

Sarah (Sally) Hersey Diary 1804-1849

Transcription courtesy of Ontario Genealogical Society

Sally Hearssey's Book of Records
of
Births, Marriages and Deaths
Leicester, June 26th 1804

Calvine Hersey, son of Elijah & Achsah Hersey was born September 4th 1756.
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My Father Thomas Read was born May 25 []
My Mother, Martha Park was born May 14th 174[4?] on Thursday. Married, December 1763.

Record of Births

Martha Read was born Feb 15th 1765.
Thomas Read was born Octor 9th 1766.
Sarah Read was born Sept 22nd 1768 on thursday morning.
Lucy Read was born Sept 20nd 1770.
Elizabeth and Mary Read was born January 24th 1773.
John Hancock Read was born Octor 9th 1775.

Eleanor Read was born December 19th 1777.
Clarissa Read was born Mar 1780.
Charlotte Read was born Fe[b] 1784.
Paulina Read was born Octo [] 1786.

Martha Read was married to, Mr Amos Wheeler Jnr of Worcester June 2nd 1785.
Thomas Read was married to Miss, Martha Huchins of Hampstead Octor 1788.
Sarah Read was married to Mr Calvin Hearssey of Leicester Jany 1st 1792 Sabath Day morning
Mary Read was married to Mr Amos Emerson of Danville April 9th 1795.
Lucy Read was married to Mr [] Emerson Feby 1798.

Elizabeth Read was married to Mr Joab Kimball of Peacha[m] Jany 24th 1799.
Clarissa Read was married to Mr Luther Peirce [Pierce] of Sutton March 23rd, 1803
Eleanor Read was married to Revd Joseph Emers[on] of Beverly July 15 1805.
Paulina Read was married to Mr John Burley of Beverly April 5th 1807.
John H. Read was married to Miss Mary Tyler of Mendon, November 8 1807.
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Hezekiah H Reed died Jun [] 1856 aged 61 years.
Cornelia Reed died May 21st 18[] aged 19 years.
Gertrude Reed died March 25th 18[] aged 21 years.
Mrs Spaulding died Aug 8th 1853 aged 54 years.

Mr Thomas Read of Northbridge Died January 13th 1788 in the 48th year of his Age.
Mrs Martha [Park] Read died December 6th 1819. Aged 75 years.
Mrs Martha [Read] Wheeler Died June 6th 1802 in the 37th Year of her Age.

Mrs Eleanor [Read] Emerson died Nov. 7. 1808 age 31 years.
Miss Charlotte Read died Sep. 22, 1811. Aged 27 years.

Mary [Read] Emerson died March 4th 182[] Aged 48 years.
Clarisa [Read] Pierce died July 9th 1824. Aged 44 years.
Paulina [Read] Burley died September 11th 182[7]. Aged 41 years.
John Hancock Read died April 27th 182[8] Aged 52.
Thomas Read died April 30th 1839. Aged 73 Years.
Sarah [Read] Hersey died at Hawkesbury C[W] February 21st 1850. Aged 81 Years 5 Mos.
Lucy [Read] Emerson Died [of Mosethelaw Bench] Sept 18th 1855. Aged 87 years.
Elizabeth [Read] Kimball Died 9th J[un] 1862. Aged 89 years [5 mon]
Polly Read died 21st Feb 1857 aged 87 years.

A Record of Birth

Thankfull Hearsey Daughter of Calvin and Sarah Hearsey was born November 6th 1792. tuesday morning.
Charles Hearsey was born Decemr 18th 1794. thursday night.
Austin Hearsey was born March 31st 1797. friday afternoon.
Martha Park Hearsey born Sept 22 1799. Sabath Day afternoon.
Alvira Clarissa Hearsey was born Sept 27th 1801. Sunday morn 9 oclock.
Zephaniah Swift Moore Hearsey was born May 21st 1805. tuesday morn 9 oclock.

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A Record of Marriages

Thankfull Hersey was married to Uriel Johnson of Worcester June 6th 1820.
Martha P. Hersey was married to Joseph Goddard of Worcester Sepr 16th 1828.
Zephaniah S.M. Hersey was married to Caroline M. Cleaveland of Fort Covington (NY) Octr 13th 1836.

Record of Deaths

Calvin Hersey son of Elijah Hersey Died March 22nd 1831 aged 74 years & 6 months.
Sarah [Read] Hersey died at Hawkesbury Village Canada at 9 ock a.m. Thursday 21st February 1850, aged 81 years 5 months.

Record of Deaths

Austin Hersey died July 30th 1825, Aged 28 years.
Elvira Clarisa Hersey died June 27th 1833, aged 31 years.
Thankfull [Hersey] Johnson daughter of Calvin Hersey Died Sept 13th 1835, Aged 43 years.
Martha Park H[ersey] Goddard daughter of Calvin and Sarah Hersey Died at Hawkesbury Village on 20th November 1861 at 7 oclock p.m. of appoplexy. Aged 62 years and 2 Months.
Charles Hersey died at Hawkesbury Canada December 27th 1864. Aged 70 years and 9 days.
[Z.]S.M. Hersey died in Hawkesbury suddenly April 23rd 1869. Aged 64 years 1 month and 2 days.
[63 yrs 11mo 2dy]

Caroline Maria [Cleaveland] Hersey widow of the late Z.S.M. Hersey died at Hawkesbury, Ontario Canada on Tuesday August 11th 1903 at 11:35p.m. aged 90 years 11 months and 24 days.

Record of Deaths

Elijah Hersey Died Novr 30th 1805 Aged 93 Years.
Nathan Hersey Son of Elijah Hersey Died May 12th 1822 Aged 80.

Huldah [Hersey] Mower Daughter of Elijah Hersey Died March 11th 1828 Aged 81.
Martin Hersey, son of Elijah Hersey Died 27th Septr 1801 Aged 39.
Thankfull [Hersey] Mower daughter of Elijah Hersey Died Feby 12th 1836 Aged 94.
Achсах [Hersey] Trobridge daughter of Elijah Hersey Died Augt 13th 1847 Aged 88.

Record of Births and Death

Thankfull Hersey Born May 19 1742 Died Feby 12th 1836 Aged 94
Nathan Hersey Born Jun 28 1744 Died May 12th, 1822, aged 80
Huldah Hersey Born Nov 16 1746 Died March 10th 1828 aged 81
Achсах Hersey Born Sept 28 1749 Died Nov 8 1751 Aged 2
Elijah Hersey Born Sept 28 1749 Died Nov 1 1751 Aged 2.
Elijah Hersey Born Feby 3rd 1752 Died February 1850, aged 98 years
Calvin Hersey Born April 14th 1754 Died July 9 1755, age 1
Calvin Hersey Born Sept 4 1756 Died March 22nd 1831 Aged 74 ½
Achсах Hersey Born Mar 28 1759 Died Nov 13th 1847 Aged 88 ½
Martin Hersey Born Feby 16 1762 Died Sept 27 1801 Aged 39

Record of Deaths

Nathan Park Son of Nathan & Sarah Park Died August 13th 1806, aged 68
Eleanor Boyington Daughter of Nathan & Sarah Park Died July 24th 1807 Aged 66
William Park Son of Nathan & Sarah Park Died March 15th 1840 Aged 91

Record of Births and Death

Children of Z.S.M. and C.M. Hersey

Sarah Amelia Hersey Born September 18th 1837 at half past 11 p.m. Monday
Baptised by Rev H Wilks of Montreal on 27th December 1838
Elvira Clarinda Hersey Born 1st April 1840 at half past 9 Tuesday morning
Baptised by Rev H Wilks of Montreal on 8th November 1840
Austin Alain Hersey Born 27th November 1842 quarter past one Monday morning
Died at Potsdam 12 October 1890 Aged 48. Baptised by Rev H Wilks of Montreal on 15th Jany 1844
William Albert Hersey Born 19th August 1845 at 2 o'clock Tuesday Morning
Baptised by Revd H Wilks of Montreal 21st June 1847
Cornelia Maria Hersey Born 15th July 1848 at quarter past 12 noon Saturday
Baptised by the Rev Mr Fairly
Frederic Calvin Hersey Born 28th September half past 12 noon Sabbath 1851
Baptised by the Rev Mr Fairly Presby

Record of Births and Death

Children of Z.S.M. and C.M. Hersey

Edwin Wallace Hersey Born 4th September 1853 Sabbath Died 25th October 1853 half past 3 p.m.
Tuesday

Adelia Mary Hersey Born 21st April 1856 at 7 p.m. Monday.

Children of FC and E Hersey

Lilian Wilma Hersey Born 13th January 1874 at 10:30 p.m. Baptised by the Revnd Mr Phillips - Episc
Clergyman

Eva Adelaide Hersey Born 28th January 1875

Baptised by the Revnd Mr Phillips - Episcopal Clergyman

[Elvira] Caroline Hersey Born 24th February 1877 died the 26th July 1877, Aged 5 months 2 dys[]

Revnd Mr Phillips. Died 26 July 1877. Aged 5 months 2 days.

Mrs Eliza [F.C.] Hersey died July 20th 11:30 p.m. 1889 Aged 34 years.

Austin A Hersey died at Potsdam NY October 12th, 1890 Aged 48 [years].

Children of F.C. & Bertha [Hersey][unreadable pencilled entry]

Lilian Wilma Hersey wife of the Revd Wallace [W] Huff, died at Deera[] [Incehyers] Feby 20th 1902
Aged 28 years 1 month

Record of Births & Marriage, Death

F.C. Hersey married to Bertha A. Boyd. One child by said marriage. Bertha died at Cleveland, Ohio
Oct 26th 1928

Edwin Boyd Hersey Born May 14th 1892. Baptised by the Revd Mr Tuffts. Died Cleveland Ohio July
17, 1943 Thursday 4 a.m.

Eva Adelaide Hersey married 6th January 1904 to G. James Auhuis. Deceased July 5, 1957. [Note:
Auhuis is variously spelled Auhuis, Arthuris, Arthurs, or Arthur]

Frederick James Son of Eva & James Auhuis Born 13th November 1904.

Victoria Maud Lawlor aged seventy one years four months died Jan second 1947.

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My dear friend you requested me to give you some account of my parents. I can but frankly describe their worth. My father's health was always delicate. He died at the age of forty-eight. He was an affectionate husband and tender father. We have every reason to believe that our loss was a infernate gain to him. He felt great anxiety for my dear mother and her eleven children the youngest but two years old, his eldest son far from him, no one to assist my mother in settling his estate which was in a very deranged state, this and the thought of leaving a beloved wife and children in this wicked and unfeeling world was almost insupportable, but he was brought to feel willing to leave them in the hands of his Heavenly father, who is the widows god and the father of the fatherless. My father died January 13th 1788 in the forty-eight year of his age. My mother died December 6 - 1819 - in the seventy- fifth year of her age. I intended to have written you more particular respecting our family, but it is now too late, my feeble health and painful trembling limbs will not admit of it. I can only say that few children ever had so dear a mother, for patience and perseverance, for strength of mind for judgement and wisdom to discern between right and wrong, few ever exceeded, her temper was mild and even. I never saw her in a passion nor raise her voice in anger, yet she was firm and stidely in her government, and strove to trane her children up for god they all loved and feared her. She read a great deal in the Bible and Book of divinity, and History notwithstanding the many cares that prest heavily upon her, with her great family of nine children that was at home with, the youngest but low years old when my father died much of her time and attention was taken up in settling the estate, yet she went through it with all her cares and differcultys with that patience and calm composure she always prosisted throught life.

My dear mother lived to see all her children all men and women and women grown, her nine daughters eight were married, one died at 27 with a consumption had she been living she would have been a missionary in a far distant land. But god took her to himself, all her daughters and one of her sons were proffessors of religion, three of her daughters she watched over in there last sickness and followed them to the graves, all are gone now but three daughters , myself and two younger. Her life, was one of deep affection and painfull anxiety the care of so large a family, much sickness and other unavoidable trials, and no dear husband to bear the burdens with her, and no earthly friend friend to lean upon. Yet she was never known to murmer or complain, she was patient calm and unruffled in prosperity and in adversity, she had tender feeling heart, she mourned with those who mourn, and rejoiced with those who do rejoice. Many of her last years was spent in quiet and happyness. A widowed daughter of hers lived with her the last ten years of her life, She had every attention and comfort that she wished or needed and was happy for she trusted in god, it was he that supported her throught a long life of toil and affliction. She once observed in my presence that her life had been been one of anxiety, hardship and affliction, yet she had many mercys mingled with

her trials. - She was paid for all she had suffered in the kind affectionate treatment of her dear children towards her, each strove to add to her comfort and happiness, each wished her to live with them, she felt their kindness, but declined leaving her own first home except to visit them, few children ever had so dear a mother to love, no one could know her without loving her. Oh father in Heaven prepare me to meet her in that Blest abode where sickness nor death can never enter, there to join her and my [sisters] departed friends in songs of redeeming love to part no more for ever.

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Hawkesbury November 26, Thursday 1846

This is a day set apart for thanksgiving and praise to the Almighty God for his Blessing bestowed on us this year past not in this Canada world but in my own native State Mass and in twelve other New England States and in all this state but not the same day, - Oh that our hearts may all glow with gratitude to God for his mercy and blessing bestowed on us sinners.

Seventy eight years have past over my head and I still live for thou Lord hast sustained me. I am now old and feeble can not expect to see the return of another thanksgiving my health and limbs fail me.

Hawkesbury, January 1 - Friday 1847 !!! Can it be that I am still here fifty-five years this day I gave my hand and heart to one of the best of husbands, kind indulgent and affectionate husband and fathers. But cruel death has taken him from me, sixteen years I have been a lonely wanderer, in the wide world, eleven in this land a Kingdom not my own, four hundred [] from the place that gave me birth and from the graves of my dear husband and beloved children, and other dear relations and friends, one daughter is far from me altho she has spent some months with me here; Here I feel more at home than at any other place since I left my own great place; where my dear husband brought me when I became his happy bride and where I spent with him forty happy years of my life, where my children were all born and bred - where my dear husband and beloved Elvira resigned these happy spirits into the hands of God who gave them, three happy souls I do not wish them back, altho I shall go mourning to my grave - I have every thing here to make me comfortable and happy, no mother ever had more affectionate children than I have, nothing that I want or need for my comfort but I have. Many kind friends God has raised up for me in this distant world many good books I have to read and time to read them. But still I feel that sick that I cannot describe. But am not unhappy, oh no, oh for a grateful heart.[Followed by 6 blank pages]

Leicester, May 20, 1806

My dear friend At our last interview you expressed a desire to have me relate the [feelings] of God with my poor soul. From my earliest years it has pleased God to exercise my mind by spells, with fearful apprehensions of a future State, some times when very young the distress of my mind was so great that I dare not close my eyes in sleep for fear I should awake in torment, but those feelings would oftime depart with the morning light, my dear parents used every method to persuade me that youth was the best time to prepare for Death, this I thought could not be, as I did not see any of my young companions that had religion - thought I should be alone. And slighted and despised by my mates, I promised God that if he would spare my life till I was older I would attend to the great concerns of my immortal soul. When I was about ten years old I dreamt a dream that distressed me very much I thought the day of judgment was come, I saw the Judge of all the earth sitting before me the old Serpent the Devil was also present to my view I saw the great book in which is contained all the [characters] of all the human race lay open before God.

The distress that I felt in mind is not to be described - I was to hide my self from the presents of the Lord, knowing my self un-prepared to meet my Judge, but I heard a voice that said to me come forth

you can not hide from the presents of the al mighty. I wept aloud and awoke from seep in great distress. I soon fell a sleep again and felt the same distress - I heard a voice that said thy sins are forgiven the[e]. From thence I though I was led in sight of Hell where I beheld thousands of souls chanced down in flaming fire - the sight was insupportable I awoke and behold it was a dream.----- this dream troubled me greatly for several months, and by spells I was thoughtful - but I wish to procrastinate my repentance to some future time - I thought should God spare my life till I arrived to riper years I would make religion the business of my life thus I delayed from time to time the great concerns of my immortal Soul. I will inform you in my next the particulars from that time to this. Farewell best of friend - S.

Leicester, Sept 2, 1806

My Dear friend according to my promise I again resume my narrative my mind remained much in the same situation till after my marriage which was January 1 - 1792 my attention was again called up and many times I was greatly distressed and ready to sink under a burden of sin. My Dear sister Eleanor came to spend some time with me, she was then under serious impressions we often conversed together on the all important concerns of our immortal Souls. After she left me, I again returned to stupidity. Till she wrote to me from Bennington while she was under convictions this letter was like a Dager to my heart. I had known next day nor night for some time, but did not let anyone know my feelings. She wrote again after she and my sister Charlotte, had experienced religion a very plain letter, it seemed to set my sins in order before me, this distressed me sorry much, I had known rest after that till I thought my peace was made with God. I with nine others Publickly professed our faith in Christ the fifth of July 1804 it being in the thirty six year of my age.

July 8, 1804?

I gave up my dear children in Baptism to the Lord. I humbly trust in sincerity and faith. O that we may have grace virtue fortitude and patience to train them up for God. O Lord they are thine by creation and by dedication wilt thou make them thine by sanctification keep them from temptation, and from every sin and love them freely. O may they live the life of the righteous that their last days may be like [thine].*

August 18 - 1813 Wednesday night I have parted from my dear dying friend Mrs Morse. Oh the triumph of a dying Christian. Surely Death with her has lost its sting, and the Grave its boasted victory. She appears calm and serene as the morning Sun. I asked her if she was willing to leave this world of sin and sorrow, "Oh yes she replied, I know in whom I have trusted, I know that my redeemer liveth. I know that if ever I loved any thing I love the Lord Jesus Christ. I love his holy commands, his holy word, his Sabbaths and communions. She then warned all that stood around her to prepare to meet her in the

blissful [mansions] above, where Sin and Sorrow are known no more. She warned her Husband to be faithful to the Souls of his children. She enjoined it upon her children to seek the Lord in their youth. Never to let a day pass without praying earnestly to God that he would have mercy on their immortal Souls: She died about five o'clock in the afternoon in the full expectation of a glorious immortality.

Oh that her dying counsel may serve to rouse me to a sense of duty. Oh that the Death of this beloved friend might be sanctified to me for my spiritual and Eternal good. Oh Lord have mercy on me a sinner cleanse me from all pollution pardon all my omissions of Duty and give me a heart of meekness and love. That I may be faithful to my dear children, to my friends and above all to my God.

* Mrs Morse wife of Dear Henry Morse [of] Paxton, formerly of Leicester.

January 1 - 1815 Sabbath day

nught twenty three years this day, Since I was married to a kind and tender Husband. How many of my dear friends and connections are gone to there Eternal home.

Leicester December 25 - 1819

My dear friend, How can I describe to you the dreadful scen throught which I have been called to pass my dear mother went to Beverly with me in Sept got there the third day of the month to spend some time with my sister Burly. She was confined the sixth, became the mother of a lovely blooming son the darling of his parents, they had no other Son. I stade with them ten days went with my dear mother to Byfield to see my dear niece Nancy Emerson returned to the burying ground and visited the graves of my dear departed sisters Eleanor and Charlotte. the next day I sot out for home left my dear mother behind. I left her with a heavy heart but oh my friend I did not think it was the last adue I should ever hear from her lips. A few weeks after my return from Beverly I heard

that my dear mother was sick with the Disontary, and my sister with a fever. Soon after that her dear babe was dead, and Sister Burley on the borders of the grave. My distress for them was verry great but I could not see them - we soon heard the glad tidings that our honoured mother and dear sister was better. and that my mother wished to return home in a few weeks. after she had made some calls on her friends. We wrote to no when she wished to return as we intended to go after her. We received two letters tuesday night [D] that our dear mother was very sick, one of them was datted Monday the other Sabbath night before. Sister Emerson and my self sot out for Beverly Wednesday morn at three oclock, got to B[everly] at three on thusday afternoon. Oh my friend how can I discribe my distress when we come in sight of the house, we saw the Herse stand before the door hung with black and longe concorse of people in and about the house, the funeral solemnety were began. my heart died within me. I had hardly power to alight from the shays [chaise] but by the assistance of our friends we reached the room where the dear remains of our departed mother lay. She looked perfectly natural as when alive. She appeared like one assleep a Heavenly Smile on her countenance not in the least altred, nor the look of death uppon her

altho she had been dead almost fore days and the weather warme. She was taken sick the 30 of Novr on tuesday night and died the sixth of December Monday morn two oclock with the lung fever. Her sickness was verry distressing a bad cought and raising bood a dreadful pain in her side and distresst from head to foot, so that it was with the greatest difficulty that she could speak but little, She appeared perfectly resigned to the will of her Heavenly father and gave good evidence that her peace was made with God. Thus her soul took her flight to the Realms of Eternal Bliss to join in singing praises to God and the lamb. And I humbly trust She is now with her dear departed daughters injoying there society and singing the song of Moses and the lamb. This is a transporting thought, I can not wish her back to this world of sin and sorrow. -----But oh my friend my loss is erepareable, she was to her children a counsellor a tender sympathiseing friends. She mourned with us in troble and adversity rejoiced with us in prosperaty. She was indeed one of the best mothers but she is gone from me forever. She can not return to me. but I shall go to her. - How soon God only knows. Dear my dear friend Mrs Sophea Lymon Benington.

Leicester, December 6 - 1820

* a year this day since my dear and honoured mother departed this life. Short indeed does the time seem to her if she is injoying the Society of the Blessed, joining with Saints and angels in singing praisis of redeeming love to God and the Lamb for ever and ever. This I humbly trust is the case and oh that I may be prepared to spend a happy Eternity with her in Glory.

Leicester, May 20 – 1821

I have just heard the news of my dear sister Mary Emerson's death. She died of a consumption, She was sick three years and two months. She was excruciated with great pain, a severe cough wearsome days and nights were appointed unto her, but we have reason to hope that her peace was made with God, and that she is now with her dear departed parents and sisters, in that happy world of Bliss where pain nor sorrow can never come: - fifteen months between the death of our dear and honoured mother, and this dear sister. Sister Mary E. died at Fort Covington York state March forth 1821 - aged 48 years.

