

Note: The front pasted endpaper displays a mathematical calculation in pencil, as does the front free endpaper. The front free endpaper also has been inscribed, in ink:

*Miss Viola A. Stow*  
*Stowtown*  
*Indiana*  
*Jacksonville*  
*January 1<sup>st</sup> 1862*

[The left margin of the January 1 page is illegible: there, Viola's script is concealed under a coating of glue used to insert a newspaper cutting. The right margin of the January 2 page is also compromised, but not so severely.]

**Wednesday, Jan'y 1, 1862.**

*...new year came in less beau  
 ...n the last yet it bore along  
 ...ys and perhaps to some  
 ...yet this was not my fate.  
 ...I could look upon the last  
 ...not doing as was best and  
 ...improving the future.  
 ...day to Mr. Bliss's- very  
 ...thy. They had quite a dinner  
 ...ir folks- more especially  
 ...orge Bliss Lady. After ...  
 ...went out and got weighed  
 ...the notch of 188 lbs.  
 ...d a few songs before we  
 ...d some appropriate for  
 ...occasion. Got home after  
 ... Spent the evening by reading  
 ...ook. Got a letter from Ed.*

**Thursday, Jan'y 2, 1862.**

*This morning we had some ... after daylight, and for a rarity had s... Have suffered all day with it. Have spent to day at school. There was quite a number there considering the weather. It has been cold and occasionally rain. We have been highly favored this fall with pleasant weather. Rather fear we will not be able to put away any ice.*

*No news to read to night. Everything is dull. Have only to meditate on my own sad condition. Will not be able to practice any.*

**Friday, January 3, 1862.**

*It has been storming all day - first rain, then snow. My school was large considering the weather. Let out this eve at ... o'clock. Father and Baron returned from the city to day. All were well except Ed. Lot came over and staid to night with me for the last time perhaps. No one knows what is in the future.*

*No mail to day - consequently no letters.*

[ *R. H. V. Jett*  
*R. H. V. Jett*  
*Carrofton*  
*Ky*

has been written in bold script at the bottom of this page.]

**Saturday, January 4, 1862.**

*This morn the ground was covered with snow and froze hard. Very slippery. Still stormed all day. Spent most of the day at Aunt's making our needle books for H...*

*Baron received a letter from Si. He is at Bardstown. The company are doing well. Some have the measles.*

**Sunday, January 5, 1862.**

*Another long dreary Sabbath has passed. It was sometimes snowing, then raining or sleeting. Have whiled away the hours by talking with absent friends- wrote to Si and Mollie L. Lewis.*

*Did not go to church as usual. No news of importance. All quiet - waiting to hear the result. I should like to see far enough in the future to know how 't would terminate. But every day will speak for itself. And then it often comes too soon.*

**Monday, January 6, 1862.**

*Have accomplished another day's work in the schoolroom. All went along as it generally goes. Rec'd a letter from Frank Dean. All well. Expecting to give General Buckner a warm reception soon. Spent the evening sewing. Been quite cold all day. Tolerable good sleighing.*

**Tuesday, January 7, 1862.**

*The routine of another day has closed, and nothing new accomplished, yet busy all the time. No mail to day. We miss our daily now - can appreciate its worth.*

*Commenced a needle book to day. Have progressed finely. The weather still continues cold. Hope to have sleighing after while. Wonder if I could get out from Greenwood - almost wish myself free, but soon will be, anyhow. Only four more weeks after this. Then to work. See if I will get anything accomplished more than I have done.*

**Wednesday, Jan'y 8, 1862.**

*To day has been rather warmer and occasional showers and considerable fog. Returned from school as usual. Went to work stitching alone, this 'till supper, and while I was enjoying my evening meal there was a loud rap at the door. Opened it, and the folks came pouring in to take me by surprise, and they surely done it. Presently more came, filling up the vacancies fast. We spent the evening very pleasantly by various amusements such as Charades, Proverbs, etc. etc. As I was not expecting could do no more*

than give them some apples. The guest retired at 12:30 p.m. I retired much in favor of surprise parties. I think I will go next time.

**Thursday, Jan'y 9, 1862.**

Since my last night's dissipation I have felt rather dull, not being very well myself. Have been laboring under bad headaches and unpleasant colds.

I believe my dislike for school grows worse and worse every day. "Why did I take it?" often rushes upon my mind – and then [I] think it's all for the best, some good will grow from it, I hope. The scholars are learning in some things very well, but they don't take the interest I wish they would. Have been thinking some of fixing for the last day, 'twill soon be here.

**Friday, January 10, 1862.**

This is the worst of keeping a journal, when there is nothing to comment on. 'Tis the same thing, over and over again.

No news of any kind, all quiet within doors but rains without. Mr. George Bliss, Lady and child, Olive, and Abigail made us a visit to day. We all spent the evening at Uncle's – very pleasantly. Aunt tells me Cos. John ... and Mollie Hunt are married. This is news, yet expected news. I wonder who [is] next on the list? Kittie, H... or B... Mollie Lewis is wonderful, still very 'fraid of herself all at once.

**Saturday, Jan'y 11, 1862.**

Have been home all day. Because it rained so hard, I could not get away and have improved the day by practicing for the first time in a good while. Have been trying to learn my new piece "Lorena." 'Tis quite pretty and there is a great deal of meaning in the sentiment of the poetry. This evening read several long pieces in the weekly (for a rarity as we have no daily now) to Father. Nothing of importance from the war department. Some surmise there will be a battle soon. Time will show.

**Sunday, January 12, 1862.**

This morning was rather changeable – could not tell whether 'twas going to rain or not. I fixed for church and was all ready to start and the rain came pouring down. Was going to Center Square. Rev. B. F. Miller was to preach Wm. Phillips' funeral. But staid at home – read and wrote two letters: one to Frank Dean and Hattie Stow. Also copied some verses for the "Reveille & ..." and finish the day by ... my book. As I have nothing in particular to note, will quit. Wonder why there's such long silence. 'Tis cold as Iceland to night when I was picking up chips.

**Monday, January 13, 1862.**

I have nothing more important to comment on than the weather which has been very cold all day and a light snow this eve. I have suffered

more from cold to day than any time this winter. Had thirty scholars to day. The numbers begin to increase after they find it's a "Republican" school and paid by "Republican" money. Wonder if there is any mail for me should anyone happen to go for it. It's nearly time there was some come along. Weeks and almost months have passed. But have only to wait.

**Tuesday, January 14, 1862.**

Nothing of unusual occurrence during the day. All went off quietly. This eve went to Mr. Bradford's, took tea, and went to a surprise party at Mr. Bliss's in the evening. Had quite a company of folks (if it was a 'slippery' night). Everyone enjoyed it "hugely," especially the "Hurlyburly" part. They rather brought things just to the "point" with Henry and I. "It will all come straight in washing." To close the evening's exercise, we had several songs to the purpose. As we are all here enjoying the evening, thoughts of the past flit through my [mind], and then a glance in the future – where will we be one year from now – perhaps scattered far and wide – some may have gone to their long resting home.

Rec'd a letter from Will Dean to day. Plenty of good news.

**Wednesday, Jan'y 15, 1862.**

We had a most glorious time getting to school as the ground was covered with ice, but succeeded bravely. After hard dissipating last eve of momentous pleasure, I felt rather dull, yet not so much as one would think. But the scholars had to walk the "chalk line" to day. I shall retire earlier than usual to night to make up for lost time. No mail to day. Wonder if I will get any this week. Should like to hear from some of my old friends. O could I but go to some lone spot and unveil from my eyes this cloudy mist & there see what I wish to know. Would it be for joy or sorrow is the wonderment. Of course not the latter.

**Thursday, Jan'y 16, 1862.**

Another day's trial and tribulation has passed and indeed I'm not sorry it is gone. I believe my taste for teaching grows less every day, and such a day as this is enough to sicken one of life. But there is going to be a "remodeling" immediately.

We heard it rumored this morn that Rous's Co. was not rightly sworn in and that they were coming home, but I don't believe it. [Company E, 50<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry was led by Captain Percy Rous. This company included many Cotton Twp. men, including Si Thompson and Moses Cole.]

No particular news in the papers tonight, but expecting something good soon. The day has been very pleasant, for a rarity. Wonder how long 'twill continue thus. Should like to see several such days, providing we can't have

snow. Would like to have one sleigh ride this winter. Wait 'till school is out. I will have some kind of a ride. When and where to?

**Friday, January 17, 1862.**

Have had a bad head ache all day. Felt very much out of humor. This evening was quite muddy as it has been thawing all day. Had the usual number of scholars and an extra lecture.

