

ETTA'S JOURNAL January 2, 1874-July 25, 1875

Edited by ELLEN PAYNE PAULLIN
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I. INTRODUCTION

ETTA PARKERSON REYNOLDS would probably have insisted she lived a very ordinary life, cleaning, cooking, sewing, laundering, farming, managing a store, teaching, and having babies. But for those who have the privilege of reading her brief journal and piecing together the rest of her life, she emerges as an extraordinary person. She was born with a deformity—she was, perhaps, a hunchback—and as an adult was never more than four feet tall. At 21 she managed her Uncle William Goodnow's household on College Hill in Manhattan for which she was paid \$1.00 a

week, and was courted almost daily by a neighbor 30 years her senior. Later she became a teacher, a storekeeper, a journalist, and still had energy left to fight what she considered the twin demons of her day, tobacco and liquor. She died a month before her 36th birthday.

Julia Etta Parkerson was born on April 16, 1853, in Westerly, R.I., daughter of William E. and Lucinda Goodnow Parkerson. In 1855, soon after her sister Harriet was born, the family joined others that were sent West by the New England Emigrant Aid Society. These antislavery New Englanders were convinced that if enough of them settled in Kansas territory, Kansas would be admitted to the Union as a free state because they could outnumber the Missourians who crossed the border at election time to vote for slavery.

The Parkersons settled on Wildcat creek near the newly established town of Manhattan, but

Title-page photos: Etta Parkerson (1853-1889), author of the brief journal published here, was an extraordinary person. This photograph of her was probably taken about the time she entered college at age 20 in 1873. Also shown above is the journal itself and a drawing found in it. Photographs *courtesy* Ellen Paullin.

within two years tragedy struck the young family when Lucinda died after a lingering illness. Harriet, two years old, was adopted immediately by her mother's brother and his wife, Isaac and Ellen Denison Goodnow, among the most prominent of Manhattan's early settlers, but four-year-old Etta remained with her father. Her Aunt Ellen wrote of her in April, soon after her mother's death, "Poor thing I am afraid will not live long." Perhaps this was one of the reasons for not adopting the unfortunate crippled sister, who was always described in family correspondence as "an invalid."

Her father took Etta to Rhode Island for a short time, married again, and moved back to Manhattan in the early 1860's. In the next few years he and his new wife had three children whom Etta, in her teens, helped care for. She attended the public primary and intermediate schools in Manhattan, and two years of preparatory school at Kansas State Agricultural College before entering the freshman class there in the fall of 1873. She is 20 years old, enrolled in the winter term, January, 1874, when her journal begins.

At the end of that term she had to drop out of college, presumably for financial reasons, and it was then she became housekeeper for her uncle, William E. Goodnow, storekeeper and builder in Manhattan. They lived in the back part of her Uncle Isaac Goodnow's large stone house on College Hill¹ during the time Isaac, his wife and adopted daughter Harriet lived in Neosho Falls, while Isaac served as land commissioner for the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad.

Etta's journal was written between January, 1874, and July, 1875. The little worn, marbled-paper-covered notebook was given to Mary C. Payne of Manhattan by her friend, Etta's sister, Hattie Parkerson, before the latter's death in 1940. It was found in Mary Payne's desk by her daughter, Ellen Payne Paullin, after Mrs. Payne's death in 1976. It is beautifully and legibly written in pencil, and is reproduced here exactly as Etta wrote it.

Some psychologists today recommend journal-keeping as beneficial therapy. Perhaps, over a hundred years ago, it served that purpose for Etta as she recorded with unusual

honesty her feelings about her deformity ("I can't understand how any one can like me at all. I am so ugly to look at . . ."), her difficult life as a hired girl in Kansas pioneer days, her intense religious faith, and her painful courtship with her "Mr. R." ("there are so many objections to our ever marrying, and yet sometimes it seems as if our love overcomes them all. What will either of us ever be alone? And how much we *can* be together . . .").

II. THE JOURNAL

JANUARY 2ND, 1874. [FRI.] Well little book we will commence the year together; and I hope we shall be able to continue together throughout the year. Henceforth my thoughts shall be committed to you. I do hope that I may improve *much* this year. and grow in grace. I wish I was wiser, and had some judgement and good common sense about me. I commenced the year away from home; and have been visiting all the time so far. I wonder if much of my time this year will be spent away from home. Home! I haven't any. I wonder if I ever will have. Fortune doesn't *begin* to favor me as it does some folks, and yet it *does* favor me vastly more than it does some others. I spent the last night of the old year with Elsie Thorpe² and the first day of this year also. enjoyed it very much. In the evening I came over to Mr. Denison's.³ Went with the young folks to a candy-pull at Maj. Miller's.⁴ enjoyed myself well. Went up to the College⁵ this morning. Can't yet decide what to study. My nose and eyes have furnished me employment a good part of the day. I have such a bad cold.

2. A classmate of Etta's at Kansas State Agricultural College, from Manhattan.

3. Rev. Joseph Denison was one of the first settlers in Manhattan. Formerly a Methodist minister in Boston, he was president, first of Bluemont Central College and then of Kansas State Agricultural College between 1863 and 1873. He left Manhattan to serve as president of Baker University in Baldwin, 1874-1879.

His children by his first wife, Sarah Woodruff, who died in 1858, were: (ages in 1874) Ellen, 24; Emma, 22; Henry, 28; George, 17. He married Frances Dennis in 1860; their child was Fanny who was 13 in 1874. Ella Dennis, 18, lived with the family.

Joseph Denison died at the home of his sister Ellen Goodnow, in 1900, and was buried in Sunset Cemetery, Manhattan.

4. Maj. Fred E. Miller was professor of practical agriculture and superintendent of the agricultural college farm, K.S.A.C., 1871-1874. He served in the Union army in the Civil War, was taken prisoner at the first battle of Bull Run, later was judge advocate and provost marshal for the Second division of the 25th army corps in Texas.

5. K.S.A.C. was one of the first colleges to be officially designated as a land grant school under the Morrill Land Grant act of 1862. It succeeded Bluemont Central College which had been established by Isaac Goodnow and others in 1858. In 1874 classes were still being held on College Hill in the original Bluemont College building, about a quarter of a mile west of the Isaac Goodnow home where Etta was staying. In the fall of 1875, the college moved to its present location, about a mile east of the Goodnow home.

1. This is now the Goodnow Memorial Home, 2301 Claffin Road, Manhattan, administered by the Kansas State Historical Society.

JAN. 3RD. [SAT.] Came over home today. Had an introduction to Mr. Sternberg.⁶ The girls all came back today. I rode to M[anhattan].⁷ and most froze. It is *awful* cold. The wind blows very hard, and coming home hail and sleet fell, and cut my face. I was obliged to hold the robe before my face. Maj. M[iller]. has kindly consented to lend me his Botany for this term. My new dress and gloves arrived day before yesterday. they cost \$1.20 more than I wanted them too; but Uncle⁸ said he would give me that much. Hattie⁹ sent me a neck-ribbon to match my dress.

JAN. 11. [SUN.] I saw father¹⁰ about three minutes this morning; the first time I believe since last Independence day. Allie, Celia,¹¹ and I went up to inspect uncle's house this afternoon. I have written another note of dismissal to Mr. R.¹² I wonder if I will ever have a good chance to give it to him. I rather dread it; I feel that it ought to be done too. and I *shall do* it. I wrote a letter to Mrs. Christensen this evening.

6. Charles Sternberg was a K.S.A.C. student taking telegraphy. During his student days, he won the bid for carrying the college mail.

7. Manhattan, established in 1855 at the junction of the Kansas and Blue rivers, was a town of about 2,000 in 1874. It was two-and-a-half miles southeast of Etta's home on College Hill.

8. William E. Goodnow (1807-1876) came to Kansas from Norway, Maine, in 1855. Storekeeper, builder, and farmer, William shuttled between Maine and Kansas all his life as his wife, Harriet Paddleford Goodnow, fearing Indians and an uncomfortable climate, remained in Maine until her death in 1870. Their two daughters died there, one at birth and one at 14. William built many stone houses in Manhattan in the early years and owned a store in St. George. His diaries and letters are in the manuscript department of the Kansas State Historical Society.

9. Harriet Arms Parkerson (1855-1940), Etta's younger sister, was adopted by the Isaac Goodnows in 1857. She lived in the Goodnow home on College Hill all her life except for the six years the family lived in Neosho Falls. She kept her father's name although she was legally adopted by the Goodnows.

10. William E. Parkerson was born in 1816 in Rhode Island and came to Kansas in 1855 with his wife, Lucinda Goodnow Parkerson, and their two small daughters, Julia Etta and Harriet. Following Lucinda's death in 1857, he returned, with Etta, to Rhode Island where he worked first as a cabinetmaker and then in the textile mills making cloth for the Union army. He remarried and returned to Manhattan in 1864 where he worked as a grocer and sewing machine salesman. He left Manhattan in 1874 with his second family to settle with a group of Spiritualists on the Republican river in Clay county. He had been in a "circle" in Massachusetts and wrote his sister-in-law, Ann French, who shared his beliefs, that he regretted that Manhattan didn't have "a good medium." His estrangement from Etta is puzzling as he seemed unusually concerned about her welfare in her early childhood. His brother Alfered was a township officer in Manhattan, his brother Joseph a drayman, both had children Etta's age, but not one of these is mentioned in Etta's diary.

11. During the winter term at K.S.A.C., January 2 to March 25, 1874, the following girls, in addition to Etta, roomed in the Isaac Goodnow house on College Hill: Carrie Jones, Wabausee; Celia Wanemaker and Alice Noble, Barret Station, Marshall county; and Ida and Mary Amelia Noyes, Wabausee. Isaac Goodnow, writing to his brother William in late March, 1874, ordered him to "clean house thoroughly—we want no more students in there."

12. Alvin Reynolds (1824-1897) was born in Dutchess county, New York. After receiving an honorable discharge from the army at Ft. Riley in 1867, he followed his trade as a stonemason in Manhattan, moving to Keats in 1886 where he established a grocery store and became the town's postmaster. He was 49 when the *Journal* began and "Mr. R." or "A. R." were frequent entries from then on.

