the San. Com. & saw Mr. Fowler & Mr. Knapp. The latter made inquires about Mr. Gladwin.

Mr. Fowler gave us an order for 15 lbs. sugar,

5 lbs. tea, 15 lbs. dried fruit, 2 doz. old sheets, 3 doz. old shirts, 1 doz. wrappers. 1 doz. slippers 2 doz. hdkfs. —had no crackers, nor fish, nor toast.—But I am very glad to get so much. Mr. F. says they are being found fault with & it is not certain that they can give us any more.—

(The driver in the mean time took a horn.) Then we went to the Clarendon & found Mrs. Marshall sitting up.—(The driver in the mean time took another horn.) & by the time we got to Long B. he began to feel the influence of his potations. The draw was up & we had to wait & before we had barely[?] got across when a train overtook us. We alighted for

the horses were skittish. & the driver cd. not prevent their going out of the road into a muddy place, but he got them out & we seated ourselves again in the Am. & from that spot to the suburbs of Alex. these horses went on the run. We were less than an hour, & it was at the risk

of our necks. We could do nothing but try to keep on the seats & watch the horses. In passing teams he never held up, & we narrowly escaped coming in contact with several. I thought it would do no good to caution him, for he was drunk.—
We got back at 3 1/2 o'clock. I went to P.O. Letters from Phebe & Anna B. & Mrs. Earle. The latter has sent 2 barrels.—which will probably be all they will send this season.

I went to Wolf St. Hos.—Mr. Wetherbee has been sent to W.—Mr. Gillispie is better.

Miss Collier & Miss Evans called. Miss E. is a new Missionary woman; & then there is a new Missionary man too, Mr. Brooks. Perchance there will be more Missionaries than people!—

Friday Mar. 18th. 1864.

High wind, & dust makes it almost intolerable to be in the street. Attended in clothing room nearly all day. Telegram from Mrs. Berry. Debate on Fugitive Bill tomorrow

at 10 A.M. I shall try to go over.—

About 3 P.M. Dr. & Mrs. Breed & sister Amy & Meena came, & I went with them to Claremont. to Smallpox Hos.— this was the rebel Com. Forrest's mansion. It has been a beautiful place. but the military occupied it first & the fences are all gone, & the shrubbery. The trees are left. Only Dr. & Mrs. B. went in. A guard of 8 soldiers are here. There are 113 patients, about 50 soldiers, the rest are colored men, women & children. The place is clean, & they all seem well cared for. No difference apparently between white & colored.— Dr. Bentley visits it once a week. Dr. Moore is the resident physician, also Dr. Beeson an Indian herb doctor is employed by govt.—He asked Mrs. B. to send 8 cows there, They take only 2 gals. of milk a day. & sometimes can not get this. Dr. M. says the poor colored people suffer for want of clothing. We have neglected them this winter. There has been but very few there until recently, & I have hardly known who the surgeons were until quite lately. I shall send all

the made clothing I have, & I must make an appeal for more. Mrs. B. is a noble woman. Where is another one who wd. go into a Small P. Hos. as she does. She goes to Kalorama also that is near W. It has now 500 patients. A Small P. ambulance in advance of us & we followed it for a mile or two. & we saw a woman leave it & go into the house, no one assisted her. Not far from this house is the railroad B. that the guerrillas attempted to burn a few weeks since. The country is very interesting. I wish Forrest & other leading rebels

could see the devastation of the country in the vicinity of Alex. I talked with the guard at the Hos. He says they are expecting the guerrillas there.

The ride home was pleasant I am tired tonight. The sun, wind & dust have spoiled my face, & it feels very uncomfortably.

Saturday Mar. 19.th

Fine. warmer, went on 9 A.M. boat to W. Went to Capitol, but Senate not in session today. House in session this P.M. but I was

stupid not to go. Mr. Berry sent a second Telegram last night to inform me that the debate on the Fugitive Bill had been put off until Tuesday. —But I did not get it. I found Mrs. Marshall better. Went to see my photograph, but did not like it, & sat again, in a dress & collar of Mrs. Marshall's. Called on Mrs. Lake. Met Mr. G. & Mr. O. there, & Mr. G. insisted upon my riding back in the ambulance. I called at Judiciary Sq. Hos. & saw Mr. Wetherbee. He does not improve at present.—Came back over Long Bridge. The draw was open & we examined its action. A portion of the Bridge is raised by weights, & another portion slides under this. It is moved by a number of men at a capstan. —Got back to Alex. about 6 P.M. The first news was “Moseby & a large number of Cavalry in within 7 mi. of Alex. With Virginia L. I went out to reconnoitre, around by Slave Pen & Barracks. A guard on the railroad as usual, & these two soldiers were all

we saw, A remarkable change for the city has been alive with soldiers for several weeks past. But very few people in the streets. Only two gates in the stockade were open; not a soldier to be seen at the Slave Pen. The absence of these, the soldiers, the unusual quietness of the city, were ominous of something.—I returned & read the papers. I was very tired & having eaten lettuce for supper, I slept all night, & if the rebs had shelled the city I am not sure I should have known it. I felt too weary to write in the evening., or to pack up my things, & even Mr. Dan Rice's circus, which is in full blast only one square distant, failed to disturb me at all.—

Today is Sunday the 20th.

which hardly seems possible. The spring also will soon be gone. Today I learn that a brigade lay just on the outskirts of the city last night. every available soldier was sent out to guard the approaches to the city, only 2

were left at the Pro. Mar's. office, & all the armies from the west were barricaded with wagons, & cannon were planted in the principal streets, so it would seem there was occasion for alarm. & the Gov. very wisely took precautions to defend the city.—Moseby evidently thinks he can imitate Kilpatrick's raid in the vicinity of Richmond. They had determined on something desperate before Grant takes command. He started for W. yesterday.

To I have cleaned up some & did chores & wrote letters.—Towards night, Mrs. J & I took a walk, went out on King St. until we came to the wagon barricade. I hear there has been fighting at Manasses.

Monday 21st.

Cold & raw. Attended in C. room, but few calls. In P.M. went to Hos. Things are not quite as they should be yet, but much better than they were once.—Called on Mrs. Henry. No further news of the rebels. —

Tuesday 22, 1864

Cloudy, cold, windy, dusty, at night snow! And this is the sunny south! Went on 10 A.M. boat to W. hoping to hear Mr. Sumner in the Senate. Rushed up 7th St. & bought a Neapolitan bonnet, then to Whitehurst's but my picture was not finished. Called on Mrs. Marshall, she is improving. Mr. M came back on Saturday. I went to Cap. about 12. About an hour occupied in miscellaneous business. Then Mr. Willey of Va. made a speech of nearly 2 hrs. duration. An abolition speech, & a powerful one too, but he cannot vote for the repeal of the Fugitive S. Bill. that wd be unconstitutional. He is in favor of amending the Constitution to abolish slavery. But it was a wonderful speech for a Virginian.—After this the Senate went into executive Session & I came back on 4 P.M. boat, not half satisfied with what I had heard. I think I'll not try to hear any thing more. The proceedings tomorrow I dare say will

be interesting, but I was vexed & would not stay over. The dust in W. is dreadful. It is freezing cold. & this evening it snows.

Yesterday a vessel came from Hayti bringing about 300 colored people that went from ~~Alex. 2 or 3 yrs. ago~~. The Gov't sent for them as it proved to be a miserable place for them there & this morning they were sent to Arlington. I must learn the particulars of this, for it is an extraordinary proceeding.—

Mar. 23^d.

Bright. Snow a foot deep this morning. But it melted very fast all day. It is very sloppy— This A.M. I cleaned my rooms. This P.M. I trimmed bonnet.—

Mrs. Jacobs has been to Arlington to see the folks from Hayti—420 persons went from Fort Monroe in Apr last[?]. Smallpox on voyage. Men that took them did not fulfill their agreement. They suffered after they arrived there. Reports of this reached the President & he sent for them, 368 came back—He may learn something on the subject of colonization.

Von[?] grand humbug has been exploded.

Thursday, Mar. 24,

Bright, snow nearly gone.—

Attended in clothing room. Trimmed a bonnet.—About 6 P.M. a train of 750 sick soldiers came in from the front. Mrs. J. & I went to King St to see them. They had been in the cars since 7 this morning, & I dare say it will be midnight before they are all taken off.—They will hardly know themselves in the morning, in the clean hospital beds & comfortable rooms.

A row occurred near the cars on King St. just as we got there. A crowd of civilians had collected, & one of them shot a soldier, it was said. We saw two persons marched away by the guard, It was a hard looking crowd.—

Miss Collier has moved into the other house today, & has made me a call this evening. Letter from Elisa Van W. all about as usual. Letter from Aunt Eliza

also. She informs me that father has sold his farm for \$65 per acre to A. Barber, but they can stay there till fall if they wish. I have resolutely kept this from my mind today,—& then, I do not realize it fully yet.—

Mar. 25

Pouring rain this P.M. Went out the A.M. & did some chores. Mrs. Sweet called. This P.M. I trimmed my bonnets.

Mar. 26th, Saturday, 1864.

Cloudy, raw wind. Worked at bonnets nearly all day, so tiresome. Letters from home & from Angeline & from Frances. Did I allow myself to dwell on the contents of these letters I sh. be wholly unfitted for business. Troubles never come single. Yet it is for others more than for myself that I grieve, that I am anxious about. Some of my loved ones are not happy. Cannot bring my mind to write to father yet. or to F., or to C. or Sis.—

Only think of an Auction at our home!

Sunday Mar, 27th. 1864

Went to Methodist Ch. Mr. Davis (white) preached. I do wish the colored people could have more rational, practical & appropriate instructions. “The disciples used to have class meetings, When Peter came out of prison, he went right to sister Mark’s house & held a class meeting” & these people believe it because a white man says it. He appealed to their feelings until he raised them to the groaning & shouting pitch. & such preaching the people like. A white Trustee sits within the altar. Before the war they were not allowed to meet unless a white man was present. & they still submit to his presence.

In the P.M. went to Grantville S. School & taught a class. Mr. Scott superintends it. How much the people & the children have improved in their appearance.

Called to see Martha Shepard, saw a family from Hayti, who did not go to Arlington.

They tell a sad story of wrong & suffering. The government agents did not fulfil their contract. They were seized by the Haytians & made to work without pay.—Experience is a dear school but fools, & the President too, it seems, will learn in no other.—

This evening went with Miss Collier to barracks. Heard Mr. Mace from the Home Mission Soc. He is begging from the Contrabands for his Mission, instead of the Mission Soc. helping the contrabands, as it should.—

On the way home Miss Collier & myself gave him our views of the subject, & I called it wicked to beg from these people before they have had a chance to get for themselves the commonest necessaries of life.—It seems they are beset by sharpers on every hand. When will the right come uppenment, & when will justice be done?—The day has been bright & warm. Great numbers of troops are passing through here on their way to the front.

Wrote to Father.—

Monday 28th

Lucinda did my washing. Attended in Clothing Room all day.

Tuesday 29th

High wind, very unpleasant.

This A.M. did my ironing. Such miserable washing. These people do not know how to work.—This P.M. went to wharf & visited nearly all the rooms in the 3 buildings. I have never seen these rooms or the people in any filthier condition than they are today. It is discouraging. For some of them have had a chance to get better places to live in & be more comfortable. But, of course there will always be a proportion of lazy shiftless ones among them. I must not expect too much. The habits acquired in slavery will not be cast off at once by all of them. Economy & thrift are not suddenly acquired characteristics.

The rooms in Long House were filled with smoke, in some rooms the pipes were taken off the stoves. They say “it does not smoke so bad as when the

pipes are on. In some stoves they could keep no fire, could do no cooking. Quite a number sick, & several well ones were asleep in bed.—The bedding has probably never been washed.& it is by so much filthier than it was a year ago. Some of the floors were black as a stove & so near the river too, where water is handy. Large numbers of children have measles.

I went into the Long House school. It is taught by a soldier. he does pretty well, & it is much better than when that non descript had it.

I saw a fine Regt. pass while I was at dinner at W. House. —This evening it is raining. Hon. O. Lovejoy is dead. A useful man is gone. This is a loss to the cause of humanity.

Wednesday 30th.

Rained all night. Snow squall this morning. This P.M. with Miss Collier I went to the Hospital. Last Sunday about 20 patients were brought from the Smallpox Hos. men, women & children. They needed clothing badly while there, but in other respects

they say they were well cared for. Fared much better there than they do here for here they do not have enough to eat. I went out & bought some bread, rusks & cakes, I stewed some dried cherries, & they relished their supper very much. They were to have nothing but a piece of corn cake & tea. The poor creatures! some are dying for want of nourishment, others cannot get health nor strength with the rations they have now. The surgeons seem to be indifferent to their wants & comfort. I know not where to go for relief, but something must be done.

Alexandria, Va.

March 31st. 1864. Thursday.

The Anniversary of my dear Mother's death. Oh! The sad & weary years I have seen since then. And now the old home where my mother & sister lived & died is sold & we are all to leave it. It is hard to be reconciled to all these changes. But such is life.

I have very much to trouble me even now &

where it will all end God only knows.—I dare not look forward. & thoughts of what is occurring now I try to keep from my mind. To dwell on present troubles wd. wholly unfit me for business.

This morning I went to Fairfax St. & bought 8 loaves of bread, 40 cts, & one lb. of butter, 50 cts. for the hospital folks. Then I attended in Clothing Room nearly all day.

After 4 P.M. I went to Hospital. Miss Collier was there & had made a corn starch pudding. This with the bread & butter was quite a supper for them, poor things!

Sent things to Smallpox hos. today. have been ready to send 3 wks. Such surgeons!

April 1st.

Rainy. In Clothing Room all day, but few calls. Fixed up some old bonnets which will answer a good purpose for women who have none.—I have not felt well today. I am tired & dispirited. Am I to hear some unwelcome news?

April 2d. Saturday.

Rained all day. Reamma Burns went with me for rations. & each of us had a heavy basket full. My arms ached badly. I carried an umbrella & went trudging through the mud as no other white women of my status could do. We had 10 days rations, as follows 2 lbs.

beans, 2 lbs. potatoes, 6 lbs. pork, 2 lbs. rye coffee, a few ounces salt, a candle, a bar of soap 3 ins. long, [*Transcriber's note: blank space*] sugar, [*Transcriber's note: blank space*] meal & [*Transcriber's note: blank space*] flour.

I meet with so many needy ones now, that I mean to get all the rations I can & deal them out as necessity requires. I wouldn't take the trouble to get them for my own use. I am entitled to good soldiers rations, & if Mr. Gladwin was a gentleman I should have them. Miss Evans comes today to room with Miss Collier.

I have cleaned my room, & swept the Clothing Room, & did not get ready to sit down till about 4 P.M.

Sunday April 3^d.

Cloudy. Went with a bundle to the Hos. but wanted 10 times as much to distribute. Some of the women & children from the S. Pox Hos. are lousy & very dirty.

This P.M. went to Grantville S. School. One of the teachers is Mr. Bradley of the 151st. N.Y. from Lockport. 93 scholars today. I have felt tired all day somehow.

Letters from Joe Van B. & Aunt Sarah Wilbur. The latter is desirous of having a colored servant. Joe writes from Mt. Clemens Mich. ___ where the 2^d. Mich. are recruiting. & expects to start tomorrow for Annapolis Md. The 9th Corps being ordered there. So I may possibly see him before long. —26th. Col^d. Regt. to be in 9th Corps.
Apr. 4th.

Rainy day. Went with Mrs. J for pass. Attended in Clothing Room. & fixed 3 bonnets. 18 new people came in yesterday. & they mean to stay in Alex. & not go to Arlington.

Apr. 5th.

Rained all day. Worked in my room. Did various chores. No interruptions.

Apr. 6th. 1864

Cleared off this A.M. & the sun appeared once more. Went on 10 A.M. boat to W. called to get photograph. Concluded to have half a dozen. Called to see Mrs. Marshall. She is better.

Went to Capitol. Sat in the Senate 4 hours. Heard a fine speech from Harlan on Amending Constitution. He proved that there is no title either human or divine, moral or natural to Slave property. Mr. Saulsbury replied. Said it was a conflict with the laws of God to say that it was not right to hold slaves.

Mr. Hale spoke in his own way, but briefly. Then McDouglass rebuked Hale, & accused him of playing fantastic tricks before high heaven. Felt paid for the time I spent there. but I had a headache & was very tired. Had an interview with Mr. Channing.

Went to Dr. Breed's to tea.

Apr. 5th

Rained all day. Worked in my room. Did various chores. No interruptions.

April 6, 1864

Cleared off this A.M. & the sun appeared once more. Went on 10 A.M. boat to W. Called to get Photograph. Concluded to have half a dozen. Called to see Mrs. Marshall. She is better.

Went to Capitol. Sat in the Senate 4 hours. Heard a fine Speech from Harlan on amending Constitution. He proved that there is not title either human or divine, moral or natural to slave property. Mr. Saulsbury replied. Said it was a conflict with the laws of God to say that it was not right to hold slaves.

Mr. Hale spoke in his own way but briefly. Then M^cDougal rebuked Hale & accused him of playing fantastic tricks before high heaven. Felt paid for the time I spent there but I had a headache & was very tired. Had an interview with Mr. Channing. Went to Dr. Breed's to tea.

With Dr. B. & Amy Browne I went to Hall of Reps. to hear Geo. Thompson. This was the first time I was ever in the Cap. in the evening. It was a fine sight to look over that Hall. There was a bank of music. There was a vast audience of intellect, beauty & fashion. There was the President. There were Chase, Usher & Welles & M. C's. There were also a colored lady & gentleman on the floor, & several in the galleries.—Rev. J. Pierpont & Vice Pres. Hamlin were on the platform with Mr. T. & both made a short speech.—Mr. T. betrayed some emotion at first. He alluded to the circumstances & the scene before him, which were really wonderful. His most radical utterances were vociferously cheered, as were his allusions to the President who sat immediately in front of Mr. T.—But when John Brown's name was mentioned, there was a spontaneous & irrepressible outburst of applause. It was glorious considering all things. I had sick headache but I could not leave the Hall,

Mr. T. is not the orator he was when I heard him in R. several years ago. His arduous labors in India as well as in his own country nearly ruined his health. He is much broken & his sight has failed & the fire of old is wanting. Yet he is a great speaker, & the people were not only satisfied but delighted, for all which I am truly thankful.—I was glad to see Mrs. J. & Louisa & Virginia there. As we left the Hall the Band struck Yankee Doodle, Oliver Johnson is with Mr. T.

I went back to Dr. B's. Met Mr. Van S. in the cars.—

To day at my home there has been an auction, I suppose. I have been too busy to think much about it. Oh! dear.

Apr. 7th

Very fine & people have turned out to enjoy the day & to show the spring fashions. About 10 A.M. I called on Mrs. Griffins, who is ill with mumps. Then on Mrs. Marshall.

who ventured to attend the lecture last evening. I slept off my headache, but I do not feel rested. I went to Cap. & sat about 3 hrs. in the House. There were discussing Dist. of Col. Affairs & at one time there was much excitement & confusion. I did not know the speakers, only Washburn of Ill.—I walked to 7th St. & took 5 P.M. boat for Alex.—W. has been so bright & gay today that Alex. looks more dingy than ever.