News is as scarce as ever. Have not rec'd my Waverly yet. Can't conceive why it does not arrive. Heard from Ell to day. Nothing new or startling. Wrote a long letter to Will this eve and done some other writing I had on [my] hands. Julia & Lem came out to Uncle's this eve. These dull times 'tis hard to find anything to comment on.

**Saturday, Jan'y 18, 1862.**

We had a very hard rain last night, had some thunder. It still continues to rain to day. This morn rec'd a long interesting letter from "Sie." The first I ever got from him. He is a very good correspondent.

Spent the day at Uncle's with Julia. Had a very pleasant time. It don't seem possible that she has been married over two years - time passes so rapidly that one can hardly realize its length. Great has been the changes within that time, in every conceivable manner. Friends have passed away, armies have been raised, battles fought within our happy land.

**Sunday, January 19, 1862.**

As the mud was so deep and still occasional rain, I spent to day at home. Lem and Julia was here [for the] greater part of the day. Have done but very little reading or anything else. Uncle Lyman also came over and staid all night.

**Monday, January 20, 1862.**

Another long rainy day has passed and with it the tedious duties of the day. Nothing beyond common occurrence. No mail as usual. All quiet but expect to soon hear of some great feat performed by our soldiers (brave and true). We hear that the river is rising very fast.

**Tuesday, January 21, 1862.**

Have read and reread the spelling book all day. Hope I will know it by the close of the term. After dismissing my charge[s] and sent them home, I went over to Mr. Bliss's and staid all night. We spent the evening at various duties. Mr. George's folks were going to leave in the morn. Wrote a note this eve. to Mr. Lewis again. Hope 'twill hurry things a little.

Ella and I had a short and interesting conversation before retiring.

Should like to have some of those mysteries solved that's in Sie's letter. Ell, Lott, Lyb, & Mr. L. Bradford visited my school. Very pleasant time.

**Wednesday, Jan'y 22, 1862.**

Just beginning to rehearse the day's duties. This morn [I] rose quite early. All [were] fixing to go to town. They got started early. Just after I started to school I met Lot on her way. Don't believe she will be gone a year, but when she comes back 'twill not be Lott Melick.

Rec'd a letter from Cos Frank this evening. He is in the hospital with the mumps.

Got several papers to night. Read this eve for the benefit of the household.

**Thursday, Jan'y 23, 1862.**

There has been quite a dropping off from my school to day and along back as the measles are beginning to rage throughout the neighborhood.

This eve had quite a little company gathered in, all young beginners, or ("Young Americus"). All appeared to enjoy themselves hugely.

The ground begins to thaw out again, shall ... for another sweet time. How I wish 'twould freeze hard then come plenty of snow, but no such luck as this.

Retire with a very severe head ache this eve.

**Friday, January 24, 1862.**

This has been a beautiful day overhead, while the ground is mud and water and plenty of both. Did not come home when school was out, but staid at the school house 'till after meeting. Mr. Spear (the U. S. Brethren) preached- or tried to. I don't believe I ever heard such disconnected sentences- or laughed so much at the remarks. It takes all kind of people to make a world certainly.

The papers has no particular news to night. War news does [not] progress very fast. Things do not get along as fast as anticipated.

**Saturday, Jan'y 25, 1862.**

Today has been very pleasant. Have been sewing all day. Fannie Fisher called in this afternoon for a few minutes.

Letters have cease[d] to come any more. I think I shall be under the painful necessity of reprimanding some. I thought certainly I would get one sometime during the week. But all to no purpose.

Have not had time to practice my music any. Shall forget all I do know if I don't tend to it better. I expect Ella is putting in her best first.

**Sunday, January 26, 1862.**

This morn the ground was froze hard so they geared up the wagon and all went to Bethel to church. Heard the Rev. Harrison preach. The sermon was very good. Returned with a severe head ache and kept it the rest of the day. I was unable to read or [do] anything else besides being otherwise troubled. Just before retiring I concluded to write a letter and write I did. But pity on the one that rec's it. Another week has begun. I wonder what tidings it will bring, or things reveal.

**Monday, January 27, 1862.**

It has rained nearly all day. This morn 'twas pleasant for a while. After school had begun, Philander came along with invitations for a "surprise" to Ell's to night and of course I got out of school rather earlier [than usual]. Came very near not going, but Jim and I started to meet our company and such a time I never had. If Peter could tell the story they would hear something. We found Ell alone in the parlor writing a letter when we appeared. Things were changed somewhat. Spent the eve very pleasantly although our number was few. Coming home 'twas quite clear.

**Tuesday, January 28, 1862.**

This morn while looking out of my window and wondering what to day's mail would bring, I see it coming, and for the first time in a long while it brought me a letter, much to my delight, and so [I] concluded not to send the one I had previously written but sit down and read, and re-read. My spirits was almost below "par" until the sudden change took place.

I have felt rather dull all day from last eve's dissipation. To night I practiced some for the first time in "\_\_\_ age." I hope I shall devote more time to it when school is out.

**Wednesday, Jan'y 29, 1862.**

Of all disagreeable days this has been the worst. Just as I was starting for school it began raining hard and continued so until nearly noon, when it began snowing and it snowed very fast 'till long after dark. How I wish 'twould freeze over and have some nice sleighing. But that is too good luck for this region of country.

No particular news in to day's mail - merely official accounts of the late battle and General Zollicoffer's death.

Sewing as usual this evening. Sent a note this morn in answer to the letter I rec'd yesterday.

**Thursday, Jan'y 30, 1862.**

This has been a most disagreeable day. I suffered more with the cold going to school than any other time this winter, and met with a rather cool reception at the school house. Had quite a number for the day.

We have any quantity of snow now. If 'twould only freeze we would have most excellent sleighing.

Mr. A. Washer called this eve. Brought Mother a letter from Ed. The latter is in rather low spirits - but at usual rates. I must write to him as his last is unanswered.

**Friday, January 31, 1862.**

The snow went off and has left us any quantity of mud. Our sleigh is dispensed with for a season.

Had five Waverlys came this eve. Rather disappointed in the form they came in, but

'twill be all the better for binding. Will now have something besides politics to read and excitement of the day.

Mr. Washer came over and staid the night with us. Spent the evening by reading to the family. Am glad another week's duties are finished and am so soon to see daylight.

**Saturday, Feb'y 1, 1862.**

(Sunday - this a mistake)

Although the morning was very pleasant and bid fair for a fine day yet I had to remain home on account of bad roads and no place to go. So contented myself by reading and I also wrote two letters - one to Sie, the other to Mary Phelps. This has been a long, lonesome day indeed. Have seen no one nor nothing. All quiet. The last five weeks have been almost [un]endurable both in and out of school. Mud and rain continually and disappointments to make it the more bitter. I wonder where it will end.

**Sunday, February 2, 1862.**

(Saturday)

It has been bitter cold all day. Part of the time the sun partially shroud itself.

Have been putting my wardrobe in order, making a needlebook, and various other things.

[Here 2 lines of text have been crossed out.]

Father went to town, brought no news in particular. He got my premiums for the classes, all suit quite well.

Have so much reading matter on hand it keeps me quite busy. Some very good stories [in] my new Magazines. Martha Scofield was buried to day.

**Monday, February 3, 1862.**

Jim took me to school in the sleigh this morn for the first time I have been in one this winter, and came back in mud deep enough to mire in. Arrived home just at sun down. No mail as usual.

Was writing all the eve, retired at my accustomed hour (11 o'clock). How glad I shall be when all school cares cease. I hardly breathe without catching for breath.

**Tuesday, February 4, 1862.**

'Twas very cold and the ground froze quite hard. Ell and Abigail was over at Will's. I took dinner with them had a very pleasant interview short as it was. The worst was [that I] had to return to the old school house to my daily task. Found it quite muddy.

Writing as usual. Wonder what I can find to busy myself at these long evenings when school is done. Then I suppose I shall have to go to work at that I have so long put off. Might as well commence one time as another - must try and make some visits.

**Wednesday, Feb'y 5, 1862.**

I walked to school for the first time in a long while, seemed like quite a change. Scholars have been rather annoying today, more than usual. This afternoon had our singing, declamations, and compositions that will appear at our close. They have done very well thus far.

Found a letter waiting from Ed this eve. Was glad to hear so good a report. Shall expect him soon to visit us. Also his cousin. I don't see what the rest of the folks are doing that they don't answer my letters.

**Thursday, Feb'y 6, 1862.**

Has been quite cloudy all day and a little cloudy to night. So the week is slowly passing day by day into eternity. Each brings us one less to live. How solemn to think of life. The time as it passes bears with it many many things to be revealed.

Our term is nearing its close. Feel rather dull this evening. Should like to know some things which [I] will know before long. As 'tis quite early in the evening, will write a letter to Mollie Lewis of Etown.