Went to College this afternoon, and listened to an excellent sermon from Mr. Reid.¹³ Why is it I am so careless? why can I not be more watchful. Mr. Reid reminded me of my weakness, of my need of strength. but I forget so easily. I *must* not. I *must* be careful. I *must* remember how that God is watching me. Received a letter from Lou. Noyes¹⁴ a few days ago. Little book I must talk to you oftener. I am studying Botany, Entomology, Natural Philosophy, and Origin, Structure, and History of the English Language. Uncle Isaac¹⁵ was up yesterday.

JAN. 12. [MON.] I joined the singing class today. Mr. R[eynolds] was here sometime this evening; i.e. down below waiting for uncle to come. I didn't know whether to give him that note or not. finally concluded not to. for fear he might request an interview right then, and uncle apt to come in any minute, which would not, on the whole, be very agreeable.

JAN. 14. [WED.] Went up to chapel this afternoon, and heard Mr. Fugett¹⁶ for the first time. scarcely know what to think of him. Mr. Howard¹⁷ came home with Allie. He had the impudence to say to me, he didn't see how deformed people could enjoy life, and then to tell me of a young man who had to walk on his knees. and seemed to enjoy life as well as anyone. His remarks set my thoughts to running in a rather disagreeable channel. I have been thinking if only I was like other girls, (not deformed) how many things I could do and enjoy, which I cannot as it is. In fact I can't understand how any one can like me at all. I

13. Rev. Joseph H. Reed was minister of the Presbyterian church.

14. Louise was a member of the James Noyes family in Wabausee whom Etta visited occasionally.

15. Isaac Tichenor Goodnow (1814-1894) was born in Whitingham, Vt. He was educated at Wesleyan Academy, Wilbraham, Mass. (now Wilbraham & Monson Academy) and became a member of its faculty in 1837. While there he married a fellow student, Ellen Denison. In 1848 he became professor of natural sciences at Providence Seminary in East Greenwich, R.I. Inspired by the speeches of Eli Thayer, Massachusetts antislavery advocate who founded the New England Emigrant Aid Society, Goodnow left the seminary in 1855 and came to Kansas where he was a member of the group that selected the site of Manhattan. He immediately set about raising money in the East for the construction of a Methodist church and the main building for Bluemont Central College which he helped establish. While serving in the state legislature, he and others deeded Bluemont Central College to the state to be the new land grant college, K.S.A.C. In 1862 he was elected state superintendent of public instruction. From 1869 to 1876 he was land commissioner for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad before retiring to his home on Claffin road in Manhattan. Always a great scientist and traveler, his collections of minerals, rocks, shells, and other artifacts can be seen in the museum in his former home. His letters and diaries are in the manuscript department of the Kansas State Historical Society.

16. The Reverend Mr. Fugett was minister of St. Paul's Episcopal church in Manhattan.

17. W. C. Howard, K.S.A.C. student, was secretary of the Alpha Beta Literary Society.

am so ugly to look at. If I was striaght [*sic*] like other girls people might over-look my faults. but as it is, my faults appear more prominent; I think. perhaps I don't see myself as others do. I presume not. but it does seem as if those who ought to be my best friends, care but little about me. and then I think I don't deserve any one's love or affection. and then too there are others who are really disagreeable, who have warm friends, and easy circumstances. but they are straight. they are not deformed. I do so want some one to *love* me and I feel strong sometimes in resolutions to make all love me. then suddenly without thinking, thoughtless, I make *some* blunder, do *something*, that causes them to dislike me. I lack good judgement and forethought. The future seems dark to me. I am a poor girl, motherless, and almost as good (or as bad) as fatherless, entirely dependent on my own exertions, for a livelihood, and so unfitted for work, deformed and weak, rich relatives, who leave me entirely to myself to fight the hard battle of life alone. no true warm sympathizing heart to go to. and the certainty before me, that I can never hope for a happy home of my own in this world. Perhaps it is best. I must bow my head in meekness; willingly submitting to my Heavenly Father's will. Can I do it? It seems impossible for me to keep from wishing things were not as they are. *Father help me!* Make me watchful; patient; charitable; long-suffering.

JAN. 13.¹⁸ Last week Friday Amelia and Ida went home, and staid until Saturday afternoon. This week Friday Carrie went. came back this afternoon most frozen. Last Sunday, Uncle Stephen¹⁹ took me over to uncle Solomon's.²⁰ I saw their new piano. Uncle Stephen says he thinks his family will come here next May to live in this house. I have seen Mr. R[eynolds]. again. returned his watch to him, and gave him

18. This must be misdated as it follows January 14. It is the only date in January entered between Wednesday, January 14, and Monday, February 2.

19. Stephen French, formerly of Orange, Mass., was married to Ann Whitney (see footnote 10), daughter of Solomon and Sybil Arms Goodnow Whitney (mother of Isaac, William, and Lucinda). He came to Manhattan in 1872 as president and chief stockholder in the new Manhattan National Bank and was described by the editor of *The Nationalist* as "the brother-in-law of Hon. I. T. Goodnow . . . he is a capitalist of large means, quiet and gentlemanly in manner, and appears to be a thorough business man." His plans to move to Manhattan permanently were postponed by the illness of his children. Eventually, he returned to Massachusetts.

20. Solomon Whitney was the son of Solomon and Sybil Arms Goodnow Whitney. He and his wife, Sarah, came to Manhattan in 1870, settling on a farm four miles northwest of town. Their children were: Ella (married to Henry Hougham), Harriet, Willard, Genevieve, Sarah, Bertha, and Jessie.

a note of dismissal. he tried to get me to stay in and talk with him. but I had to prepare for school then and did not have time. preferred not to anyhow, until after he had read my missive. I would like very much to have an interview with him now; I should like to know what he thinks of me. I have done *so wrongly*. I *do* wish some good might come of this affair; but I fear the result will be harm. I *do* wish I could be a good christian. I felt too unworthy to take part in prayer-meeting last night. Mr. Potter²¹ came back Thursday.

MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 2ND. Yesterday, I attended Mr. Sanford's memorial sermon, at the College, by Mr. Parker.²²

SUNDAY EVENING, FEB. 8TH. Professor Mudge, Maj. Miller, and Dr. Detmers were turned out of the College this last week.²³ Sebia²⁴ will not attend any more. she would graduate in June if she continued. I received a long letter from A[lvin]. R[eynolds]. yesterday. it was written on seven sheets of paper, 28 pages. All filled full. I believe he has at last accepted the Savior. I *do hope* and *pray* that he may become a godly man. He pleads and begs me not to give him up and to forgive him. to at least give him one ray of hope. I have written an answer this afternoon. forgiven him of course. and given him a faint glimmering of a

21. John A. Potter, 61, a native of England, worked with Alvin Reynolds and for William E. Goodnow, constructing houses in Manhattan.

22. Rev. R. D. Parker was minister of the Congregational church in Manhattan.

23. The "Mudge, Miller, Detmers affair" was a *cause célèbre* at K.S.A.C. in February, 1874. Prof. B. F. Mudge, renowned geologist and professor of natural history and natural science, Prof. F. E. Miller, professor of practical agriculture, and Prof. H. J. Detmers, professor of veterinary science and animal husbandry, three very popular teachers, were dismissed for "insubordination and gross misconduct." Their "misconduct" had been their trip to Topeka, "without leave," to try to persuade the legislators not to appoint to the board of regents members who supported the "new curriculum." The regents insisted, according to Josiah Copley, a regent writing in *The Nationalist*, February 20, 1874, that the object of the College according to the act of Congress granting the land endowment, was "to teach such branches of learning as are related to *agriculture and the mechanic arts*, in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the *industrial classes* in the several pursuits and professions of life" and the new curriculum proposed by the regents and implemented by the new president, John Anderson, was to teach the student how to *apply* his knowledge in a practical way. "Can anything be plainer than this?" continued Regent Copley. "Congress made it a school for the industrial classes as such; not a door through which a farmer's son or anybody else may pass from the *industrial classes* . . . into what are called the *professional classes*." The three professors maintained that instruction in science and in practical agriculture and the mechanic arts ought only to be entered upon after the pupil had passed entirely through the preparatory course, which required two years and included the study of German, French, or Latin.

"The question was not," wrote the editor of *The Nationalist*, "Shall the classics be taught?" but, rather, shall the State govern its own institutions in accordance with the wishes of the Legislature, or allow the College to be run according to the dictation of a few employees?"

24. Eusebia Mudge, daughter of Professor Mudge, was a student at K.S.A.C. After her father's dismissal, she transferred to the University of Kansas where she graduated in 1874.

ray of hope. God grant that he may become an estimable man. Mr. Reid preached a very good sermon at the College this afternoon, on the parable of the fig tree. The College sewing machines arrived last Friday afternoon. The Farmer's Institute closed last Friday evening in a general uproar as usual, quarreling, and hollering. Mr. Noyes,²⁵ Mr. Jones, and little Emma Jones²⁶ were here a part of the week. Friday we all took a sleigh ride to Manhattan. called on Mrs. Adams.²⁷ Mr. Keiz and Mr. Powell²⁸ took tea here that evening.

FEB. 10. [TUES.] The students held a meeting yesterday against the President's wishes. it resulted in a general uproar. not even respect to the ladies was observed. it came near being mutiny.²⁹ A petition has been raised and circulated to have Prof. Ward³⁰ turned out, as his pupils think he is not competent to teach them. I think they had better mind their own business, and let other people's alone. We now sew in the room formerly occupied by Dr. Detmers.

FEB. 15 [SUN.] It has been so very muddy

25. James and Mary Noyes brought their family to Wabaunsee from Illinois in 1869 to farm. They were active in the Beecher Bible and Rifle church, and sent several of their children to K.S.A.C. They had eight daughters and one son: Mary, Ida, Anna, Arthur, Maria, Hattie, Susie, Ella, and Fannie.

26. Rev. Harvey Jones came to Kansas in 1855, after he finished his studies in the Theological School at Oberlin College in Ohio. He served as superintendent of home missions for the state, preached in Valley Falls, but by 1874 he had returned to his first Kansas home, Wabaunsee, with his wife and four children: Carrie, Henry, Horace, and Emma.