6 December 6 1824 five years this day since our dear Mother departed this world of sin and sorrow, oh could her happy spirit feel any anxiety for her dear earthly friends. How would her tender heart be rent with anguish at our misfortune, could she know what trials we have

and afflictions we have been called to experience in one short year. But she is I humbly trust beyond the reach of trouble; she is gone where the wicked [secede] from troubling, and the weary are at rest, oh that we may be prepared to follow our dear departed mother to the mansions of Eternal Blessedness to dwell forever with her, and with our other dear friends who have died in the Lord, in singing praises to our dear redeemer for ever and ever. Oh our father who art in Heaven wilt thou [appear] in mercy for us grant that we may awake from this Slumber of Death, and call upon our God, Oh that we may be up and doing while the day lasts. before the nights of death come where in no one can work: oh that there might be a universal revival of religion in this town, in this Society and in this church may thy own dear children awake to a sense of their duty. may we all remember the solemn vows we have taken upon us, and be careful to depart from all Sin, and live soberly rightously and godly in this present evil world.

April 25 1824

My very dear Friend I have long been wishing to write and to receive a letter from you, as the distance is so great I can not see and converse with you, I have been called in the Providence of God to experience great afflictions Since I saw you last, my dear mother and a very dear sister was taken from me by Death within fifteen months of each other. this was a heavy shock to me, but I humbly trust they died in the Lord and are now singing praises to God and the Lamb. -----Since that my family has been [visited] with distressing sickness my dear husband has been brought to the borders of the grave and my children have been sick. death has oftentimes hovered round us, but our lives have all been spared - last January our dear son Charles that we had not seen for eight years, came home to see us, he left us to return to Canada on the seventeenth of April. Elvira went with him to Danville to spend the summer with Mrs Hollister, Zephaniah carried them as far as Winnsor Vermont, on tuesday after they left us our house caught fire on the roof supposed to be a spark from the chimney all the men in the neighbourhood who were being out to work

and Mr Hersey half a mile from home, no one at home but my self sister E. and M.. I alarmed the neighbours as soon as possible but it was too late, the house was wholly consumed by fire with a great deal of useful furniture that was in the garret, and still, the most of the things were got out of the chambers and living rooms. In the short space of three hours we were deprived of a pleasant and good dwelling house and turned out into the open street. there was a small house nearby that we moved into for a short time, where we shall go, or what we shall do, God only knows. I feel like a stranger in a strange land. it is my earnest prayer that God would sanctify it to us for our spiritual good. -----The shock that I received that dreadful day has unnerved me, I feel unfit for the society of any one. Oh that it might serve to wean me from the world. and teach me the instability of all earthly enjoyments, oh that I may view them as they are fleeting and transitory. Dear my dear friend, may peace and happiness attend you. S. [Mrs N....y E.....d B...h].

May 31, 1824

this day my dear daughter Martha left us to go to Danville Vermont, to take a school, to be gone till winter, she left us in a feeble state of health. I gratefully fear her journey will be too hard for her, my anxiety for her is very great and will be till I hear from her.

I have now parted with my last daughter, and am left alone, parted perhaps to meet no more, this side the grave. God only knows, whether we shall ever meet again in this World or not, Oh that we may all be prepared to meet in the Blissful mansions of Eternity where no pain nor sighing nor sorrow can ever come. Oh that they may improve the opportunities that they have for gaining knowledge and make a wise improvement of them. Oh our father grant that their hearts may be impressed with the all important concerns of their immortal souls, and may they be adopted into thy family and be heirs of thy grace is the fervent prayer of their affectionate mother.

June 23 1824 Wednesday night

I have just received a letter from my dear daughters they are well and happy both boarding with my dear Mrs Hollister, both sleep in one school house. One with kind and pious friends, who do every thing in their power to make them happy, one introduced to none but good society, their advantages are great for getting knowledge. Oh that they may be wise unto salvation grant Oh our Heavenly father thy Blessings upon them, may they be prospered in their school, be faithful to their pupils, may they feel their responsibility as teachers and do all in their power to impress the minds of other Scholars with the all important concerns of their immortal souls.

Novr 10 [1824] Wednesday night

My dear daughters got home from Vermont after an absence of almost seven months. how dear is the Society of those we tenderly love. how it rejoices my heart to have my dear children with me again after so long an absence. Oh could I see all my dear children together once more this side the grave I should be [comfortably happy]. But this blessing I have but little reason to expect in this world. But oh our father grant that I may meet them in thy Kingdom above where we may dwell with the[e] for ever -----

Leicester July 2 Friday day night 1824

* got to Enfield. went to visit my dear sick Sister Pierce. found her on a bed of languishment, almost worn out with pain and distress, She was greatly rejoiced to see us. She expired the next Friday night at ten o'clock July ninth. after a long and distressing sickness which she bore with Christian fortitude and patience. She was buried the eleventh on Sabbath night. Mr Robbins made a long address at the house he spoke feelingly and solemnly after, which, there was singing and prayer; Mr R observed it was the largest funeral he ever attended.

* December 6 - 1826 Seven years this day since my much loved mother departed this life. I have been called to mourn the loss of two very dear sisters and a dear and much loved child [Austin] since her Death. Oh my mother was thou here could thou know the pangs that have rent my heart within those seven years past, thy tender heart would bust but thou art beyond the reach of earthly troubles - happy is the enjoyment of thy redeemer. Oh transporting thought. God grant that we may all be prepared to dwell with the[e] in endless felicity.

December, 6 1832

thirteen years this day since my dear and much loved* mother departed this life, how often does my thoughts fly to that happy world where her spirits rest, fain would I fly to that Blest abode, where rests those dear departed friends, and join them in songs of redeeming love; yes cheerfully would I bid adieu to all earthly scenes and fly to that upper and better world, to join my dear husband parents sisters and friends in one continual song of praise to the great, I am ...But oh this cold this reached deceitful heart how can I decide on what ground I stand, some times I feel that I am ready and

willing to depart. at other times I feel my self so vile and Hell deserving that I almost give up all hope of pardon. I know that if I am saved it will be through the merits of the redeemer, not for any thing that I have done, for my life has been one continual scene of sin and transgression. thou oh Lord knowest my heart , oh make known unto me my real situation before it be forever too late. May my heart be fixed trusting in god. and may I spend my few remaining day to thy glory.

Leicester January 1 --- 1825 - Saturday night

thirty three years this day since I was united to one that is deserving of my sincere affection. Oh how changed the scene since that happy day, I was then blessed with parent brothers, sisters, and many very many dear friends that are now sleeping in death; my ever dear and honoured mother and five dear sisters have been taken from me by death since that day; god has given me six dear children but they are all absent and I am alone - my oldest married my two oldest sons far from me if they are in the land of the living. one in Canada the other to North Carolina - if alive, I have not seen him for seven years last November. my daughters all in Worcester. thus I am at present alone. - We have been called in the Providence of God to experience great affliction, our dwelling house and out buildings with a considerable part of our furniture was consumed by fire on April 20: 1824 and we were turned in to the open street. in a few short hours we were deprived of house and home, not knowing where to flee for a shelter. Oh the shock I felt that dreadful day I shall never forget, while I retain my reason. But all is for the best. I ought not to complain.

May 21 - 1825

We have just received a letter from my brother John H. Read, North Carolina acquainting us of the poor health of our dear son, Austin. he says that he heard that he had gone in to the country for his health, that he had gone from there to the salt waters, that the Doctor pronounced his complaint on the liver and that he was in a very dangerous state of health.

Wednesday August 3 [1825]

Mr Hersey taken sick with the col. we did not expect his life for twenty four hours. -----Saturday 6 day night - Zephaniah was taken with the same complaint. Tuesday morn ninth day - Martha was seized violently [seized violently?] with the same complaint we thought her dying all fore noon; but it pleased God to appear in mercy for her, and and relieve her distress. She is still very weak and feeble, but we are in hope She will be restored to comfortable health again.

August 9 [1825]

Tuesday morning while we were in great distress we had a letter from Philadelphia that informed us of the Death of our beloved son Austin, he was on his way home from North Carolina to visit his friends. has been sick for a year and half we have not heard the circumstances of his Death yet, he died the thurtheth of July [1825] on Saturday morning half past fore o'clock in the morning.

August 30 1825

We have had another letter with information that our dear son arrived at Philadelphia the second of July that the Doct, there said they could cure him in a few weeks, but he did not live but twenty eight days after his arrival at that place. he had his reason till the last moment of life, requested the gentleman who watched with him to write to his parents, and let them know that he had every thing done for him that could be done. -----but his time had come and he must go. -----Oh that I could have seen him but for one short hour, could I have heard from his own lips that his peace was made with God that he was ready and willing to go, to leave this world of sin and sorrow. But god saw fit in his infinite goodness to order it other ways. -----Oh what anguish has rent my heart to think of his sufferings since he left us, eight years next December Since he left home for Salem. eight next March since he sailed for North Carolina he has been sickevery fall except one since he left us, and for two years past, he has been under the doctors care a poor sick distressed man. Wandering alone

in a strange land, from place to place in persute of health no dear connection to watch over his sick bed no kind parent, brother, nor sister, neer him to close his dying eyes, or follow his remains to the silent grave, among strangers he died among strangers he is buried. I can behold him no more till I meet him at the Barr of God. Oh that I may meet him, and all my other children at the right hand of God, that I may say Lord here am I and the children that thou hast given me.

October 16 [1825]

My dear son Zepaniah has gone to New York and if his health will admit of it, will go on to Philadelphia, I shall be all anxiety till his return, I shall then hope to here the particulars of my dear sons death. Oh that I may be resigned to the Providence of God in all things and may my trials and afflictions work together for my Eternal good. Octo 3 [1825] This day my son Zepaniah sot out for Enfield.

October 16 1825 Sunday night

this day my dear son Zephaniah has returned from Philadelphia went to the house where my dear son Austin died. was in the room saw the bed on which he languished and died. conversed with those that was present with him when he expired. he had his reason to the last was sincable to the last moment, was calm and composed, desired prayers heard with attention. desired to have a letter written to us. to in form us where he died and that he he had every thing done for him that could be done, but his time had come and he must go; he come from Newburn in N.C. in June where he had been under the care of a skilfull physicion for several months, in hopes to regain his health, his friends there advised him to take a voyage to sea, he saild to Chalston S.C. to New York, and from there to Philadelphia. went to the Hospital for the sake of medicale aide enterd the second of July, the Doctors there told him they could cure him. but all there arts proved in afectual, he died on the 30 of the same month.

Leicester July 2 - 1826

* a year this day since my dear son Austin enterd the Hospital at Philadelphia, and it will be a year the thirtieth of this month since his immortal Soul took its flight to the Eternal world. July the forth 1826 This day all my family are gone to Worcester to the celebration of our National Independance. I am alone but not lonesome My thoughts have been much on my dear departed son. a year ago he was languishing on a bed of sickness among strangers, far from all indearing friends. There he languish there he died. Dear departed shade I shall behold the[e] no more in the land of the living but I shall soon follow the[e] to the land of silence. How oft do I call to mind thy bloaming countenance, thy smiles, thy tender affectionate behaviour to thy parents and friends. the joy that alumenated thy countenance when we meet. and the gloom that over spread thy face when we parted. -----All is present to my vew. Oh Austin thou wort in deed a pleasant child. but thou art gone for ever.

* Leicester July 30 - 1826 Sabath night

a year this day since my dear son Austin died. I had a sleepless night, my heart seemed rent with anguish when I called to mind that at this time a year ago my beloved son was agonizing in death far from all dear friends - sleep that soother of our cares seemed departed from me. I seem to see him in all his agony his dying grones. I almost felt that I could here him say my dear parents, my much loved brothers, and sisters, where are you in this trying hour. No one of you present to wipe the cold sweat from my dying face, none to catch my last sighs. No dear friend to close my dying eyes and follow my remains to the silent grave. must I languish and dye among strangers--unlamented and forgotten. No my much loved son you will never be forgotten by your affectionate mother; she will never cease to lament the loose of so dear a son till time with her is no more. I can never forget your indearing society. had you any failing they are bured with you, but your many virtues are present to my vew.

* July 30 – 1827

Two years this day since my dear Son Austin departed this life, but Oh my dear departed son thou art not forgotten by thy tender mother. Oftimes I see the[e] in my dreams blooming in health, with that cheerfull smile on thy countenance, that has so, often made my heart glow with pleasure, but, when I awoke I found it all a delusive dream. Death, cruel Death, has torn you forever from my vew. These eyes will behold you no more till the judgment day. But your virtues shall be cherished till time with me is no more, fare well thou dear departed shade.

* July 30 1828

Three years this day since my dear and much lamented son Austin, left this world of pain sickness and sorrow. may I not hope for a world of Blessedness and peace. yes this was told me by those who watched over his dying bed. but I was denied the happiness of hearing of heavenly it. or being with him in that solemn hour. he is ever in my mind, not a day passes over my head but I think of this dear departed shade.

"A mothers heart [] not forget."Verry dear wort thou to me my beloved son. but nought remains of the[e] but dust, but thou will rise again.

Febuery 5th 1804 Sabath day night

been to meeting today text in Jeremiah 50 chap 5 verse saying come let us join ourselves to the Lord in a prepetual covenant, that shall not be forgotten. ten persons were added to the church to day. I have given myself, my all up to God, in a covenant never to be forgotten. O that I may adorn the Glorious [Daetnen] that I have prefused by living a life of piety and religion.

July 8, 18[04]

this day I have given up my dear children in Baptism to the Lord O that God would give me grace virtue Wisdom and Pataincie to train them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Wilt thou O God wash them in the Blood of Jesus cleans them from all thear Sins, and make them vessels of mercy preparing for futur Glory may thear infant days be spent in serving God, and may they live to help build up thy Kingdom on earth - which God in infinnant mercy grant for the redeemer Sake amen.

May 10 1816 - Leicester

Beloved Friend

I have just strength enough to write a line to one who is verry dear to me. I have been confined for several weeks with a fever. am still week and low, troubled with a bad cough, far from being well. I sometimes think I shall never again enjoy my usual health. God only knows should this be my situation may I be enabled to say the will of the Lord be done. may I be prepared for what ever is before me, wheather it be life or death may I be roused from this state of deadness and stupidaty that prevails in my heart to a lively sense of my duty.Oh that I may put my whole trust in God my Saviour. that wheather living or dying I may be his. Oh Heavenly father have mercy on my pireshing Soul. Keep me from temtation and deliver me from evil. I feel that I am a poor sinful worm of the dust, unfit to live and unprepared to dye. Oh Lord be merceful to me a sinner prepare me to live the life of the rightious that my last days may be like theirs.

Leicester June 25 1828

We have jest received a letter from a friend in North [carolina] containing the [monanchola] news of the death of my dear brother John H. Read. He died with a consomtion on the 27 of April Sabbath day, his health had been declining for tow years, a dreadful cought pain in his side and verry much

distressed for breath throughout the night not able to lie down in the bed a great part of the night. still he continued to instruct in his school till a short time before his death, - dear - dear brother in a distant country far from every dear connection he languished and died, no dear brother sister nor companion to watch over his sick bed none to follow him to the silent grave or drop the tear of affection over his remains.

But we have this consolation that he was blessed with kind and tender friends that did all in their power to make him comfortable and happy in sickness and health.

Fare well thou dear brother. You can not return to me but I shall soon follow you to the silent Mansions of the dead, oh that we may meet at the right hand of God to spend a happy Eternity together - in singing praises of redeeming love to our dear redeemer for ever and ever.

January 1, 1829

Thirty seven years ago this day since I was married, how changed the scene, since that happy day, how many of my dear friends have been summoned to the Eternal world, my much loved and honoured mother six very dear sisters and a brother dear to my heart a dear and affectionate son; whose endearments none but a mother can tell.

a dear little grandchild, dear babe thou art [at rest]. an uncle and aunt my mothers brother and sister Mr Hersey sister and two brothers, nineteen nephews and nieces, and a great number of very dear friends and neighbours - not one woman now living from Spencer line to Leicester meeting except myself that was at the head of a family when I come here to live thirty seven years ago - I am still spared, and for why God only knows, not because I am more useful than those that are gone but because God saw fit so to do, Oh that those solemn admonitions may serve to prepare me for my great and last change that when death arrives I may be found with my lamp trimmed and burning.

February 1 [1829]

My dear son Zephaniah has not yet returned. we have been expecting him ever since November, how painful is anxiety, I never more ardently long to see him. Oh may we learn submissions to Gods will in all things. -----My dear daughter M[artha P.] has been gone almost three weeks to Grafton, she did not expect to be absent half that time her health was very feeble when she left us, I greatly fear she is confined with sickness, we have not heard any thing from her since she left us.

oh the weeks and months of painful anxiety I have suffered for this dear child. She can never know, even should she become a mother, she can never do nor suffer what I have for her, altho she is married and gone from me yet my concerns for her will never cease but with my breath - But I shall soon bid adieu to all earthly objects, to all that is dear to me on earth and follow my dear departed friends to the world of Spirits, oh father in Heaven grant that I may be found with my lamp trimmed and burning, prepared to to meet my Judge in peace, and wilt thou Bless the dear children that thou hast given us, may they be found at thy right hand at the great and last day.---Oh for a heart to live near to God grant oh Heavenly father that I may ever bear in mind that my day is far spent, life is short Eternely endless.

February 25 --- 1829

This day my dear son Zephaniah has returned from Canada where he has resided for almost a year we were rejoiced to see him again and to hear from our dear absent children. But his health is very poor I feel extremely anxious for him.

April 27 1829 My Dear daughter Martha & Mr Goddard moved to Worcester. She has left us to return no more to live with us; she has found a home of her own and a worthy husband, to whom I can

cheerfully resign her, in him she will find a friend protector and a guide, he is I think an experienced and pious christian, I trust they will be helpmeats to each other throughout this vail of tears, and when they shall be called to bid adeau to all below the skies may they spend a happy Eternity together in singing praisses of redeeming love , oh our father in Heaven grant that they and we, and all the dear children that thou hast given us may be found at thy right hand, prepared to meet our God in peace having our work done and well done.

May 13 Wednesday morn [1829] Mr Goddard and Martha sot out there journey for St [Adress] in canada, may peace and health attend them, and may they return to us in safty.

June 21 - 1829, Sabbath night

I have jest heard from my dear daughter [Thankfull] Johnson that her hand is worse and her health poor; almost nine months have allapsd since she pricked her hand with the point of a knife, jest so as to draw blood the wound seemed not worth noticeing, did not pain her for two weeks since that it has been verry painfull, so that she cant do the least thing with it, and it affects her health other ways. Her phisition does not seem to know what to do for her. It has been growing worse rather than better for many months, dear woman I don't know what she will do, trying in deed it must be to a mother to see five dear children standing around her, looking to her for help, and she unable to do anything for them.

must cause her many anxious heart rending pangs. But that God in whome she trusts is able to support and comfort her under all her afflictions, and do more for her than she can ask or ever think. I feel a conferdence in her that she will not be left to murmer at the proverdences of God, in his deelings to wards her, Altho all looks dark and misterious now, yet the time will soon arrive when all will be made plain to us, God grant that she may be submissive to all his deelings to wards her, and may she feel tht it is good for her to be afflictiond.

June 26 1829 friday night

This day Mr Goddard and Martha returned from canady after an absence of six weeks and and three days. They have been to vissit my dear son and daughter at St Andress [Andrews?]. They have been to Montreal, Quebeck, New York, Philadelphia. This place they vissited to view the spot where our dear son Austin drew his last breath and where his body lies, four years this month his body has been muldering in the dust, Oh may I not chirish a hope that his immortal soul is at rest with his savour and God. The Goddards greatest object in taking this journey was on the account of Mathas health, there rout round was not far from two thousand miles, her health is in some measure restored, but she is still far from being well. Oh may she, her dear hsuband and all of us be prepared for what ever God has allotted for her in his Providence. Oh Heavenly father take her into the armes of thy Everlasting love, appear for her in mercy carry her softly throught the trying scean that is before her, and may she live to praise the[e] in the land of the living. Oh that these two dear daughters, who have been in feeble health for many months may be restored again and be usefull in there family, in society and to the church of christ. Oh our father in Heaven appear in mercy for them and may they say that it is good for them that they have been afflicted.

July 15 - 1829 wednesday night

This day my dear daughter M.P.H. Goddard [Martha] was made the living mother of a living son, grant oh Heavenly father that she may be restored to health again, and may the child be spared and be a blessing to his parents, to society and to the World, and may they give it up to the[e] in faith remembering it is but lent to them for a season. May the train it up for the[e] and when thou shall see fit to call it home, wilt thou take it to thy self in glory. Wilt thou give them hearts of gratatude for thy goodness to them in appearing in mercy for her in an hour of sickness and distress. Oh may we feel

humble and greatfull in vew of thy tender mercys to us unworthy cretaurs, may we ever bear in mind that life is short and Eternity endless, may we watch and pray that we enter not into temtation.

* December 6 1829 ten years this day since my much loved mother left this world of sin and sorrow for a world of Blessings and peace, as we humbly trust. four of her dear children have followed her to the silent grave since that period.

Janury 13 - 1830* my dear father has been dead forty two years this day

1830 December day 6

Eleven years this day (buried the 9 day) since I followed my dear mother to the silent grave where I must shortly be lade oh that I may be prepared to meet her in Heaven.

Hawkesbury, December 6, 1834*

Fifteen years this day since my dear mother was removed from all earthly sceens to a house not made with hands Eternal in the Heavens, oh Lord grant that I may meet her in Heaven, there to gaine my dear husband and beloved Elvira and other pious friends in songs of praise to the great, I am.

* December 6, 1835Sixteen years this day since my dear and ever to be lamented mother departed this life, and sorred to that Blesst abode where all is peace and love.

* July 30 , 1835Eleven years this day since my dear son Austin Hersey departed this life, dear departed shade I shall see thy face no more, but a mothers love can never grow cold, thy memery I will ever cherrish.

* 1836, December 6

Seventeen years this day since my much loved mother was removed by death from a world of death and sin to a world of peace and joy.

* Hawkesbury March 22 1837 Wednesday

six years this day since my beloved Husband left me to wander alone in this world of pain, sin and death, Oh I trust that we shall meet again, in that world where partings are unknown.