**Friday, February 7, 1862.**

This morn first finished my letter to Uncle Winchester. Then wound my way to the "stomping ground." All things went as usual. At noon called at Mrs. Higham's for the first time. She is getting better.

Rec'd. long letter from Will. He is rather down spirited. All are well. No news in particular from there. I don't see why we don't hear from the N. Madison folks or Uncle H's. Our papers contain nothing very interesting except letters from the camps.

All quiet yet.

**Saturday, Feb'y 8, 1862.**

Father, Mother, Baron and I spent the day at Aunt Harriet's in company with Mr. Ira Malin, Mr. Joseph and John Malin, Julius Dufour, Malvina and family. Had a pleasant visit. The company was very agreeable, the conversation was lively. Father returned quite unwell. Hope 'twill not last long.

No letters to night and but one paper that had but very little news. The day has been cold and cloudy and occasional snow. Did not get to see Henry to speak to him. Suppose he has forgotten his "promise."

**Sunday, February 9, 1862.**

Another beautiful sabbath has passed into eternity, although pleasant as it was over head we could not go out for the mud. Read all the morning as usual. At noon Manda came to my room and said she guessed some one had come. I of course had to see and "curiosity" was soon satisfied. No news in particular. Conversation was mostly on the past, and well might it be since it had been so long since

F. had been out, there [had] been some surmise about it and I told it, and sorry was I for it. Fair hopes 'twill come strait, indeed 'tis so. I shall not think as I have done of late. All doubts and uncertainties were banished.

**Monday, February 10, 1862.**

As the roads were so bad and weather so cold [and distance] far, Frank did not return 'till this morn. At last [I] sent Ella her "needle book."

This has been [a] very unpleasant day to me. I have suffered from severe "headache," "chill," and not feeling very well myself. I don't know when I felt so miserable, and this evening no better. I fear the close of school [if] this [is] the way it's going to be, but hope for the best. Out doors it has been quite cold, thawed but very little in the sun.

No mail to day. As I feel very much indisposed will retire very early.

**Tuesday, February 11, 1862.**

This morn went to school in plenty of snow and to night came home in the mud. Feel some better than last night, but not enough to brag on - my throat is quite sore.

Mother went to Mrs. Bliss's to day, all well.

But very few scholars to day. I fear a ... close, but will see. Finished making the books and straightened up for the term. I can hardly realize that I am so soon to lose my position as "School Miss," but if the weather and the mud continues as it has been, I shall not be sorry, will retire early.

But one more day at Greenwood service.

**Wednesday, Feb'y 12, 1862.**

"The die is cast,

The Rubicon is past"

and I am again free from all school duties. All things passed off as well as could wish for. I got "recruited" and was ready for the work. No visitors of any consequence till in afternoon. Then they came "pouring in," more than I expected, but was welcome. Scholars seemed well pleased with their "premiums" and tickets. So I suppose my last school is closed - never again to return. I don't think I shall take the trouble to get another "certificate." I like to tease the folks and tell them what I will do.

**Thursday, Feb'y 13, 1862.**

Have spent the day at home cleaning up and fixing round. Made out my school report and out of 86 had 22 average attendance: better than I expected.

Mother rec'd a letter from N. Kirkpatrick. He had just rec'd the clothes she sent him from our society. 'Tis the first I have heard from any of the things. Hope they will reach their destination.

This eve the ground is again covered with snow - would like for it to remain until after Quarterly meeting.

...day they had volunteered.

Today Gould and Scofield were buried.

**Friday, February 14, 1862.**

This morn found the snow 4 inches or more on the ground. But what was worse was that we can't use it, as there is so much mud underneath.

Have been practicing the most of the day for a commencement... Had very good luck thus far. No more news of the "Ten" Expedition.

Have several letters I had ought to answer but am waiting for a more convenient time. 'Tis hard times, can't afford to be prompt as of "yore."

Baron got a letter from "Sie."

**Saturday, Feb'y 15, 1862.**

'Tis the close of another day and another week. And what have I done? Almost nothing. as I glance back, mere trifles here and there, yet all needed attention. Next week must not be broken into and I must absolutely "go to work."

This eve I was very agreeable surprised when Billy handed me the mail and [I] found a letter and Valentine addressed to me. The latter contained more surprise than all, "the name."

Mollie writes no news at Etown, and for me to imagine its situation. Would like to peep in there to night. Baron rec'd a letter from Benjie.

**Sunday, February 16, 1862.**

The sun shone out not ... times this morn. The ground was frozen quite hard. Father, Manda, Baron, and I went to Quarterly meeting, found it very rough riding. Brother Smith gave us an excellent sermon from 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy, 2<sup>nd</sup> chap, 4<sup>th</sup> verse. The Universalist was pushed out of the corner.

This afternoon wrote to Ed Manser, Will & Frank Dean. Would like to have some answers that have already [been] written.

Reading occasionally- and find something new.

Lulu has a real good time to day with her measles.

**Monday, February 17, 1862.**

Father and all hands went to filling the ice house this morn. Brought one load and concluded to quit. Has rained all day without any intermission. The ground is almost submerged under water again.

Rec'd a letter from Kittie Bonham to day, all are well. Suppose Tom feels quite old now. Should like to see their young Frank Loring. Also Nellie's. How odd it seems, but changes are constantly taking place.

Mr. Fisher called to night and paid me off for this winter. Feel better than I did over last winter's plan to collect.

**Tuesday, February 18, 1862.**

As Lulu was much better this morn, I straightened round and fixed. Went over to Aunt's, spent a good part of the day. To day

mail has brought very important news- that Fort Donelson has been taken, and General Johnson Pillow & Buckner and 12,000 prisoners were taken, 1000 killed and wounded. Our loss very great.

Almost daily we hear of Union victories. It certainly can not last much longer. I hope ere two months roll around peace will be declared. If this war was only at an end. But it's clearing its way fast as possible.

Sewing and reading as usual.

**Wednesday, Feb'y 19, 1862.**

Of all the bad weather we have had this winter I don't think there has been any to equal today. It has sleeted and rained incessantly, no stop at all. Employed the day in fixing up my old carpet (with Mother's assistance) and reading the news. To day's paper contained more particulars of the late battle. What suffering it has caused on both sides.

Waverly came to day. Aunt Patty's story is very interesting in this number.

Wonder how Ella likes a Waverly by this time. Hope 'twill suit.

**Thursday, Feb'y 20, 1862.**

Nothing of importance to day. I have let so long a time go that I don't remember much about it.

**Friday, February 21, 1862.**

Mail came as usual, no particulars. Waverly came, plenty of reading, no letters. Lulu went downstairs for the first [time].

**Saturday, Feb'y 22, 1862.**

This has been a very unpleasant day, yet not bad enough to stay at home. Jim and I came down to Florence. Found the roads very muddy and when we got about half way it commenced raining and of course we had a most glorious trip. Jim returned with Mrs. Martin & children. Was very glad to get shelter for the rest of the night. 'Twould not be best to pen thoughts of this eve. Found all well, except Frank.

**Sunday, February 23, 1862.**

This morn 'twas quite late when we got our work done and so muddy we stayed in and read during the morning. In afternoon went up when packet landed then called at Mrs. B...

Wound our way homeward at night and then spent the remainder of the evening by reading. River is rising very fast. Two boats loaded with soldiers passed to day [going] down the river. Still things are pushing along for some purpose.

**Monday, February 24, 1862.**

The weather turned very cold this morn, yet 'twas quite pleasant. The sun has shone most beautifully all day.

Bot a dress and have been working at that all day. Julia and Bettie 'tending their usual labors.

No interesting news to day. Bettie rec'd a letter from Benjie. He is quite well and doing finely. If we could have several days of weather like this, the roads will soon be good.

**Tuesday, February 25, 1862.**

This, like many other days, has been exceedingly pleasant. Miss Mollie Krutz, Julia, Bettie, and I spent the day at Jane Hastie's. Went and returned in a skiff. Had a most delightful ride and a pleasant visit. Charley made himself most agreeable and pleasant by singing and playing. He also presented me with a piece of music of "National Song." Of course [I] was greatly obliged.

**Wednesday, Feb'y 26, 1862.**

This morn was very busy, preparing for to have an afternoon & evening party. Concluded we could not have a better day. Was ready in time to receive the guests. Had a very pleasant time. The girls came and spent the afternoon and the gents came in in the evening.

Met Miss Annie Jackson for the first time- was very much pleased with her appearance. Miss Cookes' English was also very agreeable. 'Twas quite late before the company dispersed. All were well pleased with the proceedings. Miss Annie staid all night.

**Thursday, Feb'y 27, 1862.**

Have felt very drowsy after last night's dissipation. Spent most of the day trying to sew. Has been storming for a rarity.

