

1_Diaries of an American Farmer in Michigan

Introduction

1868-1902

Introduction

With very brief Excerpts

From Daniel J. Stewart's Diaries

Transcribed from the original
handwritten diaries

Not Fiction

Must Reading For History Students

Brings history to life

From the persons who lived it.

Millennial DVD included with each book and images of handwriting

These are searchable using Ctrl f

Just do Ctrl+f then type in name you want to find

And you can click down arrow and see every entry with that name

- 10 PDF files present the entire work
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- 2_Diary_Excerpts_And_Questions.pdf
- 3_Diaryfrm_bgn 1872-75.pdf
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- 8_DIARY_1885-1890.pdf
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Click on Stewart. **This book is free to all on that website.**

For those doing research on this family or related genealogy visit the above website and
ancestry.com

I also have fotos and more. The family history adds perspective to the work.

The diaries that have survived are from 1868-1902. Written by Daniel John Stewart
transcribed by Dan's nephew Wesley Arnold MA. and Dan's nephew Dr Richard Prior who did
the last diary 1885-1902. These were given to family and put up on Internet for free historical
and educational use.

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Must reading for history students. **Brings history to life**

Not fiction, this is direct from the persons who lived it.

What was daily life actually like 150 years ago.

What did your great grand parents do every day?

Daniel Stewart was a farmer and laborer who lived and kept a daily diary in Michigan. **What life was really like in the 1800s.** Yes it was quite different. After all there were no electric appliances, no televisions radios, no telephones or cell phones. Almost everywhere were farmed fields and woods. It was rural with no paved roads and street lights. If you wanted something to eat what did you do? There were no fast food places, no restaurants, no supermarkets, or big box stores. There were **no microwave ovens** or prepackaged foods. Answer was you prepared all of your own food yourself from the natural state. Almost nothing from the store except salt and sugar. Things were made of wood, metal, reed, cloth, glass, clay or leather as there were no plastic or paper products including toilet paper or paper napkins. If your family needed something chances were that they had to make it or grow it themselves.

The good of the Good Old Days

In general life was slower paced and less hectic than now. Most people had respect for each other.

There was in many families (not all) Love and Kindness and cooperation.

The Air and Water were Pure and you could actually see the Milky Way. And the bottoms of many lakes.

People worked harder physically but were usually happier. there was “singins”, barn dances and barn raising, plowing and quilting Bees. Town meetings, debates and school exhibits.

If you visited a neighbor you would most likely be invited for dinner or help if stranded

There were train trips on the old Steam trains, free if you used the hand car, Less pressure and stress,

Fewer bills to pay, No telemarketers, and good hunting and fishing with lots of wildlife and free food.

What was bad about the Old Days?

If you needed help there was no 911, no police departments, no fire departments or nearby hospitals. To get medical help a person would have to go on foot or by horse many miles to the doctor’s house and hope he would be home. That doctor actually had little medical training and knowledge. The so called doctors of that day also had very few medicines. There were no drug stores. The doctor did not have the diagnostic tests that we have today. About all he could do is ask where it hurt. Many children died young of diseases we now have cures for. And many women died from childbirth. Women often had to bare and raise 8 to 15 children.

Prior to the American revolution, people were ruled by brute force rather than by Laws.

Weapons had to be kept nearby for protection. There was a general lack of knowledge about health and many other important things. Most people were farmers and had to raise or make nearly everything themselves.

They usually had very little money to buy things. There were few stores and little choice of things to buy.

No electricity or electric appliances, No TV Radio or Internet, washing machines, dryers or electric irons

No toilet paper, No flush toilets. One had to go outside to cold a outhouse in the winter. But some people had a chamber pot, not used for cooking, which eliminated the trip outside at night in the dark no lights.

It was unwise to travel or go outside the safety of a cabin at night. There were wild cats, wolves, bears etc. roaming around at night. Our pioneers often reported howling at night from

outside. Most cabins were dark inside at night and day because people did not have candles or oil lamps or fireplaces and the shutters had to be closed to keep out unwanted animals and insects. If pioneers had domestic animals they had to build a barn as soon as they could to protect them. There were no cars, trucks, buses or airplanes. No fast food places or restaurants. No TV dinners, freezers, refrigerators or microwave ovens. No gas, oil or coal furnaces. You had to build the fire first to get warm. Cabins were drafty, and often did not have windows. Many did not have fireplaces so there was no heat or drying fire inside. Cabins usually had dirt floors and were at ground level which meant that insects, spiders, mice, snakes and other vermin shared the living quarters.

Beds were primitive, small and in general not comfortable. They often consisted of piles of grass or straw. which meant that you had to share your bed with various other creatures. Usually with four, six or eight legs. Later a stuffed mattress was placed on top or a suspended lattice work of rope. Beds often had canopies. This was to prevent creatures who inhabited or traveled in the roof which may have been made of straw or wood from falling onto you during your sleep. Husband and wife slept on a twin size bed. The man often insisted on "his" husbandly rights. Girls were often not informed about feminine health issues and there were no feminine health products available. For boys fighting was often accepted as a way of settling issues.

Children did what they were told. If they disobeyed they would feel the sting of a switch on their behind.

Roads were dusty or muddy trails navigated by foot, horse or wagon. There were no gas stations, movies or fast food places, pizza, McDonald's or Taco Bells. The average person owned two or three pairs of clothes one for Sunday. Underwear was often not used by men, nor bras for women. Shoes were awful for the most part. Most were hand made and many were home made as were many articles of clothing.

There were few heated showers or baths. If you were lucky to own a tub it was usually a metal or canvas one about three feet in diameter and the whole family took their baths in the same water with the father usually going first. No: TV, VCRs, electric screens and magazines did not exist. Some newspapers could be ordered delivered by mail. No radio until the around the 1920s. There were no libraries in the area and many people could not read or write. There were few if any jobs available you worked your farm or starved and many people worked long hours and still had little food. There was no welfare, food stamps or Medicaid.

Worst the doctors were untrained often self taught from a book. And even worse they had very few good medications, and no painkillers or pills to relieve problems. Often the so called cure was ineffective or sometimes worse than the illness and as you see with Dan the medicine was expensive..

These diaries have daily records of births, deaths with cause of deaths, marriages, accidents, weather and other daily happenings. Daniel Stewart's Diaries have some records that even the county clerk or state does not have. Example: On May 24, 1884 Dan writes "George's Folks [Clara Stewart] had a son [Daniel Thurston Stewart] born shortly before midnight Dr. Merry physician."

Daniel Stewart was a farmer and laborer who lived and kept a daily diary in California Michigan from 1868 to April 5 1889 and in the area just south of Fairgrove Michigan from 1889-1902. He died Sept 7 1902. The author **Daniel J. Stewart** was born October 6, 1839 in York (Livingston County) New York. He was the **son of Angus Stewart** (1805-1851) and **Elvira Margaret Selfridge** (1815-1900). His early childhood was spent on the family farm in Covington (Wyoming County) New York. His father died when he was only 12. His **brothers were Angus Stewart** (1845-c1920); **Archibald Stewart** (1841-c1920), **George Elliot Stewart** (1843-1904), and **Duncan** (1847-47) died young. His widowed mother bought an eighty acre

farm near California in Branch County Michigan. I puzzled why they moved to this location in Southern Michigan but found others who had lived near them in York and Covington New York also moved to California Michigan then also later to Fairgrove Michigan. (Such as Morrors) This appears to be movement by farmers in search of better soil. It was well known that unfarmed soils often produced the best crops. There **was another Stewart (J J Stewart) who preceded owning the farm** before Mr. French from who Dan's mother bought the California Mi farm from in Sept 2 1867.. I have not found the relationship but there were several J Stewarts in the York NY area. The farmhouse in which these diaries were written still is being used as a residence well over a hundred forty years later.

Although they had no children Dan and Elvira (Vie) raised Daniel Thurston Stewart,(1884-1966), and **George L. Stewart.**(1879-1951) As a boy I heard my grandfather **Thurston** talk about his Uncle Dan and Aunt Vie. He held them in very high regards.

Here are some names and excerpts from California near Coldwater and Ray Indiana: **Angus** is his brother Angus Stewart, **Archy** is his brother Archibald Stewart, **Mother** =Elvira Margaret Selfridge Stewart (1815-1900) widow of Angus Stewart (1805-1851), **Vi** his wife, John Selfridge is Dan's mother's brother. **Uncle George** Selfridge probably a brother of John Selfridge, **A.C. McNaughton** a fellow farmer he worked for, **John Morrow** is the son of **Uncle Walter** Morrow, **Jas Haight** neighbor from the farm immediately west of Dan. The road his house was on was Haight Road named after this family. **W.T. Ellis** the storekeeper See end of book for Fairgrove area common names seen.

Diaries of An American Farmer Excerpts



Our Stewarts practiced this and the golden rule (Do only what you would want done to yourself)



HAND CAR

He sometimes used “The wheel” or a hand car (both free). There was a rail track nearby and the roads were sometimes too bad even for horses. Daniel J Stewart recorded the daily events and his financial transactions in his daily diaries which go from 1868-1902. Dan raised Thurston who spoke highly of his uncle Dan. Wesley Arnold your 80 year old historian stated Thurston was a kind and loving grandfather who he heard talk about Uncle Dan so Wesley brings understanding to these diaries and feels these diaries can offer some understanding into Michigan farm life in the 1800s. It is to this purpose that these diaries be published free of charge. Having little formal education, no dictionary and no spell checker Dan spelled things as they sounded. His spelling is mostly preserved. Daniel did well as he taught himself to read, then read newspapers, magazines and becomes a community leader even participating in debates.

The **30 years of diaries** contain over 1000 pages telling **what happened daily in 10,886 days**. I have here extracted the most common, notable, and interesting happenings to give students an accurate picture of daily life in the 1880s in a small book of about 20 pages 8.5 x 11 and in a free even smaller e-text summary named “1800s Daily Life from Farmer’s Diaries.” Its **free** on my **dogoodforall.today** or amazon.com

The following pages show you how things were on typical 1800 days including typical work that had to be done, old time words, hardships which were all too common, illnesses, deaths, events. These are excerpts and not in any chronological order. I have provided a listing of meanings of over 120 of the old words at the end to save you time. These old diaries also contain valuable records often not found in clerk's office such as: On May 24, 1884 Dan writes "George's Folks [Clara Stewart] had a son [Daniel Thurston Stewart] born shortly before midnight Dr. Merry physician." Neither the state nor county clerk or feds to this day have any record of this mans birth. Also Tues 25 **Jas Mitchell's folks recd a Daughter about ten O clock this morning. [Unless this was a stork delivery this means that his wife had a baby girl.]**

First a typical day was get up at sunrise, do the chores, milk the cows, feed the livestock, clean stalls. By that time a hardy breakfast was ready usually of oatmeal, or waffles, sausage, eggs biscuits. and water or milk. Note coffee and juices were luxuries. Then the men went to work outside plowing or preparing the fields, making repairs, planting. In the fall harvesting, picking berries, bringing in crops, In the winter the never ending cutting wood and feeding the fires, repairing, breaking beans, husking and shelling corn attaching snow runners on the wagon, snow shoveling the road. They were responsible for the road in front of their houses as there were no snow plows for the roads. They also needed to carry a shovel on show days. The children had light chores like feeding the chickens then they had breakfast and walked up to 3 miles to school regardless of weather. Women had to keep the fires going, prepare food and meals, do washing and house work and tend the babies and children. Many families had over 10 children. Evenings was dinner then more breaking beans, husking and shelling corn. (Remember no TV or radio) Then to bed by 9 pm. Dan usually notes weather, what he and his help did, family, and community events, deaths and financial transactions.

