

Monday, 1st January, 1860.

This New Year commenced gloriously enough. My little boy
just suffered all night with the tooth-ache; scarcely closing his eyes,
and his cries not only kept me awake, but pierced my heart with the
most poignant grief.

Dear
Abelard³ Guthrie.

Jan. 1 to Mr. J. 1860.

Wrote to Father March 17, 1860. In New City. Sent
two letters to you.

Wrote to the U. S. S. and also showed at Dr. Huntington's
and got a visit because with which to locate the cavity of Jacob's
tooth in the bone stopping the pain. and by repeated applica-
tions it has given him comfort and he will probably have a good night's
rest.

Dear Sir,

Wishes to know how to get the tooth-ache, when I had

DIARY OF

ABELARD GUTHRIE

January 1

--t o--

March 7, 1860.

Sunday, 1st January, 1860.

This New Year commenced gloomily enough. My little boy Jacob suffered all ^{last} night with the toothache; scarcely closing his eyes, and his cries not only kept me awake, but pierced my heart with the keenest anguish. He was much distressed because he could not suppress his loud cries, because he said he knew he kept his brother and his mother awake! a generous consideration far above his years, yet how beautiful in one so young! He has several teeth badly decayed, and I fear may yet suffer much from this cause. What has produced this misfortune in one so young?

Wrote to Robt. C. Schenck and enclosed it to the care of Thomas Corwin, Washington City.

Wrote to Isaac Strohen, directing to Washington City. Dated both letters 2nd.

Walked to the Q. P.O. and also stopped at Dr. Buddington's and got a vial laudanum with which to bathe the cavity of Jacob's aching tooth in the hope stopping the pain, and by repeated applications it has given him comfort and he will probably have a good night's rest.

Monday 2d.

Walked to Parkville to see Col. Fielding Barnes, whom I had

requested to meet me there, but he did not come!

Had my golden syrup ten gallons and lard, 135 lbs lard bro'tt home. Patrick Kelley bro'tt my lard from Parkville, for which I paid him 40 cts got the money from Salsbury who owes me,

E. O. Kane commenced cutting ice for himself and me I am to be at half the expense and receive the half the ice.

Jacob suffers with toothache very much and sleeps with me tonight. I warmed laudanum and saturated cotton with it and put into his hollow tooth, and also gave him twelve drops laudanum and he is at last asleep,

Tuesday 3d. " "

Rode to Parkville, crossing at Quindaro on the ice, which 13 inches thick. From Parkville I went to a Mr. Whitney's to look at his hogs which he has for sale but I did not buy, for I am uncertain if I can get the money to pay for them. From Mr. Whitney's I went to Hampton to see Col. Fielding Burns, but he had not returned since I was there last week.

I rode to Parkville with E. D. brown, who seems to think I should make him a deed for the land he has built on, yet that land is mine and was sold to him by another person for whose debts this land is now under execution, I being responsible for those debts:

Wednesday 4th " "

Rode to J. C. McCoy's, four miles from Kansas city to get money as he had promised to get some for me but his servant said he

had gone into the Territory. Thus my day is lost. The day was very cold with a sharp wind. I suffered more than any day this winter, being unwell.

Thursday, 5th January, 1860.

Called to see Watts Beckwith from Olatho, who stopped at Revd Mr. Storrs. I owe Mr. B. a few dollars, which he very much needs but it is impossible to do so at this time; let him have two bushels corn meal as he could not get his corn ground.

Tried to borrow \$60. from Fish, but he said he had promised all he had; is this so, or is my credit so bad? I am in the greatest need of this amount of money to buy my winter's meat. Since the whites settled in the country I can raise no hogs. We are in want too of many of the necessaries and comforts of life, and I cannot divert my mind from the contemplation of this pinching poverty.

Went to the C. P. O.

News came that the Platte co. Mo court has subscribed \$100,000 to the Parkville & G. P. railroad which has raised the spirits of our people very much.

Thursday 5th January, 1860.

Went to Post. Robitaille's to borrow money, but got none. Talked with him about ~~trading~~ buying a tract of land from him containing 16 acres but he would not trade or sell.