No news in particular.

Have not been out calling until this eve. Went up to see Lyd. Coil. She and Mrs. Beymer has the mumps. Rather expect I shall have them now as I don't believe I have ever been blest (if 'tis a blessing) with them.

**Friday, February 28, 1862.**

This has been a beautiful day and also very cold.

Jane Hastie came and spent the day with us. After she went away, Julia, Bettie & I called at Mrs. ... Found the mumps there too. In the evening we went up to Mrs. Wright's. So the day has passed without any thing new or startling. Have at last finished my dress.

"Mirabile dictu"

**Saturday, March 1, 1862.**

It rained very hard in the latter part of the night and did not entirely clear off until long in the forenoon. After dinner went up to the church to the Society meeting. The committee had collected \$18.00 I believe, and as the folks were not well ... about the necessary articles concluded to wait another [ ] before doing anything.

We all spent the evening at Mrs. D's. Had quite a pleasant interview.

I fear there will be some disappointment tomorrow as I am not at home. Will have no fears if it rains.

Rec'd a letter from Baron. He writes I have some letters at home - one I should like to see very much.

**Sunday, March 2, 1862.**

This has been a real spring day, warm and pleasant. Some times the wind blew rather hard. Went to Sabbath School in the morning, quite a number present. Staid at home the rest of the day, had several callers in the evening. Bettie, Liz, Willi Robinson, & I went to prayer meeting, had the pleasure of the gents company home.

Laying aside today's scenes, I should like to know very much about home, whether anyone was there, especially Frank. 'Tis too bad I am not at home, or had known how things were & [could] let him know my whereabouts. Perhaps the roads are too muddy to travel.

**Monday, March 3, 1862.**

The day commenced rainy and cloudy but cleared off very bright by noon. Some six or seven of us girls spent the day at Mrs. Armstrong's, and a delightful time we had of it. Half of the girls dressed in Gentlemen Suit so we had plenty [of] beaux, called on the neighbors, and had a good time generally. We also spent the evening. I don't believe I ever enjoyed a day's visit as I have this. We have had and done everything any one could think of. I shall ever look back upon it with pleasure. Mrs. A. is an excellent woman. I like her so much. She is so pleasant.

**Tuesday, March 4, 1862.**

Very cold and disagreeable. Nothing of unusual importance. Play with Frank for a pastime and sew when I can't well help it, or something else.

Rather expect some word from home, but will know when 'twill come.

Should like to be home a few moments and see what letters were waiting for me.

**Wednesday, March 5, 1862.**

Lem returned safe from the city this eve. No news. He heard from Ed, was getting better. Did not get my purse. Was rather disappointed but that is becoming second nature to me.

**Thursday, March 6, 1862.**

As I have let so many days pass without writing in my journal I am unable to comment at all. So will have to let the rest of the [days] slide

**Friday, March 7, 1862.**

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**Saturday, March 8, 1862.**

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**Sunday, March 9, 1862.**

Have been at home all day reading and talking. Julia has been quite sick for a change (and I think) this eve does not feel so well. Lem intended going to the city tonight, but as Julia was not well and 'twas very late before the

boat came, he deferred 'till another day. Willie & Pete called and spent the evening very pleasantly.

I first time in my life played a game of "Backgammon" and "Checker" on Sunday and think 'twill be the last.

**Monday, March 10, 1862.**

Julia was considerable better this morn. I think Lem's staying cured all. He went this eve on the Mail Boat.

Very cold and stormy. I fear the weather never will become settled again. Begin to have some doubts about my reaching home soon.

**Tuesday, March 11, 1862.**

Bettie has been sorely tried with the toothache after her last night's dissipation. I have felt very much under the weather.

This after noon Julia thought 'twould do me good to go out, so she and I called on Miss Mary Krutz. Returned home, found Frank quite unwell, looks very bad this eve.

**Wednesday, March 12, 1862.**

I have been most miserable all day, have not done anything. Last night did not rest any 'till after daylight. I have not had such a through [throat?] for a long time. Would give most any thing to get home again, especially while I feel so bad. Tomorrow night I think will find me there if it's possible to go.

Our troops have had another victory in Ark. - three days' battle.

**Thursday, March 13, 1862.**

I can sing "home again" to night to the fullest extent. Lem brought me out, found the roads very bad in places, especially by Bethel and Mr. Shull's. The latter [was] where Billy took a rest and frightened us so, but fortunately no harm done. Found the folks well, but had been sick. Also 6 letters waiting, some good and bad news. They were from Frank, Hattie Stow, Will Dean, Ellen, and Ed. I was rich. Still would liked to have had more. Was over to Aunt's this afternoon.

**Friday, March 14, 1862.**

Have been home all day, done nothing in particular more than read the news. Rec'd a letter from Frank Dean. He is now below Nashville. I expect the poor fellow has "hard times" to deal with. He sent me a sesech song "Run Yank or Die" - very fine.

Answered Frank's letter this morn. Tried to make apologies for past offences. Wonder what he does think of my doings. Would not blame him if he did think pretty hard, but hope for the best. Some day 'twill all come straight.

**Saturday, March 15, 1862.**

Another week has passed and I can hardly know when or where it has flown and this, the last day, has went like the rest by various little duties about, sometimes sewing, or cutting, and thus the day has went.

Glad am I that I got back when I did. For from the present I would not be able to make a start soon.

No one has called to see me since I returned. Guess they or I don't care. Mother found my letter from Mary Phelps. She is quite poorly, would like to see her.

**Sunday, March 16, 1862.**

Have put in the day reading and for a wonder have not written any letters, suppose because I did not feel in the writing mood.

It has been rainy most the day, and cold.

Should I give way to meditations I could more than fill this book, but as 'tis more for just the incidents of the day, will have to find all I can of interest, which is not much.

Since mud and rain are the ruling elements will have to wait till another day for items.

**Monday, March 17, 1862.**

For the first time in my life I attended a funeral that was done with the "Military Honors." 'Twas very beautiful yet sad. Mr. Miller preached the funeral sermon. Some of it was very good and other parts was not so plain. The house was crowded full. The friends seemed to feel very bad. [The funeral was probably for James Avery Sage, (1835-1862) husband of Lovina Pavy. He died of an illness while serving with Company E, 50<sup>th</sup> Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment.]

The day has been most beautiful over head. But the roads are as bad- as bad can be. But I hope we have had the last rain for a while and [will] be blest with pleasant weather.

We got word that Uncle Marcus's wife was dead. She died this morn about ... 2 o'clock.

Rec'd a letter from Julia and Sie. Frank is quite sick with the putrid sore throat.

**Tuesday, March 18, 1862.**

Another one has passed away and we have followed her to her last resting place. There were but few to the funeral. All mourned her loss deeply. She was loved by every one and did well her duty every where. Mr. Robinson gave a very appropriate discourse. She has left a sweet little babe about seven months old. No letters to day- and some news in the paper concerning a battle in Ark.- or rather a skirmish from what I hear.

**Wednesday, March 19, 1862.**

Have been home all day sewing on my new frock and as it has rained incessantly there has been no one come. No letters for me. I was sadly disappointed and almost certain that I should get one in answer to mine. I don't see why unless 'tis to remind me of my unthoughtedness. Indeed I regret it but could not very well avoid it. But just wait 'till I will have a better opportunity for explanation. I can't believe he thinks hard of me. Yet have only to wait.



**Thursday, March 20, 1862.**

The best description I would give for the day would be to read Longfellow's thoughts on a similar occasion, yet gloomy as it's been Ell, Lyb, and ... came visiting (none but the former here however). Glad was I to see her, for it seems like an age since last we met.

To while away some of the weary hours this eve I wrote to Ed Manser and Frank Dean. Begin to get out of debt.

**Friday, March 21, 1862.**

"The melancholy days have come, the saddest of the year, of wailing winds" and stormy weather, this is the most dreary.

As I finished my new frock yesterday, I got my work and went to Aunt's to spend the afternoon and accidentally stayed all night.

The war is still progressing and daily our forces are gaining ground. I begin to think the day is not far distant when war will cease and then-

**Saturday, March 22, 1862.**

Winter has again made her appearance by the sudden change of the weather. It has been extremely cold and [it] snowed all day. So it goes, so it has gone, and no knowing when 'twill end from the present appearance.

Nothing of unusual interest to pen to day beyond the general routine of the day. 'Tis extremely hard to find anything for journal writing these gloomy days.

**Sunday, March 23, 1862.**

Went to church this morn to Center Square. Heard the Rev. Mr. Riley of Vevay. He gave an excellent discourse from Nehemiah- one that should make a deep impression on our minds. Ell, Lyb, & Bill dined with us, stayed the afternoon. Had singing, reading, etc. for variety.

