

Miss Priscilla Larkin: The Civil War Diary of a Southern Belle

January 1-December 21, 1862



ca. 1850-1859

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Huntsville_Female_College_1880s.jpg

Huntsville Female College

The Huntsville Female College was built by antebellum architect George Steele in the early 1850's on the north side of Randolph Street. It was chartered in 1851 and operated for almost half a century under the guidance of the Methodist Church. It was used as a hospital in the Civil War and destroyed by fire in 1895.

Introduction

This is the story of a year in the life of a young lady: a most remarkable year, and a most remarkable woman.

It is 1862, the year our Civil War will become a harsh, cruel reality to millions of Americans. As the new year begins, Priscilla Larkin, a twenty-two-year-old student at the Female College in Huntsville, Alabama, begins keeping a daily journal of her "thoughts and actions". What follows is a window into a vanished world, from a woman's perspective; a view that necessarily remains private because social custom forbids it become public. Here we see the "Lords of Creation", as Priscilla engagingly styles the gentlemen of the South, rushing from the drawing-room to the front lines of battle and back again. Great statesmen and soldiers are viewed not through the familiar, fixed prism of the past but as bits and pieces of a turbulent, changing present. Prosperous Huntsville's leading citizens come to call, play games, flirt, gossip incessantly, and show their collective confidence in the face of an impending tragedy none of them could have comprehended, and would not have believed if they could.

Priscilla Larkin was born February 20, 1839, at Larkinsville, in Jackson county, Alabama. She was the seventh child and third daughter to David Larkin junior and his wife, the former Elizabeth Rutledge. [David and Elizabeth were my 3rd great grandparents, so Priscilla was my 2nd great grandaunt.] Priscilla was born into a world of wealth and gentility. Her father was by far the largest landowner in the county with a plantation estate covering 32,000 acres, or fifty miles square. Twelve thousand of those acres were planted, making David Larkin almost certainly the largest slaveholder in the county as well. Children of such wealthy Southern aristocrats were groomed for leadership from the start. All the Larkin children received schooling from professional teachers who lived at the estate. The girls then finished their education at colleges such as Huntsville's, where art, music, and literature were taught, and where the young ladies were formally introduced into adult society. There has been nothing quite like it, before or since.

For Priscilla Larkin, it ended after April 11, 1862, when Union troops occupied Huntsville following the battle of Shiloh and subsequent Confederate retreat. Within days she was summoned home to Larkinsville. Her family by then consisted of sisters and brothers; David and Elizabeth Larkin had died within ten months of

each other in 1857. (Interestingly, throughout her narrative Priscilla makes only one passing reference to her father-- and that initiated by the comments of another-- and mentions her mother not at all.) Once at Larkinville she observes the War, the enemy, her family, her neighbors, her slaves, and the world at large from a perspective combining equal parts youthful romanticism and hard-headed pragmatism. It's one thing to imagine this 'Southern belle' contemplating with wry humor the affections of married men, or quoting romantic poetry; it's quite another to hear her boldly dressing-down a Union officer and his troops, or riding through the night to find and bring home her small family of slaves.

Our transcription has attempted to preserve the original look and feel of the diary. Priscilla's original, idiosyncratic punctuation and abbreviation, misspellings, crossouts, superscripts, additions, and deletions all have been reproduced as faithfully as possible. Margins and continuations are as they appear in the original. Where a word is illegible or nearly so, or where we are uncertain of its spelling, that word has been shaded in gray. We hope these imperfections do not unduly mar the reader's enjoyment. [Note: When I (Janet Parks) downloaded and annotated this diary in the summer of 2012, I found the margins and large spaces distracting; so, I "fixed" them. The original is posted at [http://archive.org/details/PriscillaLarkinTheCivilWarDiaryOfASouthernBelle.](http://archive.org/details/PriscillaLarkinTheCivilWarDiaryOfASouthernBelle)]

This transcription was undertaken as part of a larger genealogical research project. Thanks to help from many people and organizations, we've been able to add a cross-referenced index following the transcription itself. While not exhaustive, it is quite comprehensive and serves, we hope, to put 'flesh on the bones' of the many people, places, and events Priscilla mentions in her narrative. Additionally, we've provided simple maps and a few photographs in this appendix.

On a personal note, let me say that reading, transcribing, and referencing this family heirloom has been one of the highlights of my life. It's my sincere hope that all who read it will be as delighted by its unique view into a vanished world as am I.

DAVID MALBUFF
Great-great-grandson of Priscilla Larkin Stephens
God's Promise
Strasburg, Virginia
December 17, 2002

As noted in the Introduction, this diary was transcribed and posted online by Priscilla Larkin's second great grandson, David Malbuff (2002). Janet Parks, her second grandniece, added the annotations and cover (2013). To help clarify Janet's notes, an abridged ancestry follows.

Abridged Ancestry of Janet Bliss Parks, Nathan Parks, and Connelly Parks Ensign

Compiled 11 Oct 2011 by Robert S. Duggan, Jr.

1. **Janet Bliss Parks**, Dr. #3552, b. 5 Sep 1942 in Chattanooga, TN, occupation Distinguished Teaching Professor, Bowling Green State University (OH).

Parents

2. **David Nathan Parks** #1198, b. 23 Apr 1905 in Scottsboro, AL, occupation Provident Life Ins.Co., d. 1 Oct 1988 in Chattanooga, TN. **He married Clara Frances Connelly** #1204.
3. **Clara Frances Connelly** #1204, b. 20 May 1904, d. 11 Jul 1986 in Chattanooga, TN.

Grandparents

4. **John Will Parks** #321, b. 6 Feb 1881 in Leon Co., TX, d. 5 Apr 1926 in Scottsboro, AL, buried: in Cedar Hill Cem., Scottsboro, AL. He married **Margaret (Maggie, Granny Duck) Snodgrass** #1194, 23 Dec 1902 in Larkin's Landing, AL.
5. **Margaret (Maggie, Granny Duck) Snodgrass** #1194, b. 4 Sep 1877 in Larkin's Landing?, AL, d. 19 May 1966 in Chattanooga, TN, buried: in Cedar Hill cem, Scottsboro, AL.

Great Grandparents

8. William Delaney Parks, Jr. #3542, b. 14 Mar 1852 in Scottsboro, AL, d. 22 Apr 1908 in Scottsboro, AL, buried: in Cedar Hill cem, Scottsboro, AL. He married (1) Ada Rebecca Webb #3630, 16 Aug 1870? in TX, b. 21 Aug 1856 in TX, d. c1883 in Leon Co., TX. He married (2) Mary Elizabeth Kirby #322, 25 Aug 1884 in Scottsboro, AL, b. 16 Jul 1860 in Pine Bluff, Scott, AR, d. 1 Jan 1920 in Scottsboro, AL, buried: 3 Jan 1920 in Cedar Hill Cem., Scottsboro, AL.
9. Ada Rebecca Webb #3630, b. 21 Aug 1856 in TX, d. c1883 in Leon Co., TX.
10. **David Nathan Snodgrass** #3607, b. 25 Nov 1850 in AL, d. 3 Aug 1905 in Jackson Co., AL, buried: in Cedar Hill Cem., Scottsboro, AL. He married **Elizabeth (Betty) Larkin Cotton** #3609, 22 Feb 1871.
11. **Elizabeth (Betty) Larkin Cotton** #3609, b. 27 Apr 1853 in Larkin's Landing, AL, d. 2 Apr 1928 in Scottsboro, AL, buried: in Cedar Hill Cem., Scottsboro, AL.

Great Great Grandparents

16. William (Billy) Delaney Parks #323, b. 29 Jan 1812 in Blount Co., TN, occupation Farmer, d. 5 Apr 1888 in Jackson Co., AL, buried: in Parks Cem/Backbone Ridge, Scottsboro, AL. He married (1) Lucinda Ann Kirby #324, 5 Dec 1832, b. 18 Apr 1812 in TN, d. 8 Oct 1876 in Scottsboro, AL, buried: in Parks Cem/Backbone Ridge, Scottsboro, AL. He married (2) Addie ____ Turner, Mrs. #4730, 26 Aug 1877.

