

## **Diaries of Julia Wilbur, March-December 1860**

### **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 from March through December 1860.

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 19<sup>th</sup>)
- 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.

1860  
Rochester, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 1860,  
Wednesday evening,

<sup>1</sup>Fine day excepting a shower or two.

Left home about 8 this morning with Henry. Abner came down also with another team. Roads better than we feared, was very tired & had a terrible head ache when I got here; hoped I should not meet any acquaintances, but when I called at C's Store, cousin M.B. was there. She asked after Freda & I burst into tears; I had been calm all day until then & hoped I cd. continue so, but my heart was too full of what happened yesterday to hear my darling's name mentioned with composure. After I composed myself I went to Dr. Whitbeck's. I feared this would be too much for my weak body & still weaker nerves, & when they began to sympathise with me I was entirely overcome.

They knew all about my trouble, so I felt free to talk with Mrs. W. & Carrie. When the Dr. came in I told him my symptoms & asked him to tell me candidly his opinion, for I was prepared for any Thing, however unfavorable.

He thinks there is no organic disease of the heart, but all these bad feelings will leave me if I can stop thinking of my trouble & become reconciled to what I cannot help. He could give me nothing but advice, no medicine would reach my case.

Well, perhaps it is so. If I could see Freda often, I might be reconciled in a measure, but as it is, long weeks may intervene without my seeing her; & to know that she is in the power of a person who has no particular love for her; this I cannot forget for she is just as dear to me as ever, the sweet, the precious one.

A change of scene may divert my attention & I intended to go to Somerset tomorrow, but

I am so nearly sick that I shall wait a day longer & try to hear Grace Greenwood lecture tomorrow evening.—G. Graham Klinck, the Buckeye who is speaking at Republican meetings took supper here. He is an old acquaintance of C's. He went out with us this evening to see "Wilder & Case's new store, wh. was opened for the first this evening, & thousands were there to see. It is very elegant & spacious in Ellwanger & Barry's new block, the finest in the city.—

The noise & bustle of the city worries me. I feel uncomfortable at the sight of so many people. Went to Dr. Morgan's to have the remains of a tooth taken out, but I was not able to have it done. I did not think once I should come to this.

Called with C. at the Industrial School to leave a parcel, & have walked so much. Had one of Freda's pictures copied at Powelson's, but it is not very good. It is for Julia Frances.

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<sup>1</sup> Until further notation, entries correspond to Haverford scan HC13-26049\_001 to HC13-26049\_096, in their Folder entitled March 7, 1860 to Aug. 21, 1860.

C. had company this evening & I shall go to bed. The children have gone to bed & it does not pay to sit here alone. But the girls are coming from meeting.

Rochester, Thursday March 8<sup>th</sup>. 1860

Fine but colder.

Awoke with a terrible headache, tried to get up, but did not do so till 9 o'clock. I grew worse & worse, so I resolved to make an effort & rush into the street, & keep from thinking if possible. Have felt better this P.M. & evening. Had a picture of Freda copied at Hovey's for Sister E. not very good. Made a few purchases including the "Impending Crisis," the most-talked-of book of the day. Rested this P.M.

Spent 2 or 3 hours in the store listening to the frivolous talk of ladies preparing for a party. What a life a shop keeper leads. If I had to hear all that C. does I should be disgusted with womankind.

Saw several things today I would like to buy for my darling; but I think they would not allow me to give anything to her.

Went with Mary Julia to hear the lecture.

C. could not go. It seemed good & natural to be seated in Corinthian Hall again & see so many familiar faces.

And then Grace Greenwood, otherwise Sarah Jane Clarke, otherwise Mrs. Lippencott, wore a familiar face, although some 18 years have passed since I saw her, then a Rochester girl at Miss Clemens school where I spent a winter & succeeded her as Editress of the "Young Ladies' Miscellany." She was a promising writer then & has become famous since as an authoress. Her brow & eyes look the same, but time has made havoc with teeth, mouth & articulation. She is graceful & womanly, but not to be compared as a speaker with many of the women I have seen.

Her subject "The Heroic in Common Life," was a brilliant & finished production, had passages of rare beauty, & much of common sense. There was a large audience & they were apparently delighted.—

Mrs. L. said she had often wished to visit R. since she began her rather wandering career, some years ago, & to see again the scenes of her childhood, speak to her dear old friends & ask pardon for having offended against a dear old prejudice. Having heard that a motion made to invite her to appear here had been voted down, woman-like she resolved to come, & here she was.

In 1720 when the plague visited Marseilles the Chevalier Roe braved the terrors of the pestilence to attend upon the sick & bury the dead, & did much towards restoring the city to health.

Then she told the story of Florence Nightingale's heroic attendance in the Scutari hospitals, &c. Then the un-named dem-gods of Hungary shared in her meed of praise.

Then the self-sacrificing nurses & physicians who went to Norfolk, Va. when the yellow fever in 1855 decimated the population, when even slaves, having no great stake in

life, 'tis true, but not in love with death, entitled themselves to much human honor; when Sisters of Charity had done what they could, then the women of the town, the despised Magdalens, who are nobody's wives or sisters, administered to the sick & dying, showing that the woman was not all lost within them & here occurred one of the most beautiful passages of the lecture.

The achievements of the lamented Kane, & the brave men who with him were mentioned. She spoke of Kane as a "man who at least did no harm," I wondered if she knew his private history & the meanness he was guilty of. The undying fidelity of Lady Franklin, the rare bravery of the Commander of the Central America, the case of the shipwrecked man who gave up a settee to a woman & her two children, & after a mighty struggle threw himself backward & sank, & many of our Firemen are better entitled to praise than he who points

a bombshell at roofs that protect women & children. The case of a British ship on the coast of Africa bound to India which carried a regiment of soldiers, beside other passengers.

The passengers & crew were put into the boats & these were all that could be saved. The soldiers were mustered on deck & never obeyed orders with more coolness & promptitude, then full of life & vigor stood there unflinching & looked death in the face, ready to obey the last command of their officers & fire as the ship went down, & all sank together. A more sublime sight was never witnessed & when the echoes & smoke of that last salute died away nothing remained to mark the spot. This instance gave opportunity for one of the finest passages of the lecture.

The leaders in modern reforms exhibit the highest kind of heroism. The Dress Reform was instanced. She had thought

at times that she could aspire to the heroism of a Joan D'Arc or a Grace Darling, but she shrank from doing that which would subject her to the taunts & jeers of those about here, Young America at the street corners would appal her, she should succumb to the small boys.

The sacrifice of the man who give up the joys of loving & being loved & devotes himself with filial duty to his aged parents, is noble & such an one is a hero. She had known two such.

The woman who waste the bloom of her youth, who cheerfully gives up the joys she is entitled to, & the privilege of having a home of her own, & of loving & being loved in return, to take care of & administer to the comforts of her parents, or to support them & perhaps younger brothers & sisters, such an one is a heroine, every inch of her. She had

known many such. There has been a great degeneracy since the days of the Revolution in blood, muscle, & backbone. She related

very pleasantly an account of the siege of Winesburg. Conrad who besieged the city & took it doomed all the men to death; but the women might go forth & each one might carry what was most valuable with her. They went & each one had on her back a husband, lover or brother, & thus all the doomed men were saved.

Suppose Rochester was placed in a like situation, how few could avail themselves of such a chance. The spirit indeed, might be willing but the flesh wd. be weak. Then again, if they went forth with their choicest treasures, ~~they would~~ how many would take a husband, for instance. Would they not be quite as likely to go forth with a back load of dry goods or something equally as important.

The close of the lecture was sensible & practical, & all was worthy of the reputation of the gifted editress & poetess.

Somerset. Friday March 9<sup>th</sup>, 1860,

Did not feel well this A.M. Left R. at 11 A.M. Lonely ride on cars to Lockport. The last time I took this trip my darling was with me, & how she would like now to have me tell her a story about it. I had been to The American but a few minutes when Alfred came for me.

Eliza, Phebe &c. were going to S. with him. Think I have not been colder this winter than I was when I reached S. at 5 P.M. I feel so lost without my dear little one.

Saturday March 10<sup>th</sup>

Very cold & windy, & dreary without.

Ten weeks since my dear one was taken from me. Oh dear, oh, dear. Slept better last night than I have slept in a long time before, & have a better appetite. I was so tired out when I got here. Have read Seward's Speech, on the Origin & Aim of Modern Parties. He does not

take the high & noble ground we hoped he wd. take. Conservatism is too apparent, too many concessions & admissions. Some parts of it I do not understand clearly. I must read it again when I feel better. I think I am dull & stupid of late.

Theodore came from school this evening, has been in Brockport through the winter. Morgan & Elizabeth have been here this evening. Talked with Alfred & Angeline about Freda. Her name has not been mentioned before since I have been here.—

Somerset, Sunday March 11<sup>th</sup>

Bright & cold & windy. Went to meeting with Theodore, Marshall & Phebe. Heard James Van Wagoner from Kings II-8-13, "What is thy servant a dog, &c".

Young folks all here this evening. Read various things to use up the time, & forget myself.—

Somerset Monday March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1860

Very boisterous, some snow. Read & visited & worked a little. Towards night came home with Morgan, who has been to L. to take Eliza back to school. These little children here make me think of nothing but Freda. I have cried & cried & feel too miserable for anything, even to talk.—

Tuesday March 13<sup>th</sup>

The tempest has subsided, & it is quite pleasant. M. has gone to L. again. So lonely without my darling. Dreamed of going to see her; thought I had her in my arms & kissed her, & the wife was pleasant towards me. One week ago I saw her in reality, & her little cheek was pressed to mine again & again. The dear, dear little one. They say I shall not see her again, but I cannot comprehend such words, I must see her if I live. Albert has been here & also Edward & Sarah Jane & baby. Have not felt well today.

Somerset March 14<sup>th</sup>, 1860.

Bright & milder. Feel some better. Sewed a little. No company, read. It has been a tiresome day. Talked of my darling.

Thursday March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Bright & warmer. Heard a robin this morning. About 3 P.M. came to Alfred's with Stephen. Alfred & Angeline gone away but returned this evening. Morgan & E. came over this evening. I intend to start for home tomorrow morning. I feel weighed down to the earth. It seems as if still more trouble was coming. I do not feel that I shall not see Freda again. I cannot take in such a thought. It seems yet that God will befriend me & relieve me in some way, that my darling will be restored to me. There is no idea so painful to me as that she must suffer,

& not be comfortable, & be neglected in any way. This deep love, this intense yearning for her happiness & comfort, does it mean nothing? Will it avail nothing? Has God given me such affections to be wasted? I believe he does not willingly afflict me, & that even this sorrow will be removed. For myself I cd. bear almost anything. But I cannot see why that innocent, helpless child must be deprived of her natural right to happiness. I will try to be patient, though my heart is breaking; it looks so dark, so dark sometimes.

Rochester Friday March 16<sup>th</sup>, 1860

Very bright & fine, warmer. Two victims of the Harper's Ferry tragedy to be hung today. Innocent men too undoubtedly. Left Alfred's about 8 A.M. in Express & reached L. at noon. Waited at Depot till 3 P.M. for train. Quite as pleasant there as any other place where I know no body. The last time I waited here

my darling was with me, & the last time I rode with Mr. Nye she was with me.—Reached R. about 5. Spent the evening with C.—C. is about to marry Mr. G. Oh dear, oh, dear, what will come next? Changes all the while. Mary Julia & Neddy will see different times from what they have seen heretofore. I am anxious for them, for they are my brother's children & have been very near to me. Sis was my idol once, but our separation & some other circumstances have estranged us some what. Will it be ever so? Will all that we love depart from us? My heart forbodes evil for these children, & their mother too. But I will hope for the best.

Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup>

Very fine & warm. Went out with C. Called on Mrs. Leppetts. Went to J.

Rapalje's & spent a few hours. Took the train at 6 P.M. & did not reach Avon till after dark. Came to Mr. Winans & effected an entrance in spite of the dog. Cordially received by these old friends. Eleven weeks my darling has been gone.

St. Patrick's day, Procession in the city & quantities of drunken Irishmen on the cars going to their homes out of the city.

Sunday evening. At home

March, 18<sup>th</sup>.

Very fine day. Before breakfast walked over to the burying ground with Mrs. W. The last time I was there Sister E. & my darling were with me, the dear one. Rode to East Avon to church with Mr. & Mrs. W. & children. Heard Mr. Elmore. The last time I was at church my precious one was with me. Called at Mr. H's & heard Mr. Rogers in the P.M. Met Ann Fisher at church, & oh, dear, I could control myself

no longer. The tears would come. She was much attached to Freda when she lived here & Freda liked her.—Abner & Frances came & went this P.M. When I came home something seemed missing, for when have I returned before without my dear little one? It looks so lonely here without her. Seems less & less like home.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup>.

Windy but pleasant. Rained towards night. Washed this A.M. & regulated some things. Have not sat up much since. Feel tired out & unwell & lonely. How much I miss my dear child, & I cannot help thinking of C. & the children.

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>.

Windy & unpleasant. Ironed a little & cleaned myself in hopes of feeling better, but I feel wretched yet. Henry & Ann gone to John H's this P.M. Abner started for Somerset last evening.

Rush. Wednesday March 21st.

Very cold & tempestuous, some snow, like winter again. No going out. Began my new calico dress that Sister E. sent me, but I do not enjoy having or making anything.

Thursday 22<sup>d</sup>.

Still cold & boisterous, as cold as winter, difficult to keep warm in the house when the wind blows so hard. Too many rents & cracks in the old house to keep it warm when the wind blows as it has done today & yesterday. Have sewed some & read some & written some & lounged some: wish Frances would come. Shall look for R. as soon as the weather becomes pleasant. I dread seeing him but I want to hear from Freda. More than two weeks have gone already since I had her in these arms & how I long to see her again.

Friday March 23<sup>d</sup>.

Not as cold as for a few days past, but squally.

Sewed nearly all day & read this evening. Henry & Ann gone to John Hillman's.

Margaret has been here. She is sick & has sore eyes & is unable to work. Poor girl.

Daffodils & hyacinths are budded. Crown imperials & Pionies are up, but our garden looks very badly. I should like to work in it but the hens pay no respect to my labors.

Dreamed of my darling last night. Thought father, Wm. Penn, Abner & Elma & Angeline were there with me. Freda had bad sores on her face & wrist, & one of her feet was sore & swollen, & looked very badly, & all because she had not been kept clean. But she was just as dear to me as ever, the precious one. What does such a dream mean?

Saturday March 24<sup>th</sup>, 1860

Cold & snowy. Like winter again. Finished my dress & have it on, a nice clean calico. So cold I fear Fr. will not come,

Twelve weeks ago my "dear darling baby birdie" was here, & I washed & dressed her, oh, she was so sweet & clean; & she stopped to kiss me & hug me while I was dressing her, as she most always did, & said "Aunty, I love you." Is it possible it was for the last time? & that I shall never kiss those clean little baby feet again. If I could only hold her in my arms for a few minutes it would be worth half the world to me. If R. had the least idea what I suffer, & how much I love her, he could not & would not keep her from me.

Wrote this P.M. & read for Father this evening.

Rush. March 25<sup>th</sup>. Sunday.

Cold & cloudy. No going to meeting, & F. does not come yet. A new kitchen girl has come. Have spent half the day in writing to Mary. She wants to hear from us, but my letters only trouble her. Will the time ever come when I can be cheerful & comfortable again, I wonder, I will try to be patient.