As I was alone -or no particular company- I wrote the Genealogy of our family for publication in due form. Had a notion to put in some of the "maybes" for a change.

**Monday, March 24, 1862.**

Still continues very cold, & mud deep as ever. Uncle Shelomith went to Madison to day, and [I] am going to stay with Aunt while he is gone. I should liked very much to have went with him and attended the Exhibition or Commencement at Hanover. Suppose they will have a grand time. I should like very much to hear one of the speakers. Should make his appearance this time on the stage. [Referring to William Brown Chamberlin.]

**Tuesday, March 25, 1862.**

Went to a "quilting" today over to Mr. Bliss's. Had quite a company for so few. Passed the day off very pleasantly. Did not get to see Aunt privately. All my friends are busily engaged at present. Some can't help it, and the rest \_

I almost wish sometimes that my days were but few, and indeed I don't think they will be vast in number. I don't know but what I do wrong, still I can't help it. There are things that arise in my mind that causes me to feel so, but will wait patiently my appointed time.

**Wednesday, March 26, 1862.**

As Aunt was (or would be) alone, she came and spent most of the day with us.

Have been sewing as usual, sometimes at one thing, and then another. So the day has passed. We are constantly preparing for unknown duties. We know not what a day may bring forth.

Commenced a letter to Will Dean but left it unfinished and stayed with Aunt. No letters to day. "Waverly" came instead.

**Thursday, March 27, 1862.**

This has been a most beautiful day, the first real spring day. All us young folks attended the school exhibition at Center Square. It was quite interesting, all passed off finely. Had singing and prayer at the commencement of the exercises. The church was decorated very nicely and well crowded.

Coming home we had a little break down, but fortunately Mr. Cole's wagon was close by and we got home all right. Very much fatigued. Retired at 12 p.m.

**Friday, March 28, 1862.**

The mail accidentally brought me a letter from Ed, no news. Mother went visiting our new neighbors at the frame [?] & had quite a chat from [her] report.

Spent the afternoon carrying dirt and cleaning the yard and to night I feel quite tired, both in body and in mind. Hope that tomorrow will find me refreshed. 'Tis very cloudy this eve and threatens a hard storm. I do wish we could have settled weather now and dry roads, but must content ourselves that we are as well off as we are.

**Saturday, March 29, 1862.**

Another week has ended and still we are borne along- sometimes cheerful, others gloomy, all to make up the routine of life. The latter is my status to night.

I have been very busy all day and more especially this afternoon. For the first time for many a day I made six large loaves of bread. Had very good luck considering. Tried rather harder as tomorrow is Sunday. But that won't make any difference as it's going to rain. 'Tis very cloudy and warm.

**Sunday, March 30, 1862.**

Here again entered another week; new duties are constantly presenting to view. This has been a most beautiful day - too pleasant to stay in the house. I occupied most of the day reading. Father & Baron went to Bethel. After giving up all hopes of any company I settled

down in the easy chair to \_\_ when Lulu came and announced the arrival of \_\_ can't say who, suffice it to say I remained in the parlor the rest of the evening. Had some talk of the future yet I should have liked to ask some few questions if it had been proper. Perhaps will find

I hope there will not be another 7 weeks pass without

[note- the last two sentences are unclear and seemingly tangled in each other.]

**Monday, March 31, 1862.**

Frank returned this morn. I sent a letter to Ella by him. Suppose he will reach his destination safely as 'tis daylight. Should any one ever chance to peep in my journal, I doubt whether they could understand it, and indeed 'twould make a very silly appearance.

Just two years ago to day Loring returned from the South. How great the change since then. We knew no sorrow. Our hearts were light and free, yet it was but a short duration. I must pass over the painful scene.

I have taken household duties in charge to day- or rather, the "wash tub." Something new to me for some time.

**Tuesday, April 1, 1862.**

Have been most of the day ironing, did not have very much. This afternoon spent my spare time sewing. No mail of importance. Sent a letter to Ed Manser for father.

Baron moved Mr. Converse and family in the house by Greenwood.

See the new moon, this for the first. [referring to the first day of the month]

Glad to see moonlight nights again.

**Wednesday, April 2, 1862.**

Have attended household as usual, besides trying my hand in the baking department. Had very good luck.

Jim went to Vevay today for his "papers" (as I suppose). Tonight called over to Allensville. Have had a good time teasing him.

This has been a most beautiful day, clear and pleasant. Papers as interesting as usual.

Wonder why I don't get some letters from some place or other? Mail news has dried up.

**Thursday, April 3, 1862.**

The time which was to ... has now arisen with Jim. My imaginations were not in vain at last for this trip. I could see fast as I wanted and even assisted him in donning his apparel. He looks very stylish. Will pass, anyhow. Mr. Robinson reports Jim rather badly embarrassed.

Made a cake this afternoon to send to Sie by Mr. Cole as he is home now. Looks well and is in fine spirits. Also wrote a note to send with the cake. Very pleasant all day.

**Friday, April 4, 1862.**

Another "unlucky Friday" has passed, according to the old saying, but has been rather fortunate to me in most respects.

Mr. Cole and George started for their company today. They seemed to feel very badly on leaving.

Mother went to Uncle Ly. Brought Grand Mother home with her to stay a while.

Had several callers through the day. Thoughts do not appear to flow very fast this eve. Strong prospects of rain just now. Hope not much.

**Saturday, April 5, 1862.**

Been very cold and windy for [a] change. Mother and Grand Mother went down to Josephus Cole. He is very sick.

Had rather poor luck baking to day for the first.

Have had no mail to day and consequently no news. Commenced a letter to Miss Phelps, left it unfinished. Aunt & Uncle went to Florence this afternoon - will have good roads for a variety. Thus ends another week and I hope my last for a while in the "domestic department."

Sore fingers are quite an inconvenience - if I don't have them.

**Sunday, April 6, 1862.**

The morning came in most beautiful. The [sun] shone out bright and warm. Attend[ed] S. S. at 8 ½ a.m. Elected our officers and teachers for the season. I still keep my former posts as last year. The attendance was very small as usual for the beginning. Nearly all the school stopped at ..o's and [a] greater part of us dined. Returned home at about 3 ½ p.m. Read the rest of the day, as no one come, and this eve wrote a letter to Frank to while away the hours. Father and Mother went down to Mr. Cole's to stay the evening. Fine prospect for rain.

**Monday, April 7, 1862.**

The rain has just come "drizzle-droozle" all day with out ceasing. Can hardly get out side the doors. Although stormy as it's been, we had a call from the "groom." He appeared in fine spirits but still was "Jim." I of course had to say a little.

Received two letters this [day]. One from Frank Dean and [the other from] Mollie H. Lewis. The former wrote no particular news, only [that he] was well. The latter is coming down soon if I will write her. Of course will do so with pleasure. Anticipate fine times when she arrives, [and to] live over old times.

**Tuesday, April 8, 1862.**

Have been trying the merits of the washtub to day, feel rather tired this eve. Got a letter from Ed Manser, no particular news. Still continues to rain by the litters.

Wish I had several letters written round and about.

Grand Mother's still with us.

**Wednesday, April 9, 1862.**

Spent the day at various duties, mostly sewing, as it has rained all day hard. Eb did not go for the mail 'till late, but it did me no good anyhow. I don't see why some one doesn't send me a line or so, if 'tis bad weather. Wrote a letter to Lotte, or rather commenced one, giving her a full history of myself.

Would like to hear some encouraging news from the war that 'tis soon going to close. Will it not be [a] happy time for the boys that have been gone so long?

**Thursday, April 10, 1862.**

The scene has changed from rain to very cold weather. Is very cloudy.

Nothing beyond the general routine of the day. Mrs. Phillips was here a few minutes. Manda went home with her. Finished Lotte letter this eve and also wrote to Sie. Would like to know the answer to the latter. I think 'twill not be very favorable.

Wonder what some one would say if they knew I had written thus. Perhaps tis my last.

**Friday, April 11, 1862.**

Got the news bright and early this morning of the "Pittsburg" battle. Suppose it has been the greatest battle known. Reported some 18,000 to 20,000 killed of the federals and from 35,000-40,000 of Secesh. Perhaps this will be the last conflict. Our cavalry are in hot pursuit of the foe.

Our men have occupied Island No. 10, taken 6,000 prisoners and all the provisions, etc. etc. The bogus Confederacy will soon be ended. Would like to hear from Frank Dean as his (Nelson's) division was in the first engagement. But can only hope for the best. Commenced reading the Bible through today.

**Saturday, April 12, 1862.**

Staid with Aunt last night as Uncle was gone to Florence. Still continues very cold. Got an industrious streak over me this eve and sewed till about 8 minutes before 12 but completed my task. Looks very nice, feel quite encouraged.