* Worcester March 22, 1838 Thursday,

Seven years this day since my dear husband entered his Eternal rest. Oh thrice happy Soul thou art, freed from all all that pain sickness and loneleess that thy Sarah induers, oh when shall those weary limbs and akeing head be laid in the silent grave, O that I may join the[e] in that Blest abode to part no more for ever, God grant me thy present, while here

March 4 1830 thursday night

*My dear son and daughter Charles and Elvira returned from StAndress [Andrews?] in canady, my son I have not seen for three years my daughter has been with him three years but has vissited us once in the time.My dear son has spent but ten days with us and has this day lift us to return to Canada whence he will pobably spend the remainder of his short life. (March 14) - the sepperation is truly painfull. he is a kind affectionate son nothing in his power but he would cheerfully do to make his parents comfortable and happy, But it seems to be the will of Proverdence that he should be sepperated from us, and we ought not to murmer. But render thanks to God for giving us such kind dutyfull children. Oh may thy presence go with him Heavenly father wilt thou be with him on his journey home, gard him from any hurtfull accident, return him to his desired Haven in health, keep him from temtation and prepare him to spend a happy Eternity in thy Blessed Mantions above.

April 1 - 1830 thursday night

jest received a letter from our dear son Charles, its contents ware truly distressing, he was oblidge to travel in an open stage two days in the rain the roads so bad that they ware oblidge to go into fields on foot and hold the stage to keep it from turning over, for several miles they ware oblidge to go with a gig where the warter was four feet in depth, at one place the Bridge was carred of, and they ware oblidge to go over on the timber that was left and carry there trunks or stay behind, oh is dradfull to think of, and presumption in them to attempt it. Oh may his heart glow with gratatude to God for his tender care over him in this hour of trial and danger.

* July 30 - 1830 five years this day since our dear son Austin departed this life, yes my dear son I shall see thy face no more in the land of the living, thou cant not return to me , but I shall soon follow the[e] to the silent grave. Oh that we may meet in a happy Eternity, there to sing praises of redeeming love for ever and ever.

May 2 Sabbath night - 1830

This was our comunion day, I did fondly hope to go to the house of God, to day after being confined at home for so many Sabbaths, and be seated once more at the table of the Lord, with my dear brothers and sisters in christ, there to commemorate the dying love of the dear redeemer.

I feel that I shall not have many more oppertunetyes of going to the house of God. almost sixty two years old, my heaht declining my strenght fails my eyes are dim my hand [transnuitious], a faint sinking feelings at my lungs that I can hardly describe, pains and feebling in my limbs, all indercating that I am going the downward rode to death; oh that those warnings may serve to quicken me to a dilagent search of my own heart, to watchfullness and prayer, may I feel a weanedness from the world remembering that this is not my home, that I must soon bid adue to all earthly sceens and appear before my Judge there to answer for the deeds done in the body wheather they be good or evil.

Oh Lord have mercy on me a sinner give me a heart of fervent prayer, and watchfullness over my own heart may my few remaining days be spent in thy service and to thy glory, oh for a heart to do thy will and keep thy Holy commands, so as shall be exceptable to the[e].

September 22 1830 *

This day I am sixty two years old. few, verry few, live to this age, six dear sisters and a much loved brother, a dear dear son have been removed from me by death. my oldest sister in her thurthieth seventh year, sister Eleanor E in her 31 year, sister Charlotte in her 27 year of her age - sister Mary Emerson, in her forty eight year of her age - sister Clarissa Pierce, in her forty fourth year of her age - Sister Paulina Burley, in her forty first year of her age my brother John H. Read fifty two, my dear son twenty eight

Why my life is prolonged to this age God only knows. I feel that I am but a cumberer of the ground, that I have done nothing for the cause of my dear redeemer that has done so much for me. Oh that I may awake out of sleep, be up and doing while the day lasts, oh that I may be more watchfull and prayerfull, may I live like a stranger and pilgrim on earth knowing that I shall soon be sommonsed at thy Barr to render an account for the deeds done in the body wheather they be good or evil. I have buried almost all my dear relations and friends and have been called in the Provedence of God to pass through many sorry trying sceens, oh may they serve to ween me from the world and prepare me to meet my God in peace. Oh father in Heaven appear in mercy for me, give me a broken and contrite heart such as thou wilt not dispise. Oh may the dear children thou hast given me all be born of God and be received of the[e] at last for christ sake.

1831 *Leicester, March 22 Tuesday at five minnet past Eleven oclock
my dear husband departed this life aged seventy four and six months after a distressing sickness of almost eight months which he bore with christian patience, not murmer was heard from his mouth, all that was done for him was right altho he was exrseized with a voiliant headake pain in his side distrested for breath and a dreadfull cough, no appetite faint and weak. Long he languished and like a patined child he submitted to his Heavenly fathers will, without complaint. And I trust he has left this world of pain sickness and sorrow for a World of peace happiness and joy, he was calm and happy in his last moments, and for many years he enjoyed that happy peace in believing that the world can neither give nor take away.

June 5 1831 Sabbath night, returned from Salem yesterday, after an absence of eight days, this journey I took on the account of my health, and to vissit my dear departed sisters children who still remain in Salem. I went to Beverly to see my dear friends, there; I vissited the burying ground where lyes, my honoured and much loved mother, my dear sisters, Eleanor; Emerson Sister Charlotte Read, sister Paulina Burley, three nephews and a niece, all side by side. that spot seemed verry dear to me. Oh that I may be prepared to meet them all in Heaven.

June 5 1831

The last time I went to Salem my dear husband went with me four years ago next August. He was then in a verry poor state of health, after that he recovered so far as to injoy comfortable health the most of the time till August last, since that he has sufferd more than pen can discribe, wearisom days and nights ware apointed unto him, weeks and months he languished on a bed of sickness but he murmered not, he complaind not. With pataince he waited for his summons to arrive And I do humbly trust that he is now in the presence of his redeemer, where one [joys] for ever more. Oh that I may live the few remaining days that are allotted me here on earth more to the glory of God than ever yet I have done, And when death shall arrive may I be prepared to meet my God in peace.

* August 22 [1831] five months this day since my dear Husband was taken from me by death, I feel that I shall soon follow him to the house appointed for all living. oh that I may be prepared for my great and last change.

May 26 Sot out for Salem, returned the 3 of June 1831.

vissited my dear departed sister Burleys family, went to Beverly spent some time in the grave yard in medatation among the dead, there lyes my dear and honoured mother three dear, dear sisters and other near and dear connections. All I humbly trust now in Heaven. I bad that dear spot a last farewell, I have no expectation of seeing it again. Oh may I be prepared to spend an Eternity with them in that upper and better world where sorrow is unknown.

Sept 8 [1831?] went to Enfield Co - returned the 17, went to meeting there vissited the spot where my dear sister Pierce is buried and her dear son. I feel that they are both in Heaven, thy gave [curadance] that they died in the Lord. Happy thought.

October 3, [1831?] a four days meeting commenced in this town. we had the best of preaching. many souls have been born to God; and many are anxecausly inquiring what they shall do to be saved, the meeting was verry sollomn,

[Winchester]	Mr Miller	Mr Cook	Nore Village
Worcester	Mr Abbot	Mr Snell	N Brookfield
Boyelston	Mr Bowman	Mr Sten	S Brookfield
Holden	Mr Russel	Mr Deckand	Spencer

[Neeland]	Mr Bardwell	Mr Allen	Stansbury
	Mr. Clark	Mr. Nelson	Leicester
Leicester	Mr Jones		
	Mr Green		

Worcester Sept 22 1837

this is my daughter Martha Goddard and my Birthday. Sixty nine years old this day, my life has been spared to a good old age, why I am spared and those who are young and far more usefull are taken away, thou Lord knoweth.

* June 27 four years this day since my dear Elvira left me alone and flew to her Savior and her God, happy soul.

Sept 13, 1837 two years this day since my oldest and beloved daughter Johnson departed this life for that upper world where death can never enter. I am now writing in the chamber where her[e] happy sperret took its flight.

July 30 twelve years this day since my dear son Austin died, far from all his dear relations his maldren body lyes, dear - dear son thou art not forgotten by thy affectionate mother. 27 June 1838 five years this day since my dear Elvira took her upward flight, and left me lonely and disconsolate, did you know the wound that your departer gave me your tender heart would bleed. more and more as I grow more feeble do I think of your tenderness and care, you had no greater pleasure then to see your friends happy. But you told me not to mourn; this I can not help but I hope I do not murmur, altho you are seldom from my mind.

* 30 July thirteen years this day my dear son Austin was taken from me by death, dear son you are not forgotten by your tender mother; oh no your tender dutifull affectionate manners are ever before me that gloo of chierfullness on your countenance when you returned home and the tears that bedewed your cheeks when we parted is now present to my vew as when we parted.

Leicester December first 1831

Thanksgiving day, a gloomy day to me, last year on this day my dear husband was with us, and a dear grandchild both are now slumbering in the dust, But I trust there souls are rejoicing to geather in Heaven, then why should I mourn there departure from this world of sin and death. I must soon follow them to the silant grave. Oh that I may be prepared to dwell with them forever and sing the songs of redeeming love - My heart is two full to write or compose my mind, I feel alone in the world, my only desire and prayer is to live prepared to meet my God in peace.

* December sixth, twelve years this day since my much loved mother was taken from me by death, dear - dear woman how would she mingle her tears with mine, ware she living, she knew by experience the bitterness of griefs, and the pangs of separation from her dearest friend; But she is two happy to mourn. I trust she and my dear husband are united in singing praises of redeeming love in that Blisshed world where sights and sorrows are unknown. there may I join them to part no more; till then adeau thou Blest immortals.

* March 22 1832. one year this day since my dear husband was taken from me by death. dear departed shade I shall behold thy face no more on earth, nor here thy soothing voice. but I shall soon follow the[e] to the silent grave. oh may we meet in Heaven.

Hawkesbury July 30 - 1839

fourteen years this day since my dear son Austin Hersey departed from this world of sin and death, but a mothers love can never grow cold, you are not forgotten my dear son.* December 6 [1839] twenty years this day since my beloved mother left this world of sin and death for a world of Bliss and and glory, oh I may meet you in that Blest abode to part no more for ever.

X March 22 [1840]

nine years this day and this hour since my dear husband left me a lonely wanderer in this world of sin and sorrow, but thou hast reached the celistal city, while thy Sarah is wandering in the wilderness, but soon very soon my pilgrimage will come to an end, then may I not hope to meet the[e] in that upper world to part no more.

* Hawkesbury July 30 - 1840

Fifteen years this day since my dear son Austin departed this life, north remains of the[e] but dust.* December 6 twenty one years this day since my dear and much loved mother was taken from us by death to world of Bliss.

1841, March 22

ten years this day and this hour since my dear and much loved husband was taken from me by death, Oh cruel dea[t]h thou hast robed me of my bosom friend and left me a lonely wanderer in this world of sin and sorrow. Little did I think when I closed the eyes of my dear husband that I should survive him but a short time but God has ordered otherwise my unprofatable life is still spared, altho sickness and death has hovered arround yet I live, for thou Lord hath sustained me. And now oh Lord what wait I for but thy Blessing for that purity of heart that intire resignation to thy will, that strong faith in the Lord Jesus christ, that I so much long for and so much need to prepare me for thy blest abode, oh father grant this request.

October 21 Sabbath night 1832

Why should a living man complain - why should I complain while I am surrounded with so many blessings; comforts and mercys, surrounded with kind friends, tender and affectionate children, every thing done for me to make my life happy. It is true that my health is feeble, and I am deprived the priveledge of going to the house of God. But I have many good books to read and time to read and meditate, thousands suffer far more than I do; racked with pain and distress from night to morn, and from morn till night, while I can rest quietly the most of the time with a degree of comfort. Shall I thus complain. Oh I hope, I trust not;Keep me oh Heavenly father from a disponding murmuring frame of mind, grant that I may live prepared to meet every avent of thy Providence with cherefullness, and composure and when my great and last change shall arrive may I be found ready to meet my God in peace. May I keep constantly in vew that this is not my home that my day is far spent. Oh father in Heaven grant that I may spend the few remaining days in thy service and to thy glory.

December 31 munday night – 1832

Another year is come to a close, how fast the years months and days fly away, a few more risings and setting sons will land me in an everending Eternity, short my life appears, short altho sixty four years have past over my head, yet it seems but as yesterday since I was in the bloome of life ingaged in the vanatys of the world.But now the scen is changed, my health is feeble, my eyes dim my hand trembles my constuatution broken, all are taking that time with me is short and Eternity near at hand. Farewell, thou dying year thou wilt never return.

* March 22, 1833

two years this day since my dear and much loved husband was sommonds to the world of spirrits, and I am still a lonely wanderer in this wide world of sickness, pain and death.My dear daughter

Elvira is now on a bed of sickness wheather she will ever recover or not thou oh Lord only knowist. Oh that thou woodst appear in mercy for her, Bless the means that are used for her recovery to health again and may she yet live to praise the[e] in the land of the living, and adorn the glorious doctren she has profest.

Oh father in Heaven prepare her for what ever thou hast allotted her in thy Providence wheather it be life or death may she be found ready to go where her sumons shall arrive. Oh Lord prepare us all for the solomn hour of death.

January 1 - 1833 Leicester

This day forty one years since I gave my heart and hand to one of the best of husbands, But death that cruel tirant has robed me of my bosom friend and left me to mourn a poor disconsolate widow, yet I have many mercys and many blessings to be thankfull for, my life has been spared and the lives of my dear children all in the enjoyment of comfortable health, While thousands have been swept into Eternity since the commencement of the last year, thurty in this town have bid adue to all earthly sceens in the corse of the last year, that dreadfull scourge the cholara that has been abroad in the world has sommonsd thousands to there Eternal home, altho the distroying angle has not been permitted to come among us yet we are as sinfull and as diserving of the just judgements of God as those who have been cut of in so suding a manner, and it is throught the infernete goodness and tender mercy of God that we have been spared to see a new year. Oh that we as a church and as a nation may humble ourselves repent of our sins in dust and ashes before the Lord. If peredvintor he will have mercy on us and save us from distressing [] among ourselves which is more distressing then the plague that has prevailed among us. Oh that we might see the evil of our ways return repent and live.

Hawkesbury June 27 - 1841*

eight years this day since my daughter Elvira departed this life dear girl thou art not forgotten by the lonely mother dearer art thou to me every day, God grant that we may meet in Heaven.

* July 30 [1841] Sixteen years this day since my beloved son departed this life. Oh Austin thou wert dear to us all, thou art not forgotten by thy affectionate mother oh no dear to me are those dear departed children, I shall soon follow them to the silent grave.

* Sept 13 - 1841. Six years this day since my dear daughter Thankfull departed this life, I trust for a world of happiness. Her eldest daughter Mary Johnson I greatly fear will soon follow her.

December 6, 1841* Twenty two years this day since my dear mother departed this life.

March 22 1842 Eleven years this day since my beloved husband left me a lonely wanderer in this wilderness. Thou art my dear husband happyness.

* Worcester June 27 1842

nine years this day since my beloved Elvira and left me alone to mourn the los of one of the most affectionat and dutifull daughters, I feel her loose more every day as my health fail and I [] very feeble. But still I do not wish her back, oh no, I can not wish you back to this world of sin and death. God grant that we may meet in Heaven to part no more.

* July 30 [1842] Seventeen years this day since my much loved son departed this life, oh Austin you are not forgotten by your tender mother.

1842, Decemr 6 Twenty two [three] years this day that my mother departed this life for a happy eternity.

1843, March 22,
twelve years this day my much loved husband departed this life; I am now the same age that he was when his spirit took its upward flight, when shall I join him to part no more. thou Lord knowest.

1843, June 27; ten years this day my dear Elvira bid adeau to all earthly cares and soared to the [mations] of Bliss, of times I think of that Heavenly smile when hold of my hand she said don't mourn for me my dear mother we shall soon meet again. I then felt that I should soon follow her, but ten long years have past since she left and I am still a wanderer in this willderness far from the dear object of my tenderest love sweetly they sleep side by side and there happy souls [] in Heaven.

April 21 Sabbath night Leicester 1833

Ten weeks my dear daughter E. Has been confined with sickness. She cought cold that brought on a bad cought and a slow fever loose of appetite, her strenght seems gone she is greatly altered. She has been under the doctors care for eight weeks still she is no better but daily growing weeker. All that has been done for her seems to have no good affect. What the result will be, God only knows but we have great reason to fear, unless she gets help soon she will go into a decline, oh thou great phisition of soul and body wilt thou appear in mercy for her, bless the means that are used for her restoration to health, and may she live to praise the[e] in the land of the living, if may be thy Holy will, but if thou hast otherways decreed, may she and each one of us be prepared for all the alotments of thy Providence towards us.

May 12 Sabbath night

my dear daughter is dayly growing weeker, her cought is much worse cold chils and fever no appetite feet much swollen and every appearance of one fast hasting to Eternity, altho the Phisians endever to speak peace to my anxious heart, and say she may recover, yet I feel conferdent that nothing short of an Almighty arme can save her from the grim tyrent Death.

Oh our father our preserver and Almighty friend wilt thou look in mercy appon her speak the healing word and all will be well, Oh comfort and support her in this trying hour, grant her the consolations of that gospel she hast profest. Shine into her heart the light of thy [reconciled] countonice, fill her heart with Heavenly love and prepare her for life or death as shall be thy choice, these mercys we ask for Jesus sake who died for sinners.

May 14 tuesday night 1833

This has been a dreadfull day to us all. Our dear Elvira has had a verry sick day, is week faint and languid; looks to be on the verge of Eternity. I greatly fear she is not long for this world. Dear dear daughter, must she be torn from me in the bloom of life, and leave a widdowed mother to mourn.

May 26, We have had a nother Doctor to consult with Doct Spaulding, new medacion has been given and blistering applied, but all to no purpurs, she is still failing, death seems depickered in her countenance.

Oh Death thou cruel tyrant, how canst thou rob me of my earthly all; and tare from my only companion her whome I fondly hoped, would sooth my pasage to the silent grave. Oh Lord grant me tru resignation to thy Holy will.

May 31 [1833] this day my dear Elvira has sot out for Worcester in hopes that the air and riding would give her strenght. So week that we had to set her into the shaye. Dear sick girl, she seems

tottering on the brink of Eternity [] in hopes to here from her to day, but am disapointed. my anxious heart forebodes some dire colamaty; perhaps she will never return. Oh Lord she is in thy hands and there we delight to leave her;

June 5 [1833] Wedensday night my dear Elvira has returned but no better, rather failed in strenght.

monday June ninth [1833] Doct clap from Holding come to see her but did not do anything for her said it was tow late she could not live long.

June 16 [1833] our dear Elvira has failed verry fast for a forternit past. yesterday we thought her dying we greatly feard she will not live to see the light of another day, she seems like on in the aganoyes of death.

June 23 [1833] my dear E. is still, spared to us, for a week we have been expecting that every day would be her last, she is a dear distressed girl, panting away her breath. but all is peace within, she seems waiting for her sommons to arrive. Oh our father who art in Heaven wilt thou be with her throught the dark vally of the shaddow of death. Oh support her in that trying hour, and when she leaves this house of clay, receive her to thy self in glory.

June 24 had a more comfortable night last night then for several nights past, but is verry week and low, fear she can not be with us long. tuesday

June 25 [1833] had a verry distresed night, her cought much wors a voiatant pain in her side, distrest for breath verry week and languid. But all was peace within, calm and happy she appeared in the midst of her distress, to me she said do be with me all you can dear mother, I shall not be with you long. I want you all my dear friends should be near me and pray for me in this trying hour that night (Tuesday) she was much distrest, her agony seemed insurportable

Thursday morning June 27 - 1833

The scenen is closed, my dear Elvira has gone to her Saviour and her God; at two oclock this morning her happy spirrit took its flight to the Relms of Eternal Bliss; as I humbly trust. She was much distrest all the forenoon and appeared like one near the close of life, at two oclock she asked to be raised up in the bed, she sot for half an hour with her hands locked together in midatation, seemed not to know that any one was in the room, she then looked around on all of her friends with a Heavenly smile on her countenance. She called me to her and took my hand, said my dear dear mother, I am going to leave you, I have but a short time to live, I am so happy I cant express my happiness; my dear mother do not mourn for me I think my death will prove a blessing to you, we shall not be seperated long, we shall soon meet again to part no more, God will take care of you, don't greev for me my dear mother, I love all my dear friends most tenderly, none were loved more; but as dearly as I love you; I love my savior more. To her eldest sister she said dear sister I thank you for all your kindness to me, be faithfull to the souls of your children train them up for god be much in prayer for them, tell Eliza and Mary to seek religions now, not to delay; tell Mary as much as I love her, I shall not meet her in Heaven unless she repents.

She then adrest her sister Martha, who had been with her throught all her sickness; thanked her for her kind and tender concern that she had [ministfissled] on for her, the [un] attention to her throught her sickness, implored the Blessing of God on her dear little son who had been with her almost from his birth, prayed he might live and be a Blessing to his parents, to the church of christ, and to the world; to her dear brother Zephaniah, she exprestd her gratatud for his [un ored] and affectionate attentions, to her by day and by night, implored the Blessing of Heaven appon him, charge him to live near to God, and to do do much for the cause of christ, she mourned that she could not see her

dear brother Charles, whom she tenderly loved, oh said she that I could see him impose upon his mind the importance of religion, oh tell him that with my dying breath I beseech him, to fly to Christ as his only saviour to resolve in the strength of the Lord never to give up seeking for mercy till God speaks peace to his soul; oh tell him that I have never failed to pray morning and evening for his precious Soul since I felt the importance of religion, but I am going to leave him and there will be one less to pray for him, oh my dear dear brother, God grant that I may meet you in Heaven. She then prayed fervently for him, that God would appear in mercy for him, and redeem his soul from death; She then enjoined it upon all her Christian friends to pray fervently, to pray in faith, for his immortal soul; for said she " I do firmly believe that he will yet be brought in to the Kingdom". She warned all around to pray for the spread of the gospel, to do all in their power for the cause of Christ, to live near to God, to pray without ceasing. She concluded with a fervent prayer for the spread of the gospel.

Hawkesbury June 26 1834

Thursday afternoon it is a year this day, and this hour since my dear Elvira addressed me and her brothers and sisters for the last time, oh how plain I can see her as she sat raised up in the bed, with a Heavenly smile on her countenance, how calm, how peaceful she looked. I seem to feel the pressure of her feverish hand while she besought me not to mourn for her, "we shall soon meet again my dear mother, my death I think will prove a blessing to you". Dear - dear girl oh may we meet in Heaven to part no more for ever.