March 26<sup>th</sup>, Monday.

Cold yet, Worked a little, sewed a little & wrote some. Nobody comes yet. We must go for Fr. tomorrow. It is too lonely.

Rush. Tuesday March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Bright & cold. This A.M. Ann & I drove to Uncle J's, & Uncle E's, & Leland's & Mr. Hartwells & the P.O. Frances came with us to Mary F's. She will stay there today & intends to come here tomorrow. Abner came from Somerset last night. This P.M. have been sewing & writing. Looked for Revilo, but he has not come.

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>.

Fair & warm. About 10 Revilo came with 4 teams & got ready to go about 2 P.M. Did not come to the house until just before he left, & then only into the kitchen for Stove &c. I went & spoke with him. Freda has coughed for 2 weeks & he thinks she has whooping cough. Said she does not cough very hard. But I fear it will go hard with her, & I know she wants Aunty. How I would like to administer to her wants

& make her as comfortable as possible. I can hardly bear to think that I cannot do so. oh, so cruel. The moment I saw R. coming my strength failed me & I felt sick, I had dreaded it so, & yet I wanted to hear from my darling so much. I have not been fit to do anything this P.M. or evening. He was in a great hurry apparently, & did not stop to talk & I am glad ~~to talk~~ he did not do it, for I did not feel able to talk with him. I presume when he comes next time he will say or do something more.—

March, Friday 30<sup>th</sup>, 1860

Fine & warm. Have sewed some but do not feel like work. Abner & Frances have been here part of the day. Ann went with them to J. H's, & H. has gone for her this evening. It is so lonely here, I wish F. could stay here. Expect R. again tomorrow.

Saturday March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1860.

The anniversary of our dear Mother's death. Twenty six years ago at 4 P.M. she breathed her last, & oh, what a change was made in all the future, for all her family, 10 children of various ages, from

the infant of six weeks to the grown up girl of 21 years, were to go on the rest of their lives without a mother, the most necessary, the most valuable of earthly friends, & what an experience has been ours! such an experience through all these long years that we never could forget even for a brief space our bitter, bitter loss. And such an experience has it been to me that the three words "a motherless child" have more of sorrow, more of wretchedness attached to them than any other three words that can be put together. Oh, my mother, my mother, how faithfully you have been remembered, but it has been with suffering & bitter tears. I often dream of her yet & she is always in some familiar household scene.

We feel sensibly, I more so with increasing years, that it is an invaluable blessing to have a father, & a great privilege to have a home. We seldom prize these enough until they are gone from us & are beyond our reach.

There were enough sad associations connected with this day to fill all my thoughts. But oh, the keen anguish besides that I have been made to feel. When & where will it end?

I was determined to be as calm as possible if R. did come, & thought I would not speak to him this time. He came about 10 A.M. with three teams & two or three men on horse back to drive sheep & cattle. I understood father to say he cd. not take all this time but would have to come again. So I sewed on & on until about 3 P.M. when I saw them all start off & father came in saying "he had settled everything with Revalo, & he had taken all his things & wd. not have to come again". With these words, all the hopes that I had left of contriving to see Freda, & all the hold that I had upon R. seemed to be cut off, & if father had struck me I sh. not have felt more hurt.

Father had given me to understand that as soon as his business with R. was settled, he sh. tell R. that he must settle with me, & I left him to do so.

But he let him go without saying a word to him about paying me. I know that he does not intend to come here again & that I cannot go to see him. I had intended to talk with him & hoped to get some sort of a promise from him that he wd. bring Freda to see us, & that I might see her at his home. But it was all cut off at once & so unexpectedly! R.'s treatment of me when I was there last has never been resented in the least by father or Henry, & they allow R. to think that they sustain him in his treatment of me, & that they do not consider it of importance enough to speak to him about it, & that I am to blame if any body, & that I have no business to try to see Freda unless it is agreeable to himself & wife. It is just as the wife said to me, "She had never heard that any of the rest had said anything but us two women," meaning Frances & myself.

I wanted father to ask R. "what was his object in treating me in that way, & what he meant by

saying that I must not come there to see Freda & that he should not bring her here." But father would not do it. He only told R. "that we all wanted to see Freda & he must bring her down." R. replied that "he should have the control of the child himself," just as if his bringing her to see us had anything to do with the control of his child.

Father talked with him a little but said nothing probably that R. cared for.—I had supposed that R. would come into the house & settle with father, & I should have a chance to talk with them together before he got all his things away. I feel that I have been deceived by my own folks. Father seems to think more of his own ease & comfort than of anything else. If he is an old man I cannot overlook everything.

I hope I shall never consider my own ease & comfort of more consequence than doing my duty towards others. If I had done so heretofore I should not be here perhaps. If father had the most remote idea of the anxiety I have for

Freda, or could understand in the least what I suffer from this cruel separation, or could know of the intense longing I have to see that little one, he would not, it seems to me, he cd. not scold me for the least & every manifestation of feeling, & act & talk with so much indifference.

It seems to me at times that men have no feelings, & I do not think that all women have sensitiveness enough to ever suffer very keenly. To some natures a harsh word is as bad as a blow, & to some sensitive minds indifference & coldness inflict the keenest pangs. But there are some people who cannot understand that this is so, who do not know but all persons are as obtuse in feeling as themselves, & thus go on inflicting pain upon somebody constantly, & never know the misery they cause.

My darling has the whooping cough & will probably suffer very much for several weeks yet, & there is no way for me to even hear from her.

How can I live so? It seems at times as if I must hold her in my arms; but I stretch out my hands in vain, I grasp the empty air.

I think I never suffered more intensely than I did for several hours today. When father told me what was done, & what was not done, I felt as if there was nobody to look to for help, for I had depended upon him in this case, & he had done nothing & had hindered me from doing anything.

Why, they act & talk as if that child was not in the case, as if they cared nothing for her; while to me she is what makes the case, she it is that makes it worth while to do or say anything. I have not a thought about it separate from her. Oh, they don't know that she is all the world to me. They never can know how dear she is to me.

Charlotte & Neddy & Esther came about half past 6, & since then I have been sitting up. Abner & Frances have been to the city today, & Mary Julia came home with them; but I cannot enjoy it, my head aches intensely & I am so

wretched. Oh, such a day of suffering. At bed time Neddy had an outburst of temper, & in her efforts to conquer him C. was nearly conquered herself. She kept her temper better than she used to, & so of course she succeeded better. But the affair resulted in hard words between Frances & Ann, & altogether it was an incident much to be regretted. It takes much from the pleasure of C's visit here, & it is the first time E. has been here. Hope I shall feel better in a few days, that I may be able to think what is best to be done.

Rush. April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1860, Sunday.

Colder & snowy. Frances & Grandma have been to meeting. The rest have visited at home. Mary Julia has entertained Esther by showing her all my curiosities. I have been lying down part of the time & feel some better. About 3 P.M. Mr. P. came from the city to dinner. This making such a stir for Sunday visitors I do not like, & hope it will not occur

often. I like to have C. & the children, or any of our own family, here on Sundays, but I do not enjoy the company of strangers on Sundays.

Towards night they all left but Esther, who is to go tomorrow morning, & this evening I have been visiting with her. Had a talk with C. today. She feels confident that she is going to better her situation & also her children's, & I do so hope she will not be disappointed.—

Abner & Frances have gone too.

April 2<sup>d</sup>, Monday

Freezing & bright. Esther left about 7. Washed a little, & regulated the house, & since then have been sewing & writing. Read this evening for father, how it hurts my eyes.

April 8<sup>th</sup>, Sunday

Warm & pleasant. Went to meeting with Henry & Ann. Heard Mr. Elmore & Mr. Brady. Was not interested in either. What a treat it would be to hear a first rate sermon once more. But going to church in this way

does me no particular good. It helps use up the day it is true, but Sunday is no longer to me than any other day. Have been talking with Mrs. Ward about my darling. She is a kind good woman. It was 14 wks. yesterday since she was here, my dearest one; how the time flies; & yet the days are long & the weeks are oh, so long.—Have worked in the garden much of the time during the week, & how I have missed my little one. She was so fond of being in the garden, she liked to help “work” & she liked to see the flowers & she knew the names of many of them. She always picked the first dandelions. On Tuesday I went to the Falls, & it was so lonesome. Freda had always been with me there, & she was always delighted to go there. When she first began to walk out, she wd. most always ask to go to the falls, & when she first began to talk it was “less go falls, aunty.” She thought she must go in the garden every day & sometimes several times a day, until

the snow covered the ground. The house has been so lonesome that I welcome any kind of weather that it will answer to go out in. The severe labor of the past few days has almost tired me out; yet it has absorbed my thoughts to a certain degree, & I am thankful that I can work. Dream of her almost every night; Oh! that I cd. hear from her.

Yesterday P.M. Abner & Frances went with me to the burying ground. We set out some plants on those precious mounds of earth & left them to be nurtured by the rains & tears of heaven. There is a sad pleasure in doing this. Oh, my mother! oh, my sister! How little we know whose beloved form the next mound will cover, or which of us will enter first the portals of another world.

It may matter but little which goes first, for in a few years we shall all be gone, the young as well as the old; but I trust we may all dwell together on the other side of the river, where five of our loved ones have already gone.

Rush. Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 1860.

A bright day. Yesterday snow fell to the depth of several inches, but it has nearly all gone now. Last night it froze hard & seemed like winter again.

Have written to Aunt Mary W. for the first since my darling went away. Have told her all about it, & to call up those circumstances makes me more wretched than ever. I have nearly cried my eyes out, for I want to see that little one so badly. It is almost 6 weeks since I have seen her; & no way seems open to see her again, & no way to even hear from her.

R. was at Harvey's last Tuesday, & in that way we heard that Freda has got nearly over the whooping cough. I know she wants to see me, & I cannot go to her.

I have thought of her all the week, & dreamed of her almost every night.

I have worked some in the garden & yard, but it has been windy & cold most of the time. I find relief in working hard. I get tired out at times, & can do nothing for awhile.

When I sit down to rest, if she were here she would be on my lap in a moment. When I lie on the settee, if she were here she would be instantly by my side to share it with me. When out to work she wd. be with me every moment. I miss her when I go to bed & when I get up. I want her here to dress & undress. Fifteen weeks since my little one went from Grandpa's.

Fifteen weeks of weariness, of anxious longings have been mine. I never missed her more than I did yesterday. I collected notes from my journal, & wrote nearly all day about her. She has been such a precious treasure to me from the first. I loved her very much before "dear Mamma" was taken away; & Mary Julia wd. ask a dozen times in the

course of an hour perhaps, "if she was not a nice baby?" or "isnt she pretty?" I never knew Mary J. to think so much of any other baby.—Frances came on Thursday she walked from Avon, & Friday A.M. I took her back & called at Uncle Ephraim's & Leland's.—"James & Sarah," the Irish help, have been home; & now H. & Ann have rode away. Sunday makes no difference to some of our family.

Rush Tuesday Apr. 17<sup>th</sup>.

Thunder shower last night. Cold today. Six weeks since I have held my darling in these arms & kissed her dear cheek. And what shall I do? I want to see her so much.

Have been arranging trunks & boxes & baskets, & find so many things to remind me of Freda & "dear Mamma." Some remains of my darling's first playthings are in various places; a headless doll, the first she ever had, & other things I cannot bear to throw away.

Then I found some dear little worn out Shoes, or congress gaiters rather, which she wore a year & a half ago, but they are precious to me. I can kiss these & cry over them, but will I ever kiss again those dear little feet they once contained? Oh, dear, oh dear.

This P.M. went with Ann to see Sarah Kilpatrick, a young girl dying of consumption. It is a sad sight, but She does not know that she must die.

Thursday April 19<sup>th</sup>, evening.

Anniversary of Sister Sarah's Death. Two years have already gone since that sad day, since the sunshine was taken from my whole future, & oh! the misery, the anguish I have known within those two years. Oh! My sister, why was it so? I cannot yet be reconciled to your departure. I cannot yet think it was God's will to remove a Mother from her helpless innocent children, & so suddenly too. It is so hard, so hard!

Twenty years of a comfortable, uneventful life would have done less, probably, to impair the system & destroy the powers of life, than the two past years crowded with misery such as I have endured have done for me. And could I see a hope even of happiness in my future life, I might bear up yet & struggle on, but it is so very, very dark.

This P.M. Rev. Elmore & daughter called. I told him "R. would not allow me to see Freda," I asked "if he could not tell me how I might reach him." Mr. E. replied "that he had said all he could to him". & offered me not a single word of comfort, he evidently wished to wave the subject. I did expect a little sympathy from him.—

I intend to see Mr. M.—R's minister, but I may get no satisfaction from him.

Been to see S.K. again & took her some flowers. There is no change for the better.

Rochester Apr. 21<sup>st</sup>, 1860, Saturday

Rainy A.M. About 10 o'clock left home with Abner & Frances, & reached the city at 1 P.M. Mary Julia & Neddy have the whooping-cough very badly, & look quite sick.

Found Angeline & Theodore here. Have been to Mt. Hope with Angeline & Charlotte. First time I have visited brother T's grave. More than a year & a half has already past since we laid him here & the grass has grown green above him. It is in a pleasant part of the grounds, & C. goes there often.

Since we returned I have done some shopping & called on Mrs. Coleman & Miss Martin. Have been talking about Freda & I feel badly. Spent the evening with C. Have met several persons that I know. No Unitarian minister here now. Church has been burned, & society is poor, wish I knew what has become of Mr. Richardson. 16 weeks since my darling went away.

Sunday April 22<sup>d</sup>, 1860

Rained again last night.

Two years today since Sarah was buried, since we saw her dear remains committed to the earth, & we returned to this sad, this lonesome home, to live on in wretchedness. Well that I knew so little then of the sore trials in store for me. I sh. have given up the struggle at once.

Went to Christ Church this A.M. with Charlotte & heard Mr. Neely preach a good sermon. But the services were so long before he commenced preaching, that I became very tired. Two persons were "baptized" & it was quite tedious for me. C. did not think so however.

But it seems so much better to see her go to Church on Sunday morning than it used to to see her go to work. If she will only hold out it will be well. Visited awhile with C. & Children & talked of brother T. It seemed so pleasant.

St. Peters chimes awoke me this morning, very sweet.

About 3 P.M. left for home with Angeline & Theodore, who came from B. Wing's to day. Abner & Fr. went to Henry B's last night & came home this evening, but they have gone to Mr. H's now.

The day has been unpleasant & the ride home was not very comfortable, & I am tired & have the headache now.

Monday Apr. 23<sup>d</sup>.

Cold & blustering. Worked about house till 10 & then went with Angeline & Frances, first to Uncle J's, & then to Uncle E's to dinner, then to Wm. J. Harris's, then a short call at Mr. Winans & then to the burying ground & set out some shrubbery, & then to Leland's on our way home. Met Revilo & talked with him a few minutes. Agreed to see me at Harry B's this evening, says Freda has got over the whooping cough, & has not coughed very hard. Oh, the dear child. Met Henry, Ann, & Theodore going to J. Hillman's—

Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 1860.

Freezing cold. About 7 Angeline & Theodore left for home. It hardly seems as if they had been here, their stay has been so short.

Abner & Fr. staid here last night, but they left his morning.

Grandma left this morning for Mt. Morris, & it is so lonely here again.