I traded 6 ewes with Wm Mitchell for 6 weathers.on Mon 23

NOTE For California Michigan Diaries go to page 3418

John Mitchell Dr to cash this eve-g .50 Fri 13

[fore-n = forenoon]

Wens A pleasant day. I was helping the women about washing & **drawing wood**

Thurs 10 a dark misty day. We **done the chores husked corn and tinkered. in fore-n**

Thurs 17 A fine day. We **finished fiting the South piece of ground,** I was **hunting a drill**

Frid 18 A fine day. Jay and I were **cleaning seed wheat & picking stone** & John was **draging** in the fore-n. Jay and I were **drilling wheat** & John was **grubing & burning**

Wens 23 A flne day. John was cutting corn & I filled the ditch, **finished draging** &

done the water furrowing. Angus was over & done **the drilling for me. Sowed abt 6 acres.**

Thurs 8 Oct I **We were splitting wood, husking corn & drawing pumpkins**

Frid 9 A heavy frost last night a fine day. John was **cutting corn & cleaning rye**

Mon. 12 We were **cutting corn, pulling beans plowing and draging.** I sowed part of the rye

Thurs 15 A fine day John was **husking corn** etc & I was **plowing new ground for rye**

Tues 20 We were **cleaning up a grist** & **husking corn for the hogs**

Mon 26 We **drewed a load of clover hay cut in the orch-d** & **finished diging the potatoes.**

Mon 9 A dark cloudy day & quite cold. We were **husking & drawing corn. Cribed 30 bush**

Thurs 19 A dark cloudy day. John was **splitting wood & taking care of garden truck**

Mon 23 John was spliting wood & I was over to Wm Mitchelis **taging his sheep** in the fore-n.

Mon 30 We were husking corn at Angs. I am to **have the fodder for husking corn** for him

December 1885 Sat 19 I was cutting up & **salting pork & helping make sausage**

Thurs 24 **Attended Maud Fultons funeral today. Cause of death Diphtheria.**

Frid 25 We kept **Christmas at home.** Jay & I **drewed a couple jags of stalks**

Sat 26 A fine day. I was up to the Corners this foren. We drewed 2 jags stalks this eveg

Paid David Sherer **Land & Interest tax** of 21.81 \$3.41 of this was for insurance.

Paid W. T. Ellis for cloth & groceries 1.05 Paid Ayers & Son for 5 gal oil .75

Paid Ed Otis for sugar buttons .55

Thurs 19 A fine day The boys went **Black berrying** **Geting ready for Lyceum** **a bag of midlings .50**

Tues 31 Dec 1901 A pleasant day but a strong N. west wind got quite frosty during the day.

Tue 21 We were **splitting and drawing rails**[RAILS WERE USED TO MAKE FENCES]

Thurs 23 A very warm day. **Drewed manure on the garden** in the P.M.

Sat 25 My **2-yr old Buck** [SHEEP] **sheared 21 lbs wool 365 days growth** [can sell that wool]

Frid 26 John was **underbrushing** & I was **washing wool** I was doing house work & **churning**

Mon. 27. A pleasant day. We finished **grubbing** and I plowed the fence row for the hedge.

Tues. 28 Pleasant but quite cold. **We were drawing stumps and stones off the oat ground**

We were **mowing briars, taking up potatoes & plowing for oats** in the P.M

Thurs 30 I was **dragging** and John **took up a pit of potatoes** in the fore-n.

We were **shelling corn & tinkering in the fore-n.** **Drewed out manure** in the afternoon.

Tuesd 26 helping **mark out** & plant corn and potatoes today.

Frid 29 Showery in the fore-n pleasant in the after-n. We were **sorting and sprouting potatoes**

Sat 2 Cool but pleasant. **We sowed about 4 acres of oats** south of the Bear Swamp.

Mon 4 **We sowed about 1 1/2 acres of oats,** **I plowed and dragged the shock rows**

Thursd 28 A fine day but a cool air pulled stumps & started the plow

Sat 29 A fine day John plowed in the fore-n & I helped Wm. Morrow **thresh** till abt 11 0 clock. He had 320 bush wheat & 85 oats. John was **under brushing**

Mon 20 A fine day. We were **clearing stone off the field**

Thurs 20 Jul 1899 A fine day. I **helped E B Jennings harvest** in the aftern & **put & tip hay**

Wend 10 A fine day. John was working on the road. Rbt Logan and I com-ed shearing sheep

Helped Jas Chestnut **thresh** in the after-n. We were mowing, **plowing and grubing**

Pleasant today. We were fixing fence on the east side, **Ground our scythes**

Frid 31 Cool & Cloudy. I was helping C.B. Jameson in the Saw Mill today

Tues 8 We finished **cleaning the grain-y** in P.M.

Sat. 18 John was **shelling cobs** and **churning**

George Jenks com-ed working for me by the month this morning. He is to work for me 7 months at \$15.00. Fifteen dollars per month

Thurs 3 We **sheared** 9 sheep last eveg and 18 this foren **27 in all** Recd pymt 2.20 My **31 sheep sheared 220 lbs** 20 of them ewes 11 yearlings

Mon 7 A fine day. **George at work on the road with team & wagon.** [Note in those days you were supposed to maintain the road in front of your farm]

I was **shearg sheep We sheared 37 sheep** Recd form him for the same 3.00

Sat 19 **George was plowing corn at home.**

Wedns 2 Jun 1897 I sheared 18 sheep for Chas Sherman this fore-n marked & **taged them**

Mon 28 A fine day. **finished up the soap** [They made their own soap]

Thur 16 John was **sprouting** and picking up Wm. Holly and wife called [visited] this after-n

Mon 5 Jul 1886 **An exceedingly warm day Ther 113 in sun abt noon.** We were helping Angus **cut rye & wheat** **[IN THE 113 F or so HEAT]**

Sat 10 George & I were **helping Angus draw wheat. There was 316 doz on 13 acres**

Wens 14 A cool day with quite a strong north wind. We were helping Angus **finish cut wheat & make hay. I run the mower all day**

Thurs 15 A fine day. We were helping Angus **stack rye & make hay.**

Thurs 26 Aug 1886 Very warm. **Ther stood at 114 in the sun** at 3 1/2 PM. I helped David & Jas Mitchell thresh in the foren abt 1/4 each. Crapo & Co threshed for me this aftrn. Threshed 168 bush wheat- 132 of Oats & 28 of rye.

Oct 9 1886 **John Gowthrop died at Angola last night. Cause typhoid fever-** 11 day sickness.

Thurs 14 Oct 1886 A stormy disagreeable day. **The wind blew a terrible gale** by spells.

The greater part of our fences are blown down

Frid 8 A very warm day. Angus Rbt & George finished cutting my rye today. Jay & I **were picking & sprinkling potato bugs**

Frid 29 Aug 1886 A very warm day We spent the most of the foren getting the sow home for A D Nobles, **she got very warm**, as she passed the well **she stuck her nose to the bottom of a pail of water standing there**, then laid down on the wet ground, was **taken with congestion & died in less than 10 minutes.** [SOW MISHAP]

27 Jun 1887 Geo **was plowing corn** in the foren **worked in the garden in the aftrn.** Drove the Red Cow over to Raymond Sabmuns about 14 h in heat. **I was hoeing beans sorgum**

Wens 29 very warm We were **mowing the orchard** in the foren. Helped Angus **draw in hay** [HORSES KILLED BY LIGHTING MAN SHOCKED] Wm McKinney **had 3 horses killed by lighting on the harvester & Wm was badly shocked** in the storm.

Wens 20 July 1887 Quite warm. George did not work today **on acct of sickness.**

I was hoeing potatoes destroying worms nests in the orch-d.

Sat 25 was **salting beef and shocking stalks**

Thurs 11 Very warm. I **sheared 3 sheep for J. Mills before breakfast** Dr to the same .25

Wens 17 Jun 1891 **I hoed potatoes Paid S Stodard for an express wagon for the boys 1.00**

Wens 12 A fine day. **I was shocking oats turning peas & hoeing Turnips**

I was over to J. Kirks at noon & **put a ring in his Bulls nose**

Sat 29 Sam & I were **puting up a privy**

We raised the barn frame Sat after-n

[FIRE] **George Wilson barn were struck by lightning & bunt.**

Thurs 12 to Frid 13 I **was mowing the graveyard and digging a grave for Emory**

Old time words What do the following statements mean? **I Set 3 hens is even-g**

George went up to Wm Fosters after a load of our **Mangles** in the fore-n.

1st grist of wheat

Walter **who staid to help us dig Mangles**

a large coarse yellow- to reddish-orange beet grown chiefly as food for cattle

were cutting wheat & **bunching hay shocking wheat** [putting in bunches]

We were **underbrushing**

got the horse shod

drawed a jag of hay to the barn to feed the sheep helping **fit the ground** and sow wheat

taking care of garden truck [no not a truck with wheels, means crop]

I was cleaning truck out of the cellar Replanted corn

Wens 13 July 1887 A very oppressive heat today. **Ther stood at 96 on the N** stood **108 on the west stoop** & 11 6 in the sun between 2 [What is a stoop]

Was flailing at our beans Flailing what is that?

Geo changed his corn for oats & shorts for cow feed at the Mill

Took Billy to Town & got his shoes sharpened & set I paid the Bill .50

Tues 2 Jun 1896 Paid Jos Wylie for a bag of shorts for pigs .50 [What do pigs do with shorts?]

Grubed in the fallow

helped **make Cider** & put up a shed over the **Sorgum pan**

Paid Ed Ofis for 2 **lamp chinms** .10

Wedn 30 Jun 1897 Very warm I was **shear-g making a whiffle tree**

We were skiding logs up to the house in the fore-n.

Jan 30 1897 I was **fixing a dray** [a cart] for E B Jennings

Sat 24 Nov 1888 draw stalks gathering & **burning [diseased plants]** cutting sorgum seed

Sat 17 Feb 1900 Thurston & I were in the woods prying up logs



& cut up timber for “draying” out

a bag of midlings .50

George was confined to the house with a **bilious turn**.

What are **Beggas**?



Interesting Excerpts

Shooting Star

Sat 23 **The ther stood 14 below zero this mornng. 20 above at noon & zero in the eveg. I was shoveling** out to the woods **cutting & drawing wood**. Drove over to Angs toward eveg.

There was a singular sight last eveg. Shortly after the moon rose there was **a bright streak of light across the moon shooting** toward the horizon & zenith and about 15 deg to the north & south of it. **There was a very bright light**

(slightly curved) **the color of the rainbow**. They lasted about an hour. The light from the moon **looked like the reflection of fire on the sky** when seen from a distance.

Wens 23 Jan 1889 Vi & I attended David Logans **mfair [marriage fair]** at his Fathers.

He was married last Mon-y eve to a Miss Peice.

Frid 23 Apr 1894 Pleasant but quite cold. I was at home **There was a very fine display of N Lights this eveg It was red & white flash lights formed in the sky formed in the shape of a dome right in the zenith [NORTHERN LIGHTS]**

Sat 24 **The coldest night of the season so far the Ther 12** below zero this mornng. A fine day **Cow calved Bull calf**

I took a ride on the hand car this mornng

[TRIED TO RESCUE CHILD]

[**Runaway horse dragging child April 1896**] As I was starting out to work after dinner, **I heard a cry grief from the direction of Chas Halls** looking in that direction **I beheld a horse sailing over the field with a child fast to it by a leg in the lines** **The horse ran nearly 2 miles before we got it stopt The body was badly bruised & leg broken I arm & shoulder Mrs Jennings & I captured the horse after it ran to the School.**

We took it back to their place

Wedns 8 I sat up at Chas Halls last night & staid the most of the fore-n. George went up to Wm Fosters after a load of our Mangles We unloaded them & cut wood in the afternoon

Thurs 9 A cold east wind & cloudy in the morn. Com-ed raining about 10 oc **Mr**

Halls boy was buried today. Vi & I staid at the house with others.

[FIRES HAVE BURNED ACROSS MICHIGAN MANY TIMES]

The smoke was so dense this eve it was a heavy fog. [**September 1901 Big fires that swept the area in the 1800s several actually burned across the entire state.**]

[MAJOR SURGERY DONE AT HOME assisted by farm hand on kitchen table]

Thurs 8 A fine day. George [probably George Jenks] was splitting & drawing wood. was busy around the house. Doctor H. D. Good of Angola **assisted by Doct Abbot** of Fremont & Dr Fenton of St Line **were here this aftrn & removed a stone from Bro Georges bladder**. They were about an hour performing the operation (**on acct of the bladder collapsing with them**). Robt Logan was here to assist. He & Dr. Fenton are going to stay all night **The stone was abt as large as a medium sized hickery nut**.