No mail to day. Have had very good luck in the domestic department. Don't get time to practice any more. It has been rather cold, without fire.

**Sunday, April 13, 1862.**

Sent down this morning and got the "daily," had no particular items, only further explanation of the great battle. Read very long and intensive descriptive letter giving full details.

This afternoon went to S. S. Had quite a good attendance, still not large. 'Twas quite

interesting. Returned after. Whiled away some of the hours playing. Forgot to state [that] this morn [I] wrote a letter to Mollie H. Lewis.

Believe I shall retire early this night, from present feelings.

**Monday, April 14, 1862.**

As the morning was very pleasant Grand Mother, Mother, and I went and spent the day at Mr. Bliss's. I staid all night; the rest came home. Ell and I spent the evening at Morris's and the greater part of the night upstairs talking. And at last found out what those verses were from Sie. This is the first good long talk we have had for a long time. Passed our opinion on many things and - wonder for the rest. 'Twill be hard to tell what time we retired. So time is constantly bearing us along. I fear 'twill not be long ere she will not confide in me for fear of some one.

**Tuesday, April 15, 1862.**

We all went out to Uncle Marcus's. Found them well as usual. No particular news. Mary seems to be in fine spirits. Am glad to see her thus, 'tis far pleasanter. As we went out this morn, see the Surveyors viewing out the said Patriot turnpike. We certainly need it, especially now or [in] like circumstances.

Uncle Lyman called this eve.

Another warm pleasant day has passed and still no rain.

**Wednesday, April 16, 1862.**

This morn took a ride down for the mail. Called to Malvina's. She looks very bad, but is better. I got a letter -or rather, a note- from Frank. Was indeed disappointed in it. After writing two long ones, rec'd one page in return. Think I shall give him a lecture for past conduct. I don't know what to think or do. I don't see as my plans will ever prove anything. Should I pen my thoughts here of the day? I fear other eyes might read and know as much. They would be better private any how. There is a storm threatening and a very hard one.

**Thursday, April 17, 1862.**

Although the clouds were quite heavy and threatened rain considerable, Manda, Baron & I went to Vevay, and did get sprinkled some, by the way. Made some purchases in dry goods, stationary, and milliner's and still forgot some things I wanted very much. Did not see any one in particular. Took dinner with Mrs. Tardy. Manda says "my relation." Wanted to make some calls but could not on account of rain. Got home before dark. Found the roads very bad off the Pike. Mr. Washer & Mary started to go after Mr. B. to day. Sent a letter [to] Aunt Olive this morn.

**Friday, April 18, 1862.**

Has rained steady nearly all day. 'Tis well we went to town when we did. Looks like we were

going to have a young flood. Has tried very hard to clear off this afternoon.

Papers as usual. No letters for me. Father got one from Sie, he is still in fine spirits. I got nothing but "Waverly." Been sewing, as had nothing more important on hands.

Grand Mother went home this afternoon, just two weeks to day since she came.

**Saturday, April 19, 1862.**

The weather has been more favorable to day, rained a little however. Spent the morn at sewing and after dinner, Father, Mother, Baron and I have been try[ing] to fix up our 'mounds' in the front yard. Made some improvements.

This eve when I was not looking for any one or thing, Sam Cole brought me a letter from Mollie Gilbert. I thought she had forgotten me but it appears otherwise. Glad to hear from her.

Just two years to day Julia and Lem were married.

**Sunday, April 20, 1862.**

Another long lonesome Sabbath has passed. Rain as usual has prevented our attending church or Sabbath school. Was somewhat disappointed. I thought I would get an answer to my letter (in full) but seems as though it has not come. Have put in the time reading and paying off old debts. Wrote to Cora, Mollie G., Will D., and Lissie Barton – nearly enough for one time.

Air is very chilly this evening, so that fire feels very comfortable.

**Monday, April 21, 1862.**

As it was wash day I prepared dinner and just as 'twas ready Abigail M. came cause it's so pleasant. We had a very pleasant chat and [as] she was starting to go we saw a gentleman stop at the gate. I was not long recognizing [him] and slipped out. Afterwhile made my appearance and found Frank in the company. Abigail "feared I was lost," she said. Come to hear, he came to answer my letter as he had just got it that morn, as another "Frank" had had it for some two weeks. He has already commenced preparations and thinks [he] will get through by fall. 'Tis soon as I shall get ready by the progress I have made. I would like to add something more here. Perhaps it will not look well in after years.

**Tuesday, April 22, 1862.**

I have felt better to day than I have for a long time, especially in mind. Thoughts have flew rapid, but fingers have not been so taxed as might have been. I have a long memorandum of work made out, but when it gets finished is another question.

This morn had quite a going snow storm for this time of year. I wonder what a year from now will bring forth- good or bad tidings. The last two years there has been great changes,

and while thinking of it I almost shudder at the future, not knowing what it's to bring to light.

**Wednesday, April 23, 1862.**

Has rained almost all day. Father and Jim went to town (Vevay), did not return till ten in the evening- had rather bad luck.

Got a letter from Julia this eve informing us that Frank was very sick on Saturday, had 4 ... [spasms?] I fear she shall never raise him. Perhaps will go down tomorrow if Mother can go.

Time drags as usual, nothing new or strange. Have been to work at Baron's slippers to day. Don't want he shall [know] anything about them till they're entirely finished. Have had no unexpected callers.

**Thursday, April 24, 1862.**

This morn was most beautiful but could not last, so had to cloud up towards noon. Lem came out; Frank's much better. The rest are well.

Went up to Ab's this afternoon. Ella came too, we had a real good time. I commenced my quilt to day. Went home with Ell and staid all night. Had one of our good old times talking. Told all we knew, gave her some of my plans (or rather, our plans). I don't know what I should do if it was not for her. I would have no friend in whom to confide.

**Friday, April 25, 1862.**

As Mrs. Bliss went away and Ella was alone, I spent the day with her, so we protracted our conversation from last eve, also pieced some 12 blocks. As I write to night, I wonder or try to picture what a year may bring forth. First thoughts, perhaps sorrow will fill our hearts, affections may have revisited us. But again hope for something brighter & happier. The day has been most beautiful, indeed too pleasant to remain in the house.

No particular mail to day. Mother is quite unwell with a cold.

**Saturday, April 26, 1862.**

The day and week closed most beautifully and happy am I to see it. Have been busy sewing as usual. Spent the afternoon at Aunt's. Wrote a letter this eve for Father to Mr. Joseph, Gov. agt.

Mother gave me a nice present of a rolling pin & potato masher. So much for a beginning, will lay them by for future use.

Nothing of importance to write this eve, or to ... account.

**Sunday, April 27, 1862.**

The morn came in most lovely. I went with Mr. Bliss's to church at Center Square, heard Rev. Riley give an excellent sermon. John 1, 11-21 Attended S. S. this afternoon, heard the Bible class. Our singing was very poor for us, the attendance small.

Returned home very tired. Found Mother in the parlor very much interested in the "late news." Was rather surprised to see Frank. There is no news in particular, all are well. Glad to see pleasant weather come again.

As it did not rain, I, Ella & Jane [are] going to town tomorrow. Frank staid all night [as it was] very late when we returned.

**Monday, April 28, 1862.**

Was up and ready by the times for our trip, and at last didn't get started very early. Had a very pleasant ride down. Frank went with us to the "turning off" place. We went on, did our shopping, and called on Ella. Met Mrs. Nannie Rous & her sister Mollie. Had very pleasant interview.

Just as we left town it began to rain but we were prepared for it, did not hurt us any. We had a good old time after the usual way. I don't know what I should do if it wasn't for Ella. She is one of the best of girls. 'Tis too bad there's no way of change for her, but hope for better some day.

**Tuesday, April 29, 1862.**

As Abigail was sick Ell staid with her. I was somewhat disappointed as we had not hardly been together.

The day has been beautiful, not a cloud to be seen.

Lizzie Sedam died to day.

Just two years [ago] to day Clara was with me. The trial I then endured! Loring was with us, but what he suffered no tongue can tell. In the afternoon for the first time he did not know me. Oh the bitterness of that hour! Could it but be blotted out. Tears cannot erase the sounds of those moans and pleadings that are ringing in my ears.

**Wednesday, April 30, 1862.**

Have been at home all day. Father & Mother attended the funeral of Lizzie Sedam. Laura & Eb went to town (Vevay). Expect they cut quite a swell. Today has been most beautiful, very much like two years from now.

I rec'd a letter from Will & also Ed, with some music. Very well pleased with the selection.

**Thursday, May 1, 1862.**

Sewing hard as usual. Wonder if I will ever get done and begin to see daylight through- Rather cold and cloudy. Some rain, but hope not much more.