27. Israel, 58, and Betsy, 59, Adams were to rent the front part of Isaac Goodnow's house in 1874.

28. Powell was an employee of C. W. Higinbotham & Co.

29. From *The Nationalist*, February 13, 1874: "Since our last issue there has been—what seems to be a necessary incident to every collegiate institute—some insubordination among the students at the Agricultural College. The furious onslaughts made upon the Board of Regents on Friday night, at the meeting of the Stock Growers Association, produced its legitimate fruit in exciting the students to a high degree; and the removal of Prof. Mudge following it immediately enabled the designing persons who have for sometime been diligently sowing discord among them, to rush them into mutiny. In this frame of mind they met and passed a few indignation resolutions, and some of them went so far as to undertake to regulate the classes and institution generally.

"Knowing the character of the outside influences that had been at work among the students, the President and Professors pursued a firm but lenient course; and the result was, that, as the excitement cooled, the students realized that they had been hasty and gone too far. The probabilities now are that there will be no necessity for adopting extreme measures in any case. . . . There can be no objection to their giving utterance to their regard for the retired Professors [*sic*]; but they have no right, as a body, to arraign the Regents and Faculty and pass judgment upon their action. If at any time the Institution becomes of such a character, or is so conducted, that they do not find it profitable or desirable to remain, the proper course for them is to leave it. Discipline should, and, we doubt not, will be enforced. For the first time in many years the entire Faculty and Board of Regents are in hearty accord, and the public has a right to expect that there will be an end of discord, unless the malcontent parties outside spring some new mine."

30. Prof. M. L. Ward, professor of mathematics and engineering, K.S.A.C., 1873-1883. He was appointed president pro tem of the college while President Anderson was traveling in the East early in 1874 to visit "the best Industrial Technological institutions . . . for the purpose of becoming thoroughly acquainted with their present methods and plans."—*The Nationalist*, February 13, 1874.

today. I have not attempted to go to church, not even to the College. Celia has been feeling very badly because her father has not come. she expected him yesterday. We four girls in here, commenced this evening to have prayers in the evening and we intend to keep it up. May it be a blessing to us.

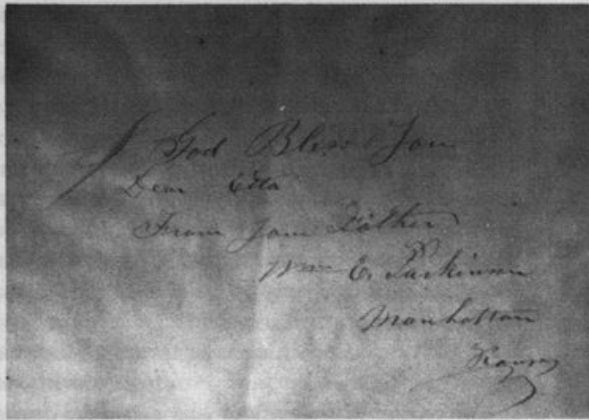
FEB. 20. [FRI.] The sun came up bright and clear this morning; and a single lark piped forth its sweet notes; We could not but feel happy and rejoice too. O that we might always feel grateful, and happy in the Lord! and not murmur and complain so much. It has been so extremely muddy, in consequence of the melting off of our deep snow, and so cloudy and stormy. that I do think it has acted to depress our spirits, to make us gloomy and sad. Mr. Jones has been up again. Carrie has had her sore finger lanced. Mr. Wanemaker and Mrs. Noble, and also Celia's sister Ella have been here. I do wish I could see and talk with Mr. R. I can not feel easy until I do.

MARCH 3RD. [TUES.] I finished my dress last Friday noon, and hurried off to Wabaunsee to singing school. Professor Platt³¹ invited his advanced class to go down and assist in a concert at the expiration of the term of singing school which he has been teaching there. I staid over Sunday at Mr. Noyes'. Heard Mr. Christopher preach Sunday morning. This morning I found out the rest of my standing for the first month of the term. It is as follows: Botany, 9 8/10. Entomology 9 8/10. English Structure 9 4/10. Philosophy 9 9/10. Sewing 7. I do think Mrs. Cheseldine³² is unjust in marking us. I think 7 is too low. I applied for the school in Mr. Haines district on the 7th. An answer came on Friday. I think I shall answer it this afternoon. Cannot tell whether or not I can get it, till the new school board is elected.

MARCH 5TH. [THURS.] Mr. Potter was here Tuesday evening, and I gave him a little colored engraving framed with gilt paper. It represents a little girl trying to teach her cat to sing. I told him he might think of me when he looked at it for I am small, and love cats and

31. Prof. M. E. Platt was professor of mathematics and vocal music and principal of the Preparatory School, K.S.A.C., 1866-1883. His home, on Claffin road, built in 1871, is to be the new headquarters of the Riley County Genealogical Society.

32. Mrs. Harriett Cheseldine, seamstress, was appointed to the faculty at K.S.A.C. in 1873 to teach classes in sewing, dressmaking, and millinery. Her students made her the confidant of their school girl troubles, as she "has the rare gift of being able to understand about the complicated paraphernalia of her own sex."—*The Nationalist*, June 26, 1874.



Etta Parkerson is shown in the photograph below, at age 11, with her younger sister, Harriet, age nine. Etta is presumed to be the one seated. The girls' father, William E. Parkerson (sometimes spelled Parkinson), wrote the letter below to Stephen French, a brother-in-law, enclosing the photograph of his "little chicks." At left is a page from Etta's autograph album signed by her father. Photographs of the letter and autograph album courtesy Ellen Paullin.



Etta is well & so is Harriet
 Tell Aunt Ann I enclose
 in this my two little chicks.
 I had them both taken and
 one plate. I presume she
 can tell father from which
 my mother has not enjoyed
 good health at all this summer
 she has been very feeble she is
 most 75 years old and almost
 gone and I cannot leave home
 for I have to do a good deal of the
 house work. I could have got
 three dollars per day right along
 all the season if I had not
 been tied up at home but I
 shall take care of the good old
 mother as long as she shall live.
 I shall stay by her till the last
 but I must close till I see
 I would like to have a picture
 from her. Love to her, Frank
 Alvira and all.

Yours

Wm. E. Parkerson

singing. I also sent my letter to A.R. by him. I *do wish* I could see him and talk with him.

MARCH 9TH. [MON.] I rode down to church yesterday with Mr. Parish.³³ Mr. Wood³⁴ preached on the text "I have fought a good fight." Mr. Gove³⁵ was killed by the cars a week ago Saturday. They are having a series of meetings in Manhattan, which I hear are quite interesting. A general revival of God's work seems to be going all over the United States. It is reported that ten thousand souls have lately been converted in St. Louis, and nine hundred in some other place. I hear there is some interest manifested in M[anhattan]. I don't know how much. I wish there might be more interest here on the Hill. I wish I myself was more earnest.

MARCH 11. [WED.] This is a beautiful day but I fear I have not been as happy as I ought to have been. I had quite a little chat with Mr. Potter last evening. I was down in uncle's room studying; while there he came in. He brought me some pop-corn, and a letter from A.R. I don't know what to do. Shall wait a while, and trust the Lord to direct me aright. Lillie Morgan and Matie Reid³⁶ came over to prayer-meeting this afternoon.

MAR. FRIDAY 13. Pleasant, but chilly. Prayer-meeting at the College was put off this evening on account of the meeting in town. Carrie went home this afternoon with Prof. Platt. Amelia and Ida went to town this afternoon that they might attend the meeting this evening. They will spend the night with Nannie Wartzberger.³⁷ I received a letter from Lou Noyes this evening. How I would love to have her here now. Answered A.R.'s letter this evening. I have told him no. Lord help me to do right.

SUNDAY EVENING MARCH 15. Yesterday and today have been rainy dreary days. The girls did not come back yesterday until afternoon. I

33. Lewis Parish, 52, and his wife, Laura, 51, formerly from Canada, farmed near College Hill. Their children were: Lamoile, 26, and Eugenia, 22, both teachers; Ida, 19; Ella and Effa, 16; Emma, 11; Lewis, 10; Katie, 9.

34. Rev. I. S. Wood was minister of the Baptist church of Manhattan.

35. *The Nationalist*, March 13, 1874, reported that Moses Johnson Gove, Manhattan butcher, was taking some cattle by train to the St. Louis market when he left his car to check on their well-being. He fell between two cars and his injuries proved fatal. Isaac Goodnow wrote his wife, after hearing about the accident, "I can't but feel as though his head might have been unsteady from taking whiskey!"

36. Lillie Morgan, Washington, and Almeda Reed, Milford, were K.S.A.C. students.

37. Mary Anna Wertzberger, K.S.A.C. student from Alma, signed Etta's autograph album March 24, 1874.

worked hard all day. I did a large ironing and some baking, besides sundries. I was *exceedingly* tired when I got through. Went to the College this afternoon; heard Mr. Fugett preach again. Mr. R. passed by here today dressed in a new suit of clothes. I do wonder if he went to church. I *hope* he did. Lord help me to put my *whole* trust in *Thee*, help me to love *Thee* and thine more, help me to be watchful and prayerful, not hasty and impatient. O give me patience and forbearance. In the name of Jesus I ask it.

MARCH SUNDAY EVENING 22. Today has been a *lovely* spring day. Carrie *does act strangely*. She makes it *very* unpleasant for us. She is very contrary, will not agree with us in any thing, but disputes (or tries to) and says something sharp or cross whenever any of the rest of us say anything, whether we are talking to her or not. I do hope she will be led to see how wrongly she is doing before it is too late. I am not patient enough, I know I am not. *Lord help me to be patient and charitable*. Celia and I took a walk today. We went down to the Wild Cat Creek and then over to mother's grave.³⁸ Prof. Lee³⁹ preached at the College this afternoon on "God is Light." A.R. passed by here again today all dressed up. I do wonder if he goes to church every Sunday, or if he just goes to Mr. Parish's. I *do hope* he goes to church and enjoys it. I hope he gains some good ideas, too, every time he goes. I do want to have a private talk with him. I think I am right in telling him no, but I am not *quite* sure. Lord show me *clearly* what thou wouldst have me to do.

MARCH 24TH. [TUES.] I received a letter from aunt Ellen⁴⁰ and Hattie yesterday. They

38. Etta's mother, Lucinda Goodnow Parkerson, died April 24, 1857, age 38, in one of the cabins on Wildcat creek, west of Manhattan, which the Goodnows and Parkersons had built on their arrival in 1855. The grave that Etta and her friends visited was on the hill above Wildcat creek where the Parkersons had intended to build their permanent home. Later, Lucinda was buried in the Goodnow plot in Sunset Cemetery.