Friday 6th " "

A slow drizzling rain commenced falling last night and has

continued all day. Mercury 40° above zero. I don't remember a rain so early in January in this country before

Have been at home all day, Shelled 4 bushels corn for meal. This and feeding the little stock I have is all I have done to-day.

In the evening read some dialogues in the "Little Speaker," with Norsona, which pleased Jim and Jacob very much. I urge upon them the necessity of learning fast so as to read these pieces themselves, which they seem anxious to do.

Saturday 7th

Day beautiful at sunrise mercury at 28° above zero at 12 M. 44° and at sundown 34° above zero,

Took *Time's* and Jacobs's boots to the shoemaker to be mended to cost \$1.00; he stitched a rent in my boot for which I owe him, and I engaged him to make a pair shoes for Mrs. G. ~~ANN~~ Abelena.

Went to the P. office.

Went to Wyandot city to see when I can get some corn ~~ANN~~ buck wheat ground—they do custom work of Tuesday's ~~ANN~~ Saturdays. Called on Mrs. Lucy B. Armstrong and left with her a draft of a memorial to Congress and a letter to the Comm of Indian Affairs respecting the payment of the money yet do the Wyandots proposing her as their Agent in settling their final accounts with the Govt.

Isaac Jonnycake called to dan me for the \$20. I agreed to pay him for Jacob Ulrich. I had no money. What words can express the anguish of a mind thus harrowed with debt.

Miss Dickinson also called for the pay due her for teaching \$11.25. What am I to do? These things distress me unspeakably. Has God no vengeance for the villains who have reduced me to this condition?

Mrs. G. rode over to Wm. Johnson's to try to sell a colt to Mrs. Bearskin now living there, but made no sale.

Put straw and chaff around an apple tree to prevent the ground from freezing in the hope of keeping back the blossoming of the tree and thereby saving the fruit.

Rev. Almsworth stay with us tonight.

Wrote an assignment of a note from G. Robinson to Margaret Nichols, to Matthew Brown who sold her his horse for \$200 and takes this note for pay.

Sunday 8th January, 1860

Went to J. C. McCoy's to try to get money to pay George with his promises to meet me in Kansas City on Tuesday and endorse for me in bank. Crossed the Kansas river on the ice--teams are still crossing.

A cold disagreeable, but not a freezing day.

Monday 9th " "

Went to Fielding Burns' to get money he had partially agreed to lend to me, but he now declines doing so or as he says has it not to lend. This man has made several hundred dollars through my kindness and now when my family are really in want I cannot even borrow a dollar from him.

a strong wind all day with hail and snow toward evening--mercury at sunrise 29° above zero; at 8 O'clock this evening 5° above zero.

Returning home I met E.M.C. Clough going to Wyandot city to urge upon the citizens there the importance of their building a railroad to Quindaro there to unite with the Parkville road. I told him if he succeeded in his projects I was for giving him a share in Quindaro. I am in hopes he is acting in good faith towards us, but there are whispers to the contrary. I shall hope for the best of him and if that hope be justified I shall endeavor to have him suitably rewarded.

Wathen Set my watch with Kansas city time; Abelenia still suffers from sore eyes, and is not able to read.

Wednesday, 11th January, 1860.

Went with Mr. Desher and Patrick Kelley to look at land on which I propose to have them clear 80 acres, they liked the land and agreed to my terms. I am to draw up an article of agreement.

Went to Quindaro twice,

Tried to borrow \$1.00 of C. H. Chapin, but he said he had it not: I cannot even borrow a dollar!

Went to the Q. Postoffice twice and rec'd the 1st no of the Rural New Yorker for 1860,

J. H. Veale was here this evening to show me the law chartering a ferry at Q. which has been forfeited and he proposes

Fish

as a suitable person to associate with us under a new

with us under a new charter which we are about to apply for.

Jim and Jacob read lessons to me morning and evening, and in the evening Norsena reads a chapter in the *Taleo* of a grandfathery,

Wednesday 11th January, 1800.

Day cold but pleasant mercury 3° above zero at sunrise and the same at 10 O'clock P.M.

