

Transcription of the Ellen Margaret Bassett Journal
dated August 1 1848
by Laura Ann (Ward) Seifert

Biographical notes: Ellen is 15 years old when she begins to write this journal. She lives with her mother's sister, Phebe (Almy), and brother-in-law, Russell Marble, and their children, Rebecca and Sarah. Her grandfather, Christopher Almy, also lives in the Russell home in Smithfield, Rhode Island. Ellen Margaret Bassett Nicholson was my 2nd great-grandmother.

Ellen Margarett Bassett journal contin =
ued at Friend's Boarding School Commenced
the summer of 1848 and continued till the
finis of the winter term 1849. ~ ~ ~¹

Ellen M. Bassett's journal.

at

Friend's Boarding School ~

Summer term.

8th mo. 1st /48

Twas in my²

1 3 swirly marks with 2 quotation marks in each one follow the date.

2 This line is written in a different ink, as if she was going to add something later

I was born at Danby, Vermont. in the year 1833.

My parents William and Rhoda Bassett were in limited circumstances: My father was a public minister in the society of Friends: I had one sister and brother; the former two years older and the latter two younger than myself. When i was two years of age, the death of my father and brother occasioned the removal of my Mother, sister and myself from Danby to Smithfield R I. where we resided in the family of my grandfather which was composed of himself, wife, and youngest daughter who was then unmarried and who was in after years more than a mother to me. By reason of my being so young the death of my father and brother did not occasion that feeling of loss and bereavement which it would otherwise have caused. My Mother assisted to obtain the maintenance of herself and children by teaching school, and my sister usually accompanying here [her], I was left to the care of my Aunt. And when in the year 1839 Mother with sister determined to return to Vermont to reside I was left entirely under the care of Aunty and well has she performed her trust. before the year 1843 I was taught the rudiments of reading, writing, spell

ing, ~~a little of~~ Grammer and Arithmetic at home. At that time through the kindness of several of my friends and the teacher of an academy in the village I commented to attend the academy: where I continued nearly four years, boarding at home: but I ^{suppose I} should ~~not~~ have been deprived of these advantages had it not been for the generosity of a distant uncle of mine, the contents of whose purse was equal to his desires: In the year 1847 the monthly meeting decided that I should enjoy the advantages of a charitable fund which allows each monthly meeting to send one scholar to the Friends Y. M. B. School³ at Providence.

I started in tenth month and remained six months, returning home but once in the time: was accompanied by two cousins, Lydia H. Almy from Vermont older than myself and Mary Almy from Providence four years younger than myself. When I returned home at at the occasion which was two weeks: it was decided that I should return to the same school for the ensuing summer, where I now am: three months of the term have expired: Yearly meeting week which was a vacation as the Superintendents attended

3 Friends Yearly Meeting Boarding School

the meeting, I spent at the house of Uncle Eben
=zer Metcalf, the uncle that has been so kind to
to
me and^whom I can never be sufficiently grateful:
kind
Indeed^friends have been raised up to me on every
side: and it appears incomprehensible to me that a sinful
child like myself who can not recollect having ever done a
good act should be so well cared for: and it is now my
resolution / as it has often been before, but I fear, ~~in~~ with a
trust in my own strength:/ that I will improve my time
to the best of my ability: and may my progress at the
close of the term, testify to my endeavors: - - - - -

My studies at present are French, Latin, Arithmetic,
and Algebra: I recite in Latin with four boys to a
Collegian who attends to the Latin ~~and~~ German and
Greek classes: I forgot to mention that Mother and
sister returned from Vermont and Mother married
a man by the name of David Aldrich: she has now
two children: My Aunt also has two. my sister now resides
with Mercy Osborne at Dover N. H. I received a letter
from her not long since ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Third day 15th,

8th mo /48

A warm misty morning: think it would have been better both for my health and spirits to have arisen at four o'clock and taken a long walk: but no one woke me and I did not arise until half past five: have a slight headache in consequence: - My Latin lesson this morning is rather difficult, and I fear I shall recite a poor lesson: we are reading in the Latin Reader and intend to advance as far as the fables of Aesop this week. We have an morning collection from six until seven, which is for the purpose of studying our lessons for the day: the first half hour is occupied in writing: I usually devote an hour to French: we read Ptolemaeus and repeat phrases from Ollendorf's grammar: The boys and girls sat together this term: the boys sit opposite the girls, We have been through Emerson's third part Arithmetic and have discontinued it for the present; but shall resume it again before examination: we are partially reviewing in Algebra - I am surprised when I think that there are
to
but six weeks before examination^where has this term fled?