39. Prof. J. H. Lee, librarian, and teacher of classics and English, K.S.A.C., 1866-1875.

40. Ellen Denison Goodnow (1812-1900) was born in Bernardston, Mass. She married Isaac Goodnow in 1838 in Wilbraham, Mass., where he was a professor at the academy and she was a student. After settling in Manhattan in 1855, she shared her husband's interests in developing the new town, the college, and Methodism. Her letters, in the Kansas State Historical Society in Topeka, vividly depict early days in Manhattan, and reveal her incredible patience and stamina as she managed a frontier farm alone and raised Hattie, the adopted daughter, while Isaac traveled in the East on his money-raising expeditions. One wonders at her reaction to a question in one of Isaac's letters to her in September, 1857: "Don't you think I am a brave one to stay away from you so long?"

Etta would be 21 years old on April 16. Her Aunt Ellen and sister Hattie probably wanted her to visit them in Neosho Falls for her birthday. However, in her description of her visit there (see ahead) she does not mention any particular birthday observance.

want me to come and make them a visit. I answered the letter immediately, and sent the answer right off by Mr. Sternberg. I told them I would come Friday if convenient. If they write, right off, I shall get an answer Thursday. I am afraid they will question me closely about my affairs and perhaps my visit will not be over pleasant. However I will trust all to the Lord. I think I have done right in everything except speaking about the rent. Celia, Amelia, Ida and I walked over to the cemetery this afternoon. I wonder how soon I shall be sleeping with the dead. Oh! that I were prepared and ready to die. But I have done so little for the Master, I have enough to keep me fighting, within my own breast. Amelia, Ida and I, called and [sic] the Dearborn girls,⁴¹ Elsie Thorpe, and Sebie Mudge this afternoon. saw Mrs. Hacker's little baby (Harry). It is quite a pretty child. Clara Adams⁴² has a little girl. Mrs. Stewart⁴³ has moved into uncle's new house and Maj. Miller has moved to Mrs. Stewart's farm. One day more and school will be over.

MONDAY EVENING MAR. 30. Last Wednesday evening, Carrie, Allie and I went over to Prof. Mudge's to a presentation party.⁴⁴ We met at Mrs. Pound's, and went together from there. Prof. was presented with a very heavy silver Elgin watch, from the students, and a gold pen, with pearl and gold handle, from Carrie Kimball. Mrs. White presented them, after which Prof. Mudge returned his most hearty thanks, and also expressed his great surprise. We had very nice refreshments, among other nice things, oranges. music too. Mrs. Jones and Henry came Wednesday afternoon. They and Carrie took their things and went home Thursday morning. Mr. Wanemaker and Mr. Noble came Wedn., also. Allie and Celia went away Thurs. morning. Mr. Noyes came about noon. The girls were all ready for him, and were soon on their way. I rode with them as far as M[anhattan]. to see if there was any letter for me.

41. Carrie and Leila Dearborn, Manhattan, K.S.A.C. students, wrote in Etta's autograph album, "Remember our little pet mouse. Also the good times we have had in the sewing class."

42. Clara Adams (1844-1913) with her husband, Darius (1845-1892) worked for William Goodnow on the construction of the large stone house on College Hill in 1872 (now 777 Midland avenue). Darius's parents were Israel and Betsy Adams.

43. Mrs. Stewart and her daughter, Alice (Etta's classmate), moved into the house William Goodnow had built in 1872 (now 777 Midland avenue). They took in roomers and boarders.

44. An extensive account of the party for Professor Mudge is given in *The Nationalist*, March 27, 1874, including the price of the elegant silver watch, "\$90.00."

there wasn't, so I staid at Mr. Adams' till the evening meeting, and then after meeting went home with Nannie Wertzberger (up to Mr. Smith's) and spent the night with her. during the night about three inches of snow fell. it was a surprise to everybody.

Friday morning Nannie went to the office with me to see if my letter had come, but—no letter for me. So I bid Nannie Good Bye for the third time, and went to Mr. Adams' again. Went to meeting in the afternoon, and again in the evening. When Mr. Platt brought me home. Major M[iller]. rode up with us. I found here, waiting for me, a letter, from Mr. Allen about that school; stating that the Board had decided to have a male teacher. I am now keeping house for uncle, he having offered me a dollar a week, besides my board.⁴⁵ I commenced last Saturday morning. Mr. Caudwell⁴⁶ has been at work for uncle, and boarding here. I like him for a boarder real well. I think he is a good man. He is going up to his farm in Clay County to live, and keep Bachelor's hall. I pity him as I do all other men who have to Bach. Every man needs a house-keeper. Mr. Potter is nearly sick with a very bad cold. He was here a few minutes yesterday. Came down to bring me a letter from A.R. He still begs me not to give him up, but I shall. I do not think it would be right for me to marry. I would like to if I was as other girls are. Mr. Potter said he thought I would yet work for my board and go to school next term. I wonder what he meant by that. perhaps time will tell. He is mistaken any how. I know that, for I wont do it. I can't. if I would. I have got to have some money. I must pay my debt, and get some clothes. I went to church twice yesterday. Ella and Harry⁴⁷ made us a visit yesterday. Uncle had me make some cream toast and get

45. Etta dropped out of college at the end of the winter term, probably because of financial reasons. Her Uncle William Goodnow asked her to be his housekeeper. After William's wife's death, in Maine, in 1870, Isaac Goodnow had been promoting many widows and unmarried women as candidates for his brother's second marriage, but in 1874 William remained unmarried. He and Etta shared the original part of the Isaac Goodnow house which had two rooms, kitchen and parlor, downstairs, and two small bedrooms above. In the front section of the house, which had been added in 1866, various families lived from time to time, among them the Adamsons and the Houghams.

46. James Caudwell, 34, a native of England, wrote in Etta's autograph album on January 31, 1875: "Your True Friend." He did not move to his farm in Clay county until 1875, and then he did not keep "bachelor's hall" long for in 1876 he married a 17-year-old girl, Elizabeth, and by 1880 had a three-year old son, Theodore, and a year-old daughter, Mary.

47. Ella Whitney, eldest daughter of Solomon Whitney (Isaac and William Goodnow's half-brother), married Harry Hougham, son of Prof. J. W. Hougham. Harry was a carpenter and builder.

supper. I enjoyed the visit very much. Today has been stormy and cool. It has been raining and hailing by spells all day.

MAR. 31. [TUES.] It has been trying all day to snow. the consequence is the ground is just whitened with a little sleet and snow. A.R. was in to see me a little while this forenoon and we both like fools never said a word about what concerned us most. It shan't be so another time. I wrote to Lou Noyes this evening.

APR. WED. 1. Mr. Potter came in this morning and spent two or three hours with me, talking about A.R. I don't know what to do I am sure. I am as much in doubt, as to what course to pursue [*sic*], as ever I was. Heavenly Father! Wilt thou guide me aright. I received a letter from uncle Isaac today containing a ticket from Junction to Neosho. I shall start Friday if nothing happens to prevent.

[APRIL] THURS. 2ND. Uncle went to St. George today, and Mr. Caudwell and I ate dinner together. A.R. Came this afternoon, and we had a talk. I told him we would consider the engagement as broken and if he wished to, he might work and hope on, and we would see what he would be a year from this time. but I would make no promises ever to be anything to him. I will trust God, the dear Savior, to guide me aright *then*. He promises to be *all* that a christian should be. He declares that he will so live as to cause those who now look down on him to esteem him. May God give him strength to do it. He says he prays most all the time. I am so glad for him. O! if he will only keep on praying, God *will* help him. Father came in a few minutes while he was here. said he would come again and bring his spectacles sometime and write in my autograph album.⁴⁸

FRIDAY APRIL 24. I started Friday the 3rd according to my expectations. didn't sleep much Friday night, was so afraid I wouldn't wake in time in the morning. Met Hattie and Uncle Solomon at the depot. I had a very pleasant visit. attended two sewing circles, and sewed carpet rags, made four calls, cane seated a rocking chair for aunt Ellen, pasted nearly 1700 strips of paper for uncle Isaac (for which he gave me \$3.30), made me a white brilliant hat, learned to play a few tunes on the organ, wiped dishes, etc. Made the acquaintance [*sic*]

of my cousin Frank G.⁴⁹ while there. I had a rather lonely and tiresome trip home, and came near being left at Junction this morning. Received two letters while at N.F. [Neosho Falls] one from Mrs. Page⁵⁰ and one from Lou Rust.⁵¹ and found two more waiting for me at home, one from Carrie Jones and one from Amelia Noyes. Uncle bought some tobacco [*sic*] for A.R. today and I wrote on it—Touch not. Taste not. Handle not. Ella Hougham made me a little visit this afternoon. I went over to Mr. Denison's to return the basket I borrowed and while there wrote in Carrie Dearborn's album. Her folks have moved to Atchison. she is staying to finish a painting.

SUNDAY APRIL 26. I worked hard all day yesterday, and felt too tired to write any. I baked light bread, made brown bread, cooked meat and potatoes for dinner, cooked apple sauce, and rice, swept, made beds, washed dishes, got the meals, scrubbed the floor, and spent the evening in stirring cream, but it wouldn't come to butter. Today we went down to M. to church. I came home with the headache, and did not feel like going to College this afternoon. uncle went. Trim⁵² came back today. We are going to try to keep him here. Mr. R. came in this afternoon as far as the kitchen, but as I was in the parlor we did not meet. he and uncle talked a while.

SUNDAY MAY 3D. It has rained all day today and been rather cool. I have written two letters today one to Mrs. Christensen and one to Amelia Noyes. I have worked very hard all the past week and shall have to all the coming week and for weeks to come I expect. I wonder if I shall always be obliged to drudge. If it is the Lord's will, so be it. If He will give me grace to be cheerful under it all, send me sufficient kindness from others to keep my spirits up, O for a contented spirit at all times. Last Monday uncle went to St. George and staid until Tuesday night about nine o'clock. Monday afternoon I went over to Mr. Denison's to see if I could get one of the girls to come and stay over night with me. Mrs. Denison made

49. Frank Goodnow, nephew of the Goodnows, was, during their years in Neosho Falls, land examiner for the M.K.&T. Railroad. Later, he moved to Denver and was for many years land salesman for the Denver Land and Water Company. He was the son of Jotham, deceased brother of Isaac and William Goodnow.