Wednesday 12th " "

Holmes Went to Wyandot city and bo't of Holmes & Co 6 1/2 lbs coffe \$1.00 and 1 lb tea 75¢ which ~~was~~^{will} charged to me. I agreed to sell to Mr. Holmes the belt I lent him some time since; it belonged to the Quindaro Co's mill but I think myself justified in selling it as the Co. owes me and I need these groceries, and will allow the company the same amount I get for it. The price was not settled but we ~~xxx~~^{xxx} to enquire what such articles usually cost and then fix the price,

Went to Parkville and engaged Wm. Miller, Atty. to difficulty I have with Charles Robinson, the Brothers Clough, and Isaac W. Zane.

Was at C. H. Chapin's to see Robinson, but he had started East; called at Mr Stewarts to settle with him about the lot he lives on, but a paper relating to the sale was in his possession,

Called at Mr. Newman's to ask him how I should get rid of my tenant Jacob Beck, who will neither work for me nor pay rent nor leave my cabin, He says I must give a written notice to leave in ten days and after I can have him ejected. Had considerable about fruits and

grafting Louis South and Isaac R. Zane were present

Mercury at zero a little after sunrise, but the day was cloudless and pleasant but freezing in the shade.

Mrs. G. brot home the boys boots but I owe a dollar for the mending.

Friday 13th January 1860

Wrote to ^{Mr} Sen. Stephen A. Douglas of the United States Senate giving my reasons why I do not wish Kansas admitted into the Union under the Wyandot constitution,

Hill Wrote to Mirus Hill requesting him to send me the \$400 he owes me or to return to me the Quindaro share he bo't of me as he proposed doing when here.

Heck Gave Jacob Heck a written notice to leave my house within ten days. I have treated this man with great kindness and liberality; yet now that he has got into my debt refuses to work or to leave my house that I may get another hand.

Went to the Quindaro Postoffice;

Rev'd Mr. Storrs told me the Sheriff was in Quindaro last Saturday look up property to satisfy the judgements obtained against the Quindaro Co. by the widows Kinney and Jordan—the first I had heard of it, So here is more trouble forme. Now I am to bear up amid these accumulated trials, God alone know. I had rather be in my grave than be thus harrassed; and the anguish is the more acute because inflicted by ingratitude and yet I trust in God and support with occasion-

al cheerfulness a mountain of care that would surely crush me were I not sustained by God Almighty.

I had to punish Jacob this evening for telling me a lie--he was reading and had to spell many of the words but often omitted letters that were in them and added others that did not belong to them and on one occasion said he had named a letter which I knew he did not, and for this falsehood I chastised him. Lying I regard as one of the most detestable vices of human nature, and I wish to have my children despise it as I do. Yet it is inexpressibly painful to whip any of my children and still more painful to see any tendency to meanness or low vices in a child. May God Almighty instill into their minds the purest sentiments of honor and integrity.

At home most of the day

The weather is moderating--the mercury at sun up was ten ° above zero.

Saturday 14th January, 1800,

Went to Mrs. Susan Pobitaille's to say to Isaac W. Zane that as Robinson would not pay for the land I bo't for him I would keep it myself or get another purchaser.

Went to Kansas city to see K. Coates to get him to buy Robinson's notes in the hands of the Wyandots of whom he bo't land but did not see him.

Wrote and mailed a letter at Kansas city to Edmund Rabb, Cincinnati, offering him the Isaac W. Zane land for \$1500

Holmes Bo't of Holmes & co. Wyandot city 1 lb soda crackers 12 1/2,
 3 bars soap 25-- 1 box mustard 20 cts, 1 lb peppermint candy 25 cts,
 2 oz nutmegs 50 cts 1 lb starch 10 cts and 2 lbs salaratus 30 cts=
 \$1.82 1/2, and had them charged to me as I sold Mr. Holmes a mill belt
 and agreed to take the worth of it in groceries, the price is not yet
 settled, though he says others consider it worth but \$8.00. I suspect
 it is worth much more, The price ought to have been fixed upon at
 once but I was ignorant of its value and wanted to enquire the value of
 such articles. I wanted to get a little sugar as we have had none for
 some time, but Mr. Holmes told me he had none. I then went to M. B.
 Newman and borrowed 50 cts to buy elsewhere. Mr. Newman I could get it
 of Holmes, I said no he says he has none. Why said Mr. N. he told me
 this morning that he had. I then returned Mr. N the 50 cts and it was
 agreed he should get me the sugar which he did he got me 11 lbs for a
 dollar and had it charged to himself. Now this ends my business with
 Mr. Holmes except that I may be obliged to trade out the value of the
 belt,

Left a bundle of papers relating to the affairs of the
 Quindaro Co. at C. S. Glick's office for him to examine previous to
 employing him to settle that complicated concern. The papers I rec'd
 this morning.