I have done but little, am almost sick, went to bed this P.M. Went to Harry B's last evening to see Revilo & it was 12 when we got back. Abner & Frances went with me. I talked with R. an hour or more & no satisfaction could I get from him. Tried to make some arrangement to see Freda, but he seems unable to act for himself & to have no control of her. I told him if he would satisfy me in respect to Freda, I would satisfy him in respect to the claim I have against him. Said "It would make trouble to see Freda". I asked him "if he would try to have me see

her & not have it make trouble"? But I could get no reply from him. I told him it was seven weeks since I had seen Freda, & every day was a day of suffering that kept me from her. I told him I wanted to settle with him peaceably & make him no trouble. I

wished him to be satisfied as well as myself, & begged him to propose some terms, or say what would suit him, but I could get nothing out of him.

April 28<sup>th</sup>, Saturday.

Seventeen weeks has my darling been gone, & only twice have I seen her. Had I known this when she went away, what wd I have done!

Thursday Aunt Elisa went with me to see Rev. E. Moore, who preaches in Lakeville, but now lives in Avon. I wanted to talk with him about Freda. He knows R. & wife well, & as he is their minister I think he might influence them to do better, if he is disposed to do so. I told him how they

treated me, & will not allow me to see Freda, & asked him if he wd. use his influence with them, the wife in particular, & persuade her to let me see the child. He said "he wd. like to make peace," but did not promise that he wd. say much, or do much. But as he is their pastor I think he ought to know how they talk, & what they do. He "thinks the best way wd. be to say nothing about the affair but let it die away, & perhaps the time will come when they will feel better." Cold prudence may counsel such a course but how little they know that in the meantime my heart is breaking.—

Abner & Frances started for Somerset on Thursday to be gone about a week. Cousin Eliza came home with me & staid until Friday evening when Cyrus came for her. I tryed my best to entertain Cousin E. & she seemed to enjoy the visit. Has not been here in several

years before. Today been hard at work, cleaned bedrooms & carpets &c, &c.

Sunday Apr. 29<sup>th</sup>, 1860.

Fine & warm. It is so lonesome in the house that I can hardly stay here. Ann has been with me to what was once our burying ground. Oh, dear! My mother, my mother, why was it so? For more than 20 years this was a loved, a sacred spot; but now it seems as if she was buried neither here nor in W. Avon. It is dreadful to have to disturb the remains of the dead. It is better to let them moulder to dust where they are first laid; but I did not know it until it was done.

We took a walk in the woods & then came home. Hardly any flowers yet. The grass is a little green. How my darling would have enjoyed this walk. It seems as if I cannot do without her today. Kitty has been in the house awhile, & Freda loved pussy cat so much,

Rush. Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 1860.

Fine, but no rain yet, roads very dusty. Trees in blossom, air is loaded with fragrance & all without is so beautiful. Freda dear wd. enjoy being out with me so much, she would work in the garden with me, & watch the flowers with as much interest as I do. In cleaning & arranging things during the week there has been so much to remind me of my darling. This makes it all sad work for me. I find a little pair of worn-out gloves, or

stockings, or some other trifle, & a sense of utter misery comes over me. I feel all the wrong & the injustice towards my dear one anew, & wonder how long it must be thus. Yesterday P.M. I put on a dress that I had not worn since last fall, & in the pocket I found some acorns that she had put there when we had been walking out, & also her little ring, a “wed wing”, as she called it that Aunt Fanny brought from Plymouth.

We had looked for it & supposed it was lost; but she had probably put it in my pocket when she came into the kitchen to “wash dishes” or do some other ‘work’. I never saw a diamond ring that wd. be worth as much as this to me, a little beaded, horsehair thing that cost a few cents; but it has been worn on one of those dear little fingers, that I can no longer hold in my own, & she thought it very pretty.

Frances intends to try to see her before long, but what shall I do? I dream almost every night of seeing her, & once she said, “What for do I stay here so long, Aunty? I want to go & stay with you”.

Frances came back from S. Thursday A.M. & Abner on Friday. Cleaned parlor & bedroom & that part of the house is all settled now. Have worked hard every day; but there is but little encouragement to do any thing of the kind. I can enjoy nothing, but I like to see things tidy.

It was 8 wks. on Tuesday since I have seen my darling, & 18 wks. yesterday since they so cruelly took her away. For four months has she been withheld from her birthright, has she been cheated of that love & affection which are her due: how long oh! Lord, how long must it be thus!

Rush. May 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

Delightful weather, it has rained during the week & things look green & fresh & beautiful. The apple trees are in blossom & the air is full of fragrance. My flowers look finely in the garden. I have worked more or less in the garden every day. Yesterday I went out at 5 in the morning & worked till 10, & was then so tired that I went to bed for two or 3 hours.

I am so lonely only when I am hard at work. It wd. be so nice here for my dear little one, & she would be so happy here.

On Friday Charlotte & Mr. Parsons from Michigan came about noon & left at 5 P.M.

Had a letter from Sister Mary. Frances intends to go & see her in June, how I wd. like to go too, & if I could afford the expense I wd. do so. Next to Freda I want to see Mary & her baby more than any one else in the world.

It was 19 weeks yesterday since my darling was taken away, & she looked so sweet & pretty, & said “Aunty, you sorry I going away,” & when I said ‘yes’ she took my handkerchief & wiped my eyes & looked so concerned. I know she has wanted to see me many times, & she wants to see me now. It is several wks. since we have heard from her,

oh, dear! oh, dear! If that child could be with me here today what wd. I not give! I dream of seeing her almost every night. To think that all this time she is where they do not feel it a privilege to have her; & to any body but her father she is but a stranger or an intruder. It is too bad. When here she might have so much love.

Rush. Tuesday May 15<sup>th</sup> 1860.

Fine, cool. This A.M. ironed & then walked up to Harvey B's, called at Mrs. Arner's, & took dinner at Mr. Daley's, & then with Mrs. D. called at Mr. Flamburg's, & came home about 3 P.M.

It is now 10 weeks since I have seen my dear little lambkin, my darling Freda. It seems as if something must happen to interrupt this dreadful state of things; but oh, dear, it may not be dreadful to any body but myself.

Rush Thursday May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1860.

Fine. Rose early & worked hard till 10 A.M., in order to have everything ready for Charlotte & her new husband. She was married this morning about 7 o'clock to L. V. Griffin. They rode directly here & staid about an hour, took dinner & went on to Genesee. So it is; how soon the places of those who leave us are filled again, & how soon they seem to be forgotten. I do hope this is all for the best, & that C. will take comfort & they will all get along nicely.

It seems so much better than if she had married an entire stranger to us. I hope he will make her a good husband, & act the part of a good father towards her children. They need so much care & watching now.

Oh, such a long day as this has been! Frances was here this A.M. but Abner was too busy to come. This P.M. F. & I took "little gay" & went to Mr. Hartwell's, & Alvira went with us to call at Mrs. Morehouse's, & Mrs. Cookingham's & Aunt Eliza's. Found them all cleaning house. We took tea at Mr. H's & then rode to W. Avon. Went to the burying ground & watered all the plants. They look quite fresh considering how dry the weather has been.

Rush Saturday, May 19—1860.

Rainy & cool, fire in stove. Have cleaned closets & done small chores all day. Necessary things, but trifling too, & seems almost like a waste of time. It is only when very busy that I can forget myself & my troubles.

It is a hard thing to say that it is 20 weeks since my dear, my precious one was torn from me so cruelly: Yes, 20 weeks of wretchedness have been mine, & 20 weeks have they been trying to estrange my darling from those who love her so well. It is so wicked to try to make her forget us; it is so unjust to her & to the memory of her mother. Oh! she is but a child, & they will succeed in all they wish.

Abner & Frances were here a little while this evening.

Rush Sunday May 20, 1860

Fine but cold; fear we shall have frost, went to meeting this A.M. & Heard El. Nisbet. A very fine discourse, the best I ever heard him preach. Have written to Aunt M. this P.M. Have thought of my darling so much today.

May 23<sup>d</sup>.

Went to city with Abner & Frances & Alvira. Reached there about 11 A.M. Had two of Sarah's pictures copied for Revilo. Bought little else but Shakers.

After 9 when we got home. Mary Julia came with us to stay a week or so. She does not attend school this summer.

It seems odd to see Mr. G in brother T's place. Could not help thinking of Theodore much of the time. Yet I hope it may be best for C. & the children & all concerned. Mr. G. & C. are very friendly, tried to make it pleasant for us to day, & succeeded too.

Rush. May 25<sup>th</sup>, 1860.

This morning Sis & I rode to W. Avon to the Burying Ground. It is a dear & pleasant spot where our loved ones are laid, & on this bright morning it was all so beautiful. We lingered there awhile, & then called at Mr. Winans. Went to J. Hillman's & took dinner. Called at Mr. Hartwell's for Frances & then went to Aunt Harriet's & spent the P.M. On our return called at Uncle Jephtha's.

It seems good to have Mary Julia here again & enjoy herself as she used to. She is very dear to me yet. She is good company & we talk of Freda too.

Rush. Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 1860.

Fine day.—Yesterday did various chores & helped Mary Julia label her specimens. She is beginning to collect curiosities, & I have given her all I could spare, & an Ancient Trunk to keep them in. Find myself unable to walk but little. Think I sprained my ankle in jumping from the buggy on Friday. Hope I shall not be laid up entirely.

It was 21 weeks yesterday since my darling was torn from these arms; 21 weeks since she, that I love better than all the world beside was removed from my love & care. Oh! for one look on that dear little face! Oh! that I cd. hold her in my arms for one short moment! It was 11 weeks last Tuesday since I have seen her, my darling, my 'duck', my precious one.—Abner & F. here this evening. To-morrow Frances & Mary Julia & Lily B. intend to go & see her. I shall feel so anxious until they come back, for fear something unpleasant will happen; & I do so want to hear from her.

Rush. May 28<sup>th</sup>, 1860, Monday.

They have come back, & have seen my darling, & had a good visit with her. All but the Grandmother the little boy & Freda had gone to a funeral. Frances got there at half past 10 & staid till 3 P.M. The brother & sister of R's wife came home between 12 & 1. The sister invited them to take off their things & stay to dinner. F. said she would, as she

wanted to see R. They waiting till 3 P.M. started for home & met R. & wife & the two older children. F. stopped & R. just spoke & drove on. R. was white with rage & surprise. Their being away seems to me providential. The sister was pleasant as any body cd. be & did not hinder their visit with Freda at all. When they first asked her if she wanted to see "Aunty," she said "no," but very soon she did not seem afraid as at first & talked about me, said "I must come & stay all night, she wanted to see me." & asked "if Aunty was sick, & what made her sick," & sent me some flowers, a columbine, a violet & a buttercup, to "member her by," the dear little darling.

I sent a new dress & sunbonnet for Mabel, & Frances had for her a painted picture of a girl & kitten, a little red riding hood, a roll of calicoes, & some candies. She was very much pleased with them, & the little boy was happy & pleased & seemed kind to her, & the candies were shared with him of course. Fr. talked to her about me & our folks & about herself & her own mamma, for she seemed to be forgetting somethings. Then F. asked her if she would come to Grandpa's with papa? She said yes & we'll take the little white horse & go to the burying ground." She used to say "little gay". She has got over the whooping cough, but does not look very well. The wife's sister has taught her the letters & is teaching her to read. The little boy goes to school, but Freda does not. I was afraid they wd. send her to school this summer. If I had only gone too, how glad I wd. have been, but it has done me so much good to hear from her; & this will help her so much to remember us. Oh, it happened so nice for us!

Rush. May 29<sup>th</sup>, 1860

I have felt so much better, for I have heard from my little one, & she has talked about me. It is 12 weeks since I have seen her, & they are trying to have her forget me. She will not forget me entirely, but I have reason to believe that they try to set her against me & the little boy too. The wife has heard that I blame her more than I do him & she is mad about it. I certainly do, but I think R. is very much to blame too.

Mrs. Cookingham & Emma C. have visited here this P.M. & Leland & Mary have called.

Wednesday May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1860.

About 2 P.M. Frances came to tell us that R. & wife & Freda were at Harvey B's & father & I had better go up & see Freda. Abner harnessed his horses as soon as he could & went with us. Father walked & we got there first. As I went in I had a glimpse of Freda in another room the door being open, & I went towards her, but

the wife saw me & shut the door & locked it before I cd. get in, & said "you can't see her, you can't see her." Said I, "I want to see Freda a few minutes that is all I want. R. & Harvey were at the shop. Maria B. was at work in the pantry.—I sat down & waited for father; he & Abner soon came in. But before they came R. came in & sent straight into

that room. I said "how do you do? Revilo, don't you see me? But he would neither speak nor look at me. Father went to the door & knocked & said "he wanted to see R. & Freda." They made no answer. Pretty soon Harvey came in & father told him "he wanted to see R., he had business with him." Harvey went around to the window & spoke with R. & he sent word that "he wd. see father but not in the presence of Julia." So Harvey went to go in the room with father; & as Abner was sitting near the door I told him to go in. There was an open door, & my darling was in that room, cd. I sit still? No, I went too. Revilo & H. both tried to close the door so that Abner & I cd not go in.

But we got in. The wife had put Freda in a corner & stood before her & covered her all up with her dress, so that I had not a glimpse of her, & R. stood by the wife trembling & as white as a ghost. I said "Freda, Aunty is here & she wants to see you very much, Aunty loves her darling." In the mean time Harvey had tried to get Abner out of the room, & gone into the kitchen & got the tongs & attempted to strike A. & told him he wd knock his brains out. A. held H's hands & defended himself. Father & I begged him, A. to stop, & they struggled till both got out of doors, & H. told A. never to come into his house again. I had just time to say to R. that "I had nothing to say to them, I just wanted to see Freda a few minutes," when Harvey came in & walked me out. Father talked with them nearly half an hour & I sat on the doorstep most of the time & waited for him. R. was plausible about the business affairs; & father talked to them both very

plainly, told them what he & others thought of their conduct, but they said "I should not see Freda." When father opened the door I asked him "if Freda was not coming out." "No,; he said" They wont let her come." Said I "tell her Aunty wants to see her very much," & he did tell her.

I had thought I wd. stay near them & see her when they started for home, but then it occurred to me that they wd. cover her up & hide her so that she cd. not see me, nor I her, & I concluded to come home with A. & father. I now think R. is as much to blame as the wife. Father cd. not believe before that they were so bad & would talk so; he believes it now. I had not thought that Harvey had such a bad temper, & R's shows a worse disposition than I could ever think of his having.

Frances has just come home without, & is to stop at H's for her umbrella. It is a terrible state of things; but I think R. means to do his worst. He seems so unreasonable & inhuman.

Rush. Thursday May 31<sup>st</sup>.

Cloudy, but no rain yet, showers all about us yesterday. Sis & I did not get up till about 8 o'clock. At 9 Mr. & Mrs. Winans & Julia came. They left about 3 P.M. We had a very

good visit with them. Frances came this P.M. She is helping Mrs. B today. They feel very much ashamed of what Harvey did yesterday.

On her way home with Abner yesterday, she called at Harvey's for her umbrella. They were drinking tea & she saw them all, & spoke to Freda. R. said "don't you lay your hands on her." Fr. told him she did not wish to. She spoke to him about the pictures she left up to R.s on Monday. He said "he never ordered them". Before he left here he said he wanted Sarah's picture. I told him "I had two that I had had a long time & could not give them away, but I wd. have them copied for him as soon as I could," he said "he wanted them in gilt frames just like mine" & I told him I wd. have it done, & I told him what they wd. probably

cost & it was well understood by him. "But," said I, "as you have none at all, here is a little one that I had copied from one that Abner has, & I will give it to Freda & you can keep it for her."