50. Mrs. Coburn Page, Solomon, was Mr. and Mrs. Potter's daughter.

51. Lou Rust, Eureka, K.S.A.C. student in fall term, 1873, signed Etta's autograph album: "Lou Rust—Anywhere."

52. Etta's dog.

48. Later, he did, Etta had him write on the first page (see photo).

me stay to supper. then Ellen⁵³ came home with me. we called on Mrs. Stewart and Allie in the evening. I washad [*sic*] a tub full of white clothes the next day and afterward went up to Mrs. Stewart's with Ella H[ougham]. Mr. Lionhardt⁵⁴ spent that night with us. Mr. R. has dropped in on us three times this week on errands. Uncle Isaac came today. Martha Mitchell died last Monday.

THURSDAY APRIL [MAY] 7. Uncle Isaac went home Tuesday. Mr. Adams folks moved back yesterday. Uncle William went to St. George yesterday, was gone all night. Ferrel White was thrown from a wagon yesterday and killed. he was buried today. Hattie Whitney⁵⁵ made me a visit yesterday. Ella H. called. Wrote to Hattie Tuesday.

[MAY] FRIDAY 8. I went to prayer-meeting this evening for the first time this term. there

53. Ellen, Joseph Denison's daughter, was Ellen Goodnow's niece.

54. Gen. C. L. Lionhardt, 46, was born in Poland, and lived in Zeandale with his family.

55. Harriet Whitney was the second daughter of Solomon and Sarah Whitney, sister of Ella Whitney Hougham.

was a medium attendance, and considerable interest. Prof. Platt led. The Subject of the meeting—Sudden death and the Preparation for it. Oh! that I might feel willing at all times to go when the Lord sees fit to take me. I feel that I have not done enough good here. I want to accomplish something in this world, something for Christ. If I might be the means of *saving even one soul*, completely, and if I might *live better*, might *be better*, I believe I could say, Come quickly, Lord.

TUESDAY, MAY 12. I did not go to church Sunday. Wrote to Carrie Jones in the afternoon. Mr. R. came in a little while. said he wanted to hear me sing. hadn't heard any good singing since last summer until then. he had been in to Mrs. Adams' and heard them sing. he looked very sad. his eyes were watery. said he had been worrying some about his affairs. I did not question him about it. his cow was taken sick that evening, and Mr. Potter came down after we had gone to bed after some salt-peter for it. A.R. came down Monday morning, after some sour milk for his pigs. he had the same sad look



Isaac T. Goodnow
(1814-1894)



Ellen Denison Goodnow
(1812-1900)

When Etta Parkerson's mother, Lucinda Goodnow Parkerson, died in 1857, her brother and his wife, Isaac and Ellen Denison Goodnow, adopted Etta's two-year-old sister, Harriet. Four-year-old Etta remained with her father. Isaac Goodnow was a pioneer Kansas educator and at the time of Etta's "Journal" was land commissioner for the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad and living at Neosho Falls.

on his face and when I asked him about his cow, he said he expected she would die, that that was just his luck, but I felt as if it wouldn't die. I prayed that it might be spared to him and I prayed believing that my prayer would be answered. I saw it feeding today, apparently as well as any cow. I do pity him so. he is so good at heart, but if he is faithful to the end, a crown of life, and an eternal weight of glory awaits him. I went over to Ella's a little while yesterday afternoon. had five callers in the evening, Carrie Dearborn, Ella Dennis,⁵⁶ Fannie D[enison], Belle Pound⁵⁷ and Alice Stewart.⁵⁸ Uncle and I each received a very pretty May basket last evening. don't know who they are from. Emma Miller has a little boy.⁵⁹ It came last

56. See footnote 3.

57. Isabella Pound and her brother, Byron, were K.S.A.C. students from Riley.

58. Alice Stewart (see footnote 43) saw Etta frequently from this time on. She wrote in Etta's autograph album on November 11, 1874: "I shall never forget how kindly your sympathy has smoothed the otherwise rugged pathway of one who had so many troubles. For which reason remember me as Your Thankful Friend Alice Eulalie."

59. Emma Denison Miller was the daughter of former K.S.A.C. President Denison and was the wife of Maj. Fred Miller, one of the dismissed professors (February, 1874).

Saturday. I intended to wash today, but did not feel well enough, so put it off till tomorrow. hope I shall feel well enough then. Uncle has a little boy to work for him, little Thomas Joiner. he stays all night.

[MAY 13] WEDNESDAY. We have had rain nearly all day. I washed out the white clothes today. feel much better than I did yesterday. God is very good to me.

[MAY] THURSDAY 14TH. Mr. Caudwell came back last night, at about eleven o'clock. he is to stay with us and work for uncle a week. Thomas has left us, thinks he doesn't get pay enough. I wrote in Belle Pound's album yesterday. Father came to see me yesterday. I said something I ought not to tonight; my tongue causes me a great deal of anxiety. O! if the Savior will only forgive me. O! how *infinitely* merciful He is. He has promised to forgive us if we only continue to strive with all our might and he will give us strength to overcome. O! *Heavenly Father* help me to overcome. I am so wicked.



Etta, at the time she was writing her "Journal," was working as a housekeeper for her uncle, William E. Goodnow, who lived in the back part of his brother Isaac's stone house on College Hill in Manhattan. The large stone house is now maintained as a museum by the Kansas State Historical Society. Photograph of the house courtesy Ellen Paullin.

[MAY] MONDAY 18. The President's ⁶⁰ family have moved into the farm-house formerly occupied by Prof. Mudge. I did not go to church yesterday morning; all went but me. We all went to the College in the afternoon to hear Pres. Anderson preach. his sermon was very good. he represented religion as a science. A.R. was there. he came in a few minutes this morning to see me. I pity him so and I pity myself. I don't see how I ever can marry, circumstances are so against it, and yet he is hoping for it. he is hoping against hope I should think, and I let him, I can't do any other way. I trust God will make plain and clear to us both, in time, what we ought to do. I wrote to Lou Rust, and Mrs. Page yesterday. Albert ⁶¹ is keeping house alone, in Mr. Knipe's ⁶² house, and he and Mr. Parish are working the farm. Harry H[ougham] was in this evening. he starts for Abilene tomorrow.

[MAY] WEDN. 20. I rode to town this afternoon, and bought me a white straw hat, and some trimming for it. it all amounted to \$4.00, four weeks work. Ella Hougham went with us. we called on Clara.

[MAY] FRIDAY 22. Mrs. Adams and I called on Mrs. Stewart and Allie last evening, where I learned that the Pres. requires all the students to cover their eyes with their hands at prayer time in chapel. Byron Pound has left school on that account. Allie came down for a pitcher of water this evening, and Mr. Caudwell carried it up for her and from there he went over to prayer-meeting. I went to prayer-meeting and back alone this evening. it was not *very* inter-

60. John A. Anderson, who was serving as pastor of the Presbyterian church in Junction City, was named by the board of regents to be second president of K.S.A.C. in 1873. He served until 1879. *The Nationalist*, June 26, 1874, carried these remarks by Editor Griffin: "President John A. Anderson, formerly a Presbyterian minister, is a tall, vigorous, robust, plain man; but he is so cheerful, much inclined to mirthfulness, knows so well how to make one spend and enjoy a social hour, that one never thinks of his looks. His profession has brought him in contact with all classes of society, and with all sorts of people, and he seems able to go up or down to the plane of the people he meets.

"He has a will of his own, but seeks information from every one. He is a religious man and believes that God calls his children each to his allotted place in life, and although we have not heard him say this, we think he fully believes that He called him to the work in which he is now engaged, and that He did not call him there to fail. Because he was not a college professor, he thinks is no reason why he cannot be a college president. Because he was not a farmer he thinks is no reason why he cannot superintend an agricultural college. The State has called him to the presidency of a college, not a farm. He knows his position and intends to honor it."

61. Albert Page, brother of Coburn Page and brother-in-law of Mrs. Page, Mr. and Mrs. Potter's daughter. He was a general handyman on and around College Hill.

62. Rev. William Knipe was a farmer and preacher who served several churches near Manhattan until 1876. After that he devoted full time to farming.

esting. Mr. Flagg ⁶³ died last night of pneumonia. I don't see what his family will do. I suppose he was not prepared for the change. Oh! *how can mankind live on and make merry* so carelessly when *so many* warnings are given. *Lord help me to be prepared for whatever change Thou mayest send upon me.* Mr. Reynolds came to see me this evening. I am afraid trouble is coming to me. *Lord help me to do right. Guide me aright. I pray Thee.* Father came in to see me this afternoon. he had the sick headache. A.R. buried his tobacco today.

[MAY] SUNDAY 24. The Pres. has repented of his last action. I did not go to M. this morning, because I had nothing suitable to wear. had a hard headache all the afternoon, so I could not go to College. Harrie W[hitney]. and Ella H[ougham]. called this afternoon. I have read most through "The End of the World" ⁶⁴ today. Alice Stewart came in a little while this morning. Mr. Caudwell has proposed to her, and got mitted ⁶⁵ and still he hangs around her.

[MAY] WEDNESDAY 27. Uncle went to St. George yesterday, and again early this morning. he has not yet returned; I presume he will stay until tomorrow evening. Mr. R. came down this evening to have Mr. Caudwell shingle his hair for him. he ate supper with us and spent the evening. we had a real pleasant time.

[MAY 28] THURSDAY. Uncle came back from St. George this evening. I had the "Blues" quite badly a little while this afternoon but, with the help of God, succeeded in driving them away before supper time. I was thinking of my physical condition, and my greatest trial. Received a letter from Hattie this evening. Frank's reception was held two weeks ago tomorrow and is reported a perfect success. They are all well at N.F. [Neosho Falls] Had a letter from Elsie Thorpe also this evening, she wishes to correspond with me, and I am glad. *I like her.*

[MAY] SUNDAY 31. I have attended religious services 3 times today. To M. this morning, to College this afternoon, to M. again this evening to hear B. Davis ⁶⁶ preach his first sermon.