The Red Cow calved this eveg. Bull. Calf

Recd of Jas Nobles in trade for 6 doz eggs .96

Vi & I were over to Mr Logans geting ready & taking part in a surprise reception for **Robert who returned today with a wife a Miss Elliot of Ill.** there was present Jas Mitchell & Wife, Walter Morrow & Wife, Bro Angus & Wife, Willson Duguid & Wife, R F Fulton & Wife, Cor Lewis & Wife, Mrs Wylie & Daughter, Jas Lewis & Wife, Mrs Gowthroop & Vi & I 19 in all. **We had a very fine social time it was a complete surprise. They were married Tues eveg.**

Sat 1 Apr 1888 A fine day. Jay and I were over to Church on foot.

I was helping the women in the foren. Went up to town meeting & over to St. Line in the aftrn.

5 Apr 1888 During my absence **Peggy gave birth to a pair of twin colts** one dead

Frid 6 We spent the most of the fore-n **trying to get Peggy to nurse her colt, but failed.**

Sab 24 Jun 1888 A fine day. We did not go to Church as **I could not leave the horse.**

Mon 25 Jun 1888 **Mr Waller was here to see the horse.**

Frid 20 cut the rye George **took the team to the shop to have their feet trimed & examined**

Sab 29 **We got all ready to go to Church** but did not as Peggy got cau-t in the stall & **lamed herself** so that we could not drive her. Mr Trimble & I were out South of Caro **blackberrying** I picked 1/2 bush & bought 1/2 bush .75

Sab 5 Warm day We were out to Sabbath School & Preaching

Vi came down on the train We **attended a temperance lecture** at the Church in the eve delivered by Mrs McClurkin **I came home on the handcar**

I took a ride on the hand car this mornng [there were rail road tracks near some of the places where he had lived so he probably borrowed a handcar to travel] saves on train fare.

I rode over to Akron on the hand car to try my hand Bro George met me at the train

Wens 9 Mar 1892 Pleasant **I took the train for Chicago over the M.C.R.R. Fare to Chicago 6.90** Paid for a pair of pants all wool at E. Saginaw 3.00

Attended Services at the M. E. Church om the eveg. Went home with Cousin Dick Brown

Paid the Druggist for Childs book of nature for Georgie

Thurs 24 A fine day.started for home this mornng. Left Turner abt 8 oc Chicago about 9 oc & Jackson abt 4 ½ oc P.M Arrived at Bro Georges in Saginaw about 9 oc in eveg **[trip bytrain]**

Frid 25 & Sat 26 Staid over Friday with George & folks came out home

Sat found all the folks well **Fare from, Turner to Fairgrove-8.45 [a lot of money those days]**

Mon 22 Mar 1886 A Dark windy squally disagreeable day. Dr. Mitchell called & **took dinner with us.** I attended a lecture at MtGomery (a local town) by Rev Stoddard on **Secret Societys this eveng.** Wens 7 There was some **15-18 in of snow fell in the storm of yesterday. The east & west roads are impassable. George was shoveling on the road. Husked corn** in the PM We attended Presbytery at the Church. The Ladies **served dinner at the Church.** The folks & I were up to Halls Corners this eveg. **Recd of W T Ellis in trade for 6 doz eggs \$1.08 [HE SOLD EGGS, CROPS AND LIVESTOCK]**

I was cleaning up oats & grist, ringing hogs [putting rings in hogs noses making them easier to control like a mom pulling on a bad boys ear to lead him somewhere)

Thurs 10 I arrived at Chicago about 8 am **took the train for Turner** 30 mi west. Fare .90

The **W.C.T.U. held a public Meeting** at the M. E. Church 5 May 1897 WCTU Convention met at Fairgrove this mornng. I took Vi up to Town this fore-n.

Frid 14 Mar 1902 **attended a Gleaner aid this eve**

1885 April 15 **Drawed a load to depot** helping pack up and load a [train] car with goods.

Mon 26 Dec 1887 **Angus & family were here holding Christmas.** I was over to MtGomery this mornng. **Recd at the depot a box of things for the children from Georges folks.**

Tues 3 JAN 1888 A pleasant wintery day. We **finished digging the well & sunk the kerosine** 1/2 barrel in it, **abt 14 ft deep Albert Sherer & Verna Doyle were married today**

Wens 4 A cloudy day thawed a trifle. **put the curbing in the well** & filled in around it in the foren. The State Vet Surgeon was out & **condemned Lee Lawrences horse to be shot on acct of Glanders [as this disease is contagious, can spread to other horses and to humans]**

Thurs 12 Jan 1888 **Ther stood at zero this morn**g a strong chilly east wind, com-ed snowing this eveg. I was out to Angs & **shelled 9 bags of corn in the ear.**

Sab 22 A fine day. **Vi & I were over to Mr Logans to see & help care for Mrs Logan who has been very sick since Wens [Example of neighbors helping neighbors]**

Tues 24 Jan 1888 **Ther 8 below zero this morn**g. Rbt Logan came here this morn g abt 5 0 clock to inform us of his **Mothers death.** She died abt half after three this morn g. **Vi & I went over there this morn**g. Vi staid with them. **I went to get help to dig the grave & make preparation for burial Mrs Logan was 67 years old the 4th of this month [Graves were hand dug even in rain or frozen ground, with a shovel and most corpses were buried the next day as the body remained in the persons home as there were no undertakers and no embalming which meant the corpse would leak and start giving off gasses within a few hours. So corpses were buried usually the following day after they died with the body remaining in the home until burial.]**

Wens 25 A dark cloudy day with quite a snow storm **Vi & I attended Mrs Logans funeral**

Frid 22 A fine day. We were getting things in shape to pack. About 4 PM. **Mr R J Fulton & wife called & told us we were going to have company in a short time there was about 25 friends gathered giving us a complete but welcome & happy surprise**

Thurs 9 Jan 1888 **Ther 14 below zero this morn**g. A pleasant day. **Angus was over here with team. We drew a log apiece to the Mill. Jean Haight had an oyster supper here this eve, 40 present Paid [teacher] Mrs Moses by Vi \$1.00 for childrens tuition in full**

Tues 9 Sep 1890 A fine day. **I was cuting corn spading for strawberries, &c in the fore- Attended a temperance lecture** at our Church this eveg by Mrs Helen Gouger of Ind. **The most Statesman like lecture I have heard in years**

Sat 4 A fine day. I was **husking & shelling corn threshing & cleaning beans paid 1.25/day [in good times but mostly less]**

We attended Christmas tree at the M. E. Church this eveg

There was a party of young folks met here & spent the eveg

I set up at C. B. Jarnesons with a **sick horse last night. Helped take care of her today. We made a sling & got her up today.** [horses have to be up or can die]

Tues 11 Aug 1891 I was not able to work. **Attended an Ice Cream Social** for the **Loyal (Ed. ?) Legion** at Mr McClurkins in P.M

Thurs 1 Oct 1891A fine day. Georgie & I **attended the fair at Vassar. Drove C B Jamesons colt & cart. There was 2 men assended with balloons. went up some 800 ft**

Thurs 5 Nov 1891 **The friends of C B Jameson & gave them a surprise the 17 anniversary of the Weding. Presented them with a set of chairs & a hanging lamp**

Peter Young died Wens morn g of T-d Fever

Frid 20 Nov 1891 Cloudy thawed some. I **banked up the cistern with Sawdust** [to keep the water from freezing]

Frid 25 Dec 1891 A pleasant day. **We kept Christmas at home with the children** Sat 26 **Quite cold with a strong S. W wind freezing quite hard this eveg.**

Sat 16 Jan 1892 **Ther 4 below zero this mg** I was packing fruit splitting wood &c to day **Dr Hamilton Cr by medicine for Georgie** this eve .50

Sab 17 A pleasant day com-ed snowing this eveg. **Thurston was taken sick with the gripp** this morn g & Vi was taken this evening

Mon 1 Feb 1892 A dark cloudy day com-ed raining in eveg **I was confined to the house with the Grippe or heavy cold**

Tues 2 . **Paid Dr Hamilton** for calling to see Mother & me .50 **Found Mother & Thurston sick** Paid Dr Hamilton for a visit .50 **I attended a barn raising**

Wens 26 Oct 1892 **Attended a Prohibition Lecture** at the M.E. Church this after-n & eveg.

Thurs 27 A fine day. **The boys & I attended the Caro Fair**

The boys husked several bush of corn. We have husked 425 up to day

C.B.J. **roan cow calved this eve.** H.C. [Hefer Calf]

Sab 13 A cold wintery day with a strong N wind. **George rode the horse over to Church had to build the fires could not get through this road without shoveling some** only 18 out to Church

[3 TEETH EXTRACTED 50 CENTS PROBABLY NO PAIN KILLERS]

Frid 1 Feb 1895 Pleasant but quite cold I took **Thurston up to Dr McKibbins & had three teeth drawn Paid him for the same .50** **DENTIST BILL 50¢**

Sab 17 MAY 1896 **Quite warm with the wind blowing a perfect gale from the S. & S.W. from 60 to 80 m & hour Cyclone It has destroyed thousands of bush of Apples Pears Cheeries & other fruits besides burning the leaves of Forrest & Fruit trees badly. Wheat Corn & Oats are also badly wilted**

Tues 26 May 1896 **Cloudy & quite a strong wind. [CYCLONE] There was a terrible cyclone struck the County line last eve about due west of Fairgrove & destroyed every building for about 3 miles Joe Malbum was killed by a board being blown through the windows & striking him.**

Wedns 29 Jul 1896 I helped Emory in the Mill in the fore-n **Made cider & set up oats**

Mon 31 Aug 1896 A fine day. George was drawing manure for Emory **I made 13 bar cider** for him Grubed in the follow

I taged 37 sheep docked 13 E lambs Cast 15 B lambs. George went fishing but got none When I got home last night I found quite a number of young people gathered here in honor of Thurstons birthday. **[Dec 1897]**

Attended Christmas Tree at the School house this eve Miss Anna Scranger teacher

Wedns 12 Jan 1898 We attended a debate at the School house this evening

The family attended the Lyceum

Mon 21 Feb 1898 A strong N wind through the night & today with snow some **10 or 12 inches fell.** We done the chores Wedns 23 **Attended Debate this evening.**

Frid 11A dark cloudy day with rain in the fore-noon colder **We were at home reading** etc **Speakers on the aff D.J. Stewart, John Kirk & Spercell.** On the neg R.J Jameson, C Stoddard. **UNCLE DANIEL J. STEWART ON DEBATE TEAM**

Thurs 2 A fine day. **Vie Thurston & I attended the meeting of the Farmers Club at the Mr Henry Millers.** There was something like **140 or 150 persons present**

Sat 18 Snowed last night & most of the mornng Sleighs were busy today

Thurs 23 MARCH 1899 A pleasant day quite nice sleighing.

The Cow calved this after-n Heifer C **Hardships**

There was **some 12 or 14 in of snow fell last night.** [Jan 1895]

Frid 9 Feb 1894 Snowed & blowed from the N last night & today I helped C B Jameson in the S. Mill till 11 oc **[ACCIDENT]when I got my 2nd finger on the left hand in the Slab Saw splitting nearly to the 2nd joint. Dr McKibben done it up for me, put in 6 stitches**

Tues 23 A fine day. Thawed consider We attended **Nellie Holleys funeral (with various mishaps) 1 st-The coffin was 4 in to short** had to drive to Reading & exchange which delayed us till 2 PM. 2nd The bearers let the strap off one end which changed ends **with it & dropt it into the vault face down.** **[COW ACCIDENT]**

Thurs 30 Jun 1887 A very warm day. George & I **took the spot Cow over to Ira Adams this mornng.** Stopt at the woods gate to open, George helping hold of the end of the rope & I hold of it next to **the cows head when she jumped the rope between us & started for home with the rope around my neck shoving me to the ground hurting my right arm & shoulder severely.** **[FIRE]**

Sab 24 Wash Trimbles **house took fire & burned down** abt noon today [Apr 1895]

Sab 16 Jun 1885 A fine day. The boys were out to SS & Prayer Meeting

I got quite a severe thump from the Prince horse this eveg as I turned him out from watering.