When I saw him at Harvey B.s about a month since & he spoke about the pictures then, & it was talked over again, I told him it had not been convenient to get them yet, but I wd. get them as soon as I cd. & send them to him. I had just got them done & sent them to him by Fr. on Monday, & intended to ask him yesterday "if he was pleased with them?" but I had no chance, & now he says "he never ordered them." I can make nothing of it but lie. He told Fr. "she slyed[?] up there when they were gone & interfered with the children." He talked very unreasonable.

The wife told Maria B. yesterday that "R. told her to do as she did & she was afraid to do otherwise." But I do not believe he has told her to do all that she has done, & I now think he is as much to blame as she is.

They went home last night, & Mr. & Mrs. B, the old folks, are at Harvey's today.

Rush June 2d, 1860

This morning went to city with Abner, Frances & Mary Julia. Pleasant ride there & back.

Called on Judge P. & at J. Rapalje's, did but little else. Dinner at Cs. Saw Maria B. & Helen &c. Charlotte & Mr. Griffin came up this evening. Did not get here until about 10 o'clock.

22 weeks has my dear little one been gone from Grandpa's. Five months have gone; & it was hard to be away from her even a week. In one sense it has been an age. Oh! the weary days & nights! In another sense it has been but as a day, for she is the same dear child to me, as when she said "good bye, Aunty," & "I going to Grandpa Bigelow's to stay two nights," & she, all innocent of the designs of her father, was as happy as a bird; & did not know that "Aunty's" heart was breaking in the mean time. If I could have seen her even five minutes the other day & kissed her & talked with her a little I cd. have lived on it a month.

Sunday June 3d.

Very pleasant this morning. Father & wife gone to church. C. & Mr. G. & Henry & Ann gone to ride. It is so quiet here.

In the P.M. Abner & Frances came & Mr. & Mrs. Hillman were here also. It seems good to have so many of our folks here, & they have all seemed to enjoy it. C. says it was just 14 yrs. last night since she came here for the first time. I came home with herself & Theodore & did not get here until they had all gone to bed.—In 1849.

Eleven years ago last night Theodore had an attack of cholera, & it was an anxious night for us. One of the most terrible storms was in progress that I ever knew. For two or three hours there was a constant lightning & many houses were struck. Theodore's sickness was probably caused by a sudden change of the atmosphere. He then lived on Mortimer St.

I am glad C. likes to talk of Theodore, that she continues to respect his relatives; for I should feel so bad were it otherwise, & Mr. G. seems very kind & friendly. He brought a nice fresh shad wh. we had for breakfast & some Pineapples. Both rarities for us.—

Rush. June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1860.

Cloudy & rainy nearly all the week. Things look much better now for they needed rain very much. I have worked in the garden & it looks very clean & nice. The flowers look fine.

Wednesday helped clean cellar, & now the house cleaning is about done. Aunt Caty & Emmeline visited here on Tuesday.

Have read "The Pillar of Fire" & found it deeply interesting. Have read all the Speeches made at the Anniversary of the A. A. Slavery Society, & they were all worth reading too, some were very able. They were from Garrison, Phillips, Dr. Cheever, Elizabeth C. Stanton, Rev. A. Bradford, Elizabeth Jones, Mary Grew, Wm. Wells Brown, Rev. Beriah Green, Rev. Sam. Longfellow, Rev. Geo. F. Noyes, Rev. J.R.W. Sloane, Giles Stebbins &c., an unusual number of reverends. read them all for father, & he has enjoyed it.— Frances here yesterday. 23 weeks yesterday since my darling was taken from us. It is dreadful to write it so. How little we thought she wd. be kept from us thus. so long, oh! so long!

Rush. June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1860.

A week of pleasant weather. Strawberries & cherries are ripening, some are ripe. On Tuesday P.M. went with Frances & Alvira to Mr. Cutler's to S. Society. Did not enjoy it much. Have never been to a Society before without Freda & I miss her so much when I go out. That day it was 14 weeks since I went to see my dear little one.

On Wednesday P.M. went with Ann to the funeral of Louisa Shardlow. Mr. Nott preached, but there was nothing very striking in his discourse. Went to Mr. Hillman's & took tea.

Yesterday Henry & Ann went to K. to come back to-morrow.

Friday Abner & Fr. went to city to come back tomorrow.

It was 24 weeks yesterday since my darling was taken from her happy home at Grandpa's, from her dear & loving friends. I have dreamed of her every night lately, & I do want her here so much. I miss her all this pleasant weather. For it is lonely out of doors as well as in the house.

Yesterday P.M. I went out alone where we used to walk. It seemed as if I could almost hear her talk, "Less go sit on a log, Aunty; Less go to the hill Aunty; Less go to the brook, Aunty." Everything around & above was so very, very beautiful & quiet that I was affected even to tears. My darling would have said "See, Aunty, what a glorious sunset." & it was indeed glorious.

This Sunday has been one of those glorious, perfect June days, when it is a luxury to live; & were my darling with me & no fears of losing her, I might be really happy. I have been alone in the house a large part of the day; have written some & read some.

Charles Sumner has just made a Speech in Congress on the "Barbarism of Slavery." It is very able, & will make a sensation. No man could denounce Slavery morally, socially, politically, in stronger terms than he has done. I am so glad & thankful. Four years since he has spoken before.

Rush June 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 1860.

Pretty lonely week. But a plenty of good reading has enabled me to get through it very well. There are speeches on the death of Theodore Parker by Rev. S. J. May, W. Phillips, Mr. L. Garrison, Rev J. F. Clarke, &c.

Everything is interesting now that relates to him. Theo. Tilton says "Envious men, following him with unfriendly eyes across the sea, saw him walking under the sunshine of Italy, & recognized no halo about his head; yet, before many coming months or years, these same critical eyes may yet marvel to see that the tardy crown has fallen & blossomed upon his grave". T. Tilton has just preached a sermon at Music Hall, Boston, on Man & the Future." I have read it this P.M. It is said he bids fair to be as popular & effective a preacher as his mentor H. W. Beecher. He belongs to Beecher's church & is one of The Editors of the Independent. He will make a noise in the world yet.

Have read this week "Alone on a wide, wide Sea," quite good, something better than mere pastime, & with my lame ankle it was my

acceptable reading. I cannot walk out, have not been in the garden today.

Read twice, & shall probably read again Charles Sumner's Speech on the "Barbarism of Slavery." Many pronounce it the greatest speech that has ever been made in Congress. It is called "not only the event of the season but a National event." "He has left little to be said on the moral, social, political & economical phases of the subject, little to be said & nothing to be answered. It is so thorough, so compact, so readable, so complete in evidence, so perfect in logic, so excellent in rhetoric, so elevated in moral tone, as to be a

Manual from which answers to all ordinary objections can be drawn." It is to me as fascinating as a romance. Attempts to assassinate him have been made on account of it already. Several years ago when listening to Chas. Sumner in speaking before the Rochester Ladies A. S. Society, there was such grandeur

in his utterances, such magnificent thoughts, & such a majesty in his bearing; that I could think of no one but Edmund Burke. It seemed to me his noble words for freedom cd. only be compared to Burke's.

Shortly after he went to England, & competent judges said at once that more than any other living statesman, he resembled Edmund Burke. This gratified me, of course, that my opinion sh. correspond with that of the learned & great of England, for I did not know until then that I was not alone in my opinion.—

25 weeks yesterday since the dearest object I have on earth was taken from me, & I have seen her but twice in all those weary weeks. But I love her as much as ever. I cannot give her up. I have thought of her so much through the week, & dreamed of her nearly every night, my dear, my precious one. On Thursday the 21st. it was five years since Sister Sarah was married; & more than two years has she been in her grave. I cannot realize this last; for it is as an occurrence of yesterday, fresh in my mind.

Rush July 1st Sunday, 1860.

A very busy week, had a fine shower Thursday night & rain on Friday. Lame ankle all the week. Ann been sick since Tuesday.

On Monday Frances was here & Maria B. & baby called, & Mary & Jane Winegar came from Mt. Morris. Henry went to city & Neddy came back with him. Parlor partition finished & parlor regulated.

On Tuesday evening Emmeline & Ezra called. I thought of my darling so much for it was 16 weeks since I had held her in my arms & kissed her dear cheek. Did not feel like visiting.

On Wednesday P.M. went to Uncle J's with other company. Aunt Harriet & a dozen others there.

On Thursday P.M. about a dozen here to tea. Had a pretty good time.

On Friday it was showery. Went in A.M. with Abner to W. A. to paint our iron fence, but it was so rainy we did not do it.

In P.M. went to Uncle Ephraim's.

On Saturday, yesterday, worked nearly all day. In P.M. Julia Winans, Susan Baldwin, Cousin Isaac, James Hillman & E. Price took tea here. In evening called with Henry & Ann & Winegar girls at J. Hillman's. Neddy went too & rode little gray. Did not get home till eleven.

Am tired of visiting now.

This A.M. went to church & heard Mr. Elmore preach a dull sermon, & sat there this P.M. through their 'communion'. Saw Mary Roach who inquired after Freda, & then I must have a crying spell. She did not know of course that I could not bear it. It was 26 weeks yesterday since my darling went away, & I have lived on through ~~on through~~ all those weary weeks. It is terrible to think of— Six months— half a year, has she been forgetting us. My dear, my precious one, that I think of by day & dream of by night. I have dreamed several times lately that she came to see us. Will it ever be so? I am not hopeless even yet.

Rush July 4<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 1860.

Showery day & rainy evening.

This A.M. worked about house. Spent the P.M. very pleasantly at Mr. Winans. Met my old friend Mrs. E. Baldwin there, & also several others there.

One year ago I spent most of the day entirely alone. Even Freda had gone to her grandpa B's, & I was full of apprehension on her account.—

Yesterday Alvira H. was here, & she & Frances went with me in the A.M. to the burying ground where Amanda Hartwell was buried in 1842, & which I do not remember visiting since that occasion.

Day before yesterday Mary & Jane Winegar left for their homes in Mt. Morris. Neddy went home on Monday morning too, he went alone on the cars.

17 weeks yesterday since I went to see my dear, my precious one. Oh! That I could see her again, even but for a moment.

Rush Sunday July 8<sup>th</sup>, 1860.

Keeping as quiet as possible today on account of my lame ankle. Henry & A gone to J. H's. Abner & Frances staid here last night, but went away this morning, rather a quiet day. I feel depressed & lonely.

Yesterday Frances & I went to city, drove "little gay." It was a perfect day, neither too cool nor too warm & no dust. I walked but little on account of my lame ankle. Saw Judge P. Prospect of settling with R. but, oh! dear, it seems as if every thing removes me farther from that dear child. 27 weeks! it is dreadful to write it, oh. I fear she will forget us, or be taught to dislike us. When I go to the city I always think so much about her. She has been there with me so many times, & it was so pleasant to have her with me, she enjoyed it so much, & required so much care which it was such a pleasure to give. I do miss her so much. How she

would like to have gone yesterday with "Aunty & Aunt Franny." The dear child!

C. & children are well & sis wanted to come with us, but they cd. not spare her.

We came home by the way of E. Rush & called at F. Douglass'. Saw none of the family but Rosa.

Frances intends to go to Michigan in a day or two. I am so sorry to have her go. I shall miss her so much. It is so lonely, very lonely here at times, & when I have no sister near me, I hardly know what to do.

July 9<sup>th</sup>, Monday

Worked about house this A.M. Frances came this P.M. & we put up roots for Sister Mary. She does so much want some plants & shrubbery from her old home, & she was always fond of flowers. F. intends to start for Michigan to-morrow. oh, dear. Rode to Mr. Hartwell's this P.M. & took tea, & called at F. Piersons & L. Thompson's.—

July 9 10th, Tuesday

Frances started for Michigan. Abner took her to the city. Neddy came back with him to stay awhile. I have been so wretched today. F. is so much company when she is here although I see her but little. & I shall miss her so much. And it is 18 weeks since I have seen my darling. R. was at Harvey's last night & Frances met him this morning. He tried not to speak to her. She asked him if he had any word to send to Michigan & he said 'No'. that was all. He was down a few days since to see his wheat, & we hear through Maria B. that Freda is well & that she goes to school. I hope this is a mistake, for R. said he would not send her to school until she was a few years older, but she will probably be sent with the little boy. Oh! dear. We talked about my darling this morning & it has upset me for the day, for we can hope for nothing from R. & we think he does not mean to bring her when he comes to harvest his wheat, as we have been hoping he would do.

Rush. July 12th. Thursday, 1860

Went with Abner & Neddy this morning to W. Avon to paint the iron fence that encloses our burial lot & did not return till 4 P.M. We worked there yesterday P.M. & it has taken us longer than we supposed it would.

It is a beautiful spot where our loved ones sleep & there is a sad satisfaction in adorning their last resting place. The weather is so pleasant now & the sun shines so lovingly there, & the winds breathe their soft music through the trees that are near, & it is just such spot. I am sure, as Sarah would have loved, I wish we could visit it oftener, for I love to linger there & think of the loved ones that are waiting for us, that have only gone a little while before.

Went to Mr. Winans & took dinner; these are dear good friends. I have their love & their sympathy I know, & I highly prize such friends.—

July 13th. 1860

Lovely day. Yes, a perfect day. Little gray was at my service this morning. & I called for Aunt Eliza who went with me to Aunt Harriet's. We took dinner there & went to Mrs. Landon's & took tea. These are good visits; 20 years or more have made great changes in the circumstances of these friends, but they seem to have many kindly recollections of the past.

July 15th. Sunday

Worked in the garden yesterday all that I could. Had a letter from Frances last night, She is in Detroit with Joseph & Ella, & will go to see Mary next Tuesday.

Today have been reading the proceedings of the Free Convention held in Rutland, Vt. two years ago., some fine things were said, yes, & sensible thing too, & some objectionable ones also. But the papers misrepresented them also. I think the Tribune did them injustice. This has been for me an

uncomfortable day. Those that I love do things that I cannot approve & it disturbs me. I try not to think of it, but I am not blind, nor exactly deaf, & I cannot be indifferent when I am sure they do not act for their own highest good.

About 4 P.M. Mr. Griffin, Charlotte, Sis & Mary Reynolds came. They left at 7 & took Neddy with them. We were glad to see them, but these & some other calls have made it quite a stirring busy day.

It was 28 weeks yesterday since my precious one was taken from us, my darling. The joy & comfort of my life.

July, Wednesday 18th.

On Monday R. & his men came to harvest his wheat; but he has not been near the house. Father offered to board his hands. Harvey cd. not have them, nor Mr. Fredenis, nor Mr. Daly. So they brought provisions & went home nights, about 9 miles.

It is dreadful to know that R. feels so hard towards us. I thought of Freda until I resolved to make an effort to see her, & yesterday A.M. I called for Cousin Emmaline who went with me to the school house near R's where I hoped to find Freda, Miss Sinclair, a sister of R's wife, teaches the school. She would not let us come in. She stood in the outside door & told a scholar to fasten the inside door Said she "I have control here, I am mistress here, I tell you to leave. I have orders not to let you see Freda."