Apr. 8th

Fine. Went to Trans. Office for bbls. from Worcester. Unpacked them. Attended in C. Room. Went to Hos. Am vexed with the mismanagement there.—Persons are kept there after they get well, object probably is to keep the Hos. full & draw more rations.

Apr. 9th 1864

Rainy day. No going out. Did various things. About 4 P.M. Cousin Jephtha came. He has been here this evening but is to sleep at the Washington.

House & is to leave tomorrow.—

I am glad to see him & hear directly from home. I am sorry it rains, Oh, the poor soldiers! I wonder where J. Van B. is? I thought perhaps he would be here before this. The storms may detain him.

Sunday Apr. 10th 1864

This A.M. it cleared off & now at 3 P.M. the sun is shining brightly. I have just got ready to sit down. At 9 A.M. I went with Cousin J. to the Barracks, the Hospital, the Soldier's Rest & described the Slave Pen to him as well as I cd. from the outside. Then we went to the Soldiers burying G. The ground wh. is made use of now is low & wet. To bad when better ground can be had just as well.—Went through the other grounds where he could see across Hunting Ck. The bridge is 2/3 of it submerged. Then to the Contraband B. Ground which is the most repulsive & heathenish looking place I ever saw. But no more are

buried here now. Came back & rested a little while & then went round by Christ Ch. to Grantville. Went in to the meeting & staid a few minutes.—& then came back. Tired enough after such a long tramp. Jephtha left in the 2 P.M. boat for W. I have cleaned up a little, & so the day is nearly gone.—

Apr. 11th

Attended in clothing Room all day. Head & eyes have ached since I first awoke. My meals have been miserable.

April 12th.

One of the busy days. Went to baker's on Fairfax St. Then to Hospital & a loaf of light bread was divided & given to the hungriest ones. Some spelling books & first readers. They were very glad to get too.

Then I cam back to Clothing Room & fitted out Eliza Smith all except shoes, even to a breastpin, which she asked for & I happened to have it. She wanted dark gloves but I had none.

The old lady was very thankful & almost happy. She has not a particle of bedding & no one to help her, has a wen on her shoulder & cannot work much. The poor woman! After dinner went in to a large secesh house but the Auction was just over. Very massive furniture but it has had hard usage. A Union family has occupied it. Then went to Old Mill. Tamar the paralyzed woman was delighted with a calico wrapper.—Two very sick in Nellie Ball's fitting room.—Made several other calls. Then went in the Ambulance to

the new Contraband Burying Ground. 65 graves there already. It is as good a spot as could be obtained but very wet now.

Mr. G. is spending all his energies on this. He no doubt intends this as a monument to commemorate his reign, the reign of Albertus I.—

Went to Hospital again. The well people have had permission to leave today.

& they have left rejoicing. A matron is needed exceedingly & also men to do the work in the men's ward.—

They have sufficient food now & better too. They have received some things from the Sanitary Com. & now if the people can get them! Well, we shall see!

The city has been very lively today.

Have letter from Joseph Van B. He is in Annapolis. I am tired tonight.

Called on Miss C. & Miss Evans.—

Mrs. Jacobs is ill today.

Wednesday 13th.

Went to see Dr. Bentley.—to ask if he would a matron [*Transcriber's note: word missing in original*] for the C. Hospital. Has not objection to a matron but first, she must be black & then she must be pious. "Wants to run a black machine entirely." He is evidently narrowminded, conceited & does not feel any particular interest in these people. Niggers are good enough to take care of niggers. I think a white matron is indispensable.

I have not seen a colored woman here that approaches at all to what my idea of a matron should be. Dr. B. says the matron must be found in Alex. Why, "he knows a woman who can do up shirts fit for officers, he knows another who can cook up a good meal." Of course, they will do for matrons. What nonsense! How discouraging. He was barely civil & nothing more. No cordiality, no friendliness of manner. What right had I to propose anything to him! How cd. I presume to make a suggestion to a Div. Surgeon, with the rank of Major? Are there no men in the employ of Govt.? I would like to see one. There are deeds done at that Hos. that I think would not bear the light. In the Hos. here the dead were laid out decently. Now they are rolled up in the clothes they did in taken out at once & that is the last that is seen or known of them. I presume every woman that has died in the new Hospital has been dissected. It is not certain that all have been buried.

One coffin was taken to the graveyard with nothing but a little dirt in it & it was brought back again!—

Mr. Lake came & I went a long walk with him to find a girl. He took with him to W.—

This P.M. I have been almost sick & too tired to do anything. I have hurt Mrs. Jacobs feelings. Indeed, I am always making blunders, & nobody seems to understand me.

Apr. 14

Almost sick. Could not attend in Clothing Room. Mrs. Sweet & Mrs. [*Transcriber's note: no name given*] called. Large box came from Phila.

Apr. 15

Spent most of day in writing. Am tired & lonesome. Wrote to Democrat.—Miss Frances & others here.

Apr. 16 Feel better

Rained all day. Unpacked Phila. Box. Posted all my accounts & have every thing straitened up. Had few interruptions.

Sunday Apr. 17 1864

Fine. This P.M. went to S.S. at Grantville. Room full of scholars.—Then went to Barracks to see the “Old Woman” who came from near Brandy Station yesterday. She had been left alone & the soldiers told her she must not stay there, so they put her in a wagon & took her with her feather bed to B. Station, then to Alex. on cars & she was taken on a stretcher from cars to Barracks & put in to the room with the 4 old women that Mrs. J. takes care of. She is blind & cannot walk now & lies on the bed there & seems so happy. Her name is [*Transcriber's note: blank space left*]. Has had 3 masters, first one named Slaughter, went to Ky. & took all her kinfolks with him. Next master Maj. Long one of Washington's Majors & the last one was Jack Slaughter. She was 17 when Washington's war begun; has had only one child, he died when 3 yrs. old.—Never was treated very badly for she was always ready & willing to work. After Rev. War began, she spun & wove for the masters family, such a fine spinner. Made stripe that when done up looked

[*Transcriber's Note: following inserted at top of page*]

(Took me away from waiting & tending & put me down to card & spin)

like muslin brought from a distance.

Then she had to spin & weave for the soldiers. Then she was taken from the house & put to work in the field.—They used to go around to get soldiers with the fife & drum & sing “Come, brave boys & don't be afraid,

You shall have 10 pounds & a new cockade.”

In Washington's war they thought the free wd. come & they were in a great flight about it, but it didn't come. Didn't think she should live to see such a blessed time as ~~good~~ this—Her language is better than some of the whites, but little of negro talk. Her clothes are homespun cotton & wool & undyed.

She is an interesting personage.

Then Virginia & Louisa went me to Hospital.

Saw two regts. go through the city today.

Have letter from Joe. He is at Annapolis.

Monday Apr. 18th.

Attended in Clothing Room till 2 P.M. Then Mr. & Mrs. Earle & Miss Wood came from Worcester, Mass. Mrs. J & I went with them in carriage to Grantville school & made

some calls. Then to the Hospital & to the Barracks to see the old woman. She talked so much yesterday that she

seems tired out today. Then into a wing of the Slave pen. Then to the Soldiers Rest. We were told there that 8000[?] men had meals there yesterday. So many going to the front.

These friends left about 5 for W. Mrs. Earle is a lovely woman. She herself pays Aunt Cyrene for taking care of the old folks at the barracks. Mr. Earle left money with Mrs. J. to get a bedstead & rocking chair for the "old woman."

Apr. 19th. Anniversary of Sarah's Death.

Have headache today & feel so tired.

Firstly, called to see Mr. Rush at Hal. Hos. This is the person who was arrested for the murder of a soldier. Secondly, called on Mrs. Garrett & Mrs. Sweet. Thirdly, wrote 3 letters & went to P.O. & to dinner. Fourthly, went to Pro. Mar's for Pass to W. Fifthly, called at Journal Office & paid for paper. Sixthly, called at Mr. Richardson's & Miss Dogan's. Seventhly, went with Miss D. to see Mrs. Merrick. She & her daughter were beaten by a white man not long since. The mother so badly that she was laid up & could not go to the Mayor's Office when the warrant was issued

Her husband has been a cripple for 3 yrs. He is dying this P.M.—Mrs. M. told me that herself & daughter were carrying in wood, it had been left on the corner for them & they saw a man, John Young, beating some colored boys. The daughter said, "see that men beat those boys." The man chased the boys but they escaped. He asked the women what they said & they said "nothing to you." Then he said they did & cursed them & had two strips of wood in his hands & began to beat the girl. The mother stepped between them when the blood began to run & then she was beaten. 2 others of the man's family coming out in the meantime & threw stones & injured the girl.

Then the man, who is low & mean, had warrants got out for them. The daughter was taken before Mayor Ware who told her the law does not allow colored persons to say anything in court, that as the man had taken the law into his own hands, he should not punish them any further, but if he had not done so they wd. have to be punished by stripes. He told the man that he should not have beaten

them himself, but if they are saucy to him after this, bring them to him the Mayor & they will be whipped.—It makes my blood boil to think that such laws can be enforced yet & that men can be found ready to enforce them.

Seventhly, I called on Miss Mary Chase, Teacher. She was arrested the same time the Merricks were for striking a white boy, nephew of J. Young, a wk. before. He called her bad names & she had a broom in her hand & she struck him & told the Mayor that she would do it again if the boy called her such a name, or anybody else that insulted her. The Mayor told her he could order her to be punished with stripes, but she was only fined

“one dollar for costs & 50 cts. for the lick.” A number of colored men who were her friends were there & in case she was ordered to be whipped they meant to interfere.

The Merricks belong to Col^d Meth. Church & they are very poor. The husband has been helpless 3 yrs. The wife was not strong before she was beaten & they

applied for help to their church, but the Steward refused to read the application for fear it might seem like dissenting from what Mayor Ware had done. He is a Methodist too, I believe. There are some contemptible people in the Col^d. Meth. Ch. I am sorry they do not understand their own interests better.—

Apr. 20th. 1864

[Transcriber's note: Year written with different pen]

Went to take Mrs. Merrick some things. Her husband died yesterday morning.

Then I ironed & washed a little.

Then went to Con^d. Hospital. Called to see the old woman, Cicely Armstead. She lived near Slaughter Mountain where the battle was fought.

Called at Mr. Fish's school & several other places. In evening went to Grantville school to assist in teaching. Dr. Scott & Miss Collier have done a good work there the past winter.—

I am quite tired enough tonight.

Fruit trees in blossom & tulips &c. but the season is backward.

³Thursday, Apr. 21st, 1864.

Sunshine & rain. Attended in clothing Room this A.M. Mr. & Mrs. Marshall came, went with them to Wolfe St. Hospital. 106 patients there. Mr. Gillespie is very feeble yet. Oh! how nice it all is there!

Mr. & Mrs. M. took dinner with me, & then Mrs. S. came. About 3 1/2 P.M. we went to the boat with Mr. & Mrs. M. Saw 10 rebel prisoners, crowds around the Pro. Mar's office & people came to the doors to see them, but there was no unusual noise. Secesh curses were not loud, they might have been deep. After the rebs had passed on, one girl said to another, “Make haste, or you wont see your brother”. They were put onto a tug immediately & sent to W. —

On our way met two ambulances, one with one coffin, the other with two. (soldiers) An ambulance with a contraband coffin had just driven away. Then as we looked up Duke St. we saw a long procession of ambulances going at a rapid rate. We went

to the rooms of the San. Com. near the Depot. 700 sick had just come from the front, & they were being taken to Fairfax Sem. Hospital. The San. Com. give them all refreshment, & take in the feeble ones & they rest a little before they are sent out.

³ Until further notation, entries correspond to Haverford scans HC13-26005_001 to HC13-26005_060 in their Folder entitled April 21th 1864 to Jan. 8th 1865.

Joe came yesterday ~~came yesterday~~ & went through to W. but they all had refreshment here. They pass through the cars with baskets of food & drink. Some of these are hospital cars, & have beds, & a kitchen in each. This com. does much good here. Such kind offices mitigate the horrors of war, & keeps up my faith in mankind.

Preparations are making for fighting, oh! dear. it must come.

Met Dr. Bentley at the San. Rooms. He was very courteous. Asked if I had found an intelligent contraband yet for matron yet. He has 2 or 3 such but cannot spare them! Too tired to go to Grantville School tonight.

Apr. 22.

Went to 68 Prince St. for rations. Attended in clothing room the rest of the day. Trimmed 2 hats & one bonnet. Received a package from Phebe, & a box from S.A. Ferris, & a large box from Phila^a.

Saturday Apr. 23^d, warm.

At 9 A.M. went to W. on the new Ferry Boat, Fulton. Fare 0 at present. There are 2 rooms for ladies, one for white & one for colored, but white folks sit in both, & seem to think nothing of it. I shall make it a point always to sit in the room in wh. colored women are allowed. I think I was never on the River when it was so pleasant as it was this morning. The boat is roomy, airy, shady, clean & convenient.

In W. it has been windy, hot & dusty. Went for my pictures, which are as good as I can get probably. —Went to Dr. Breed's, met Miss Perkins there & Miss Robinson.

Rode in a car full of rebel deserters, left Lee's army at Orange Court House 3 days ago.

They were a shabby set of men, all young, some men boys, no uniform, poorly clothed & dirty, going north under guard.—

Went to Mr. Lake's. Mrs. Marshall went with me to Capitol. House in session.

Discussing amendments to Tax Bill, some excitement over the wine part of it.—

Somebody made a speech, we could only gather from it that the member was down on Chase, so partly in disgust we left, & spent rest of P.M. til 1/2 past 5 at Mr. Lake's —

Took 6 P.M. boat. Great crowd came over. Fare so cheap today. I am too tired to night to do anything. Have letters from Joe & Mary.

Sunday Apr. 24th, warm.

Went to Christ Ch. The minister expected from W. did'nt come, & I came away.

Letter from Mary. She is getting along well, but she can't be reconciled to Joe's going away again. Wrote 3 letters,—

When I went to supper about 6 P.M. I saw 2 Regts. With music & it sounded like

a funeral dirge. Saw also a squad of cavalry. I am told that Burnside's Corps is between here & Washington, on their way from Annapolis to the front. 30,000 men, So I suppose

Joe is near here. Hope I shall see him. It is a sad & solemn sight to me to see these troops go south, so many of them will never return!

There are to be stirring times now. I try not to think of it. Oh, dear, but it must come.

Monday Apr. 25th, 1864

Unpacked Phil^a Box, & waited on people till 4 P.M. Then Joseph Van B. came. I was very glad to see him. He is well & looks well, He came on boat from W. this P.M. I went with him to the Barracks, the Hospital & the Soldier's Rest. He took supper with me & has been here this eve^g. Will stop at W. House tonight — Two barrels came from Worcester today. — The cars run constantly, & their noise is almost incessant.

The 9th. Corps left Annapolis Saturday morning. That day & Sunday were quite warm & very dusty. Tuesday night it rained. Joe slept in an ambulance. But the troops had nothing but shelter tents for men & officers. Their blankets were so wet in the morning they had to be abandoned. Joe says the entire road from Annapolis to W. is strewn with the things they had to throw away. Burnside's Corps (40,000) now lies about 3 mi. from Alex. just this side of Convalescent Camp. I have a great desire to see it. There are 6 or 7 colored regiments. & in the 1st. Mich. sharpshooters there are 2 companies of Indians. They do not know their destination.

Tuesday Apr. 26th.

Attended to the people part of the day. I called on Mrs. Sweet, Matron of Grovener Hos, & saw 2 squads of colored soldiers.

Have seen Joseph but very little today. He is very busy. He commands the 1st. Div. Ambulance Corps The Am's are got in W. but here he gets stretchers, tools for minding am-

bulances, harness etc. Dr. Shaw has returned. Miss Wheelock came about 1 P.M. & took dinner with me. I went with her to the Hos. & to the Soldier's Burying Ground. She has a brother buried there. He was wounded at the battle of Chantilly. She has spent the evening here. But Joe has not come. I think he has gone to W. on business.—

Wednesday Apr. 27th, 1864.

A day to be remembered. Fine but windy. Joe came back from W. early this morning. He learned that the Corps were ordered to move this morning. He sent an ambulance at 8 1/2 o'clock for me to go & see them. Mrs. J. & Louisa & Virginia & Miss Wheelock & Miss Evans & Miss Collier went with me— It was a grand sight. We very much wished to see the Colored Regts. but they had all gone when we got there. They moved first. We saw nearly all the rest. Staid till the field was cleared. It is astonishing with what celerity they pick up

their traps. There is no confusion. No yelling, no very loud talking. Only one Div. & the artillery came this way, & passed through the outskirts of the town. The rest went in

another direction, towards Fairfax C. H.— As we sat in the ambulance in the midst of them, we cd. overlook nearly the whole ground where they rested. They did not encamp. They were mostly in a hollow. Regt. after Regt. passed on one side of us in one direction, at the same time that others were passing on the other side in a different direction. When they halted they wd. drop down wherever they happened to be. They seemed in good spirits. All well clothed. They have 3 days rations (hard bread & meat) & nothing extra but one shirt. One soldier on the ground was eating a cracker with evident relish. I said I feared his rations would not hold out. He said they were ample and excellent too, & gave me a Burnside pie, wh. I mean to keep. The poor fellows! They seem to know that it is better to laugh than cry.

The Regts. in the 1st. Div. are the 2^d Mich. & the 8th. Mich. & the 17th. Mich. & the 27th. Mich. & the 51st. Pa. — Col. Hartraupt, com^{dg} the Brigade, & Gen. Wilcox com^{dg} the Div. Joe's is the 1st. Brig., 3^d Div., 9th. A.C. We fell into the Ambulance train, but before we could get to the main road, the Artillery got ahead of us, & we had to wait till it had all passed. Each battery is followed by its own wagons. The train must have been 2 or 3 mi. long. The men were very fine looking. Each Division is followed by an Ambulance train (45) & by a wagon train. The ams. are all new, & the horses are good. & every thing is in fine order. But all will look very different after the first battle. Many of these men came out 3 yrs. ago, others are new recruits. I noticed but one Maj. Gen. & he wore 2 silver stars, but no straps. I saw a Major's leaves without straps, also a Colonel's. This is a new idea. They are probably tired of so much brass.

Gen. Burnside was there in the morning but I did'nt see him. — We got back about 1 P.M. & Joe left shortly after. He likes his present position. He has a good horse to ride, has a good tent with him, & baggage &c— He is not in so much danger as he would be with the Regt.— The Col. told him if he wd. remain with the Regt. he wd. probably have a Captancy very soon. Joe says he does'nt care about promotion. He thinks he will resign when this campaign is over. I could'nt advise him to do either way, but told him to do as seemed right & best. He left his home with more reluctance this time than ever before, & Mary is not reconciled to his leaving again.— Only a portion of this great army, & perhaps only a small portion, will ever return to their homes.

There is no doubt but a battle will soon be fought. But if Richmond is taken it must be by strategy, or by iege. Oh, dear!