June 27 a day never to be forgotten; one year this day since my dear Elvira entered on her Eternal rest, why mourns my heart, thou art happy, oh yes, thou art happy in deed; in the enjoyment of that dear Saviour that was so precious to you in life.

June 29 today a year since I followed my dear daughter* to the silent grave, fare well dear Elvira, I will not mourn altho you are seldom absent from my mind, I feel that lonely void that I can not overcome. Why should I feel thus, when thou art happy. Oh for entire resignation to the will of my Heavenly father. may it be my ardent prayer that I may live to the glory of God, my few remaining days; Oh Lord prepare me for death and Eternity that when ever my summons arrives I may enter in to thy rest, and join my dear departed friends in songs of everlasting praises to God and the Lamb where Sighing and Sorrow is unknown; grant my request oh Blessed Saviour.

Leicester, April 25, 1830

Welcome sweet Blooming Spring; [I] found songsters are now singing in a melodious manner praises to their creator, all nature seems to smile, the face of the earth is covered with a delightful green, the trees are putting forth their buds and blossoms the murmuring streams add to the grandeur of the scene. Oh for a grateful heart to render praises to our Heavenly father for his watchful care, and tender mercies to us, in preserving our lives and healths, in giving us so many comforts and blessings, in sparing the lives of our dear children and other dear friends, to see the return of another spring, while thousands have been snatched into Eternity since the last Spring. Yet we have been spared unworthy as we are, oh may we remember that we are one year nearer Eternity, that our day is far spent that we can not expect to live but a short time, may we ever bear in mind that this is not our home, and may we live like strangers on earth, and be found at thy right hand at the judgement day with the dear children thou hast given us prepared to meet our God in peace. Oh Lord be merciful to me a sinner and grant my request.

Worcester June 27 Saturday 1835

* two years this day since our dear Elvira left this world of sin and death for a world of Blessedness and peace. But you are not forgotten my dear daughter, by your tender mother, no I often call to mind that Heavenly smile that last adieu; thrice happy soul I can not wish thee back.* July 30 ten

years this day since my beloved son Austin left this world of sin and death. in a far distant land his body sleeps. But oh my son you are not forgotten by your tender mother.

* June 27 three years this day since my dear Elvira bid adeau to this vail of tears dear girl thou art happy, why should I mourn. Sept last the 13, I followed my Eldest daughter to the silent grave. Dear to my heart was this beloved daughter, but I trust she is united to her dear farther and sister in songs of [] love to God and the Lamb for ever.

* December 6 - 1837eighteen years this day since my dear mother departed this life and her happy sperrit sorrd above to dwell with her Saviour and her God.

* December 6 - 1838 nineteen years this day since my dear mother departed this life, yes She is as I trust to dwell with her Saviour and her departed children who died in the Lord.

* March 22 eight years this day since my dear husband departed this life; yes eight years he has been in the injoyment of his Saviour and his god, while I a lonely wanderer in a far distant land far from the dust of those I love, but we shall meet at the judgement day may we meet at the right hand of god.

(22 March 1839 Hawkesbury)June 27, [] 1839, Hawkesbury

Six years this day since my dear Elvira left me for a world of bliss, happy soul. How I long to join the[e] in that blest abode to spend eternity with you and my dear departed friends to joine in songs of praises to the[e]. Gra[n]te I am to part no more for ever; shall this be my happy lot thou Lord knowest; oh for heart cleansed from sin.

Leicester Jun 2 1814 thursday morning

this day my dear son has left us to go to colladge to Dartmouth. left us perhaps for ever God only knows.O Austin did you but know the tender concern that I feel for you, the heart rending pangs that I felt at Separation. Surely your tender heart would Bleed. but I have indevoured to keep all my feelings concealed as much as possable in my own bosom.Oh that God would appear in mercy for you, preserve your life and health, give you wisdom from above to direct you; Keep you from every temptation and deliver you from all evil, give you a new heart, a heart of mickness filled with true religion with love to god.O that he would keep you from the temptations of wicked men. O that you may yet be an instrument in the hands of God, of building up his kingdom here on earth, and at last be received in to the number of his family. love will.

November 20

Charles gone to Hanover for Austin. Verry bad going, found him verry sick with a fever confined to his chamber for five weetks. Stade till he was better and brought him home with him. Oh may we render thanks to God for his goodness to him in preserving his life and restoring him to health again. God grant that this affliction might be sanctified to him for his Eternal good.

February 22 - 1815:

Wedensday morning Austin has sot out again for Hanavour - may he have a pleasant journey arrive at his desired haven in safety enjoy the Blessing of health and live to get through with his studies and be an ornament to his friends and to society, but above all may he seek for an interist in christ, may he become a humble prayerful pennetant child of God. Oh Lord of Heaven and earth look down in mercy on the dear children that thou hath given us. renew there hearts and forgive there sins and admit them into thy dear family above. may we all be so happy as to meet together in the Blissful mantions above to dwell with the[e] forever and ever.

1815 Sept 25 the vacation is ended, Austin has sot out again for Hannavour. Oh that he may be preserved and carried soft to his place of abode. may his life and health be precious in thy sight.

February 26 Monday morn 1816

my dear son has again left us for Hanavour. Oh that he may be preserved from sickness, temptation and death. Grant oh all mighty God that he may live before the[e] in a christian manner. may he be brought to a [experanintal] expeirance of the true religion of Jesus christ. Oh Lord have mercy on his pirshing soul. Show him the wickedness of his own heart. Prapare him oh Lord for one of thy minersting servants. may he get to be an ornament to religion and help build up thy Kingdom on earth. Oh Austin didst thou but know the heart rending pangs of a tender parent. Surely thou would not sease to cry day and night to the Lord to have mercy on your immortal soul. you know not my dear child on what a dreadfull percipise you stand. nothing but the brittle thread of life Keeps you from endless perdesion while in your sins. fly then my dear child to the [erthe] of safety. lay hold on the hope sot before you. give your self no rest till your peace is made with god. you are in the hands of a wise and mercyful god who will dispose of you as he in infinite wisdom sees best and here I delight to leave you. be assured that he will do no injustice to any of his creatuers. -----Oh Lord have mercy on the dear souls that thou hast given us and prepare them and us to dwell with the[e] on high. May the remander of our lives be spent in a preparation for that Eternity to which we are rapidly hastening.

April 9 tuesday morn 1816

my oldest son Charles has this day left us to go to Montreal.

March 8 1817 this day Mr Hersey has sot out for Boston with Austin from thenes he will go on in the stage to Hanavour. I have injoyed much comfort in his sosiaty for three weeks passt but the though of parting with him is truely painful. perhaps I shall never meet with him again. my spirrets seem uncommonly depressed. But he is in the hands of a mercyful God and there I delight to leave him. Oh Heavenly father in to thy hands I commit my beloved child. Oh protect him, be his gide, his shield and defence. Oh keep him from temtation and convert him to thy self, make him one of thy chosen vessels and prepare him to dwell with the[e] on high.

March 17 this day Austin sot out for Hanover with Adolphus Wheeler who will carry him as far as Keen.

August 25, [1817] this day Mr Hersey and Austin sot out for Hanavor to commensment. August 27, [1817] this day Austin had the degree of Batchelder of Arts confered on him at Dartmouth unevarcaty

1817* December 3 this day Austin sot out for Salem in the stage to take a school. God grant him wisdom frome above and may he be prospered in his school.

March 16 manday morning - 1818

*this Day my dear Son Austin sailed for Wilmington, N.C. in expectation of taking an Acadamy. Oh Almighty father take him under thy [pornesstat] care preseerve him. while on the warter, land him soft in his wished for haven. And when Separated from all his earthly connections wilt thou oh Heavenly father lay underneath him thy everlasting arms. be thou his guid his shield and friend, preserve his life; and may his health be precious in thy sight. may he be prospered in all his laudable undertaking. But above all grant that his soul may be washed in the blood of Jesus and may he be an insterment in the hand of God of doing much good in the world. Wilt thou grant oh Lord that he may be returned to us in safety. But if thou hast desired it otherways, oh grant that we may all be prepared to meet in Heaven.

December 23 1819 this day we have heard the malancholy news of our dear son Austin sickness. Oh Lord prepare him and us for what ever thou hast allotted us in thy providence. But oh our father if it be possible restore him to health if it can be consistant with thy will. But if thou hath other ways decided oh Lord have mercy on his pereshing soul; I besitch the[e] not to remove him from this world, till thou hath prepared him for thy self in Glory. Oh that his life and soul may be precious in thy sight.

January 10 1820

We have just received another letter from North [Ca]rolina from Mr Patrick with information that our dear son is still dangerously sick and has been since the tweveth of November and I greatly fear that he never will recover. My heart is rent with anxiaty. Oh that I could be with him in this hour of distress to watch over his sick bed would be a great consolation but I am denied that comfort. He is far from any in a land of strangers not one earthly connection to visit his sickly catch. But I have the consolation of knowing that he is with kind friends where he has every attention. But still my heart bled for him. Oh Almighty father have mercy on his perishing soul, if it be consistant with thy Holy will restore him to health again. But oh father if thou hath decided that this sickness shall be unto death, may we feel resigned to thy holy will in all things.

January 25

we have just received the glad tidings that our dear son Austin is better. Oh may we give God all the Glory for his loving kindness and tender mercy to us his unworthy cretures. Oh our Heavenly father grant that this sickness may be santified to us and to him for our Eternal good, oh that he may spend the remainder of his days to thy Glory.

Sept 3 1820*

four long years have alaps since I saw my first born son. Oh Charles where art thou, why so long in coming, my nights are sleepless and my days are filled with anxciaty on thy account. Oh my son what means this long delay. Some dreadful forebodings distress my mind. Some times my basey fancy picture you on a bed of sickness, some times inclosed in the arms of death, without a friend to close your dying eyes or intoom your mortal body - in a land of strangers where we shall never know what you suffer, something dreaadful must be the matter or surely we should hear from you. I know you would not willingly distress your anxious parents by neglect were you able to write. - what then could be the matter, what can we do but to commend you to that God who alone can preserve you from every ill and return you to us in safety. Oh Almighty father in thy hands do I commit my dear son beseching the[e] to protect him from every evil, grant oh our father that his life and health may be precious in thy Sight - and wilt thou grant oh Lord that he may return to us in safety, that our longing eyes may once more behold our beloved son. Grant oh our father that we may all live so in this world that we shall meet together in thy presence and spend a happy Eternity in singing praises of redeeming love for ever and ever.

June 16 1821

five years the ninth of April last since I saw my dear son Charles and one year the tenth of April last since we have had a letter from him altho we have written him ten letters!! We know not where he is nor where to direct to him. if he is still in the land of the living, oh cruel suspense, oh racking torture my heart is ready to burst with anxciaty for my beloved children. that one torn from me, one in Canaday; my second son in North Correlina, have not heard from him since last October, whether either of them are living or not God only knows. Into thy hands oh father would I commit them to the[e] praying that thou would wash there souls from every sin and prepare them to dwell with the[e] in everlasting Bliss. Oh our father grant that we may all be prepared to meet at thy right hand.

1824 Janary 25 my dear Son Charles come home to vissit us. oh the joy that we all fell at seeing him, but the thought of parting with him again is truely painfull.

April 17 Saturday morn this day my dear son Charles left us to go to Montreal, to part with him again to go so far from us great distance, not knowing when we shall see him again, is distressing indeed.

perhaps never, he has been gone eight years. We have enjoyed much in his sociaty since he come home. he is the same kind tender affectionate child that he ever has been; he is a dutyfull son an affectionate brother and a symathising friend. But alas the dearest friends must part. it is so ordered in providance that we must be sepperated, painfull as it is, we ought to submit to the will of god. Oh our father into thy hands would I commit my dear son, praying of the[e] to take him into thy care, lay underneath him thy everlasting arm, shield and protect him from every evil, may his life and health be precious in thy sight, he is thyne oh god by creation and I humbly trust by dedacation. oh our father make him thyne by sanctification, god grant that he and all my other dear children may be prepared to dwell with the[e] in thy paridice above.

April 17, -- this day my dear daughter Elvira has left to go to Danville to spend the summer with Mrs Hollister, oh that she may enjoy good health and be prospered in her school. She went in company with her dear brother Charles.

November, 1826

Elvira, my dear daughter E. has been to Salem to spend a few weeks with her Aunt Burly, has returned after an absence of two months; and as I humbly trust has returned with a new heart. She appears to feel the importance of religion, and is determind with devine assistance to spend the remainder of her days in the Service of her God and saviour. Oh father Lord of Heaven and earth wilt thou take her into the armes of thy everlasting love. Bless comfort and strengning her - make her duty plain before her. oh may she live a life of religion and help build up thy Kingdom on earth. and be prepared to dwell with the[e] in the realms of Eternal Bliss.

Febury tenth 1827 Saturday noon*

This day my eldest son Charles from Hawkesbury come home after an absence of more then three years. his health much better then when he was at home before. The meeting was truely painfull as well as joyfull, we have been called to pass through many trying sceens since we saw him last. our dwelling house was consumed by fire a few days after he left us. within a year from that time my dear sister Pierce died, July 9 1824.

July 30 1825

my beloved son Austin was taken from us by Death far from all his dear connections, in a land of strangers thier he languished and then he died. we shall see him no more in the land of the living. those trials caused a severe pang at meeting. although we rejoiced to meet with our first born son once more in the land of the living, he did not stay with us but ten days his bisness was such he could not leave home any longer. he was verry anxciuous to have Elvira go with him to stay one year. we concented to let her go, though not without a pang. She is verry dear to us all but she is gone with a kind affectionate brother that will do all in his power to make her happy. he is one of the kindest and best of children. his heart seemed ready to brake when called to part with his aged parents and brother and sisters perhaps to meet with them no more this side the grave; he expresst a strong desire to have us nearer to him. perhaps this may be, should our lives be spared a few years longer. God only knows. + my dear children left us

Monday the 19 of February, 1827

oh may the Blessing of Almighty God go with them. Grant oh Heavenly father that there lives and healths may be precious in thy sight. may they be a comfort to each other and may my dear sons be brought to know the Lord and unite together for promoting thy Kingdom, which we would ask for the dear redeemers sake.

May 1 tuesday 10 oclock 1827X

this day my dear son Zephaniah has left us for Hawkesbury in upper canady. this to us in our declining years is truly trying to our feeling, to part with our last and only son that could be with us to go to such a distance is almost inserportable, yes my dear son you are gone to a land of strangers, a kingdom not your own, where you will be exposed to many temptations, altho you will be with a dear brother and sister that will do all in there poweer to make you happy, yet you will be sorounded by a wicked world, but oh my dear son I hope and trust you have formed a resolution to live for Eternity to seek for an intrist in the dear redeemer and never to give your self any rest till your peace is made with God if this be your determination if you have resolved in the strenght of the Almighty and perservere you will succeed. May the presince of God go with you, may his peace rest uppon you. and keep you from all evel. and at last receive you to Glory.

Leicester january 1, 1828, tuesday morn

This day my dear daughter M. Has left us to go to Weathersfield to school to the semmanary to her unkle Emerson where she expects to stay three months with the leave of Providence. Oh may her health be conformed and may she get much usefull knoledge that will be usefull to her throught life, and improve the religion prevealidg she enjoys in that pious family for her Eternal good.

Oh our father who art in Heaven will thou grant her the light of thy countenance, give her peace in believing and may she adorn the glorious doctrine she has profesd and be an insterment in thy hands of doing much good in the World. May her life and health be be precious in thy sight and may she return to us in safety.

Janury 29

this day I had the misforten to fall on the Ice and brake my arm and put my rest out of joint while all my children were absent and brused my self verry much. But I found kind friends to take care of me and hope soon to be comfortable again. Oh what reason I have for gratitude to God for all his goodness to me in preserving me in an hour of danger and altho my wound are painfull yet they are doing well. Mr Herseys is health verry poor. a bad cought and seems to be failing.

Leicester Januery 1 1828, tuesday night

Thurty Six years this day since I was united to a companion worthy of my tenderist affections. Since that happy day, I have been called to mourn the loss of a dear and honerd mother, six dear sisters, a dear affectionate and much loved son, who died in a land of strangers far from all his mourning friends, the anguish still rends my heart. within a few weeks I have buried a dearX granchild Nancy Emerson Johnson by name. Sweet babe she is I trust in the enjoyment of her Heavenly father, She died November 25. 1827 aged thurteen months.

Many of my dear neighbours and dear friends have been called out of time into Eternity since that day, our dwelling house has been consumed by fire, Sickness and distress has attended us. While I am now writing my dear husband is on a bed of sickness and languishing, wheather he will ever regain his health, God only knows. But notwithstanding we have been afflicted yet we have great reason to render unceasing praises to God for his tender mercys to us for snatching three of our dear children as brands from the burnings

and making them heirs of Eternal glory as we humbly trust, oh may our hearts overflow with gratitude to the author of our beings for his goodness to us his unworthy creatures. grant oh our Heavenly father that they may adorn the glorious doctrine they have professed. and may they be instrumental of doing much good in the world. oh father of mercies wilt thou keep them from temptation and deliver them from evil, take them into the arms of thy everlasting love and Bless them and when thou has done serving thy self with them on earth, wilt thou receive them to thy self in glory which we ask for the dear redeemers sake who suffered and died that sinners might live. my dear brother Thomas Read of Montpelier and his only daughter and a number of nephews and neices have professed their faith in christ within one short year, fifty one has been added to the church in this town the year past (1827). Oh may we give God all the glory. to him it belongs.

March 15 1828 Saturday night

This day my dear daughter Martha has returned from Weathersfield from the seminary where she has been to school at the Rev Joseph Emersons for ten weeks past. oh how pleasant to have one of my dear children with me again. we have been truly afflicted this winter. Mr H. has been sick all winter a slow fever hanging about him, and a very bad cough is still very feeble, and in addition to this affliction, I fell on the ice and broke my arm on the 29 of January it is still weak and painful, I greatly fear I shall never have the use of it again.

March 20, we have been looking and expecting our dear children home from Canada for more than a month, we did hope to see them all three together oh what allotments I have made on once more beholding my five [six] children to gather once more in this world, but we have lately had had a letter that Charles can not come this season Elvira and Zephaniah are expected daily - perhaps we shall never meet with them again on earth one of my dear children are gone to the silent mansions of the dead. and we must soon follow. oh may we ever keep in view our great and last change and live prepared to die.

come home 22 March

March 24 Monday morn this day, 1828

+My dear son and daughter have returned from Canada. Elvira has been gone thirteen months the 19 of this month and, and Zephaniah almost Eleven, It was to us a joyful meeting after so long an absence from children we so tenderly love, but there is one left behind could he come with them, our meeting would have been doubly dear, I feel deeply for this dear son as he is again separated from all earthly connections in a kingdom not his one far from us, no dear parents brother nor sister to walk over him should he be on a bed of sickness, But we have this consolation that he is blessed with very many kind friends, that will do all in their power to make him happy. Oh that it may be so ordered that we may spend our few remaining days in the society of our dear children. were they less dutiful and affectionate a separation from them would not be so painful. Yet I fear I am not thankful to the giver of every good and perfect gift for his goodness to us in giving us such children, they are to us the greatest of earthly blessings. Grant oh our father thy Blessing upon them and make them heirs of Glory, and prepare us to meet at thy right hand in thy Kingdom above.

May 5 Monday morning, 1828

My dear son Zephaniah and daughter Elvira left us for Canada after a visit of six weeks. --- painful indeed to part with them in our declining years; but it seems so ordered in providence that we must be separated for the present, and wish to submit. oh our father which art in Heaven wilt thou grant that thy presence may go with them and rest upon them keep them from temptation and from all the snares of a wicked world. May 28, have received a letter from our absent children they arrived at their desired haven in health and safety. 5 May, Martha taken sick the day our dear children left us with a violent pain in her head face and ear to such a degree that we greatly feared it would

deprive her of her reason, She has considerable fever loss of appetite which has reduced her very low. She now appears more comfortable. oh that she might be restored to health again to praise the Lord in the Land of the living.

May 28, Election day

Martha gone to Worcester to spend some time with her sister, She has recovered her health so as to be able to ride out. may my heart overflow with gratitude to god for his goodness to those two dear daughters in restoring them to so comfortable a health after so distressing an illness. may they never forget his tender mercy to them.

Leicester September 16 tuesday morn – 1828

This day Martha P. Hersey was married to Mr Joseph Goddard of Grafton. They set out a journey to York in York state four hundred miles, may health and happiness attend them, and may the presents of the Lord go with them, keep them from any hurtfull accident and return them to us in safety.

Sept 21

we have just received a letter from Martha. She had arrived at Albany was well and pleased with her journey.

October 24

my dear daughter M. has returned after an absence of more than five weeks; their round was thirteen hundred and fifty miles, they are both in better health than when they left home. may we all give glory to god for his goodness to them in preserving their lives and returning them to us again in health and safety. Grant oh our Heavenly father that they may be blessed with health and peace. live to thy glory the remainder of their days, adorn the glorious gospel they have professed and dwell with the[e] through the boundless ages of Eternity.

Sept 16, 1829

one year this day since Martha was married to a worthy companion. She has become the mother of a lovely and blooming son, born the 15 of July [1829] their hearts seem to be greatly placid upon him. oh may they ever bear in mind that he is but a lent blessing.

My dear daughter [Thankful] Johnson is still afflicted with pain and distress unable to do any thing with her hand oh may she go to the great Phision of soul and body, feeling that thou dost not afflict willingly. May she submit cheerfully to what ever thou hast allotted her in thy Providence, whether it be sickness or health. and may she and her dear companion unite in praising thy Holy names for thy goodness to them. and may they have grace given them to train up their dear children for the[e], And wilt thou oh Heavenly father wash them from their sins sanctify them; and at last receive them to thyself in glory.

Hawkesbury September 13 - 1843

eight years this day my dear daughter Thankful Johnson was taken from us and dear family by death. She was an affectionate wife and a tender mother but I trust she is at rest, with her Saviour whom she loved in life and in death, her dear motherless children are much on my mind. two have I trust chosen that good port that will not be taken from them.

Sept 19 1830 Saturday night

we have just received a letter from Martha that her dear little Joseph lies at the point of death, Zephaniah and Elvira have set out at this late hour to go to Worcester (11 o'clock) dear dear child must he so soon leave us, sweet child my heart bled for him, oh Heavenly father if it can be

consistant with thy Holy will Spare this Bloming flower Bless the means that one used for his recovery, restore him to health again and may he live to be a Blessing to his parents and friends. and live to help build up thy Kingdom on earth.