17. Lucinda Ann Kirby #324, b. 18 Apr 1812 in TN, d. 8 Oct 1876 in Scottsboro, AL, buried: in Parks Cem/Backbone Ridge, Scottsboro, AL.
18. George M. Webb #3638, b. 23 Sep 1828 in MS. He married Mary Jane Henry #3639.
19. Mary Jane Henry #3639, b. 24 Jun 1831 in AL.
20. Thomas Snodgrass #3593, b. 1810 in VA, occupation Farmer, d. 5 Jun 1868 in nr Bellefonte, AL. He married Susan Caroline Martin #3601.
21. Susan Caroline Martin #3601, b. 1812 in VA.
22. **Ed Cotton** #114088. He married **Annis Adelain (Annie) Larkin** #114089.
23. **Annis Adelain (Annie) Larkin** #114089.

3rd Great Grandparents

32. John Parks, Rev. #325, b. 14 Jan 1782 in VA, occupation Meth. Minister, farmer, d. 22 Aug 1845 in Scottsboro, AL, buried: (1) Frazier cem, in (2) Cedar Hill Cem., Scottsboro, AL. He married (1) Mary Mills Delaney #326, 12 Mar 1811 in Blount Co., TN, b. 21 Aug 1788 in Culpeper Co., VA, d. 15 Feb 1812 in Blount Co., TN. He married (2) Ruth Brown #3538, 13 Aug 1816 in Maryville, TN, b. 18 Oct 1796 in TN, d. 14 Aug 1855 in Scottsboro, AL, buried: (1) Frazier Cem. in (2) Cedar Hill cem, Scottsboro, AL.
33. Mary Mills Delaney #326, b. 21 Aug 1788 in Culpeper Co., VA, d. 15 Feb 1812 in Blount Co., TN.
34. Joseph L. Kirby #4312, b. 1767 in VA, occupation Justice of Peace in TN&AL, d. bef 1830 in Jackson Co., AL, buried: in Kirby Cem, Backbone Ridge, Scottsboro, AL. He married Elizabeth (Eliza) Freeman #4313, 11 Aug 1791 in Surry Co., NC.
35. Elizabeth (Eliza) Freeman #4313, b. 28 Oct 1774 in Surry Co., NC, d. in TN or AL.
40. John Snodgrass #3585, b. 1774 in nr Abingdon, VA, d. 1830 in Centre, AL. He married Jane Long #3589, 25 Jun 1799 in Washington Co., VA.
41. Jane Long #3589, b. 1774 in Washington Co., VA.
46. **David Larkin, Jr.** #94773, b. 4 Oct 1793 in Hawkins Co., TN, occupation Postmaster, mill owner, d. 31 Dec 1856, buried: in Blue Spring cem, Larkinsville, AL. He married Elizabeth Rutledge #94774, 7 Sep 1826.
47. **Elizabeth Rutledge** #94774, b. 16 Nov 1800 in Sullivan Co., TN, d. 16 Oct 1857, buried: in Blue Spring cem, Larkinsville, AL.

*Miss Priscilla Larkin
Larkinville
Ala.*

Course of Study.

PRIMARY AND PREPARATORY DEPARTMENTS.

McGuffey's Speller.
 " Series of Readers.
 Scholar's Companion.
 Rote's System of Penmanship.
 Bullion's English Grammar, after a full course of Oral Instruction.
 Quackenboss' First Lessons in English Composition.

Cornell's First Lessons in Geography.
 " School Geography, with Map Drawing.
 Davies' First Lessons in Arithmetic.
 Davies' School Arithmetic.
 Parley's Histories.
 Goodrich's History United States.
 First Lessons in Natural Philosophy.

COLLEGIATE DEPARTMENT.

FIRST COLLEGIATE CLASS.

Mathematics. Colburn's Mental Arithmetic; Perkins' Practical Arithmetic; Davies' Elementary Algebra.
Nat. Science. Mitchell's Ancient Geography; Sprague's Natural Philosophy.
English. Goodrich's History of England and France; Bullion's English Grammar, with Pope's Essay on Man; McGuffey's Readers; Scholars' Companion; Original Compositions.

SOPHOMORE CLASS.

Mathematics. Perkins' Higher Arithmetic; Davies' Algebra, completed; Davies' Elementary Geometry.
Nat. Science. Cutter's Physiology; Mattison's Astronomy.
English. Goodrich's History Greece and Rome; Bullion's English Grammar, with Milton's Paradise Lost; Scholar's Companion; Original Compositions.
 * *Latin.* Bullion's Grammar and Reader.

JUNIOR CLASS.

Mathematics. Davies' Elementary Geometry and Trigonometry.
Nat. Science. Youman's Chemistry, with Lectures; Dana's Mineralogy, with Lectures; Warren's Physical Geography.
English. Quackenboss's Rhetoric; Hedge's Logic; Original Compositions and Daily Journals.
 * *Latin.* Bullions' Cæsar and Bullions' Cicero.

SENIOR CLASS.

Nat. Science. Hitchcock's Geology, with Lectures; Green's Botany, with Lectures; Youman's Household Sciences.
English. Alison on Taste; Abercrombie's Intellectual Philosophy, and Moral Feelings.
 * *Latin.* Cooper's Virgil; Bullions' Sallust; Original Essays, and Daily Journals.

GENERAL REVIEW OF THE WHOLE COURSE.

OPTIONAL STUDIES.

FRENCH.

Green's First Lessons in French.
 Fosquelle's Grammar.
 Surrenne's Telemaque.
 Corrinne.
 Moliere Comedies.
 Fables La Fontaine.
 Surrenne's Dictionary.

GERMAN.

Woodbury's German Grammar.
 Adler's German Reader.
 Schiller's William Tell.

SPANISH.

De Vere's Grammar.
 Mandeville's First and Second Readers.
 Don Quixote in Spanish.

* Any of the extras may be substituted.

EXPENSES.

Board, including washing, lights, fuel, furnished rooms, servants, &c., with English Tuition.
 per Scholastic Year of 40 weeks, in the preparatory Department, - - - - \$180 00
 In the Collegiate Department, - - - - - 200 00

EXTRAS.

Music on Piano, Guitar, &c., with use of Instrument, \$60	Oil Painting, - - - - -	\$40
Private Singing Lessons, - - - - - 50	French - - - - -	\$20 to 30
Drawing, - - - - - 20	Vocal Lessons, in Classes, no charge.	

Payment, half in advance, the remainder at the close of the ten months. Charges made from the beginning of the month in which the pupil enters. No deduction except for sickness at home protracted over a month.
 No vacation is given at Christmas.

GEORGE M. EVERHART.

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., June 1, 1858.

President, &c., &c.,

Wednesday Jan 1st 1862

"Oh! Nature's noblest gift-- my grey goose quill;
Slave of my thoughts, obedient to my will,
Torn from thy parent bird to form a pen,
That mighty instrument of little men!"

'Tis a noble gift-- though greatly modernized-- instead of the "old gray goose quill" as in days of yore-- we have metallic pens to disclose our thoughts & actions. Many are the good & useful resolutions I've made, beginning with this happy new year. One of greatest importance is reading my Bible daily. How prone we are to neglect this, our greatest duty to God.

Our winter so far has been very remarkable-- it resembles Spring greatly. With the exception of the morning of the 25th no ice has been seen-- & frosts have been few & light. It really seems that with our political separation the seasons of the South has also seceded from those of the North-- What an advantage to our poor Soldiers. Whilst seated around our cheerful ~~homes~~ firesides-- surrounded by all the comforts & luxuries of life-- let us not forget those, who are suffering for bare necessities of life-- but endeavor to lend a helping hand & make ourselves useful-- both to God & mankind

Took a new piece this morning-- fifteen pages long-- "La Parisienne Marche" I know it will take me a month to learn it, Have practiced well to-day,

Tuesday morning-- took a vocal piece, "Only waiting" formed the acquaintance of Mr Donigan this even-- had quite a little confab with him put on my helmits am progressing finely knitting,

Wednesday-- received a very acceptable-- notwithstanding highly important-- letter from William-- at least the one hundred and sixty dollars enclosed was, he states that Murrays company is well nigh defunct-- died out on the account of superabundance of Lieuten & Captains.

Thursday-- have been sadly disappointed in not getting my helmits finished to send off. Friday night we all went to the Presbyterian church to a wool picking-- in order to procure wool to knit

socks for the Soldiers-- quite a novelty too--
 Mrs B accompanied me around to see Mr Cruse
 to collect the note I received few days since-- found
 him quite a jolly & clever old soul. He passed a
 great many eulogies upon my Father & Bro. which of
 course pleased me much. I have nearly made a journal
 of two weeks in this-- though nothing of note has occurred
 during those days I omitted

Sunday morning Jan 12th 1862

'Tis a lovely day-- warm enough to have on summer
 clothing-- "Blest power of Sunshine; genial day, what
 balm, what life are in thy ray!" Mrs Patten (the
 old Lady) dined with us to-day-- she is very patriotic
 I actually love to hear her talk about these
squally times. Would that the "Lords of Creation"
 in this country possessed half of her zeal &
 patriotism. Had quite a good sermon from Dr
 Ross. He's to deliver a lecture next Wednesday night,
 promising that this world was not made in six
 days-- that is-- of our days-- twenty four hours.