The roads are terrible for mud

He struck me in the right groin a 1 footed kick. I had to be helped into the house

Mon 1 Jul 1895 A fine day. We were cultivating & hoing potatoes etc Vi & Mother were o

Sab 7 Aug 1887 We did not go to Church as **Top was sick with blood poison.**

Calvin Jamesons Saw Mill was burnt to the ground last night 10-11oc loss \$1500.00

We attended **Miss McCreedys funeral** at the M.E. Church this after-n. **She was thrown from a buggy & killed by running horses**

[SAW MILL ACCIDENT]

Tue 28 Mar 1893 **I helped** C.B. Jameson **saw** until 10. 1 5 am when **Stillman Jameson took a stick for the purpose of pushing the saw dust out of the spout on the back side of the saw. it caught in the teeth jerked his left hand on the saw tire off the 2nd finger, cut the end off of the 3 finger & ripped open the ball of the thum & broke one bone in his arm about 2 in above the wrist joint.** I brought him up to **Dr McKibbins** & assisted him in **dressing it.** He was under the influence of **Either & Chloriforin** some over an hour [TO KILL THE PAIN] Stili came home with me

Wens 29 & nurs 30 Pleasant spring weather. I was at home helping take care of Stillman

Chas Holleys **daughter Nellie died this mornng** shortly after 7 0 clock

Mother & I spent most of the day & eveg with them. **Chas Holleys his little girl**

had a very severe fit. Com-ed abt 2 this mornng & they have lasted all day

Wm Dussler **died this mornng.** Cause consumption of the throat. Rose Jameson **was badly hurt by being thrown into the ditch by the horse geting scared in the road**

Wedns 11 **So hot today that the cattle fainted in the field** [SEPTEMBER 1895]

Sab 29 Sep 1895 Quite cool & cloudy Vi & I drove over to see Elmer Jameson who **got badly hurt by a colt** coming from the Fair Frid eve. **The colt kicked him badly just above the left ear cuting the scalp badly but did not break the skull**

Paid the druggist for swamp kit .50 [13 February 1896]

Sat 22 Feb 1896 **Paid N H Nixter 1.04 tax on the dog.** Paid for a bot of med-e.50

Wm Kirks **infant daughter was buried this after. C. Col. Infantum [Many children died from diseases we now have cures for.]** Sab 21 We were out to S S & Preaching

The corn & vines were cut lightly by frost last night

Mon 22 A fine day. I was cuting corn at John Moreheads. He is Dr to the same 1.00

Calvin Browns infant daughter died about 8 oc last eveg. Cause **Cholera infantum** Tues 23 A fine day. We attended Calvin Browns **childs funeral.** I had Mr Kinneys horse to drive.

Tues 23 A fine day. **We attended Calvin Browns childs funeral.**

I attended **John Adams funeral service at the house** in the foren.

Took Vi & Hattie up to see **Rhoda Goodwin She died a few minutes before** we got there. **She would have been 18 in a short time**

Archy McDonald of Akron died last eveg. Cause Brights Disease

[BURIED IN WRONG GRAVE]

Wens 22 Jan 1888 A fine day. **I went over to Mr Logans to let them know that Mrs Logan was buried in Geo Handies lot & that he wished her moved.** Went over to the **graveyard with Robt** in the aftr-n. Came home by Walter & Angs to engage their help for tomorrow

Thurs 23 A fine day. **Rbt Logan & I Walter Morrow & Angus were changing Mrs Logans grave to day. Mother was quite sick** this mornng. Dr Skinner of St Line came to see her

David Speers little daughter died last night. Cause a heavy cold with whooping cough.

Vi & I attended **S'm Duguids childs funeral** in the after-n.

[ACCIDENT] I was cuting a sapling some 25 ft high & 5 in through it jumped the stump & **stuck endways on top of my foot bursting it badly,** could not work today.

Mr Holikers **8 mo child was buried** this P.M Cause inflammation of the lungs

Jen Cranson died with diphtheria this mornng, Buried this eve

Wm Kirks infant daughter was buried this after. C. Col. **Infantum**

The boys were not so as to attend any of the meetings on account of **Whooping Cough**

Mrs Robt McAllister was buried Thurs.Cause of death consump-n [July 1894]

When we got home, **found Mother sick**, and

Vi away to C Browns to help take care of Mary & Ada who are sick with malerial fever

Wens 26 . I **was at home about sick with chroic diareah.** Pd Dr. Hamilton for med . 25

Sab 7 Oct 1894 **Mrs Stephen French died today. Typhoid Fever**

Mrs John Manning died Tues eveg, was buried today

Sab 7 **Harry McDonalds boy died this mornng** [unknown cause]

Vi & I **attended the funeral services of H. McDonalds baby** We got home about 3 1/2 oc

Went over to **Mr Beals to extend our help & sympathy. Mrs Beals died about midnight**

[something had happened to his horse and it appears that he had had only one horse.]

Mon 23 Mar 1896 Went from Jamesons to Sid Hoveys & **bought of him a bay horse known**
as the Culbert horse which he claims to be sound kind & true & to be 9 or 10 years old

The price was \$35.00 for which I paid him cash 5.00 & R. J. Jamesons note for 15.00 For the
ballance I gave him a mortgage note on the horse for 15.00 payable it the Fairgrove Bank
ninety day after date int.08 prct **[WAS SO POOR HE HAD TO GIVE A mortgage]**

Paid Moreland for Sch books 3.05 Geography, History, Arithmetic & Spellar

**Paid for repairs on shoes .15 Paid S. Jameson for filing saw .15 Paid Ab Aldrich for 2 ax
handles .25**

Dec 1 1896 Quite Cold & wintery **Thurston started to school this mornng**

Mon Feb 1st to Sat 6 1897 A week of mildv winter weather except Sat which was quite damp
were cuting wood drawing log setc. **I have been in the house with grip since Thurs noon**

Chas Shamon was buried today Cause pneumonia caused by grip

Mon 8 to Sat 13 Quite a mild week of winter weather. **I was not able to do anything**
outdoors on acct of grip & other troubles got Dr Hamilton to lance a Fistula at the back of
the rectum

Sab 28 A fine day but **terrible for mud**

**Andrew Morrows boy was killed in the Saw Mill got Vet Douglass to cottle & see our
cow, found her (helpless behind)** with no cause that we knew of

Frid 17 Sep 1897 **Thurston & I were out trying to find work but failed.** Took dinner at John
Cofield. George is **down with the mumps**

Vie is having chills with fever George was quite sick all night,

George was so sick we could not leave Was bad off all day yesterday Fever with vomiting

Mon 17 I was up to Dr Handies this mornng to get some medicine for George Paid for it .50

Had to carry to **Mark Hobarts a telegram of his Aunts death**

Chas Elliotts baby buried today

Sab 4 **Vie & I were helping take care of Mr Clark. He died this eve Cause Dropsey &
heart disease**

Tues 20 Jun 1899 A fine day. **Thurston was taken sick last night had a high fever all day**

Wedns 21 A fine day. **Thurston not fit to work I was mowing in front of the house,**

Vie Thurston & I took in the S.S excursion to Bay Port Fair.50 cts a piece

Mother & **I were down to John Morrows to help at a Barn raising**

Thurston cut weeds in the fore-n **To hot to work** in the afternoon

Sat 19 Aug 1899 A very warm day. Ther stood at 99 in the shade yesterday & 100 today

To hot to do anything. We had nothing to do so we done nothing. [very rare]

Mon 21 Aug 1899 Quite cool today. rained somewhere but not here last night. **I carried
24 pails of water from Mr Annibles & helped [wells must have gone dry]**

Vie about washing in the fore-n Was cobling & tinkering in the after-n

Will Campbell & Gertie Richison were married Christmas

Alf Lane was buried today Cause, Consumption brought on by carelessness, & exposure

Mrs Addie Kendall was buried today

John Sheridan died Tues Cause Typhoid Fever

Mable Huntzberger died this mornng. Diphtheria

Grandma dies **[Dec 8 1900]** Mrs Campbell & Mrs Annabal to help lay her out then he went after Cousin Mary & **telegraphed** to Archy George & Angus

Wedns 12 Quite a cold chilly day. **The relatives & a few of the friends & neighbors met at the house. after a prayer by Rev Dean the remains were removed to the Church where Rev Dean gave us a comforting Sermon from The remains were viewed by friends then removed to Brookside Cemetery. She lacked 9 days of being 85 y old I have this record to make concerning our neighbors. They all seemed anxious & willing to render all the assistance that was needed for which we are very thankful**

Drove up to the train after Bro George this evening Found him there this time

Thurston at home Geo at E.B.J **A few young folks met here to spend the even-g They watched the old year out and the new one in, Thus closed the 19 century**

Etta has been about used up the last week with severe pain in her stomach

Mrs Frank French was buried today Cause of death Cancer of the stomach

Thurs 31 Jan 1901 Quite a rough day. The boys were **both indoors with heavy colds**

I was chore boy & man of all work today

Sab 3 Feb 1901. **I was confined to the house with the grip**

I was not able to be out on acct of the gripp

Thurston was out trying to collect for George in the fore-n.

I am still tied to the house Old Mrs Hinson was buried today Cause wore out.

[Family Marriage] **George & Lucinda Jennings went out to Caro today & were Married He was 21 the 3rd of last Dec She will be 21 the 24 of this month**

There was some **25 of the young folks put up a surprise on Georges folks this eve.**

[In other words it was a surprise party for Lucinda Jennings now Lucinda Stewart.]

Took Billy to Town & got his shoes sharpened & set I paid the Bill .50

Mon 1 **We were attending Town Meeting today.** We got home around 4.30 this eve

Attended an exhibition at the School House this eve, given by the young folks

Sat 13 Apr 1901 A fine spring day. **Lucinda was taken sick in the night.** George went after Dr Handy this mornng. I was out Took dinner at Elias Gibbs **fed the Horse also.**

Old man Leitson was killed by falling off his wagon yesterday the wagon ran over him, Caused by a line breaking & he stept on the Whiffle trees to reach it when the team started & threw him under the wheels



A great many reported overcome by heat yesterday Claimed that the ther run from **96 to 100 in shade 100 to 125 in sun** Frid 28 The **most oppressive heat** of the last 4 days.

Thurs 11 Jul 1901 A very fine day. **George was cultivating Sugar Beets** in the fore-n & **Will & I picked Berries about 2 hours. We got about 10 qts Attended a barn raising at Jas Arnolds** in the afternoon. Sab 28 Jul 1901 **Craig was killed by lightening Sat mornng**

14 Aug 1901 **Will attended Farmers Picnic at Gibsons**

Lucinda went with her parents were geting ready to **go to Buffalo in the mornng for Pan American [The SS Pan American a steamship that did tourism on the great lakes]**

Will not flt to work. **Mr Colwell died Sabbath afternoon Funeral tomorrow Disease hardening of the Liver & Kidney troubles**

I took Thurston up to the train this mornng. He is going to make a trip to Cleveland Fare for the round trip by way of Saginaw 5.30 **[Thurston was in Cleveland when Pres shot] President [William] McKinley died this morn-g at 2.15 His last words were, Good Bye all, good bye.**

Sab 6 Oct 1901 A fine day. Once more I have been spared to behold the light of my Birthday making me 62 years old I bless & praise the Lord for all his goodness shown unto me, I was out to Church Services. Thurston came home with me. George took him home this eve

Mon 7 Oct 1901 A fine day. **Sugar beet harvest com-ed in earnest** with us this mornng

Frid 1 Nov 1901 We were moving from E B Jennings house by the Cider Mill to the house on the farm. The boys **having rented it for 3 years**

Thurs 19 Dec 1901 **Very frosty this mornng**, a fine day otherwise.

George's L folks had a 17 in girl [Ruth] born this mornng after a hard night of labor.

Frank Luther & Nellie Otis were married Tuesday P.M

& Joe Campbell & Fannie McAlpine were married Wedns

Sat 21 Dec 1901 About the coldest mornng yet **The Ther must have been as much as 10 or 12 deg below zero.**

Wedns 1 Jan 1902 A pleasant winter day. **Bro Geo Thurston & I held New Years at C B**

Jamesons Geo folks spent the day at home F Bedells

Paid Hall Gaylord for Money Order for Courier Herald 1.25

The boys were fighting fire on R J Jameson s the most of the after-n.

George went to Town on the Wheel after dinner.

I could not go to Church on acct of coughing so bad.