I tried to persuade, I begged to see her if only for five minutes, told her I had not seen her in 4 months, She said "she didn't care if I had not seen her in 6 years, I should not see her." Said I "let me just look at her a few minutes, I'll not speak to her." "No, I should not see her."

We talked about R. & his wife. Said Miss. S. "I'm with them in every thing, I'm one of them, & I think they do right." I told her I hoped they would see their mistake & be sorry for it. I did

not hurry away even when she sent for a trustee, but I waited until two women & two men came, & I now wish I had waited for longer to see how many she would have sent for, But I spoke to none of them & wanted no disturbance.

Had I supposed she would hinder my seeing Freda, I would have gone in at once & cd. have seen her a few minutes at least, But I did not expect such a reception. She was very

imprudent & insulting. E. was not well, & she could stand no longer, so she took a seat in the buggy, & I sat on the doorstep a few minutes, I told E. I was sorry to have her sit there in the sun, I was not quite ready to go, Miss S. told her "she could go into the woods & ~~stay~~ there was a shade."

So near my darling & could not see her, it was dreadful; E. caught a glimpse of her. It was 19 weeks since I had seen that little one, the dear, dear child. my precious one.

Disappointed I drove away, another hope destroyed. —Stopped at the Hotel in Lakeville & fed our horse & rested awhile. I told Mrs. K. where we had been & how we were treated. She is a cousin of Miss. S. & R.'s wife but she thinks they do wrong & wicked & gave her opinion very freely. She says there are but few persons about there, who take their part.

We then drove to Clark Sanford's & stayed till till 10 this morning. Emmaline was tired out & I was tired, & wretched & discouraged. Eclipse of the Sun this morning.

I watched it till I thought it had a baleful effect on me, for I felt so depressed.

We reached home at 1 P.M. It was very warm. I went to bed & rested till 3 when Aunt Harriet & Landon's wife came, Then I had to exert myself again & felt some better.

It has rained some since 4 o'clock, R. & men got the wheat ready to stack & went home for a day or two.

Rush July 22, 1860 Sunday,

Went to meeting this A.M but cd. not feel interested in Mr. Nott's preaching. Wished I could hear a sermon once more that I could enjoy, This has been a tedious day, I know not what to do. I am lonely, lonely, lonely. I want the company of my dear, my precious one.

Yesterday it was 29 weeks since my darling saw her home at Grandpa Wilbur's, I am sure she is forgetting us, If I could only have seen her the other day, it would have helped her so much to remember us. It is so cruel, so wicked to keep her from us.

July 25th.

Did housework this A.M. We are our own Bridgets now & it is quite a relief not to have an Irish girl around. She had become so impudent & hateful that Ann cd. endure her no longer. I went yesterday to Stony Arabia to take her to the cabin where the "ould folks" live. She is the most eccentric, the

least trained, the wildest, the queerest specimen that ever left the Green Isle to alight in Amerriky; that is, as far as my observation extends. We are so glad to be rid of her. Her brother was altogether better than she.

Rev. Mr. Brown & wife called the P.M.

Revilo is finishing harvesting his wheat this P.M. A boy came for a jug of water this morning & I asked him if he came with Mr. B. He said "he did", I asked "is Freda well?"

he said "yes". R. has taken the precaution since to send one of our neighbors who is helping him to do the errands. R has not been near the house & will speak only to father, & to him very briefly. I have not seen him, to think he was once Sarah's husband! It is very trying to have it so. He seems to be so angry with us all, The poor misguided man. I do hope he will do better & feel better before his good angel entirely forsakes him.

It ~~was~~ is 30 weeks, yesterday nearly since the sunshine of our house departed & the dark cloud closed around us. And it seems to be no cloud with a 'silver lining' to bid us hope on. No, my fears have all been realized, & my hopes all destroyed. A dark prospect for me.

July 28th, Saturday evening.

Oh! dear. I intend to go to Lakeville to church tomorrow, hoping to see Freda there. & I feel so anxious about it, I want to look at her again & if possible speak to her.—

It is 30 weeks since she was taken from us, & 20 weeks, yes, five months since I have seen her, my precious one. It is so hard to bear it.

Did house work most all day & am very tired to night. It has been a sad day for me.

This P.M. Mrs. Hillman & Mrs. Beevs came for cherries & took tea. Abner & Ann have gone to the city for a girl.

Yesterday Ann & I went to see Margaret, & called at Mr. Frederics, Mr. Bigelow & uncle

Jeptha's. Cousin J. has just come home so I have heard from the Dutchess Co. folks.

On Thursday P.M. Ann & I called at Mr. Winans, went to the Springs, I took tea at J. Hillman's. Had a pleasant ride, Hoped to get a letter from Frances to day but none has come.

Sunday July 29th.

Rained hard most of the day, & I have been so disappointed. We could not go, & now it may be two or three weeks before I shall see her," Hope deferred makes the heart sick". If tears of agony would avail, I sh. see my dear little one. Oh, such a wretched day I have spent most of it alone & cried myself nearly sick. What can I do?

Saturday Aug. 4th.

Another week has nearly gone. I mean to go to Lakeville, to meeting tomorrow if I can, hoping to see my darling. Ann intends to go with me.

I may be disappointed again as I was last Sunday oh! dear, oh! dear. I dreamed of her last night & night before, that she came here & I held her in my arms I kissed her dear cheek again & again. & I was so happy with her, but it was nothing but a dream. 31 weeks, it is dreadful to write it so, since she was really here. & 21 weeks last Tuesday since we saw

each other & I have lived & suffered, how much, no one knows but myself & the All Father.

Have had another letter from Frances, she is in Pine Run with Mary & all well. A letter from Angeline too, well as usual. A new girl came on Thursday & since then I have done less housework but the days have been tedious & lonely. Have not felt well, cannot relieve my mind by talking, for there is no one to sympathize with me. How little they seem to think of Freda,

Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>. Monday. 1860

Very warm. Helped wash & cleaned all the A.M. & ironed some this P.M. About 4 Mary Thompson came & I am rested a little.

Yesterday was a day of intense suffering for me. Did not go to Lakeville. Saturday evening Benjamin & Eliza & [?] & Gulielma S. came & went away about 10 o'clock Sunday morning & of course we could not leave home, words cannot tell how disappointed I was. Saturday P.M. I was full of anxiety about going for fear something would happen to prevent, or I should not see her when I got there & when the company came, I could keep up no longer, I cd. not visit with them but went to bed.

Ann did all she could to help me & I am obliged to her & the few kind words she offered were all that I received.

After they left I was entirely alone most of the day & such a day. In the P.M. father noticed that I felt bad. He says he will go to see Revilo's father & perhaps something can be done. He wd. have done this long ago did he suffer a tenths part of what I do.

The day was bright & pleasant & all that were here seemed to be happy & cheerful & if I cd., keep entirely out of their sight, there might be nothing to make them uncomfortable. If I could conceal all my unhappiness & be as gay as the rest, I wonder how many there are that wd. care whether I suffered or not.

Letters this morning from Uncle C. & cousin C.L. Post. These have done be good.

Yesterday heard from Frances. She is at Mary's, Aunt Phebe & Cousin Kate not coming this summer. Too bad.—Intend to go to R. on Wednesday & stay a few days.

Rush, Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup> 1860

It is 32 weeks since by little darling was taken from her home at Grandpa Wilbur's, my dear, my precious one. Intend to go to Lakeville tomorrow hoping to see her to church. Ann & Mrs. Hillman & James are to go with me. Came from Rochester this P.M. with Abner. Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> was my 46<sup>th</sup> birthday. Ann went to city with me. Called at the 'Home' for a girl but did not get any. In P.M. sis went with me to Mrs. A's to stay all night, Thursday. Charlotte came about noon & we went home with her.

In P.M. went to Irondequoit with Cousin B. Did not feel like going or visiting. Saw Aunt Elizabeth there.

Friday, same to city. Dined with Miss M. Went out with Charlotte, went to Cousin John's to spend the night. Had head ache.

This morning Mrs. Coleman went with me to Douglass' office. Saw him says he is coming to see us. Called on Dr. Whitbeck. Have seen C & the children but little & mean to go again as soon as I can.

August 12<sup>th</sup> 1860

Have been to the church in Lakeville but have not seen my darling. Freda was not at meeting. We stopped at the hotel & thought we saw her pass & was so sure that she was in meeting, we went but she was not there.

Mr. & Mrs. Kimbark went with us to the church & helped us all they could. They seemed very kindly disposed & gave us some information upon the state of things about there. They assert that but a very few sympathize with or uphold R. & wife in the course they take.

I cannot give it up so, but I fear this will hinder my seeing her there, that they

Will not take her to meeting perhaps It seems as if every chance was destroyed almost. Mrs. K. says she wd. like to go with me to the schoolhouse & try to see her. There is to be a School celebration at Long Point on the 24<sup>th</sup> of this month. I shall try to be there.

Monday Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>

Rainy all day. Helped wash. Abner helped me paper the parlor partition. Have done various chores & written some. Cannot account for my present state of feeling. Although I did not see Freda I feel relieved. I know not why. For three weeks I have been looking forward to the time when I sh. go there & see her. Have thought of it & her almost incessantly & suffered so much. Yet now there is a sense of relief. Last night I dreamed of seeing her a long time. She was here & I kissed her many, many times. She was so sweet, but she looked pale

Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> Saturday 1860

Thirty three weeks since my dear little one went away. Yes, nearly 8 months since the sunshine of our house was taken from us, and what a long dark time it has been ever since. It is enough to drive me mad. How long, oh Lord, how long must it be thus?— Went to Rochester yesterday with Abner. Mary Julia came home with us & this evening we are expecting Neddy to come with Cousin John R. & his children. If my darling Freda was here how much she would enjoy it & how happy I might be. Oh, it is a cruel wrong. Worked hard till about 2. Sis has gone to Mr. Hillman's with Ann & Abner. I wish she was here. I am tired & lonely this P.M.

Called on Mrs. Coleman yesterday. Met Andrew Foss there. He is to speak in Irondequoit tomorrow. I am discouraged, so many people disappoint me. What a world it is!

I called at Dr. Whitbeck yesterday. Concluded not to have anything done for my ear at present. Called to see Mrs. Angle & met several friends in the street. It would be so pleasant to see my friends again were I in any sort of spirits.

Rush. Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> 1860

Oh! how tired I am. I have worked so hard for a few days past.

John & family came about dusk on Saturday. I had given up looking for them. They were here until this morning about 9 & I have enjoyed it although we have had so much to do & Mary J. our kitchen girl left Saturday night. I went to church yesterday with father, Aby Rapalje, Eugenia & Mary Julia. In the P.M. Henry & Abner & Ann were away; towards evening Cyrus & Eliza called. So I was busy most of the day.

Today in order to get things straitened up

I ~~have~~ worked hard until about 4 P.M. It has been very warm. Eugenia, Aby, Mary Julia & Neddy are spending the day at Uncle Ephraim's & are coming back tonight.— Evening. Rode over to Uncle E.'s with Abner & brought the young folks home. They have had a nice time fishing & Aunt Eliza made it pleasant for them.

Thursday Aug, 21st,

Very warm. This A.M. washed & then worked hard till 2. I was oh! so tired. About 3 went with the children to Uncle Jephtha's. I was too tired to take any comfort. Left Eugenia & Aby there & Sis & Ned came home with me. We met Revilo. I said "how do you do, Revilo? He did not stop, but said as he passed on "I want you to have nothing to do with Freda, do you understand?" I said "No, I don't understand". This was all. I did not think he would speak to me, & when he began I thought he was about

to say something civil. But what a bad spirit must move him today what he does & do as he does. He has been down here today to thresh his wheat, & has taken it away & this is the last occasion he will have to come here. I do hope & pray that he will be led to repent of his wrong doing. Neddy went out & spoke to him, but R. did not notice him. Father asked after my dear little one. R. said she was well, that was all that was said about her. I think I never have known a person that showed a worse spirit than he does, It is dreadful to think that my darling must live with such persons as R. & his wife & be influenced by them.

It is 24 weeks since I have seen my darling On the 6th of March, 6 months ago, I went to see her. Oh, dear, it is dreadful to live so. & when will it be any better. Will not the Lord have pity, & restore to me again my precious one? August 21st, 1860— Anniversary of Brother Theodore's death.

1860  
Aug. 22<sup>d</sup>. Wednesday

<sup>2</sup>Fine. Worked hard nearly day, I am nearly tired out. Mary Julia went to city this morning with Abner & Ann. I like to have Sis here when she is good; but she shows so much selfishness, & is so unamiable at times that there is not much comfort to be taken with her. I did not think once that I should ever see her thus. It is very trying to my patience for it always seems easy for her to behave well, & when she is naughty she has to make an effort to be so. She needs careful training but as it is, she is acquiring bad habits, & I fear she will never be a good, sensible useful woman, Neddy is here now, oh! how much he needs a wise father & a good judicious mother. He is getting into bad ways. & his mother's fondness for him makes her blind to his faults. What a pity! He is a bright boy, but he is in a fair way to be ruined, & to become a worse than useless man.

Thursday Aug. 23<sup>d</sup>. 1860

So tired this morning, did not rise until 7. Have a little kitchen girl now, so I can have a little resting spell. There is to be a picnic tomorrow at Long Point. The schools of Geneseo & Lavonia are to meet here. I shall try to go hoping to see Freda there. Last night I dreamed that my darling was here, & I kissed her so many times, oh! dear.

Saturday, Aug. 25th.

Yesterday was rainy & of course there was no picnic. & now I may not know when it will be. I seemed destined to disappointment. In the A.M. ironed & tried not to think of it. In the P.M. felt wretched enough. Had a letter from Frances & this opened the fountain afresh. She thinks of Freda & is worried. Perhaps I should not write any thing about her. Yesterday it was two years since brother Theodore was buried. He died on the 21<sup>st</sup>

I mentioned it to Neddy, but he hardly seemed to think or care about it.

This A.M. worked in garden & yard till 10. Since then have had 2 or 3 heavy showers. This P.M. I have written to Mary & cried the rest of the time, so it is. If I cd. see her a little while it wd. do me so much good. It seems as if I cd. not wait any longer. It is 34 weeks since she was taken from us, the dear, the precious one.

August 28th Tuesday

This A.M. did some papering. Eugenia & Aby came back from Uncle E's.

Thrashers left after dinner. Father too unwell to go to Mr. B's. I am almost discouraged, I have to wait so long.

This P.M. father & wife have been to Mrs. M's & Uncle Jephtha's & Abner & Ann have been away. Aby & Neddy have been fishing. I wanted to ride out too. for I have felt so badly lately. Fresh troubles have come to me

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<sup>2</sup> Until further notation, entries correspond to Haverford scan HC13-26050\_001 to HC13-26050\_054, in their Folder entitled Aug. 22nd, 1860 to Mar. 11th, 1861.

wh. I have to bear in silence or make a bad matter worse. I have tried to entertain Eugenia this P.M. We took a walk to the burying ground & into the woods. Then we came back & rested & looked over old things. Then we walked to the falls & examined the stone wall for specimens & so I have whiled away the P.M.

This is the first walk I have taken into the woods this summer. I am tired, but my ankle feels no worse.

Think I shall go to Rochester tomorrow.

Yesterday I wrote for father.

Today it is 25 weeks since I have seen my precious one.

August 29th, Wednesday

Came to city with Abner & Neddy & Aby & Eugenia. A "full load" as my darling used to say. Saw Charlotte & Sis a few minutes & then went to John's to dinner.