December 26 1830 This year is almost gone, short in deed has it appeared, I have been deprived the priviledge of attending publick Worship in the house of the Lord more this year than any other since my marriage, by reason of sickness in my family for four months past my dear husband has been sick unable to go out, my own health not good a great part of the time, Mr H. is still verry week and low, we have but littl reason to expect he will ever be any better, oh father of mercys appear for him, and if consistant with thy Holly will restore him to health again. But if thou hast other ways decreed oh wilt thou prepare him for his great and last change.

January 2 1831 Sabbath night,

* (twenty persons died in this town the year last) another year is gone, another comunion past, and I have been again deprived the priveledge of communing with the dear people of God, by reason of sickness in my family. Mr H. has been sick for five months not able to go out and I greatly fear never will be again, thou oh Lord only knowest.

January 1 1832 Sabbath night

twenty persons have died in this town the year past. my dear husband was one of that number.

* January 1 - 1832 Sabbath night

forty years this morning since I was married to one of the kindest and best of husbands. thirty nine years and a quarter we lived together in love and harmony, ever affectionate kind and faithfull. But Death cruel Death, has cut the brittle thread of life and torn him from me; and left me alone to weep. but I trust I do not murmer; I feel that his happy spirret has assended to that upper and better world, where sorrow and sickness is unknown, oh Heavenly father prepare me to meet him in thy Heavenly mantions above, there to unite in singing praisses of redeeming love for ever and ever. oh father in Heaven grant that I may live for Eternity and be prepared to meet my judge in peace, whenever my sommons shall arrive.

Leicester November 6 - comunion day - 1831 Sabbath night

This day twenty one persons have been added to this church, my dear son Zephaniah S.M. was one of the happy number, his conucition of sin were deep and distressing he could not eat nor sleep, for many days and nights he seemed on the borders of despair, but it pleased God to appear in mercey for him and redeemd his soul from Death, and to put a new song in his mouth. oh Blessed be God for his unspeakable goodness in plucking another of my dear children as a brand from the burning and placing there feet on the rock christ Jesus, oh may I never sceace to praise God for his tender mercy to such unworthy creatures as we are. But still I have one dear son out of the ark of safty. my heart yearns over this dear son, oh our father in Heaven wilt thou have mercy on his immortal soul. He is thine by creation and I humbly trust by dedacation oh make him thine by sanctification, and may he live the life of the righteous that his last end may be like thears, may he be an insterment in thy hands & of doing much good in the world, oh that I may meet them all in Heaven, there to join in singing praisses of redeeming love for ever and ever.

Leicester November 9 Weddensday 1831 This day my dear son Zephaniah has left again for Canady to spend a few months with his dear brother oh our father in Heaven we do beseech the[e] to go with him, gard and shield him from every evel, keep him from temptation and from all the snares and vanaty of this vain world; may he ever bear in mind that he is born for Eternity that this is not his home; live soberly and godly in the world, remembering that he has given himself away in a

perpetual covenant never to be forgotten, oh may he adorn the glorious doctrine he has professed and be an instrument in thy hand of doing much good in the world.

November 29, This day received a letter from Zephaniah he had reached Canada in safety, but feels deeply the loss of the religious privileges that he enjoyed here, he is sensible he is exposed to temptation. Oh our father who art in Heaven, we pray that thou would, be with him and lead him in that strate and narrow path that leads to life Eternal, oh dispell all douds and darkness from his mind and may he walk cherefully the Heavenly rode rejoicing, may his life and health be precious in thy sight.

* Febery 22 - 1832 Wednesday night* this day my dear son Zephaniah returned from Canada in good health.

December 27 1831 received a letter from Zephaniah last tuesday with the dreadful news of the loss of Charleses house, by fire, it was shocking and distressing, having myself past throught a simalar trial but a few years ago, my nerves have not got over the shock yet, But we have reason for gratatude to God for his goodness to us, and to them in sparing their lives in the midst of danger.

This has been a memorable year to me; my dear husband has been taken from me by death, and a verry dear granchild, and many verry dear friends; I have indeed been afflicted, yet god has been mercifull to us. We are still on praying ground, and in the injoyment of many Blessings, God has poured out his spirrit in a wounderfull manner in this town this year, between seventy and eighty have joined this church at the two last commuions, and more it is expected will soon; God grant that the good work may increase.

Saturday night December 31 - 1831* fare well thou memorable year thou hast robed me of my dearest earthly friend, and left me a lonely being in the world, tottering on the verge of Eternity; I shall soon go down in sorrow to the grave my ardant prayer is to be ready to depart, and than wellcome [thou] grim tyrant Death. Oh Lord of Heaven and earth shine into my soul the light of thy countenance; [] my path down to the grave and may I be found with my lamp trimmed and burning [] at the grat and last day, father of mercyes grant my pertission, for thy dear sons sake.

June 25 1832

This has been a memorable year, the winter past extremely cold first snow fell the 20 of November quite deep and lay on the ground till March. many more severe snow storms during the winter, and extremely cold, the spring verry cold, windy rainy and backward, the 25 of May a snow fall that covered the ground, we have had several, frosts since that the mornings and eveings cold like fall, but little summer weather yet things verry backward. Verry sickly a great number sick with the measles some have died others have have had fevers all are left week and low. -- some are deprived of there reason. * That dradfull scourge the cholera, has got into Quebeck and Montreal, hundred have died with it already. the last news from Montreal there was five hundred new cases in a day, the most who have dyed. we have heard that it is in New York and Albany, we have every reason to expeck it will be here and throught the country. But the Lord rains let the earth rejoice, we are in the hands of a mercifull god oh may we humble our selves before him. our sins deserve his judgements, oh let us weep for our sins.

X July 1, [1832] we have jest received a letter from our dear son Charles at canada, the cholera has reached his borders not many miles from him, stores are shut, all business is at a stand, allarm seems depickured in every face, it is in deed a dreadfull day. I fear to here from Hawkesbury, lest this dear son has falling a victim, he is in the Lords hands and there I delight to leave him.

July 18, Wednesday 1832*

This day my dear sister Emerson has left me for Montpelier, V.M. to spend a year or tow with her friends there, if her life should be spared, her health is verry poor, and affliction has greatly deprest her, and broke her down; I feel that there is not much probabily of our ever meeting again in this world, we are both far advanced in life, she almost sixty tow and I am sixty four. Verry few live to this age. oh father in Heaven grant that the evening of our days may be spent more to thy glory then they ever have been, may we let the world go, and all its vanaties, and live for Eternity, may we both feel that we are neer the close of life, that we must soon bid adue to all earthly things, and appear before our judge prepared or unprepared. oh may we search our own hearts, watch and pray that we enter not into temtation, may we seek to know our masters will, and delight to do it, may we live like strangers and pilgrims on earth knowing that this is not our home, may we be fervent in prayer that we may be found ready when our sommons arrives. unworthy as we are, oh our Heavenly father wilt thou except of us and prepare us for the enjoyment of thy self in glory, this request I would ask in the name, and for the sake, of thy dear son Jesus christ who died and sufferd that sinners such as we might live.

"What have I done for him who died,
to save my guilty soul
How are my folleys multiplied,
fast as my minnets rool."

August 5 – 1832

We have had two letters from my dear son Charles at canady that dreadfull scourge the cholera is in all the towns round about him and many have died, but when he wrote last it was not, in the town where he resides, but prehaps before this, he is numbered with the dead, if he is still in the land of the living oh our Heavenly father appear in mercy for him, may his life be precious in thy sight but above all oh Lord wilt thou have mercy on his immortal Soul, prepare him for life or death, as shall Seem good in thy sight, and may we all be prepared for every event of thy provindance, be it what it may.

August 9 1832this day is a national fast appointed on the account of that deadfull scourge the cholera that is rageing in our land. we had a fast oppointed by a convention of minersters on the 19 of July on the same [ouation]. We have reason to expect the judgments of god will be sent appon us for our sins unless we repent and return unto the Lord and humble our selves before him.oh our father in Heaven wilt thou hear the united prayers of thy people this day answear and forgive our sins. and stay the plague that rage is amongst us, and may we be that happy people whoes god is the Lord.

November 4 Sabbath night - 1832

We have not heard from our dear son at Canada for many weeks when last we heard his health was feeble, he is sorounded by sickness and death on everry side. the cholera that dreadfull scourge is in his borders, sweeping of thousands round about him, many of his intimate friends are snatched into Eternity, he had been verry sick but was when he wrote on a recovery as he thought, but I fear we shall here that he is in a decline if living, oh that I could fly to him, perhaps I might do something to aleavate his anxious heart, Seperated from all earthly friends, no dear parrent brother or sister, to watch over his sickly bed, in a land of strangers far separated from every earthly connection, oh how my heart mourns for him, scarce an hour passes but my thought fly to to the abode of this dear absent son. But he is in thy hands oh Heavenly father, and there we would delight to leave him.praying that thou would take him into thy everlasting armes of love, and Bless him, keep him from temptation deliver him from every evil, sanctify him for thy self, make him a usefull member of society, and when his days are finished on earth wilt thou receive him to thy self in glory.

Sept 22 1843 Hawkesbury

This is my birthday - Seventy five years old this day, few live to this great age, and why I am spared god only knows, not because I am more usefull than others who have been taken in the midst of there days, but because thou Lord seeeth yet to spare me, not for any worthiness in me, for I feel that I have been but an unprofitable servent all my life, by reviewing my past life I can see nothing that I have done for the cause of my blest redeemer. How then can I expect salvation throught his merrits, yet I have a hope that my mountains of sins are forgivenand that I have an instrest in christ. god grant it may not be the hope of the hypocrit, I feel that my heart is deceitfull and above all things dreadfully wicked, and if I am saved it will be through the[e] the blood of Jesus that cleanseth from all sin. Grant oh father in Heaven that I may not be decieved if an[] not thy child I pray with my whoal heart that thou would make it know to me before it is forever two late, let me not go down to the grave decieved and deceiving others - awake me from my fatal security to see my own heart if I am decieved. and wash me from every sin purify and sanctify my heart and fill round it with love to the[e], oh Lord look in mercy upon me, keep me from sining against the[e], give me a meek and humble heart, - a heart to pray with faith, a heart to feel for others woes, a heart to pray for sinners, a heart to mourn for my sins, a heart broken and contrue such as thou will not despise, grant me thy presents the short time I have to live, and prepare me for that solemn hour when I shall be sommonsd to meet the[e] at thy Barr, grant oh Lord that I may be found at thy right hand, and the dear children thou hast given me, grant these my pertitions oh Lord I ask no more, but that I may watch and pray and live for that eternity to which I am hastening.

Hawkesbury August 22 wedensday night 1833 [22 Aug is not Wed]

I left my dear home on the 13 of this month and arrived at my dear sons the 22. had a verry pleasant jounny. Visseted my dear brother, and sisters at Montpelier, spent four days with them verry pleasantly, was treated with everry attention, and affectionate kindness from all our friend there that we could wish. I have long been wishing to visset this much loved son, I found him in the enjoymnt of health, pleasantly sitewated, a good house, and every thing comfortable, he was verry glad to see us, and we him.

Sept 22, I am this day sixty five years old and my daughter Martha Goddard thurty four. I can hardly realaiese that I am four hundred miles from my native home, in a kingdom not my own, in the place where my dear departed Elvira spent so many days of pain, and pleasure; painfull it was to her to be seperated from her parents and other dear friend whome she loved most tenderly, and yet she felt a pleasure in contributing to the happiness of a dear brother who was far from all his earthly conecions, she felt it her duty to come and do all in her power to add to his comfort and happiness, and we have every reason to believe that she did her duty faithfully as a christian and a sister. But she has gone never to return, none can feel her loss more thin her lonely widdowed mother, but can not wish her back, she is enjoying her saviour that was so dear to her in her dying moments.

Hawkesbury october 25 1833

this day went to St Andress [Andrews?] with my daughter Goddard, husband and child; went to see Mr and Mrs Wales those friends of our dear departed Elvira, dear symphatiseing friends I love them most tenderly. they mourned with us the loss of one so dear; for they knew her worth. munday morning, [October] 28, Mr Goddard and wife an my son Charles took the steamboat for Montreal, and left me alone I followed them with my eyes till they ware out of sight, and then the tears flowed freely; for thought I there in that Boat is all that is dear to me in this Kingdom, four hundred miles from home, a home that is indeard to me by a thousand tender ties. I sighd and cast a wishfull look towards my native land. then seated myself to the table, but could not eat; I Sot out for Hawkesbury, the roads were dreadfull, the weather extremely bad, snow or rain all the way home, this together with my parting with my friend, was almost insuportble, I arrived at my sons house in the afternoon verry cold and wet; took a bad cold, but am now comfortable, and have great reason for gratatud to

god for his watchfull care over me since I left my dear home, that I am now in the enjoymnt of health, surrounded with all the comforts of life, my dear son kind and attentive, nothing wanting but my dear absent friends and my good Mr Wilson company to make me as happy as I can wish to be in this vain world. But my thoughts often fly to that dear spot where sleeps my dear husband and beloved Elvira.

Hawkesbury November 6 Wednesday night 1833

my cold is no better, I have not been well since I come from S.t. Andress [Andrews?]. my cough is not hard, but I fear it will get sated, my cold seems to be on my lungs, no appetite, prest at my stomach cold and trembling, last night slept but little, pain in my left side and shoulder so that I could not lye on that side; the things my dear daughter Marther sent me from Montreal, in case I should have a cold, and cough, I have found use for already, dear girl she has done all in her power to leave me comfortable, and make me happy, but when sickness comes I feel that I am far from my dear, native home, from my dear daughters who know better what to do for a feeble mother then sons can. Oh how much I thought of my departed Elvira last night, in my wakefull hours, dear girl with what tender concern she watched over me in sickness and health, how anxious she would be, ware she with me now, lest this cold should end in a consumption.

November 10 Sabbath day verry pleasant, but I can not go to the house of the Lord; my health is not good, my cough some better, but pain in my side and shoulder the same; appetite poor; sleep but little last night, feel as tho I could not set up to day, drempnt much about my dear friends at home last night, my thoughts have been with our dear people and church who are now meet togeather to worship god in his house. I seem to see our dear Mr Nelson warning sinners to flee from the wrath to come, and be reconciled to god. oh I long to hear him pray how kind and friendly he has been to my dear family, while my dear Husband lay languishing on a bed of sickness he was often with us and when our dear Elvira was [] to the grave, how comforting wore his prayers, how consoling his conversation, shall I never see him more.

November 28 1833 Hawkesbury thursday night This day is Thanksgiving Day in my own native State, I am almost four hundred miles from every earthly friend except this dear son, forty three years I have been in my own town, and state, on thanksgiving day, three years ago I was surrounded by all my dear friends save this beloved son, he has not been with us for seventeen years on that day; But my dear husband my daughter Johnson husband and family, Zephaniah, Mr Goddard and wife, Elvira and dear little Joseph B. Goddard; out of there number three have been removed by death; my much loved husband, my dear Elvira, and sweet little Joseph; But I trust they are united in Heaven singing praisses and thanksgiven to the great. I am, there to dwell forever, while I a lonely sollatary mourner linger behind.* December th 6, fourteen years ago this day since my dear mother departed this life, and soared to the relms of Eternal Bliss. oh that I may be prepared to meet them, to part no more for ever.

December 22, my dear son absent to day, and I am alone but not lonesome. for several days I have been quite unwell, sleepless nights, restless and feverish, tungue coated, feel sick at my stomach a bad headake and dissiness in my head, so that I dare not go out much. at such time I think of home, yes home and friend are dear to me I sigh for the society of those dear children that are far away, my dear Mr Nelson and wife and other pious friends, it would rejoice my heart to meet with my friend in the house of god again, but wheather I shall ever be premitted two or not, god only know. Oh for a heart truly resigned to my Heavenly father in all things, that living or deing I may be the Lords, a heart of humble prayer I ask, oh that I may proress it.

January 1 wedensday - - 1834 Hawkesbury

Forty two years this day since I was married to a faithfull and affectionate Husband, but death cruel death has took him from me and alone I wander in this wilderness world, far from every earthly friend save one dear son, my own dear home is now disolate, no dear Elvira to meet me at the door, and welcome me with her cherefull countenance, no dear daughter to watch over my sickly couch and administer comfort with her soothing voice and kind attentions. No she is gone from me for ever, far far away her mortal remains lye [muldrin] in the dust, but her immortal soul, is now with that Saviour that was so precious to her in health, in sickness, and in the hour of death, yes I feel my loose is her infornat gain, I trust that she is now with her dear father; and other pious friend singing praisses of redeeming love; oh happy soul may thy dying prayer be answered. may thy death prove a Blessing to me. Oh that I may profit by this sore affliction. oh father in Heaven grant that I may live the life of the righteous that my last days may be like theres.

Janary 5 Sabbath day: This is commuion day at Leicester, last year on this day I with my son and daughter Elvira wore seated around the table of the Lord, with our dear pastor, and church, commerating the love of Jesus; but one of that happy number is gone to that world of Bliss, where she enjoys commuion face to face, where no doubts, nor trials; sin nor sorrow sickness nor death can never enter. Yes I seem to see her smiling countenance looking down appon us and beckning us to come and join her in songs of praisses to god and the Lamb. to part no more for ever, yes dear girl thou art happy.

January 19 1884 Hawkesbury, Sabbath night [not 1884, probably 1834]

We received a letter from my dear daughter Goddard directed to her brother Charles, dated January 5 Sabbath eve in which she says we have been to meeting to day heard two solemn discourses from our dear Mr Nelson, text afternoon: "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found." oh that I could have been there and heard our dear parstors, sermons on that instersing day, and sot around the table of the Lord with my dear brothers and sisters of the church. this I must not expect at present, perhaps never again, oh Lord grant that I may say from the heart, thy will be done. Oh father in Heaven grant me thy presents, where ever I am, wilt thou be with me and prepare me for the solemn hour of death, which cant be far distant. and may the few remaining days of my life be spent to thy glory. Oh may I ever bear in mind that my day is far spent, and Eternity is endless. oh father in Heaven be with me in life, and in the hour of death, and at last recive me to thy self in glory. 34 deaths in Leicester the last year (1833) and 30 the year before (32). our dear dear Elvira was one of the number last year, oh how little did she think that she should be numbered with the dead before the end of another June. She was there in useal health, dear departed girl thou art not forgotten no, nor ever will be by thy tender mother while life and reason remains, but I will not mourn as those that have no hope. oh no, altho I wander here alone I will not murmer, thou art happy, Blessed be god.

Hawkesbury, March 22, 1834* Three years this day since my dear husband was taken from me by death, how little did I then think that I should so long sorvive him, and wander so far from the spot that contains his precious dust, yes I am four hundred miles from that lovely spot where I have spent so many happy month and years, when sourrounded by my dear family, but oh how changed, my dear husband my son Austin my dear Elvira torn from me by death, my other children scatterd far away and that dear home left disolate, but it is the Lord that has done it let him do what let him do what seemeth to him good.

13 April, 1834 eight months this day since I left my dear native home but I have spent my time pleasantly, I have thought of my dear absent friends, our dear Paster and church of the religious privelidges I once enjoied, and which I am now deprived of, I have wept, but it was not tears of regret, that I come here or that I stade with this dear son. I felt it my duty to stay for a season and I have never regretted it, I think it has been a comfort to him, that I was here and could over see his domestick concerns, and be company for him. he is kind and affectionate, I have every comfort I

can wish, much time for reading and reflection, which I have improved. I spent the most of the winter alone as respects female friends, but I was happy, yes as happy as I can wish to be in this vain world. I have been a wonder to my self, alone separated at such a distance from every earthly friend but this dear son, I would ask my self why this peace of mind, why this weanedness from the world, and this submission to the afflictive providences of god towards me; but I could not feel that I was deceived oft seems peace within, to god be all the glory.

Hawkesbury April 13 1834

Why is my dear son so long in letting me know what he is a going to do, oh could he feel a mothers anxiety he would not thus delay writing, I thought once all was settled, and I should stay here if he came through the summer; But since I have heard of my dear daughters poor state of health I greatly fear she will go into a decline, dear woman she has been truly afflicted, for four months she has been watching over a sick child, and for many month before, taking care of her dear husband who had broken his leg and shoulder by a fall from a building, in September last, and is now hardly able to be about, his bodily health much impaired, - a few weeks ago she let a stick of wood fall on her foot, and hurt it to such a degree that when I heard from her last she could not go about any; it was much swollen and very painful, and her health otherways very poor. I shall feel extremely anxious till I here from her, if she should continue to fail, I should go aheadtly home, dear distressed woman surely she has been afflicted, oh Heavenly father appear in mercy for her, Bless the means that may be used for her recovery, and restore her to health again, oh spare her to her dear companion, children and friends if it can be consistent with thy Holy will, but if thou hast otherways decreed, that she will not recover, oh Lord prepare her and her dear family and friend for what ever thou hast allotted for them in thy providence, oh may She be prepared for her great and last change when ever it may arrive, Lord speak the healing word, and she will recover, but not as I will but as thou wilt.

Hawkesbury June 10 1834

A letter from my dear daughter that informes me that Death has again entered the dwelling of that dear afflicted family and taken from them a nother beloved daughter, six years and a half since they followed there dear Nancy to the silent grave, and now they are called to part with Calista Maria, aged ten, a very bright affectionate and intursting child and an excellent scholar, all who new her worth loved her, dear, dear child I did fondly love her, I seem to see her springing round me, in all the spriteliness of youthfull beauty, little did I think I should see her no more in the land of the living, but it is the Lord that hath done it, let him do what seemeth to him good.

As those we love decay, we die in part,
String after string is serverd from the heart.

I long to see those dear absent children, and grandchildren, and mingle my tears with theres, but wheather I shall ever meet with them or not, Thou Lord knowist. make me [wroolly] there, and oh give me submission to thy will.

Though in a foringn land,
I am not far from home:
and nearer to my house above,
I every moment come,

if I am a child of god.