The Jersey heifer calved this eve. Bull calf

Mon 12 A fine day. **The boys fited & sowed 5 acres of Beets today making 10 acres**

George & Lu went out to Saginaw to attend their Cousin Wills funeral.

Thurston & I attended Ringling Bro show at Saginaw. Fare & ticket 1.15

Some one picked my pocket this eve just as I was going into the car They took my wallet

Sab 8 Jun 1902 A fine day. **I could not go to Church as my cough was so bad**

Thurston was out to Church but **I was not abel to attend**

Sab 6 A fine summer day **Thurston was so bad off with hay fever he could not go to church & I was not able to attend**

Wedns 9 Jul 1902 Quite a heavy rain last night & this mornng. Too wet for farm-g The boys **went a berrying in the after-n & got wet to the hide. Got some 10 qts in a short time**

I was not able to attend Church as I cannot travel alone,

Thurston drawing rails & fencing garden fences so as to keep the hogs out of the garden.

Ed. Note: **Thus ends "Uncle Dan's Journal"** He obviously was quite sick and had been consulting several doctors for months, and taking much medication. His hand writing for the last several weeks was deteriorating quite rapidly. State of Michigan death certificate lists date of death as Sept 7 1902 which is 40 days after this last entry age 62 years 11 months.

A few additional Stewart notes:

After selling the farm to Uncle John Selfridge in 1889 for \$3,630 they moved to Fairgrove MI several hundred miles NE. Daniel is buried at Brookside cemetery at Fairgrove Michigan.

Wesley indexed the cemetery see the file on Brookside Cemetery. Dan is next to his wife Vi where there is now a stone which historian nephew professor Wesley Arnold placed listing the five persons buried there. On Dan's plot are Dan J. Stewart, Vie Ball his wife, His mother Elvira, His brother George, and Thurston's mother Clara. There is a standing cousin Jameson baby stone nearby. The big Stewarts stones nearby are not related. Dan's Grave is just East of the tool shed to the on a little mound just East of the big Stewart [unrelated] stone. Dan was a strong man but he and other family members also suffered ague which is a malaria like disabling illness caused by mosquitoes that at times would disable even a strong man.

After they **sold the California farm Thurs 4 Apr 1889** Angus came over this eveg after us.

We broke up housekeeping & went home with him bidding farewell to our dear home forever as a family residence. This house in California still exists and a family lives there at 1229

Haight Road East of Locus Road surrounded by farmland. Dan then rented houses usually in area two miles south of Fairgrove and ¼ mile east of Main Street. One house E of Big Jennings farm house just east of Hinson on Gilford Rd. Both houses are both gone. **Daniel Thurston⁴ Stewart** born May 24, 1884 in California Michigan, is mentioned many times was born in the house where Dan wrote the early diaries. The farmhouse is located one half mile east on the south side 1229 Haight Road from Locus Road. The eighty acre farm was located on the east half of the southwest quarter of section twelve of California Township 8 range 5 west. Still being lived in surrounded by farm land in 2022. Thurston's narrative adds to our story. "I being 15 finished my school term in the 8th grade, and here is where we had teachers that were teachers, the school a great big building, there were at times 65 to 70 scholars, from 1st grade to the 8th grade reg. But our teacher was very pleased to give some of us work in some advanced work that came up in the 9th and tenth grade as there was no high school anywhere near us at that time. I carried ten subjects and an extra one at times this happened in the year 1899 and the class had its graduation in June 1900. There were about 17 of us. In 1900 at age 16 he tells about his daily life. First he "had chores to do, then look after four acres of potatoes, six acres of corn, and a bog garden, all of course for the benefit of the family, as my uncle with whom I had lived all my life, went out to work for others, so to bring in a little extra money. Then through the year there were other things that came up to work at, and then that same year I had the chance to weed and thin out sugar-beets ...and could make about one dollar a day.... I had a job on the farm arose 4:30 AM to curry and harness four to six horses and feed them, milk two or three cows before breakfast and be in the field by seven AM or earlier. One hour and fifteen minutes for dinner and feeding 2-6 horses, in the field until 6 PM. Later some chores but in bed at 9 most of the time. Don't let anybody tell you that everybody worked eighteen hours a day, they didn't except once in a while for a few days when necessary..." In my seventeenth year I worked out by the month on a farm, at fifteen dollars a month." "In 1901 President McKinley was shot and I was in Cleveland at this time." "In 1902-3 my brother and I worked together on a farm of 120 acres, had 20 acres sugar beets. Lots of work."

Final note from your 80 year old historian Wesley Arnold. Having heard about Uncle Daniel J Stewart and Aunt Vie many times from the man he raised D Thurston Stewart and having lived in this family and studied their history for many decades I just want to share an important observation. Thurston was raised with love and kindness and encouraged to do good. Thurston did the same for me. Thurston had been abandoned by his parents and in his late teens he moved out to start farming on his own thinking he could make a living on his own. Here is what his uncle Dan thought about it. Frid 29 Apr 1901 A pleasant spring day. I was at home doing a little of every thing

Thurston & Walter [Morrow] was here after his trunk this eve. Thus [into] the world goes Thurston poor boy has started out all alone to make his way through the troubles & trials, joys & sorrows of life & our Father in Heaven we pray thee go with him to guide & cheer him to comfort & keep him through life, & fit him for the joys of heaven when life's course is run, **Farewell dear boy, farewell.**

[We can see that Dan misses him. And I can testify that Thurston at age 82 still spoke very highly of his Uncle Dan and Aunt Vie.] Dan stated after Vie's death

“May we always remember the love & kindness of the many friends who ministered to our wants through this season of sickness, death & bereavement”
Sab 6 Oct 1901 A fine day. **“Once more I have been spared to behold the light of my Birthday making me 62 years old I bless & praise the Lord for all his goodness shown unto me”**

This family also did many acts of kindness as did D Thurston Stewart and his family. The colorful meme at the beginning and here sums up the spirit of this family and gives purpose and meaning to our lives. BE KIND DO GOOD.



CALIFORNIA MICHIGAN 1884

Here are some of the California diaries excerpts. Note full transcriptions actually start in 1872. See the PDF file for this year. Note you can use Ctrl f to search for any name and find all entries for that name. To save space and your time I have edited out much weather, time and duplicate entries.

Daniel Stewart's Diaries have some records that even the county clerk does not have. Example: On **May 24, 1884** Dan writes "George's Folks [Clara Stewart] had a son [Daniel Thurston Stewart] born shortly before midnight Dr. Merry physician."

Services by Rev RST Wylie **MR Wm Lawrance died last night in his 83rd year, of cancer.**

May 25, Sab 25 We were out to preaching services by Rev Robt Wylie.

May 26 We were repg tools & fences picking stone.

May 27 Justin was picking stone & Mother & **I attended Wm Lawrences funeral.** I helped Wm Holley reside his barn Recd of W T Ellis in trade for 6 13 butter 130 &

4.6 eggs @ 1.43 Paid S J Chestnut for Cod F & oil .60

May 28 Vi & Georgie Justin & I were out to Fremont/ Philip Michael dr to cash on acct 10.80 Ce by a pair of sheep shears & knife 2.00 Paid David Michael acct & for lime today 3.90 Paid Dewey & Chadwick for goods 9.82 Paid Dr Hagerty for med for Vi & I 1.25 Paid Havens for cleaning watch

May 29 Quite a frost last night. Blacked the potato tops & vine leaves Angus helped Justin draw a load of hay from Ira Adams ,Ira Adams Ce by 1.2 tun of hay

May Frid 30 Justin & Mowery were cutng rails

May 31 We took 10 bush potatoes out of pit & finished plowing the garden We planted a row of potatoes on part of 2 sides of the cornfield (200 Hills) & fixed the fence around the pasture

1884 Jun Sab 8 Justin & Mary were over to Church

Jun Mon 9-Sat 14 Justin was doing farm work & I was shearing sheep at several places

Jun Mon 16-Sat 21 Justin was doing farm work I was shearing at several places

Jun Sab 22 We were out to Sab School and Preaching Services by Rev Joseph McCracken

Jun 23 A very warm day We attended a Congratl Meeting at the Church Made out a call for Rev R C Wylie. Took the wool over to McGomery Recd of C F French for 1453/4 lps wool 28@, 40.81

Jun 24-26 Justin was doing farm work & I was shearing in several places

Jun 27 helped Chas Holley haying, Justin was grubing plowed corn for Angus with team in PM

Jun 28 helped Chas Holley Justin was plowing corn for Angus with team

Jun Sab 29 We were out to Sab School and Prayer Meeting

Jun 30 Justin was plowing corn Angus & team were mowing for me at Chas Holleys I was moving fence corners & around. And stumps Went over to McGomery in evg

1884 Jul 1 Justin plowed corn Angus & I were mowing & puting up hay the rest of the day

Jul 2 Justin plowed corn & raked hay & Angus & I mowed the hill lot in AM. Justin & Angus were drawing Chas Holleys part of the hay & I was raking & cocking [flipping it to let it dry] hay at home in the afternoon,

Jul 3 We were bunching & drawing hay. We put up 8 loads of hay for myself

1884 Jul Frid 4 A light skiff of rain last night cool cloudy today. Justin cultivated corn & Hayed

Jul 10 A fine day I helped Angus cut wheat Justin plowed potatoes in the fore-n Helped Angus cut wheat in the afternoon

Jul 14 We finished cutting wheat & rye today, Angus & Robert & Davud Logan helped us I got a sow & 6 pigs of Jas Haight this morn-g I am to let him have another hog for them.

Jul 17 I was helping Angus draw wheat Justin plowed the garden in the morn-g.

Jul Mon 21 Justin & I helping C Holley draw wheat Susie Carl & Mary Staley were here visiting this pm

Jul 22 We were helping Chas Holley draw & stack wheat in the fore-n.

Jul Thrs 24 We were grinding the mower knives. &c in the fore-n. Justin was cutting grafs in the fence corners. & some of us attended Ladies Missionary Society at Angus in the afternoon

Jul 25 I was out to Reading Took 6 bush wheat to Mill

Jul 26 were mowing & putting up hay. Traded 2 hogs with Jas Haight for two sows.

Jul Sab 27 We were out to Sab School and Preaching Services by Rev Wylie. Mother came home with us

Jul 28 Justin was plowing corn with one horse. I was mowing & bunching hay

Jul 29 Justin & I helped Jas Haight thresh till 4 PM & Wm Holley till dark

Jul 30 Helped Angus get some hogs over to Jas Haight the rest of the fore-n. I helped Chas Holley draw two loads of hay & he helped me draw two loads. Noe Nall the butcher Ce by beef got today 1.30

Jul 31 Justin was plowing corn. I was over to MtGomery this fore-n was fitting & hanging screens in the afternoon. Grey & Strunk Ce by screen door.1.76 Ira Adams Cr by 10 bush oats

1884 Aug Frid 1 **Justin & Mary were attending their Uncles Funeral** I was repg screens & bunching hay in the fore-n. Helped Chas Holley thresh.

Aug 2 I helped Chas Holley thresh We were drawing & stacking hay the rest of the day. Had 5 loads in all cut since harvest.

Aug Sab 3 Pleasant day. A light shower this evg We were out to Sab School and Preaching.

Aug 4 We were cutting oats at Angus. Justin plowed corn

Angus. Had 378 doz We had Alex Jameson, Angus Robt Logan, & Chas Holley helping

Aug 6 We were cultivating & weeding corn

Aug 7 I was over to Wakemans to Mill got 20 bush rye ground for feed **Mr Asa Warner was buried today cause of death the 3rd stroke of praalasis [paralysis]**

Aug 8 Justin finished plowing corn I was weeding & thining corn

Aug 9 were weeding, thining, & bringing up corn, Was up to Halls Corners in the evening. Sold Chas Ritchie 2 spring calves for \$19.00 Recd 10.00 on the same. Pd W.T. Ellis for bade .50

Aug 11 We were weighing calves helped Mr Aultman thrish i I let Angus have a sow weighing 153 lbs for which he is to give me a burrow. The calves that I sold sat weighed the steer 257 the Heifer 237

Aug 12 Justin was drawing manure started the falow in the evg. from there to MtGomery. Helped Wm Mitchel thresh in the afternoon.