Chap. May called this P.M. He makes easy work of it. — Joe thinks he (Chap. M.) is not so good a man as when he first entered the army.— Miss Wheelock called again. I have written three letters, & am very tired tonight.

Apr. 28th.

Fine. Cool. Good day for marching.

I have helped Lucinda wash, & I have cleaned my room, & regulated clothing room. I cannot get any one to do work as I like to have it done. I am very tired to night for I have done a hard day's work. Quite a number of new people arrived yesterday. Some go to W. & some stay here.

An old house on corner of Water & Duke St. was burnt either up or down this morning. There were 7 families in it, & one of them, Green lost every thing in their room, including \$300 in money wh. he had saved to build a house. Judy, his wife was home at the time it took fire. I am very sorry for them.

Friday Apr. 29th. 1864.

Fine. Worked in clothing Room from 8 1/2 A.M. till 6 P.M.— Am very tired tonight. I gave away 87 pieces, sold 47 for \$28, in all 134 pieces. — 49th. Mass. went through about noon, fine looking Regiment & full.

A deserter from the 1st. Mich. Ohio Cav. was shot today in the presence of several regiments of soldiers, just in the outskirts of the town. A great many citizen spectators too.

A soldier was shot this P.M. by the guard, who were taking him to slave pen & he resisted. I do not know how many funerals have passed here today. It has been an eventful day. — A colored man killed on the R.R. was buried today. [*Transcriber's Note: blank spaces*] It is said the 9th. Corps is going to Aquia Ck. — It has been a good day for marching.— Yesterday 4 Colored soldiers were assaulted by 2 white soldiers in the street.— There are so many wicked things done that I am heart sick & sometimes well nigh discouraged.

Saturdy. Apr. 30

Went with woman for Rations. Did 4 wks. Ironing. — Cleaned Clothing room, & overhauled boxes, & contents. I have had a hard day's work.

Hear that Mr. Griffin has been thrown from a horse & injured.

Alex. Sunday May 1st. 1864.

Very fine, but cool, so tired I did not rise till half past after 8. Dressed hurriedly, took breakfast, & went directly to Hospital. Tried to have all the women & children change their clothes. 24 colored soldiers there, some are well enough to sit up & walk about, but they are not allowed to have their clothes, so they are obliged to be in bed.

There is somehow dreadful neglect or mismanagement here.

I got back at 11 A.M. Did my work, took a bath & dressed & at 1 P.M. started for dinner. But a Colored Regt. from Camp Casey was passing through & my dinner was dispensed with.

They number 600, some of them new recruits. I wonder at such being sent to the front. They are the 27th. U.S. Col. Regt. They halted near the Depot awhile & men were put on to the tops of cars. People came from all parts of the city to see them. There was a great crowd, & they moved off with cheers & hurrahs. The poor fellows. I hope there will be no more Ft. Pillow affairs. Plenty of secesh out too, but they dare not say any thing. Henry Dangerfield with the rest.

Went to hospital again & got back at 4 P.M. & begun a letter to Mrs. Barnes. It was finished at 9 P.M., for when I began, funerals were passing, & it seems irreverent not to pause while a soldier's funeral is passing. Then the slow beat of the drum has such a depressing effect. — Soon music was heard in another direction. A Colored Regt. was going through. They had music & banners. It was a full regt. & nearly all had muskets & many made a much

greater show than the one that left this P.M. It seemed as if every body was out to see them, secesh & all. They went to the Soldiers Rest, where they will remain till morning. I must go to see them, if I can.

This has been a glorious first of May in more senses than one. The day has been delightful, & to see these armed negroes passing through Alex. Virginia, passing by these Slave pens, one in ruins & the other occupied by Union soldiers.

We hear the remark on all sides "Well, bless the Lord, I did not think I should live to see such a sight!—

But I must go to bed & try to get rested for the morrow's labors.—

May 2^d

Went to Soldiers Rest to see the Colored Regt., 29th Illinois. It left Quincy last Tuesday, about 500 of them, all the non, com^d officers can read & write. They look much more intelligent than these Virginia negroes. Some of these are from Canada, some have been free a

long time & have never been south before. One man is 64 yrs. old, said The Lord told him to go. He was raised to believe that this time would come. Col. Bross commands them. They like their officers. I talked with Lieut. Flint; he appears like a noble young man. Says they have been treated with respect & kindness all along their route, & they are treated well here at the Rest.—There is a band of 16 singers among them, & they seem in fine spirits.—We have given them papers & books.—Went to hospital, men's ward full of soldiers. They are putting up tents in the yard for them.—Spent rest of day in Clothing Room.

Tuesday

I have only been out to my meals. Had some interruptions, but have written letters most of the day. Letter from Joe written Saturday at Warrenton Junction. They went to Fairfax C.H. the 1st day, before night the ambulances were full of men who were tired out. —Do not know where they are going.

May 4th, 1864.

Fine. With Miss C. went to Hospital. Dr. B. was there. & the people were being examined. Ambulances were ready to take to Arlington all that had chronic diseases, or were infirm & too old to work.—Only 2 or 3 are left in the Women's ward. But the men's ward is filled with soldiers.—The people were in quite a panic for they knew nothing of this until Dr. B. & the ambulances came to take them, & they have a dread of Arlington. Poor things! They are treated with little or no consideration. Tents are being put up in the yard for more soldiers when they come. More than 29 large buildings here are used for hospitals & some are nearly vacant, but Colored Soldiers must not go into them.

I went to the Rooms of San. Com. to get some pocket hdkfs. for the soldiers. The Sup^{nt}. told me they should have delicacies & all that they need.—

I have written 5 letters. Have been to King St. & P. Office, & read the news. Letter from Mary Julia. Mr. Griffin is in Hos. at Geo.town.

It is believed that fighting is in progress. Guns have been heard, & at 3 P.M. several empty trains were ordered to the front. A number of sick were brought in last night—

May 5th.

Fine, warm. Attended in C. Room nearly all day. About 5 P.M. we attended the funeral of a Colored Soldier.

He was buried in the usual way, in the new Burying Ground for Freedmen. Had a white escort. Mr. Gladwin officiated. But made no allusions to the peculiar circumstances of the case. He is the first Col^d. Sol. who has died here. There was no reference to the war, nor to the brave defenders of the country, either white or colored. There is no heart, no sympathy for these people, nor for the country, in his canting, sanctimonious, hypocritical way of speaking. I think a distinct part of the Ground should be appropriated to

the soldiers, & their graves should be distinguished from others. They should be honored in some way. But we can't make Mr. G. see it.—

We hear that our troops have crossed the Rapidan without opposition, but reports of fighting are not confirmed.

May 6th.

Went to Hos. All the women gone & only Uncle Rolla & Naylor left. & colored soldiers are in the women's ward.—

Had a skirmish with secesh woman on King St.—Called on Mrs. Henry & Mrs. Sweet. Did various chores. Did little in Clothing R. About 4 P.M. Dr. & Mrs. Breed & Meena & Jas. M. McKim came, stopped but few minutes. I rode back to W. with them, very pleasant there now. Went to Mr. Lakes & took supper. Saw Mr. & Mrs. Marshall. They are better. Went to Dr. B's for the night. The Penn Friends have sent 3 teachers to W. & intend to supply the wants in that respect.

In 1860 Washington had 75000 inhabitants including 14000 col^d. people. It now has 30000 colored, & 10 or 12000 children under 15.

May 7th. Saturday.

Hot.—Called at San. Rooms & got 50 hdks. for our hospital. —Went to Hospital in Georgetown to see Mr. Griffin. He is improving.—Shoulder has not been undone yet. Hopes to be allowed to go home. Expects Charlotte to night.—But he is well enough to go out or to go home alone. The Seminary Hos. is for officers & is a pleasant place.

Called on Judge Day. In his office were several Colored persons from Arlington. One, Patsey Scott was the person that Mrs. Nichols stuck with a griddle & injured her very much. They agree to pay women \$6 a mo. But they are made to pay \$6 for a gingham dress—or \$4.30 for the gingham & 10 cts. for a spool of cot. & 50 cts a yd. for cotton— They gave one woman a pair of small shoes for 1 mo.s wages. Another woman, Mary Hunter said she

went there when the camp at W. was broken up. & cooked for Mr. Nichols' family, & the Guard, (10 of them) & 16 colored men, & was paid nothing for it. They complain, & rightly too.

Came back on 12 M. boat. Called at Mt. Vernon House to pay Mrs. Robinson. Called on Mr. R. He says all the people have been removed from Claremont, & it is to be used entirely as a Soldiers' Hospital.—I have sewed a little, but somehow can't accomplish much.

We hear that there has been fighting today, near Chancellorsville —I am told that 25000 cots are ready in W. for the wounded. —There is a general complaint against Dr. Bentley, & Miss Dix thinks he is a brute. How unfortunate it is that so many are under his charge—& that our hospital is in his Division.—

May 8th. Sunday

Very hot. About 11 A.M. went to the Hos. 19 men were brought in yesterday. Some are very sick. Clement Frisby, Teamster in

Gen. Tyler's Artillery is dying.

I had a hdkf. for each one, & it really added to their comfort.—They have but little care or nursing. Went to San. Room. Dr. Colwell has been to the Hos. & says he will send some stores.

10,000 wounded are expected to come in this P.M.—

Came back. Wrote to Anna B.—went to dinner & then back to the hospital again with Miss Evans, & staid an hour or so. —so much to do there.

We hear that there was severe fighting yesterday near Chancellorsville, & we lost heavily.—Hear this evening that we have 10,000 reb wounded on our hands, & 3000 rebs are killed, & that we have lost severely too, & that Meade is pushing Lee very closely—

great many rumors. The wounded have not come yet. We hear that the trains can go no further than Manasses. The wounded were to be taken on at Rappahannoc Sta.

Very hot, Monday May 9th.

Rose early & cleaned my floor. Worked in clothing room & did various things. — Letter from Mother, she says father has bought Esq. Mott's place in E. Avon, & will go there in Sept.

Letter from Phebe, she is in Phila. & I have written her to say that I will be there on Wednesday if nothing unforeseen happens to prevent.

May 10th.

Very hot. Went to Hos. with Miss Evans. She will look after the people there while I am away, & I feel better about leaving. Went for a pass. Packed my carpet bag, & did various chores.— & intend to go on 9 A.M. boat to morrow.—

Hear that Gen. Wadsworth & Gen. Hayes are killed, that our loss has been very great, but we have a decided advantage of the rebs. & the wounded are put into hospitals in Fredericksburg.

May 11th, 1864.

Left Alex. on 9 A.M. boat—for W. Dr. McKenzie, Mrs. Daylon &c. on board. Went directly to Balt. Depot & took 11-15 train for Phila. —Made no stop till we reached Baltimore 40 mis. There 5 horses in single file were attached to each car & they were drawn to the other depot.—The woods are very beautiful. The young foliage is of the most delicate colors. —Two bridges over the Susquehannah & the scenery is very charming—

at Haver de Grace The train is taken over on a boat. 3 cars abreast. Engine & all, H. de G. is 38 mi. from B.

Just as we had got started from H. the engine was overturned, & it took 2 hrs. to get under way again.—

Stopped at Elkton, & Wilmington, 28 mi. from Phila. Fine along Del. Riv. Dark when we reached city. Then took 15th St. cars 3 mi. to 1214 Mt. Vernon St. to Stephen Cox's—

Found Phebe there —Had a very kind reception.

Philadelphia, May 12. 1864.

Last evening I went to a meeting of the Women's Assoⁿ for relief of Freedmen, the same that sent me 2 boxes. Reports & letters were read. I was urged to speak but I did not feel it my duty to do so. I dare say they thought it strange that I did'nt say anything as I had been in Alex. so long.

This morning I went to Greene St. Meeting for worship. 6 women & 2 men spoke. Went to Jane Johnson's to dinner. She has a nice garden, & house & is wealthy &

benevolent, a very nice & useful but quiet woman. —Met Harriet Longshore there from Bucks Co.

In P.M. went to Race St. Meeting House, to business meeting. Largest assemblage of women that I ever saw, 1500 probably. The floor was more than half filled with plain bonnets. In the galleries were the young women & some of these were a great way from being plainly dressed—Epistles from

other yearly meetings were read, fireside amusements, music &c. were discussed. Geo. Truman came in & spoke at length. This was a very interesting sight, so many Quaker women. The house is large & convenient. A school house is near & 600 pupils attend.

Went to Edw^d. Townsends to tea. Ann Townsend is a lovely woman. Met W. Hallowells sister, & several very pleasant persons.—Called at William Neal's.

Friday, May 13th.

Called at Sarah W. Copes 1312 Filbert St. Then at Margaret Robinson's school, cor. Race & Franklin—Then at 635 Walnut St. to Mrs. Evans friend Dr. E.

Then at Dr. Childs, Race St. — Took dinner & rode out with Mrs. Ellen Childs to see the town. Saw Penn. Hos. where my father once received treatment for his eyes, bronze figure of Wm. Penn in yard. Old looking place. Dr. Childs & Cornelia Hanovek gone

to Belle Plain to look after wounded.

Many are badly burnt too.—

Back to S. Cox's, rains to night. I am pleased with the city, & the people.

Saturday, 14.

Rainy, but Phebe & I went out to do some shopping. Saw so many beautiful things. The best place I ever saw to buy things. Townsend Sharpless (Friend,) large & elegant store —Phebe went out of town in P.M. & I went to see Mrs. Chew, a friend of Mrs. Jacobs. — Mary Peast called this morning, she is collecting things for hospital for me to take to Alex.

Sunday, 15.

At 9 A.M. with Mary Reed went to Germantown, to see Miss Robinson. She resides here in a beautiful cottage. Met John R. of R. —Rainy P.M. so that I could not go out to see the place. We hear that there is terrible fighting, 20000 killed wounded & missing (Union).

This is a beautiful retreat from the noise & dust of the town. —

Mondy, 16.

Left G. at 9 A.M. with Mary Robinson. Called at Abra^m. Barker's 1118 Spruce St. Sarah W. his wife is a lovely woman, & both are very active in the Relief Societies. These are Hicksites, but not plain. In P.M. called to see Harriet E. Stokely.

At 6 went to Depot. Met Dr. Evans & 2 Miss Collins, friends of Miss Evans, & went with them to Mr. Abbott's, cousins of E. They are 5 miles from town. Have one of the most delightful country residences that I ever saw. We stopped at Falls Lane Station. A carriage was in waiting, & we drove through a beautiful lane & woods to Abbotts ford. —Mrs. Richards, a sister of Mrs. A. lives near in a palace of a place. The view from these places is the finest I ever saw. They seem to have everything that can be desired.

Tuesday May 17th.

These people received me very kindly. This A.M. Mr. & Mrs. A. went with me to Laurel Hill Cem. This is near the Schuylkill, & there are some fine views here. The Cem. is crowded with monuments of the distinguished dead, Gen. Mercer, died 1777, Godfrey, the Inventor, Commodore Isaac Hull died 1843, the wife of Ex. Gov. Wise of Va. she was a sister of Gen. Meade's wife.

There is a figure of a woman with 2 babes in her arms, which was sculptured by the husband, who was a Prussian artist. It is on the brow of the precipice. It is very beautiful—

At the, or near, the entrance of North Laurel is a group who was brought from Scotland. Sir Walter Scott, a pony[?] & old Mortality cutting away at a stone, all as large as life. — This is very interesting.

At noon Mr. & Mrs. A. went back & I came on to the city. The road is beautiful.

In P.M. went to Women's sewing meeting, in Race St. Meeting H. —They tell me that they will send me any thing that I ask for, or need in the way of clothing for contrabands, —The friends, both Orthodox & Hicksite—are doing a great deal. They say they have means, & all they want is to know how to apply them.

May 18.

Mrs. Abbott came & went with me to the Academy of ~~music~~ Fine Arts. Some fine paintings here. There is "Death on the Pale Horse", "American Inventors", "Deliverance at Leyden", "Asking a blessing", & many beautiful landscapes & portraits. There is not much Statuary. There is the "battle of the Centaurs," & "Tam O'Shanter." This last consists of 4 figures larger than life carved in brown stone. They were brought from Scotland. Some broken statues in the yard from Greece. —

Then we went to Independence Hall. Saw the old Bell, which was rung when Independence was declared, various relics of Washington & the Revolution. Curious chair, made of wood from Wm. Penn's House, & Columbus's House, & the frigate Constitution & the Ironsides.

It is an interesting place. There are many old portraits too. —

At noon I took leave of my kind friend Mrs. Abbott, & went back to S. Cox's. Then went with Mary Cox to Girard College. —The grounds are extensive & beautiful. The Central building covers 9 inches over one acre of ground & is of marble over one acre of

ground. & is of marble from the ground to the roof, & this is of large blocks curiously lapped.

The stairs are self supporting, each step is a single block, & a peculiar notch makes one support the other. There is a statue of Stephen Girard in white marble, & also a Sarcophagus containing his remains

within the building. There are rooms containing his household effects & clothing, coats, waistcoats, breeches, buckles, hats, a wig, Masonic regalia. Great number of account books.—Boxes marked with the names of his ships, each containing the ships papers &c. his iron safe, Tables, Chairs, bedsteads, jars, bureaus, Japan Tea Chests (inlaid).—A piece of furniture wh. belonged to Louis XIV of France, a cabinet of minerals & curiosities given by Admiral [*Transcriber's note: Name left blank.*]. —There is a portrait of his wife, a beautiful woman. I am told that Girard lost the sight of one eye in this way. He was fond of entertaining French officers, & he thought his wife received too many attentions from them, & he was quite jealous of one of them.

On one occasion he supposed this officer was in the room with his wife, he looked through the keyhole & she jabbed a knitting needle into his eye & put it out.

He was very hateful in his family. Was jealous of his wife, & declared she was insane & succeeded in having her put in to an Insane Asylum where she died. He was a bad man in some respects.—But this is a noble charity 600 orphans from the city are here now, & all who have the ability acquire a complete Education.—

This is an immense institution & was deeply interested in this visit. In the Library are drawings made by the boys. For there are geniuses among these. They are taken in from 6 to 18 yrs. of age.

The scene from the roof is magnificent. It is on the highest ground of the city, 6 ft. higher than Fairmount, which it overlooks, also the State prison. Penitentiary, reservoirs, & the whole country around, Rivers &c.—

Have heard of the death of Silas Cornell of Rochester.

In P.M. heavy shower. Started to go Chesnut Hill 10 mi. from city, but were too late for cars. Then went to Hospital on Cor. Broad & Cherry, which is being put in order to receive the wounded.

Phebe came back this morning.

Thursday, 19th.

Left Stephen Cox's at 7 A.M. intend take 8 A.M. train but no train left for W. till noon.—so I called on Mrs. Chew, & walked on Chesnut St, & admired the fine things in the windows, a pair of diamond earrings valued at \$5000, & the only gold medal ever given to Washington; & pearls, & laces & silks, & bonnets &c.