Monday-- very cold and disagreeable-- quite
 a change from yesterday.

Tuesday-- very cold,
sleeting a little snow-- first & only we have
 had this winter.

Wednesday-- pouring rain in
 torrents. Haven't been to school to-day. We
 have all been very busily engaged assisting
 Mrs B in quilting a comforter. Had quite a
 nice time-- specially the second course-- which was
refreshments-- fruit-cake & cordial-- though I suppose
 we wouldn't have faired so sumptuously if Mrs
 Figures & Chaddick had not have been here,

Thursday. Sang my piece well this morning-- thinking
 Mifs Daniel would give me a new piece-- but
 she had no music-- will give me a piece the
 next Lesson I take.

Friday-- 'Tis a delightful day--
 so much like Spring. Had another wool picking
 to-night-- quite an amusement for the young.

I don't enjoy such amusements very much.
How very complimentary Beck is-- she says the following
lines are suited to me exactly-- 'Tis Larkinæ from, Shaks,

*"I cannot hide what I am; I must be
Sad when I have cause, and smile at no man's
Jests; eat when I have stomach, and wait for
No man's leisure; sleep when I am drowsy,
And tend on no man's business; Laugh when I
Am merry, and claw no man in his humour."*

Very sincere indeed-- and altogether true, respecting
my humble Self.

Saturday-- Have written to
George-- thinking probably I would have an oppor-
tunity of sending them soon, Beck & myself went
around to Schlack to get some cake & candy
Ella had gone out to return some calls-- Mr
J. & P. returned this evening but "nary" games--
Mrs B. sent us some oranges to-night

Sunday, Jan 19th 1862

Another delightful Sabbath has forever flown. Saw
A. Harris at church to-day-- very unexpectedly indeed,
Mrs^B. Ella Beck & my humble self walked round to
Mrs Richardsons this evening-- I've written quite a length-
y Letter to Lizzie to-night-- read five chapters in
my Bible-- so finishes my program for this day.

Monday 20th Cloudy this morning-- very warm also,
Took a new vocal piece-- "In happy moments", very
pretty. Rain this evening. Have fixed my Helmits up
to send off. Mrs Figures is going to send them off
for me-- as she has something to send also,
We are having some very cold weather now for the
last three days. Nothing of any consequence has occur-
red within the last three days, My helmits are not
off yet-- Mrs Figures has disappointed-- I have been
reading an awful piece to-night-- which made a
-a great impression on me-- although I knew it
was false-- title-- "The Mother of Pearl". The Mother
of Pearl had contracted a habit of eating a green-
ish paste-- "Hadagish"-- until she became deranged
tried to murder her husband-- finely murdered
Pearl. Her husband knew not her disease,

Sad news this morning-- a battle at "Cumberland Gap" in which the Federals were victorious-- although we retreated-- yet they were greater losers. We regret so much that Gen. Solicoffer fell--

Oh; what a delicious supper we had to-night, Judge Hammonds & Mr Brickel took tea with us. Had desert as Mr Jack called it, After Tea we went over, to Mrs Figgures & spent quite a pleasant evening-- Hattie gave us some chow-chow and biscuit-- I must confess-- I couldn't relish it-- after enjoying such a nice supper.

Saturday morning--

Upon the strength of Mrs Weaver's d -- I went out in the yard to Mr G fight chickens though upon the whole I think he "bore the palm" for he only received two wounds from the G ___ that was on the chicken. We ^{Ella Beck} then went up town shopping but as soon as got there Mr G handed me a letter and very fortunately I forgot all I went for-- therefore didn't make a single purchase, After Ella left us to go see Lou-- Beck & myself went to Dixon's got some Candy & Cake.

Sunday-- Jan 26th 1862

Gas gas oh my: what a great improvement from a tallow candle-- to gas. To-night is the first time we have had it-- lighted-- in our room. Mrs B. had it Friday night-- although it was not lighted until eight O-Clock. Ella Beck and myself have walked a great deal this evening-- first to the grave yard we strolled then to the reservoir. How beneficial it would be if we would take such walks every day.

Monday Jan 27th--

This morning begins a new session. Ella & Lou are not going to commence school as they expect to go home in a few days-- though I believe we are beginning with a full school. Ella Lou Beck and myself took a long walk to the Spring this evening. Every time I go there it seems to have new charms for me.

Tuesday-- Can it be possible I've got my helmits off to night-- after making great efforts for the last month.

Wednesday--

Read a very rich note to-night-- Mr Jack found it was from Nannie to Millie-- she seemed to be dissatisfied-- & spoke of fleeing to the object of her love-- it was really amusing-- notwithstanding Nannie feelings were wounded-- because we read it. I presume it was all fun. Have been busily making a new body to my black silk. Received a letter from Lizzie to-night-- was disappointed in her not sending me some music. She reports none there only-- "Here goes your mule &c."

Thurs--

Took a new vocal piece this morning-- a companion to "Do they miss me at home" it was "Welcome Home" beautiful words. What a great consolation it is after being absent from home, To meet our dear friends with smiling faces and welcome voices. Mifs Daniel did not sing it for me as she was very hoarse,

Oh my-- what a fine humor I've been in this evening. Fanny Dilworth has been "spinning some long yarns" for my special benefit. I came very near busting laughing. I've laughed so much I fear the consequences-- as "there is always a calm after a storm." Have been romping considerably with Ella to-night as it is her last night with us. Oh my, how much I'll miss her-- specially at night.

Friday 31st

What a dreary and gloomy morn. The clouds have been gathering until the sky is veiled with its leaden hues. Very good index to my heart-- for I feel equally as gloomy-- so much so, that that I have been unconscious of every thing that has transpired this morning. Went to the College-- as usual to my practising-- was perfectly astonished when Miss Binns came in-- and told me it was my regular hour for taking my lesson. I

therefore apologised-- stating I was depressed
 in feelings at any rate. Came to dinner
 Ella told me Mr A Harris, had been to
 call on me-- regret not seeing him for I feel
 assured if I could have heard him tell
 some of his "long yarns" 'twould have driven
 a portion of my "blues" off. From my deportment
 at dinner-- (When Mr Jack was trying to joke
 me) I feel that I cannot exclaim with the
 poet-- "I feel within me-- A peace above all
 earthly dignities-- A still and quiet conscience--"
 Would that I had have had presence of
mind enough to have taken that as a Jest--

I feel assured that his intentions were good.
 However-- 'tis my misfortune-- I cannot conceal
 my feelings-- carry smiles & sunshine when depress-
 ed at heart-- "I cannot hide what I am; I
 must be sad when I have cause, and smile
 at no man's Jest;" However I feel assured that
 his kind & generous heart will forgive-- & bury
 it in the dark waters of forgetfulness--

February 1st-- The beginning of a new month is a
 general way mark by which we pause moraliz-
 ing. Ella left us this morning precisely at one,
 She leaves a vacancy in our social circle
 that cannot be replaced-- we never know
 our love and appreciation of a kind friend
 till we are forced to leave them. I feel
 lost without her presence-- specially at
 night. Have no one to clasp my arms
 around-- and repose in "Natures sweet restorer",

"When forced to part from those we love,
 Though sure to meet to-morrow,
 We yet a kind of anguish prove
 And feel a touch of sorrow,"

Sunday Feb 2nd 1862

"The morning comes but brings no sun;" The sky is over-run
 with dark clouds. Some rain. We didn't attend
 Church to-day on account of the inclemency
 of the morning. Nevertheless Dr Gordon was out
 with his bride I've heard. More rain-- all the
live long day. We haven't been to the College

to-day. Mr Jack, Pleasants, Beck & myself played two or three games of Ucre. Had a Candy pulling to-night. Sue didn't come down to enjoy our Candy.

Tuesday morning-- cloudy--
no rain however-- beautiful evening. I really thought I would wear Mollie Ewing's letter out-- before I could get an opportunity of delivering it. I think keeping it so long would compensate for reading. Had I not have heard her reading one once upon a time-- probably I would have a curiosity to read one. Yet as I survived the love-sick nonsensical contents of one-- I feel perfectly satisfied without listening to another.