Aug 13 We drew 4 loads of oats in gd + 54 I changed hogs, I paid him 50 lb right a sheep got of him

Aug 14 A warm day & terrible day & dusty. We attended Sab School and Picnic at Sugar Grove South of Clear Lake. There was 17 schools represented & a large crowd of people in attendance.

Aug 19 We were repairing fences clearing out fence row

Aug 20 We finished repg the grainery cleaned out the stock well & grubed in the orchard swamp

Aug 21 I went over to help Angus butcher a sheep this morn-g. Comcd threshing about 11 AM. Justin Wm Holley & myself helped him, There was 267 bus of oats that I raised on his place

Aug 23 Justin was helping Ira Adams thresh I took 5 hogs out to Fremont. Recd of Jake Michael for 5 hogs averaging 198 lbs apiece at .04 ½ per lb 44.55

Aug 27 We were spliting rails drawing wood & rails I was over to MtGomery this evg to change a couple of plow points. Robt Logan & cousin called this evg.

1884 Aug 29 We were plowing & fitting rails &c. Helped Justin rig up the 3 horse team & he plowed South of the orchard in the afternoon. I helped A D Nobles thresh

Aug 30 A fine cool day. Sunshine & shadow. Justin was plowing South of the orchard. He went over to Angus & got 9 bus of oats. I helped A D Nobles thresh he had 53 bus wheat & 500 of oats

1884 Sep Mon 1 Justin was plowing South of the orchard I was grinding & mowing briers

Sep 6 We both helped Jas Haight thresh from supper time till dawn night

Sep 8 We helped Jas Haight thresh They moved the thresher to my place & threshed until 4 1/2 PM Mr Crapo Ce by threshing 157 bus wheat .03 @ 110 of Rye. 03 @ & 255 of oats .02 @ 13.11 Had 1 hand from George Mealls 1 from Ira Adams, 2 from A D Nobles, Chas Holley, Hebe Hichcock, Wm Holley, Wm Sherer, Walter Morrow & three hands from Angus, helping.

Sep 9 A very warm day. The Ther stood 115 in the sun this afternoon. Justin dragged I helped Angus put up a grist in the afternoon for him and me. I helped Wm Sherer thresh Albert 3/4 day

Sep 10 Went over to Mt Gomery in PM Recd of R Moore Ce for 3 1/2 doz eggs in trade at .14 per doz .49

Sep 12 We drew off rails & pulling stumps old man Robbins poisoned himself last night with mahl

Sep 17 We comcd cutting corn. Mother & I went over to Angus to see little Mary who is very sick with diphtheria. I left Mother came home & ret'd in evng.

Sep 18 Took 2 buggy wheels up to the shop in the afternoon. Bought Mary Greer home

Sep 19 Justin & Jas Haight were cutting corn for me. Vi & I spent the day at Angus They think Mary's symptoms better. **George thinks they had a shock of an earth quake today**

Sep 22 Justin was digging potatoes. took 90 odd bush of wheat over to the station for the Aultman

Sep 23 Justin husking corn **Little mary died at three this after-n with diphtheria 11 day sickness. I went o Fremont after a coffin for Angus. A J Brnighon Ce by same \$14.00**

1884 Sep Wed 24 Quite a heavy shower abt 1 PM. We **attended Little Mary's funeral this fore-n**. We went over to Angus after the Mill & cleaned seed wheat in PM.

Sep 25 We were drawing pumpkins & getting ready to sow wheat. We had Angus drill drag & horse

Sep 26 We were cleaning up wheat dragging & drilling. Justin went up to Halls Corners after a scraper

Sep 29 A fine warm day with flying clouds. Justin helped Angus cut corn

Sep 30 Justin & I were scraping out a ditch in field south of orchard Justin dragged in the afternoon I commenced drilling rye Angus came over & drilled while I was cleaning up seed rye.

1884 Oct 1 Justin finished dragging I helped Angus finished sowing rye & furrowed it out. Sowed 13 bush on 7 1/2 acres. Had Angus drill to sow wheat & rye. Vi & I took tea at Angus & attended Prayer Meeting at the school house.

Oct 2 I was over to Angus setting up the reaper I helped him cut corn in the afternoon. Justin & I took the white heifer over to Chas Adams in the evening

Oct 3 Justin was helping Angus cut corn I comcd cutting clover seed on Jas Haight's south place.

Oct 7 I finished Jas Haight's seed & Angus & Justin finished mine in the fore-n. Justin & I helped Angus cut his seed Vi & I attended a Temp Speech at Ray this even-g, by a man from Angola.

Oct 8 were putting up a grist for ourselves & Angus Wm Holley & family were here

1884 Oct 9 I was helping Angus snap corn & cut clover seed, Justin went over to Wakemans to mill for Angus & me, took 12 bush rye & oats for Angus De to 8 bush rye 6 of oats & 4 of wheat

1884 Oct Sat 11 A fine day we drew & stacked Angus seed & mine.

Oct 13 We were husking & drawing corn, clearing water for was &c, Cet

Oct 17 We were digging & putting potatoes.

Oct 18 n Husked corn 7 butchered a sheep in PM. Dr Miner stapt to see Vi last even-g

Oct 22 Quite cold Justin was cutting some geafs to find fodder & husking.

Oct 23 The ground was white with snow this morn-g with squalls of snow today. Justin and I with team & wagon put in 2 days on the road this PM [they shoveled the road near their farm]

Oct 24 Justin & I with team and wagon were working on the roads this fore-n.

1884 Oct Sat 25 We were picking apples at Chas Holley drew up corn the rest of the PM Put 15 bus apples in the cellar for Chas Holley & brought 15 bush home. Justin & Mary went home this even-g

1884 Oct Wens 29 Jay & I finished digging the potatoes.

1884 Oct Thurs 30 A fine day but Cloudy. Justin was husking corn & I was over to Angus butchering a sheep in AM. We brought up 10 bus sorted potatoes 92 bush & drew up a load of corn

1884 Nov Wed 12 Cool cloudy in fore-n. Pleasant in the afternoon. Justin husked corn. I husked in the fore-n Helped Wm Holley thresh clover seed

Nov 13 I helped Wm Holley finish threshing clover seed this fore-n. Moved the thresher & comcd threshg Angus & mine abt 10 Wm Holley helped us about an hour threshing 5 bus clover seed 6/ bus

Nov 18 Taged the ewes. Put the Brick with them. Cleaned up some wheat & the clover seed I took over to MtGomery Recd of Jas Mitchell for 10.10 bus W wheat at \$4.30 for two 10.80 Delivered to Jas Haight 1 ½ bus clover seed making his share of seed cut on his flour

1884 Nov Wens 19 Quite cold today. We finished cleaning & drawing the wheat. Sold the same to Jas Mitchell at MtGomery There was 80 bus 55 lbs at .78 per bus took receipts for same.

Nov 21 A fine day Justin was plowing I was helping Wm Holley on his barn.

Nov 22 Justin finished plowing I was over to MtGomery Recd of Jas Mitchell for wheat delivered wed 59.07

1884 Dec Wens 3 Angus & I were butchering our pork.

Dec 4 We were putting up grist George folks Vi & I attended a Ladies Missionary Society at R J Fultons

Dec 5 I was cuting up the pork fixing the cow stable &c

Dec 6 I finished the cow stable except the door. Went to MtGomery , salted the pork.

Dec 11 George & I were drawing stalks I was putting several ouses of shingles on the horse stable & repairing mangers in the afternoon

Dec 13 Drove over to MtGomery Sold Jas Mitchell 200 bus of oats at 35 cts Recd cash on the same 50.

Dec 15 There was several inches of snow fell last night & still snowing this morn-g. Quite blustery I was doing the chores & tinkering

Dec 18 8 deg below zero at 6 mg, 10 below at bet time. I was filing saw splitng wood doing chores &c

Dec 22 A cold blustery day Ther stood 4 above zero at bed time. I helped Wm Holley cut wood

Dec 23 Ther stood at zero this morn-g I was cleaning chimney & stove in the morn-g filed Wm Holley saw in the fore-n & he helped me clean oats about as long in PM

Dec 25 delivered to Jas Mitchell this fore-n 62 bush 26 lbs of oats on contract

Dec 26 took a load of oats over to MtGomery , at Jas Mitchell have them on contract. There was 61-18

Dec 27 I was butchering a beef today. Angus & Wm Holley were helping me

1884 Dec Tues 30 I was cleaning up oats, &c &c

1884 Dec Wens 31 I set up with Chas Adams last night I finished cleaning the oats, cleaned out ditches.

1885 Mrs. W. T. Ellis was buried today. Died Sat JUNE 6 1885

1885 Wend 24 **Alice Holly died this fore-n. Cause Quick consumption and child bed fever. [Jun 1885]**

Thurs 25 A fine day. John worked on the clearing in the fore-n. We attended Alice Hollys funeral in the after-n. She was buried at the Brickhmn cem-y

1885 Wens 5 Aug Com-ed cutting oats **Chas Holly infant boy was buried this after-n. [AUG 1885]**

1885 1 November The ground was white with snow this mom-g. **Old Mr Holly was found dead in bed this mom-g.** Supposed cause appoplexy of the heart. I went to help lay him out & stayed with them through the day. **There was a young man deaf & dumb called here this fore-n. Is going to stay Till tomorrow.**

1885 Nov 2 I staid all night at Mrs. Hollys. I took this young man over to the train in the afternoon. His name is Wm Fowler His history is that he had a run of Scarlet fever in St Paul 3 yrs ago which deprived him of hearing & speech both. He is trying to make his way home to Lockport N.Y. where his mother lives. Send W, f lolley for a few days cash 40.00 Tues 3 Snowed some through the night- cool & cloudy today. **I attended Mr. Hollys funeral.** Rbt Logan & Walter Morrow took dinner with us.

Nov 13 cleaning up the barnyard & butchering a pig. The shoat weighed 140 lbs after shr

Nov 23 A cold cloudy day. John was splitting wood & I was over to **Wm Mitchelis** taging his sheep in the fore-n. **I traded 6 ewes with Wm Mitchell for 6 weathers.**

1889 April 4 Rbt Logan & I were taging our sheep in the afternoon. Ang came over this eveng after us. We broke up housekeeping & went home with him bidding farewell to our dear home forever as a

family residence. [This is when he moves out of his home in California in Branch County Michigan to move to Fairgrove Michigan.]

Here are some of the names and excerpts mentioned in the books from Fairgrove Michigan Note these are transcribed exactly as written. Remember Dan had very little schooling as he had to work on the farm as a child because his father died when he was only 12 and he was the oldest child. Some of the names he mentions are listed at the end of this document. April 1889 I rented Munson Clarks house at Fairgrove for a year if needed at the rate of \$50.00 pr y

1889 Sat April 13 Renwick, John Krick & Calvin Jameson drew a load of goods apiece to Fairgrove for me & Renwick brought the 2nd load as far as his place.