I think I never saw so many good looking people in any other city as there are in Phila. & they dress in such good taste. These modern quakers dress so becomingly. —& there is no such flashy finery, & gaudy fixings as we see in N.Y. The principles of Friends

Have made an impression on nearly all that pertains to the city. The streets are narrower than I supposed. But Wm. Penn laid them out so much wider than the London streets that 100 ft. for the principal ones & 60 ft. for the others was thought to be wide enough. The street cars are very numerous but few carriages are seen—railroads on nearly all the principal streets. It is a vast city.—& I am glad to have seen it & the people it contains, for as a stranger I have been treated with great kindness & friendly hospitality, & this visit will be remembered with pleasure during the rest of my life.

Left at 12 M.—with large trunk filled with things for Hos. by the good Friends of Phila.—Very hot, tiresome ride. The vicinity of Phila. is very beautiful. The Delaware is a fine River.—

At Wilmington is the oldest looking

Church that I ever saw.—Made but few stops.—

When we got to the Depot at Washington (7 P.M.), there were wounded soldiers lying all along on the dirty floor & people stumbled over them. It was a painful sight. They had been there since morning. These were to go to Phila. There must be gross neglect or mismanagement some where.—

I went to Dr. Breed's, met Elisa Yates.

Friday 20.

Left Dr. B's. Went to see Miss Dix, & to San. Rooms. Dr. Colwell says we may have something for the Hos. here.

Called at Mr. Lakes, then to see Mr. and Mrs. Marshall.—Then to Depot for Trunk & to 12 M. boat. —Told him my Trunk had hospital stores & the Sergeant at wharf did not examine it. —

Things in Alex. are about as usual only Peter Washington died this morning. This was quite sudden, as He was as

well as usual when I went away.

Letters from Frances & Mary & Joe & Griffin & Mrs. Earle &c. Unpleasant news from Rochester. Mary & children have had mumps, Joe writes from Fredericksburg, where he goes to take the wounded. Says our losses have been very heavy. This P.M. have done various chores.

Saturday, 21.

Very hot.

Went to Hospital. About 100 men now including several Indians. (sharpshooters) (1st. Mich.) One new tent is filled up. I am not pleased with the management of thing there. — Oh! dear, so hot I could not stay long.

Mrs. Jones called to see me. Her husband, Capt. in 19 Conn. has gone to the front & she is going home. About 1 P.M. Misses Taylor England & Froshay came from W. They have been

sent by the orthodox Friends of Phila, to teach Colored Schools in W. — A house is to be built there for School purposes & to accommodate Teachers.—

These ladies took dinner with me. Then we remained here to witness the funeral of Peter W. The people assembled in the Yard, & the coffin was taken out there. It was quite an impressive scene. But John Shippen a fellow servant of Peter's launched forth in such a way that the people made considerable noise, kept up a sort of wailing.— These ladies were amused. I was not.— Mrs. Jacobs says there was almost a howling at the grave. I did'nt go there; but I went with these girls to the barracks, the Hospital, the Slave Pen, the Soldiers Rest, & Christ Church. I was so hot & tired when I got back. — Samuel Dickinson came also (Anna's brother.) Miss Taylor "did not know what a Slave Pen is for, had never read about

them, had read no Anti S. books." I told her I really did'nt know how at this day to teach the A.B.C. of Abolition. It was so long ago since I had occasion to teach it. I told her I was surprised that she should come here to teach contrabands & not know what a slave pen is for.—

I hope no more girls like these will be sent here to teach colored school.

Sunday May 22^d.

This A.M. went to River to witness a baptism. Mr. Scott baptized 18 persons, 11 women & 7 men. A multitude of people were present. It was right under the guns of Fort Rodgers, near the 400 pounder,— It was a very slow process, so long getting ready, & such long prayers & hymns. It was so hot down there, I came back tired out & went to bed.— This P.M. a severe thunder shower. I have not been to hos. to day as I intended to do. This P.M. I have filled up my Diary &c.

Monday May 22^d. [*Transcriber's note: Preceding day, Sunday, also listed as May 22*] Comfortable day. Been in Clothing Room nearly all day. Overhauled boxes &c.— We hear that the cars &c. which have just been sent to Aquia ck. are to be brought back. Tactics have been changed suddenly. I think Grant is in a tight place, & that Butler has retreated or else been taken.

Tuesday

Very hot. Called on Mrs. Sweet. She is ill. Went to Hospital, & took 4 doz. fans wh. were given to me in Phila. Also one apple apiece. Thunder Shower in Evening.

Wednesdy.

Comfortable day. Worked in C. Room 2 hours. Sewed rest of day.
Lee has retreated across the N. Anna & Grant is following him up.—

Thursdy

Rainy. Attended in Clothing Room all day. Wounded soldiers were brought in last night.

Friday May 27.

Helped Lucinda wash, & sent for rations. Attended in Clothing Room.—With Mrs. J. went to Newtown. What a filthy town!, I only wonder that anybody can keep well. —

Received 3 bbls. & 5 boxes from San. Com. for the Col^d Soldiers.—

Such sad sights as we have seen today. This P.M. 6 ambulances passed here & they contained 11 coffins on their way to the Soldiers B. Ground, & before these passed I saw 3 ambulances at least 4 [*Transcriber's note: 4 superimposed over 3*] coffins in them.

These were the wounded that were brought in last night or night before—

May 28.

Fine day. Rose early. Made a fire in my room & Ironed. Then opened the San. Boxes & counted the articles of clothing. Oh, such nice things, 100 new shirts & socks & drawers of good material & well made.

I could not keep the tears back when I saw them. The benevolence of the North is astonishing. How much suffering the San. Com- alleviate! Then we have Lemons, wines, sugar crackers &c. —We have reason to think some of white hospitals here are not very well cared for. Too bad.

In P.M. went to our Hospital & made lemonade for about 100.

Several colored ladies came in with lots of good things, a feast for them all. Hope there will not be a famine tomorrow.—very tired to-night. Shower while I was at Hos. Tents are very good.—

230 wks. Since my darling Freda was taken from me. It is so long since I have heard from her!

Sunday May 29th.

Fine. Cool. —Went to Hospital & took shirts so that all could have a change.

Put up pictures, which pleased them very much, gave out some Hymn Books.

Then went to Pitt St. to see a woman. Taken dinner & now it is 2 P.M. & it seems as if Sunday had just begun.—

Evening

This P.M. went to cemetery with Miss Evans, Miss Collins, Master Abbott, Virginia, & Mr. Briggs. Long, but interesting walk, first went to Soldier's B.G. Then to Potter's Field, & then to the new Colored B. Ground.

Never had a finer day.

Grant has advanced back to this side of the N. Anna. Changed his base.

There has been more severe fighting. 800 wounded have been brought from there to W—All the wounded have been brought from Fred^{bg}. —very bad cases came last. On one boat coming up 5 died & on the wharf 5 died, & others had to be carried on stretchers to the Hospitals. This was a day or two ago.

Alex. May 30 —1864

Perfect day & one to be remembered. I have seen enough to think of a week,—I first went to our Hospital, sent 2 bbls. of bandages &c. there—The patients fare very well now, & shall make an effort to visit some of the white soldiers' Hos^s

Worked in Clothing Room awhile & regulated my own room. About 11/2 P.M. 3 colored Regts. from Camp Casey, marched through our streets. They went first to Soldier's Rest, but as that is used for hos. now, they went down Duke St. to the wharf, & are waiting for transports to take them down the River. They are the 29th. Ill. the 28th Ind. & the 81st. N.Y. —over 1,000 in all. It was a grand & inspiring sight. They had banners & music, & at our suggestion they sang the 'John Brown' song & other appropriate songs while coming through this secesh city. Secesh dared not say a word. Oh! I did enjoy it.—

There was a long wagon train & a drove of cattle. The men seemed in good spirit, & the officers I talked with say they have no trouble with them. There is good news from Grants Army. Burnside has flanked Lee, by crossing the Pamunky.—

This P.M. went to King St. Hospital with Miss Evans, Miss Collins & Griffith Abbott. —150 there, wounded in various ways, some with limbs amputated. One mere boy with one arm shattered & the other one off. Entirely helpless. Some interesting & affecting cases. Nearly all were cheerful, & not disposed to complain, but they need nursing & woman's care, wh. they do not have here. They do not know whether there is a matron or not, some of them had once seen a bareheaded woman, & they contended she stopped there. But she had done nothing for them.

I wish Frances and some others would come here. They might be so useful just at this time.—

Tuesday. May 31st.

Called on Mrs. Sweet & to see Dr. Bentley. Then went to our Hospital & put up window curtains in the women's ward, & worked till nearly one P.M. Very hot there.

I learn that which pains me very much. Some 2 wks. ago 11 women were brought from Arlington to this Hos. to work, I suppose, but they are very bad women. They do but little work, & have a bad influence on the men & boys. How can Dr. B. allow such a state of things?

This is the hottest day yet. In P.M. went to Wolfe St. Hos. with Miss Evans, Miss Collins & G.A. [*Transcriber's note: probably Griffith Abbott, mentioned earlier*] 260 patients, mostly wounded, & bad cases. It did some of them so much good to see us. One boy has both legs off. They have the best place in the city, & pretty good attention, & fare pretty well, on the whole.

Then went to St. Paul's Ch. Hos. one ward contained the sick, but the large ch. is full of wounded. Their wounds were

being dressed & we did not go among them. But this Hos. has a matron & I think it is well cared for. —

June 1st. Wednesday, 1864.

So hot. First went to Hospital, saw Dr. Barker & told him what I think about having those women there.—Went with Miss Evans, Miss Collins & G.A. for passes & then to wharf with them. Miss C. & G. have gone back to Phila.

Called on Dr. Coventry the N.Y. agent for the relief of Soldiers. —
So hot that I thought it best to remain in the house.—

Letters from Frances & Mary Julia. Did various chores. —

After tea I called on Mrs. Henry. Cars have not run on Orange & Alex. R.R. for 2 wks. Guerrillas have destroyed it all between Union Mills & the Rapidan. —
Good news from Sherman. No news from Grant or Butler.

Alex, June 2^d. Cooler, cloudy—

Attended in clothing room all day. Miss Evans left for Phila. —
Have seen 9 funerals this P.M.

We hear that Lee has retreated to Richmond, & Grant is besieging the city. There has been severe fighting & heavy losses probably. —

June 3^d. 1864

Fine.—Attended in C. Room part of day. Mrs. Marshall here. Mrs. Sweet called. I took tea with them at W. House.—

June 4th, comfortable day,

Called to see Mrs. Marshall & Mrs. Sweet. In P.M. went to Hospital. Enlarging accommodations there. One of the Indians is a grandson of Red Jacket, & great grandson of Mary Jemison. His wife Catherine is "Queen of Squaws," that is, the highest by birth of [*Transcriber's note: rest of sentence left blank*]. Joseph Jemison is an interesting man, from Cootnawaga C.E.— belongs to 24. Mich. Miss J. & I called to see Dr. Bentley, satisfactory interview, Toward eve^g. went to Summerville.—

Alex. Sunday. June 5th, 1864.

Cloudy—Went to Grantville to teach Miss Evans' class. A great want of Teachers. Then with Miss. C. I went to meeting at barracks to hear several persons on the life & character

of Peter Washington who died 2 weeks ago. Our speaker said that “brother P. now was out of gunshot of wicked men & out of gunshot of fiery devils, we can’t add nor diminish to his happiness,” & don’t let brother P. catch you at the bar of God without the wedding garment on.” The people sung & wailed & moaned & groaned & responded in various ways. There was swaying to & fro & shaking hands besides the unearthly sounds I have mentioned.—The room was full, & there was a crowd all about the house. I only had standing room, & I stood when I cd. see a group of children in the yard trying to dance a cotillion! Shade of Gladwin!

Just one step from the sublime to the ridiculous. —When we got back a funeral procession was passing, 2 ambulances containing 4 coffins, & we walked along to the soldier’s burying G. & saw them deposited in Virginia soil, far from friends & home. Poor fellows! 4 before these had been buried today. Quite a number of people had collected, & I listened with reverence to the Chaplain’s reading & prayer. It was a solemn scene. 18 were buried yesterday. They die rapidly in these hospitals. for many bad cases have been brought here.—

I have asked myself for the first time “will it pay?” We must receive some great good to make it pay. —

Letter from Phebe, & I have heard from home too. Like many another I am putting far away the evil day, but it will come, when we must leave our old home & see it in the possession of strangers.

June 6th.

Hot. Shower towards night. Helped Lucinda wash. In P.M. Ironed. Very tired to night.—

June 7th.

Cool & pleasant. Had my room white washed, & helped clean it. Tired again tonight.—I have been very uneasy. I do not like to spend my time thus. I felt that I should be at the hospitals instead of attending to my own comforts.

June 8th.

Went to Hos. 3 times. Had book shelves put up, sent up clothes. Made lemonade for them all, &c. very tired to night.

June 9th.

Attended in Clothing Room most of the day. Quite a number of new people have come, & have little or nothing to begin with, yet they seem hopeful & happy, & generally try to get work.

Mrs. J. left for Phila.—

We fear Grant has come to a stopping place. No progress has been made for several days. Skirmishing is kept up, & men are killed & wounded. Talked with Mr. G.

June 10

Fine. Cool.—Went to Summerville, & found woman for Mrs. Augur.—Waited on various persons. —Stewed cherries & took them to Hos. for those who do not go to table. They relished them very much. —

In P.M. went to King St. Hos. with Louisa Jacobs. A great many patients there, & many very bad cases. Some of them were suffering very much, & looked as if they might be made more comfortable. Their comfort depends a good deal upon the ward master. — In some wards they had things from Sanitary Com. & in some they had not. —Two large buildings are used, & there is a prison attached to it too, for deserters & other bad fellows.

Letter from Joe Van B —Written last Saturday, was engaged in taking wounded from Coldwater to White House. 1000 wounded in 9th. Corps. He is well.

Lewis's wife has come to day. They have been separated 2 years.

June 11th. Saturday.

Called on Mrs. Sweet. — Went to King St. Hos. The stench there is awful, in one part of the House. Louisa had made mush for one & broiled a bird, & I had strawberries for another & I went to take these. I wish she cd. have seen how they relished them. Some wards are much better kept than others.

They need san. Stores & a responsible woman to deal them out & take charge of them.

This P.M. with Miss C. I went to Wolfe St. Hos.—Norris Roatch, 7th. Mich. is better. Akin Holoway of 24th. Mich. formerly of West Avon, is better. A boy of 18 with his arm off lies beside him. Oh! so much suffering. Took over some dried fruit &c. to the matron.

Sunday June 11th. [*Transcriber's note: previous day, Saturday, also referred to as June 11th*]

Delightful weather. — Letters from Mrs. S.W. Barker & J.M. McKim.

Went to meeting in Court Room. Mr. Hooker preached. —Went to S.S. at Grantville.

Monday June 12th.

Fine. Waited on people in Clothing Room. Went to Hospital 30 new ~~people~~ sick ones. In P.M. with Mrs. Collier went to Sickel's Barracks Hos. 700 men, nearly all wounded, such a sight! Things looked very nice & comfortable as a general thing. Saw 2 Rochester men. But few ladies visit them—Called on Mrs. B. Came back exceedingly fatigued. About dusk Harriet Stokely of Phila. came. We called on Mr. Gladwin. He says the Mil. Gov. has forbidden the Freedmen to build any more houses.

Tuesday

H. Stokely left at ½ past 6 A.M. —

I spent A.M. at L'Overture Hos.

Went to Newtown, & saw a distressed family—so filthy, & several sick of course.

In P.M. went to Wolfe St. Hos. Then called on Mrs. Sweet, & to Ex. Office & on Dr. Coventry & twice to see Dr. B. but did'nt see him. Went to Slave Pen & Hos. again & am oh! so tired to night.

90 wounded soldiers have been brought in from Wilderness Battlefield, 90 mi. from this. An escort of cavalry was sent after them. About 200 had been carried off by rebs.

Wednesday. Delightful weather.

This morning went to see Dr. B. Says he cannot promise Frances a place unless she comes very soon. I am quite disappointed for F. says she is not ready to come.

Went on 10 A.M. boat to W. very pleasant. Went to Dr. B's —& in P.M. with Dr. & Mrs. B. & Meena & Aunt Amy rode about 12 miles. First to Piney Branch, a stream that empties into Rock Creek. The road is through the woods & is wild, shady, quiet, entirely out of sight of cities, forts & every thing that pertains to business or war. It was so refreshing.

There was a clear stream & the hillsides were covered with laurel in blossom & other flowers. We then, by a winding road, went on past the race course, & Fort Stevens & Battery Sill. Then we stopped at a swampy place & gathered magnolias & white azaleas & various other flowers. Then on the fine[?] military road past fort Slocum, Battery Bunker Hill & Fort Sumner, & near the Soldier's Home, where there is a Summer residence for the President, & the Sec. of War, but Stanton has never used it—Gov. King of the S. Home is a secesh Md. Slaveholder, & Lincoln allows such a person to remain there! — It is on the height of Ground & a very beautiful place.

The Soldier's Burying Ground is near, I went in to it. 8000 have been buried here, 6000 remain; the balance has been removed by friends to other places. There is a grove on 2 sides. It is in a retired & beautiful spot. There are walks, & flowers.

& green graves & white headboards, & white summer houses, & it is so clean & nicely kept! This ground is full & instead of enlarging it as might be done, & have them all buried in the District, they have lately made a new plan on the Arlington Estate, & within a month past 1030 have been buried there! The idea of going into Virginia, 5 or 6 mi — from the Hospitals in W. how absurd! & I am told it is because the secesh Gov. of the Soldier's Home, objects to men taking more land adjoining the present ground.—

The ride back was very interesting. The scaffolding has been taken away from the Statue on the Dome of the Cap, & the Goddess of Liberty looks like a Queen of all she surveys! The Dome is grand & beautiful now. —It was nearly dusk when we got back to 359 I St. —& after tea Aunt Amy, & Meena & Mr. Newton & I went to the Patent Office to attend the Ratification Meeting. It is said 8000 people were present.

The whole front of the Patent O. was illuminated by a candle to each pane of glass. The P^{ost}. O. building was also illuminated. The pillars of Patent O. were wreathed with evergreens. There was Lincoln & Johnson in huge letters. There were transparencies & mottoes & words for liberty spoken by L. & Johnson on various occasions. The speakers were Judge Kelly, Lane of [?], & Patterson of N.H. —There were fireworks from the roof of the Patent O. The moon looked calmly down on a such a scene as she never witnessed before in W. but the glory of the stars was paled by so many lesser lights, being concentrated t̄oin one point.

The speeches were radical Anti-Slavery & altogether it was a great meeting. We stood until 10 o'clock. The crowd was orderly & quiet. Many women were bareheaded. I do not expect ever to see such a scene again. I was very tired when I went to bed. The evening was very fine.

Thursdy June 16th.

Hot, windy, dusty. I came from W. on the 10 A.M. boat. Mrs. J came from Phila. this A.M. She brought Mrs. Hazzard for a matron for L'Ouverture Hospital. I confess to a little disappointment, for I supposed Mrs. J. knew that I expected Frances to have a place there. But if the women she has selected are only competent I will be satisfied. But it seems sometimes that every body takes the liberty to impose upon me. I wish I had more spirit.