Wednesday

Had a dining to-day-- "The Patten family out"-- we "with the rest of the darkies"-- eat a little snack of ham & bread-- & off to school we put

Oh; how much we enjoyed our Lunch this eve. 'Twas a feast of hilarity-- we didn't have any supper to-night. Rain, rain, again. How rejoiced Beck and Sue were to see it raining-- Beck wanted to spend the morning writing to "Cousin Ed"-- but as for me-- I "toddled" on through mud and rain at eleven to take my lesson-- for I couldn't afford to miss another lesson this week. Mr Donigan supped with us to-night. After Tea we assembled in Mrs Bradford's room. Mr D. spoke of "Spiritual Rappings"-- said Miss Rhodes was a medium, she is on a visit at this place. We all assembled around a table-- unfortunately none were mediums. We miss Mr Pleasants.

Friday 7th --More rain, fortunately for Sylvia for she has our assistance this evening in quilting. Received a letter from William-- states the roads are in a desperate condition. "That he is macadamizing the road leading to Sister Ann's I don't approve of his making fun of the roads in "Old Jackson" in any such way.

Saturday 8th

Judge Hammond Jennie Mrs Jones all took Tea here to-night. Can't say I'm favorably impressed.

Sunday February 9th

The news-- our morning noon and evening cry-- News last night. That Federals has landed at Florence The town is in an uproar-- numberless dispatches we received to-day. Company left last night. Mr J has been moulding bullets-- notwithstanding 'tis Sabbath-- Beck with my little assistance have made a knapsack for him-- however I have no compunctious feelings for so doing under the present circumstances.

Monday. A real winter day-- very cold. News this morning. That we have been defeated at Ronoak Island. Gen Wise & three thousand men taken prisoners." As to the correctness of this dispatch-- I'm not capable of saying-- only hope for the best-- for I feel confident that the "God of battles is with us. "Thus far our fortune keeps an onward course, And we are grac'd with wreaths of victory"-- unless we have been defeated in this battle-- though it hasn't been confirmed as yet. Received a piece of music this morning-- "Beauregard's Grand Marche" How much more can I appreciate it-- knowing it comes from a member of the memorable "Fourth Ala Reg"-- I must certainly acknowledge the receipt of it in a few days. "Room No 1," had quite interesting and al-together amusing "Tableaux" to-night. Our good old friend Aunt Sidny brought Sue some bakers bread-- and the hull of an old pine apple cheese-- from its appearance I would presume it was the fragments left by Noah which he and his family feasted on during the flood. Suffice it to say-- I was made heartily sick of it-- the consequences I shall not divulge, only I don't think I could relish another dose soon. However Sue & Beck appeared to stomach it well,

Thursday 13, Took a new piece this morning, "Far on the deep blue sea."

Friday 14th Valentine's Day--

we all got a Valentine. Beck went to

Mr Neals to spend the night-- notwithstanding the miserably cold day-- we started to the depot to see the soldiers that were to be there, very fortunately Mr J & myself met some men coming from the depot-- who reported they would not be there until nine-- we very wisely turned around and came back,

Saturday-- The ground is perfectly white with snow. Oh! What nice snowballing we will have.

Sunday Feb 16, 1862

The ground is still covered with snow, However we "tod- dled" on to church. To say the least of it-- Dr Ross's sermon-- was more of a political speech than a sermon-- yet 'twas excellent. He expatiated freely on patriotism. I regret there was no more gentleman out to hear his sermon. He says "true patriotism is-- "To sacrifice life property and sacred honor." How few true patriots we would have then. Have spent the evening in writing to Mary.

Monday. Raining in torrents-- the street are very "sloshy".

Tuesday. Rain, rain, still raining. The news about fighting at Nashville incorrect-- Though Fort Donelson has actually fallen-- we are defeated again. Quite a number of "Yankee" prisoners passed through this evening "en route" for Memphis. Two friends of Mrs Bradford's took Tea with us to-night. If I remember aright-- their names are-- Mr Hobson & Weakly-- both fine looking Gents.

Wednes. 'Tis a lovely evening. Quite a nu^mber of Ladies & Gent. took tea with Mrs Bradford to-night-- such as Col. Toney Lady & Miss, Mr Robinson & Lady-- Figures & wife-- & Dr Wilkinson.

Thursday February 20th-- Can I scarcely realize "Old Time's winged flight"-- has brought around my birthday again. 'Tis true. "Another year; another leaf, Is turned within life's volume brief, And yet not one bright page appears-- of mine within that book of years".

I don't believe that-- no I don't. Mrs Ruckman leaves to-night for the North. Would that all the "Kangee" were north of Mason and Dixon's line. A company left here to-night to defend Decatur bridge-- among the number was Mr J & P.

Friday. New boarders Mr Haws family-- a refugee from Clarksville. The gent is quite good looking. The lady was ordinary looking-- however she had on a beautiful diamond ring.

Saturday 22nd What an eventful day-- President Davis's inauguration. I really believe during these "squally" times-- people forget every thing else but war & things connected with it. I don't believe there has been a gun fired in H__ in honor of that great man's birthday. It has been threatening rain all morning. This evening Beck and I commenced making our "toilette" to go shopping-- but before we completed a very hard rain fell-- & we were disappointed.

Sunday, February 23rd 1862

Oh: what a lovely day-- so Spring like-- to see Jasmine & hyacinths in bloom-- how charmed I was this evening-- listening to a mocking bird as ~~he~~ it warbled its beautiful notes. All nature has quite a cheerful appearance. How greatly surprised I was to night-- when Martha Ann brought a card announcing there were two Gents to see me. Mr Moore & Stephens-- spent quite a pleasant eve with them.

Monday. Took a new piece this morning-- "Variations of "Ever of thee"". I intend learning for one's special benefit. How agreeably surprised was Beck to night-- when she received the news her brother had come-- particularly so upon hearing he had come for her.

Tuesday--
Beck Joe Thompson & myself went out shopping. I'm so sorry Beck leaves us to night-- perhaps for only a short time-- and probably forever.

Wednesday. I feel like the last rose of summer since Beck exit-- go wandering alone-- like "one of the lost sheep of the house of Israel". More new boarders-- Col. Cox & wife-- quite a fine looking "Lord of Creation" too-- seems to be quite sociable-- called me Miss Priscilla forthwith without any ceremony. Sue and Nannie says "he is smitten". I return the compliment by saying I feel honored-- besides I am smitten also, Mrs B took Col. Cox & lady & myself out riding this evening. The Cavalry were coming in town-- as one of the soldiers passed his gun-- accidentally hit one of the horses-- and alarmed him very much-- did no damage only breaking the trace. Mrs C. was as badly frightened as the horse.

Friday 28th This day was set apart by our President for fasting & prayer. Of course we have holyday-- but no fasting in this establishment, I'm sorry to say-- yet-- we can acknowledge our Sins-- and thank Providence for smiling on us, Surely the Citizens of Nashville have some object in view in surrendering-- we have only to hope,

March 1st "Comes like a lamb-- but leaves like a Lyon-- This week we have had beautiful weather. "To cap the climax" Mittie sends for her bonnet-box, sink, kerchief & wash-rag.

Sunday March 2nd.

Lovely morn: all Nature wears a lovely cheerful appearance. This morning whilst walking in the garden-- the Hyacinths and Jesamine were so enticing-- that I could not resist the temptation-- however had to stop and pluck them, Whilst at church this morning it rained very hard indeed-- have had hail & more rain this evening.

Monday 3rd-- very cold & windy.

Tuesday-- Still cold-- nothing of any consequence has transpired to day-- have been sewing

very attentively on a soldier shirt. Col. Cox rather teased me this morning at the table-- when he remarked-- "Mr Stephens met with a cold reception last night"-- I didn't know that any one knew that I wouldn't have a fire in the parlor last night-- thinking Mr Stephens wouldn't tarry long as it was cold,

Wednesday 4th, miserably cold to day-- received a very lengthy letter from Beck.

Thursday-- still very cold-- but pleasant in the sun-- I really think winter has just commenced. A poor soldier has died-- it actually seems that more have died from disease than in battle. The flowers are all drooping this cold weather,

Friday 7. How shocked I was-- when Miss Snead came to the grate room-- where I was practicing announcing that Sallie Johnson was dying-- consequently school was dismissed. I had not even heard that she was sick. Well Mifs Anderson & Patterson have come at last to board after making some desperate efforts-- by the by-- Miss Patterson is very good looking-- but the other looks rather on the old maid list.