Apr 15 I came back to Fairgrove this mornng. Renwick brought the last load of goods this fore-n I went to Calvin Jamesons rode out to Caro with him in the afternoon. John Krick L. Roby

Apr 18 I was sowing barley & pulling stumps for John Krick. [Kirk]

Miss Bell Huff died yesterday. Started for Wisconsin with her remains this aftern

Jamesons Saw Mill was burnt to the ground last night between 10 & 11 oc loss \$1500.00

J. W. Hazelton 25 April, 1889 Went up to R.J.Jamesons towards noon. He brought my chickens home in P.M He is Cr by 10 bush potatoes P June Sent Renwick Jameson \$100.00 for 6 mo. Took his note for the same. Paid Munson Clark on the house rent 4.00 Boyd Morrow Mr Thompson Rev R. M. C Thompson

1889 May 30 was helping Morrow Bro in the Saw Mill

May 2 Lowery was helping Leonard Roby build picket fence along the road

May 4 I helped the Morrow Bro in the foren Lent them for a short time cash 20.00

May 5 We were out to S.S. & Pray-r Meet-g T Morrows

May 14 I was shearing sheep for Geo Pelton. Sheared 14 head & got 150 lbs unwashed wool He paid me \$ 1.00 on shearing & is Dr to a ball of 1.00

May 15 I helped Andy Morrow handle lumber

May16 I helped A. Morrow handle lumber Went to Edward Evans to work on a barn frame in the P. M

Cousin May Morrow came home with Vi

May 19 Georgie [George Stewart] & I were out to S. S. & Prayer Meeting

May 20 A fine day. I was helping Andy Morrow at Edward Evans Calvin Browns

JUNE 1889 Pd Gaylord & Stone for 15 cakes of Atlas Soap .50

Wens 5 A fine warm day. John Morrow & I took our tools & went to Frank Culberts to finish his house

Thurs 6 A fine day. John & I were fiting doors bolting windows &c at Frank Culberts today

Mon 10 I was helping Andy Morrow at a Mr Rollfs on his house Warren went to Bay City

Frid 14 shearing sheep for Sim Brownell. Sheared 31 recd P 2.00 Orville Jameson

Mon 17 helping A. Morrow finish the Dedric Rolif house

1889 July 5 helping Andy Morrow at E. Evans on the barn. Vi & Mother attended Ladies Miss Society at the Morehead sisters. Renwick Jameson came after them & brought them home

Sat 13 A fine day. I was sprinkling potatoes & hoeing garden today R. Burrows Cr by 50 lbs flour \$1.30

Pants \$ 1.00 Tea.25 Sugr.45 (Pd this acct July 16) 3.00 We were out to S.S. & Preaching Services by Rev McCracken & Rev'r. J. Allen Rev T. J. Allen gave a lecture at the M. E. Church

SEPTEMBER 1889 Paid R. C Burroughs for trade 1.96 Paid Hoxie for Mill feed .88

Wens 11 A fine day. I was digging potatoes weeding turnips &c Dug 5 bush good potatoes & I of small ones Paid Gaylord for 1/2 bush pears .60

Thurs 12 A fine day. I was sowing a patch of wheat I was piling wood fixing the saw dust spout for the Morrow Bro at the Saw Mill

Wens25 I started for the Saginaw Fair this morning Went up to Bro George at Bay City

Frid 27 taking a view of the Saw Mills Shops &c of Bay City Bought some clothes for myself. Paid for Pants \$1.25 for Vest \$1.25 heavy over shirt.75 & a Hat.25 3.50

OCTOBER 1889 Fannie Morrow Thurston came home from Bay City this eveg.

Wens 9 I was at home dug & pited 7 1/2 bush sorted potatoes, banked the celery

Tues 15 to Frid 18 Dry cold & very smoky. [May have been the time of one of the big forest fires that burned across the entire state from Lake Michigan to Lake Huron.]

NOVEMBER 1889 . Orville Mr Clark Mrs Hough Came home & attended Cong-I Meeting in the P.M

Wens 6 to Sat 9 I helped the Morrow Bro 4 days on Dr Fultons house Came home by train this eveg.

Frid 29 I was putting apples in Mr Biles cellar piting beets cutting wood

DECEMBER 1889 C. Brown & family Paid Miss Anna Vaughn ball on Georgies tuition .45

Wens 11 We com-ed moving to Mr Robys house R. J. Jameson with team helped us

Thurs 12 We finished moving our goods Elmer Jameson & team helped us

Sab 22 A pleasant day. The roads are terrible for mud

Tues 24 Bro Georges folks came out to spend Christmas with us. They are now living in E. Saginaw

CHRISTMAS DAY 1889 Wens 25 A fine day but **most horrible roads**. Thomas Morrow & family were here spending Christmas with us. Jean Aldrich Mr Harrison

Frid 27 A pleasant day froze up last night. **Telegraph report last night 14 deg below zero** yest-y noon in Chicago. Wm Kinney with team helped me cut & draw a load of wood in P.M

Sat 28 I was cutting up & salting the pork splitting wood visiting &c.

Dec 30 I was cutting up sausage &c. Recd of R. C. Burroughs in trade for 2 1/2 doz eggs at .20 cts pr doz .50 Paid R. C. B. for 2 3/4 lbs butter .42

JANUARY 1890 We attended a Miss Misners funeral at the M.E. Church. cause of death

Consumption Mr Trimble John Everets

Jan 14 Mr Trimble & I were underbrushing in the foren Cutting wood

Jan 15 We were grinding our axes & tinkering in the foren. Was cutting timber in the aftern.

Jan 18 We finished cutting up wood into draft lengths, made some skidways & fixed our road. Fannie Morrow came here this eve. Mr Myerhoof Cr by a load of wood 1.00

Jan 19 We were out to S.S. & Preaching. Mon 20 Mr Trimble & I were cutting & skiding wood. John Everets & team helped us about 5 hours. Andy Morrow called & took tea with us Attended Cong-I Meeting at the Church this eveg

Jan 21 Mr Trimble & I were skiding timber for wood. John Everets & team helped us about 6 h

Jan 22 Ther 2 above zero this mornng .Everts & team skided logs for us

Vi paid Mrs Moses on Georgies schooling he has been two weeks so far.

Jan 25 I was helping C.B Jamesonin & on his Saw Mill

Sab 26 Quite a mild day a light mist part of the day. I Georgie & I were out to S.S & PM

Paid the Druggist for Child's book of nature for Georgie 1.00

FEBRUARY 1890 R. McClurkin Geo Partloe Heard Gov Luce's speech at the Court H in the aftern.

Feb 10 **The hotel at the R R was burned this mornng before light Mr Holikers 8 mo child was buried this P.M Cause inflammation of the lungs**

Feb 11 Mr Trimble & I cutting wood for John Morehead, we cut some 6 cords or over. Vi paid R. C Burroughs for sugar tea coffee &c 1.15

Feb 15 I was working up wood at the house **Vi & I attended a surprise party** at Mr Furmans this eveg Mrs Furmans 38 birthday. there was some 4 persons present Presented her with a Hanging Lamp & a Base Rocking Chair.

Feb 24 crows were quite musical today. Mr Trimble & I were sawing wood at John Everets woods. John Morrow was drawing wood out onto the road for us. Drawed 2 loads home

Feb 26 I was sawing wood at home as the roads were to icy to handle Recd of R. C Burroughs in trade for 2 1/2 doz eggs .30

Feb 27 A pleasant winter day. I was firing for C.B. Jameson in the Saw Mill

Frid 28 **Jen Cranson died with diphtheria this mornng ,. Buried this eve.**

MARCH 1890 Felix Morrow Recd a Batavia Ill paper today with **notice of Uncle George Selfridge death. He died Feb 18th**

Mar 9 **Ethyl Cranston died this mornng buried in P.M Cause of death Diphtheria**

Mar 10 learned about **Rev R. M. C Thompsons death He died of pneumonia caused by la Grippe. He died at Old Bethel Ill about a week ago.**

Mar 18 was hanging window curtains **Attended Geo Luce funeral in the aftern** at the M.E. Church.

Mar 21 I was helping raise the upper storie of Frank Bosworths store Recd pay .63 Was splitting & Piling wood P.M John Moreheart drawed a load of wood from Everets for me this foren

Mar22 I was splitting wood & tinkering R.C Burrough Cr by **15 cakes Atlas soap** & 8 lbs Sal Soda
Learned Rev R. **M C Thompson died of pneumonia** March 2

We set 4 hens on 14 eggs apiece

1890 Apr 2 I was helping the Morrow Bro in the Saw Mill.

Apr 14 **C. Browns had a daughter born yesterday**

Apr 19 **John Ray's wife gave birth to a girl** Apr 12 This is his 3rd daughter

Tues 22 Taged 74 head of sheep for **Jas Kirk** .75

Frid 2 A fine day. We planted the potatoes & sowed some peas. 9 1/2 rows of potatoes

The above are only a few excerpts from over 1000 pages.

Since this original diaries are being given to the Mitchell Research Center

Here are a few references to Mitchells.

1872 Jan 18 Mrs. Mitchel & 3503 Hat were here visiting today.

1872 Feb Tues 6 A pleasant day. Calvin and I cut logs and wood. Angus drawed logs Mat Mitchell was here and spent the day and evening.

Thurs 8 Feb 1872 . A pleasant day. We cut and drawed logs for this had Calvin helping us. Hat Mitchell was here today.

Frid Feb 9, 1872 A pleasant day. Calvin and I cut wood and logs. Angus drawed. Attended singing at Mrs. Mitchell's this evening.

Frid 23. 1872 A warm day. Angus drawed wood Calvin and I cut railroad wood. Attended singing at John Jameson's this evening. Angus went to stay with Jay W. Mitchell.

Sat 2. A pleasant day. Calvin and I cut railroad wood this fore-n attended a **wood bee for Mr. Mitchell** this 4 ft. Angus\ drawed wood

Tuesday 20. 1873 A warm day Angus went to take a load of moving out to Brockville for Newt. Receive of JG Haite 450 plant corn \$1.00. Old COL cabs have for cat. Newts family stayed with us and he came back with Angus. **Ezekiel French and Matt Mitchell were married at 3:00 PM [May 20 1873]** Probably Mattie Mitchell

Friday 23. 1873 A very warm day. Angus finished 18 corn ground at Mr. French's. Wally Mitchell and I planted corn at Mr. French's in the fore-n.

1873 Mon 16. A warm day. We sheared our sheep 30 had average forn ½ pounds per head. Will Mitchell commenced working for us today **for one month for \$16.00.**

1873 Tuesday 21. A cold storm of snow and rain from the west. Paid S. Mitchell for beef bought \$1.35 today and a week ago.

Friday May 8, **1874**. Page 109. A very warm day. M [J Milechele later on he spells it Mitchell] finished the garden fence this fore-n. Fixed fence along the swamp in the afternoon. J Mitchell was here today.

Tuesday 2. A cool cloudy day. Had our Logan team and saw G Clark team and plow, J. W. .Mitchell helping us cut wood. W. Morrow and team was here too

1874 Sat 27. James Mitchell worked 11 days in the last two weeks

Thurs 2. A fine day. I took the sheep over to D. Mitchell's and made a table

Tuesday 13. A warm day. We drawed rails and build a lane fence. [probably Hat short for Hattie] "At" Mitchell was here helping the women sow yesterday and today. Paid her for the same \$2.00. Vi and I took her home this evening

Friday 4. A cloudy day with light squalls of rain in the afternoon. Angus went over and I got A Mitchell's drill and sowed the wheat

Mon 28. A cool day. I was helping Angus Klein and droll wheat. I took a load over to State Line for him. Paid E B Forbes on account \$10.00. Mother was over to South's street calling. "**Hattie Mitchell**" came home with her.

1874 Mon 30. Angus was moving today. Is going up to Mrs. Mitchell's farm. Paid James Mitchell by Angus. full amount due for work & sheep pasture.

1875 Thurs 1. A showery night and morning. Fared up about 9:00. Newt started for home this morning. Mill Mitchell came here this afternoon.

1875 Tuesday 8. A pleasant day. James Mitchell commenced working for me this morning. Is to work for me till harvest commences at \$19.00 per month

1875 Wednesday 29. A warm day. Billy and I were cutting corn. D Mitchell called and took dinner with us. Vi was over to State Line today.

1875 Mon 1. We attended congregational annual meeting today. Paid H Judson Mr. French's salary of \$10.00 H Judson, J Mcnaughton, D Mitchell were elected as Elders.

1875 Wednesday 29. A cloudy day. Billy and I were drawing corn stalks. Mitchell French came here this evening to spend the night with us.

1876 Charlie Donahue died with typhoid fever Friday night. [June 23 1876]

June 27 June William Mitchell credit by 8 pounds beef at a 8¢ 64¢

Tues 22 Took up my note of \$50.00 given to Margaret Morrow for bearer June 15, 1874 55.50 paid Mitchell company for merchandise.

April 19, 1877 Mitchell brothers Dr to 14 dozen eggs 12@. \$1.68

Tuesday 23. Rained the most of the time until 4:00 PM. We were papering etc.. Grubed after supper.

Aunt Shirley French came here today

1877 Thurs 20. Sow John French 18 head of sheep 435 dollars. **David French was married the 18th to Mrs. Mitchell. [Sep 18 1877]**

1878 Thurs 21. Arthur and I shelled 14 bushel corn. James Mitchell and Wat were here this afternoon.

1878 Tuesday 12. Rev Synod and Dr. Mitchell were here to tea this evening

1880 Tuesday 5. A fine day Ira was plowing on new ground. Robert was digging potatoes. I was up to Dr. Mitchell's and Mr. Spears for Mr. French's this morning

1882 June Tues 27 A warm day Robert was plowing corn Robert Logan and I were Shearing or Walter Morrow and David Mitchell. Dr to the same \$3.00 and 50¢. We drove up to the Corners this evening

1882 July Sat 22 A fine day. We helped Angus's finished cutting and shocking wheat today. Paid of Mr. Mitchell by Angus's for sharing \$3.25.