Rode with Abner as far as Mr. Cook's.

Rode with Mr. & Mrs C. to Mr. Foggs. Aunt Maria came, took tea there. Good visit. Mrs. F. took myself with Aunt M. to her home on Ambrose St. Uncle Esek came home about 8.

Thursday Aug 30th.

Staid all night at Uncle E's. This morning walked to Mrs. Robinson's on the corner of Bloss st. & Backus Avenue. Had a good visit. Called on Miss Burleigh who went with me to the House of Refuge.

Found two of my No. 11 scholars there, James Smith & Albert Dresser, sent there for burglary. Both said they would not have been there had they not run away from school. I went through the work shops & saw some of the other rooms. It was all interesting, but a sad sight too. Some of these boys look as if they cd. not help doing wrong. More sinned against

than sinning. victims of the wrong doing of others. Many of them live more comfortably now than ever before & to such it is no punishment. They all learn to work & attend school, so much will do them good, but this coming in contact with so many bad boys makes them worse when they leave than when they enter.

Mr. R. took me to C's store.

Friday.

Staid at C's. this A.M. & rested. Aunt Maria came & took dinner, then we called at John's & went to Mrs Cook's. Other company there & I was so tired & felt so badly that I could not visit. Aunt M. left at evening.

Saturday ~~Aug.~~ Sept. 1st.

Summer has gone, & where has it gone? This morning went with Mrs. C. to a house near, the abode of suffering & poverty. one child had just died, & another

was dying.—Rode with Mr. C. to C's. store. Took dinner at Mrs. Hall's & called on Miss Walker & Miss Martin & Mrs. Hobbie. Miss W. quite ill.

Night finds me at C's. tired & dispirited. I wish every body would do right-myself included. Alone this evening with Sis. Neddy is out, but he ought to be in the house all this time.

Sunday Sept. 2<sup>d</sup> 1860

Went to First Baptist with Esther & Sis. Heard Mr. Nott from "he that findeth his life" &c. good discourse, but he is not an attractive nor animated speaker.—In the P.M. visited with C. & the rest. In the evening E. & I went to hear Mr. Boardman from "Every man must give an account of himself to God." Good discourse for those who believe as he does. I believe in the text, but not in his deductions.

Rochester Sunday Sept. 3<sup>d</sup>. 1860

Wrote to Frances, called on Miss Kellogg. At noon went to Henry B's in Express. Felt tired & dispirited.

Freda dear was with me when I was last here. That is about two years since. Oh the darling one.

Tuesday Sept. 4th

Came from Henry's this morning. A weight is on my spirits & I cannot shake it off. This P.M. spent about two hours at the Institute where Mary J. & Neddy attend school. Saw several of my scholars there.

About 5 I left the city with Charlotte & Neddy. We drove little Buff, a horse that brother T. used to come up home with. Oh, dear such times as there is here. Why can't folks behave themselves better?

Father went to see Mr. B. last Saturday. He says he will go to see Revilo as soon

as he can & then he will come & see me. I wish he would do so. I think I could enlighten him in some respects for things have been misrepresented to him.

He & Mrs. B. both wish for a reconciliation & I think it can be so arranged that I can see Freda. But as it is Revilo who is to be dealt with I hardly dare hope for anything good. It is 26 weeks since I have seen her, & all this time she is forgetting us. When she forgets us entirely, R. will be willing for her to see us probably.

Rush. Wednesday Sept. 5th.

C. & Neddy left this morning, & the girl Maggie Middleton went too. Father says "I must go to work". So we must be our own Bridget again. Worked hard all day. Had a letter from Frances, Ella is very ill. & F. is with her in Detroit. E. has hard times in more senses than one.

Have written to Frances. I do not mean to worry about it. I shall try not to think of it. My hands are full & my heart too with troubles at home.

Friday, Sept. 7th.

The weather is very warm.

I have worked till I can hardly go. Yesterday I washed & in the P.M. rode to Avon on a load of barley, went to Mr. Hartwell's but was so tired. Ann has been away today since 9. Besides the other work I have made pickles & put up peaches. I wonder how long they expect me to do so. Shall I humor them, or shall I rebel?

Sunday Sept. 9th, 1860

Yesterday it rained all day. I put up peaches, ironed & did various other work.

Fine today, work about half the time. I have no courage nor heart to do any thing more. Do not enjoy reading.

So many things go wrong. There is so much hard feeling shown by those who sh. only love each other & I am obliged to see it too. There is an accumulation of troubles now. & the Lord only knows when it will end.

This morning C. Whaley & Isabelle Austin called. Also "wild Sarah Archbold. I must write to Wm. Penn this evening.

Monday 10th.

Hard work nearly all day, Talked with father about Freda & his visit at Mr. Bigelows. Mr. B seemed disposed to do what he could to bring R. to terms; but he has been imposed upon & has a wrong impression of many things. I would like very much to see him, But I cannot see that I have much to hope for. If there was anything generous, or forgiving, or Christian in R's. nature I might hope. but even humanity seems to have dried out of him. & his good genius[?], if he ever had any, has left him.

Rush Sept. 11th. 1860

Tired & have headache, Father & Laura have gone to city. rainy afternoon, I am so lonely. It is 27 weeks since I have seen my darling, & she is forgetting us all this time. Two years today since baby died & was taken from the evil to come. it was all well, I am thankful for that, that God saw fit to take her.

Thursday 13th

I am tired of working so hard. Mr. & Mrs. Hillman & George & Isabelle Austin here tp dinner & tea. Ann is going to Kendall tomorrow. She does not seem to care for the work or feel any responsibility about any thing here. I told her I did not wish to work any harder than I have done, but I was willing to help. but I think she does not care at all for any of us. If she would only do better & do right; but as it is

she makes trouble for us all, & does not seem to wish to do otherwise. There is an unpleasant state of affairs at present in our home. & the Lord only knows when it will be better, or when it will end. Trouble seems to be heaped upon me.

Friday Sept. 14th, 1860

Fine & warm. Abner started for Somerset & Ann went with him to K. I tried to prevent this arrangement but did not succeed. I am tried almost beyond endurance. Housework till 1 P.M. Called at Harry B's. They have been to his father's & to Revilo's & have seen Freda, my darling. Mrs. B. was afraid to speak to Freda of me & said nothing to any of them about what has happened. Revilo has seen his father since father was up there, but refuses to listen to anything. Mr. B. told R. he wanted to see his wife about it. but R. told

his father "it was of no use to see her" & Mr. B. says he shall try no farther. So this hope is gone too: what shall I do. Mrs. B. says Freda is well. Looks some taller, & is tanned some, wore the same clothes she wore here & seems happy. She does not go to school now. She spoke to Lily once of her "dear mamma," said "that was her pocket book, & she should keep it."

Saturday, Sept. 15th.

Fine & quite warm, Worked this A.M. Have felt lonely & wretched all day. This P.M. took little gray & the new buggy & called for Alvira who went with me to the Burying ground at W. Avon. The dead rest well. But oh! the strife, the wickedness, the discontent, the wretchedness of the living. The hillsides are gay with the goldenrod & the aster. I brought some away. Freda always gathered flowers when she went there.

We called at Mr. Winans, then took Alvira home. I called at Wm. J. Harris's & Leland's & Uncle Ephraim's & Uncle Jephtha's.

I wish Frances would come back, I am so lonely here. Last night all my dreams were of my darling. I was with her, at her home & they were all pleasant to me.

Sunday Sept. 16th, 1860

Rainy day. Have felt tired & dispirited. Lounged some, worked & read but little. Henry went away yesterday & came back this evening. Father & Mother & myself have been alone. It has been a lonely day for me.

Sept. 18th. Tuesday

Yesterday worked as hard as I could to get ready to go to city today. This forenoon put every thing in order & after dinner Father took me to W. Avon & took the train a little after 2 P.M. (Henry has gone to K. today.) The weather is fine. Stephen A. Douglass was to be in R. today & speak on

Washington Square. I thought I might as well be there to see, so I hastened to the Store & left my luggage, & then sped to the meeting. I feared it would be over for people were coming away, but I soon found they were going too as well as I. Thousands were there. Men, women, children & babies & baby wagons, & Irish men & women to such an extent that one might have thought it St. Patrick's day.

For is not "Mrs. Douglas" a Catholic? I got near enough to hear one sentence, "I have other duties for the future as well as for today", & "I am overwhelmed with kindness," & "sectional strife & union" &c., &c. He is rough & coarse looking. A gray suit & gray hair in disorder, & a jerking of the head at the close of each sentence were his peculiar characteristics. Nothing agreeable in his appearance. Probably as many republicans as democrats were present, curious to see the

Little Giant. I have not seen such a crowd in several years, It amused me, I enjoyed the sight, & the excitement. The Little Giants wear orange colored caps & capes, & look rather fantastic. Well, I got safely back to C's store & met various friends all out to see Dooglass. In the evening went back to store again & saw the torchlight procession, but it was soon broken up by an alarm of fire, & such a commotion as there was for awhile! & this ended the Douglass demonstration. Neddy came in saying he had shaken hands with Mr. Douglas at Mt. Hope Garden. Mr. Griffin went to Mr. D's room to ask him to sit for a picture, but he was repulsed & came away in disgust.

To me, how silly today's performance has seemed. Many are disappointed in D. as a speaker & in his appearance. We are all very tired tonight.

Rochester Sept. 19th, 1860

Fine weather. Went to No. 12 & spent an hour or two in Mr. Adams School. Saw quite a number of my former scholars. It seemed like old times. Spent the P.M. with Mrs. Adams, had a pleasant visit, Called at Mr. Howell's & this evening finds me at Cousin John's.

Thursday 20th

This A.M. went to S. Cornell's, & have passed the time very pleasantly since with Mrs. Barnes & her mother. They are intelligent & agreeable & the visit has done me good. Called at E. Willis's also. Rainy afternoon.

Friday 21st.

This morning went from S. Cornell's to 59 Alexander St. & dined with Misses Keyes & Mary & Sarah Wolcott. Called at John's & went to Col. Institute but school was nearly out & Sis & Ned were through with their parts when C. & I got there

After School Sis & I went to Mrs. Foggs, I think I have walked 4 or 5 miles today I am really very tired tonight. Fair closed today, but I have not been to see it.

Saturday 22<sup>d</sup>.

Went from C's to Miss Walkers, & at 10 went to Teachers Institute. About 90 teachers present, saw many familiar faces & it hardly seemed as if I had been away at all, although more than two years have elapsed since I met with them.

Went to C's. to dinner & then called on Miss Kellogg, Mrs. Clarkson, Mrs. Belden, Mrs. Watkies & Mrs. Curtis. It has been windy & cloudy & this evening it rains. I enjoyed the evening with Sis & Ned until Charlotte came from store, & it has seemed some like old times. If I could think it all right at home I might take some comfort now, still I cannot forget that it is 38 weeks since my darling went from us,

Rochester Sunday Sept. 23<sup>d</sup>.

Fine. This A.M. went with C. & Sis to hear Mr. Neely, from Eccl. 5-1. "Keep thy foot when thou goest to the House of God." He insisted upon the necessity of observing all the forms of worship, & the discourse was not particularly edifying to me.

This P.M. Charlotte, Esther & I went to Mt. Hope. It is all so beautiful there. Twice already has the grass been green on Brother Theodore's grave. It seems hardly possible that two years have gone since he died, but it is so—

This evening spent mostly with sis & Ned.

Monday 24th,

Fixed for home. Called at No. 11 Saw Mrs. Hall. At 11 C. went with me to depot, & I reached Avon about 1. Dined at Mrs. Winans. Julia went with me to the burying ground, then she came home with me. Find them well & things about as usual. Henry & Ann returned Saturday.

Rush. Wednesday. Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> 1860

Fine, cool, I was quite ill last night & have not felt well today. This a.m. cut peaches to dry. This P.M. did various things. About 10 Abner & Frances came. They got to Mr. Hartwell's last night. I am so glad F. has come. She has been gone nearly 3 months. Left Wm. Penn sick, but the rest are quite well. It is so nice to hear the particulars about them all, about Minnie & Florence in particular.

A. & F. have gone back to Avon.

Friday 28th,

Housework nearly all day. More trouble has come. Oh, that folks would do right. Domestic broils are so much to be deplored. How true it is that one person can make a whole family miserable. It is well that there is an hereafter, that people may be rewarded according to their deeds. For there seems to be so much injustice here. "The mills of the Gods grind slowly."

Rush. Saturday. Sept. 29th.

Froze last night. Abner & Frances were here this A.M. —

Oh, the lonely hours that I pass. 39 weeks since that very dark cloud settled down upon me, & no silver lining has yet appeared. My waking thoughts are like dreams, & my dreams are like realities. Last night I thought she was with me, my precious one.

Sunday, 30th.

This A.M. went with father & mother to church. Heard Mr. Nott, I came back with Abner & Frances. Mr. Austin & John Hillman have been here. Henry & Ann are away.

Monday October 1st. 1860

Oh, what a trial I have had today. Could all that I have seem & heard be blotted out I should be glad, If H. & Ann had staid in Michigan instead

of coming here, we might have had some small chance of comfort left even yet, but they have involved us in still deeper trouble. It is too bad that a whole family must suffer for the wrong doing of one or two members of it I think Ann has done that which a long life of good deeds can never atone for. It is a sad, sad thing to have it thus, I fear that my father's gray hairs will be brought with sorrow to the grave.

Tuesday Oct. 2<sup>d</sup>.

Housework all the A.M. My head aches & I cannot do much this P.M. If I could only read it would not be so lonely, for I am all alone this P.M. I have slept but little for 2 or 3 nights & I do not feel well, If I cannot sleep better to night I fear I shall be sick. Father & Mother started for Somerset this morning. Abner & Frances went with

them to the city. Henry & Ann have been away this P.M. It is dark & foggy & Sam seems, lonely as well as myself.

Wednesday Oct. 3<sup>d</sup>.

Cleared away this P.M. & it is warmer. I have washed & cleaned & cut peaches to dry, hoping I shall have a chance to send them to Ella & Mary. I am very tired but it is better than to do nothing. It is dreadful to have nothing to do but think. Henry & Ann have been away this P.M. & she has been very spiteful towards me since she came back.

I have had no one to speak to me until about 5 when Abner & Frances came. They staid but a few minutes, & have now gone to Avon. They met Alfred & Angeline & Theodore & Eliza in Rochester. They were returning from the East, & father & mother went on to Somerset with them. Abner & Frances were at H. Babcock's last night. Letter from Mary Julia.

Rush, Friday, Oct. 5th. 1860

Cleared off about 10. & the sunshine is very welcome once more. This A.M. I did housework & this P.M. I went to Mr. Hartwell's. Frances brought Minnie's picture for me, She is a funny looking little thing. Frances says the picture looks just like her, but she does not look as I was thinking she did, How much I would like to see herself & sister Mary. But I must go to Mich. I suppose if I see them, for Mary thinks she can't come here. On my return called at Harvey's & got home at 5.—Henry & Ann are away this evening & I am entirely alone.

Nobody but the dog Sam for company, but he is a good old dog & barks bravely on most occasions.

This is the Anniversary of Cousin E.R.'s death, & three years ago today was the last time Sister Sarah ever went to the city. Freda was with her & I was returning to Rochester with them.