63. John F. Flagg, 48-year-old farmer, died of pneumonia May 22, leaving his wife and five children: John, Jr., George, Hattie, Mary, and Ida.

64. *The End of the World: A Love Story* by Edward Eggleston, was published in 1872 by Folcroft.

65. "To get, or give the mitten" was a colloquialism meaning to be refused, to jilt.

66. Beverly Davis was a young theological student.

he did very well. Mr. Caudwell is real good. he took six to church this evening. Alice S., Lettie B., Fannie Denison, Miss Whitman, Mr. Adams and myself. Ella H., Bertha W., and Hattie W. came in a little while this afternoon. Mr. R. came too but he found out I had so much company he didn't stay long.

FRIDAY JUNE 5. Uncle and Mr. Caudwell started out west last Wednesday to be gone a week or more. I went over to Uncle S's [Solomon Whitney] yesterday morning and came back this morning. We had a fearful wind and storm last evening. it tore down a few good sized trees. I went over to Mr. Denison's a little while this afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. D[enison]. started to Neo. Falls this afternoon. Mary Vail⁶⁷ died Tuesday evening of bilious fever. I set out some tomato plants this evening.

[JUNE] MONDAY 8. I staid with Ella H[ougham]. last night. we laid awake and talked a long time. I shall stay with her again tonight. Father came in a little while, last Saturday afternoon.

[JUNE 9] TUESDAY. Mr. R. came in a few minutes this evening. Mr. Potter too. It was *very* warm this morning, but we have had a real cool wind most of the day. yesterday was *uncomfortably* warm.

[JUNE] THURSDAY 11. Uncle and Mr. Caudwell came home yesterday, all safe and sound. A.R. came in a little while in the evening, also Mr. Adams, Ella Hougham, Bertha W[hitney]. and Mr. Charley Sternberg. I made the first cherry pie of the season yesterday. Father called in the afternoon; I gave him a piece of the pie. I received a letter yesterday from Lou Rust, it was the poorest letter I ever had from her. I had a very hard headache yesterday afternoon and evening. Flora Campbell⁶⁸ and Hattie Platt called this evening. Mrs. Adams is put out of temper at me. I don't know what at, unless it is because I wouldn't let her bring in some wood for me.

[JUNE] FRIDAY 12. Mrs. A[dams]. is nearly herself again. she went down to Clara's this

afternoon. *I guess the ride did her good.* Mr. Potter is sick this evening. Mr. R. looks *very* sad indeed. he was chewing something this evening. I am afraid it was tobacco. I *do* hope it wasn't. perhaps it was a substitute. Mr. Caudwell showed me his album this evening and also some old, very old coins. They are truly ancient. he has one or two that were in use before Christ was born. he had two pennies such as are spoken of in the Bible. *Heavenly Father! will Thou guide poor Alvin⁶⁹ aright. Strengthen him O Father!* To Thee only can I come in time of trouble. O that Thou wouldst grant me a private interview with him and use me, even *me*, as an humble instrument in thy hands to *help* him.

[JUNE] SATURDAY, 13. I am now satisfied that it was *not* tobacco that Alvin was chewing last evening. for I saw him take some lemon peel from the mantle shelf and *that* was what he was chewing and I think what made him so sad was, he had been thinking how lonely it is to live alone and not have a home of his own and how long he will be obliged to wait before he can have one. Mrs. Potter⁷⁰ will arrive at Manhattan and on College Hill tomorrow, if nothing happens to prevent. she would have been here today but the train was delayed. I do believe Mr. Caudwell went again to see Alice this evening. I should think he might take the hint sometime. We were favored with a hard thunder shower this forenoon. Mr. Pillsbury's cow was killed by lightning while he was milking her.⁷¹

[JUNE] MONDAY 15. I slept so late yesterday morning, I could not get my work done up in time to go to church at M. In the afternoon we had a heavy rain, so I could not go to College. Mr. A[dams]. and Mr. C[audwell]. went down in the morning. Alvin came down in the evening, said Mrs. Potter liked very well [*sic*]. Mr. and Mrs. Adams called on her this evening. I sent her a boquet [*sic*].

[JUNE] TUESDAY 23. I called on Mrs. Potter last Friday evening. Went to church last Sunday morning. heard Mr. Sweet from Baldwin⁷² preach on "The Bible as a Source of Wisdom."

67. Mary Vail was the daughter of Dr. Vail and Mrs. Vail, also a doctor, of Manhattan. In the report of the "Undergraduates' Exhibition" held in the Presbyterian church in June, 1874, the following paragraph appears: "To Miss M. A. Vail (deceased) an Essay had been assigned, and she had prepared one entitled 'Tis Not Dress that Makes the Man'. When her name was read, at the request of President Anderson, in honor to her memory, the audience rose and stood while the quartette 'O'er the Graves of Loved Ones' was sung."—*The Nationalist*, June 26, 1874.

68. Flora Campbell, Manhattan, was a K.S.A.C. student in the fall and winter term, 1874-1875.

69. This is the first time Etta has called Reynolds "Alvin."

70. Sarah Potter, 57, was the wife of John Potter, see footnote 21.

71. J. H. Pillsbury settled in, and named, Zeandale (corn-dale). He was an agent of the American Peace Society which claimed "War is a Crime!"

72. William Henry Sweet was on the faculty at Baker University and served as president of Baker from 1879 to 1886.

came home with the sick head-ache. I had a long, hard siege of it, tossed and tumbled all night. did not rest much. Alvin came down in the afternoon, and staid a part of the evening. I enjoyed his company if I was sick. Mrs. Adams staid down town till night, and Mr. A. and Mr. C. went down in the evening. so there were none but uncle (who went early to bed), A. and me here. it seemed like old times. and Mrs. Adams was so pleasant next morning, so like her *old self*.

WEDNESDAY JULY 1ST. Mrs. Adams is really herself again. We are having very warm and very dry weather now. I went to church last Sunday and came home with the headache. that has been that way for several weeks now. I think I shall drink a strong cup of tea before I go next time. Alvin came in this evening all tired out. he is feeling very lonely. I did a large washing today, am feeling very tired now. Ella Hougham took tea with us Monday evening. General Lionhardt spent the night with us and was here to breakfast and dinner yesterday and now he has come again to spend the night. Mr. and Mrs. Cox⁷³ were here to dinner yesterday. I baked bread for students yesterday. Received a letter from Amelia Noyes yesterday. she is teaching and enjoying herself well.

[JULY] SUNDAY THE 12TH. I received a letter from Hattie the 3d ult. and last Wednesday I received a second letter from Lou Rust, and also, one from Mr. Jones saying that I am indebted to him for only \$2.78 towards board account for last term. I was very much surprised, for I had laid by \$6.00 for that special purpose thinking that would not be enough. Darius and his family visited with his father and wife the "Fourth." Uncle and I went up the Wild Cat to a celebration by the Grangers. the gentlemen and ladies belonging to the Granger Society wore regalias. Mr. C. went with Mr. Potter's folks. I enjoyed myself pretty well. Have been pretty busy this week past tending to fruit. Last Monday evening I took on a meddlesome streak and attempted to fix uncle's old clock, and spoilt it so that it will never go any more. I have worried a good deal about it. I mean to get another and put in its place soon. I have been considerably complimented this last week by Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Caudwell, and Mrs. Adams, and I don't de-

serve it. I told them they did not know how I do when they are off at work. A.R. was here again this afternoon, it seems as if he can't keep away from me. I am in a dilemma—all I can do is to watch and wait. Watch, Fight and Pray.

[JULY] TUESDAY 14. I have done a very large washing today. Kittie Whitney spent the day with me. she helped me considerable. I have also baked bread and churned today. Eva Woodward was married last Sunday morning. I saw father a few minutes this afternoon. I agreed today to do Mr. Caudwell's washing for him.

[JULY] THURSDAY 16. I felt all tired out yesterday, and had the headache too. it kept growing worse, so that I had to lie down and go to sleep in the afternoon, but sleep didn't do it any good; it only grew worse. Ella H. came in a little while in the afternoon. Mrs. Denison also called. After supper I went to bed, and slept till everybody else was in bed, when I got up, undressed and went to bed *en costume*. Have felt real well today, and have worked hard too. Washed two quilts today, carried lots of water. Mrs. Potter called in, about five minutes this evening. she has been sick. I bake the last bread for the boys tomorrow. I have given up baking for them more. I have so much to do. Uncle shut up the chickens as usual tonight, and I did considerable work afterwards, and was thinking of going to bed, when Trim commenced barking vigorously. I went to the door thinking that, possibly some one might be coming. when I saw the chickens all running away from their coop I came in, told uncle, lit the lantern and went out to see what was the cause of such a disturbance, but could discover nothing new, except that one of the boards was slipped one side so that the chickens could come out. after bothering about for some time, I got in all I could find by the light of the lantern, and shut them up a little more securely.

[JULY] FRIDAY 17. Good news! We had quite a shower today! two of them I believe. they wet the ground a little. we need more *very* much, everything in the line of vegetation has been drying up. I washed two more quilts today.

[JULY] SUNDAY 19. Fannie Denison called on me last evening. Wrote a letter to Amelia Noyes this afternoon. Saw two young men in the orchard this forenoon, helping themselves to apples. I have a light head-ache today. it is very

73. Rev. Daniel Cox was the minister of the Episcopal church in Manhattan.

warm. Uncle Stephen and Mr. Winship⁷⁴ called this evening. Alvin came down too, and visited with Mr. and Mrs. Adams; he saw we had callers so did not come in our part.

[JULY] TUESDAY 21. I have got moved into my new room now. I like it ever so much! It is so pleasant! I believe I am learning to love Alvin more and more every day; he is *so kind*. it doesn't seem as if God would ever have let us love each other so, if it wasn't right. I suppose it is very silly in me to think so. I don't know as I do think so, but it almost seems so sometimes. there are so many objections to our ever marrying, and yet sometimes it seems as if our love overcomes them all. What will either of us ever be alone? and how much we *can* be together. O! Heavenly Father wilt Thou teach us aright in this thing. if it is right for us to go on, wilt Thou smooth the path for us, or give us strength to walk in it as it is. Not as we would, but as Thou wilt. if it is not right, wilt Thou impress it deeply upon both our hearts, and help us to willingly submit. O! increase our faith and trust in Thee. help us to love Thee with our whole souls.