Nothing to comment on.

**Friday, May 2, 1862.**

Ell came over and spent the day, had a good time only 'twas rather short.

Mother made me a present of a fine silk tablecloth and very nice collar.

Rec'd a letter from Uncle Winchester and Hattie Stow, no particular news.

Very cool this evening.

**Saturday, May 3, 1862.**

Home all day sewing and coloring. Had very good luck with the latter except my shawl.

Dressed up this afternoon in the fashions of 1829. Had callers, Mr. Robinson & Newton.

**Sunday, May 4, 1862.**

This is a lovely morning. I staid at home and enjoyed it by reading and learning Bible lessons. This afternoon went to S. S., had a very large class. My "colleague" was not able to attend. Will give him the slip some of these days. Very poor singing for a rarity.

**Monday, May 5, 1862.**

Father and I went to Rising Sun. Had a fine time with Mink, [al]most too much. [Mink was a pony owned by the Stows.] Got word to day [that] Yorktown was evacuated and our troops has possession of it, and all its heavy guns, etc. necessary implements.

Did not do much shopping for myself, mostly for Mother. Very tired to night.

Got a letter from Kittie this morn.

**Tuesday, May 6, 1862.**

Feel very tired after my yesterday's trip, but not so bad but what I am around. Ella and I went over to A-ville for our "Soldier's Aid" Society but could not find it or any one that knew anything of it. So we turned around and started back. Came the short way by Enterprise. Took tea with Mrs. Mount, called on Mr. Lacey & Lady, also at Mrs. Malin's. Reached home about dark. Wrote a letter to Kittie this eve. I must note the most important event of the day- I commenced my quilt, the "Stars and Stripes."

**Wednesday, May 7, 1862.**

The morn came in most beautifully, very warm and pleasant. Grand Father & Mother came over. The former woke quite miserable, more so than usual. Father came from E-prise at noon and said Mr. Godden was very bad. So I went back with him to Mr. G's. He was some easier, looks very bad. I don't see how he lingers so long and suffers so much. Death would certainly be a relief, I should think.

No exciting news in today's mail.

**Thursday, May 8, 1862.**

I believe the old saying "if you go the first day of the week, you will go for the rest." Seldom fails with me. I have been rather good today however. Staid and sewed until this evening when Mother and I went up to Abigail's a little while. She is getting better. \_ \_ \_ \_

**Friday, May 9, 1862.**

Spent the day at Aunt's in company with Mr. & Mrs. Bardwell, Mr. & Miss Parker, Mrs. Safford and Miss Bardwell. Had a very pleasant time, was very much pleased with my new acquaintances. Mrs. S. is very sociable. All from North Madison.

Learned by the papers that there has been a battle at ... [Williamsburg, perhaps] Some 800 killed & 700 wounded on our side. The Rebel loss is not known.

Baron went to Rising Sun to day alone for the first time with a load of potatoes- had no trouble on the way.

**Saturday, May 10, 1862.**

This has been an exceeding warm day. I have felt it more than usual. Aunt, Mrs. S., & Miss Parker called this morn. Father and Mother went to Bennington to attend Quarterly meeting, will not return 'till tomorrow eve. Called up to Abigail's [a] while this afternoon. Mrs. Bliss was there. Heard from Lotte. She is in a "peck of half bushels." Would like to see her a few minutes.

**Sunday, May 11, 1862.**

As there was no way of my going to church by way of our own conveyance, I went with Ell and the rest. Heard Mr. Parker deliver a very good sermon. Had sacrament after meeting. Aunt & Uncle staid over to afternoon service. We came home and went to S. S. at the usual, as there was no "Spell." We opened school by singing. Had a very good school, considering. Distributed our papers among the scholars. Had three different ...

**Monday, May 12, 1862.**

Uncle and Aunt went to Florence. The latter was going to Madison with Mrs. Safford. As I had such a good opportunity, I sent Bettie a "Bouquet." 'Twas beautiful, especially the "mole."

Put in the remaining part of my day at my "Stars." Will certainly be glad when the last block comes.

Wrote a letter to Will D.

**Tuesday, May 13, 1862.**

The mail came but brought no particular news, no letters. Aunt Hattie spent the day with us. I rec'd two pieces of music from "Friend ..." "Floyd's Retreat" (instrumental) and "Evangeline" (a song). The latter I think will be very good. I hardly know what his sentiments are, but surmise pretty strongly. If I thought 'twas \_\_, they'd not stay long here.

I can't believe he is -

**Wednesday, May 14, 1862.**

Had quite a hard rain last night and slight showers this morn. Father was called very unexpectedly before the Grand Jury today. We know not what for, but suspicion - Spent the afternoon at Mr. Scofield's, had a pleasant time.

Rec'd two letters, one from Frank & Ella, and was hardly satisfied.

**Thursday, May 15, 1862.**

Mother and I made a trip to Florence. Found them house cleaning, Julia whitewashing. Of

course they were well. Frank is much better. Lem is at the City. Called at the shoe shop.

Mrs. B... purchased a new frock ... and last, not least, five cts. worth of candy. Bettie got five cts. of figs. We had a jolly time of it. Got home just at sundown, was very tired.

**Friday, May 16, 1862.**

Been home all day sewing hard. Get along very slow.

I have nothing of particular interest to note in to day's record. No one comes, neither do I call out.

**Saturday, May 17, 1862.**

The week has come and gone, yet hardly giving time to remind us of its passing. Thus it continually rolls along bearing us down the "stream of time" to the "city whence no traveler e're returns."

**Sunday, May 18, 1862.**

Remained at home all morning. Spent it in reading and a short nap. As Laura was away, Manda and I were cooks, got dinner in style.

Went [to] S. S. as usual. There were but very few present, less than ever before. Ell had to stay with the sick and the rest, I guess, concluded to stay anyhow. Returned, and Frank was already here. Brought me a very nice present from Ella, a "melon" cap.

He has a hard time to get a plan to suit. He staid all night as it was late, and no moon.

**Monday, May 19, 1862.**

Arose this morning almost sick. Had I known for certain that Frank had gone before breakfast, I should not have been in such a hurry. As it was wash day, everybody came. Grandfather & Mother spent the day. I have felt most miserable all the while. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**Tuesday, May 20, 1862.**

It has rained all day, slowly, not amounted to very much as yet. But threatens a hard one this evening. \_ \_ \_

Wish I could think of some plan to help me along faster with my work. 'Tis so tedious. And to think what I have got to do & the time I have to accomplish it in. Is enough to put one's wits to work.

**Wednesday, May 21, 1862.**

It has continued to rain hard all day. Seems quite a treat, as we were needing rain very much now. Find it very hard to keep steady at my sewing, as it affects my eyes so badly.

**Thursday, May 22, 1862.**

Have done but little at my work to day as my head felt so badly. Mr. Z. Montanye, Mrs. Converse & her Mother was here to dinner. Spent the afternoon at Mr. Bradford's, and staid all night with Ell. Had a short conversation and Ell was soon to the "land of nod." I could not leave off thinking what was to come, or rather, expected.

**Friday, May 23, 1862.**

Returned home very early. To day's mail brought me two letters, one from Sie, the other from Maggie Brown. The former was better than I anticipated, if he has told the truth of the matter. I had thought perhaps I would not get to hear from him again, but was happily disappointed. Have concluded to answer at all events, and run the risk of all remarks. Would like to see Ell so much tonight. Would have something to talk about.

**Saturday, May 24, 1862.**

Have put in another long day of sewing. My quilt grows slowly.

The weather has been beautiful of late. 'Tis getting very dusty again.

Mother has been fixing the flowers this afternoon.

No mail to day. Commenced a letter to Sie. Father went to Vevay and Manda went to stay awhile.

**Sunday, May 25, 1862.**

As the day was very pleasant Baron and I went to church to C-square on horseback. Mr. Riley gave a very good discourse, there was a large audience. Attended S. S. as usual. The school was not large but had a good one.

No company to day to break the monotony of the scene. Wrote a letter to Aunt & Uncle Winchester. Wish I had several more written to clear my debts.

As I am going to rise early, will necessarily have to retire early.

**Monday, May 26, 1862.**

Arose a little before five this morn and started for town. Joe, Ell and I went. Had a real good time. Found it very warm traveling. Made several purchases and met a few old friends. Returned home about 6½ o'clock with headache, besides being very tired.

Heard to day Gen. Banks had to retreat across the Potomac, & the Rebels had got Winchester back.

Baron was to Vevay and says that the "Home Guards" has to go to Ind-is tonight and will be there no knowing how long. I should like to see Frank before he went. Perhaps will hear from him soon.