This P.M. I went with Mrs. Moore to L'Ouverture Hos. & barracks & soldier's Rest where there are 350 sick & wounded.

June 17.

Very hot. _____ Went to Quarter master's Hospital, 6 colored men there, & seem to be well cared for. In P.M went to Soldiers Rest & staid 3 hrs. These 400 do not fare any too well.

Saturday June 18th.

Went to Fairfax St. to see a sick woman. Went to Pro. Mar's & to Hospital. Went to Newtown to see some sick persons. Sam^l. Dickinson here but I did'nt see him.

June 19. Sundy

Intended to accomplish considerable to day, but I have only laid in bed & read a little.

June 20.

Called on Mrs. Sweet. —Went to Hos.

40 men left for their Regiments.

3 have died within 2 days.

Attended in C. Room, but few calls.

This evening have heard H.H. Garnett lecture at old S. House to the colored people.

June 21st.

Hot. Went to see Dr. B. about Blinds for Hos. & Flag. He would like to have both if I can get them. — took long walk to see painters, carpenters &c.—Hear that 3 bbls. sent me

from R. are in Georgetown now. Saw the Wenonah, a large boat, wh. appeared to be loaded

with wounded going to W.

Returned & wrote several letters. The big gun has been fired 3 times & it jarred the house considerably.—About 4 P.M. I went to Soldier's Rest & gave each of the most feeble ones a spoonful of Peach Cordial.

128 men left to day for N.Y. to make room for others who are expected.

There has been fighting at Petersburg & great loss in killed & wounded. It is terrible.

June 22^d

Went to W. to see about blinds for Hos. Called on Mrs.[?] Lake & at Dr. B's & came back at 3 P.M.—Went to Hospital. Matrons not treated with much consideration. They will have many difficulties to contend with. But I hope they will succeed in commanding respect of both white & black.

June 23^d Very hot.

Called to see Dr. B. about blinds. Then went to Hos.—Wrote several letters. Letter from Joe dated “before Petersburg. June 18—He was well

⁴June 24.

Very hot. Cleaned my room. Unpacked 3 bbls. of old clothes from R. In P.M., went to Parker's school, & to Wolfe St. Hos. It is not full now.

June 25

Hotter yet. Rose early. Helped Lucinda wash. In P.M. did my ironing—Suffered much from heat.

June 26th, Sunday

Hottest day I ever knew. Have only been out to my meals. Have written most of the day. A high wind & a sprinkle this P.M.

June 27.

Shower in P.M.—Worked in clothing R. nearly all day A.M. fitted out 6 new people. This P.M. went to Hospital. Washington ladies there. Some things are very discouraging. Mean, low hired white men counteract all the good we might otherwise do. These soldiers are tyrannized over & treated

like dogs by a white ward master, & as yet they can get no redress.

Tuesday June 28th, 1864.

Memorable day. I have been made ashamed of my race, & of the world in toto.—Waited on some new people this morning. Then called to see Fanny Lee, & discussed theology with a colored woman.

⁴ Until further notation, entries correspond to Haverford scans HC13-26005_061 to HC13-26005_137 in their Folder entitled April 21th 1864 to Jan. 8th 1865.

Then went to Hospital. New case of tyranny of part of Ward master. He curses the men, drags them about by the ears, & uses them like brutes. But I could'nt muster courage enough to speak to Dr. Barker about him. —Went to Cameron St. to learn about a sick woman who is at our Hos. & I learned that which makes my heart ache.

This P.M. went down there again, & visited 15 houses mostly on Pitt & [Transcribers note: last location left blank] Sts. These are inhabited by about 100 persons. Many of the children are sick. Some are quite comfortable, others are living in a very filthy state. Found myself at the door of a house of

bad repute. Several young colored men & women there, & several col^d. soldiers & one white one. I talked with one who told me they were recruits of 54th. Mass just come to Alex. on their way to their Regt.—I was so sorry to see them here drinking & with vile women. I then made several calls, & by that time I saw these soldiers pass. My first impulse was to follow them, & I did so. The company were on Royal St. & these men mixed in with them. I called to an officer & told him what I had seen. But by that time the white corporal was lost sight of.—I am so angry. To know that white officers go with colored soldiers to such low places. I could hardly believe it had I not seen it. —Made several calls in Sumnerville. Then after tea went to Hospital again with clothes for woman.—While I was there, the guard arrested one of the women

& marched her to Pro. Mar's—The white Ward Master should have been arrested too. Mrs. Hazzard has told Dr. Bentley about some things, but not all. Dr. B. insists upon the matrons eating with those women! How it will be decided I know not.

June 29th.

Went with Miss Collier to W. at 8 A.M. Went to see about blinds.—Then to Patent Office & Botanical Garden. Then to Cap. & sat in Senate awhile. Heard Trumbull, Wade, Saulsbury, Sumner &c. on admission of Arkansas Senators.

Went into the House a little while, & came back on 2 P.M. to Alex.

Went to Hospital, then to Wolfe St. Hos. & away down King St. Am very tired to night.

June 30th.

Went to W. on 9 A.M. boat with Miss C. Mr. Sumner agreed yesterday to see us this

morning, so we called at 251 F. Street. He has a severe cold, almost sick. He looked very sad, & careworn & troubled. He wore a Nankeen morning gown, trimmed with white & he looked so clean. He was very busy, but listened to us politely, of course. We told him we hoped when the Freedmens Bureau Bill was passed there would be a change in Alex. affairs, that the present Super^t. was not a suitable man for the place, &c. He said if that Bill could be passed many things might change, but he really feared it would not pass the

House, & he seemed so grieved when he said this. Oh! he is a noble man. Knowing that his time was precious we made a very brief stay. "He would be glad to serve us if he could," so he said. He seems to be one of the faithful few.

Then we called on Mrs. Griffin & Miss Searle & Mrs. Brew.
Went to shop & made bargain for blinds, & then came back on 2 P.M. boat. Caught in shower & stopped at house on Prince St.—Then went to our Hos. & to see Mrs. Henry.

July 1st.

Very hot—Waited on several people, wrote letters. So hot did not go out till 4 P.M. Then called to Freight Office & paid \$4.27 for 3 bbls. from R. Called at King St. Hos. Looks very uncomfortable there. So many flies, so warm, & air so impure. These men might be more comfortable I am sure.

Saw about 100 men guarded by Cav. They looked like secesh prisoners.

July 2^d.

Very hot —Worked in house til noon. Then went for pass. This P.M. went with Miss C. to King St. Hos. took a little soup.

I went to W. on 4 P.M. boat, went to shop & paid for blinds, (\$45 for 15 prs.) & brought them back on 6 P.M. boat. Went with them to L'Ouverture Hos.—
Saw several ambulances with wounded. Went to my tea, & am quite tired this evening.
—Sec. Chase has resigned.

July 3^d.

This A.M. went to Christ Ch. This P.M. so hot I have not been out. wrote to Mrs. B.

Alex. July 4th, 1864.

Not so hot. Last evening I ate some iced custard & the consequence was I was sick all night, & have kept my bed nearly all day, a dull Fourth of July for me. Mrs. J. the girls & several others have been a few mi. out of town a blackberrying, & got a fine parcel for the hospital. If I had been well I would have enjoyed the excursion vastly. There has been no celebration by the city. The stores were closed &c.

Bells were rung & guns were fired at sunrise. At noon the great guns at the Forts banged away right smart, & I imagined I knew how an artillery fight soundeē.

But a small amount of fire crackers used here today, indeed, it has been a little quieter than usual.

Congress adjourned at noon. The Freedmen's Bureau Bill has not passed, & we have no hope for any thing better at present. Old Nichols & Gladwin will continue to tyrannize over the people, & Col. G. will carry on his swindling operations ad libitum.

July 5th.

Not so hot. I feel much better. This morning went to Bank, then to Mr. Carlan's to get fastenings for Blinds. This P.M. went to Newtown. Called on Mrs. Henry, waited on several families of new people. All the women barefooted. No men came with them.

July 6th, 1864.

Very hot. Very busy day—Went to P.O. Then with Mrs. J. to Hospital & to Newtown. Called on Taylor family. Then to Annabel Davis's school. She has 6 scholars, none for Mr. Gladwin now. Rather small teaching, & I try not to despise the day of small things—Then to Mrs. Crouch's School, has it in yard under the trees. It looked really picturesque. Has 45 scholars. She is going to build a School Room. Called on 4 families on Prince St. Mrs. Dana & Mrs. Crosby came.

Mrs. J. & I went out with them. Could'nt get into the Slave Pen, went to Soldiers Rest, full of sick & wounded now. Mrs. D. & Mrs. C. left at 3 P.M. —Then I went with Louisa & Virginia to Mr. Crows' School on Patrick St. Mr. Young has charge of it. It averaged 175 scholars before the hot weather. Those that can afford to pay do so, from 25 cents to 1.00 a mo. & many of them pay nothing. Nearly all the children of Freedmen. This is a "Reformed

Presbyterian Mission" school. Mr. Crow receives clothing & gives it to the poor ones. The scholars are mostly from Newtown. Then we went to Mr. Fish's School in Concert Hall. He has 45 scholars, & a method of teaching peculiar to himself, & is quite successful. Miss H. Mitchell, a colored girl, assists him. He is employed by the N. F. Assoⁿ. in N.Y. at \$50 per mo.

Then I went to get pass to Slough Hos. of Dr. B. Then went to see Mrs. Sweet. This is considerable of a day's work.

July 7th.

So hot. Slight shower at dusk. Waited on new people, went to Pro. Mar's Office. Letter from Mrs. Earle. In P.M. with Miss Collier went to Slough Hos. an extensive Establishment. About 400 there. Looked quite comfortable. Went to see Chas. Ellenbeck of Canada, —saw several N.Y. men & Mich. men &c.—Miss Evans has returned.—It is so hot.

July 8th. very hot. windy.

Have been on the go nearly all day. Can get no carpenter yet to hang the Blinds. Went in wagon to Hos. with box of things, visited all the wards, & did various things. —Saw them at their dinner of bread & mackerel & water. One man took the bread that belonged to another, & was to be court-martialed for it.

These work women are very troublesome. It is such a pity they are there.—

This P.M. Mrs. Johnson & Mrs. Underwood came. I went with Mrs. J. to the Hospital again. I have been in the sun & wind so much that I am getting as black as a 'nigger'. —I have written 3 letters. Had letter from Joe Van B. He is well, is near Petersburg.— Had letter from Margaret Robinson. They will send a Flag for Hospital. The Germantown ladies send it. How nobly they respond to every call!—

Alex. July 9th. 1864

Very hot. Windy. In A.M. went to the Hospital. In P.M. wrote an account of L'Ouverture H. for N.Y. Chronicle. Rebs have invaded Md. Have taken Harpers Ferry, plundered Hagarstown & set fire to it, & are cutting up generally. They have a large force, & hope to call Grants forces from Richmond. The militia of N.Y. & Pa. are called out. Baltimore is in danger. They are only a few miles from the city & there has been severe fighting at Monocacy Bridge.

And Moseby's men have been in the vicinity of Alex. again. There will be another great scare here soon. So many men have been drawn from Alex, That the city may well be alarmed. Somehow I cannot realize that the North is being invaded again.

This may be in the way of my going home when I get ready.

236 weeks since my little darling was taken from me.—

Sunday July 10th.

How fast the time is going. I do not mean to leave until the Blinds are on all right, & I would like to be at home now.

It is hot and windy. Spent all the A.M. in in [*Transcriber's note: "in" repeated*] cleaning & regulating my room & myself.

In P.M. called on Mrs. Henry.

July 11th. 1864.

Very hot. Lucinda came to wash. I did not help her much. Too hot to go to Hos. or to do any thing. Towards night I went up Washington St. to [*Transcriber's note: blank space*] which is barricaded with wagons, & a guard is there, several colored men were there armed, & there is a great deal of stir. Every precaution is being used. Every body is in the street. I never saw them look so lively before. Colored men & civilians are sent to the entrenchments near the city. We are in danger no doubt of a raid to destroy the Government property. Secesh enjoy the aspect of things vastly. But somehow I cannot realize our danger.

The news this P.M. is that the rebs are only a few miles from Baltimore, but it is Washington they mean to attack, & that since reb. Cav. have had a fight at Fort Stevens 4 mi. from W. that the rebs can cross the Potomac at any point above Georgetown. I have some fears for the safety of the Colored Home.

Report to night that Mr. Gladwin is arrested & taken to the Pro. Mar's Office. He certainly is not in the house & has not been here to tea.—

I mean to go to W. tomorrow if I can, & see how the city looks under excitement.

Tuesday eve^g. July 12th.

Went to W. with Mrs. J. on 9A.M. boat, had to wait for car in Colored persons can ride, boats were landing troops of the 6th. Corp. who left Petersburg last Saturday night. They were up 7th. St. towards the front. Such hard looking men! bronzed, dusty, tired, banners torn, & it is so hot, & some are in heavy marching order.

Not much business done in city. Government buildings closed, clerks all organized to protect the buildings. "No mail to day, no questions." Army wagons in every direction. —I went to Dr. Breed's. —Met Miss Carter, who has been sent from Boston to W. to look after the wants of the people, & to do just such work as I do. A colored doctor has been employed by Gov^t. for these people, & Stanton has said the sick shall have rations. At intervals heard firing at Ft. Stevens, about 4 mi. from city. Fine shower about 4 P.M. laid the dust, but it was no cooler.

Towards 5 P.M. I rode out with Dr. & Mrs. B. & Aunt Amy & Meena towards the front. Went up 14th Street, past Columbian Col. Hos; & Carver, & Mt. Pleasant, to Piney Branch road. There was a guard & no one without a pass could go any further. These several carriage here & the people in them were quite disappointed, for we were 2 mi. from Ft. Stevens yet. Some colored people were coming in with their goods, cow &c. very lively place. Some body's headquarters here. Officers on horseback &c.

Guns had all been quiet for an hour or more. Went out towards Soldiers Home, but were stopped at toll gate on 7th. Street. From this point to the city it was an animated scene. There is a group of fast riding officers with a white flag bearing the red cross of the 6th. Corp. There were straggling soldiers & civilians, on horseback, on foot & in carriages. In one carriage sat the Sec. of State overshadowed by an immense Panama.

Then we met regiments of men. Oh! The poor fellows; we stopped & they passed on each side of the carriage, faces as red ablaze. heads as wet as if they had been dipped in a stream. It was very hot then. I think not one in a hundred had pocket hdkfs. We handed out all we had with us. They tried to look cheerful, & sometimes wd. attempt a joke. Many seemed impatient to get there, others could only drag themselves along, & some gave up entirely, & all along the way men were sitting & lying on the ground.

As we neared the city, drinking places

were frequent. At one of these there was a fight between 2 soldiers. Their heads & faces were covered with blood. There was a crowd of soldiers & others, but no one interfered. They were both drunk. It seemed so disgraceful. Dr. & Mrs. B. left the carriage, & succeeded in pacifying one man.—But there were some pleasant features along the way.

At the gateways leading to some of the residences that are back among the trees on the East side of 7th. St. were people with water for the soldiers to drink, at one gate, just inside, were several young girls in white frocks & pink sashes giving water to the soldiers. —But not a cheer for the “Fighting 6th.” was given during that march. No demonstration of welcome to those veterans just from Petersburg, & now hastening to the defence of W. —Those sunburnt, dusty, nearly exhausted men, with their torn battle flags & faded banners now hastening to this other front was an affecting sight, an eloquent appeal to every

patriotic heart.—I shall never forget the sights of to day. —We saw coming in on ~~the~~ 14th. St. an Ambulance loaded with wounded men. —It did look warlike up there. Had we known a pass was necessary we might have got one & gone nearer the Forts. The rebs were within a few yards of the Fort Stevens. —This P.M. they have appeared before Lincoln still nearer the city. — I left my kind friends at the point where the cars start & rode to the landing to take 7 P.M. boat, & got back here about dusk. —I have enjoyed the privilege of going out there very much.

Great precautions are being taken here for the safety of Alex—

The R.R. between W. & Baltimore is cut, & train was stopped at Magnolia, people ordered out. Then it was fired & sent to Gunpowder bridge, & both bridge & cars were burnt. Chas. Sumner was on the train, but he was not imprisoned by the rebs. Gen. Franklin was aboard & taken prisoner.

The secesh knew of this, for there were many aboard, & there were ladies with bottles of liquor who treated their rebel friends.

Wednesdy July 13th.

Very hot. In the morning I ironed. Then went to L'O Hos. Talked with Dr. Barker. He does'nt look upon these people in the same light that I do. He does not seem to appreciate the great wrong of working these women without wages, & he cannot treat these people as he would white folks.

I talked with Miss Hazzard. The women have been told that they will get no pay, & this morning they refused to work. I cannot blame them.

I called on Mrs. Crouch & Miss Chase & left little books for all their scholars.

In P.M. with Miss Evans I went to King St. Hospital. The state of things there is deplorable. It seems wrong for me to keep quiet, such inefficient nurses, no women, so dirty, so many flies, such smells, Oh! These misused men, who might recover, many of them, if in

some comfortable place.

The sick prisoners from prison on corner of Fairfax & Prince are brought to K. St. Hos. We visited them. Some of them terribly, some say their offence was slight, overstaid

furlough or something of that kind, others confess they are deserters. They were very sick & the place is very unwholesome & they complained of their treatment.

This is an awful Hospital I am out of patience with Dr. B. who is Surg. in Ch.

Then went to Mansion H. Hos. Saw Mrs.[?] Hazen & got information on some points. The men who die here have decent burial. They are washed, & drest in clean shirt, drawers & socks, furnished by San. Com. This is as it should be. 300 patients here. Albert Ellis, the little boy, with one arm off & the other entirely useless is here & getting along. He wd. have died had he been left in K. St. Hos. —One Indian here. It all looks so nice & comfortable. The men look

satisfied & cheerful & clean. Why cannot Dr. B. manage to have his hospitals like this.

Then went to Wolfe St. Hos. —Saw Miss Looks[?]. She says the men for 2 wks. have had to buy their own medicines & plasters. Dr. Stuart is so penurious—Some things he has done well. Every thing must be kept neat, & the nurses must be faithful. Miss L. says the men who die there are laid out in uniform & prepared decently for the grave.—I hope to bring about a change in this matter at L'Ouverture. —These people are wronged when living & wronged when dead. —Will justice never be done?

To think that the sick soldiers are left to suffer, & comforts withheld from them when Gov^t. provides so amply for them!

Finished ironing by moonlight. Then called to see Dea. W. about hanging blinds, very tired to night. Read the papers, & took a bath —Rebels have recrossed the Potomac, & now they fear an attack on Alex.

Thursdy 14th. July.

Such a disturbed night. Cars coming to & fro, & such unearthly noises!

This morning I learn that an attack was expected, & the Gov. Stores were all moved to W. —in the night. But I went to sleep amidst it all, & slept so well that I feel right smart this morning.

It is thought, however, that the rebs are all on this side of the River, & there is no particular news. — Later.—The rebs have left vicinity of W. & our Cavalry are in pursuit.—

July 15.