Hawkesbury July 30 1834*

Nine years this day since my dear son Austin was sommoned to the Eternal world; yes his mortal body has returned to its native dust, but his immortal soul will live for ever far from me he languished and died. dear departed son thou art not forgotten by thy affectionate mother, oft my thoughts, revert to the sceens of infancy to [manhood], and to the last parting when we soon hoped to meet again; but He who orders all things wisely decreed it other ways, yet every pang of seperation is present to my vew, and the solemn news of thy departer from this veil of tears still ring in my ears, never while life and reason remains shall I forget that trying hour; Since that mournful day I have been called to part with my dear husband and a nother beloved child and many very dear friends. The Lord hath given and he hath taken away. Blessed be his name.

Sept 27, Satterday night

this is my dear departed Elvira's birth day - how much have I thought of her for a few days past; I have jest returned from St Andres. There was a pretracted meeting held there this week it commenced on Tuesday 23, and closed last nigh friday. four days, had good preaching Mr Taler, and Mr Gilmore, from Montreal two execlant preachers and two other ministers from neighbouring towns, and Mr Henderson of St Address, we had a solemn meeting, a few seemed convicted and felt that they ware sinners, but not many I fear. Oh thought I while setting there in the house of god whare our dear Elvira had spent many a lonely Sabbath.

how it would have rejoiced her pious heart (Sept 27 Hawkesbury 1834) could she have seen such exartions made for the converections of sinners and could have heard such preaching, this Blessing was denied her. Yet she injoyed much, with her dear christian friends in partickalor her canady mother, as she called her whome she tenderly loved (Mrs Wales).

January 1 1835 Thursday

Forty three years this day I was married to one worthy of my tenderist affections, but god has taken him home to himself, and left me a lonely widdowed wandering in a far country four hundred miles from my dear native home, and from the graves of my dear husband and beloved daughter; but thou art not forgotten, altho far away my thought often fly to that home where I have injoyed so much pain and pleasure. Dear art thou to me my dear friends, altho taken from my sight, yet I feel that thou art happy, in thy saviour love united in singing praisses of redeeming love, god grant that I may be prepared to meet you in that world of Bliss to part no more forever. Something seems to whisper me that I have enterd on my last year; if so, oh father in Heaven prepare me for Death, Judgment and Eternity.

Hawkesbury March 22 1835

Four years this day since my dear Husband was taken from me by death, four years he has been in the presence of his Saviour who was so precious to him in life and in death. I a lonely wanderer am far away from the dear spot that contains his muldering dust, But thou art happy, in the enjoyment of thy saviour and thy god. Oh that I may spend every moment of my few remaining days in preparation for my Eternal home; time flyes fast, my probation will soon be ended, I must soon appear before my god. may I be found at thy right hand, having on the weding garment. Oh Lord give me stronger faith, more ingagedness in the cause of christ, more fervency in prayer for the Salvation of Souls. take from me this heart of ston, of deadness and stupidaty, and give me a Humble broken and contrite heart, such as thou delighteth in, a heart to do thy will in all things. God grant my pertecition for christ sake; who died that sinners might live.

"Father what are of earthly Bliss
thy soviring will dinies
Accepted at thy throne of grace
Let this petition rise *

*give me a calm a thankfull heart
From every murmer free;
the blessings of thy grace impart,
and make me live to the[e].
Let the sweet hope that I am thine,
My life and death attend;
thy presence thro my journeys shine,
And crown my journeys end."

[Followed by a blank page]

Hawkesbury January 1 1835 Thursday

"Oh Blessed god it is to thine almighty power that I flee behold me surrounded with diffirculties and dangers, and stretch out thine arme and save me, oh thou that saveth by thy right hand all that put ther trust in the[e], This day do I solemnly put myself under thy protection; Let thy grace be sufficiant for me, and thy strength be made perfect in my weakness. I do resolve in thy strenght to live more to thy glory then I have ever yet done, to be more watchfull over my thoughts words and actions, to be more faithfull in reading thy Holy word more fervent in prayer for the Spread of the gospel, for the conversion of the Heathen, and for the Salvation of Souls, and as this may be my last year I have to spend on earth may I spend it in thy cause and to thy glory, Show me oh Lord, in what way I can serve the[e] best, make my duty plane before me, keep the door of my lips that I sin not, against the[e]. I have given my self my dear children, and all that is dear to me on earth in thy faithfull hands to dispose of as thou seeeth best. oh may it be a perfect surander without reserve. grant me strenght oh Lord to keep those resolves, nor go a stray from the[e], but watch and pray that I enter not into temptation. oh fill my heart with Heavenly love. I ask no more. Amen. (Sarah Hersey)

Worcester June 6 Satterday 1835

This day I arrived in Worcester after an absence of one year and ten months, I left my dear sons at Hawkesbury on the 26 of May with real regret, dear kind sons perhaps to meet with them no more in the land of the living: thou Lord knowest. My dear daughter [Thankfull] Johnson I found week and feeble but better than when my son left in the first of May, but I have my fears respecting her recovery, altho she is much incouraged has rode out for a forternit past which she has not been able to do for seven months before, June 18, my dear daughter grows weaker has rased blood for several days past feels that she has not long to live; looks on her sweet babe and other children and the silent tears run down her cheeks, had a verry interesting conversation about her children this afternoon, She often repeats how thankfull she is that I am with her in this trying time, and her only dear sister. 19 Doct Woodart and Green met to day to consult on her case, they think her case verry critacle case but not altogeather hopeless.-----

Janauary 1 1836

In looking at my last years resolves I find I have come short in every point. Oh Lord keep me this new year on which I have enterd from sining against the[e], grant oh father in Heaven that I may live for Eternity, grant me thy presents and fill my heart with thy love, let thy face shine appon me and I shall be saved. Oh father in Heaven forsake me not in my old age, I am now 75 years old week and feeble, grant me thy presences oh Blessed Saviour, throught thy merrits alone I hope for salvation. (1843)

Sabbath morn Hawkesbury January 1 1837

fforty five years this day since I gave my heart and hand to one of the best of husband, but he sleeps in death, almost five years I have been a lonely wanderer in this vail of tears; yes thou art gone my

dear husband, but I shall soon follow to the silent grave. God grant we may spend a happy Eternity together in the Blissfull mansions above, and join in praises of redeeming love, to part no more.

Worcester August 3 1837

Thursday night I arrived at Worcester after an absence of fourteen months in better health than when I left Hawkesbury. I have returned to this town to spend some time with my dear and only daughter. Whether I shall ever return to that far distant land or not is known only to him in whose hand is my life and breath. My day is far spent I can't expect to continue long in this veil of tears; my only desire is to be prepared for my last and final home. Oh God grant me thy presence fill my heart with thy love, keep me from sinning against the[e], preserve the souls of my fatherless children alive, I ask no more.

Worcester January 1 Saturday 1842

Fifty years this day I was married to one of the kindest and best of husbands; forty years I was blessed with his society, ten years I have been a lonely wanderer in this wide world, six years I have spent in Hawkesbury Canada, with my dear sons, three times have I been to that distant land, four hundred miles, six times have traveled this long but pleasant road, there in a land of strangers a kingdom not my own have I found many dear kind friends. There I have spent more peaceful and happy hours than in any other place since the death of my lamented husband and dear Elvira, soon after her death I left my dear house and home and have felt unsettled and nowhere at home since. I feel that lonely that aking void that nought on earth can fill, altho I have the kindest of children that do everything for me to make me comfortable and happy, many dear friends, good books to read, and time to read them, yet I am lonely, tho not alone. I feel that I have a friend far dearer to me than all my earthly friends, if I am not deserved, oh Father in Heaven grant that my hope may be founded on the rock Christ Jesus, that I may not go down to the grave with a false hope crying peace when there is no peace, and as I have entered on a new year may I resolve in the strength of the Lord to live more to thy glory than ever I have yet done, oh Lord give me grace and wisdom faith and love that I may serve the[e] more and better, and spend my few remaining days to thy glory, a heart intirely resigned to thy will in all things. oh Lord fill my heart with love to the[e], a heart of fervent prayer that I may pray with my heart for the cause of Christ and the Salvation of Souls, grant my petitions I ask no more.

Hawkesbury December 31 - - 1843[could be 1845]

Sabbath day night another year is ended in a few hours, oh my soul, how does thy account stand between the[e] and God. what have I done for the cause of Christ for the Salvation of Souls, what have I done, in have I grown in grace and in the knowledge of my saviour Jesus Christ, have I lived like a Christian have I not neglected known duty, and committed known sins, is not my heart cold and my affection placed on earthly objects, am I not too much conformed to the world, [] answer to much conformed to the world. 1846 a new year has commenced but I may not see the end and if so I may spend it as unprofitable as the last; We often exclaim oh this wicked world, nothing here worth living for; this is wrong, God made the world and all that is therein; and said it was all very good, he has given us every Blessing both temporal and spirritual that we can need, he has given us his Holy word and his preached gospol, that we can enjoy uninterrupted, and his beloved son to suffer and die; that we thought him we might live. what more could he have done, than that he hath [not] done. yet we murmur and complain, of this wretched wicked world; But the world is good, it is we who inhabit the world that make it wretched we misimprove the talent that was given us, and the Blessing we enjoy and not murmur with ingratitude. We are but [cumbury] of the ground oh Father in Heaven have mercy upon us, let not us spend this year on which we have entered in this cold and lifeless manner, but awake out of sleep and call upon our God, before it be for ever too late.

Hawkesbury Sept 22 friday - 1848 Lord I am this day four score years old!!! Yes I still live for thou Lord hath sustained me, to this great age. Bless the Lord oh my soul and all that is within me bless his Holy name for all his mercys to me, a Sinner.

Hawkesbury January 1 - Sabbath day - 1843!!

Fifty one years this morning since I gave my hand in marriage to the best of husbands, more then half a century since that happy morn; and it seemes but a few short years; forty years I enjoyed the society of my beloved husband, twelve years next March since the tirent death tore him from my armes, and left me a lonely wanderer in this wilderness world, seven times I have traveled this long rode from Worcester to Hawkesbury to vissit my dear children more then Six years I Spent with my Sons here, Since the death of my beloved husband and dear Elvira, here I feel more at home then in any other place, here I have many kind friends, and every need comfort that the most affectionate children can bestow on there feeble and lonely mother, - yet there is a void, a something that I can not discribe, an unsettled lonely feeling no where at home; this I know is wrong when I have the best of homes, and the kindest of friends.

January 1 1845 Wednesday Hawkesbury

fifty three years this morning since I gave my hand and heart in marridge to one truly deserving of my love; fourteen years I have been a widow; and a wanderer in this distant land, nine years...

Hawkesbury January 1 1849!![discrepancy between date and length of marriage]

This day fifty six years ago I was married to one I tenderly loved; but cruel death has taken him from me, almost eighteen years I have been a lonely wanderer; twelve years and more I have been in this place, But soon very soon I shall follow him to the silent grave. God grant we may meet in Heaven to part no more.

[Followed by a blank page]

Hawkesbury January 16 1844

yesterday I spent the [day] at my dear son Zephaniah, the Rev Mr Byrns [Bayne?] and Mr Wilks of Montreal was there. Rev Mr Wilks Baptized ther little son Austin Clarnce Hersey. He Baptised his other two Sarah and Elvira C. Hersey, there son was named for my dear departed son Austin. ----- Oh Lord grant thy blessing upon them, purify there hearts and sanctify them for thysel, and grant that there lives might be spared as a blessing to there parents to the church of christ and to the world. - Oh Lord wilt thou bless there parents make them faithfull to the souls of there dear children, give them wisdom patience and grace to train them up for the[e], pray for them without ceasing that god would bless them with his Salvation and make them his for ever.

June 21 Mr Bayn was ordained in the chapel. 1847?

our Mr Wilk of Montreal baptised my little grandson Albert K? Hersey. [could this be Wm Albert b.19 Aug 1845?] - Oh may his dear parents be faithfull, and prayerfull and train him; and all there children up for god.

Hawkesbury June 27 1849

Sixteen years this day my dear Elvira was taken from me by death to that Blest abode where no sickness nor sorrow nor death can ever enter, all tears are wiped from her eyes, then she has joined her pious departed friends, in singing praisses of redeeming love to the great I am. dear - dear daughter, how much I think of you in my feeble painfull helpless state, how much I need your watchfull affectionate symphising care, every pain seems to remind me of your ever watchfullness and attention, not a day passes but I mourn your loss, - I would not say loose oh no - I could not rob you of the Joys of Heaven, to dwell with me in this world of sorrows I feel when sleep forsakes me

that you are not far from me I seem to feel that you are hovering around me, this thought makes me happy, I feel that you are, I can not wish you back. my mind is peacefull and I am far from being unhappy. I have every attention and comfort, I need dear children that do every thing in there power to make me happy, my only desire is to be prepared to meet my dear children all in Heaven, oh that I may say at the Judgment day Lord hear am I and the children thou hast given me.

July 30 twenty four years this day my much loved Son Austin was taken from this world of pain sickness and sin, I humbly trust to a world where partings are unknown.

[Followed by 3 blank pages]

Hawkesbury December, 6 1843* twenty four years this day my dear and much loved mother departed this life, oh what a mother she was to every body a [pallon] of meekness, patience, charity fortatude, resigned to the will of god in all things. All her afflictions, which ware many She boor with Heavenly fortitude and tru submission to the will of god. She truly mourned with those that mourned, and rejoiced with those that do rejoice; oh Lord prepare me to spend an Eternity with her in Heaven, to part no more, I must soon bid adeau to all earthly sceens, I am now in my seventh six year - oh Lord be with me while I live, wash me from all sin, prepare me for death*

March 22 - 1844 thirteen years this day my dear husband was taken from me by death!! and I am still alive for thou Lord hath sustained me. Lonely feeble I feel that my time is at [largeted].*

June 27 - 1844 this day eleven years my beloved Elvira was taken frome by death, not a day has past but I have thought of her, and the kind affectionate care she took of me, her dying words sound still in my ears, "Don't mourn for me my dear mother. We shall soon meet again."*

July 30 - 1844 nineteen years this day my dear son Austin was taken form me by death. Still I live; for thou Lord hath sustained me.

March 22 - 1845 fourteen years this day my much loved husband departed this life for that upper and better world, where all is peace. *

June 27 - 1845 twelve years this day since my dear Elvira was taken from me by death! Dear girl she is seldom from my mind.*

1845 July 30 twenty years this day my much loved son Austin was taken from me by death - cruel death thou hast robed me of the most of my dear relations. *

December, 6 twenty six years this day my dear mother departed this life. 1855 [actually 1845]*

1846, March 22 fifteen years this day my dear husband was called to the world of spirits.*

1846, June 27 thirteen years this day my dear Elvira departed this life.*

1846; July 30 21 years this day, dear Austin departed this life, gone but not forgoton.

1847 March 22 sixteen years this day my dear husband departed this life.

[1847] June 27 fourteen years this day my dear Elvira C. departed this life.

(1847)[1847] July 30 twenty two years this day my dear son Austin departed this life!! and I am still her a lonely wanderer.

1848 July 30, 23 [years] Austin departed this life, dear son.[A page has been torn out at this point]

Great granfather William Brown came from London when yound, settled in Hadley & lived their till all his children were born, he was their when Dearfield was burnt by the Indians [1704 Jan or Feb] - He

Sarah Herseys children * Elizabeth Read Emerson
* Thankfull * Mary Read Emerson
Charles * Orin Emerson
* Austin John Read Emerson
Martha Park Eleanor Read Emerson
* Elvira Clarrissa * Charlotte Read Emerson
Zephaniah Swift Moore * Amous Emerson
 * Paulina Read Emerson

Lucy Emerson children
* two babes twins died in infancy

Brother John Reads children names

Thomas Read Emerson
* Mary Eleanor Read
* John Read
* Paulina Read - all dead

Sister Eleanor Read Emersons children
Nancy (she left but one)

* [the asterix may mean deceased]

Sister Clarrissa Pierce children names:

Luther Pierce born June 23 - 1804
Clarrissa Read Pierce born Decmber 17 - 1805
* Carriline Lucy Pierce born August 19 - 1807 - died August 18, [1835?]
* John Read Pierce born May 18 - 1809 - died March 6, 18031 [1831?]
Charlotte Read Pierce born July 7 - 18011 [1811?]
* Martha Read Pierce born May 18 - 18013 [1813?] died August 18 - 1841
Paulina Read Pierce born June 15 - 1815 -----
[Nohe] Praden Pierce born born August 28 - 1817
Frances [Robbins] Pierce born October 22 - 1821

Sister Paulina Burley's children names

Charlotte Read Burley was born August 23, 1811
* Maria Burley was born March 14, 1812
* John William Burly was born July 4, 1814
Susan Elizabeth Burly born May 22, 1816
* William Wilberforce [Burley] was born Sept 6, 1819
Paulina Eleanor Read [Burley] born Decmb 12, 1822
* Charles Burly was born August 12, 1827

Joseph Batcheter [Goddard], born July 15th, 1829, died Jan 20th, 1831, aged 15 months 5 days
[age wrong if dates right]

Joseph Calvin [Goddard], born Oct 7th, 1831
Edward Payson [Goddard], born Jan 30th, 1835

Children of Joseph and Martha P.H. Goddard

Children of my dear daughter Goddard, written by another hands, I am two week to write 1845
(Sarah Hersey)

* Mary [Frambell] Johnson born June 11, 1821 Monday morn

Charlotte Elvira Johnson born Sept 20 , 1822
* Calista Maria Johnson born August 26 1824
* Nancy Emerson Johnson born October 27 1826
Rodney A. Miller Johnson born April 27 1828 1880
Charles Austin Johnson born Sept 5 1831 died 7 June 1857?
Catista Maria Johnson born November 7th 1834

Calista M. died May 21 1834 in the tenth year of her age.
Nancy E. died Nov 28th 1827 aged 13 months

Zephaniah S.M. Hersey children names:
Sarah Amelia Hersey born September 18, 1837
Elvira C. Hersey, born April 1, 1840
Austin A Hersey born November 27, 1842
William Abert Hersey born August 17 or 19, 1845
Cornelia Maria Hersey born July 15 - 1848
Calvin [] Hersey, born Sept 28 1851
Edwin William Hersey, Sept 4 1853
Adelia Mary Hersey, April 20 1856

Hawkesbury March 24 - 1844

my dear daughter Goddard took a great cold had this influency in December last had a bad cough, got better, but took a fresh cold and has been failing ever since, her cough has stopped for several weeks, she don't raise any, has a tightness across the chest, a pain in her side ever since the commencement of her cold, short breasted no appetite feverish restless nights. - three weeks ago one of her breasts swelled a hard and continued to grow more painful, today Doct [Hurling] and Doct [] who has the care of her met to consult on her case. they opened the breast - it discharged a great deal of matter- we have a hope it gives her relief and that she may yet be restored to comfortable health. Thou Lord knowest what thou hast decreed in thy providence respecting thy dear and only daughter. Oh Lord if it can be consistent with thy Holy will to Spare her life for the Sake of her dear children who will be left alone in this sinful world without parents or any earthly relations near them.- oh father in Heaven Speak but the healing word and all will be well.

July 30 Tuesday 1844 this day my dear daughter Goddard has left us to return to her dear native land and quiet home. She came here August 26 - 1843, was here eleven months: came expecting to return in the spring when the Boat ran, but providance ordered it other ways; She was taken Sick the first of January, and was very sick through the winter, so that for many weeks we did not expect she would ever return to her home again, But god has been pleased in his infinite goodness to so far to restore her, to health that, she and children have commenced a journey of four hundred miles, her health is still very poor, the pain in her side has not left her, she is still weak and feeble not able to perform so great a journey. But it must be so. She must return

her heart has been rent with anxiety for her dear children, when she came she expected there would be a school here that they could go to but there was none, and, they have spent almost a year, in that which profiteth not, in this place where idleness reigns among the youth and of course wickedness. that their time here is lost time indeed. their being kept from school so long has greatly added to her other anxieties and helped to keep her low in body and mind. I greatly fear that the journey will be too much for her, but she is in the hands of her covenant god, and there I delight to leave her. he is the widows god and the fatherless; oh that I may trust in him.

August 2 friday my dear son Zephaniah has got home he kindly accompaned his sister to St Johns saw her on the Boat relieved her from all care till he left her, this was a great relief to her and to me.

Hawkesbury October 1840?

I have this day received a letter from my dear sister Emerson at Montpealier, she informs me that my much loved uncle William Park of Woodford Vermont died the 15 of March 1840. aged ninety one, he died in the triumph of faith, he profest religion at the age of seventeen, and adorned the glorious doctrines that he profest by a Holy life and conversation. his wife a very pious woman died four years ago, left five children, two sons and three daughters, all are profesing christain. He was Justice of the Peace, twon clarch, representeve to the general court, for thurty years, but age prevented his continuing longer in publick business.for two years before his death he was blind yet he did not murmer. He died with a consumtion suffered much yet not a complaing word escaped his lips, his son who has represented the court at Montpealier since his father left, says he never saw so happy a person as he was on his death bed, (Blessed are the dead who dye in the Lord. He was my mothers youngest brother and one we all tenderly loved. He was the last of her family I once vissited him with my dear mother at Woodford, I shall never forget the parting scene, my much loved mother has been dead 21 years, they never meet again, she died two years after we []. He was born in Northbridge Worcester county Mass. - married there his children all born there but one, he lived two miles from my fathers, he moved to Vermont and there spent the remainder of his days. He trained up his children in the way they should go, and they have not departed from it.

January seventh - 1827

Day four added to this church;

	July 1 Comuion day	November 4 comuion day
John P. Earl	Mrs William Denny	Mrs Nancy Gleeson
Elvira C. Hersey	Julyan Denny	William Kent
Eliza Denny	Adason Denny	Harriot P Watson
Amelia Denny	Marsha Denny	Eliza Watson
May 6, 1827	Mary Wheeler	Elizabeth Elliot
Elijah Warren	Lydia Warren	Jason Wood
Samuel Watson	Sally Beers	Laury Howard
James Smith	Harriot Brown	Susan Holding
Dexter King	Mrs Mary Upham	Samuel H. Kent
Merion Smith	Mary Haward	Mrs Mary Silveston
Hannah Smith	Lucy A Warren	Mrs Puffen
Adaline Harris	Mrs J Sargent	Abigail Holding
Sarah Haward	Mrs Asuby Hobert	
Almena Henshaw	Mrs Matthews	
Lucinda Denny	Sept 9 [comuion]	
{illegible} Watson	Mrs Lucy Green	
	Mrs Sally [cuttin]	
	Mrs Jo Whittemore	
	Mr Samuel Whittemore	
	Catharine Whittemore	
	Miss Elison Kant	
	Miss Sarah Ann Cutten	
	Miss Sarah Amand Watson	
	Mis Almina Bridges	

	Miss	
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Sept 10 munday 1815

My dear brother and his wife from Montpelier whome I have not seen for 19 years are now present and my sister Kimball that I have not seen for eleven years and a brother from North correlina that I have not seen for three years all meet here accadentially. My dear mother with another of my sisters all meet here today a joyful meeting indeed. It is probable that it is the last time that we shall ever so many of us meet with our dear mother again. -----I have only to lament that more of our time has not been spent in [conceiving] on the all important concerns of our immortal souls. God grant that we may all bee prepared to meet in the Blissful montions above.