Saturday 8. Commenced writing to Beck this morning-- but was disturbed by Miss Binns-- who came for me to walk with her-- we went to the mountain-- after we fixed the flowers on some poor soldiers graves-- had quite a nice & pleasant walk. This has been a lovely day out rather cool in doors-- packed Beck's box will send it off. Mr Pleasants & myself thought we would play off on Col Cox & Capt Davis-- by putting some powder in the tapers-- thinking they would take it to light their cigars & we would have an explosion, but they smell a mouse & wouldn't take them

Sunday March 9th

Another lovely day: such days all nature seems cheerful and full of life. Flowers are shedding their rich fragrance in the air. Captain Davis gave me a love letter to read; 'Twas an imaginary letter written by Capt Branchford, it was rich and spicy-- very good indeed. Went out to night to hear Dr Kelly's lecture on the battle of Fort Donelson-- was accompanied by Mr Johnson-- was very entertained. Was awoken from my peaceful slumbers last night by the ringing of the fire-bell-- it was L P Walkers residence-- 'twould have been a great loss for a poor man-- but I presume he could afford to lose it.

Tuesday 11th Breckenridge's brigade caused great excitement passing through-- regret very much not hearing his speech. Though had the honor of seeing him mount. He is very fine looking-- splen did form-- was riding a grand looking horse, Oh my: how he was applauded when he mounted his fine steed. I feel very uneasy about home haven't heard from there in a month. I wrote again to Mary to day-- notwithstanding she is indebted a letter to me. Playing Ucre has become very fashionable in this establishment. I was so much amused at Mrs B. & Dr Wible playing. Mrs Bradford didn't know one card from the other-- however she runs the risk of playing-- with my assistance. I was greatly amused-- when some one remarked-- that Mrs B. played well-- & Dr Wible replied-- That it was "that angel sitting behind her"-- though he didn't say-- whether it was an angel of light or of darkness. Well we have had a super-abundance of rain this week-- great disadvantage to our army-- but oh how the Federals can bring up their gun-boats-- it is actually heart-rendering. To see our once loved ^{happy} country in such a forlorn sad state. Yet "The miserable have no other medicine but hope". Hoping therefore that the "God of battles" is on our side & ^{we} will be crowned with victory-- and peace again restored to our distracted country-- is some consolation. "Disappointment sinks the heart-- but the renewal of hope gives consola-

tion"-- this will apply to Capt Davis who expected to go home to night but the train was delayed.

Sunday March 16, 1862.

Cloudy & damp-- however did not attend church-- Mrs Bradford Mis Annie Patterson Frankie Anderson Capt Davis and myself to a long walk this evening. He still has the blues-- from his sad disappointment. He improves on acquaintance-- if he was single-- I would most assuredly set my cap for him. I admire him greatly-- besides he has been kind & shown me so much friendship since I formed his acquaintance. I sent him a bouquet of choice flowers-- accompanied by a note of friendship-- but poor man can't go at all now.

Monday-- distressing news-- defeated at New Madrid. Would that our people were all of one sentiment-- This glorious sentiment, "United we stand-- divided we fall". Whether we succeed or fail-- in securing its acknowledgement in our day-- it is still worth living for, laboring for, and even dying for, if need be, so thought and acted our fathers, in the times that tried men's soul, I think the love of liberty, the noblest and loftiest aspiration that can inspire the human heart, The Federals have taken Columbia Tennessee, I rejoice that Tenn. is not my native State, after acting as she has,

Thursday ^{20th} Received a letter from Mary at last-- she was complaining as much about my not writing home, as I have been of them-- was somewhat astonished to hear of the arrival of the stranger "Master Collin", I have a great curiosity to see the Gent. as he is first "Lord of Creation", in that family. I feel really sorry for Capt. as, he is sick away from his "better half" Hope his sore throat will not terminate seriously. H__ is honored by the arrival of that brave and noble Capt John Morgan, whom the Federals were desirous of cutting off,

here, as they have a perfect horror of him,
 All the soldiers are leaving for Corinth.
 We are having some extremely cold
 weather, Went around with Mrs B.
 to the hospitals. I saw where Capt Davis lived,
 he came to dinner with us, how much
 I appreciate that note-- it was written
 so nicely-- besides well composed

Sunday March 23rd, 1862.

Heard another very patriotic sermon from Dr Ross.
 He was very jealous in the cause, Col Haws,
 & Cox-- received orders to go to Corinth.
 Monday,
 Our table has been reduced four less this morn-
 ing. Took variations of "Home sweet home"-- having
 more cold weather,

Tuesday-- Took another piece this
 morning-- "Home and hearts" I think it is very pretty,
 More refugees, Mr Lamb & Lady, Mrs Neal & Fanny Bon-
 ner-- from Fayetteville, I think the best policy
 would be to remain at home, if the Federals
 should come, ^{Wednesday} Capt. Davis left for Decatur
 this morning. We will miss him so much,
 I feel very sorry to hear of Mr Johnson's ill-
 ness at Decatur-- he must fair badly-- at
 that miserable little place, though I hope
 he is not seriously sick, for I feel in-
 ted, All vacancy are soon filled-- as fast
 as some leave, others come, so Mrs Bradford
 is determined to have a housfull,

Friday,
 Capt Cheney left us this morning accompani-
 ed by Mr Jack as far as Decatur, Mr
 Pleasants left for Louisiana also,
 Mr Jack returns this evening, stating Mr Johnson
 better & all the rest well, What lovely weather,
 I feel as if summer clothing would be very,
 acceptable, Sue says all the married gentle-
 men take a fancy to me, she thinks Mr S__
 has, Would that they were single, for then,
I wouldn't have to "hang my harp on the
willow"

Saturday. I ought by all means to have made some calls this lovely day, but actually my cold is too desperate to feel pleasant-- therefore couldn't act very pleasant, Went around to Cousin Williams this evening, Corrina & husband were not at home, though little Lula Goodman, was sweetly sleeping, I didnt wake her, so I could see her, but thought I would call again, Judging from personal appearances I hardly think, ^{Cousin Lu,} will survive much longer, poor woman, I have a horror of Consumption, Looking for the Federals, at any time, they are so desperate, & guilty of committing such outrageous acts-- that I sincerely hope I may never see one of the rascals,

Sunday March 30th 1862.

Lovely day: so spring-like, that the Ladys were dressed in spring clothing, The heat was really oppressive in church, met Mr Ed. Rice on the streets-- he is looking quite well, Another lovely day-- not a cloud to darken the sky-- but oh: how sick I've been to day-- thoug^{ht} this morning-- probably I was taking the bilious fever, but I hope not, April 1st-- The warm sun that brings seed time and harvest has returned again,

How cheerful and refreshing all nature at this season, 'Tis sweet to hear the little warblers pouring forth their melodious strains, and hopping from branch to branch. Took a new piece-- "Cast thy shadow from thy brow". Oh: how much I appreciate the acknowledgement of the receipt of that Helmit, 'Tis very nice and sweet-- Just like the Author,

Wednesday 2nd Purchased Mary & myself two beautiful silks-- flounces embossed with velvet-- gave sixty dollars for the two-- cheap enough, Received a letter from home stating for me to be sure and come home, but I can't go this week, so shall be compelled to decline going until I can get a trunk to carry my effects.

Notwithstanding it was raining this morning-- yet I took Nannie's umbrella and paddled away to the College, had no idea of missing two Lessons, How refreshing everything looks after the rain,

Saturday-- was sadly disappointed on waking this morning to find it raining-- finished my work. After dinner dressed myself and went out calling-- was very happily to meet Mary Hadley-- notwithstanding I felt mortified in not calling on her before, she had a great deal to tell me about my old schoolmates &c, 'twas quite a happy meeting for me, as I seldom see any of them. I really thought I would never find the way to Carry Gordons, however after so long found the place, had a very pleasant chat with her, then went around to Mrs Elliotts-- but she had sent the dresses home, so this ended my program for to day. Yet I feel very much fatigued. I have no idea when I have taken such a walk-- don't think I'll take another one soon, yet I feel much better contented. My mind feels somewhat relieved.

Sunday, April 6, 1862.

Another lovely sabbath has forever flown, "Time waits for no man", it travels onward with an even, non-interrupted, inexorable step, without accomodating itself to the delay of mortals,

Monday 7th.