This morning after the usual exercise of reading a chapter by Silas Cornell was over, Thomas Wells from Ohio spoke a few words. We think him a very good preacher and like him much: ~

Fourth day 16th,

I had fixed upon the first half hour in morning collection to devote to writing my journal, but as we have no study hour on fourth day, I shall be compelled to change the time: I did not read any sentences in Latin yesterday, but as the boys did not have their lesson perfectly, the lesson was given to us to learn over to day: I had the advance perfectly but not the review: We have meeting to day: I hope that Thomas Wells will be present, as we ^{are} very much inclined to sleep if there is no preaching: - I finished my composition yesterday and gave in to the teacher for correction: My very dear friend and roommate, Ellen Whitlock anticipates returning home to Virginia at the close of this term: I expect to attend here next winter

and do not know what I shall do without her. she
has been my intimate friend two terms and I shall
feel myself lost if she is not with me. -- - -- -- --

Shall endeavor to finish one of my slippers to day:

I am in daily expectation of a letter - have not received
one for a long time. About an hour before meeting this
forenoon was much surprised as well as pleased to
see my mother and her two children: they spent the
day with us: had a very pleasant visit with them.
she invited us to come out there a week from next
seventh day: hardly think we can leave but should be
glad to. ~

Fifth day 17th,

A very pleasant morning with a
prospect of a very warm day: last night after tea
we came up to the schoolroom and Silas Cornell presen
=ted us with six peaches each: Received intelligence
from Mother that Aunt Phebe's youngest girl had
been very sick and I fear she is not any better because

Aunt P. has not written to me. This morning
was obliged to obtain an excuse from collection as
I did not arise in time to be prepared, which excuse
was not very readily given by Martha: Mary Lincoln
has left school for a short time to attend Lynn
Quarterly Meeting: - My Latin lesson was recited
well
very^at least it was satisfactory to myself. two of
the boys had not theirs perfectly. Shall endeavor
to recite it perfectly tomorrow morning, both in
translating and parsing: French lesson is diffi
[=]cult this morning: the more I think of the sick
=ness at home, the more I am persuaded that
the baby is worse or I think they would have
written me before. Mother informed us that Grand
=father had gone to New Bedford and Nantucket ~
expect he will enjoy himself much. ~

Sixth day 18th,

A dull rainy day, which makes us

feel rather stupid and not much like studying - - -

The last day of school week has arrived: I look back and say

with regret that I do not recollect one day satisfactorily spent

to myself: Must begin to think of a subject

for composition: My Latin lesson was perfect: Mr. Burr

intends to leave for the present to make a visit among

his friends: I supposed he would inform the class of it

this morning, but he did not: French lesson not

quite as well recited by me as usual: I do not know

who will hear our class in Latin: the other class will

not advance while he is gone. We have already begun to

think about; and dread examination: We are almost

daily reminded of it by the teachers who are anxious

we should learn our lessons thoroughly now, and it

will be much more easy in reviewing -- Have not

yet received a letter from home: shall certainly expect

one before first day: - Have proposed to Hannah

Hoag to write a dialogue with me for a composition,

Second day 21st,

School week has commenced;

I should have written in my journal in the time intervening between sixth day and to day, but so many things needed my attention that my journal was neglected. Last seventh day morning my desire was answered about a letter from home: When Anna Page came in with the letters, I knew by the smile on her face that there was one. It contained good news: My Aunt's little girl is much better: Grandfather has been on a visit to Nantucket; I was rather disappointed that he did not come to see us; but I believe he did not come in town: Last sixth day we spent most of the evening in the sitting room with Jonathan Buxton. find him very sociable upon better acquaintance. Cannie Moth, Mary Harris, and myself have written both meetings as usually: Doctor Toby was present at the after-noon meeting but was silent: the third and fourth chapters of Judges were given us to learn by questions: which was very

perfectly repeated, also a piece of poetry; it was a stanzas -

The class in French, composed of Timothy Nicholson,

Johnathan Buxton, and Alice Cornell are coming

into our class: We have finished reciting in French:

the lesson was learned perfectly by all. We are to begin

the Algebra to day and review it preparatory to examination.