Rush, Saturday Oct. 6th. 1860

Fine. cool day. Worked till 10 A.M. Then with "little gay" called at Uncle Jepha's. Took dinner at Uncle Ephraim's; then Cousin Eliza went with me to Aunt Harriet's & took tea. Called at Mrs. Hartwell's & Mrs. Landon's. I reached my lonely home about 7 P.M. Henry & Ann have retired to their room, & I am alone in the lower part of the house; but I am reading, "Life of Charlotte Bronte" & the evening has passed quickly away. A blessing on books! Have had no company during the week, & for certain reasons I am glad of that.

Sunday Oct. 7th, 1860

Fine & warm, Hard frost last night. Everything looks white this morning. Worked about house till nearly 11, & since then I have been reading & writing alone. I enjoy the quietness that reigns around & feel that I am resting

Am reading "Life of Charlotte Bronte". It is painfully interesting to me. There is si much that answers to my own experience. In many things I have suffered just like her. I can understand her & appreciate her I think.

Henry & Ann have been away this evening & could I not read the loneliness would be intolerable. I have no human companionship at present. H. & Ann have not spoken to me for several days. This is a wrong state of things. I pity them sincerely, & wish they would realize how unjust they are. & how they wrong me, oh, that they were disposed to do right! I wish father would come back.

Tuesday Oct. 9th.

Cold & raw, but still I have been riding out. I must come in contact with cheerful faces & hear kindly words if I have to go abroad for the purpose. I have met several dear friends today & it has done me good. I called at Mr. Winan's saw my old friend Mrs. Baldwin, who walked

over to the burying ground with me. I painted the letters & hope soon to finish painting the fence.—Saw Frances a while & took dinner at Mr. Hartwell's. Called at Leland's & Uncle Jephtha's.

Reached home at 4. It was a cold & lonely place. I saw no one for an hour or so. I made a fire. then gathered some apples, grapes etc. but I do not relish them when I am alone, This evening I read & write. Last night I had a long dream of my little dear one. I thought she was at Harvey's & I undertook to bring her home, no one opposed me, her father was not with her. I brought her in my arms a weary walk of two miles, eager to know what she would say when she first got to Grandpa's. I brought her in & set her down when I awoke; I was so disappointed! & my arms ached for a long while after I woke. How can this be accounted for?

If I had in reality to carry her two miles I should not have been more Tired. She was the same dear, sweet, pretty child as ever. Little Anna W. showed me her new doll today saying "it was like Freda's." It was like Freda's Caroline that opens its eyes when it sits up & closes them when it lies down, & the sight of it affected me to tears. Her playthings I loved, every thing that belonged to her was dear to me. It is 31 long, weary weeks since I have seen her, if I could know that she thinks of me, that she does not forget me, it would be worth a world to me.

Rush Oct. 14. 1860 - Sunday

One half of the Autumn gone so soon & soon winter will be upon us, one year ago Frances & Julia Frances & Freda were with me & we had several pleasant noting excursions. Nobody to go with me now. These are all away & it is so lonely,

I have been busy through the week & been away several times. It did me good to see cheerful, kindly faces, for I saw none such at home, & pleasant words were refreshing for I received none here,

On Wednesday I washed, scoured & cleaned in the A.M. In the P.M. H. & Ann were away, Mr. Elmore called & we discussed theology for an hour or more.

On Thursday I sewed part of the day. Henry & Ann were away & I was entirely alone in the P.M. at least nobody but Sam was with me, He seems quite human lately, I am left alone so much, & I love him for Freda's sake too, the good old dog. He seems lonely at times.

On Friday the morning promised a fine day, but it proved cloudy & cold. I called to see Frances, then spent an

hour at Mary Harris's, then to Uncle Ephraim's to dinner. In the P.M. Eliza went with me to W. Avon, we visited the burying ground & called at Mr. Winan's, Mrs. Bly's etc. Aunt Harriet & Mary came while I was away.

On Saturday I picked & sorted grapes from early morn till night & I was tired enough, & have a lame arm today.—Ann was away in the P.M. About 4 father & mother came home, & I am glad they have come, I have been alone enough. They have had a good visit & left them all well, Alfred, Angeline. Theodore & Elisa Van Wagoner have been to Dutchess & Columbia on a visit & had a good time.

Yesterday it was 41 weeks since my little darling was taken from me, & how much a little child can forget in that length of time, oh! dear .oh! dear

To day is pleasant but cold. I havescarcely been out. father & mother have been to meeting, Henry & Ann have been away this P.M. Since 10 A.M., I have been writing letters & now it is nearly bed time.

Sunday Oct. 21st. 1860

Rainy during the week. It is very muddy. Last Monday I went to Linna[?] with the grapes, & sold them to J. Chappel. There were only 3 bushels & he paid 12/ a bushel. & I felt as if I had earned the money. Aunt Harriet went with me to L.

Called on Frances. She is very unhappy.

On Tuesday I picked grapes nearly all day, hoping I cd. sell them. I wanted a little 'change.'

On that day it was 32 weeks since I had seen my darling Freda. Were I sure she thinks of me & does not forget 'Aunty' but I cannot know even this of my precious one.

Wednesday & Thursday I worked hard. Nobody comes here & it seems very lonely.

On Friday I went to Linna[?] with the rest of my grapes but I cd. not sell them. Mr. C. said they were not ripe enough. I was vexed enough to lose all my labor, for he had given me to understand that he wd. buy them.

So I brought them back & threw them away,

Frances went with me, she is in deep trouble. I wish father could understand how much she suffers, for there is a way for him to help her if he only would.

Yesterday I whitewashed my bedroom & the entry & stairway & cleaned them too. I put down my carpet & arranged my room & by night I was very tired.

It was 42 weeks since my darling Freda was taken from me. Our new trouble has crowded my mind with new thoughts; but my dear one has a large place there yet.

Rained this A.M. so that our folks did not go to church. Henry & Ann have been away since 11 A.M. James is gone & it has been very quiet here. I have been writing of my darling.

Rush. Oct. 28th. Sunday

During the week worked hard at house cleaning. Have had two or three pleasant days. Have been to W. Avon twice. Nobody has been here, & it is quite lonesome. Ann has been away 4 or 5 times. Perhaps folks think they will not find us at home if they come, & perhaps they have heard that Ann does not like to have company come here. I wish she was a different & a better person. How much she has caused us to suffer, oh! the misery she has brought upon us.—Today I have heard Mr. N. & Mr. Elmore, but I am too much troubled to listen to, or appreciate a sermon—

43 weeks yesterday since Freda dear was taken from those who loved her so dearly.

Last night I dreamed a long time of my darling, that Frances & I went to see her & staid all night. She was so glad to see us, but she said at first that “Aunty was bad, Aunty did not love her” but when I told her Aunty loved her so much she seemed happy.

Rush Oct. 29th. 1860

Washed & cleaned front stoop. Sewed some & tryed to rest. Dismal weather, foggy & wet.

Tuesday 30th

Ironed & sewed. Abner came for a load of straw, but did not come in. 34 weeks since I saw my precious one.

Wednesday 31st,

Early this morning I called for Frances. She has been with me to W. Avon & we have painted our iron fence, We worked till 4 this P.M. & it is finished nicely. The day has been fine & warm. Called Mr. Winan's & at Uncle Ephraim's & came home very tired.

Thursday Nov. 1st,

Fine. Rose early. Have plastered & painted & cleaned, making a very hard day's work. I am oh, so tired, getting ready to go to Somerset tomorrow. Cousin Eliza Wilbur is to go with me. I go as a matter of duty, not that I anticipate much enjoyment.

Rush Nov. 2<sup>d</sup>. 1860 Friday

Fine Day. This morning father took me to Uncle Jeptha's where I met Cyrus & Eliza who went with me to W. Avon to take the train for R.

Eliza & I stopped in city about an hour. Saw Charlotte a little while. Left for L. at 11. warm, dusty ride. Went to Somerset in Express. reached Alfred's after dark. A. had gone to Middleport & Theodore to Johnson's Creek to a political meeting.

Have had head ache all day & am very tired,

Saturday Nov. 3<sup>d</sup>.

At Alfred's rained all day. Have not felt well & feel so tired.

Towards night William Van Wagoner, the Poughkeepsie Blacksmith, & C. Mack of Lockport came. The former to speak at Somerset Corners this evening. Four years ago I heard him speak for Fremont, & now he is speaking for the Democrats. especially the Belleverett party who call themselves Union men. I wanted to go &

*[Transcriber's note: the two pages of the diary that correspond to HC13-26050\_037 and HC13-26050\_038 in the pages scanned by Haverford are torn except for a small slip of paper in the corners. From the context of following page, seems to recount the evening and speakers.]*

for intelligent men & they were courteous too, & I was so glad that Alfred has to listen, & see that these gentlemen enjoyed it, & that they did not seem to think it beneath them to talk with a woman, or even to talk about slavery.

As we separated for the night I said "The conversation had been pleasant although we differed in our views". They assented to this very cordially, & I told Wm. that Angelina had said in the morning that "I must keep still, I should not say one word, & I told her she wd. have to hear it all the while. This amused him, Wm. van W. once professed anti-slavery opinions & was once a powerful Temperance Lecturer. But alas! how are the mighty fallen!

Sunday, Nov. 4th

This morning Mr. Mack alluded very pleasantly to our talk last evening. Wm. did not rise till 9 & then we fixed for church. We heard William's brother James, who is his opposite in politics, & reform, & very

earnest & fearless too in the expression of his opinions. He James is much tried with his brother's course. & much concerned for him. His text this morning is "Who's on the Lord's side"? It was a very good sermon. & meant for William & others like him, but he was not there to hear it.

Alfred & Mack were very uneasy, but most of the audience enjoyed it. The "nigger" came into the sermon nicely too,

The P.M. text, "a good man is better than great wishes" was the subject of a good discourse. It was in his peculiar style, close, practical & searching, he drives right at the heart. There is no difficulty in knowing what James believes.—I went home with Morgan's folks, & this evening M & Elizabeth came over to Alfred's with me.—Talked with Alfred this evening. When he cannot answer me he gets mad & I felt badly about it, once he left the room

but soon returned & went at it again. He says "the Republican party is a church & State party & ministers should have nothing to do with politics & religion."

Almost sorry I have said anything to him.  
Wm. & Mr. Mack left this P.M.

Monday, Nov. 5th.

Eliza & Mary Van W. came this A.M., & this P.M. Sarah E, B, A clash into politics occasionally through the day, for to-morrow is Election. Even Theodore is excited on the subject. This evening went to Corners with Alfred to a Republican meeting. The speakers were Dr. Brown, Prof. Clarke & Rev. James Van W. The audience was very orderly & attentive. It seemed like a good old fashioned anti-slavery meeting & Alfred had to sit through it all. I was so glad, I enjoyed the meeting very much, a hopeful sign, slavery is in every discussion. & I was glad to hear a minister talk as if he had something to do with it.

November 6th, Election day.

Somerset, Tuesday

Alfred & Theodore have been & returned. I ask A. what is the aspect of things? He said "all black", Indeed he has no hopes for his party, This P.M. Angeline, Eliza & I went to Jephtha's. I thought of Freda & of her going with me the last time I was here, until I felt as if I could not go into the house, A rush of feeling swept over me, my spirits were gone & I felt crushed[?] to earth, The mood of last summer was upon me; to speak was an effort, I have had a crying spell, & such a sense of bereavement, of utter hopelessness has come over me that all around looks changed, I have been reckless for several days, I have laughed & talked as if I did not carry a breaking heart, I had begun to think I had conquered myself.—The day has been fine. We have been on the house top & had a fine view of the Lake cold & green & blue

Wednesday 7th

This A.M. Eliza came back from Jephthas. Last night I talked with Alfred & Angeline about our troubles at home. I did not sleep much & feel miserable today, Alfred brought us to Morgan's I could not talk this P.M. & this evening I gave up, & went to sleep in spite of the noise, I am tired out for want of sleep or something else. No election news yet.

Thursday 8th,

Fine, This A.M. the two Elizas & I went to Lake. The last time I was here, Freda my darling was with me, & she was so happy about ag[?]  
This P.M. Elizabeth, the two Eliza's & I went to Albert's, made a doll's dress, returned about dark. It is thought Lincoln is elected,

Friday 9th,

Rainy P.M. Company we expected did not come. We have been talking of Freda, Feel dull & stupid.

Saturday, Rainy day,

Could not go to Sarah Janes. Washed doll's clothes & sewed some.

Sunday 10th

Cloudy, cold. Went with Morgan to church. Heard James preach two sermons, from "Lord, what will thou have me to do?" & "The expectations of the wicked shall perish," Two good discourses. Have not felt comfortable

Monday 12th.

This A.M. sewed. Frank and Albert came. This P.M. James Van W. & wife came, Had a pleasant visit with them, interesting conversation.— Lincoln is surely elected. South threatens secession,

Tuesday 13th.

Two Elizas & I went to Alfred's. Called at Sarah Jane's. Took tea at Jephtha's.

Wednesday 14th.

This P.M. went to Solomon's. Have not felt like visiting. Heard from Frances.

Thursday 15th.

Went with Elizabeth to James Van W. After dark when we returned. Read Beecher's sermon.

Friday 16th,

Company at Morgan's this A.M. This P.M. went to Sarah Janes

Saturday 17th.

Staid at Edward's last night. Have been to D. Wing's with Eliza & Libbie B— It will be one year to morrow since I was here with Freda, & she enjoyed it so, I think of her so much, there is so much to remind me of her wherever I go. 46 weeks since I dressed that little one, & saw her go from us; the dear, dear one,

Sunday 18th,

Went with Angeline & Theodore to meeting, heard two sermons by James from "Speak to the children of Israel that they go forward," & "I will be thou clean. In evening alone, read Jane Eyre,

Monday 19th. At Alfred's.

Finished Jane Eyre, wrote a letter, sewed & read "Times." Eyes feel so bad this evening I can do nothing.

Letter from Charlotte, no good news. Thrashers here.

Tuesday 20th, At Alfred's

Did a little work this morning, since then have been lounging. Ally here, expected James & wife, but they did not come,

Wednesday 21st.

Dull day, did nothing, Libbie called. This evening Eliza, Stephen & Julia Frances here, Elizabeth not well to day, would like to see her again. but we intend to start for home tomorrow,

Thursday 22<sup>d</sup>.

Alfred & Angeline went with us to Lockport.

Cold ride, took dinner at Stevenson House, Left L. at 3 & reached Rochester at 6.

On the whole have had a good visit in Somerset.

Friday Nov. 23d.

Went shopping with Eliza, called on Mrs. Hall & Mrs. Fogg, Took dinner at Cousin J. Rapalje's

This evening went to Lillie Greenough's concert, was entertained so much at, but did not appreciate the singing. She was assisted by Julia Hill, Mr. J.R. Munson, & Mr. Ellis, The evening has been rainy & warm.

Saturday 24th,

Weather changed last night. very cold & freezing & windy & squalls of snow.

Henry & Ann are in the city, Saw Henry a few minutes in C.s store but he said that there was no room for me to go home with them. Have concluded to stay over Sunday.

It is so windy & cold, have called on Mrs. Cowles. Cousin Eliza has gone to Chili.

Sunday 25th,

Not quite so tedious as yesterday. This A.M. went to Mrs. Colman's, Cousin Isaac dined with us. This P.M. went to 1st. Baptist Church

"The drunkards will never be dead;  
Do you know the reason why?"