Went to C. Post office.

Wrote an order for Jacob Whitecrow on Johnson & ^{realt} ~~XXXX~~ in favor
 of Mrs. Guthrie, for \$12. in goods and groceries; and delivered to him
 Whitecrow the note he and his tenant ~~-----~~ ^{Crumer} had given for the

rent of Margaret Brown's field.

Mrs. Guthrie went to Quindaro and got the goods on the order getting ~~the~~² dresses and some other articles for Margaret and the rest for herself and children, but is to pay Margaret this ballance which is \$

The day has been mild and beautiful and even at this hour 10 O'clock P.M. the mercury is up to 30° ~~degrees~~ above zero.

This morning I discovered that George had taken the bark off from one of the finest linden trees in my park, to bottom an old chair with. I have not lately been so hurt and irritated and I told him I had rather he had burnt all the chairs I had than have killed that fine tree. The thing has oppressed my mind all day even when I was not thinking about it, I felt that there was something that distressed me without being able at the moment to remember it. I had too repeatedly told him not to touch a tree in that grove. How little above the brute is a man who will wantonly disfigure any of God's glorious handiworks! George is away this evening, drinking, likely.

Sunday 15th January, 1860.

* At home all day Mrs. G. and the boys went to Quarterly meeting in Wyandot city.

Mr. Newman was here a part of the afternoon. We examined my pear trees and talked much about the planting and care of fruit trees; but before leaving the conversation turned upon the Quindaro Co's affairs when he suggested that I had better get an order from court partitioning my family allotments of land to save it from the grasp of the

Co's creditors. This suggestion is expressive of the general impression that I will be ruined by these villians, and falls like a pall upon my spirits altho' I cannot believe they will materially cripple me, although the consuming anguish of mind the loss of time, of credit and the privations we suffer create a perpetual alarm which pursues me day and night. O God! but for the faith that thou in thy good time settllest all things right I would send Robinson to the abodes of the damned! for by his villiary he has forfeited all right to live.

Wrote an article for the N.Y.Tribune in relation to the interests of Kansas Territory.

Day clear warm and lovely, Mercury at 64° above zero.

Monday 18th " "

Went to ~~Jim~~ Zane's to see Jim Long, but ^{he} had gone away.

Went to Parkville to see William Miller, Atty. about attaching money in E.H.C.Clough's hands belonging to C. Robinson for the payment of the note held by Jim Long against Robinson & myself. I also left with Mr. Miller Matthew Brown's note against C. Robinson and myself for collection, directing him to attach our interest in the steam ~~boat~~ ^{boat}. I took a rept. for the note,

Feel ill from ~~cold~~ ^{bad} cold taken this morning since breakfast—my throat is sore and I talk with difficulty.

Crossed the Missouri river on the ice. Although it is thawing fast,

I am to go to Lawrence ^{with} and had her shewed but they did not go. They were to go to look after Q. interests in the Legislature,

Wednesday 10th January 1860

Went to Kansas city to endeavor to get a second endorsee on my note in Bank. I applied to Lott Coffman and then to a Mr. Keivil, the former I have known for many years the latter more recently both declined and I ^{Kent} ~~XXXX~~ no one else to apply to.

Returning I stopped at Mr. Abram's office to learn what he had done in the case of the Jim Zane judgement against me, and he immediately went to see Judge Williams who agreed to give me an injunction but required. Abrams had told me that the Judge had said that no execution could issue while the motion to reopen the case was pending but the Judge said he had not; Abrams had also told me I would not have to give bond in the case of injunction but the Judge said the law required it and he could not do otherwise.

Abrams drew up a statement and I swore to it to the best of my knowledge ^{or} ~~XXXX~~ belief in accordance with the advice of Mr. Abrams, for my ignorance of these proceedings is so great that I am obliged to rely on the advice and directions of my Atty. The paper was sworn to before Judge Williams. There is nothing on earth more distasteful to me than these intricacies of the courts.