Third day 22nd,

in

Have just concluded reciting Latin; Frank

Paige is our teacher since Mr. Burr has left. I like him

much; Martha Haines is not well and we shall not

recite in French; When I reached the boys' schoolroom

this morning

a

door was surprised to find the passage blocked up by

nearly every boy in school: A path was soon cleared

however: I learned they were in expectation of letters: Last

evening Edward G. Hoag delivered a lecture on Zoology,

which was quite interesting, although I was so sleepy as

not much to enjoy it: Learned many new things from

his discourse; one of which was, and the prominent one in

in my recollection, that there was formerly considered to be

but 8000 species of Animals; but recent calculations have

increased the number to 350,000: the fossils, or those animals which have become petrified make up the no. of living ones to half a million: it is a large calculation, methinks, but I presume it is "just". Edward G. Hoag proposes to give several lectures concerning [concerning] the same subject ~

Fourth day 23^d,

A medium between warm and cold day, which renders it very pleasant, Had a perfect lesson in Latin this morning; We are to take one of the fables of Aesop to morrow; do not know how we shall succeed as we have had nothing but sentences to translate before this; We do not usually have school fourth days; but tomorrow is preparative meeting, and we shall attend there in lieu of our own meeting room: Last night after tea Anna Paige with the girls took a long walk; All of the girls went except Lydia Almy, Ellen P. Whitlock and myself. I believe they swing in the boys' swing; Suppose we shall soon review our Arithmetic which has been neglected so long. ~

Sixth day 25th,

As yesterday was not school day and we had no morning school, my journal was forgotten - - - We were collected as usually to recite a few lessons that are recited no other day in the week; At half past ten we went to town to attend preparative meeting; there was no preaching although John Meader and Doctor Toby were both present; reached home about one oclock; We were not collected in the afternoon of which I was very glad; spent most of the afternoon in the grove; worked some on my slipper but not much, for my compaⁱgnons Ellen Whitlock and Mary Harris were not much inclined to work and ran around the grove in search of some =thing new; finally they called me to show a wasps nest they had in their travels found; they were soon busily enga =ged gathering stones and all the missiles the grove afforded; and endeavoring to demolish the nest; vain for some time were their attempts to hit it; for the stones were obstinately determined to go in an opposite direction and nowhere else; After their patience was exhausted in trying to overcome their

rebellious spirit Ellen took a pole and formed a large breach in their retreat of the wasps, which surprising and displeasing the latter beyond measure they flew out in all directions; fright and fear of an attack kept us aloof from them some time; but the spirit of adventure was at work and could not be subdued; so before long the fated nest received another pelt from the pole and was almost totally demolished; the winged inhabitants enraged and unable longer to endure the effect of our love of mischief upon themselves, scattered around the grove, except a few who still clung to the remains as if it was their last hope; the supper bell ringing put an end to our sports, and we returned ^{to} the house, fatigued but none the wiser, for we had not even examined into the workmanship of the nest, which would I think have improved us much, at least into the mysteries of a species of nest building, Last evening Silas Cornell delivered a lecture on faith -- --

Second day

Fifth day 7th,

Why has my journal been neglected so long? It will be difficult to answer the question, for so many objects have arisen, which appeared of more importance than the journal, that it has been compelled to yield its accustomed privileges to superior personages; Since I wrote last, Aunt Phebe and her little girl, have been here; Lydia and myself have been to Cumberland and made a short visit; the day before yesterday was Committee day; I believe there were fifteen here; John and Eliza Osborne were here and I sent a letter by them home; Mary B. Farnum was here; I went into see her and sat some time; she was here at meeting yesterday and preached twice; it seemed much like our meeting at home to hear her; and the usual performance which follows her sitting down the blowing her nose, was not omitted, - Yesterday in the afternoon, I attended, Anna Barnes, Alice Cornell and Cannie Moth to a field, a short distance from the Station, which building Anna Barnes is drawing, and for which purpose we went out there; I car

[=]ried my work; yesterday commenced a small portfolio;
think I shall present it ^{to} Barkg[?]; This morning recited my
Latin lesson perfectly except in parsing, ~~which~~ I cannot yet
get familiar with the rules; learned many new things in
the lesson and Frank Page informed us ^{of} many facts,
which belong to Ancient history; the first was that Homer
was a Grecian poet; the next; Virgil is a Roman
poet; his most distinguished work is the Aenead; Anax
=goras⁴, when asked what should be done to perpetuate his
memory, answered, "Let no Marble be raised above my dust, but
let the boys play the anniversary of my death." and that day
was strictly observed for a long time as a holiday for boys;
The age in which Augustus was emperor of Rome, was
called the "golden age": the city of Cecropia in Greece was
the original name of Athens, which is now the capital of
Greece:

Sixth day 8th

It is very pleasant, and not very warm; Yester
=day in the afternoon Silas Cornell explained several things
relating to Astronomy, by a globe, which he invented; Lindley Ho=

4 Anaxagoras was a Greek philosopher who brought philosophy to Athens Source: Wikipedia

ag was present; he came yesterday noon; After tea, Silas Cornell accompanied several of the girls to the swamp to get flowers; Lindley Hoag also went; The French lesson was not recited very perfectly; it was the most difficult we have had; Last evening was in the dining room washing dishes, when Ellen called me to say I was wanted in the sitting room; I went in and found it was Johnny Buxton; spent a very pleasant hour with him; Charles Purdy called Ellen in at the same time;

Fifth day:

My journal has been sadly neglected of late; but I cannot now offer apologies; A week ago last third day afternoon the occupants of both wings with the teachers and superintendents attended a lecture on Jerusalem; a model of that city was also exhibited; the lecturer was a reformed Jew; as soon as we learned this, we were very anxious to hear a description of the Jews; Silas Cornell willing to gratify us in anything in his power, last second day informed us that the Jew whose name is Matthew Burke, would de

[=]liver two lectures in the lecture room to us for a small compensation, which was collected by contri[=]bution among the scholars: but I had forgotten to mention that first day in the afternoon he was present, made a quite affecting prayer and a short sermon; by this time our interest in him was very much excited; and was increased twofold after hearing his first lecture, delivered second day evening; it was a brief description of the Jews; I will note down what I can recollect for my perusal in future; -- -- --

The Jews are descended from Abraham, of the tribe of Levi; on account of their transgressions were driven out of the holy land, Jerusalem, and the city was destroyed; and we were informed that the prophecy "there shall not be left one stone upon another that shall not be thrown down", was literally fulfilled; The Jews were dispersed all over the earth, and misfortunes befel[befell] them wherever they went; but still they clung to their forms, and would not return to serve the Lord; Christ was a

Jew, but they did not believe he was the Messiah who was to appear and those who are still to be found in the world, refuse to believe it and as fervently expect that a Savior will appear; they, however, do not fix any time, when it will take place; Matthew Burke was born in Poland; he says they are very strict in performing the religious duties they believe to be right and in observing all the facts, the feast of the passover, eating of unleavened bread, all of which were observed by our Savior while on earth; they also wear the phylacteries mentioned in the Bible; one of which is the frontlet worn on the forehead; the other is worn on the arm; it is a strip of leather wound around seven times; the number seven is an important Hebrew⁵ number in ~~their estimation~~; it signifies full: complete; it is from this reason that the number seven is so often used in the Bible; The Jews are very particular in training their children in the manner commanded in the Old Testament; At the age of three and a half or four years old they are placed at school where the only books used are the Bible and 'Psalm' book; in this way religion becomes

5 Strike through is in pencil with "Hebrew" penciled in above.

familiar to them, and is their sole study; At the age of thirteen he is placed in the synagogue; before which time his parents spend much of their time in teaching him religion; when he enters the synagogue they attend him, and the father makes a motion of withdrawing his hands from off the head of his child, which is indicative that his duty towards him is performed & he is to begin to think and act, for himself; at the same time that he makes this movement the congregation spread their hand[s?] out which signifies that he is henceforth under their guidance and care; Matthew Burke said that as his parents were not possessed of means for educating him, and they wished him to be a Rabbi, he was sent to his older brother who was also a Rabbi to be taught; According to ^aLaw of the Jews each ^{person} must travel for a period not exceeding four years, for the purpose of improving in their occupations /his was that of a dyer/ and of knowing more of the different nations; For this purpose he left Russia where his brother resided, and travelled through Austria, Germany, Turkey; Holland; France and Eng=

=land; he describes the state of religion in these several kingdoms, as being at a very low ebb; and such general wickedness prevailed especially on the Sabbath that he had often cause 'to rejoice that he was not brought up a Gentile.' When in England he married a Gentile wife with the intention of making her a Jewess, and she with the opposite intention of converting him to Christianity; but neither mentioned their plans to each other; the Bible as formerly was his chief companion; /always excepting the New Testament./ and when he came to the 10th verse in the 49th chapter of Genesis, "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be." /Himself and wife frequently read the Scriptures to each other:/ His wife reminded him that the sceptre had departed, and consequently that Shiloh had come; soon after he went to visit his brother the Rabbi, and questioned him concerning the passage; but his brother would say nothing to it and treated him