No school to day-- on the account of the burial of Mary Humfreys. I went with Mrs Bradford to the funeral. Dr Ross officiated-- in his cool deliberate manner, we didn't go to the burial. News-- fighting at Corrinth, we have been victorious so far, still fighting-- only hope we will have a complete victory. I'm happy to hear the schedule on the road is changed, I'll leave at eight in the morning,

Tuesday 8th-- Received a trunk from home, but oh: what a cloud darkened the sunshine of my heart in not receiving the money I wrote for, My not receiving it is something I can't comprehend,

Wednesday 9th

Still fighting at Corrinth. The death of General Sidney Johnson is heart-rendering,

He fought bled and died-- for he breathed his last in two minutes after dismounting suppose to have bled to death from a wound in his Leg. "To fight; in a Just Cause, and for our country's glory is the best office of the best of men",

Thursday 10th. Received three hundred dollars enclosed in a letter from home, went around shopping with Miss Binns-- paid off some of my accounts-- am packed ready to leave this place in the morning for Larkinville,

Friday 11th-- was aroused from my peaceful slumbers before day-light this morning by Martha Ann pulling me, saying "Get up-- the town is full of Yankees". **Devils** are more appropriate names, I do detest the name, They captured the train that was bringing our wounded soldiers from Corinth, but the Ladies of the Humane Society have a written permit from that detestable old Michell, to visit our wounded soldiers, I suppose he thinks he is conferring a great favor, by granting the Ladies that privilege, They have arrested several of our Citizens-- parade the streets with as much grandeur as if they were Lords of all they surveyed, They are so contemptible,

Sunday April 13, 1862

What a grand time the contemptible Yanks have arresting our Citizens: I have a perfect contempt for them. Two have gone to the "bourne from whence no traveler returns", Would to God the last one were gone,

Monday-- no school, Miss Annie & company leave us this morning,

Tues-- 15-- "Experience teacheth us that resolution is a sole help at need": therefore I've resolved to continue at school-- and try to make the best of their not sending for me, Mr Wilson returned this evening from Corinth, says "we can't be whipped".

Wed-- 16th-- Arrested Mr Wilson at day-light, but he seems determined to not give any information, Old Michel tried to force him to tell-- but he still remains unshaken.

It seems let come what will-- he means to bear it out, "He is not worthy of the honey-comb, that shuns the hive because the bees have stings" Would that all southern men, possessed like patriotism, I admire his firmness, school is dismissed until Monday.

Thurs 17th-- Can scarcely content myself-- have nothing to employ my mind, will go to Cousin Williams to spend the night.

Friday 18th-- Good news, Cousin W__ saw a gentleman up town-- who walked from Chattanooga, by the by-- walked from Larkinsville today, He states-- though very confidentially-- That Kerby Smith is at Chattanooga with five thousand men, has four thousand between Bridgeport & C. & as soon as they rebuild the bridge between those places-- he will with thirty six engines proceed immediately to retake Murfrees. & Nashville, then come on here & whip the Yanks from this place, I only hope it is reliable,

Saturday 19.. The Yanks came flying back this morning with three of their men feeling the effects of buck shot they received in Jackson for which I say three cheers for "old Jackson", they only go within eight miles of Stephenson on account of three bridges burned between Belle. & that place, God speed, our southerners,

Sunday April 20th 1862,

It has been raining this live long day. Mr Jack went around with Mrs Wilson to see Mr Wilson & also to see that grand old rascal Michel, something the threat he made, "To take the College as a hospital because one of the girls was imprudent-- and ^{so} thoughtless as to shake her fist at their Corpse yes-

terday as they passed,

Monday 21st-- No school
again to day-- can hardly content my self,

Tuesday-- Mr Wilson out on parole of honor, school entirely dismissed except the extra branches will continue to be taught, Two of the prisoners are out on parole, are staying here, names, Ellis & McLeroy of Louis. ordered very suddenly to leave,

Wednesday

23rd Heard some very unpleasant news this morning, which was Henry Dillard and Frank Cotten were taken prisoners-- brought here, stayed three days-- took the Oath of Allegiance, [oath of loyalty to the Union] and have gone a "glimering", on account of their age I presume they are excusable, The most remarkable occurrence of to day, was Mr J__'s reading to me a chapter in an old Bible published in 1782, The oldest book I ever have seen, To cap the climax we then went into the house and played several games of Ucre" 'twas really descending from the ridiculous ^{sublime} to the ridiculous, Bettie Harris was in to see me this evening and we have put our minds to work to contrive some plan to get home. Mrs Bradford will not agree to me going with her without a gentleman, so I must feel contented.

Friday 25th--

Glorious news, Mr Shooter has come for Bettie-- & has procured a passport for me also, I know not how to express my gratitude for his kindness, we leave Sunday morning-- I have really become attached to Mrs Bradford & family-- that I dislike to part with them, went around to the College to see Mr Wilson he is out on "parole of honor", as the scamps call it, yet I think they are entirely destitute of honor, Every foot of soil that they tread on, is polluted.

Sunday 27.. 1862..

After rising before day-light, Mr J. & I-- to go to the depot, I was disappointed-- we couldn't go-- as there was so many "Yanks" going up, I have a disinclination to not go on the cars with them at any rate-- wouldn't go, but Mr Shooter has been so kind & has put himself to some trouble to get us off, Mrs B. & myself went to the grave yard, one of our poor soldiers was buried, The Yanks were preparing to bury one of theirs, I feel as if the southern soil was too pure to have their rascals buried in it,

Monday 28th. Disappoin-
ted again, -- Bettie has been staying with me, as she sent the vehicle home, I am trying to console, her, as for me, it has not affected me in one way-- or the other, The bell has just rung for dinner, & there's the Omnibus at the gate-- only five minutes-- no dinner of course, so off we go with a snack, The Yanks made great efforts to entertain us were very kind and polite-- but I couldn't countenance them, didn't deign to speak, Reached home about five, very unexpectedly to all, went up to Sisters Ann's, Miss Lizzie & she had been out to Annis's & I met them in town on their way home,

Since I came home and found all well-- I feel anxious to return to H__ for I can hear more news, & feel better contented. Have no communications here only with the abominable Yanks,

Went to Bill's from there to George's and then to Annis's

Thursday May 1st--
very cool for May-- however-- all things are strange and changable these times, Have practiced a little-- but oh me: I can't feel contented doing any-thing, would I had stayed in Huntsville I feel as if it had been a month since I left. These are times to try

men's souls,

Saturday 3rd George came home last night-- he and Bill came over to see us this morning-- I have had a sick headache, besides have been very lonely and discontented.

Sunday ^{May} 4th--

Rain-- rain, the Yanks have been to John's took all his meat-- threw it out of doors, leaving for it "to remain there until they returned"

Those men shooting in the trains have caused a great deal of mischief that perhaps they would not have done.

Monday 5th-- Those dirty degraded scamps have been to Larkinville to day plundering and pilfering-- they had a thorough search at Bill's broke open my trunks and damage me some, Took my breastpin, bracelet, port-money containing three dollars only-- very fortunately I think, Mary sent over in double-quick for me, stating the Yanks had run George-- and taken Bill, Mr Murray, Staples, Keeble and Bradford on to Huntsville as prisoners,

Tues. 6th-- Oh: what a deserted forlorn appearance Larkinville wears, I never thought they would stop at a countries villlage, however as they burned Camden, our little town will be the next. Well: Mary and I are determined to gather all news we can-- whether that is good bad or in different, Very cool weather for May, yet beautiful, lovely, days, no clouds to darken the clear blue sky. Yet how many poor hearts have been made to ache, and the sunshine of our happiness darkened, by those contemptible Yanks, I feel so uneasy about our prisoner-- (at least our men) in H__ though I feel-- that the kind and patriotic ladies of H_ will not permit them to suffer for anything to eat at any rate,

Friday 9th--

Well the business in S_ ever with the ladies has ceased, Mary and myself are not contented unless we go to S_ twice a day,

Can it be possible, the "Bush-whackers", as those imps call them have all returned except Bill, who they arrested again & for what; we are not able to comprehend,

If this is not living in subjugation, I know not what to term it; for it is as much as I ever expect to experience,

As the old adage, "Every dog has his day" I sincerely hope from the depth of my heart, they will be Justly rewarded, and the day of retribution not far hense,

Sunday, May 11th 1862

Miss Lizzie stayed with Mary George & myself last night-- we notwithstanding it was the Sabbath spent the day with her, I always feel a remorse of conscience after visiting on the Sabbath, as I never have indulged in such,

Such long walks are not very desirable at any rate, Oh: how schocked when Buck Keeble told me James Austin was dead, died several days ago, I had to leave the room to give vent to my feelings, Why should we feel schocked and mortified, when knowing-- the sad unwelcome messenger "Death-- has all times and seasons for his own, though I can scarcely realize this as being so-- however, it has mared my Happiness to day,