Called at Isaiah Walker's to get him to endorse for me but he was now at home—returned to Wyandot, city to find him but could not and so returned home. A day lost but ^{leaving} ~~XXXX~~ my mind oppressed with disap-

pointments and mortifications. O my children never go in debt, and deal with all men with caution as if you suspected they were rogues--the law does that and it has the experience of many centuries.

Thursday 20th January, 1860.

Called on Isaiah Walker to ask him to endorse for me, but he refused. I then called on Charles S. Glick who endorsed for me without hesitation though I don't know wheather he in such credit as to do me any good. Still I thank him for the disposition ^{manifested} to accommodate me. I then took my note to Kansas city and handed it to the Cashier, Mr. McCarty, of the Mechanic's Bank, and he said the directors would act on it tomorrow.

Stopping at Wyandot on my return Mr. Abrams prepared me a bond in the injunction case granted yesterday and V. J. Lane & M. B. Newman signed as securities, I also signed it and left it with the Clerk of the Court, who wanted to know who would pay the fees. I asked him how much they were but he did not know, I told him then I would pay them when he should let me know the amt. and he promised to attend to the business.

Mr. Stockton told me John Srahaas, had left with him a note for \$300 against R. M. Ainsworth to collect and on which I stand as security. I requested him to write to Richards father in Ohio stating the facts and I thought he would pay it, but he was unwilling to do this, but wrote a letter to me on the subject which I am to enclose to cousin Jean Ainsworth.

Jim sold a bedful of straw to Gad Upson for 25 cts. I had told him that he should have one stack of straw to sell and he is greatly elated with the idea of making money. I gave Jacob corn fodder to sell at 25 cts a shock.

Friday 21st January, 1880,

Went to Parkville to meet James M. Long and Matthew Brown to aid them in attaching money and property belonging to Charles Robinson and others in Missouri in satisfaction of debts due from Robinson and others. I wished the attachment to secure \$600. ~~over~~ in the hands of E. B. O. Clough and the interest of the defendants in the Otis Webb Ferry-boat. Mr. Miller is the Atty. and says he charges ten per cent for collecting ~~xxxxxx~~ monies on attachments. Dale and Roberts went on the bonds of both Long and Brown. Mr. Miller wishes to have \$20. sent him to pay officers fees.

Rode out to Mr.

Jacks to sell him some lands and to get wheat and other articles, and he agreed to come to my house on Tuesday next and then settle the terms of the trade if we make one.

Crossed on the ice with my poney this morning, but it was too far rotted to bear me up on my return so I had to cross on the snow at Parkville and as I had no money I got Mr. Roberts to settle my fair.

The day has been one of exceeding beauty warm, cloudless, calm and in the same may be said of the last four or five days.

James M. Long gave me the patent for the land I bo't of him. all right.