with more coldness than before as if he was less pure
in the Jewish religion; After he returned home, one day
his attention was directed to the 6th verse in the 23^d chap
=ter of Jeremiah "In his days Judah shall be saved and
Isreal [Israel] shall dwell safely: and this is his name, whereby
he shall be called The Lord our righteousness" -----
He says that he questioned within himselfⁱⁿ whose days
does it mean? Who is the Lord our righteousness? he
was not able to answer them and was referred by a friend
to go to the Bishop Luscomb[?] of the Episcopal church; who
conversed with him, prayed for him and before he left
gave him a Bible; when Matthew Burke entered that
house he was a Jew, when he left it, he was a Gentile in
religion; The Bible became more his companion than be
=fore; the New Testament, which in the Hebrew signifies
the New Covenant, opened new sources of information and
fountains of consolation; He read the fulfillment of those
prophecies, which it had been his study to ponder, but the
fulfillment of which he had never heard mentioned; he

showed us a small garment which the ancient Jews were commanded to wear; it has a tassel at each corner, which when it was spread out represented the four corners of the earth, and when the Jews look upon it they are to remember that for their transgressions they are dispersed and scattered to the fore[four] corners of the earth; M. Burke informed us that when his mother and brother heard of his conversion or apostory as they termed it they rent their clothes and morned for him seven days, as is the custom; the manner in which they rend their clothes is by cutting a strip of their garments at the top and tearing it down; his Mother was so much grieved to think he had lost his soul that she wept herself blind;

Poor human intellectual intelligant

thinking rational creter [creature?] is Ellen Bassett⁶

⁶ These last 2 lines were in pencil and the handwriting better than usual, which makes me suspect that it was added at a much later date.

1st mo 12th /49

Many things transpiring and various occupations appearing in their turn my journal has been forgotten, until the other day as I was examining my trunk it made it's appearance_ Immediately my desire for "keeping a journal" and noting school events revived, particularly as I was interested in what was previously written_ I shall commence by writing the occurrences [occurrences] which have most firmly fixed themselves in my memory as important_ I came back to school after four weeks vacation at home which passed very pleasantly & rapidly_ the teachers are Martha Haines, Anna Page, and Lydia Almy_ there were about sixty scholars when I arrived which have since increased to seventy five there were 100 boys - their number has decreased to 88 from sickness and other causes -- ----

My studies are French, Latin, Physiology, Parsing, Dictation, Algebra & Arithmetic_ Mr Burr is still our teacher in Latin_ there are two boys & three girls in my class_ the very great interest which was awakened in Matthew Burk, the converted Jew, was renewed & his visit here not long since: The girls who were here last summer and who had not forgotten him /it was impossible to forget him/ went into the

sitting room & shook hands with him_ he remembered most of us_
He was then on his way to Virginia_ Ellen sent a letter by him _ the
morning that he left as I passed the door of the entry to my Latin
lesson_ he was standing there and reached out his hand to shake
hands with me: I went to him and talked with him sometime.
when we left he kissed me_ the girls laughed at me about it but
told them I considered quite an honor that I was the only Stunionite
"the converted Jew" favored with a kiss_ his residence is in Boston_
Grandfather came here recently and made us a short visit_

Seventh day 13th,

Arose at ten minutes of seven; find it quite an advance
=[tage?] in this respect, being table waiter as I should certainly have been tardy
to collection; but we are not obliged to come into collection_ At New Years
eve sent a petition to Silas Cornell to have a holiday; but as the next
day was committee day they could not grant it; however the next
fifth day we had one; enjoyed ourselves much_ In the evening we
amused ourselves with tableaux_ there were eight; one was a moving
tableux - I was engaged in it; it was entitled "a kitchen scene." the others
were the Mother & child, the coquette & country cousin, the reader & literature,

the mourners, the dreamer, the German girl /buz[?] a broom/ & Quaker
=ess, and the bride_ the boys came into see them_ they threw several
cents up at us for our performance_ Phebe Mann went home
that day and has not since returned_ Night before last I
went into the sitting room to see John Wheeler, think some of
going down to Maria Walling's this afternoon_ Have some pros
=pect of going home at the middle of the term not to return but
do not yet know_ Last night dreamed that Aunt Phebe came
to see me, wish it prove real_ I have expected Uncle Eben after
us to go to Cumberland for some time; As it is quite pleasant do not
know but he will come to day_ had a sleigh ride to town the
other day with Silas Cornell, Alice Cornell. Martha Haines, Debo
&
=rah Holway, ^Lydia Maria Gove. Yesterday Silas left us to attend
Rochester Quarterly Meeting: he will be absent a fortnight_ When we
were collected in the dining room before silence, yester morning he came
in and spoke to us some time about things principally whaling to the
school after which he said "I go, I hope soon to return to you_ I bid you
farewell;" then left us_ Sarah Cornell has been sick some weeks_
yesterday afternoon she came into school for the first time. she was
at tea last night but not this morning_ have not yet written my