Monday 12th. Mary George and myself stayed at Sister Ann to night; I feel very uneasy about George for fear that the Yanks will get ^{him}

Tuesday 13th Have heard nothing from William yet, Lizzie seems anxious to send down to hear from him, but the men all have a perfect horror

of Yankeedom, therefore all her efforts in trying to prevail upon some one to go with be a failure,

Wednesday;

Went to Lizzie's this morning, she spoke of getting Aunt Betsy Martin to go with her to H__ I feeling very anxious to go down offered my services, no sooner proposed than accepted,

Thursday 15th-- How very unexpected Mrs Dillard Ledbetter & May seemed to see us roll up this eve--

Friday 16, I really thought the Yank Captain was going to refuse our passing-- but after some chat-- he gave us a passport to Camden we then succeeded in getting one to H__ Reached H_ four O'clock, succeeded in getting William out on parole of honor,

Sunday May 18

Can it be possible that I have awoken from my peaceful slumbers once again in "room No. 1"-- Spent a very pleasant time with Mrs Bradford & family, I am so happy to meet them-- felt very much attached to them all, went to church to day-- heard Dr Ross, but was more particularly attracted by Old Michael and his aid, who was out in all their grandeur and pomposity, The people here, had not heard of our victory near Williamsburg, which surely must be correct, but they are cut off entirely from any communication except with the Yanks,

Monday 19..

Found myself at Mrs B's again, she sent for me last night, I was escorted by Joe; Cornelia Martha Ann Celia Flora Suzy, quite a number,

Tuesday, Have been around to Mrs B's to bid them good-bye, She gave me some verbena. Left Huntsville betwixt eleven and twelve, gave a long look and a sigh as I passed through, Mr Jack was the last one of the "Lordly sex-- I gazed upon, We chatted as long as could be heard, I then gazed as far as I could see him, I expect he thought I was very presumptuous, reached Mrs Dillard's at dusk after a long weary travel,

Wednesday 21st-- Have been halted, at every house, stopped by every passer by, till we have without a doubt been as long coming from Woodville as we were coming from H__ yesterday, Mary seems so much mortified about them taking George last Sunday,

Thursday
Came to Annis's this morning, but havn't felt in a humor to practice.

Friday, Georg and Bill have both reached home, look like birds out of a cage, though George says he was on parole of honor all the time, We have been expecting them both here, but they have gone to see J. first,

Sunday 25th

Have been sick abed all day of a miserable cold, Mary Lizzie and Annis went to Mary's, Therefore I felt lonely, thought I would walk to meet them, but Mary rode on very grand & wouldn't let me ride, because I've been teasing her. I've no one else to tease since I left H__ & it is so very lonely I will have that to do to while off a few lonely moments, Have finished a pair of gloves, will try & get some of the sun-burn off my hands, Not feeling well this week I don't take

that interest in practicing that I should,
but promise myself every day to practice
more, keep poor Lizzie all at it;

Wednesday 28th-- Would that we could
hear some reliable news, I feel a great
anxiety all the time to hear something
reliable Annis & Lizzie have gone to
spend the evening with Mary, I
am anxious to see them to
Nothing of any consequence has occurred to day
excepting Mr Young return from Chattanooga
with some cheering news, States we are
expecting a grand battle at Richmond
also at Corinth, we have large forces
at both places,

Friday 30th I arose
quite late this morning, Mrs Morris and
Beck came in before I had dressed
or eat my breakfast, Two men came
this-- made several enquirys of Annis.
I feel confident they were Yankees
dressed in Citizens clothes, They asked,
if Mr Brown had cotton to sell,
We have such a nice bait of
fish for supper, unfortunately I'm
afraid to eat any. So I'll have
my share reserved for breakfast;
he was very successful in fishing,

Saturday 31st-- Mr Morris paid me
twenty dollars for Jane's hire last
year and this excepting four dollars,
Annis has made her curtains & hung
them up, quite an improvement,

Sunday June 1st 1862

No sooner than we finished our breakfast,
than it was announced that the horses
were at the gate-- that Sister Ann sent
for us, Annis went with us, we there
met Dr Martin an incessant talker,
he was making some efforts to keep out
of Yankee clutches, The storm this
evening was very severe, wind blew very

hard, hail a great deal, blew a table
out of the passage & broke the bowl
that was setting on it all to pieces,
over which Sister Ann greatly lamented,

Monday still raining, Annis left us
this evening, we are rather lonely,
Mr Martin stays here through the
day, and cheers us with his windy
tales & cheerful laughs,

Tuesday, Yankees
have burned Mrs Dillard & Ledbetter
The train was shot into Just below
her house by Kelley-troopers, & they
accused her of harboring them, It
is hard to submit to such as that,

Thursday 5th This evening finds us at
Cousin Cary's, Jim Austin doesn't
look as badly as I expected to see him,
his arms & hands are paralyzed, says
he has not fed himself in sixty days,
and is badly salivated, however he
seemed to be very cheerful and in good
spirits, is very anxious to go to Larkin-
ville, Sad news-- Mrs Warren & children
(four, have been murdered, by Cato
Tipten's negro man, most outrageous
murder I have ever heard of, I
suppose he thought he would do
it on the Yankee's credit Some
negro's are too free at any rate
specially since the Yanks come in

Friday 6th Leave this evening for
home, Cousin Cary came with us
as a matter of course was carrying
on with his nonsense as usual;

Saturday, Mary & myself spent
the day at Bill's, Our forces have
evacuated Corrinth gone to Ocolona

Sunday June 8th

Notwithstanding it being Sabbath, we

spent the day at Mr Keeble's, I use to have consciencious scruples about visiting on this day, but the Yanks have so provoked & harassed me I scarcely know when I am doing right,

Monday, Miss Lizzie Sister Ann Mary & myself, spent to day at Mrs Ellis'. This visit, brought to my mind some pleasant recollections of childhood, I was then a frequent visitor at this place, Miss Lizzie came home with us,

Tuesday, Spent the day at Georges, he was busy cutting his wheat, 'Tis rumored we have had a great victory at Richmond,

~~Thursday~~ ^{Wednesday} Stayed at home, to day for a rarity

Thursday, we start the day with Cousin Ellen, went over to see Mrs Buchanan, and this evening to Mrs Young, I would suppose fighting is anticipated-- from the number of Yankee Soldiers going above, I shouldn't think this excessive hot weather, would agree with them, rain is greatly needed-- crops are suffering for rain,

Friday. 'Tis exceedingly warm to day, I can't work even if I had any-- read little and sleep as much, I was reading the "Cincinatti Enquirer", but was disgusted, so much "lies", although Yanks accuse it of simpathizing with the South, great simpathy indeed,

Saturday, we have spent two days at home, in succession, it ought to be marked down,

had a black-berry pie for dinner,
 I hardly think one berry (ripe) could
 be found in the patch,
 Annis sent for me this evening
 but declined going until morning,
 'Tis reported have been fighting
 between Stephenson & Bridgeport--
 we again have gained the victory.

Sunday June 15th 1862

Was astonished to find Mary Nep & Will Brown
 all here when we arrived,

Monday 16. Sister
 Ann Annis & myself spent the day at
 Mrs Brown's, The day was pleasantly spent
 considering the darkies had run away
 & John & Mrs Moore presence was
 not with us,

Tuesday Have made a poor
 beginning for practicing this week,

Wednesday 18.. Spent the day at Mary's
 made some purchases, amounting to about
 thirty two dollars. Nep's going to the
 Yankee's troubles George a great deal,
 Bill don't seem to be at all troubled
 about Louis going, I would surely
 go for them.. Old Micheal has publish-
 ed in the "Huntsville Reville" for all who
 slaves run away there to come & get
 them, 'Tis hard to see them editing
 a news (rather lying) paper, I know
 the Citizens feel mortified, but our
 sky is now threatened with dark
 clouds, & we will have to submit
 for a season.

Thursday 19. Spent the
 day at Betsy Robinsons, I can't con-
 tent my-self at one place,
 though I always find company
 every where I go, therefore am not alone,
 in my great propensity to visit,

Friday 20.. Annis's birthday, had a birthnight supper, fortunately George and Bill came in to enjoy it with us.