Ate the last of our ~~buff~~ for breakfast it was killed ~~~~~

~~~~~ 1860 and weighed about 400 lbs,

Saturday 22nd January 1860,

Went to Kansas city to ascertain if the directors <sup>of the Mechanics Bank</sup> had agreed to discount the note I handed in on Thursday last. They refused to discount it and it was returned to me.

Called to see Mr. Coates to ~~ask~~ <sup>ask</sup> if he would buy notes on Charles Robinson but he refused to buy--alleging generally that he would not lend a dollar in the Territory as the laws here precluded the possibility of forcing payments by levy on property as it had to sell for two thirds of its appraised value, but in Mo. property under execution sold for what it <sup>would</sup> bring without any restrictions. I confess I prefer the Territorial law although Mr. C says capital will never enter the Territory while the law ~~is~~ in force.

Borrowed 50 cts of M. B. Newman <sup>topary</sup> ferrings with, but as I saw boys and men skating I concluded to save the money by leaving my horse and crossing on the ice and going to Kansas city afoot. I thus saved 50 cts and was none the worse for the walk.

Called to see Matthias Wittlugs to get him to by the Quindaro ferry boat. He will look at it and then say what he will give. Went to Quindaro Post office.

Bott 1/2 lb crushed sugar, 7 cts pd. My horse'sness and sore throat continuing I am trying this as a remedy. loaf sugar I have always found excellent the crushed I think inferior to it.

Mrs. Guthrie went to Mrs. Bigtree's for a note she has against me which had been paid and forgotten, also the patent for the land I bought of her, but she gave up neither, alleging that they are not in her possession although they are under her control--in her daughter's possession. No wonder the white man hates the Indian for they seldom let an opportunity escape of abusing his confidence,

Day very beautiful sunny and warm.

Sunday 23rd " "

At home expecting to finish up some writing and enjoy a few hours with my books, but some stupid neighbors have bored me most of the day. Alas! What a burden to himself or his goodnatured neighbors must be an idle man who cannot read or does not love books.

Jim and Jacob have studied their books but little today their minds being taken up with some visitors. But this evening both recited pieces. Jim recited the "Song of the Snowbird" making but a very few words, he also recited "The Starry Fir<sup>Christmas</sup>" (by Pope isn't it?) very well without missing a word; he recited it equally well about ten days ago and repeated it this evening to see if he had forgotten any part of it. Jacob repeated the instructive little poem "Try, Try again" anonymous, without missing a word, he recited it about a week ago for the first time without making any mistake. He also recited three verses of "Jack Frost!" this <sup>evening</sup> ~~xxxxxx~~ <sup>with</sup> an emphasis and intonation indicating considerable oratorical talent.

Today has been one of surpassing loveliness cloudless and warm.

Mr. Greene who lives near Westport was here and brought my pocket knife in which he had put a new rivit. Norsona claims and gets it on the strength of some promise I had made her about it.

Monday 24th January 1960

I am ~~wear~~<sup>weary</sup> and heavy laden with this day's trials and disappointments. What is life worth thus beset with cares and troubles unrelieved by one emotion of joy or even of forgetfulness! Every day is a day of earnest effort, every night a night of painful reflections. How have I been wrecked by trusting those bad ungrateful men. But surely there will come a better day--a day when I shall have the opportunity of practicing upon the resolves and precepts which so constantly thrust themselves upon my mind.

Went to C. H. Chapins' to get some ink and <sup>to</sup> have him get the Deeds for the Quindaro town lands recorded, the Leavenworth recording being so incorrect.

Went to Drake's to get him to make me stakes for my grapevines but he thinks he will not have time.

Tried to borrow \$100 of ~~~~~~~~~ Fish but he refused to lend.

Endeavored to borrow the same amount of Rev. Mr. Storrs but he said he had it not.

Mr. Lane, County recorder, returned me the deed from Sarah Migtree which I had given him to have recorded; also the power of Atty. I had given to Chas. Robinson on the back of which I had written the words "The within Power of Atty is hereby revoked. which Mr. Chapin

insists is of no force but that the revocation must recite the instrument revoked. I owe for recording these paper \$2.40

Mr. ——— Jack of Missouri came to look at some land I wished to ——— sell him, but he did not like it. This is almost my last hope to raise money to relieve me of the dead weight that keeps me forever on the rack. There is enough money due me to pay these pressing debts but no one will pay me whilst every one I owe presses his claim <sup>with</sup> ~~in~~ fortunate.

Mrs. Brown (Mrs. G's mother) comes to us sick. These additions to my family when we really have so little to eat adds not a little to my uneasiness.

Abulena has been copying some papers for me to-day and finished that of the original agreement of the proprietors of Quindaro. She writes a neat hand but I have not yet examined her work, and cannot say how accurate she is.