1882 Aug Sat 19 A warm muggy day. Robert was over to David Mitchell's

Paid Philip Mitchell for oil hinges &ms. 42¢

1882 Dec Thurs 21 A cloudy day thawed considerable. We husked out 920 bushels of corn after 2:00 AM Justin Greer helped Walter Morrow and wife and Mrs. Mitchell we're here visiting today.

Received of Jake Mitchell \$12.35 for three shape weighing 275 pounds.

Philip Mitchell credit by bushel of straw paper 15.39

Mother Vi and I attended society at David Mitchell's in the afternoon.

Recd of Jas Mitchell for clover seed for Jas Haight 16.30

Attended Ladies Missionary

Society meeting at David Mitchels in the afternoon 35 were present.

Helped Wm Mitchel thresh in the afternoon.

Recd of Jas Mitchell for 10.10 bus W wheat at \$4.30 for two 10.80 Delivered to Jas Haight.

Delivered to Jas Mitchell of Mtgomery 2 leads of oats weighing 1925 lbs There was 50 bush by measure in each load I delivered 4 loads of 50 bush each by measure.

1885 Mar Mon 30 Comcd snowing some time in the night & snowed & rained til abt noon. Some 3 or 4 inches fell John Mitchell comcd working for me this morg.

1885 May 1 John Mitchell Dr to Knife and Overall 1.3

May 14 n. **Jas. Mitchell and Stella French, Simon Dugruid and Ella**

McNaughton were married at the close of the exercises. B. F. [MAY 1885]

Isenhour July 4th Cr by a farm bell 1.75 Sent Chas Adams 8 bags of oats (May 29) weighing 80 lbs ea.

Wend 17 Sheared for Wm Mitchell next. He is Dr to the same 1.25

Sheared for David Mitchell in the eve-g

1885 Tues 29 Lent Wm Mitchell 16 2/3 bush of red wheat for seed

Frid 9 We were cutting corn & plowing in P.M. Mrs Mattie French & Mrs Stella Mitchell

were here visiting today

Mon 23 A cold cloudy day. John was splitting wood & I was over to Wm Mitchel's tagging his sheep. I traded 6 ewes with Wm Mitchell for 6 weathers.

1886 Wens 3 Ther 10 below zero Mg. Staid quite cold all day. I was cutting & drawing wood in the foren. Attended Pray-r Meetg at Mrs Mitchells in the afternoon.

1886 Mon 22 A Dark windy squally disagreeable day. Dr. Mitchell called & took dinner with us. [Was done after major surgery done on dining room table on George Stewart.]

1886 Mon 12 Took Angus home this eveg. Hattie went home last night came back this mornng. David Mitchell came to stay all night. Dr. Fenton called twice today

May 1886 Jas Mitchel's folks recd a Daughter about ten 0 clock this morning.

1886 May 27 **at the Church in PM A Mr Ling & Carrie Gordonier were married**

1887 Nov 22 Sold Wm Mitchell 85 head at \$2.75 per head

Nov 22 1887 Wallace Judson & Alice Duguid were married Thurs 22

Dec 30 1887 **Wm Mitchell & Luella McLouth were Married yesterday 29 Dec.**

1888 Mon Jan 2 Quite blustery this morning. Vi, Martha & I called on Mrs Louisa Mitchell.

Jan 3 **Albert Sherer & Verna Doyle were married today [Jan 1888]**

1888 Thurs March 15 A fine day George Jenks was cutting & drawing wood for me. Vi & I were over to Mr Logans geting ready & taking part in a surprise reception for Robert who returned today with a wife a Miss Elliot of Iill. there was present **Jas Mitchell & Wife**, Walter Morrow & Wife, Bro Angus & Wife, Willson Duguid & Wife, R F Fulton & Wife, Cor Lewis & Wife, Mrs Wylie & Daughter, Jas Lewis & Wife, Mrs Gowthroop & Vi & I 19 in all. We had a very fine social time & it was a complete surprise. They were married Tues eveg. Mar 1888]

Sat 29 Dec We were out to Church in the after-n Sermon by Rev Kilpatrick Recd the sad news of **Saml Jameson's death**, of Tuscola. Cause Neuralgia of heart His age was (blank) [DECEMBER 1888]

In 1889 D Stewart the author had moved to Fairgrove MI

1892 Frid 15 April I was helping H. Mitchell in the wagon shop

Weds 9 1892 I was at home. Henry Mitchel's machine shop with all of the contents were burnt about 3 oc this mornng.

Tues May 7 1895 George was plowing for corn I had Miss Whipples horse to drive I was out to Thos Mitchel's tagged his sheep 39 head & castrated & docked 40

Sept 12 1895 Cut corn in the after-n Vi & I were out to Caro Took dinner at Thos Mitchel's.

Thurs May 30 1896 A warm spring day. I was out to Thos Mitchel's & tagged 40 sheep. Recd pay.75

1896 June 10 A fine day but near freezing point this morn I sheared 40 sheep for Thos Mitchell today

1889 Mon May 28 Drove up to Thos Mitchel's after dinner started after his sheep about 3 P.M Com-ed shearing at 4 oc & sheared 15 sheep until 9 oc except time for supper Tues 29 A warm day. I com-ed shearing at Mitchel's at 6 oc this mornng. quite at 10 oc in the eve. Since 4 oc last eve until 10 oc this eve I sheared 5 8 sheep & castrated or docked 40 lambs. Recd pay 3.75 At .06 1/2 cts pr head.

1902 Frid Feb 7 Quite cold with a keen wind Walter & John Morrow & families with myself spent the day at David Mitchel's. [D Stewart visited friends in California MI.]

Here is a list of the most common of the names mentioned. You Can search the PDF for any other name you are looking for. Because this work covers almost 11,000 days there were too many names to index in the time I had. I am looking for a computer program to do this. So I can add an index to this work.

John Mitchell
Wm Mitchel
Andy Morrow
Angus Stewart
Archibald Stewart
Archie Morrow
Atwood
Bell Huff
Biles
Bosworth
Boyd Morrow
C. B. Jameson
C. Brown
Calvin Browns
Calvin Jameson
Clara & George
Clara Stewart
Clare Duguid
Daniel Thurston Stewart
David King
David Paul
Dedric Rolif
Dr. Fultons
Dr. Merry
Ed Evans
Edward Evans
Elmer Jameson
Elvira Margaret Ball
Elvira Margaret
Selfridge
Ethyl Cranston
Fannie Morrow
Felix Morrow
Frank Bosworths
Frank Culberts
Frank Riddle
Gaylord
Gaylord & Stone
Geo Luce
Geo Partloe
Geo Pelton.
George Elliot Stewart
George L. Stewart.
George Partloe
George Selfridge
Gov Luce's
H. W. Johnson
Hazelton
Holliker
Howard Morrow

Hoxie
J. W. Hazelton
Jas Kirk
Jean Aldrich
Jen Cranson
John & Andy Morrow
John Cofield
John Everet
John Everets
John Kirk
John Morehead
John Moreheart
John Morrows
John Ray
John Wylie
Jos Wylie
Joseph Hall
Joseph Wylie
L. Roby
LaRue
Len Roby
Leonard Roby
Maggie
Mary Jameson
May Brown
May Morrow
Mills, John
Miss Misners
Morehead sisters
Morrow Bro
Mr Biles
Mr Clark
Mr Furmans
Mr Harrison
Mr Holikers
Mr Kinney
Mr Kirks
Mr Rollfs
Mr Smith
Mr Trimble
Mr Youngs
Mrs Anna Vaughn
Mrs Biles
Mrs Hough
Mrs Huff
Mrs Moses
Mrs Purdys
Mrs Roby
Munson Clarks
Myerhoof

Orville
Orville Jameson
R. C Burroughs
R. J. Jameson & wife
R. M. C Thompson
R. McClurkin
R. O Logan
R.C Burroughs
R.J.Jamesons
Rbt Martens
Rbt McLewney
Renwick Jameson
Rev McBurney
Rev McClurkin
Rev McCracken
Rev R. M C Thompson
Rev'r. J. Allen
Robt Cofield
Robt McLuney
S Stanard
Sate Ball
Sim Brownell.
Smith Stanard
Stone Gaylord
Synod
T Morrows
Thomas Morrow
Thurston
Uncle John Selfridge
Wm Huckle
Wm Kinney

Old terms

Aftrn afternoon	Fallow uncultivated soil	summer complaint bowel disorder
Ague a malaria like illness	Fodder coarse food for livestock,	diarrhea from unrefrigerated milk
Apoplexy paralysis by stroke	composed of entire plants, including	scythe long handled cutting blade to
Axes ague fits or attacks.	leaves, stalks, and grain, of such	cut grass or wheat
Banked piled up against	forages as corn and sorghum.	the swamp not really a swamp but
Barrel fever sick by drinking.	Forage food for horses or cattle; fodder	lower ground that flooded during
Beggas rutabaga root vegetable	Fistula An abnormal passage	longer rains but it got dry enough to
Berein berrying picking berries	fit ground prepare for seeding	cultivate
Biliousness: jaundice	flailing beat seeds off	tagging putting a tag on an animal
bitters tonic alcohol & veg juice	fore-n = forenoon	ther thermometer
Blacksmith man who works with Iron	glanders contagious disease of horses	tinkered work at many things
and makes heavy tools	can go to humans	truck a garden crop
Bob the runner on a sleigh	Gout inflammatory arthritis	Typhoid Fever disease
Brier a prickly plant or shrub	grippo influenza	under brushing cutting out brush
Bright's disease of the kidneys.	grist grain	weeds
Bunching putting into a group	grubbing to dig up by the roots;	whiffle tree a long balance lever for
burning burning infested plants	furrow groove in the ground,	horses
calved birth a cow or horse	hand car hand run train car	Whitesmith also known as Tinsmith a
Cancer disease	husked tear off outer leaves	man who makes things out of thin
Chills feeling cold and shaking	inflammation redness swelling	metal such as pails, containers, lamps
lamp chinm glass chimney	Infantum viral illness	Tip the hay means moving it in a
Cholera contagious diarrhea	Jag a small load	certain way Hay has to be dry or it will
Chorea disease has spasms	Jaundice blockage of intestines	start on fire or rot
Churning moving handle of a churn to	Lyceum place for education	Thresh to separate the grain or seeds
make butter	Mangel a root crop for cows	from a cereal plant
cleaning remove foreign matter	mark out lay out where to plant	Till same as cultivate
cocking a crop to stand or flip it	Mfair marriage fair	WCTU Women's Christian
cistern storage place for water	Middlings portions of the wheat kernel	Temperance Union
cobling mending shoes	that are richest in proteins, vitamins	Whooping cough disease
Colic abdominal cramping	Morgn morning	
Com-ed commenced	Mumps disease	
Congestion excess fluid	orch-d orchard	
Consumption tuberculosis	rail a long log that has been split often	
Cooper man who makes barrels	to make fences	
Cr for money he owes	Recd received	
Cribed put in a crib building	Ringin put a ring into nose	
croup diphtheria or strep throat	Scarlet Fever terrible disease	
cultivate to prepare and work on land	Sheared to cut wool off of a sheep or	
in order to raise crops;	Angora rabbit	
Curbing putting sides on	Shelling scraping off corn seeds	
Curry combing thick hair	Set hens make a nest for a hen	
Diphtheria disease of throat	Shingles blister disease	
Distemper an animal disease	Shocking gathering stalks	
Drawing moving a load of	Shod put shoes on horse	
Dray heavy cart	Shorts a special flour like food	
Drilling planting seeds by making a	Sorgum a crop plant	
hole	Sowed spread seed	
Dr money owed to him	sprinkling wheat bran to kill potato	
Dropsey swelling of tissues	bugs	
Dysentery colon Inflammation	sprouting wetting seeds	
Edema swelling of tissues	smut diseased crop	
Eveg evening	stoop large step	
Esq Esquire a landed title		