[WED.] JULY 22. Alice came down yesterday afternoon and wanted me to go with her to call on Ella Hougham. I went. came home and went down town with uncle. did some trading at Mr. Purcells',⁷⁵ got a lot of Dimity for a dress. didn't know what to do with it. I called on Lilly Crisp. rode part way home with Mr. and Mrs. Legore.⁷⁶ walked the rest of the way. called on Mrs. Potter and Mrs. Stewart this evening. saw Mrs. Burnham and son. she is a very pleasant lady from Topeka. she and her son are boarding with Mrs. Stewart.

[JULY] THU. 23 I have felt week [*sic*] and tired all this week so far, and have done but little until today. I did a large washing. the clothes were very dirty, and I was nearly all day washing. Alice came down this afternoon to look at my dress. she says it isn't dimity at all, that she has seen dresses of it, and she thinks it is as pretty as any thing I could get. she thinks the edging I got to trim it with is just as pretty as it can be. A.R. was in a little while this evening. Ella Hougham came over to show

her new calico dress while he was here. Mr. Caudwell has been over to Mr. Smythe's to work this week. came back this evening. I wrote an application this evening, for the school at Bala.⁷⁷

FRIDAY, JULY 24. Mr. Caudwell went back this morning before I was up. Mr. Reynolds has been here the greater part of the day, pumping water out of the cistern preparatory to cleaning it. he came down awhile this evening too. I sent off my application today.

[JULY] SUNDAY 26. The thermometer was up to 111° yesterday. Clara's baby is very sick. Darius came up after his mother yesterday afternoon. she went down and staid until after S. School today. she left the baby a little better. Alvin came down awhile this afternoon. He does love me *so much*. it seems impossible for him to refrain from coming here so often. I long to go away to teach so he can't come to see me. his coming excites so much suspicion. Ella and Harry [Hougham] called this evening. I wrote to Hattie this evening. It has been very cool today, the wind in the North. it is cool enough for an over-coat this evening. I have nearly had the Blues today. I have been thinking how *very much* kindness I get from others, and I am so unworthy of it. I am so wicked. I wish I *could* be better. *Lord help me.*

[JULY] TUESDAY 28. The wind is in the South again, and the weather is getting warmer. Father called in a few minutes this afternoon. Belle Pound and Ella Dennis called in this evening and wanted me to go up in the College cupola with them. the temptation was so great I yielded. Alice Stewart and Fannie Denison joined us up there. Fannie and I called on Mrs. Burroughs⁷⁸ a few minutes. Alvin came down a little while this afternoon. he said he didn't have very good eatables now days, so Mrs. Adams made him some tea, gave him some bread and butter and cake, and I gave him some plum marmalade, and a generous piece of sponge cake; all of which he thought very nice. Belle is going to ride 20 miles (to Milford) tomorrow to see about getting a school. I am getting discouraged about my work; it seems as if I never will get any thing done for myself.

74. J. K. Winship was a banker in Manhattan, as was Uncle Stephen.

75. E. P. Purcell, merchant and banker, operated one of the first dry-goods stores in Manhattan. His advertisements proclaimed he was a "dealer in EVERYTHING."

76. Legore was a jeweler in Manhattan.

77. Bala was a community northwest of Manhattan settled by Welsh immigrants. The average salary, in 1874, for men teachers was \$34.70 a month and for women, \$29.19 a month.

78. Charles, 51, and Julia, 45, Burroughs farmed on College Hill.

so irritable, I am a trouble to almost every body who
 comes near me. I certainly am to myself it is no use for
 me to try to fix myself up nice, for I can't do it.
 It is as hard as I may. Oh! how can Alvin love me
 so, I am so horrid to look at, and I am sure my
 disposition is nothing to brag of, and yet he thinks
 me perfect. He wouldn't if he but knew me.
 No! it will never do for me to marry him.
 Such bliss is far too good for me, I was born to
 sorrow & woe. Oh! if I could only be always good,
 I could bear the sorrows better. I am afraid I am
 very hard to purify. I shall have to go through the
 furnace a great many times. —X

Mrs. Lionhardt wrote in my album today
 Emma Parkerson & her mother are married. I do wish
 I could see Emma. She better come down to see us this
 afternoon. He is most rich. is having an attack of the
 shills I think.

Sunday Aug 28. The grasshoppers came upon us last Friday
 and are completely destroying what the drought had left.
 Everything is despoiled with them. Many are feeling very
 much discouraged. This is a hard year, especially for
 farmers. We had a very light rain Friday night.
 Father came in a few minutes before seven after

noon. wrote in my album while he was here.
 Alvin was in a few minutes last evening.
 poor snow! I pity him. Uncle Salamon, Aunt
 Sarah & Hatty W. called this evening.
 I have been reading about the Beecher trouble.
 I believe Beecher is coming out all right. I
 believe he is innocent, and that Tilton is one
 of the most suspicious of men.
 Uncle Stephen went home last Sunday.
 Sunday Aug 30 yesterday & today have been sunny
 warm. Thermometer up to 80 or more.
 Mr. Steadley says it has been that for a
 whole week at all times, out at Otterville.
 I have been so very tired every night since I
 last wrote in this little book. I don't had
 courage to write. Aunt Edwarda & Sara came
 up with her children, & staid all day with
 Adams & me. I finished my new shirt that
 day & my cap the next morning. washed
 them & got so much shining in the sun so
 they were not fit to wear. shall just
 through again this week, and make a deeper
 effort to go to church next Sunday. She said
 will be back at the Methodist church last Sunday.

At age 21 Etta Parkerson started her brief "Journal" which she kept for about a year and a half. During that time she managed her Uncle William Goodnow's household for which she was paid \$1.00 a week and was courted almost daily by a neighbor 30 years her senior. Etta was born with a deformity—she was, perhaps, a hunchback—and was always described in family correspondence as "an invalid." Her introspective "Journal" could have served a therapeutic purpose, for in it she recorded with unusual honesty her feelings about her deformity, her difficult life as a hired girl, her intense religious faith, and her courtship. Also, as is the case on these pages, her entries included comment about the times (grasshoppers and drouth—"this is a hard year") and news of the day ("the Beecher trouble"). Photograph courtesy Ellen Paullin.

[JULY 29] WEDNESDAY. I am getting a little hopeful. I cut out a part of my dress this afternoon. Alice came down to help me. Ella H. called in a few minutes this afternoon. also father. Mrs. Stewart and Alice are disgusted with Mrs. Burnham. think they will not keep her much longer.

[JULY] THURSDAY 30. I have had a light head-ache all day; have felt weak and lame too. haven't felt like doing any thing at all, but have managed to do a little. General Lionhardt his wife and 3 children came about half past nine o'clock and staid until about two. I spilt a lot of grease on the pantry floor accidentally, and had that to fuss over with my aching head, and then in the evening I slipped on the sub-cellar door, fell and broke a plate. I am a terrible destructive girl. Alvin came in five or ten minutes this evening. he thinks he will complete his little house this fall, and then he is going to build another one right near it. I believe he expects

me to marry him and live there with him. I can't do it. I think I must try not to love him and to avoid seeing him when he comes here. There is no other way. Oh! what is there to live for any way. I don't do any good, I don't see any way to do good. I am so impatient, so irritable. I am a trouble to almost every body who knows me. I certainly am to myself. it is no use for me to try to fix myself up nice, for I can't do it, try as hard as I may. Oh! how can Alvin love me so, I am so horrid to look at, and I am sure my disposition is nothing to brag of, and yet he thinks me perfect. He wouldn't if he but knew me. No! it will never do for me to marry him. Such bliss is far too good for me. I was born to sorrow and woe. Oh! if I could only be always good, I could bear the sorrows better. I am afraid I am very hard to purify. I shall have to go through the furnace a great many times —X Mrs. Lionhardt wrote in

my album today. Emma Jarbeaus⁷⁹ and her mother are married. I do wish I could see Emma. Mr. Potter came down to see us this afternoon. he is most sick. is having an attack of the chills I think.

SUNDAY AUG. 2ND. The grasshoppers came upon us last Friday. They are completely destroying what the drouth had left. Minnesota is besieged with them. many are feeling very much discouraged. this is a hard year, especially for farmers. We had a very light rain Friday night. Father came in a few minutes Saturday afternoon. wrote in my album while he was here. Alvin was in a few minutes last evening. poor man! I pity him. Uncle Solomon, Aunt Sarah and Hatty W[hitney]. called this evening. I have been reading about the Beecher trouble. I believe Beecher is coming out all right. I believe he is innocent, and that Tilton is one of the *most malicious* of men.⁸⁰ Uncle Stephen went home last Friday.⁸¹

MONDAY AUG. 10. Yesterday and today have been *dreadful* warm. Thermometer up to 110° or more. Mr. Sternberg says it has been that for a whole week at a time, out at Ellsworth. I have been so very tired every night since I last wrote in this little book that I hadn't courage to write. Last Thursday Clara came up with her children, and staid all day with Mrs. Adams and me. I finished my overskirt that day and my sacque the next morning. washed them and got too much bluing in the rinse water so they were not fit to wear. shall put them through again this week, and make a desperate effort to go to church next Sunday. Mr. Caudwell preached at the Methodist Church last Sunday, (yesterday) morning and Beverly Davis in the evening.⁸² Beverly, Everett Rust, and Mr. Cormack are going to Illinois to study Theology. they will remain there seven years. Mr. Lloyd⁸³ and wife are rusticing in Colorado. A part of the

grasshoppers have left us. Received a letter from Hattie Saturday. She has gone to visit Mr. Leach's folks. Uncle Isaac and Aunt Ellen have gone to Denver. Alice Stewart staid two nights with me last week because they were plastering up there and it made the house so damp she caught a terrible cold. Madam Burnham will move to Mr. Hunting's next week. Prof. Kedzie⁸⁴ has returned, also Prof. Ward with his family. The rooms in the Boarding House are all engaged also the private boarding places. School will commence a week from next Thursday. I worked awful hard last Saturday: I was up until about one o'clock at night. uncle went over to uncle Solomon's in the evening, and staid all night. Alvin came down Saturday noon and staid about half the afternoon. said it was hard work to leave. he came down again in the evening, and staid until nearly one o'clock. his presence and company kept up my courage. I don't [know] how I *could* have *done so much* if he hadn't been here. Oh! how he loves me! and it is very wrong in him to do it, and yet it seems as if he can't help it. Oh! how much trouble, heaviness, hangs around us both. What *will* ever come of it. Oh, I am so fearful. I wrote a letter to Lou Rust yesterday afternoon. Allie Stewart, Allie Ailsworth, and Mr. W. Sternberg called on us. the two Allies were here again this afternoon. Old Mrs. Wisner and Mrs. Jackson died last Thursday. Tuesday noon General Lionhardt and wife came and staid till yesterday forenoon. had a pleasant visit with them. Flora Campbell came yesterday afternoon for a little visit. Alvin came in a while in the evening. he left me his diary to read. (He kept a little diary while I was gone last fall). I finished reading it this morning.