composition & must lay this aside to attend to it_

First day 14th,

Night before last Martha gave us our Scripture lesson so we were not collected before meeting_ they are the last half of the "resurrection." we learned the first half last first day; also the first twenty verses of the fifth chapter of Matthew_ Attended meeting this forenoon; Sarah Cornell was at the head of the meeting, with David Douglass one side and his wife on the other_ there is frequently some preacher up here at the afternoon meeting; do not know whether there will be any body to day_ have been much disappointed at not receiving a letter from home it has been three weeks since I received one_

Sixth day 26th,

Received a letter not long since from Aunt Phebe; she wrote that I was to come the last three months: Also that they should expect us out there at the middle of the term or at Quarterly meeting time: we concluded to go at middle as it would be more convenient for Lydia to leave, we decided upon going to day: Expect Uncle

Eben to meet us at the cars.⁷ And if the reality is as pleasant as the anticipation /as I do not doubt it will/ we shall be almost unwilling to come back_ we leave at half past ten_

Sixth day 2nd mo. 2nd

it is now evening, & feeling rather sad and not much inclined to study I will occupy the time in recalling and noting events_ Mahew[?] carried us to the cars which left at eleven_ Had a pleasant ride to Woonsocket where we met Uncle Eben_ with carriage ready to convey us directly home_ It was very muddy & I do not know how we should have succeeded if we had walked - found them at home all pretty well and pleased to see us - Aunt Phebe, however, was not very well & Barka was almost sick with a cold; she had been quite sick before our arrival, but was recovering when we left_ Roast turkey, Mince pies, Apple, &c. &c. were already on the table & we Stutionites needed no urging to partake_ After dinner Uncle Eben carried Aunt P., Lydia & myself to the Falls_ where he made Lydia & myself presents of a Black⁸ silk apron each, shoes, myself some gingham for a sack apron_ Also a small chair for Barka with which she was very much pleased indeed_

7 Probably referring to cars on a train?

8 First 1 or 2 letters are illegible. Also looks like "Hack"

first day did not attend meeting_ in the evening called upon
Joanna Pierce & John's Osborn's family_ Second day morning
we left for the school_ Emma Sheffield was in_ we walked
up to the Stution from the depot_

Second day 5th 2nd mo.

The ground is covered with snow and presents
a gloomy appearance_ and as if to mock us in our despair of being
able to get out of doors, it is snowing fast now_ however there are
some compensations for the dreary weather_ the fences are ~~enclosed~~
~~in~~ robed in white, icicles are hanging from the leafless boughs and
in front of the Stution is a beautiful evergreen bending beneath
the weight of the snow while some branches extend in width & length
as if for the purpose of sustaining the wintry visitors_ Last evening
Silas Cornell commenced a course of lectures on the doctrines of
the Christian religion_ it was held in the meeting room_ they
are to be the same that we had last summer therefore they
will not be very interesting_ My lessons thus far have been =
perfect_ Charles Pinkham has commenced to "teach us to write" _

Fifth day 8th

Quite pleasant but cold; it has become good walking and the girls improve it_ also the boys_ Yesterday we wrote; went in after recess in the afternoon_ Night before last Anna Paige returned_ her mother is not living_ We were extremely glad to see her_ & it seems strange for Deborah Holway to be a scholar again_ To night Charles G. Pinkham was in the kitchen when I was waiting upon the table_ the first time I went out I did not look up, but the next time I looked up and laughed and he gave me a compliment which I suppose was to compensate for criticising my writing yesterday and which he thought I was displeased with_ it was that I was one of his best scholars_ And I told him I supposed he meant one of the best to carry on - for we are not at all bashful in the examination room - we enjoy ourselves much and I think rather too much for the quiet of Charles G. Pinkham Esq. I am determined if trying to write well will avail any thing, to improve_ And if I am as much determined to as he is to have us, I shall ^{certainly} succeed_

Sixth day 9th

A beautiful day_ Last evening several of the
a part of
girls spent^the afternoon and evening at Stephen At=
water's_ We shall write this afternoon_ think an hour
every other day is very little for us to write_ To night we
shall write compositions_ dread the task_ The teachers
wish us to write some "funny" ones, as they say_ If I endeavor=
ed to compose a witty one, I should certainly produce some=
thing ridiculous therefore I think I shall not commence
such on one.