The day has been very warm and the South wind blows strongly indicating the approach of a storm.

Put about 700 peach seeds in the ground in the hope of having them frozen sufficiently to cause them to open easily in the Spring. I cracked a few but found them so dry that the kernel was generally bruised by the operation and not likely to grow.

Tuesday 25th " "

George. George says he paid Kessler for grinding for me \$1.90 and that he paid \$3.85 for me for washtub and sundries when I was in Washington

city, and 90 cents for meat.

Schenck Wrote to Robt. C. Schenck, enclosing to Gov. Corwin, Washington city, in relation to our claims before Congress.

Ainsworth Wrote to John Ainsworth enclosing a letter from Mr. Stockton Atty. at Law in reference to Richard M. Ainsworth's note in favor of John Sirchass, for \$300, which I signed as security.

Babb Wrote to Edmund Babb, care of "Central Christian Herald" Cin. enclosing a map and descriptions of land I offer sale.

Went to Quindaro Post office and thence to And Tuttle to sell him a poney, thence to a Mr. Campbell's to get him to make stakes for my grape vines, but could neither sell my poney nor get my stakes made. I am now very anxious to get these stakes made as it will be easy driving them in the ground as soon as it thaws. Yet laboring men refuse to work as I cannot promise the money as soon as done, and my credit is utterly ruined among all classes. This is an experience I never passed through before and surely I never will again. The poorest, the most worthless and dishonest seem to triumph over my embarrassments. My present experiences disabuse my mind of many erroneous opinions I had entertained of the <sup>laboring</sup> ~~walking~~ classes. The lowest vices and the basest passions then flourish in rude luxuriance. They have nothing to lose, no selfrespect, no property, no money, no social position, no endearing friendships no anything that elevates the man above the brute. Labor does not do this; it is poverty; it is hard times; the poor always feel the degrading pressure of hard times; even honorable men will

stoop to acts when thus borne down by unexpected adversity, or embarrassment, of which they would as lief die as be guilty in their days of prosperity. I thank God that my conscience acquits me of having stooped to any such acts thus far, and I shall pray to him unceasingly to sustain me in the future

Spent an hour at Mr. Newman's this evening..

Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. G's aunt, stays with us this evening,

The rabbits have barked several of my pear trees so badly that I shall lose them unless cutting them off and ~~re~~<sup>re</sup>grafting will restore them. This I shall try.

Helped Jim and Jacob finish and set their bird traps; the first time I have been engaged in that boyish sport for over thirty years. I remember once catching a pheasant in a big box which I used as a trap. I tied the bird by the leg to a bush until I could set my trap again, but in its struggles to escape it loosened the string and flew away. I was so mortified at this that I told my mother I let it go because I was afraid she would not be pleased with my catching so harmless a bird. This was the only lie I verily believe, I ever told, her and I have never ceased to repent it to this day. I wish I could remember how old I was at that time.

Wednesday 26th " "

Have been hauling wood and fodder all day--the first time I have harnessed and drove a team for a long time--so long I cannot remember the time, unless, indeed, on one occasion about a year ago when

I bro't my team home from Kansas city, George drove it the<sup>re</sup> ~~A~~ got drunk and I brought it back. I like to work on my farm and with a team if I can do so with anything like regularity but only to engage in it a day or two at long intervals interferes with habits already settled and more agreeable from that fact.

I have been very unwell all day and this evening I am worse — suffering severely from headache and loss of appetite as well as chilliness—altogether I feel that I need a day of quiet and rest and abstinence.

This evening Morsona expressed a wish to have some pieces selected for her to commit to memory. I ~~was~~<sup>was</sup> glad to hear it but I find <sup>to get her and her sister</sup> it more difficult ~~A~~ to feel an interest in such exercises, besides we have almost all the time some ignorant Wyandot in our family who monopolizes the attention of my family and greatly interferes with the discipline and arrangements I would otherwise establish. I find this association is most pernicious, but it is difficult to get rid of these <sup>who are Mrs. G's near relations.</sup> bad people, but I must and will close my doors against the whole of them the coming summer. My duty to my children makes this step imperative.

This has been a dark, stormy day—alternate snow and hail but not enough of either to whiten the ground. But now 9 O'clock P.M. it is snowing faster and the <sup>earth</sup> ~~XXXXXX~~ is white.

We are now out of floury

Thursday 27th " "

Snow and hail fell to the depth of nearly two inches last night, but have disappeared rapidly today under a cloudless sky.