First went to Hos. with Carpenters. Then went to see Painters. Then to get wagon & pass to go to Mason's Island but failed. Cannot go beyond the lines. —Then to Newtown & called on 4 sick families, & A. Davis's School of 5 scholars. Then to Mrs. Crouch's Examination & to the Hos. Letters from Frances, Joe & Mr. Coleman. First mail for 4 days.

July 16.

Great precautions taken to defend Alex. Went to Hospital. Blinds all on & ready to paint. Then to Newtown & visited 24 families, all own their houses, & nearly all have small gardens. A great many children sick.

In P.M. went to Barracks. Miss Owens' School had Festival. School appeared very well.

Then with Miss Evans to Slough Barracks, visited about half the wards, & left papers & tracts. Men complain of not having enough to eat, & of not being well cared for. Too bad! Something like King St. Hos.—& both in Dr. Bentley's Div. Rode part of way back. Very, very tired.

July 17th, Sunday

Hot. Sick all day, did not sit up till 3 P.M. then wrote a few letters. Feel better this evening, & hope to be well tomorrow. Heard no news for a day or two. Excitement seems to be over.

July 18.

Feel better. 7 A.M. went to Hos. 40 men sent to their Regts. —Miss Semmes has left. Went to Newtown & called at 50 houses, in wh. live 250 persons.—31 own them.

This P.M. with Miss C. went to Newtown again. Called at 54 houses, 9 rented, & 260 people. Many children sick.

July 19.

Went to St. Asaph St., S. & Franklin St. & made about 50 calls.—400 people This P.M. went to Hos.—with Miss E to Hayti. Called at 40 houses.

President calls for 500000 troops.

July 20

Very hot. Shower went around us. This A.M. regulated clothing room. Sent for painter, & to the Bank. Went to King St. with Miss E. & treated men, including prisoners with raspberry V. Then went to Hayti & called at 16 houses. People live very comfortably.

July 21st.

Went to both Slave pens & all through the Barracks, 250 persons in Bs. — Then to Grantville & called on a great many people. In P.M. went to houses in the Stockade &c. people both freed & freeborn. Found one woman with six children, the children of her former owner come to her for help, ask for 5 cts. & ten cts. &c. After tea went with Miss Evans to Grantville & made call until dark, very tired to night.

July 22^d.

Cooler. Spent all A.M. in visiting people at Grantville & vicinity, & think we have not overlooked a house, found some new families, some very destitute, & others getting along well. All the approaches to the city are barricaded with wagons. We went to the Rifle pits—After dinner I waited on people till 3 P.M. then with Miss E. I went to Soldiers Rest, & gave to all the worse cases a drink of Raspberry Vinegar.

After tea went to Sumnerville & called at every house (23). Left tracts &c. Read some to people, & they seemed to enjoy it as well as we. This has been a hard day's work.

July 23^d.

Went to Hospital, several new patients. Lucinda did my washing & the Hos. curtains. Blinds are all finished, but 3 or 4 of them need mending already. Whether the people or the painter broke them I do not know. If it were not for this I would be satisfied with them. They have cost \$80.75.

In the P.M. I ironed. After tea I made several calls on Prince St. & Pitt St. Found some people in wretched places, & one school in a miserable alley.

I have now called on nearly all the people, & their numbers are not near so great as Mr. G. estimates them. But he will hardly be likely to use my estimate.

This evening we met in Dr. P.'s office to talk about having a general school celebration in September.

Sunday July 24th, 1864.

Cloudy, smoky, dusty. Looks like rain. All parts of the country are suffering from want of rain. —I have been to the Hos. & put up clean curtains.

Have done various small chores. It has been a dull day. Not very hot.

Virginia has heard of her father's death & she has left for Boston. The poor girl takes it very hard.—Mrs. J. goes as far as N.Y with her.

July 25.

In A.M. went to Grantville & took some things to a family. In P.M went to our Hos. through every ward. Then with Miss Hazzard & Miss C. to Soldiers Rest, & through every ward. — Met a former Scholar Fred^k. Heinold of Rochester.—

Distributed A. S. & other Reform Tracts.

The wounded Reb. of Alabama is a fine young fellow. I gave him one of each kind. He received them gladly, & said "he had been inclined to think for some time that Slavery is wrong".

He has lost an arm. I said Slavery was accountable for that, & he assented, & owned it was the cause of all the present trouble.

He is in a long tent filled with the worst cases of wounded.—& they have very inadequate nursing.—All new to Miss Hazzard & she was delighted, the first time she has been out in the day time.

After tea I went to Union St. &c. & called on several families. —

Have letter from Joseph Dupee, who is in Camp Distribution, very grateful letter, & very interesting. He says "i have felens for you is much as I would have four my on father and Mother and I thank you and God four what you have Do four me"" &c.

July 26th.

Very pleasant. With Miss Evans went to W. on 8 A.M. boat. Went to San. Com. Rooms. Gave us all we asked for. Seem to do business rather loosely there. Dr. Colwell & Mr. Fowler have left.

We went to Colored Hospital. Saw the Surgeons & matron. 72 patients. 9 women. Look quite comfortable.—

Called at Dr. Breed's, then to the Bal. Depot, Then to Mr. Lake's. Mrs. L. is quite ill. Came back at 2 P.M.—Rested a little, then with Miss Evans went to S. Rest. through every ward.—Had a Standard for the "Black abolitionist," & Lovejoy's Speech for the reb, & a Democrat for my quondam Scholar, &c. then explored Hammerdinger ally & Friendship alley &c. & called on several families. —

Letter from Mrs. Coleman. She is going to be matron at the Geo. T. Home. We hear that the Rebs are in Md. again. Too bad! Our people must be asleep.

July 27th, Alex.

Went to Trans. Off. & Journal Off. & Chris. Com. & King St. Hos. & L'Ouverture & said good bye to the people. Opened San. Boxes & Miss Evans is to distribute the things. Tried to pack up but have not accomplished much. Reckoned

up the results of my visits. There are about 538 houses, & 4,374 people. But there are those who dispute this; insist there are more. Well we will call them 5000, & this will include those at Fairfax Sem. & in all other places in the vicinity of Alex.

July 28th.

Spent most of day in packing things I am to take, & in putting up snug those that I leave. I got very tired —Miss Evans went to boat with me at 5 P.M. Lewis took my trunk —& soon Alex. disappeared from my sight. Went to office on Cor. 6th. St. & bought ticket through from Baltimore. Waited at Depot awhile & took 7-20 train.

Mrs. Day & daughter & Mrs. Slough & child & Mrs. Dr. Griffin & 2 children were all going in pursuit of health like myself to various places of former residence. —

July 29th.

Oh, such a night! I was persuaded to take a sleeping car at Baltimore. The one State Room

was to hold Mrs. Griffin & 2 chil. a gentleman & myself. —I suffered till 3 A.M. then several persons left at Harrisburg, & I got up. —I neither slept nor rested, & shall not try a Sleeping Car again —

I have felt miserably all day, could hardly keep up till I got to Avon. So tiresome. Mrs. Griffins party left me at Elmira.

Reached Avon about 6 1/2 P.M. I went to Mr. Winans. All about as usual.

July 30th. Rush.

Feel a little rested this A.M. & early Mr. & Mrs. W. very kindly came home with me. Found father quite well. The house & premises look as if nobody cared for them. Ruinous & desolate enough. All I have done is to unpack my Trunk & take my things upstairs. I have had chills & fever, & have felt badly.

Sunday, 31st. 1864. Rush.

Slept but little, chills & fever again to day. I fear I must give up & be sick.

Rush. Sunday, Sept. 4. 1864.

Have been home 5 wks — and existence has been almost a blank, sick all the time & not able to do any thing until within a few days. When I helped to pack up things to move & yesterday I worked pretty hard, & feel a little the worse for it to day—

Aug. 4. [*Transcriber's note: dates of diary entries out of sync, perhaps a recounting once JW felt better*] Frances & Neddy came & went back next day.—Aug. 7. Sunday. Frances & Mrs. Coleman came & went back same day. Mrs. C. is to be Matron of Colored Home in Georgetown, ~~To go~~ I went next day. Aunt Elisa here.

Aug. 9. Margaret Hathaway & husband came but I was so sick I could not visit with them. Alvira Hartwell came & staid a few days. She was very kind to me. Aug. 12. Alvira went away & Frances & Neddy came. — Cool. Had fire in stove. I was so sick all the while.

Aug. 20. Frances & Neddy went to R. & F. came home alone in buggy about 9 P.M.

Aug. 23^d. Frances went to Springs for Sally Ann Ferris & she staid here till next morning, & I had a good visit with her. Her sister, Mrs. Booth, was at Springs too but I did not see her.

Aug. 26th. Frances went to Rush Station for Angeline, got here about dusk. Was well enough to visit some.

Aug. 27. Frances & Angeline went to Springs met Alfred there he came back with them.

Aug. 29. A. & A. left. Frances went to Rochester with them & I got back about 8 P.M.

Aug. 30

Packed my choice crockery, & buggy load No. 1 went up to the House. Letter from Mary. Has been sick 5 wks, but is getting better. Hears from Joe often, he was well —

Sept. 1st. Neddy came for Frances. His mother is sick & wants F. to come. We hardly know how to spare her. She has attended to the housecleaning, & the moving of my things. How I shall miss her.

F. was up to the house & I rode up there with Neddy. The house looks old & out of repair & very poor, not half so pleasant as this. Father has been cheated. My strength comes slowly. There is so much I wd. like to do now. But I should be thankful for the pleasant place I have been in & for the good care I have had. I have used the parlor during the day, & go up stairs at night. Frances has attend- to every want. I have had every facility for getting well. Dr. Jenks called about 10 times. I have taken a great deal of medicine, but it has done me good, & I think Dr. J. understood my case.

I have been very weak, & a great trouble was inability to sleep, for nights in succession did not sleep a wink. Then with the help of medicine I slept 2 or 3 hrs. each night. Now I sleep half the night perhaps. My appetite is good, & I think I shall be well soon. I have

not worried about any thing yet. I see things carried away day by day, that have been here for 30 yrs. the walls are stripped, & the rooms above nearly empty, & yet I am not troubled. It may come over me at the last like an

avalanche crushing me to the earth. I have not allowed myself to think about it much. The place is not pleasant to wh. we are going, & I shall realize it all, no doubt, when I get there, & sadly too. —This is the last Sunday I shall spend in this old house probably. I realize how pleasant it is here, that is the place itself. But I must not call up associations of the past. If I do, I shall be ill again & unfitted for work. I mean to be brave. This is not the worst thing that can happen. —not the worst thing that has happened to us; & I will thank God that it is as well with me as it is. It might be a thousand times worse. —I will not think of the future until we get somewhat settled. We shall leave here probably in 2 or 3 days, & strangers will take possession of what has been my home for 36 years. Oh! The joys, the sorrows, the sad changes that have filled up those 36 years! And I am just half a century old. My father is *[Transcriber's note: space left here]* & there are 8 children left.

East Avon N.Y.

Sunday evening, Sept. 11th, 1864.

The last week has been a busy one. Monday last was mostly spent in packing up. Tuesday. Mother was up to the house nearly all day, & I attended to the packing up & loading up. 4 loads were sent away, & there are 2 or 3 more to go. About 4 P.M. father & I left the Old Home, for the new one in E. Avon. I cannot realize it yet. I have left home so often & staid away so long, that I do not feel that I am not to go back again. Sept. 6th, 1864 is an era in my life, but I am so stupid I do not appreciate it. I believe I am past caring for ordinary events.

Wednesday. Rodney & George came & helped us set up bedsteads &c. Uncle Jephtha's folks have been very kind, they have helped us a great deal.

In the evening I was about going to bed, when who should coëme but Cousin B. Halsted & Abbie. Mrs. Wilbur was mad as a hoe & said she would do nothing for them. I told her to go to bed & Ann & I would attend to them, & she did so, & we got along very well.

Thursday P.M. I went to the Springs with them, & around by Uncle Jephtha's to show them the country. They enjoyed it. Had letter from Mary. She is about well. She is so disappointed that Joe does not come home, & he is disappointed too, for he expected to leave the service, but he has been promoted to a Captaincy & mustered in for another 3 yrs. or during the war.

Friday. B. & Abbie left in morning. Had a good visit with them although we were not settled yet —Worked all day.

Saturday. Did various chores, & wrote some. I get very tired & have to rest occasionally.

Made some progress in settling things, but cannot do as I wish till all the things come.—

To day, Sunday, I had a general cleaning up, did a few chores, & spent rest of day in writing letters, & so has passed the first Sunday in our new home. I have had a fire in my room. It is quiet & retired & I have accomplished a good deal. It wd. be lonely here were I not so busy. I have done nothing yet with reference to going away. I may not go, but I shall be deeply disappointed if I do not. I wd. like to go back the last of October.

Sunday, Sept. 18.

Fine. I do not go out, the spirit does not move me to spend any time at these two churches. I presume some people consider me quite heathenish. I do not feel more than half well. The past week has been a busy one.

Monday helped wash & worked about

house. Tuesday, ironed & in P.M. begun to make Report to Society.

Wednesday, engaged Mr. Chapel to go for a load, so wet he did not go.

I worked at Report. About 6 P.M. Cousin Phebe came & I spent evening pleasantly.

Thursday, Phebe went with me in buggy to old place, seemed odd to knock at such a familiar door. Mr. Chapel came & I helped him load up the parlor furniture. I may not go back to the place again. It looks lonely there now. Drove home & I helped unload, & then Phebe & I went to Uncle Ephraim's. Came back about 4 P.M. & she left for the Springs about 5. Phebe is going to work for the Freedmen again. She does not lose her interest.

Friday. Arranged things in parlor, & we now look more settled. Regulated cupboards &c. & got very tired.

Saturday. Wrote nearly all day. Cousins E. Tyler & Emmaline here to dinner.

Sept. 21st. At Home.

Most of the time for the last 3 days has been spent in writing Report, & is a tiresome job. My arm & hand are lame & I cannot drive business. State Fair in progress in Rochester. But I do not care to go to it.

Letters from Mrs. Coleman & Mr. McKim. Mrs. C. is full of trouble yet. —

Mary Julia was married on the 16th. Inst. to Wm. Henry Milstead of Washington. She was in N.Y. with her mother & was married at the St. Nicholas Hotel. They ~~are~~ were expected back ~~next~~ last Monday. She is in her 17th year, & he is 21. — Well, I have nothing in particular to say.

Friday, 23d.

Finished Report & feel relieved. In P.M. went with father to W. Avon. Called at Mr. Winans. Recruiting in progress. Ever so many soldiers in W. Avon.

Saturday Sept. 24th.

Left home in Stage for W. Avon at 8 1/2 A.M. Staid at Depot till 3 P.M. How tiresome! Reached R. at 4, & went to Charlotte's.

26th, at C's

Yesterday spent with Sis & the rest. This evening went to Miss Porter's & Mrs. Marsh's & Mr. Laing's. At night went to Irondequoit. Aunt Elizabeth quite smart. Gold is down & so is dry goods. —27th. At B. Wing's & I felt very stupid

28th. Came back to city with Phebe & Eliza. Bought a dress Repp at \$1.75 a yd. Cost \$17.50.

In P.M. met ladies at Miss Porter's. Read Report, which was accepted.

At evening went with Frances to the Babcock's. Had good visit.

29th. Called at Amy Post's & Mary Hallowell's, & Charlotte's.

Fridy Sept. 30. Cold.

Left R. on 8.40 train & waited in L. till 3 P.M. Then rode to Somerset with Morgan & Stephen who had come to go to Co. Fair. Two yrs. since I had been to S. The children have grown considerably.

Oct. 1st. At Morgan's.

Sewed all day, first sewing I have done for myself since I left Alex.

Oct 2^d. Heavy rain last night. Alfred & Angeline here this P.M.

Oct. 3^d. Ann came, but sewed nearly all day

Oct. 4. In A.M. did nothing. In P.M. went to Alfred's & sewed some.

Oct. 5 Copied Report. Alfred went to Buffalo to attend McClellan meeting.

Oct. 6. Heavy rain last night. Wrote some, & sewed some.

Oct. 7. At Alfred's. Wrote nearly all day.

Oct. 8th. Tempestuous. Lake is a grand sight, wrote all day.

Sunday Oct. 9. Wild weather. Finished copying Report & feel relieved. Allie came for me & I went to Morgan's.

Oct. 10. High wind.

Sewed some. Elizabeth and Eliza went with me to Morgan's. Frances does not come as I expected —

Oct. 11. Fine. Warm, Alfred & Angeline went with me to L. Took 2.20 train & reached R. at 4 1/2 P.M.

Oct. 12. Staid at C's last night. Called on Mrs. Barnes. She looks feeble —Called on Miss Porter & Mrs. Marsh, & at City Hospital. Not a very satisfactory call. Went to Isaac Hill, & Bank & got New Bank Book. Left my Book with C. who lost it, & to get a new one we both had to make affidavit to the facts of the case & I had to give bonds to the amount contained in Book. All of which cost me \$2.35. —

Oct. 13.

Last evening I called at John R's, & then went to Mr. Angle's, had pleasant visit, & came back this morning. —

Bought cloak for \$22, scarf for \$8.50, & breakfast shawl for \$6, & parasol for \$3. Money goes fast with present prices.

In P.M. met ladies at Miss Porter's. Read Report. They think it best for me to go back to Alex. —

In evening heard Anna E. Dickinson at Con. Hall. Hall crowded, subject "Chicago, the Last Ditch". It was very fine & I enjoyed it exceedingly.

Oct. 14. Came home on 10.30 train & in Stage, found things as usual, quite unsettled.

Letters from Mary, Joe Van B. Miss Collier & Miss Evans. —They want me to come back & bring clothing for the people. Mary is well & getting along well probably knows by this time.

Joe is mustered out, is coming home, & has written to her to meet him here about the 15th, which is to-morrow. At the fight at Poplar Grove Church the 30th. Sept. he had a horse shot under him, & his leg bruised, but he is well now, & is in Washington. I am glad on Mary's account that he has left the service.—

Oct. 15th.

Sewed some & did various chores. This evening about 8 Joe Van Buskirk came. We were very glad to see him. He was hoping to find Mary here, but I think she will not be here in several days yet. Joe has been in the service 3 ½ yrs, & has been in many fights & skirmishes. It hardly seems possible that he should escape such dangers. I am devoutly thankful that he has returned safe and *[Transcriber's note: page corner turned up so that last words in sentence cannot be read]*

Oct. 16. Joe went this P.M. to H. *[Transcriber's note: page corner turned up so that rest of sentence cannot be read]*. — I have written a little &c., Rainy

Oct. 17th.

Sewed & wrote. This evening sister Elizabeth & Alice came from S. Frances stopped in Rochester.

Oct. 18.

I went to W. Avon with Joseph to meet Mary. She was there with Minnie & Stewart. Minnie looks about the same but Stewart has grown & talks a great deal. Mary is rejoiced that Joseph has left the Army & they were all glad to meet again.

Oct. 19.

Packed Crockery &c. Sister E. has bought my white set for \$18.50.

At 5 P.M. E. & Allie left for home. Joe took them to W. Avon. Allie is 14 but it is the first time she has been to her Grandfather's.