First day 25th

It has been quite bad walking for a
week or two past; yet I attended both preparative
and monthly meeting_ Lindley Hoag was present
at Monthly Meeting, preached a very excellent and
lengthy sermon. received a long letter from Aunt
Phebe not long since_ answered it soon. Have taken
Physiology again_ the class recites to Alice Cornell. ~
Last sixth day evening Ann Haskill and myself

do.⁹

9 Not sure what the purpose or placement of this word is.

went in the sitting room to see Charles John

Wheeler_ think I never spent a less agreeable evening

in there_ have been rather homesick and low spirited

of late_ and do not much enjoy myself anywhere.

Yesterday afternoon several of the girls, with myself

went up in the observatory_ ^{as} we carried our work we sat

some time but soon Alice came up & said that sever=

al of the boys wished to come up, so we were obliged

to go down. Last sixth day our class went in to write.

I am no farther than J. yet_ he has set me several

copies of theme.

Fifth day 15th 3^d mo.

As I do not feel inclined to study I will

take my journal. It is well that I am not compelled to

keep a journal_ ^{for} if I did not write any more regularly than I do

now the teachers would find cause for displeasure: perhaps if

they required it of me I should be more punctual. Sister Emily

has been for some time at Grandfather's. do not know whether

she is still there. received a letter from her a fortnight

since and in it was the information of the birth of a little

boy,¹⁰ son of Mr. and Mrs. Marble. joyful times at home_

I expect Mercy Mann is nurse. Went in to write yester

=day but did not write much as the copies were rather

difficult to write and I did not feel in a very writing

mood_ Charles G. Pinkham was ~~in a~~ ^{quite} sober which is

^{very} quite unusual for him. he generally encourages us to

enjoy ourselves and we do not misimprove the chance,

but "carry on" to the best of our ability. and often to the

discomfiture of Friend Pinkham's respected_ self

Sixth day 23^d 3^d mo.

Quite pleasant but cool; yet the girls /except my=
self/ and boys have manifested that they still existed, in the usual
manners¹¹_ going to walk_ Yesterday was preparative meeting
day_ but few of the girls went as it was such muddy walk
=ing_ Ellen intended to go and was nearly ready; ~~but~~ went
to get her purse but found that four dollars had been
taken from it_ so she gave up going_ several of the girls
have lost money and other things; Just before dinner
she received a letter from an "affectionate friend:" And we have

10 William A. Marble

11 Two or three illegible lettes at the end of this word.

decided to note the 22nd of March as an eventful day_ We are both to remember that day next year_ we have also concluded to remember the evening collection of the 23^d_

Third day 3^d 4th mo.

Last first day was April fool's day_ but we heard but very little of it. Next week is examination I do not dread it much_ Yesterday directly after dinner we went to Elm grove_ passed through the greenhouse_ then Ellen and myself went down to the brook to a quite romantic spot where we sat till the girls returned_ _____¹² came by the reservoir_ reached here about half past two to day is committee.

Second day 9th

The first day of examination has arrived and is nearly at a close. I have recited my lessons as yet_ expected to recite Physiology the first thing but as no committee made their appearance we were obliged to defer the desirable task. examinations commenced at two o'clock_ before then the

12 Illegible word

boys came in to see the work in the parlor_ half at a time. last fifth day night Grandfather came here to see us_ he had spent the day and night before at Frank's_ brought Lydia & myself some oranges_ he stayed here till the next day at ten oclock_ fifth day night after tea nearly all of the girls accompanied by Edward G. Hoag, Anna Page, and Alice Cornell went down to Moses Brown's bridge and home by a roundabout way by the water which made it very pleasant_ when we were on the bridge a schooner set sail went a little way out on the river then anchored_ when it began to sail the sailors screamed 'fare ye well, ladies' and waved their caps_ we waved our handkerchiefs in return and some of the girls sing but methinks not much to their edification for they were too far distant and the girls sung too low to be heard. In looking over a history to day I saw something relating to Demosthenes the Athenian. A statue was erected to his memory in the Prytaneum with this inscription_ "If thy power, Oh Demosthenes had been equal to thy wisdom, and a=

bilities the Macedonian Mars[?] had never ruled in Greece." the Arithmetic class is exercising upon the boards.