Wife and family road to <sup>the</sup> Post office on a sled and got my mail.

Mrs. Guthrie and her daughter are nearly barefoot and wanted to call to call for the shoes they had made ten days ago but we have not the money to pay for them and I dreaded the mortification of a refusal to deliver them ~~then~~ on credit. Every day furnishes some new cause of indignant hatred of that arch swindler Charles Robinson; for all my difficulties and my families sufferings are traceable to his ingratitude and rascality.

I have been quite sick all day eating a very little--been confined to my room but feel a little better this evening.

Rec'd a letter from Edmund Babb, dated 20th inst.

Friday 28th " "

Dr. Fries Wrote to Dr. Geo. Fries, Cincinnati, inclosing a list of land I wish him to have sold for me, and a map of the Wyandots Reserve, with the tracts marked.

Longworth Wrote to Nicholas Longworth for grafts of the "Shaker grape," enclosed a stamp.

Babb Wrote to Edmund Babb respecting the sale of lands and townshares.

Do not suffer so much as yesterday but am too unwell to be out of doors--a kind of inertia and dull almost imperceptible pain oppresses me.

Saturday 28th January, 1860.

Mr. Newman called this morning and told me that Mr. Cruise,<sup>?</sup> Clerk of the District Court wished me to come down to Wyandot city as the Dept. Sheriff refused to obey the injunction I had obtained against the sale of my property in the Zane case. I accordingly went down although I was barely able to get about. It seemed Mr. Newman had misunderstood Mr. Cruise as the sale had actually been stopped.

I took a pill of blue mass last night which purged me freely to-day—throwing off a large amt. of billicious matter, but immediately the piles attacked me with such severity that I moved with great pain. As soon as I returned home I went to bed.

Sunday 29th January 1860

Very unwell all day—confined to my room—mostly to my bed—suffering more from piles than anything else. Family went to church in the afternoon.

Monday, 30th " "

Margaret and Maria Cassidy came and wanted the lot which I had at one time sold to Margaret for \$200. to be paid for in work; but property afterwards falling in value she wanted me to take back the lot and pay her the money this I did and have paid her \$95 back there being yet due her \$105 she now wants the lot for this balance less the amount of a debt she owes to Philip T. Colby of about \$25, which she wants me to pay. To get rid of them I finally agreed to this which brings down the price of the lot to about \$80.00.

I am still very unwell and not able to sit up with any comfort. Slept but little last night,

Tuesday 31st " "

Still unwell but better, and have been writing a little to-day, but kept with ~~in~~ doors.

George Gave George ~~Chmel~~ my note for \$200.00 payable one day after date. There is, besides, about \$45.00 due him which I am to pay in money immediately. He says he is now willing to work for me again, but I shall only keep him until I get money to pay him as I do not want to board a hand again.

Day very cold and windy--mercury at 15° above zero most of the day.

Wednesday 1st February, 1880,

Charles E. Chapin was here and I told him to have all the Q. C. Co. land deeds rerecorded as the old records are full of errors. I also gave him the U.S. patents in favor of James M. Long and Matthew Brown for the land we bo't of them to be recorded and then to be safely laid away in the Co's safe.

Fletcher I also handed Mr. Chapin a letter to Arthur W. Fletcher, of Washington City D.C. to be mailed he agreeing to put a stamp on it and throw it into the Postoffice. I had no stamps or of course I should have done this myself. This letter relates to Mrs. G's claim.

Johnson Wrote to Fielding Johnson now in Lawrence in relation to the railroad routes for which he is trying to get a charter from the Ter-

ritorial Legislature. Mr. Chapin also took this letter and promised to pay the postage ~~and~~<sup>and</sup> have it mailed.

Discovered that the rabbits have ruined several of my pair trees. This I deeply regret and the more so as I could have prevented it, for before my present illness I discovered they had done some damage and I intended to put something around them to protect them but neglected to do so. I have now split some cornstocks removed the pith and enclosed the bodys of my uninjured trees with them, tying them fast. This I think will save my trees, it was suggested by Col. Park of Parkville and is the cheapest remedy I know. I would not have had my trees damaged so for \$20. and yet half a days work in time would have saved all this!

George George cut some wood to day and did my feeding but whether he intends it as the beginning of a month's work I really don't know.

Today I have been about a little and feel better but weak.

Sent George to get me 1/2 oz blue mass of Mr. Downs, which for the want of money I had charged.

The mercury was 2° below zero this morning, but th<sup>is</sup> evening is much milder.

A Steamboat the E. A. Ogden is said to have passed up yesterday.

Thursday 2nd " "

Today I am much better in health and have been about much of the day.

In the evening I went over to Jake Hicks to try to get him to