Oct. 20.

Mary took Joe to W. Avon. He went to R. to attend a Mass Meeting.

In P.M. I took Mary & children to Harvey B's. Called at Uncle J's.

Oct. 21

Ann W. came to sew for me. I sewed some, & feel anything but well. The meeting yesterday in R. was a glorious one.

Oct. 22^d.

Sewed some & wrote some. About 11 A.M. Joseph and Mary came, & were here about an hour, & then went back to Mr. Dailey's. They will not be here again. I intend to see them in Rochester on Wednesday.

Sunday Oct. 23^d.

Finished copying Report, & wrote 3 letters. I have been very busy all day, but such close application does not agree with me. I am very tired. I am impatient to go back to Alex. I feel that I ought to be there.

Oct 24.

Dark day. I have sewed as hard as I could, such work makes me feel badly.

Oct. 25.

Did chores & sewed, intend to go to R. tomorrow. Pleasant A.M.

Oct. 26.

Fine. A.M. Cloudy P.M.

At 8 went to Avon in Stage. Called at Mr. Winans., & took train at 11 ½ for R. Called at Miss Porter's, dined there. Went to C's & saw Mary & children. Went to Wm.

Hallowell's to stop all night. Anna Barnes there & Miss P. & Harriet Tubman &c. H.T. is employed by the Army as a scout. Has been in S.C. & Florida 3 yrs. & done good service.

Oct 27.

Did shopping. Joseph & Mary left for Mich. & F. went to Holley.—I went to J. Rapalje's to stop for the night. Sorry I cannot see more of my friends, but I am so hurried.

Oct. 28.

Pouring rain all day. Walked to Depot but Frances did'nt come in time for train, & I walked back & spent 2 hrs. in drying my clothes.
Did up some last chores, & at 5 went to Depot again, rain all the time, waited in Avon one hour for stage, dark ride home, which we reached at 8 & wet enough. Worst time I was ever out. Driver cross too.

29th. Rainy day.

A. Whitmore here, & sewed most of the day. Alvira here, just returned from East.

30th. Sunday. Sun shines.

Alvira here, I have done various things.

31st, very rainy.

Frances washed, but there is no drying clothes. I have sewed all day. Intend to leave next Monday for Alex.

Nov. 1st Cloudy & wet

Sewed all day & feel miserably tonight. My arms & hands & feet & toes ache.

Nov. 2^d

Ann W. finished sewing for me. She has been here 8 days. I feel some better. Letter from Sister E. —Stephen is ill.

Nov. 3, sunshiny, cold

In P.M. went with F. to Uncle Ephraims & Uncle Jephtha's & Leland's, & Harvey B's & then went to old place & took up shrubbery to set out in our Burial lot at W. Avon! Intend to go there tomorrow.

Heard from Freda by way of Lilly B. who has been to Revilos lately. Freda is quite well, but is a pale, delicate looking child. She talked but little; & not a word was said to her about me or any of her Mother's friends. Lilly saw none of the playthings & trinkets that Freda took with her, & I dare say she has nearly forgotten all about us. Poor dear child! It is a year since I have heard from her directly & I must go back to Alex. & not see her. But I am thankful to have heard from her.

Nov. 4th.

Pouring rain all day nearly. Could not go to Avon to set out our shrubbery. I have spent nearly all day in sorting & arranging things preparatory to leaving next Monday. McClellan meeting & pole raising.

Nov. 5.

Very cold. windy. Frances & I went to W. Avon, Mr. Salsbury went with us & helped us set out our shrubbery.—Our lot is grown over with weeds, & I would like to clear it off, but we had not time to do so today. We called at Mr. Winan's—I got a box at Provost Mar^s. to pack things in for Alex. This P.M. I cleaned my room. Frances washed & went to Mill, & is almost tired out, & so am I too. About 8 ½ P.M. Charlotte & Neddy & Mary Julia & Harry came very unexpectedly & then we had to fly around instead of going to bed.

At Home, Sunday, Nov. 6th, 1864.

Bright once more. About 8 this morning F. took Sis & Harry to Depot & C. & Neddy walked.

This is the first time I have seen Mary Julia's husband. I like his appearance very much, & am glad that they all came to see us, & wish they could have staid all day. But tomorrow morning Sis & Harry are going to Utica where he means to vote for Lincoln. That is his home. Then in a few days they are going to W. & we shall probably see them before long, again. My father has not been in this County 4 months, so he can not vote. Most too bad, as he wd. like so well to vote for Lincoln. Jephtha W. called this evening. Frances has gone out. I have tried to rest today, & be ready for a hard day's work to-morrow.

Nov. 7.

Very bright & warm. I packed trunks & box, & did various other things. Cleaned up my room, & put every thing in order. Frances did some cooking & went to Leland's & back.

Nov. 8th. Tuesday. Election.

Left home at 9. R. Chapel took us to Avon to depot. left there at 11, in rain. It has been hard work to get away somehow. I should think father & mother would be very lonely. I am sure I should be lonesome were I to live there long. Then L. takes pains to make it uncomfortable for me. I am sorry for my father, but he has brought this upon himself. Oh! how he is deceived & imposed upon. Poor blind man that he is, & his children all at a distance from him.—

We reached Elmira about 4, & staid an hour or two. Depot so filthy, that we were obliged to go to a Hotel. Great numbers of soldiers have been going home to vote, & being detained over night the town has been full of them, but the cars are not crowded going south.

Nov. 9.

Last night we had a hard time. It was warm, smoky, & dusty—Rained this A.M. reached Baltimore at 7 1/2 & staid till 9, reached W. at 11—Called at Mrs. Breed's, & went to Pro. Mar's for passes. Then to boat. Mrs. Beach from R. with us. She was going to see her husband at Fairfax Sem. Hos.—Found the ladies here in considerable excitement. I left the key of my room with Miss Evans, & Mr. Gladwin had demanded it of her, & she was obliged to give it up.

He tried to get possession of my room before I came back, but Mrs. J. & Miss E. refused to take charge of my things. He let me have my key to go into my room. I then went to

see Col. Wells & Capt. Mason, who have acted for Gen. Slough during his absence. Col. W. said he had given him no orders to take the room, & Capt. M. said he would come over & see the rooms. This puts me to great inconvenience. I have no boarding place & know not what to do. It is evident Mr. G. intends I shall have no room in the house.

Took tea with Mrs. J.—

Thursday Nov. 10.

Capt. M. does not come. This P.M. F. & I went to the Hos. Everything looks strange there, patients nearly all strangers, & all the doctors too. I think I never shall feel the same interest there that I have done.

Nov. 11.

This morning F. & I went to W. to Dr. Breed's.—In P.M. went with Dr. & Mrs. B. to Giesboro Point, the rendezvous for cavalry horses. There sheds and stables for 10 or 15000 horses. Every thing is whitewashed & kept as neat as possible. All the worn out horses are brought here to recruit, & horses are also brought here for sale. About *[Transcriber's note: no number given]* colored men are employed here. There are general mess rooms, but houses have been built for the men to sleep in & these are in rows. The place is laid out regularly & is very extensive. It is well worth a visit. One gets here some idea of the magnitude of government affairs & the extent of the preparations necessary for the Army of the Potomac.

We went by the Navy Yard, crossed the Bridge over Eastern Branch, passed near the Insane Asylum, to a Fort on the Height of Ground, the name of which

I could not learn. A very fine road has been made lately & there is a great deal of going to & fro from Washington. It is like a world of itself over here. Giesboro is 3 or 4 miles from W. I had understood there were a great many colored people at Giesboro & they were very destitute. But there are but 4 families & but 4 women there. The men get good wages & are regularly paid, & told us that they send their money to their families in Maryland.

This has been an interesting visit. We did not have time to visit the Insane Asylum. We returned by moonlight. I am indebted to Dr. B. for several pleasant rides around W. —

Saturday 12. Nov.

F. & I went to Mrs. Swisshelm's to see Mrs. Coleman, but missed her.

We called to Adjutant Gen^l's Office & learned that Harry & sis had got back.

Then we went to Georgetown, but did not succeed in finding them. Came back on 1 P.M. boat. Found that Mrs. C. & others had been here. Went to hospital to find them, but missed it & only saw her a moment as she was going to boat.

I went to Magnolia House & 3 other places to find board, but am not suited exactly. Had orders from Headqrs. to vacate my room at once, but as it is Saturday night I shall

venture to stay here till Monday & then I shall see what I shall see. Went to see Mr. G. & told him If I cannot keep this room, I wd. be glad to have a room in the other house which has been vacant all summer. He keeps saying he has control of both houses, but still will not say I can have a room. I really do not know what to do.

F. & I took tea with Miss Collier & Miss Howard. Then called on Miss Evans & Mrs. Jacobs.

Sunday, fine. cold.

I have a bad boil on my chin. Cleaned up a little, but cannot get settled, nor unpack trunks.—

About 1 P.M. Charlotte, & Sis & Harry came. At 3, F. went with them to boat. —They have a good boarding place in Georgetown.

Monday, cold.

Packed up my things, but Mr. G. wd. not give me any satisfaction.

About noon several regiments came in on the cars, to go into winter quarters in the forts, & Gen. Slough came with them. From that moment Mr. G. was another man. “Why, yes, of course, you can have the room. Can I do any thing for you? &c.” The corporals were ordered to help me move, & I shortly found myself in another room which is not half as comfortable, or convenient or pleasant as the one I left, & which he wants for his own use.—

Alex. Tuesday. Nov. 15-1864.

Frances & I went to Washington. I regulated things in A.M. Then Mrs. Coleman came, & Rev. Dudley & Rev. Whittemore. About 4 I went to Washington with them. Went with Mrs. C. to Mrs. Swisshelm’s to tea. Then to Georgetown to Mr. Gangewer’s to a meeting in relation to the Col^d. Home. Then back to Mr. Holt’s about 12. Very cold. I tied up my face & went ahead. Cold & tired.

Nov. 16.

With Mrs. C. I went to Georgetown, & saw Charlotte & Harry & sis. C. is to go home tomorrow. Frances there.

I called at Mrs. Breed’s, & Judge Day’s Office, then to Mrs. Swisshelm’s, had lunch. Mr. McKim called hoping to see Frances. He had been to Geo. T. but missed her there. I came back at 4, & F. came at 5. Sorry she did not see Mr. McKim. So tired to night.

Nov. 17. very busy day.

Went for rations & for wood. Went to see some old women. Lucinda helped me regulate Clothing Room.—Miss Evans has left.

Has a room in W. with Miss Howard. She will not stay here & be under Mr. G’s control. He was angry because she left, but she told him her friends did not wish her to stay here.

He likes to be thought well of by Miss E's friends in Phila. & is very much worked up. I am sorry to have Miss E. leave, but I presume she is needed in W. more than she is here.

Nov. 18

Last night had no sleep at all. My tooth & face ached terribly, & nothing that I tried did any good. Have not had such a time before in several years.

To day my face does not ache, but I am sick & have not been out of my room

Frances has done my work.

Mrs. Jacobs has gone to Phila.

Mr. G. is trying to make amends for his meanness by putting my room in repair. Has had plastering done, a lock put on the door, &c.

Nov 19.

Slept well last night after taking morphine, but I was sick this A.M. Put things to rights' in my room.

This P.M. went out for things.

About 4 Mrs. Coleman came.

This evening I feel much better & have looked papers &c.

Sunday, Nov. 20.

I have not been out. But this P.M. Frances went with Mrs. C. to Barracks where Mrs. C. was to speak. Very rainy. They were invited to the Magnolia House by Mr. Baker took tea there & spent the evening. I wondering where they were.

Nov. 21.

Cold & Rainy. Mrs. C. left this A.M. Mr. Baker called. I worked some.

Letter from Miss Porter, sends my Report to be copied. I have written all this P.M. & evening.

Nov. 22^d.

Wrote nearly all day & evening & finished copying Report. Feel relieved. Have been out for some things. Miss Evans has been here. She is satisfied with her migration to W.

Nov. 23^d.

Frances went to W. this morning. I have helped Lucinda wash. Then I went out & made some purchases. Then brought in clothes & ironed some & this has taken all day. Feel well but I am tired enough tonight.

Nov. 24th. Thanksgiving.

Bright & cold. Frances came about noon. I wrote to Miss Porter.

About 3 P.M. we went to the Soldier's Rest to a Thanksgiving Dinner. This was a complimentary Dinner to the members of the Sanitary & Christian Commissions, & given by gentlemen of this city who wished to have a good time. There was a very nice

dinner, speeches & a Band of Music. All seemed to enjoy it. We left at 7. The dancing was done after that time. Mr. Baker was master of ceremonies.—

Last Thanksgiving I dined at Mr. Augur's, & went to meeting &c. The Thanksgiving before that I dined in Camp of Paroled Prisoners & had a good time. —Wonder how the folks at home are today.

Nov. 24.

Fine. Waited on several people. Then F. & I went to Depot & Barracks & Soldiers' Rest & Slave Pen & Hospital.

Have seen Dr. Fletcher. Mrs. Hazzard called this evening. Frances has been to meeting & I have been writing.

Saturday.

Pleasant, warmer. Frances has been to W. has seen Harry & sis. She cannot find a boarding place in G. Miss Evans has been here but I did'nt see her.

I went to the Hospital this morning & took some baked apples to John Smith, & took some things to Jane Butler. 3 persons buried from L'Ouverture today. Had colored escort, & coffins covered with Flags.

Then I went & made some purchases of tin ware. Went again & bought crockery & did some marketing. Sweet potatoes are \$3.20 per bu. & Irish P's are \$2.40 a bu., butter is 50 & 60 cents a pound. How do the poor manage to live? There will be much suffering this winter.

Sunday 27th, Nov.

Cold. F. has been to Grantville to S.S. but I have not been out. Have regulated things, written letters &c.

Mrs. J. & Louisa came back from Phila.

Monday 25th, Nov, 1864.

Fine. Warm. Got ready for a trip to Vienna, went for passes, but Col. Webb refused us. I felt unusually disappointed somehow & gave it up. But F. went again & succeeded in getting passes. We were then very much hurried, but succeeded in getting on to the train wh. started at 10 A.M. from Alex. for V. At the junction took up 4 or 5 platform cars filled with soldiers which we left at Camp Distribution. It is a wild region nearly all the way to V. There are a few farms & several poor farm houses. There is a great deal of waste land. There are 'runs' or deep ravines, & rocks, & deep cuts, & wood & swamps. The most

convenient country in the world for guerrilla operations. I did not count the Forts we saw. Falls Church is about a mile from the R. road, & we cannot see it. We looked for a village

at Vienna, but at first could see none. But there are 7 or 8 straggling houses & a few other buildings in ruins, & this is a Virginia village I suppose.

Mr. Commins[?] lives about 80 rods from the Depot. We walked there. Found Mrs. C. at home in an ancient farm house, chimney outside of course, & log kitchen. The visit was worth making if for no other purpose than to stay all night in this old house in old Virginny.

But the house is in the center of a Camp. The 16th. N.Y. Cav. have been here about a week, they are fixing winter quarters, building sheds for horses, & houses of logs & mud or boards or canvas for the men.

It is a full regiment, & it presents a lively scene. This is all on Mr. C's farm of 300 acres, in every field of which are forts or rifle pits. This same regt. had this for a camping ground last winter, & the foundation of some of the huts is left, & some stockades for sheds. An abbatti of felled trees encloses this Camp, wh covers many acres. Mr. C. bought this farm 8 yrs. ago & was also carrying on a foundry when the war broke out. This was destroyed, & Gov^t. has taken possession of the farm which lies on a fine elevation, a capital place for a Cav. Camp. At the time of the 1st. battle of Bull Run they were obliged to leave, taking only a little clothing with them. They were away 2 yrs. & returned to find their house riddled, even windows & doors broken out. They have repaired it & it is very comfortable now. Col. Switzer has his headquarters

here, & Mrs. C. seems to drive a thriving business with the soldiers as there is a continual demand for her pies, cakes &c.—

A guard protects their peach orchard, turnip patch, corn crib & well. But timber is cut on the farm whenever it is needed, & no doubt Mr. C. will be remunerated by Government. Mr. C. & family claim to be union, but I find this Regt. has not entire confidence in them. They are on the best of terms with their secesh neighbors.

We took a walk around the Camp & went to the Guard house, & saw a live guerrilla brought in, he was shot in the head, & the surgeon had dressed his wound. He was as hard a looking specimen as I ever saw, a freckled, red haired, great, overgrown youngster, ignorant & illmannered. We talked with him, he wore blue pants but a gray coat.

Mrs. C. is a great worker, but she visited with us in the evening & told her experience in Virginny.

Nov. 29th. 1864. Tuesday.

One of the finest days I ever saw. Real Indian summer, & warm too. Last night F. & I occupied a chamber which had the oldest look of any room I ever slept in. I did not sleep all night, but I rested well. The firing of a single gun was all the unusual noise I heard. It was so quiet, we could hardly believe that there were 1000 men & as many horses so near

us. With a light in every tent a large camp is a beautiful sight. We did not rise at the morning reveille exactly, & after breakfast we went out to find Capt. M^cPherson's company wh. was partly recruited in Rochester. The Capt. invited us into his tent wh. looks very comfortable & we had quite a visit with him. He is from Caledonia.

He showed us about the camp, & we went to the guard house again. Three prisoners there, several of this Regt. have been captured by guerrillas within a few days past. This Regt. has many good horses. It has been with Sheridan through the summer. About noon we took leave of Mrs. C. & went to the Depot, but the train did not come until 3 P.M., & in the mean time ~~& in the mean time~~ we rambled about & over the other side of the R. road to an old farm house, wh. is the head qrs. of Col. Gallup of the 5th. Penn, which is encamped near. The view from this hill is a remarkable one. All over these slopes & in the hollow through which the railroad passes are the burnt ruins of stockaded huts, & new log houses & tents & men, & horses, some guarding forage & others galloping to and fro.—

The office at the depot is occupied by the Com. Sergeant & 2. Mas. Sergeant & a Yankee Corporal. Names Wm. Reed & Robert Porter & Wm. Davis. There was a prospect of our having to wait so long that they offered to get us some refreshments, wh. of course we declined, but before we were aware of it they had brought in a table & upon some clean looking dishes was some good bread & butter & apple pie & fruit cake, & some very good coffee. The butter & cake were from the home of one of these men. We really relished it all, & I think the men enjoyed seeing us eat quite as much as if they had eaten it themselves. One of these Rob^t. Porter is from L. Isl. He knows Dr. Day, formerly of Rochester, Lucretia &c. was in Kansas with them. This was an interesting part of the day's operations. We then went back to Mr. Cummings, &

had just got comfortably seated, when the whistle of the locomotive was heard, & we took a second leave & hastened to the depot again. The cause of the delay was this. Orders had been given to take a guard for the train from Falls Church, but it came as usual & found no guard there, & went back to Alex. Then Gen. Slough furnished a guard & they came on to Vienna. It was nearly 4 when we left V. There was a guard inside the car, & also on the outside. The train went slow & cautiously till we reached the pike which leads to Falls Church.