The young ones have grown up.  
Before the old ones die."

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to hear Peter Sinclair speak to the children on Temperance. He is from Scotland. He amused the children very much. I wish Mary Julia & Neddy had been there.

Sunday evening, went with C. & Mr. Griffin to hear Mr. Boardman, from John 8-28 I think.

The most able & powerful discourse I ever heard him preach, He seems to have had a fresh anointing from on high.

Monday 26th

Started for home. C. went with me to depot at 11 but the train did not go, I concluded to make the most of the day. I have been to S. Cornells & to Maria Porter's & Miss Walker's Talked of troubles to Miss P. & had a crying spell. She has suffered too.

Tuesday 27th,

Last evening at 6 went to Depot with Mr. G. Went to Mr. Winans for the night, This A.M. walked over to the burying ground & this P.M.

Julia W. brought me home. Called at Mr. Hartwell's, Abner & Frances started for S. last Thursday, & got to Alfred's the day I left there. A letter was waiting for me here, I am disappointed in not seeing her before she went.

Find things at home about as usual, no encouragement for the better.

Papers & letters have accumulated during my absence. There are "lots" of things to do, work, & reading, & letters to write; besides the books I borrowed & brought home. They are 'Villette,' 'Adam Bede,' 'Mill on the Floss' & Beulah & Bittersweet.' With poor eyes it will take me some time to get through all these, & then the work must be done & the letters written. Sister Ella is ill with typhoid fever, Poor girl. if I could afford it I would go to her.

Wednesday 28th.

This morning cleaned myself & this P.M. arranged my things. This evening read & wrote to Ella. Letter from Joseph A. Ella is no better,

Letter from Cornelia Post. Aunt Eve Lapham died the 12 of October. Thus they are passing away. Friend after friend departs.

Thursday Nov. 29, 1860

Thanksgiving'

Bright & pleasant. not very cold. This A.M. washed, This P.M. sewed & this evening read to father. For "Labor is worship" too. Did not care much about going to meeting for have I not heard 8 discourses within the last 4 weeks? & these are more than I can remember. Father & Mother have been to church. Henry & Ann have been to Uncle Jephtha's.— One year ago Sister E. was here & she went with Freda & I to W.A. to the burying ground. The last time Freda went there.

Friday 30th.

This A.M. cleaned the yard, ironed &c. This P.M. sewed. This evening read to father, but my eyes ache. Have finished "Bittersweet." by J.G. Holland

Rush. Saturday Dec. 1st. 1860

Windy & sunny. But I walked to Harvey B.'s, I hoped they had been to his father's to hold Thanksgiving & had seen Freda. But Harvey only went & the family did not meet as usual. When they heard from Freda a few weeks since, she was well. But oh! dear. I hoped Maria had seen her & could tell me how she looked & what she said. I am so disappointed. I have cried & cried but it does no good, it only makes my head & my eyes ache & unfits me for work.

48 wks. since I washed & dressed my little one & kissed those dear feet, & fixed her so prettily, & carried her out of our house & saw her depart taking the sunshine 'all' with her. That was a terrible day, no one know how terrible but myself. My darling, darling child,

Sunday Dec. 2<sup>d</sup>.

Finished "Alone" & like it pretty well. It has absorbed me & answered a purpose. This P.M. & evening I have been writing. My journal was getting behind, & now it is filled up.

Rush. Thursday, Dec. 6th. 1860

I was lonely, I wanted to see other faces, so I have been out alone with the buggy & little Gray. There is some sleighing, but we have no cutter at present to use. I called at Leland's he is sick & Mary not very well. Went to Avon with letters & then on to Uncle Ephrain's. Took dinner & spent a few hours pleasantly. Aunt E. is a good motherly woman. Cousin E. got home safely from Chili, the day I came from Mr. Winans. She thinks she had a good time. Then I called at Uncle Jephtha's & got home about dark. Found a letter from Joseph which Henry had brought from the Office. Ella is no better. She has been ill six weeks, & is very weak & low. Joseph says her lungs are diseased & have probably been so for some time. She has been troubled with a cough for several years & it has caused me heretofore some anxiety. He says if it was spring she might be made comfortable through the summer, but.

he seems to think she will not get well this winter if ever. He says she has thought for sometime that she will not get well & has been uneasy; but she feels contented & happy now & whether she lives or dies thinks it will all be for the best. She wants to see me, but under the circumstances does not think it advisable for me to come. I wish I could go to her for I know she would like to have a sister with here. Joseph is a good nurse & will be kind to her. I have no doubt; for this reason I feel better about her; but oh, I do wish we had a pleasant home & she could be here with us. But I will hope for the best. I have written to her this evening & to Joseph also.

Since Sunday I have been sewing & reading. Finished my merino dress & read "Beulah by Augusta J. Evans. It is one of the higher order of novels. It is original, & contains many good ideas. It is not the less interesting because it is religious. Its aim is ~~lefty~~ practical elevated & pure & well carried out,

Saturday, Dec. 8th. 1860

Yesterday I wrote letters & sewed. Feel anxious about Ella. A bad head ache last evening. Mr. Whaley & Miss Austin came last night.

This morning Ann went with them to R. & left the work for mother & me to do.— An unpleasant affair today with Henry. Father is much troubled. it makes him sick. I don't know what will become of us. Trouble upon trouble. 49 weeks since my dear little one was taken from us. I think of her so much lately. One year ago today she went with Uncle "Labner" & myself to the city for Aunt Fanny who

was ill & on her return from Somerset. We came back next day & Sister F. was sick several weeks.

I wonder if my darling thinks of us now! "Oh! the wrong & outrage with which earth is filled." I hope I shall not live to doubt that God is just & that he doth all things well. I know man is unjust, & "the mills of the gods grind slowly." \_\_\_\_

Rush. Sunday Dec. 9th.<sup>3</sup>

I wish I was not superstitious at all; but I can't help it. Last night "Sam" howled a long time, & in a very unusual manner. Joseph brought the dog here & he had been in their family a long time. I went to sleep thinking of Ella, & I had singular dreams & uneasy sleep.

Father was quite unwell this morning, but this P.M. he & mother went to church. I have been writing & reading a little, but I do not enjoy it. I feel depressed in spirits & my heart forbodes evil.

I hoped C. & the children wd. come last night or to day. It is so lonely here.

Dec. 15th. Sunday.

Oh! What a week. It seems as if I had had an ugly dream. My body is weak, my mind is confused & I have done little to day. Yesterday I had a letter from Ella. It is written with a pencil & she was 4 days writing it. She says "perhaps it is the last she will ever write for she is growing weaker & wasting

away slowly but surely." She is resigned to whatever may happen. She says Joseph thinks sometimes she will live till spring, but she does not think so. She wd. like to see us all, father in particular, & says it is hard to leave her friends, but she does not complain. She writes in a beautiful spirit, & it is very consoling to us to know that she is reconciled to death & can say so calmly "not my will but thine oh! God be done".

Last evening I thought I must go to her, & I wd. start as soon as I cd. get ready; but father thinks I had better not go. & I have concluded to wait at least a few days longer. If I had sufficient means at my command I wd. not hesitate a moment about going. I know she wants a sister with her, but father of course, does not feel as I do about it.

Frances does not come yet. I do wish she wd. come, or that I cd. hear from Somerset. I have sent Josephs & Ella's letter to Angeline

but she has not written yet. If she only knew what a relief it wd. be to answer a letter promptly, I am sure she wd. do it.

Yesterday had letters from Mary & Henrietta & Helen McCobb. all well.

Since Monday it has been stormy & very cold. There is good sleighing now, but I have not been out. Nobody comes here, & it is lonely enough. This tempestuous weather I

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<sup>3</sup> Until further notation, the following entries correspond to Haverford scans HC13-26050\_055 to HC13-26050\_096 in the folder titled, "August 22, 1860 to March 11, 1861."

think so much of my darling, whether she is comfortable & happy. One year ago she was with me & we were in an agony of suspense & fear. It was 50 wks. yesterday since she was torn from these arms, & oh! such weary, weary weeks. How can I wait so long? my darling my precious one. Soon "Aunty" will be no more to her than any body else. If I cd. know that she thinks of me & does not forget me! It is so cruel. To think that Sister Sarah's child is kept from her mother's friends so long. Will not God visit for these things! "With what measure ye mete it shall be measured to you again."

Since I came from Somerset the time has seemed so long. & yet it seems like a dream. I have read all the papers for father. Have read "Adam Bede" & "Beulah." The latter a second time. The former is deeply interesting as well as the latter; but I cannot afford the time to read it again. Then I had so many letters to write, & I can only think of Ella now.

Saturday Dec. 22<sup>d</sup> 1860

Cold, windy. I have spent most of the day in writing. so that it has passed away & not seemed very long.

One year ago today I went to see R's wife, & then I trembled for my darling Freda. It was dreadful to think that she must live with such an unfeeling woman. I almost wished I had not seen her, as she impressed me so unfavorably. & one year ago to day Freda went with her papa to Rochester & got two pictures. And 'tis not all a dream either.

At night my precious one came back to Aunty & she slept by my side. But 51 weeks have gone since she was taken from the home where she was so happy. No music has been heard here since so sweet as her dear childish voice. A fountain of joy has been sealed, a great happiness has been destroyed, & only bitter water & misery have been mine instead. Oh! what a change. Sister F. was ill; & Abner was here on friendly terms with us all. "One year, one little year, And so much gone!"

Another week has gone. I have sewed some & read some & wrote some. Had some tempestuous weather & the sleighing is gone.

On Monday evening Abner & Frances returned from Somerset having been absent 4 wks. On Tuesday I called to see Margaret, who is very feeble, & will probably not live long. Called at Leland's too. He is nearly well.

Then went to Mr. H's & saw Frances awhile. Abner has bought a farm in Hartland & they will probably go on in the spring. Then I will have no sister near me. But I will not anticipate trouble. it will come fast enough no doubt.

Have heard nothing from Ella this week. I have written to tell her that I will come to her if she says so.

Disunion troubles do not disturb me. Home affairs are all that I can care about now.

On Thursday father & Mother went to Mrs. Mott's to a Donation party, but I had no desire to go. I care not for company.

This evening Wells & Effie called.

Sunday Dec. 23<sup>d</sup>

Spent most of the day in looking over papers, letters &c. Levi & Edebon[?] Avner[?] have spent the evening here. Have heard that South Carolina has seceded. & that Buchanan has

ordered Fort Moultrie to be surrendered to the State. He is nothing less than a traitor.

Monday Dec 24th

Christmas Eve & many people are making merry no doubt. But the days and nights are mostly alike with me.

This A.M. I washed. This P.M. I walked to Harvey B's. They have not heard from my darling in several weeks.—

A letter from Alfred saying if I go to D. he will go to the Bridge & perhaps to D. with me. Hoping to hear from Ella tomorrow. This morning read Wendell Phillips's speech at Music Hall on the Boston Mob of Dec. 3<sup>d</sup>. He is a wonderful man.

Tuesday. Dec. 25th.

Letter from Joseph. Ella is no worse. He thinks she may possibly continue without much change till spring. But if she sh. grow worse rapidly he will let me know and I shall hold myself in readiness to go at once. But I shall

not go at present. I shall hope that she may get better & be well enough to come home in the Spring, so that her last hours may be spent here. If she must die, I want her to be in her old home if possible.

I have been to Uncle Ephraim's & to see Frances.—wheeling pretty good. Uncle Jephtha & Aunt Caty have been here. Written to Charlotte this evening.

This has been my Christmas.

Friday Dec. 28th.

Father & Mother have been to Mr. Hartwell's & seen Frances. Too bad that she cannot come home to see us. Oh! the mischief that Ann has done. Not one of my sisters will come here on A's account. & I must be deprived of their company, & lose all this comfort. Too bad! If Frances cd. be here part of the time & help me in my loneliness! but this cannot be because Ann is here. Well, this state of things cannot always last, but whether the change will be for better or worse remains to be seen. Much, yes, nearly all depends upon father, upon the arrangements he makes.

Rush. Sunday. Dec. 30th. 1860.

No more snow yet. Wheeling very good. Cloudy all the week & not very cold. Last evening cousins Richard & Cyrus W. called. Had little to vary the monotony of the past

few days. Have read "Mill on the Floss" & "Villette", & forgot my sorrows for a time. Father & Mother have been to church this P.M. Henry and Ann have been away every day lately If I could only see somebody to talk with occasionally! but as it is I shall become more misanthropic & be more weary of the world than ever if things go on so much longer. I hoped C. & the children wd. come yesterday. I want to see them very much.

This P.M. my feelings have been cruelly hurt. Father told me they have killed Sam, the good old dog that Freda loved & that I loved for Freda's sake. Sometimes when I have been so lonely he has been company for me, & wd. look so human that he was a comfort to me.

They tell me it was feared that he wd. kill sheep, but I think this was a mere pretext. Father does not like a dog at all & has long wished to get rid of Sam. Sam & Kitty used to walk out so much with Grandpa & Freda, & she thought so much of them both, but Henry drove kitty away, & now Sam is gone. I have cried about it & I cannot help it, & father thinks me weak & childish & scolds me. There seems to be no comfort nor sympathy for me from any quarter.

It was fifty two weeks yesterday since my darling Freda was taken from us. Oh. These last days of the year have been so sad. I am living over again that sad time, with no one to speak to or sympathize with me. If I could talk to some one that cared about her I should feel better. I have no reason to think that father takes any interest in the child, I believe he scarcely thinks of her, & probably supposes that I have given her up. I presume he wd. be vexed should I say anything about her now. Perhaps when I am as old as he is I shall be like him. I am certainly

unlike him now. I don't mean to blame him. It is his way, as much as my way is my way From his wife I expect nothing so she does not disappoint me. But if I could see my sisters oftener!

Rush. Monday. Dec. 31st. 1860.

Oh! dear. The few hopes I cherished one year since are well nigh gone. When I dressed my darling & took her out & put her in the sleigh & said with streaming eyes "goodbye my darling," & she said "good bye Aunty", & I saw them drive away with my precious one, even then I had some hope. I thought she would soon come to see us again, & I should go to see her, & find her perhaps happy & contented in her new home. & I did try oh. so hard to be patient. But twelve months have gone & she has not been brought to see us; & only twice have I seen her in all that time, & when I did see her it was under such unpleasant circumstances, that the remem-

brance must ever be painful, now when 43 weeks are about gone since I have seen her at all, & I know that all this time she is not allowed to speak of us at all, & they try to make

her forget us, & when I think of the unforgiving & revengeful spirit that R. & his wife have manifested,—when I think of all these things, hope seems well nigh dead. Still, I feel that I shall make an effort to see that dear child again. I shall appeal to them again in the name of humanity & christianity; as little as they have recognized either heretofore.

People tell me “I will sometime have the child again,” but those people do not know Revalo Bigelow. I wonder if anything to day reminds him of the last day of the year 1859, of the misery he then caused me to endure. I should think so if he was like any other human being. Shall I write him today? Shall I ask him to bring Freda to see us? Shall I do so?

3. P.M.

I have written to ask him to bring Freda soon, & as he hopes to have God to deal kindly with him, so he must deal kindly with my request. I have a sense of relief since doing this. & may God help him to do his duty, as well as myself.

This day shall ever be sacred to the memory of my darling Freda, & as far as possible I will abstain from labor & pleasure on this day; & may God bless & do what is right with the Motherless child, my dear, my dearest Freda!