FRIDAY 14. AUG. I did a very large washing yesterday; it took me all day to do it. I dried the clothes today. Alice brought down my dress skirt yesterday. it looks real pretty. Uncle went to St. George yesterday. I was most awful tired last night. General Lionhardt and his older boy took dinner here today. they took tea, and are to spend the night with Mr. Potter. Coburn Paige and family are visiting *her* parents. I received a letter from Mrs. Paige today, it was written some time ago. I have worked hard today, and not accomplished much either. The loving Savior helps me *so much*. when the way seems

79. Emma Jarbeaus was a classmate of Etta's at K.S.A.C. in the fall term, 1873. Her father died in 1873, so her mother remarried about the same time her daughter married.

80. "The Beecher trouble" concerned the scandal surrounding Henry Ward Beecher, minister of the Plymouth Congregational church, Brooklyn, N. Y., one of the most eloquent ministers of his day, and his purported affairs with his women parishioners, especially one Mrs. Tilton. Popular sympathy at the time sided with Beecher, but some historians today indicate Tilton was, perhaps, not as mistaken as Etta believed.

81. Stephen French, president of the Manhattan National Bank, probably returned to Orange, Mass., to be with his family who had remained there.

82. "Rev. Mr. Cadwell preaches at the Methodist Church next Sabbath and Rev. Beverly Davis in the evening."—*The Nationalist*, August 7, 1874.

83. Rev. S. W. Lloyd was minister of the Methodist church, 1872-1874.

84. Prof. William K. Kedzie was professor of chemistry and physics at K.S.A.C., 1874-1878.

dark, and I see no opening, a way of escape is provided, in a manner I never dreamed of. I am getting *so weary* of drudging. Received a letter from Carrie J[ones]. today.

TUESDAY, AUG. 18. I sat up working till one o'clock Saturday night. Went to church Sunday, and wore my new sacque and overskirt. Alvin came to see me in the afternoon. Oh! he is *so kind!* I went up to see Mrs. Paige a little while yesterday afternoon. I met Alvin just coming from his work as I was coming home. I went over again this evening, and uncle went too. I staid until he got ready to come home which was after nine o'clock. Alvin was very tired tonight I know. he appeared so. Poor man! I pity him. he works *so hard*, and has seen *so much* trouble. he ought to have a little happiness in this world I think. if he *will* not seek it in any other way, I hope Heavenly Father Thou wilt permit *me* to be the means of happiness to him. I received a letter from Millie Noyes today. she succeeded well with her school. With the letter was love from Ella Weaver.⁸⁵

[AUG.] THURSDAY 20. School commenced today. 66 students present. I washed today. Uncle went to St. George yesterday morning and came home this evening. he went around to other places too. said all the schools were engaged where he had been. Mrs. Jaquith⁸⁶ called this evening she thinks I will not get the school at Bala, because they will be likely to want the teacher they had last term. I wrote an application for another this evening. I went over to see Ella Hougham yesterday afternoon, and towards night rode over to Uncle Solomon's with her and Harry, staid until quite late. had a pleasant time. Mr. Potter moved today down on the Denison farm. A.R. is here tonight, stopping with Mr. Caudwell. He looks *so lonesome!* I pity him.

AUG. FRIDAY 21ST. Alvin ate breakfast with us this morn. he looked very sad indeed. he tried to appear cheerful, but I saw him wipe the tears away two or three times. Poor man! he feels rather discouraged. the grass-hoppers and drouth have made such great devastation all around, it is enough to discourage most any

85. Ella Weaver was a friend who lived in Wabaunsee, married to George Weaver.

86. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jaquith had a home at the corner of 10th and Moro streets where they boarded students. *The Industrialist*, May 8, 1875, reported that "after a superb supper, [at the Jaquiths, the students] enjoyed several closely contested games of croquet." In 1877 the Jaquiths moved to New Milford.

body, especially when they have worked *so hard* so long. I feel discouraged myself when I think I can't get a school, for I do have to work *so hard* here. I don't believe I can stand it much longer. But God knows best what is best for me. Lord, direct Thou my ways. Uncle Isaac and Aunt E[llen]. are coming next week to visit us. I hope we shall have no trouble. Abbie Streeter⁸⁷ is at Prof. Platt's working for her board and attending College. Mr. Paige and wife called on us today. Alvin is here again tonight. he spent the evening with me. he has entrusted me with a little money. says he has no place to keep it. I wrote two more applications for schools this morning. Father came in to see me this afternoon. he says they have an abundance of splendid wheat in the Republican Valley where he has been.

[AUG.] 22ND. [SAT.] I got a kiss from uncle Solomon this morning. Alvin is here again tonight. I feel sure Mrs. Adams thinks we are engaged and will marry sometime. I expect she will talk with aunt Ellen about it.

[AUG.] SUNDAY 23. I did not go to church today. dozed most of the forenoon. have not felt well today. my head has been troubling me. I presume it is caused by hard work and loss of sleep. the latter mostly. I do feel so discouraged sometimes. I can't see ahead at all, but my Heavenly Father will take care of me. I know He will. Alvin spent the evening with me. It seems as if he can't keep away from me.

[AUG.] WEDNESDAY 26. Uncle went down to Gen. Lionhardt's last Monday. Ella H. called that evening. I ate about a quart of plums that day. Uncle I[saac]. and aunt E[llen]. came yesterday. they went right over to Mr. D[enison].s⁸⁸ they had made great preparations to receive them. they took tea at Mr. Griffin's⁸⁹ this p.m. came here this evening. Uncle W[illiam]. went over the Kansas today, after some butter, and took me along as far as Mrs. Flagg's. staid there about two hours, played four games of croquet, did better at it than I ever did before. Johnnie is building a stone house right near his mother's. he intends to carry on the farm next year. He and his wife are staying with his mother now. she was not there today.

[AUG.] FRIDAY 28. Uncle Isaac has had the

87. Abbie Streeter was a K.S.A.C. student from Bala.

88. Joseph Denison was Ellen Goodnow's brother.

89. Albert Griffin was editor and publisher of *The Nationalist*.

South chimney over-hauled.⁹⁰ it was found to be in a very bad condition, *much* worse than was anticipated. The two uncles and Aunt E. went over to uncle S[olomon].s to tea yesterday, spent the night there, and went up to Lisha's⁹¹ this morning. I suppose they will be back tomorrow night. uncle I. and Aunt E. will go to Mr. D.'s. I called on Ella H. last evening. took tea there. went over to Mr. Denison's this afternoon. Fannie and Ellen took me to town for a ride. We have had perfectly lovely moonlight, quiet evenings, the past week. I had a fall yesterday. stumbled over a box in the cellar, and hit my head on the corner of a stone. it bled very freely for a few minutes, and my head has ached nearly ever since. The uncles and aunt were dreadfully frightened. I heard last night that Maggie Philips is married. Mr. R. is getting the roof on his little house. I think it is going to look very nice. I have felt so badly today that I have done very little. tried to take the day easy, but "what with" the heat, the flies, and the head-ache, I couldn't take a very great deal of comfort. Father is going to sell his place in town, and go on to a farm out west on the Republican River. he was in here yesterday afternoon. Harry spent Wed. evening with me. Newton B[lake]. leaves Mr. D.'s tomorrow. Madam Burnham has decided to leave this part of the country. she has become offended at the Pres. and Prof. Lee, and taken her son out of College.

SUNDAY AUG. 30. Uncle William came home yesterday morning. Uncle I. and Aunt E. took

90. When the house was built, Ellen Goodnow insisted that the upstairs window give the maximum amount of light, so it was centered and the chimney built around it (see photo, cover, Winter issue).

91. Elisha Webber, 46, and his wife Maria, 38, farmed near Grant. They were long-time friends of the Goodnows.

dinner with Harry and Ella yesterday, and took tea with Prof. Platt's folks. they came here after tea, and will stay tonight. I feel very tired and weak today. sat up till midnight last night.

TUESDAY SEPT. 1ST. Alvin came in last Sunday morning while we were eating breakfast. he was dressed for church, had trimmed off his whiskers a little. he looked real nice. Aunt Ellen remarked (when she was wiping the dishes) that she never saw him looking so well before, that she never saw him look so young, or with such a nice suit of clothes, and then she asked me if he disturbed me any now. I told her No. I didn't like to go to church Sunday, my face looked so badly, I was ashamed to take it with me, and as I couldn't very well go without it, I stayed at home. Mr. A. and Mr. C. went in the morning, and all but Mr. C. and me in the afternoon. Mr. Parker preached at the College. One of the Young Folk's Gems⁹² was sent to me last Saturday, to see if I wouldn't get up a club for it. I think I shall try. I worked nearly as hard Sunday as I do other days. did not rest much. I have been lazy since uncle Isaac and aunt Ellen came; have not done much, but I shall have to work pretty hard the rest of this week I guess. Uncle I. and aunt E. went over to Mr. Denison's yesterday forenoon. they went to town, calling today. Mr. Denison was expected home tonight. A.R. is going to have a dormar [*sic*] window on the north, and on the South side of the roof of his house. I think it will be splendid and cozy. I wish I might move into it and make it pleasant for him. "*O what troubles I do enjoy!*"

92. *Young Folks Gems*, published in Wadsworth, Ohio, was a "journal for the young folks and old folks with young hearts."

[To be continued in the Winter, 1980, issue.]