We hear that the guerrillas have never been more active than now. The cars only run to V. to carry forage & provision for the troops & horses. The weather is perfectly delightful, & the

ride back was very pleasant. We have enjoyed this trip exceedingly. It is an event for a life time. To go 15 miles back into Virginia just at this time when the ravages of war are seen on every hand, & when the parties are contesting the very ground over which we passed, & guerrillas infest the woods & ravines, & capture almost daily some of our men; indeed such a trip is full of interest & excitement, & as I write this evening in my quiet room in Alex. the past two days seem like an interesting dream.— No general news has reached me for several days. There is no P. Office in Vienna & no any thing belonging to a civilized community. I think there has never been a church there.

Dr. Pettijohn has been to Annapolis & just returned with his brother who is one of the 10,000 prisoners just being sent north. He is sick & much emaciated.

Wednesday Nov. 30th.

Fine. Warm. We wrote some & then F. & I went to the Soldiers Burying Ground. This has been enlarged, & it is being improved too.

Went to the Hospital & then home. Felt very tired, but in evening I went to hear F. Douglass lecture in Liberty Hall, on the Mission of the War. There was a large audience, including some white persons. There were a number of officers too, & all seemed to enjoy it & appreciate it, too. I am told there even some secesh present. I spoke with D. after the L.

Thursday Dec, 1st.

Weather mild as spring. Have needed no fire to sit by today.— Frances went to Washington, & I went for rations. Cleaned closets, &c. Then F. Douglass came. Mrs. J. &

I went with him to Soldiers Rest. The white men there were very civil & deferential, & some seemed amazed. Mr. Gladwin was with us, he passes for white as well as myself, & there were Douglass, Parker & Mrs. J. colored!

Then we went to the Slave Pen & were admitted to the interior, but it was about as much as the guard could endure to see whites & niggers on such terms. It is nearly a year since I have been in the prison before. Mr. Arnold is there for 90 days, put in for selling a boy as a substitute after his mother had said she could not let him go. Good enough for him. Then went to the Hospital & through all the wards, after which the men who were able assembled in the dining Room, & Douglass spoke to them a few minutes, & they sung John Brown with a will.—

⁵The surgeons were all very polite & received us just as they ought. Then we went to Grantville school. This school is much improved in its appearance, & the house has been made very comfortable.

⁵ Until further notation, entries correspond to Haverford scans HC13-26005_138 to HC13-26005_160 in their Folder entitled April 21th 1864 to Jan. 8th 1865.

I went home & wrote awhile & then went to dine at Mr. Beckley's, being invited there to meet Douglass. In evening went to Liberty Hall again. Douglass spoke on the unity of the races, & spoke exceedingly well. There was a large audience again. & they seemed to appreciate the lecture.— Douglass is much pleased with his visit here. To stand on the 'sacred soil' of Va. & talk against Slavery! It is truly wonderful. & 3 yrs. ago we would hardly have thought it possible. I am glad he has been here. It has done him good & the people too, both white & colored.—

Dec 2^d, Rainy P.M.

I went out & made some purchases & then wrote some.
Frances came about 2 P.M. —She has found a boarding place, she staid last night at Benj. Taber's & intends to go into the school in G.town next Monday.—
Have letter from Mary, she is well & happy.
Encouraging war news. Rebels have attempted to burn New York & other Northern cities.

Dec. 3^d

Went to market. Wrote & sewed a little. Called on Mrs. Belden at Magnolia House.
257 weeks since my darling Freda was taken from us.—

Sunday, Dec. 4th, very fine. Cool.

Frances & I went to Christ Church.
This morning early 58 colored folks from Sussex Co. away below Petersburg,

were landed here. They all came to the house. It was an interesting sight. There were several middle aged men, rather feeble looking. A great proportion were children, some were bare headed, some were barefoot, & they were all much chilled. We gave them some clothing, & food, & warmed them in the 2 kitchens. Then they were sent in 4 army wagons to Mason's Island. They were good looking people & it seems a pity to have them sent away from Alex. If Gov^t. would give them shelter awhile & rations a few months, they would ask nothing further, but take care of themselves. Too bad. With a sensible Superintendent here, things wd. be different.

Dec. 5.

Went to W. with Frances, to her boarding place on 12th. St. Miserable looking place. Called at Mrs. Breed's.

Then to Georgetown. To the school in basement of Mt. Zion Church where she is to teach. A wretched place, I was sorry to leave her there, but she feels as if she must do something & this is the best that offers.

I took a long walk to see sis. Found her well & in good spirits.

Called at Mr. Lake's. Mrs. L. absent. Tried to find Miss Evans, but did not succeed.
Came back on 5 P.M. boat. Cold & very tired, feeling that it don't pay to spend the day as I have done.

Tuesday, Dec 6th, 1864

Dined for first time at Magnolia House. Very good dinner. Cleaned my room with Ednah's help. Miss Evans made a short call. This P.M. went out with Mrs. Belden, to see people in Old Mill & Long House, & to Corp. Bearmor's school,

Dec. 7th.

Rainy. Went to journal office &c.

Three bbls. came from Farmington, unpacked them. Very good things. My small ration of wood came— Ednah cleaned hall & stairs &c. I am very tired with going up & down stairs. So inconvenient to do work here.—

Dec. 8.

Worked in clothing room nearly all day. Very uncomfortable. Mr. M^cKim & daughter & Mr. Garrison here. I went with them to Slave Pen & Hospital, then I called at Baptist Church Hos. 118 col^d. soldiers there.

Dec. 9. Very cold.

Spent all A.M. in C. Room without fire. Robt. M^cC. & brother here this eve. So cold I have only been out to my dinner. How the poor will suffer.

Dec. 10.

Cold. Several inches of snow this morning. Sleighs out & bells jingling. I have done but little today. Frances came about 2 P.M.

Dec. 11th. Sunday

Very sloppy & wet & unpleasant.

Frances dined with me at M. House, & this is all that we have been out. We have rested, & written letters. Letter from Phebe Cornell.

Dec. 12

Very cold. Went to market & had wood sawed &c.— Went to Bap.Ch. Hos. Men look very comfortable there.

Dec. 13.

Milder. Spent A.M. in Clothing Room. This P.M. went to Bap. Ch. Hos. took books &c. Then to L'Ouverture. Tents have been divided. Very comfortable now. Called on Mr. Leonard, he has quite a school & has a comfortable room too.

Dec. 14. 1864.

Fine, like Indian summer. What a change in the weather!—

I started for W. this morning, but the walking was so bad, wet & slippery, that I went as far as the P.O. & came back.

Did various chores this A.M.

This P.M. I went to Barracks. Took a bottle of camphor to Aunt Cicely, & a new cal. dress to Jane Butler. Found one old woman without a bed on a blanket. (gave her a bed quilt.) — Went to L'Ouverture. Saw Mrs. Hazzard for the first time since she was married. A foolish woman!

Went to Grace Ch. Hos. A long class of men were learning to read, not more than a doz. were in bed. They have improved remarkably. It was the cleanest looking place I have seen. Went again & took some pictures of Camp Wm. Penn. Phil^a. They were much pleased with them. Went to Bap. Ch. Hos. & took pictures. The men want spelling books & first readers & I have but few for them. Now many things are wanting. ———

Dec. 14.— continued.

Phillip & Jane Butler came from Md. Worked for months here & could get no pay. His family suffered. Two children died. Three had measles last spring, before they were fairly well they were sent to school to Mr. Ax. Their faces & heads were sore, & Mr. Ax sent them to the pump or hydrant & ordered a boy to put their heads under it. The mother was informed of it & she got them away. They were all made sick by this inhuman act. One of them has died, & the other two probably will die soon. They require all the care of the Mother & she can do no work for their support. They left one boy in Md. They have heard from him recently. The master has turned him off with others. & they are nearly naked.

To-morrow the father is going for his boy & I have given him clothes to take to him. The Mother is delighted. She says “Saturday I shall see my boy, & I’ll bring him to see you, Miss Wilbur”. Poor woman, I hope she may not be disappointed.

Five new persons came today from Sussex Co. near the Weldon R.R. Warren’s Corps. last week went some 40 or 50 mi. below Petersburg. Quite near N. Carolina. Destroyed railroad for 15 mi., bridges, &c burnt houses, barns & mills. These people came with the troops when they returned to City Point. They left their home last Friday night. & landed here this morning. One woman said the Yankees made clean struction as they went. She saw them burn 15 buildings. She doesn’t know what the white folks down there will do. They were all used to carding & spinning & weaving & knitting socks for soldiers.— We gave them some clothes. They had lost the bundles that they started with. Mrs. J. gave them some food, & then they were sent to Mason’s Isl. Monday is the day the whipping is usually done, one woman reckoned they didn’t find many to whip last Monday. She said she had been used mighty hard lately

Dec. 15th. Alex.

Very cold. Nearly 100 persons were landed here this morning in a pitiable condition. No fire on the vessel, & no food for 24 hrs.—Some barefoot children, many were in rags. I gave about 30 pieces of clothing & Mrs. J. came some. They were hurried off in 6 great wagons to Mason's Isl. There were a great many small children. There should be a receiving room in the Barracks for such persons, where they could be warmed & fed, & stay long enough to find their friends, before they are sent away. Mr. Gladwin seems to have no feeling for them. The women & children came into the kitchen to warm. It was stowed full.

So I did not begin to wash till after 10, I helped Aunt Lucy & hurried her up but then we did not get through till 3 P.M.—too late to dry any clothes.

They were frozen but I had to bring them all in; dried some by fire and ironed some. So tired this evening that I can do nothing more.

Dec. 16th. Friday.

Not so cold. Very busy day again. Went twice for rations & the 2^d time waited long enough for hogs & corn to grow. For 15 days' rations got 9 ½ lbs. meal. 1 qt. beans. 4 ½ lbs. flour [*Transcriber's note: blank space*] burnt rye, [*Transcriber's note: blank space*] sugar, [*Transcriber's note: blank space*] salt, 9 ¾ lbs. pork, ½ of a candle, & piece of soap about 3 in. square.

Went to wharf & bought ¼ cd. of wood for \$2,35; carting & sawing amounts to \$3,03. at the rate of \$12 a cord. How do poor people live. I attended to bringing it in & handled most of it.

I went to bakers. I ironed and swept stairs, hall & sidewalk. & did other chores beside. Frances did not come till after 6. We shall try to go to Mason's Isl. tomorrow—

Dec. 17.

Foggy morning. So wet thought it not best to go M. Isl.—

This P.M. Mrs. Belden called & we went to Bap. Ch. Hos. & to Wolfe St. Hos. Not many very sick men. Nearly all convalescent.

Dec. 18. Sunday. 1864

Cloudy. Very wet. Only went out to dinner. Did but little. 4 new women sent to Mason's Isl. from Sussex Co.

Great war news. Yesterday 200 guns were fired in W. Report that Sherman has taken Savannah & 11000 prisoners. In Tenn. Thomas has beaten Hood's army & done great things.

Dec. 19.

So wet and muddy. Frances went before 8. She has undertaken too hard a task I fear. This A.M. I went to milliners &c &c

This P.M. Mr. Hawkins & Mrs. Coleman called. She is agent of N. F. R. Assoⁿ.

Dec. 20th, cold.

Went to W. on 10 A.M. boat. Took dinner at Dr. Breed's. Margaret Robinson there. Went to 207 I St. to see the house, Mr. M^cKim is fixing for teachers. Called at Miss Grove's school. Came back on 5 o'clock boat—

Dec. 21.

Snowy. Rainy. All slush, & the worst walking I ever saw. Only been out to my dinner. Made over my velvet bonnet. Dr. Heard called. He is to be Asst. Surg. in L'Ouverture Hos.
A call for 300,000 more men.

Dec. 22^d

Very cold. So much ice in river boats have stopped. I am afraid Frances cannot come over tomorrow. Terrible walking. Only been to my dinner & to the bakers. Waited on people in the clothing room. Got nothing from Rochester yet. I am getting discouraged.

Dec. 23^d. 1864.

Went to L'Ouverture. Saw the case of instruments presented to Dr. Fletcher by the patients of L'O. —Saw Dr. Platt the successor of Dr. F—
This P.M. waited on people.
Took 2 long walks. Frances has not come. River frozen so that boats do not run.

Dec. 24.

Made a bonnet, & been down st. once. Barrel from Phebe Cornell.
F. came this eve on cars. She has had a tedious week, so cold & walking is so bad.

Dec. 25th. Christmas.

Unpacked Phebe's barrel. Cleaned up. Had very nice dinner at Magnolia House. Took tea with Mrs. Jacobs. This evening read "husks." Does not seem like Sunday nor like Christmas. A few guns & fire crackers & that is all that is peculiar.

Dec. 26. Alex. Va.

Very wet. Walking very bad. F. & I went to Barrack's & to Hospital. Mr. Gladwin in office reading order from Gen. Slough that col^d. soldiers are to be buried in colored burying ground, wh. is under the control of A. Gladwin Super^{mt}. Soldiers are indignant. I think Mr. G. is in personal danger. Capt. Lee Q.M. has ordered them buried in the Military Ground & 4 have already been buried there. Well, we shall see!

Gen. Sherman has taken Savannah.

Mrs. Coleman came this P.M. In evening Frances, Mrs. C. & myself called on Mr. Baker. & looked in on a dancing party at Magnolia House for an hour or so.

Dec. 27th

Misty. Not fit to go out.

Box came from Rochester. Unpacked it & waited on a few people.

Mr. Joy (Mrs. C's intended) spent evening here. Very tiresome to me. After he left, F. & Mrs. C. & I went to the Magnolia House to see the party. Soldiers had a dance there. This P.M. two colored soldiers were to be buried. & Mr. G. said if they went to the Mil. B. Ground he would have the escort arrested. The bodies went to the Colored Cemetery without an escort. & Mr. G. thinks he has triumphed. The soldiers are furious. & there is danger of a fight. Mr. G. has sent a one-armed sergt. to the Slave Pen. The Chap. & Stew. & Mr. G. went with the ambulance & while stopping here at the door for a headboard, Mrs. Jacobs expressed her feelings in some very uncomplimentary remarks about white men who come here from the North and pretend to labor among the colored people. —Mr. G. & Mr. Owen

considered the remarks personal & were pale with rage.

About an hour afterwards Mrs. J. received an order to appear at Gen. Slough's headquarters at 9 tomorrow. She feels quite disturbed, for she does not know what is coming. But no harm will come to her I am sure, good will come of it.

Wednesday, Dec. 28th.

Arranged things in Clothing room. In P.M. Mrs. C. & F. & I went to Fort Rodgers. Saw Capt. Spear & saw the 440 pounder & the ammunition for the same. I did not attempt to bring away any of these balls. There are 5 200 pounders here too which will shoot 5 miles.

We went to the Colored Cemetery. A muddy walk. 120 soldiers have been buried there. This morning Mrs. J. reported herself to Gen. Slough. He told her that Mr. G. had

misrepresented the matter to him, had told him the soldiers did not wish to be buried in the white ground &c. But now the Quartermasters orders wd. be carried out, & after this the col^d soldiers would be buried in the Mil. ground, & those buried in the Colored Cemetery would be removed, & furthermore he wd. discharge Mr. Gladwin today. Mrs. J. is in high glee. but I do not regard the thing as accomplished yet. Gen. S. did not appoint him & he cannot discharge him & the Gen. has been made aware that ~~that~~ he has no power to say where soldiers shall be buried, but this is the Q.M.'s business. & the latter personage is indignant that the Gen. has interfered as he has done. & Gen. S. is now trying to smooth over the matter.

When Mr. G. is really removed, we intend to have a rejoicing, a jubilee.

F. & I went to King St. Hos. 162 patients there, & 60 of these are prisoners. It is a distressed place.

Miss Parker who visits this Hos. has been here today. She says those sick prisoners suffer for want of clothes & she tells of great wrongs towards the men in this Hos. I try to keep it out of my mind.—This evening Mr. Joy came & went with us to Liberty Hall to hear

Louise De Mortie read. It has rained all the evening. The attendance was small, about 75 persons present, about 20 white persons. I enjoyed the reading very much. After this we went to the Fair wh. is being held at Lyceum Hall (Hos.) for the benefit of the soldiers. It is a nice place for a Fair. Came back tired enough. Have been out late three evenings in succession, & not being used to it, it affects me somewhat.

Dec. 29

Two bbls. came from Worcester. Waited on people in C. Room. Made several calls with Mrs. C., went to Grace Ch. Hos. It looks so nice there. & so comfortable.

This P.M. Mrs. Belden called & Miss Parker too. Mrs. C. has gone with Miss P. Louisa Jacobs is quite ill.

Have been alone all the evening, & enjoyed it in writing.

Frances has gone to the Fair with Dr. P. & Miss Owen.

Dec. 30th.

Cold & raw.—Waited on people in C. room nearly all day.—sold \$37 worth of goods & gave away some.

Mrs. Coleman came back & left at 3 P.M. Mr. Joy called this morning. Two Miss Chamberlains called & Frances went around with them. I have been to baker's. Louisa J. very ill. I went to Barracks

for Dr. Heard & then went for Dr. Bentley.

Alexandria, Virginia

Dec. 31st. 1864—

Snowy & wet & sposhy.

But it would not do to stay in all day. This A.M. Frances & I went to look for pictures (views in Alex.) but cd. only get the Marshall House.

Then went to Miller's & bought \$8.40 worth of crockery, including china & glass. The oddest & most antique pieces I cd. find. These are partly for use & partly to gratify a taste for old things. I intend to take some of them home. This P.M. washed my dishes and did various chores. Went to baker's &c. While waiting for dinner at Magnolia House we called on Mrs. Dewell.

Louisa Jacobs is some better today. How the poor people will suffer in this wet storm. Mr. Gladwin is yet in power. & I fear

he will not be removed after all. & the people must be tyrannized over still longer. How long, oh! Lord, how long?

Letter from home today. Father is well. They are having a cold, stormy winter.

The military situation is very favorable, at least it looks so. Sherman is in Savannah & we hope Charleston will be taken soon. —Grant is near Richmond. I can hardly realize that

this is my 3^d winter in Virginia. How time flies! My situation is apparently the same as one year ago, but personally it is not so. I feel 10 years older than I did a year ago. My sickness made sad havoc on my frame. I cannot endure as much as I could before. In short, I realize now that I have seen half a century of years. My hair has nearly all fallen off, my faculties are dull. I cannot think nor act as I once could. I am very stupid. I know it, & feel it, & realize it thoroughly.—

Five years ago today my darling Freda was taken from me, & in all probability she has nearly if not quite forgotten us. She is now nearly 9 yrs. old. When I heard from her last, two months ago, she was well, but she was a pale looking, delicate child. I wonder if we shall ever see each other again! I dare not hope that we shall ever live together again, oh! dear.

Frances is here now, but intends to go back to W. on Monday. I am thinking about leaving Alex. & going to W. to work there.—I cannot yet quite decide to do so. I shall leave here with many regrets. I shall be sorry to leave the people, & then, there are some pleasant things about Alex. as well as discomforts & inconveniences. & W. is by no means free from inconveniences. It is a tiresome place to me. Well, we shall see.