**Tuesday, May 27, 1862.**

Our work has been various to day- making carpet, washing, cleaning house besides the rest. Mary Wells spent the day with us, had a very pleasant time.

But my thoughts are some where else all the while. Indeed I feel lonely, yet why should I? Others have made greater sacrifices, and why can I not do [the] same thing? I wish he had come out Sunday, but he knew nothing of this then. Would like very much to see Ella, perhaps she could tell me some news. I shall look for tomorrow's mail.

**Wednesday, May 28, 1862.**

Have been very busy making and putting down carpet, and this evening moved back to my "summer's retreat." Hardly seems like home now.

I feel much better this eve than I did last. I got a letter from Frank to day. He is going to Ind-is but expects to come home soon on furlough. I don't see how he could possible leave now at such a busy time. I almost fear Manda's prediction will prove true ere long- but will live in hopes for the best. Wish Ell was here tonight.

**Thursday, May 29, 1862.**

Another day nearer the close of house cleaning. Will be glad when 'twill be through. Have been papering the dining room. Will put down carpet next and then get through. Aunt & Uncle Malin called this eve a few minutes.

This has been a beautiful day, warm and pleasant. Mrs. Converse and George Armstrong has been helping us.

Would like to know how the soldiers are progressing, whether there has been any battles to help decide our fates.

**Friday, May 30, 1862.**

Made a wind up of house cleaning to day, for a while at least. Put down dining [room] carpet and set things to order. Just as we were finishing, Elder Smith and lady came to stay all night, are on their way to Florence to Quarterly Meeting. All very tired this eve yet did not retire extremely early.

Got a letter from Will Dean, no particular news. All following the same routine of duties.

**Saturday, May 31, 1862.**

Br. Smith started very early. I did not do much of anything more than a couple of "Bouquets," pick strawberries, and such like. After dinner, rigged up and went to Florence by myself. Rather rough roads, just escaped the shower. Found them in usual health. Spent the evening playing "Backgammon," etc. etc. Waited quite late for Lem to come home and at last retired. Rained very hard all evening. So closes the month of May. Have to record another month gone, and can hardly tell where to.

**Sunday, June 1, 1862.**

The morn came in beautiful but the sky was soon clouded o'er and threatened rain, but to no purpose. Bettie & I went to church. Brother S. gave us a practical sermon, yet not so good as I have heard him give. Miss Merna Jackson dined with us. Did not go to afternoon service as I intended coming home but, as I was about for [to] go, my Peter [horse] had left me, so remained over night. Bettie, Willie, and I went out sailing. Three boats passed us. One had a company of cavalry on board. Willie & Mr. Harris spent the eve at Julia's.

**Monday, June 2, 1862.**

Baron came down bright and early after me with old Nannie. They had heard how Peter had served me so came to my rescue. Got home about dinner time.

Nothing of unusual occurrence [to] tell. Frank has been out again, went home this morn. He always finds out when I am gone and improves the time. Would like to have been home anyhow, [even] if he did not want to see me in particular, as Baron says.

**Tuesday, June 3, 1862.**

Has rained all day. I have put in the time on my quilt, as usual. Two Mrs. Cottons and Mr. Swaezey staid all night with us. Wrote a letter to Frank & Will Dean.

**Wednesday, June 4, 1862.**

Still continued to rain nearly all day. This afternoon did cease for a while.

Brother Robinson took tea with us. I sent Mrs. R. a "bouquet" .. a very pretty one, by the by.

Sent my letters this morn, one to Mollie L. Lewis. Wonder when I shall get an answer.

To day hear there has been another battle near Richmond. Great loss on both sides. The Federals gained the day routing the enemy and putting them to flight.

**Thursday, June 5, 1862.**

Laura went to her sister's so I have been doing the work. Had very good luck.

Rained almost constantly, sometimes very hard.

News in to day's paper- Gen. Heintzelman has taken 10,000 prisoners, 15,000 stand of arms. The war is thus progressing. Beauregard is panic stricken and tells his men to take care of themselves.

Uncle Lyman and Mrs. C. was here to supper. Wrote a letter to H...

**Friday, June 6, 1862.**

Another beautiful day has passed. Ella was here to dinner. Ell, Abigail, & I spent the afternoon at Aunt's, very pleasant time. Did not get to tell Ell very much. Rec'd a long letter from Kittie B. giving me a scolding. I plead guilty, but meant no harm. Answered it in part this eve. Wish she was here. I might answer better personally. Would like to know what Sie will think now.

**Saturday, June 7, 1862.**

Been at home all day sewing like a good fellow, making up for lost time. Finished my tenth block today. Have suffered from headache considerably.

Lem & Julia came out this eve. Bettie is going to wait 'till they return. Wish I only had my work done so I would not have to be as much hurried.

No special news from the war department.

**Sunday, June 8, 1862.**

Almost had a chill this morn, but did not miss a severe headache. Laid abed most of the time. Wrote a letter to Newton K.

Felt better after dinner. Went to S. S. Not many in attendance, had quite an interesting class.

Returned, found a "gentleman" in the parlor much as I expected, still, was not so certain.

No wonder Ella has not time for coming out. "I shall be after seeing to her," if she don't mind.

He approves of the way I wrote to Sie, and am glad I told him. Perhaps I shall be better acquainted ere many months. Would like to know some things.

The pages for **June 9, 1862 - July 26, 1862** were not used for diary entries. While some are blank, others register domestic household expenses. Some of these lists are dated, with 1864 being the earliest and 1872 the latest. The handwriting appears to be Viola's. None of the records seem to relate to 1862.

On July 27, 1862 Viola resumed making daily entries, but only for a few days:

**Sunday, July 27, 1862.**

The morning came in most beautifully. Mary and I prepared for church and when just ready to start Mr. Thiebaud and Ella came. Spent the day very pleasantly. Did not attend S. S., rather disappointed. Just as we [words missing here] another gentleman called and staid the evening. The rest returned home. I had rather an unexpected conversation. There seems to be a "pull back" in some matters and things. He gave me an opportunity to study the Almanac. I hardly know [what] to decide upon.

**Monday, July 28, 1862.**

It has been some time since I kept [the] journal and am rather out of practice. But to day has not passed with[out] some event to note.

Was home all day 'till evening and Mollie and I went to Florence. Arrived at Julia's about dark. Lem returned from L-ville. The folks were well as usual. Found the roads exceedingly dusty.

Bettie is lively as ever, always in the best of a humor. Julia has been lucky indeed to have such a sister.

**Tuesday, July 29, 1862.**

Today has been exceedingly warm, almost the hottest of the season. I am really glad that summer is as near gone as it is, on some accounts. But fears are not all subdued. I can't get things settled as I would like. Time is rapidly passing and what am I doing? That quilt is the cause of all this. But I must return to my subject.

After supper we took a ride down to Jane Hastie's, very pleasant time indeed.



**Wednesday, July 30, 1862.**

*Spent the day at Mrs. Beymer's with the Florence Ladies- Miss Whitlock of Rising Sun is a very fine young lady. We (at Julia's) were going to Mr. ... H but were detained by the arrival of Aunt Dean, Cos Jane, and Uncle Shelomith. Gave them their suppers and then Uncle, Mollie, and I came home, had a most delightful ride. It was 9 o'clock when we arrived home; the household had retired. No letter was waiting for me. Mollie got one. I am inclined to be sad tonight.*

**Thursday, July 31, 1862.**

*Spent the day at home, working as usual on my quilt, no knowing when I will ever finish it. After supper Mollie and I went over to Ella's. Staid a few moments and returned, had a very pleasant walk.*

*No news to relate. Our relatives came to Uncle's, did not call on them this eve, was rather tired.*

*Commenced a letter to Sie.*

**Friday, August 1, 1862.**

*Had plenty of company and consequently plenty to do. Aunt, Cos. Jane, Lem, Julia, and Ella visited us. Had very pleasant time although I did not enjoy it as much as I should like to have. Spent the greater part of the day being "Bridget."*

*No letters to night for me. But if I don't write, I can't expect to receive.*

*Company have all "skeepaddled" and we are left alone. Mollie wrote a letter for me to Mollie Gilbert, very important one indeed. There is more truth than she thinks for in it (the letter, I mean).*

**Saturday, August 2, 1862.**

*The morn came in most beautifully, prospects for a fine day. So Mollie, John, Baron, Ella, I and Eb went Blackberrying, had a glorious time. Found plenty of berries and had a good time generally, returned just in time for dinner. Found Mr. Washer & Lorinda here. After dinner, had my fruit to "can" so was excluded from company again.*

*This eve Mr. Fisher and Fannie came and took Mollie home with them. I feel some what relieved.*

[The remaining diary pages are blank. Some of the rear endpapers display computations, accounting notations, and addresses- the latter just barely discernable.]