* April 9 - tuesday morn 1816my eldest son Charles has sot out for canaday perhaps never to return. poor child little does he know the dangers to which he is exposed. never from home any before. exposed to temptation and [insinawation] of wicked and desineing men. the thought of his leaving us is almost insurportable at a time when I feel so little able to bear it. I have been sick with a fever for three weeks past, but thanks be to God I am so far restored as to be able to sat up and do some light work. Oh that I may render thanks to god for his loving kindness and tender mercy to me an unworthy creture.

Leicester Dember 31 Sabath day night

this day Otis Sprague and Catharine Denny were married in the meeting house before a larg assembly. They are agoing of on a mission among the Osage Indians [Oswego indians?]. Oh may they be comforted and supported through everry trial, and may they reach there desired haven in health and safty, and be an insterment in thy hands of doing much good in instrucking and converting the heathen.-----

June 22 - 1830 tuesday ten oclock

This day Edwin Watson son of Mr Robert Watson died verry suddenly. He was to work on the rodes four days of the week. Satterday night he complained of being verry tired had a bad headake; but was about and walked out on the Sabbath, rode two miles to singing meeting Sabbath night. Still compained of the headake on munday he was deranged, continued in great distress till tuesday ten oclock and died; poor young creture never new his danger, till he was sommonsed into Eternity. Oh may this sudding death be a sollomn warning to us all to be prepared to meet our god in peace. he was in his eighteenth year.

Sept 23 Satturday 10 oclock— 1815

A heavy rain with a terrible windas ever was known in this part of the world, blowd down houses and steeples of meeting houses sheer and hole woodlots, fences, chimneys we have not yet heard what damage is done in other towns.

Terrible indeed was the Hurricane in many parts of the country and in sea ports in particularly in Providence it was verry distressing a cost {illegible} of property lost and many lives lost. Oh what reason have we to rejoice that our lives were spared. Oh that terrible day may longrememberd by us may it serve to {illegible} us to prepare for the great and last day of judgment.

June 28 1818 had a terrible fright today at meeting we hard the cryes of some one in {illegible}out of the meeting house. Adeline Denny jumped into the well. She has been out of health and of {illegible} in her mind but had {illegible} comfort. She had been in {illebible}. It was too hard for her brought on a fever and derangfment. She screamed in dispare, her wish to put an end to her existence but she was taken out without being hurt. How it will terminate with her god only knows.

Sept 21 1829 Wedens night a severe thunder and lightning for several hours there came one continual stream of lightening fore brnes were struck and consumed with their contents {several illegible words} all four of them burning at once, we could see the flames here at the same time.

Doctrine of faith, or articles of belief.

Art. 1. We believe that there is but one God; the Creator Preserver, and moral Governor of the universe, a being of infinite power, wisdom, justice, goodness, & truth; the self existent and immutable fountain of good.

Art. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the old & New Testament were given by inspiration of God; that they profitable for doctrine, for correction, for reproof, and for instruction in righteousness; & that they are our only rule of doctrinal belief and religious practice.

Art. 3. We believe that according to the Scriptures the mode of divine existence is such, as lays a foundation for a distintion into three persons; the Father, the Son, & the Holy Ghost and that these three are one in essence, and equal in power and glory.

Art. 4. We believe that God has made all things for himself, that known unto him are all his works from the beginning, and that he governs all things according to the all-wise & holy counsels of his own will.

Art. 5. We believe that the divine law, and the principle and administratioon of the divine government are perfectly holy, just, and good; and that all rational beings are bound to approve of them as such.

Art. 6. We believe that God at first created man in his own image, in a state of rectitude & holiness, & that he fell from his original state by transgressing the divine command in the article of forbidden fruit.

Art. 7. We believe that in consequence of the first apostacy the heart of man in his natural state is destitute of all holiness, and in a state of positive disaffection with the law, character, & goverment of God, and that all men previous to regeneration are dead in trespasses and sins.

Art. 8. We believe that Christ the son of God has by his obedience and sufferings made atonement for sin, that he is the only redeemer of sinners, and that all who are saved will be altogether indebted to the grace and mercy of God through his atonement for their salvation.

Art. 9. We believe that although the invitation of the Gospel is such that whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely, yet the corruptness and depravity of the human heart is such that no man will come to Christ, except the Father by the special and efficacious influences of his spirit draw him.

Art 10 We believe that those who embrace the Gospel were chosen in christ before the foundation of the world, that they should be holy & without blame before him in love; and that they are saved not by works of righteousness, which they have done, but according to the sanctifications of the spirit and belief of the truth.

Art 11 We believe that those who cordially embrace Christ, although they may be left to fall into sin, never will be left finally to fall away & perish, but will be kept by the mighty power of God through faith unto salvation.

Art 12 We believe that there will be a general resurrection of the bodies, both of the just & of the unjust.

Art 13 We believe that all mankind must one day stand before the judgment seat of Christ, to receive a just and final sentence of retribution according to the deeds done in the body; and that at the day of judgment the state of all will be unalterably fixed & that the punishment of the wicked and the happiness of the righteous will be endless.

Art 14 We believe that Christ has a visible Church in the world, into which none in the sight of God but real believers, and none in the sight of men but visible believers have right of admission.

Art 15 We believe that the sacraments of the New testament are Baptism & the Lord's Supper; that believers in regular Church standing only can consistently partake of the Lord's Supper; & that visible believers and their households only can consistently be admitted to the ordinance of Baptism.

The preceding articles of faith we believe are taught in the Scriptures, and properly expressed and explained in the Assembly's shorter Catechism, of which we approve, and which we consider as comprising the doctrines of grace, and which ought to be learned & understood by all; & in which all who are young ought to be instructed by those who have them under their care.

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Form of covenant.

You do now in the presence of God and of men avouch the Lord Jehovah, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost to be your God, the Supreme object of your affectins and your chosen portion forever. you cordially acknowledge the Lord Jesus Christ in all his mediatorial offices, Prophet Priest and King as your only Saviour and final judge; and the Holy Ghost as your sanctifier, Comforter, and guide. You humbly and cheerfully devote yourselves to God in the everlasting covenant of grace; you consecrate all your powers and faculties to his service and Glory; and you promise that through the assistance of his Divine Spirit & grace you will cleave to him as your chief good, that you will give diligent attention to his word and ordinances, and to the observance of his Sabbath; that you will seek the honor of his name & the interest of his kingdom; and that henceforth denying all ungodliness and every worldly lust you will live soberly, righteously, and godly in the world.

You do now cordially join yourselves to this as a Church of Christ, cordially engaging to submit to its discipline, so far as conformable to the rules of the Gospel; and solemnly covenanting to strive as much as in you lies for its Gospel peace, adification, and purity, and to walk with its members in all memberlike love, faithfulness, circumspection, meekness and sobriety.

This covenant and articles of faith ware copied from one Mr Conkling gave me before my first child was Baptised in 1793. (S.H.)

Copied from a paper he gave me in this book some years afterwards by my little daughter, to preserve it, as it it was much worne.

The copying of some letters writen by the Rev Joseph Emerson of Beverly to his wife Eleanor Emerson, when at Leicester with her friends for her health.

She arrived at Leicester June 6 - 1808 - with her Husband he returned and left her in hopes She would regain her health.

She returned to Beverly the seventeenth of July - but finding her health was not so good as it was at Leicester she was advised by friends and Doctors to return to the country. She accordingly did with her husband the 25 of August and died the Seventh of November 1808.

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Letter first - Beverly June 11 - 1808

Beloved companion

I arrived at Word with rather a heavy heart. My aunt was abundant in infussing her earnest wish to receive a viset from you at Word - and said she should visset you at Leicester if she found you was not likely to visset her - I told her she might expect to see you at Word if you should find your self able.

a considerable part of the way to Framingham I felt feeble fatigued & dejected. I arrived at father Eatonis about sunset found Rebakah returned, She left Luky at Hollis, who will proverbly come to Beverly in a few weeks - yesterday I felt considerably better, inquired at Boston, and found that the account of Sisters Marys Death was taken from Southend paper - I arrived here last evening found all our friends well Charlottee thinks her health rather better than when you left us. With regard to my own health I feel considerably encouraged, I was less fatigued then usal last night. I feel better then for three months past.

O may I be enabled to devote all my srenght to the best of purposes in the best way. My humble solisistude is respecting your health it is my earnest wish and prayer that your joornny and visset to Leicester may prove beneficial. Dearly Beloved spare yourself as much as possible refrain from all anxiety as for as the Lord. O let us pray without ceasing for each other and for our beloved babe. Signify when & how you wish to return & I will exert myself that you shall not be disappointed. I wish you to stay as long as you may deem it necessary for the promotion of your health and happiness and not a moment longer. I never exert myself more cheerfully than when ingaged to promote your health and comfort. For such as object the expense of a few Dollars seemes a trifle scarsly worth naming, - If you think it best for me to come to Leicester after you do not hisatate to inform me; or if you think it best for me to meet you at Framingham say it, I have received a long and good letter from Sister Clarrisa which I shall answer as soon as I can.

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I hope you will not undertake to write to any Body but your husband, and not go beyond your strenght in any thing. I do not think of puting up a note for Mary Death till your return unless you deem it expedent, I shall board at Sisters Lovetts till your return. Respects to Maam and love to our dear Brother and Sisters - it may be that Paulina may Recover and Glorefy god on earth. - your lover and husband - (Joseph Emerson)

Beverly June 14 - 1808

Dearist companion Some interisting events have taken place in this town since you left the town last Saturday Mrs Dilke has become the liveing mother of liveing and healthy child [Servernel] Death Mr [blank]

Brother Kimball spent the last Night hear all our friends well at Peacham - he brought a letter from Nancy. - (E)

I am more encouraged about my health. None of my people appear to be displeased that I went with you to Leicester. Even Brother S...h is inclined to believe that I am better - their seems to be a general solisatude for your health. May prayers for your restoration and long [contuisardtace] be graceiously heard and answered. - I am exceedingly desirous to hear from you - I study with great Solissitude tho my heart is much at Leicester

I hope the consideration of a few dollars will not prevent your going to Enfield if you are able and desirous to go. May the richis of Blessings rest apou you and our dear little girl that I love with the greatis affliction and constancy - your affecton Husband. - (J. E.)

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Beverly June 17 1808

Dearist of all Earthly connections

I have jest received a letter from the well known hand that was given me in marriage. The pleasing emotions it produced I shall not attempt to describe I had felt perhaps to much solisatude concerning those friends who seem dearer to me then life - in whome my heart is possibly to much bound up. May the father of mercies take you into his holy keeping cause the light of his countenance to shine into your soul - give you to rejoice with joy unspeakable. The retoration of your health appears so excedingly desirable that my present solisatude is not worthy to be mentioned, indeed I am comperatively happy more happy then perhaps you can easaly imagine while so far from one so dear. I have long been exerciseing my self to submit with the greatist possible cheefulness to the will of God - in the absence of our lovely Babe I am consoled with the thought that she is safter thear then she would be hear - it contuiners verry sickly hear among children I rejoice to hear Sister Burly is better my health conturers better - so that I am able to attend to my catechisms. Lukey Eaton has not yet come to Beverly, I see no suffecoient reason for your returning So long as it appears to be for your health and happiness to stay their. Every body seems to be inquiring after you with much solisatude, you can best determin how long you can bear the absents of your husband. I have writen you three letters since I saw you besides this it is possable you have not received them I will mention some verry interesting things contained in them - it is possable you yet behod the face of our Sister Mary in the land of the liveing. She has returned with her husband. Mrs [B]llingwood is well often mentions you with high assureanc of affection and esteem.

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She says she never wanted to see you so much in life - May you enjoy the richis of Heavens Blessings both temperal and spiretoul O may you many years enjoy a kind tender and vertuous husband in your most affectate.

Joseph Emerson

Beverly June 23 1808

Dearly Beloved

Nothing verry remarkable has ocured since my last My health continous increasing; as also my desire to enjoy the smiles and concersation of my wife and Daughter, who seem more and more

nessary to my happiness. If I felt as feeble and langued as I did a few weeks ago I know not how I could endure your absence. But I am now able to persue my studies with no small satisfaction. I would not indulge a moments impatince for your return; yet to tell you the truth the time seems long verry long since we parted at Leicester. I have proceed with catechism more

more rapidly then I done anticsapate I shall be able to finish in a few months - I am more and more convinced that my time in writing it will not be lost that it will be profitably spent. Even tho the work should never be published I know not any way in which I could study the scriptures to more advantage - My dear Eleanor when you pray for your husband remember to commend the accomplishment and usefulness of this little Book to the great disposer of events. Tho I go to the post office every day except Sabbath, with all the solisatude of a lover and a husband, yet I have not received but one letter from my Eleanor, while I have written five But I do not impute the least degree of blame. I conclude you are unable to write, or find it inconvenant, or that your letters have miscared I can no more doubt your disposition to write than I can doubt my own to receive your precious communations. I am perfectly satisfied with my entertainment at Mrs Lovats and trust I am not burdensome to her. My circumstances are as pleasing as can well be conceived of while my other self & my an dear Daughter

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are absent. Mr [Juets] health is still verry poor. I fear he will not be able to perform much more ministeral labours. I conclude this letter will be most likely to meet you at Leicester. I you unable to write request Brother Burly to favor me with a few lines. There is much inqueeray respecting your health and Sister Burlys Love to our worthy parret Brothers and Sisters Most sincerely yours.

Joseph Emerson

Beverly, July 1, 1808

Endeared companion a few hours ago I received your thare letter of June 3. It exceedingly rejoiced my heart. I hardly dared to antisapate that you could give me so much encouragement as to hope that your health is a little better;. Your health and happiness are to me Every day more and more interesting. I hope I have been enabld to pray for you in faith and our dear babe with Some degree of fervor, I have neglectd writing to you for a week past because I thought you would leave L. before a letter could rach you. Last evening I could repress my stronge expectations of seeing you. Now I have but little expecttatoins of your return till next week. And yet even while I am ingaged in the indearing imployment of writing to my love, I can not sit still and hear a chaise come down by the Chapel. I find my self out my chair almost before I think of it. But the rapture of beholding your return appears a small Blessing in comparison with your restoration to a comfortable degree of health. My lovely companion I must again repeat my earnest request that you would continue as long at L[eicester] as you think it is condusive to your health; and happiness To be able to cherish the hope that your gaining, tho but littel affords me almost as much present delight as it would to see you. Lay asside all anciaty and endeavour to regain your health.

My health is much as usual; except a little debilatated by excessive heat. But I must hastily seal my letter without reading it or it will not go the next mail. May the richis of Blessings be showered upon you. Yours with gratis sinceraty and conjugal love.

Joseph Emerson

To my dear Eleanor

Beverly July 2 Saturday 1808

Beloved companion

Tho it is nearly night Tho under peculiar necessity of studying, yet I can not compose my feelings to apply my mind to anything untill I have writing a few lines to the dearsist of woman. Brother Burly has safely returned and brought your letter of last Wendesday. I have read it and red it with perculiar interist. If it will conduce to your health and happiness and serve to prolong a life to me inexpressably precious I could freely consent to the solatude of several weeks longer. But when you mention your absence from another consideration - when you speak of yourself as a "clog and a dead weight to my usefulness" this is an [orgerment] I can by no means admit as of any weight. Be assured, my Dearist Eleanor you misjudge greatly misjudge in harboring such a sinterment in this matter. Surely no person can judge so well as my self. My progress in my catischism since my return is to be ascribed under providence wholly to the Superor Degree [of] health and resolation with which I [have] been onabled to ingage in it.

I have not a shadow of a doubt that [I should] have done at least as much had my dear [] Friend been by my side proverbly more. I [fear] I have said to much in favor of your staying at L[eicester]. Be assured, you would not hinder my progress in study. Your indearing concersatin has greatly refreshed my spirits and I hope will yet return - unless it is clearly for your health for you to continue at Leicester. Scarsly any consideration could induce me to consent to your staing a week longer. I fear I have not long to enjoy your Dear Dear Society on Earth O that we may be prepared to part no more. If we may be permitted to dwell together a few years more, or a few weeks on earth I hope we shall be able to live more as becometh Christians - I feel affrad to have you set out with Sister Burly - if it is [covevant] for maam to come with you, I will go after you - I must see you within a fortnight. If you conclude to stay several weeks longer I will vissat you as soon as possable Dear wife do not let this letter make you uneasy, I feel much more tranquil then when I began

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Monday being July 4 [1808]

I have spent the week in preparing a sermon from Ex 15-3 Doctrin The Lord is a glorious warrior!
Love to all our dear friends fare well me dear wife.

J.E.

Beverly Thursday July 12 1808[the date or the day of the week is wrong]

Most engaging companion, how was my soul infused and delighted with your most interisting communacations of July 7. The news was the news proved better then I had dared to anticapate. My soul arose to God. "O thou that hearist prayer" thou hast heard thou hast graceiously answered my earnist petitions for my beloved wife." I hope and trust my Love that I have lately been enabled to plead with God for your bodily and sparettual health, for your temporal and eternal interest, with more engagedness with more satisfaction then ever I was for any other person, than ever I was before for yours. But the restoration of your health and long continuance of your life seemed to be Blessings to great too endearing for one unworthy wrteh to anticapate. And yet I have prusumed ask this of him whoes mercis are infinite, who giveth liberalley and upbraideth not. He has preserved your precious life alrady much longer then I dared to hope when he made us one

and I know he is able to preserve us long long to each other, and do for us exceedingly above all that we can ask or think unto him be glory throughout all ages.

My dear Eleanor, I sensibly feel your absents every day. It seems an age since I saw you; and yet I am not dejected, I am not melancholy, I am not alone. I trust my Heavenly Father is with me, and gives me to enjoy intimate and precious communion with him from day to day. O ardantly I long once more to unite at the throne of grace with my lovely Eleanor; with one heart and increasing fervor to plead for ourselves, our lovely babe, our parents, our Brothers and Sisters - Both natural and speritual - that the Kingdom of God may speedaly come and the world rejoice in Immonarets Glory. O that we may be enabled hearafter to live more devotedly and to walk more humbly with God. O that we may be the happy insterments of qualarfiing and edefying and comfering the friends of Jesus and bringing many from the bondage of Satan to the Libaty of christ. Dear Eleanor let us not be discouraged. Let us

pray without fainting, without ceasing. O let us [] mightly to him, who, has all hearts in his hand, who is more ready to give the Holy Spirret then earthly perrents are to give good gifts to there children. Your verry tender and affectionate husband

Joseph Emerson

Beverly, July 12, 1808

Mrs Eleanor Emerson, Leicester

The Revd Mr Joseph Pope departed this life on thursday the nineth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and twenty six, aged seventy nine years. A faithful minister of our Lord Jesus christ. he lived to a good old age and has gone to receive the reward of his labours. Blessed are the dead that dye in the Lord. May 14 1833 tuesday morning at three oclock My dear and much loved brother the Rev Joseph Emerson departed this life, aged

after a long and distressing illness which he bore with christian patience, verry happy in his mind, feeling that his work was done, and well done, and that to dye, to him would be infernite gane, but to his dear daughter Nancy what a loose. Dear girl, she is left alone indeed now, her dear father and mother both gone to the silent grave. But her Heavenly father in whome she trusts will take care of her.

January 19 1810 a terrible cold day one woman and three of her children frose to Death going to one of the nearist neighbours in Vermont State.

January 25 1810

a dreadful disorder broke out in [Dannys] called the spotted fever it swept of a great many of the in habentents of the town in a verry sudden and dreadful manner, some in 4 hours, some nine, some twelve - it has spread to all the adjoining towns.

Decmber 24 Tuesday 1811

[Ariel] Jones, son of Phineous Jones frose to Death going from his unkels to his school house about two miles in a teriable cold storm, and was not found till Thursday after noon when braking the rode covered up in the snow, a solomn sight indeed - his father belonged to Spencer.

June 1812 War declared by congress agains Great Briton.

April 11 - 1825 moved to the house once owned by my dear mother, a place very dear to me. I hope I shall not be obliged to move but once more till I move into my grave. Oh may I be prepared for all that is allotted me in the Providence of God.

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1st Epistle to the Thesalonians 5:19
"Quench not the Spirit"

The Holy Spirit sustains an important agency in the Salvation of sinners. He moved the prophets and holy men of former times, to proclaim those messages of Grace, contained in the word of God. Sin has rendered the human heart so insensible that it remains unmoved when the unspeakable joys of Heaven and the miseries of hell are unveiled before it. Amid the wide spreading desolations of the flood, or the storms of vengeance on the cities of the plain, the heart of man would not wake up from the deadning influence of sin. Nor did the voice of God, with all its dreadful authority, attended with the thunderings and lightnings of Sinai, rouse it from its deep repose. And the experience of all generations shows that the human heart is entirely benumbed with sin. But the Holy Spirit moves this heart of stone, convinces man of his sinfulness and danger, makes him feel that he is lost, and points

(2)

[to] the atoning blood of Christ. Indeed it [is] the [p]eculiar office of the Spirit "to reprove the world [of] righteousness, and of a judgement to come." He alone leads the penitent sinner to Christ, and gives him those glorious views of a Saviour, which fill the heart with joy unspeakable.