First day__

A gloomy, rainy day_ wonder what the stution girls are doing_ as it is about five pre=sume they are eating supper_ Did not attend meet=ing today_ All of the family went except the three children_ Spent a week at home after returning from the School_ then Lydia and myself went down to Uncle Eben's. the next seventh day Ja=cob carried Lydia to the school_ they started at seven oclock_ About half past nine Ruth Wal=cott and her nephew carried Irene to the School_ they had previously invited me and I did so_ it was rather rainy but we had a pleasant ride_ spent a short time there_ saw Sarah Cornell_ she appeared to be very glad to see me_ said to me "We should be glad to have thee come back to school again." I felt bad that I could not go this

at Cumberland
summer_ Stayed there a fortnight_ Last fifth
day Grandfather and myself went up to North
=bridge Quarterly Meeting¹³_ A great many there
that I knew_ After meeting Ann B. Earle
shook hands with me= said, it looked natural
to see me there_ asked if I was going back to
the school_ Received a long and very interesting
letter from my dear friend Ellen_ had a
May Basket hung the other night_ it was
full of confectionary_ caught the hangers_ they
were Emily Bassett, Lucy Bacon and her
brother accompanied them_ they hung one at
Susan Martin the same night_ Last
night I hung one to Julia Arnold_ met
with good success as they did not catch me_
but the dog traced my steps, so they guessed who
hung it. Must lay aside my journal for to
night_ as it is late_ shall continue to write in
it as I find time_

13 Located in Massachusetts

Seventh day 6th mo. 2nd

A very warm day but
in the room in which I am seated and while it
is mostly dedicated to my use, is quite cool_
My journal has indulged its own private reflec=
tions undisturbed for a long time _ Summer
has really reached us_ and frosty winter has
stepped back to give place to a more welcome
visiter after having so proudly exercised his
withering power_ flowers have, in many gar=
dens made their apperance_ though mine is an
exception_ and the green fields are spotted here
and there with violets, innocence, and buttercups_
I have enjoyed myself much in taking the chil=
dren out to walk_ and usually I seat myself under
the shade of some rock or tree, and occupy my=
self in reading while the children run from
place to place gathering flowers and interrupting
me at every turn with their ceaseless prattle_ have

answered Ellen Whitlocks letter_ shall expect one
from her in a short time_ Emily has left Phear's[?]
and gone to Moses Almy's at Mannville_ she
likes the latter place much better_ last second
day uncle Eben was up and offered to carry me to
see her_ to which I readily assented and arrived
there at about four in the afternoon_ found them
well and Emily very well contented_ left in the
cars at a quarter past six_ Grandfather met me at
the Falls_ Uncle Eben is up here to day_ I have
found a small kind of closet which I have fitted
up for my own use and call it my library_ in
one side I have placed my school books_ and in
the other writing materials, books, &c. on the lower shelf
are my books of poems and stories_ so I have quite a li=
brary_ will lay my journal aside soon_ I attend
Sabbath school_ like it much_

First day 3rd

Attended Sabbath school and Meeting

to day_ Harriet Mowry heard our class as Marcella Allen was not present_ we like her much better than Marcella_ as she converses more with us and informs us of more facts_ the lesson was recited very well_ she gave us some information respecting the Jews_ and I took a book in which was something relating to them_ Abner Sprague spoke in meeting twice_ John Harrington spent most of the day here_ Christopher and Williard Hall called this afternoon_ Yesterday Uncle Eben came up. he carried me to the Falls and presented me with a quire of letter paper_ twelve sheets of note paper, half a dozen envelopes, a blank book which I shall use for a journal, and a new pair of bronze kid gaters_ the price of all was \$1.78. My library now is fitted except three things, which as I am in the mood I will note_ some letter envelopes, a blank book in which to copy

poetry, and an addition to my stock of story books_
I will also add, as I have begun, a port-folio_ presume
if I had these I should think of other things which I
wanted quite as much_ Have borrowed at Williards
Pierce's an history of the life of Bonaparte and
a Cabinet_ shall lay my journal aside to read
them_

¹⁴this journal is dear and precious to me
for the many events and occurencies which are
noted therin_ and by means of which I recall to mind
the happiest hours of my life in company with
très, très chères amies qui j'aime plus que moi-
même_ Je voudrais donné beaucoup si je povais[?] en
voici quelques[?]
En particulièrement ma plus intime,
et ma chère amie plus chère que tous les autres que
j'aime si beaucoup_ M'tamie[?] Ellen; ma loin éloigné
Ellen_

14 This final paragraph is written in pencil. Some of the French words were not very legible.