This same Almighty Agent, who commences this work of sanctification, carries it on unto perfection. It is his office to purify the believer from all the corruptions of sin. He gives divine truth a penetrating and transforming power, he attends the dispensation of Providence with a sanctifying influence, and thus makes all things promote the holiness of Christians. He kindles their desires, gives them a glimpse of the infinite perfections of God, and disposes them to live near the throne of Grace. In a word so important is the agency of the Holy Spirit in mans salvation, that the Scriptures represent it as his peculiar work. Christians are said "to be born of the Spirit." They are served by the washing of regeneration

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and the renewing of the Holy Ghost." It is the Spirit who enlightens, strengthens, leads a[nd] purifies them. He [evids] in their prayers, and [makes] intercessions for them with groanings which cann[ot] be uttered."

The Scriptures set faith, the operations of the Spirit by various representations, often by allusions and figures. Thus in the text "Quench not the Sp[irit] an allusion is made in which the Spirit is compared to fire. The effect of fire on various substances is to refine and purify them; thus with the Spirit, he purifies a corrupt heart. Again, fire may be extinguished; so with operations of the Spirit. This is the [sent] to which the text refers, and it will be my object in this discourse to show;

I. How the Spirit may be quenched, and
II. The consequences of quenching it. Fire may be quenched in three ways

1. by removing all combustible materials
2ly by burying it in the ground, and
3ly. by pouring water upon it.

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[To ke]ep up the parallel, I shall arrange the various [] in which the Spirit may be quenched, into [three] classes;

[1.] by removing or neglecting the means by which the [Spir]it operates.

2nly by plunging into worldly cares and pleasures, and

[3rly. by] indulging in sin.

Tho the salvation of sinners is called the peculiar work of the Spirit, still, this work is carried [out] by a diligent use of the appointed means. Search the world over, and you will find scarcely [a] single conversion where there are no Bibles, [] heathen grope their way in sin and []hatchedness till the stumble upon the dark mountains of death, or till the light of revelation shows them how to escape from [] the thralldom of sin. Philosophers, who have investigated the secrets of nature, and shed a flood of light upon much that was obscure, never ascertained

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what was mans condition, or how he might be rendered forever happy. Their anxious speculations, their wisdom and learning were not chosen as the appointed means of saving lost sinners. But the word of God, as revealed by the Spirit, was appointed to accomplish this ground work. Attended by the divine influence, it has been, and ever will be "quick and powerful and sharper than any two edged sword, [piercing] even to the dividing asunder of soul and Spirit, and of the joints and marrow.

Let the Bible then be removed, let the hand of infidelity commit it to the flames or degrade it to a common level with mere human productions, and the grand instrument used by the Spirit, in accomplishing the salvation of man is destroyed. Or, let Bibles be multiplied and spread over the world, still if they are neglected, if the truths they contain are not proclaimed nor read, the grand weapon of the Spirit is thrown away, or if these truths are divulged and read

in a careless inattentive manner, the Spirit will be grieved away. Yes my hearers, when you entirely neglect divine truth, when you hear or read it in a formal way, remember you quench the Spirit and harden your heart.

A careful observance of the Lord's day is peculiarly adapted to promote the salvation of man. Its hours are to be consecrated to God - all worldly cares are to be dispelled from the mind. Divine truth is to be made the subject of serious contemplation.

The Christian on that day, is often favoured with those glorious views of his Saviours, which humble him in the dust, and rouse him to greater diligence in his Master's service.

Often have careless sinners too, while attending divine worship; been made to feel that they were poor, blind, miserable and wretched.

Let this sacred day be profaned, let a man dust off all restraint, wander in the fields, and fill his mind with the concerns of this world.

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he disobeys God quenches the Spirit, and bars his his heart against all its saving operations.

Let a man spend the Sabbath in indolence and sleep away its consecrated hours, or let him attend its ordinances and duties in a sluggish manner, and he will compel the heavenly Dove to find a resting place, in some bosom more susceptible of its gentle influences.

Prayer is another means which the Spirit uses to promote the salvation of sinners. This is the only way by which fallen man, while in the body, can come into the immediate presence of God. While the creature thus approaches his creator, he sees his dependence, his ingratitude, his pollution and his criminality. There he confesses, and there the Spirit makes him feel his sin and while imploring pardon, he resolves, relying upon divine assistance, to depart from all iniquity. Thus he receives communications of divine graces and invites the Spirit

to dwell in his heart. In this way, the Christian feeds on Angel's food, - gains strength to resist temptation - and advances in holiness, till he finally stands on Mount Zion above - In this way too, many an impenitent sinner has been made to feel his wretchedness, and to cast himself upon the mercy of God, - crying "Lord save me or I perish."

If there is a place in the world where the Holy Spirit meets the children of men, and impresses their minds with eternal realities, it is in the solitude of the closet, while they attempt to commune with God and their own hearts.

But if you neglect prayer you say to the Spirit depart from us, and bar your hearts against its influences. Meditations on religious subjects also, is often attended with the influences of the Spirit. As a general thing the more any truth is impressed upon the mind by serious meditation, the more it will interest our feelings.

This is peculiarly the case in religious subjects [I have known] impenitent sinners, who had

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lived many years in a criminal indifference towards all that was sacred, and who, being urged to think of their condition, and what God had done for them; have turned aside for meditation - wept in view of their sins, - they prostrated themselves before God, and implored his mercy, till the Saviour appeared precious and altogether lively.

By seriously meditating on divine things, the work of creation and the dispensations of Providence, we open our hearts and invite the Spirit to dwell in us. But if we turn away from the truth, and embrace error, if we close our eyes upon the works of God, if we refuse to meditate concerning the author and design of the events of Providence, we quench the Spirit, and rush blindly towards endless wo.

When disease enfeebles our dear friends, or, death spreads its cold chills over them, if we refuse to meditate upon these solemn and affecting events, we quench the operation of the Spirit.

Again, religious conversation is frequently attended with sanctifying influences. How often has the sorrowing Christian pilgrim been revived and quickened by a few words from a pious friend! How often too, have sinners been made to tremble, when the Christian privately showed them their lost state pointed them to the cross of Christ - and urged them to flee from the wrath to come.

Neglect these means of grace, and you say to the Spirit depart from us.

Finally, we remove the means by which the Spirit operates, by refusing to comply immediately with his holy suggestions.

All who live where where the light of the Gospel shines, have sometimes a peculiar seriousness of mind; the delusive glare of earthly objects fades away, and eternal realities open before them. In the silence of midnight - in the raging of the tempest - and even sometimes in the midst of sport; or the hurry of business the mind is fixed upon

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God and divine things - and sinners are made to feel that all is not right. Then the Spirit whispers within "prepare to meet thy God." He points out some important duty - he urges to immediate repentance.

I appeals to your consciences my hearers, have you never felt these secret operations of the Spirit? Have you never, while hearing a pungent sermon - while in the midst of a revival; or while in some other situation, have never seen the path of duty plain, and felt something within urging you forward till you resolved, or almost resolved to walk in it? When death entered your dwellings and tore from your bosom one whom you tenderly loved, was not this your thought "I will now repent and believe", "I will seek first the kingdom of heaven and its righteousness", I will prepare for death.

Remember my hearers, when you broke that resolution, when you delayed or refused to perform that duty - you resisted - you quenched the influences of the Spirit.

How often do Christians, in this way compel the heavenly Dove to leave them. They are made to mourn over their indifference, and the desolations of Zion - they are excited to repair the desolations - to remove the stumbling blocks and to labor more earnestly for the salvation of sinners - thus they are moved by the Spirit - but while they sigh in secret - and look out upon the world - their faith wavers - their imagination magnifies obstacles and difficulties, till they conclude, the time to build the Lord's house, has not yet come, then they fold their hands in indolence, and close their eyes in spiritual slumber - the Spirit is quenched and Zion left in mourning

Illy The Spirit may be quenched by plunging into worldly cares and pleasures [each word in this sentence is underlined]

We have seen that the Spirit operates by the use of means, and that if these are neglected, his influences are quenched. But a man may partially attend to these means, he may even give an entire and

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diligent attention to them for a season; he may read and hear the word of God - meditate and converse on religious subjects, till the Spirit has arrayed his sins before him and made him feel that he is without God and without hope in the world, and after all this, by encumbering his mind with business and cares, or, by mingling in gay and trifling company, he may dissipate the mind, and quench the divine influence. Thus it has been with hundreds since our Saviour expired on the cross.

Felix trembled, and Agrippa exclaimed "almost thou hast persuaded me to be a Christian," while the Apostle Paul enforced divine truth upon them, yet by indulgences of their desires for the pleasures and honors of this world, they hushed the rising convictions.

In every congregation the servant of God finds many who urge the pressure of business and cares, as a reason why they do not attend to the one thing needful and often, some will acknowledge, "once

we felt the importance of religion, but the cares of this world have crowded serious impressions from our minds." In every place where there has been an unusual attention to religion, you can find many who have thus quenched the Spirit.

I have seen individuals who while the Spirit was operating around them, would neglect religious meetings - engage more deeply in worldly business, or plunge more frequently into scenes of pleasure and dissipations, as if determined to shut themselves out from the kingdom of heaven.

And, alas! In many cases, it is to [be] feared they have too happily succeeded.

On the other hand I have seen individuals who were awakened and apparently in agony at the inquiry meeting, and at every interview, they would exclaim "oh pray for me". Again I have seen these same individuals rendered indifferent, by being too eager for the riches and distinctions of this world, or by turning aside into the paths of pleasure.

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Even professors of religion, who engross themselves too much in the pursuits of this world, cannot grow rapidly in grace. They smother the operations of the Spirit - and like the seed that fell among thorns - they were unfruitful. Let me be understood; I do not say that a proper attention to the pursuits of this world, is to be avoided, and that men are to live in indolence; no, that would quench the Spirit, and render mankind wretched. It is an undue attention to the things of this world concerning which I speak; it is that eagerness for riches and pleasures, which dispels serious thoughts from the mind, and intrudes upon the time devoted to sacred employment. Illly The Spirit is quenched by indulging in sin [each word in this sentence is underlined].

It is no small sin, to neglect the means of grace, or to become too deeply engrossed in worldly cares and pleasures. But many go further than this, so strong is their propensity to evil that they indulge in transgressions, in order to quench the striving of the Spirit.

There is a continual warfare between sin and the Holy Spirit; every evil indulgence is offering violence to his gentle influence; yet many are now rushing in the broad way to destruction.

Impenitent sinners hate the light and love darkness; often when light from heaven glimmers around them, they designedly shrink back into some dark and devious way. Perhaps, they embrace some doctrine which, at first, they know to be false, at length, having become confirmed in it, they resist the light, and their hearts are stealed against the divine influences.

Some pursue an other course, they live in the midst of a revival, and are opposed to it. They exert all their influence, to prevent their friends from having a share in the good work. They presumptuously rush into a sinful course to harden their own hearts, and to show others that they need not be concerned about their salvation; or perhaps they speak against the Holy Ghost, by ridiculing his

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operations, and by calling them the superstition of weak minds, or the enthusiasm of bigots. Let those who thus ridicule religion and speak against the Holy Ghost, remember that they not only

quench the Spirit, but commit a sin which "God has said, "shall not be forgiven them, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.

The Christian too, quenches the Spirit by indulging in sin. One sinful thought, word or action, will chill the tender plant of righteousness springing up within, and shroud the mind in gloom.

Where is the Christian who has not felt this, and who has not thus been distracted with doubt and fears?

My hearer, indulgence in sin immediately checks growth in grace, and grieves away the Spirit. I shall now proceed and consider,

Illy The consequences of quenching the Spirit. Your attention has already been directed to the agency which the Spirit sustains in ma[n's] salvation. Let the Spirit be grieved, let this

agency be destroyed, and you may, at once, see that the consequences will be dreadful beyond description. But let us attend more particularly to the consequences. By quenching the Spirit, Christians sin against God. They render evil for good, and manifest the basest ingratitude towards the best of being. Should the children of a kind parent refuse the favors, he wished to bestow upon them, - Should they disregard his smiles, and trample upon his precepts; - should they slight his messages of love, upon which their welfare depended! How would the parent be grieved at their conduct! And who, in this wicked world, would approve of it! - Who would not reprobate it! If the earthly parent is grieved by such treatment, how must God be affected, when his children, for whose welfare, he has alone so much slight his messages of love, and turn from the smiles of his reconciled countenance! Be astonished oh! ye heavens at such ingratitude [each word in this sentence is underlined].

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Again, let Christians quench the Spirit, and they break off all communications between heaven and their own souls. The work of grace will decline. They will have no sweet communion with the Father of their Spirits, - no foretastes of those joys which continually thrill thru all the heavenly hosts. Their prospects of future bliss will be overcast - their affections grow cold, and their hearts become alienated from God.

Having checked the holy desires that once gently drew them to the mercy seat, their prayers will first be cold and heartless, - a dreaded task - and then, entirely neglected - The other means of grace will be foresaken, - the prayer meeting and religious conference will stop, the preaching of the Gospel - become powerless, - and soon trifling excuses will detain them from the house of worship on the sabbath.

Having lost sight of eternal realities, they will make but feeble efforts for the salvation of those who are perishing in sin. Impenitent sinners will die in their sins and perish forever. The pagan

nations will be left without the light of the Gospel - slumber on in sin - die enemies of God, and sink into eternal perdition.

Christians will cease to grow in grace, and become conformed to the fashions of this world. The adversary of souls, finding them involved in darkness, will fill them with vile suggestions - tempt them with blasphemous thoughts, and lead them to embrace pernicious errors. Then, being driven about in storms of temptation, they will become wretched, - and if, left in this state for a season, they may

fall into some gross transgressions and thus give the fiends of darkness occasion to triumph. When the Saviour comes again with his Spirit to rescue these wanderers; behold them on their way back to the fold of Christ - filled with anguish of soul, and lashed with the scourges of a guilty conscience. While you think of their sorrow oh my christian bretheren, remember the exhortation "Quench not the Spirit".

When the impenitent quench the Spirit, they obstinately persist in rebellion against God.

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They have always been rebels in his dominion, but God now sends them a message of reconciliation. He shows them their dangerous condition and gently constrains them to submit. But by closing their eyes, and stopping their ears, they say to the Most High, we will not have thee to reign over us; thus they rush on in open and obstinate rebellion against God.

Again, let the impenitent quench the Spirit, and they become less susceptible of serious impressions.

How often does the child weep, when the pious parent first directs its mind to the concerns of another world, but by driving away these impressions a few times, how often does that same child become so indifferent, as to be unmoved by the most momentous truths, urged upon him with all the tenderness and authority of parental affection.

Sometimes, when the angel of death has removed a near relative, the sinner may be seen, retiring from the world - reading the

word of God - and praying for mercy; but at length these serious thoughts are gone, - then let similar affliction come upon him; or let him be earnestly entreated to repent, and he will be less affected than before.

I have seen an irrepentant sinner awakened, the Spirit of God powerfully convinced him of sin - he mourned and wept, - but the Spirit being quenched, the sinner became careless - nothing seemed to move him - he sinned more boldly than ever - he could mock and ridicule Christians and blaspheme the name of God.

Indeed, he appeared to rush more furiously in to all manner of wickedness. This is a sentiment founded on eternal truth. "When the unclean Spirit is gone out of a man he walketh thro dry places seeking rest and finding none. Then he saith I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come he findeth it empty, swept an garnished; then goeth he, and taketh with him seven other Spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in

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and dwell there, and the last state of that man is worse than the first."

To illustrate these awful truths, I will now present the dying testimony of one who had often quenched the Spirit.

"My children, said the old man, the words of your dying father will be few. I wish them to sink deep into your hearts. Then raising himself a little in his bed, with a degree of strength which he had not been able to command for several of the last weeks of his sickness, he proceeded;

When young I enjoyed religious privileges and was the subject of occasional serious reflection. When just entering my sixteenth year, religious impressions were made on my mind with unusual force, I seemed to hear a voice continually saying to me "seek religion now". I was unhappy; my former amusements lost their relish. Still I was not willing wholly to relinquish them, and obey the voice which urged me to seek religion immediately.

One day, after much reflection, I deliberately promised to God that as soon as the season of youthful amusements was past, I would give myself to religious pursuits. - My anxieties immediately left me; I returned to my amusements, and the whole subject was soon forgotten.

When at twenty five, the monitory voice returned, reminded me of my promise, and again pressed upon me the importance of eternal things. - Tho I had not thought of my promise for years, I acknowledged its obligations but immediate fulfillment seemed more impracticable than it did nine years before. I vowed with increased solemnity, that when the cares of a rising family should subside, I would certainly attend to the concerns of religion. Again I applied myself to worldly avocations, and soon buried all thoughts of the admonition I had received. At fifty, when my children were diminishing instead of increasing my cares, this heavenly monitor returned.

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Fulfil your promise, seek religion now [each word underlined], was continually pressing upon my mind, I knew that I had made such a promise, but I felt dissatisfied that its fulfillment should be claimed so soon. I regretted that I had not attended to the subject before, when I could have done it with less difficulty; but such was the extent and pressure of my business, that to do it then seemed impossible, the subject made me unhappy, and after much deliberation, I sought relief to my troubled feelings by most solemnly renewing my promise to God I said when the pressure of my business is passed, I will devote my whole attention to a preparation for eternity.

No sooner had I fixed my mind on this course than my anxieties left me - the stirrings of the Spirit ceased in my bosom, and ceased forever. - When sickness warned me of approaching death, I sought to fix my feelings on this subject but it was in vain. There was a gloom, and terrors drawn around religion, at which my soul shuddered, I felt that I

was forsaken of God, but it did not move me. I had no love to God, no repentance for sin, nor wish to forsake it. I felt nothing but the [awful] gloom of despair. - I knew I was in the hands of a justly offended God, from whom I expected, no mercy and could ask none. - With these feelings I am now about to enter the eternal world.

To you, my children, I can only say, profit by my example, quench not the Spirit, seek religion now, if you would avoid a miserable eternity, put not off the concerns of your souls till - The sentence died upon his lips; his strength suddenly failed, he fell back upon his bed, and with a groan that seemed to speak the pain of another world he expired.

So is it with all impenitent sinners. Every time you quench the Spirit it renders you more careless and more hardened. You become bold transgressors, do what you once abhorred - and thus rush blindly on, trampling upon all that is sacred.

Oh my impenitent hearers, quench the Spirit

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a little longer, and you must die the enemies of God - be shut out from heaven - and sink forever into hell!

Are any of you quenching the Spirit? In the light of this subject, read your criminality - and behold your danger.

Christian Brethren, let these truths be deeply impressed upon your minds. You see your dependence. Without the Spirit you will be wretched, and fall into sin. Without a divine influence, the preaching of the Gospel will have no saving effect. No strength of reason, no eloquence however powerful, will ever convert one sinner, unless it is attended with the Holy Ghost, sent down from heaven.

Would you enjoy more of this sacred influence; would you grow in grace, would you see this church in prosperity, the glory of God shining around it, Oh! would you see your children, your neighbours and all this people, flocking to the Saviour, cherish then, I entreat you the operations of the Spirit. Depart from all evil; live a holy life; obey the commands of God, and follow the suggestions

of the Spirit. Ever cherish a lively sense of your entire dependence upon him, for assistance in all your struggles with sin and temptation, in the performance of every duty, and in all your efforts to promote the cause of Christ. Seek the influence with fervent prayer - seek it always without doubting. In answer to prayer it has descended in many places - revived many churches and converted multitudes of sinners. Labor to spread abroad the means by which the Spirit operates, extend them to every being on the earth; and as you look upon an impenitent world, and see them unmoved by the mercies and judgments of God, and by the exhibitions of divine truth, - oh! pray that a divine influence may be breathed upon these slain, and they shall live.

Yes Brethern, "bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now here with, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

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This subject addresses itself to you my impenitent hearer. Eternal truth teaches us that you are dead in trespasses and sins. Without a divine influence, you will never be revived, you will perish.

Tho the Saviour has bled and died for you; the eternal life and all the joys of heaven are now offered you; I repeat it, the experience of a hundred years declares - eternal truth declares, you will not come to Christ, you will not accept these offers, unless a divine influence move you.

Would to heaven you felt your dependence upon the Spirit, then, could you any longer thus criminally abuse the means of grace? Remember, it is by diligently improving these means, that you are to expect the blessing of the Spirit, your neglect and abuse of them, your plunging into the cares and business of the world, has often grieved him away; and your continuing in sin, - your indulgence in sinful thoughts, is even now, quenching the

Spirit and hardening your heart.

You have already pursued this course, too long, go no further in it; one step more may seal your doom.

Oh! think not my impenitent hearer, that you must wait till the Holy Spirit comes like a strong man, and compels you to submit to Christ - no - listen to his still small voice - give way to his gentle influences; resist them not, - despise not the day of small things; cherish the least serious impression; avoid every thing that tends to remove it; practise every thing which will deepen the impression; - follow immediately the dictates of the Spirit - delay not one hour, nor one moment; - repent now and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ that you may be saved.

[Followed by 6 blank pages]

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Hawkesbury September 22 - 1848

This Book was given to me by a very dear friend fifty six years ago, She is now sleeping in death - I keep it for the love I bear to the giver, it has past through many fersom trials besides getting into the river and getting wet, Still I keeps it worthy, as it is and have made this addistion to it. But I feel I shall never fill the sheets, at my great age I cant expect to be hear long, eighty years old this day. Very few live to this great age.

I have much I would put on paper but not today my heart is two full.

[Followed by 8 blank pages]

List of Presidents taken from the New York Evangelist of June 21st , 1849

		Born	Died	Age
1	Geo Washington	22 Februery, 1732	14 December, 1799	68
2	Jno Adams	30 October, 1735	4 July, 1826	91
3	Thomas Jefferson	13 April, 1743	4 July, 1826	83
4	James Madison	16 March, 1751	28 June, 1736	85
5	James Monroe	2 April, 1759	4 July, 1831	72
6	John Quincy Adams	11 July, 1767	23 Februay, 1848	81
7	Andrew Jackson	15 March, 1767	8 June, 1845	78
8	Martin Van Buren	5 December, 1782	Still living	
9	Wm Henry Harrison	9 Februay, 1773	4 April, 1841	68
10	John Tyler	29 March, 1790	Still living	
11	James Knox Polk	2 November, 1795	15 June, 1849	54
12	Zachary Taylor	The present incumbent		

[Followed by 6 blank pages]

[inside back cover]

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April thirteenth one thousand eight hundred and twenty six. R
emoved from Sister [Emerson's] to a house near our farm.

1826 (May seventh The Rev Mr Hull of Worcester departed this life.)

June 19 1827 moved here tuesday to the Suny house.

1895

3

1892

91