Saturday 21st: Having some very warm weather rain greatly needed John passed by on his way fishing, The soil is too dry to plough crops will suffer if it doesn't rain very soon, I almost suffer, as it is, I've commenced sewing this week, it appears rather awkward as I've not sewed any in some time, my mind is continually thinking of Yankees,
Two of our Cavalry took supper with us to night John Parks and Atkins, Henry Dillard went to George's,

Sunday June 22nd

Spent the day at George's, seems to be very much troubled because H Dillard, rode his horse off, The train was again shot into, aggravated the Yanks very much, Great "rumpus" among them,

Monday

Thought I would do great practicing this week, commenced bright & early, but was interrupted by Will Brown, consequently will accomplish little practicing this week, rode out to Larkinsville this evening,

Tuesday 24th. Mary & May have gone to Bill's, rained this eve & they didn't return, Something up with the Yanks, they are moving up to Chattanooga a great many troops, Would we could hear more from the battle of Richmond, Mr Horsick & Dunlily, leaves for Chattanooga, I suppose they will gather all the news, hope they will return very soon, 'Tis so very disagreeable to live in

this way, I am perfectly disgusted with "Yankeedom",

Thursday 25th I am not contented doing anything-- we rode out to Georges this evening, there learned the town was full of Yanks, Two Regiments of Helleck's division, camps there to night, on their way to C__ -- I sincerely hope from the depth of my heart they will meet with quite a hearty & warm reception at the point of the bayonett--

Friday 27th
Spent the day at Mrs "Les" Morris's Just a month since she called on me, but I've been waiting on Miss Lizzie to go with, so she passed yesterday without calling, The day passed very pleasantly,

Saturday 28th Spent the day at old Mrs Morris's, News the Yanks are going to station a Regiment in our little unpretended village, they were examining the round houses, & looking for water, They will soon eat Larkinville out & drink her dry.

Sunday 29th

Have spent this lovely morn in writing to Mrs Bradford, will have an opportunity of sending it by George, he is going down to Huntsville to get Tip-- Miss Lizzie Mary & myself after sleeping nearly all evening dressed ourselves & went to George's to stay with Mary during his absence.

Monday 30th The 10th Wisconsin Regiment are at last stationed, in our little village, We received intelligence to day of a glorious victory at Richmond, would that I could once again get my claws on a Southern newspaper, Three of the Yanks came to Mary's this evening for milk but they didn't have the pleasure of getting any.

Straw hat was quite impertinent, I think they kept on out to Annis's,

Tuesday July 1.

Three Yanks were out talking very happily with George's negro man, when they saw Mary although she was in her night-dress-- for it was bright & early, They very soon commenced asking for chickens, she told the little negro's to catch one, & they gave orders to catch a Rooster, & then had the imprudence to ask her if she could chang 25 dollars. So they could pay her, Georg came without Tip-- but would not consent for any of us to go home,

Wednesday July 2nd Mary & I came home thinking perhaps we would be out of sight of those contemptible scamps,

Thursday 3rd

Annis had four Yanks to call on her this morning, she sold them two Roosters, for the fourth of July, I suppose that is the way, they intend, celebrating it, This evening eleven came searching-- they had been all around in this neighborhood, shot several times at old Mr Brown, but fortunately were successful, My passions were considerably irritated-- when they went up stairs to search, though he made so many apologys, rather cooled me down when I saw they were not searching thoroughly, Annis looked as if she could "bite a ten-penny nail"

July 4th. Finished my riding habit--

Saturday July 5th

The "bush-whackers, have knocked under seven ^{Yanks}

Sunday July 6th 1862,

Monday 7th There were forty Yankee Imp's called this morning on their way from Ira Brown's, went their before the dawn of day expecting to catch him at home, but he was too 'old' for them consequently they returned as

they went,

Tuesday 8.. A portion of Buell's Army were stationed at Larkinville a day or two. Two of them came out here, made a more favorable impression than Michell division, because they conducted themselves better, On Thursday Fri. Sat & Sunday, last, we had another glorious victory at Richmond, Ought we not to thank with overwhelming hearts of gratitude acknowledge, the bountiful smiles & blessing of the Almighty God at one great victory at Richmond, We have only seen a little, Georgia paper, consequently know not the particulars, though our loss was heavy. Would that we could get a Richmond paper, 'Tis rumored that, five of the Larkinville Guards were killed Bob Hodge one of the number, also Mr Blake was found, what sad afflictions upon the families, still, how consoling to know they fell in a noble & glorious cause, fighting for a countryes freedom and liberties. Also twelve wounded, among the number was Capt. Robinson, whose leg was shot off, Oh! his suffering must be intense, I deeply sympathize with him in his sore affliction, Having just heard of the death of his brother, "Afflictions never come singly but upon us" though this may make a great change in him morally, A C Murray, is also slightly wounded, Have been very closely confined at home since the Yankees came, thinking probably they would leave, soon, though the prospects for leaving are not as bright as they were the day they arrived, A great number has passed through on their way to Chattanooga, I have seen only the fewest number yet, Have been busy all the week picking silk for my dresses

Sunday July 13th 1862

Mary George, has again sent for Mary & I to come & stay with her, George is going

down to H_ making another effort to get
Tip--

Monday 14.. How swiftly time flies;
may not this thought, be deeply engraved
upon our hearts; Every moment which flies
is irrecoverably lost,

Tuesday 15.. Still picking
silk, 'twill be a dear dress when finished
considering the labor.

Wednesday 16, Schocking news,
Can it be possible-- Billie Robinson has died
from the wound received at the battle
of Richmond, "Gone to that bourne from
whence, no traveller returns", "Leaves have
their time to fall and flowers to wither
but-- death has all seasons and times
for his own", Such is the uncertainty
of life; yet oh, how seldom do we re-
alize it; This death I cannot realize
although I feel very sad, I have
a hope of its being only a false
rumor, If it is so, 'Tis a heavy &
sore affliction upon his family.

Thursday 18.. How very annoying it is, to see
Brown Smith & Cotten hauling
their cotton to the depot, for Yank
Cotton Buyers. I know they are noth-
ing less, It is treason, & those that
sell to them will be dealt with
as traitors to their country, Yet
I feel assured it was ignorance
in some, They couldn't deceive me
in any such a manner, how
true the adage, "The love of money is
the root of all evils", There were
one hundred Alabamians Joined the
Yanks, to day, shame, shame on
them, Traitors to their country, how
I detest them, How true the expres-
sion, "He who is a traitor to his coun-
try, is a serpent, which turns to bite
the bosom that warms it, I sin-

cerely hope they will be Justly retributed,

Saturday 19, Cheering news, The report of Mr Robinson's death all false, he is improving, hope he will continue so.

Sunday July 20th 1862

Another lovely Sabbath has flown, & I as usual have spent the greater part of the day in sleeping, since the Yanks came in, we have been deprived of church services entirely We as a christian people are not living as we ought; neglecting our first & all important duty serving God. The sins all lie at our own door, we are to blame, how prone we are to neglect our duties,

Monday 21. To day the anniversary of that hard & well won battle of Manassas, where the gallant Fourth Ala. conducted themselves honorably and bravely.

Tuesday 22, Have been picking so faithfully that my eyes have suffered no little,

Wednesday 23.
A good many Yanks passed this morning on their way from Mr Browns, they are still in search of him, but I'm inclined to think he is too old to be caught by Yank Scoundrels, at least I hope he is,

Thursday 24th Old Mr Green came down this morning listening to me play, he looks wretchedly, I think he will soon "shuffle off this mortal coil", The rumors we hear are really disgusting, but I have gotten so, that they never make an impression either in one way or the other, Sent by Johnson, for a Calico dress gave four dollars

for it-- forty cts a yard,

Friday 25th

Have removede one burden from my mind, finished picking up my dresses, and Annis & myself took it over to Mrs Hodge this evening, she weighed it & it weighed three pounds, will fill fifteen yards, I have despaired of its making good looking cloth, met Miss Lizzie & Mrs Allen coming from Mrs Morris s, she had something to say about the light-horse Cavalry, Hodge's poor house,

Saturday 26th The Y_

have hoisted the Stars & Stripes & a red flag again in L_ I hope they will be ^{taken down for them}

Sunday July 27 1862

Another lovely Sabbath has forever flown, with all its cares and distractions.

Monday

Have finished two garments to day, have almost given up my practicing, have been so busily engaged otherwise,

Tuesday 29. Have made Anderson a pair of pants, He will feel himself highly honored, when he gets on his velvet pants,

Wednesday 30, No Yanks have honored us with their presence this weef, Would that I may never see them again. Cousin Cary has been to see us, I don't think any one can get lonely where he is with all gab and nonsense, says he will be for Mary & myself next week certain, I think his promises are easily made and altogether as easily broken, I think the Cotton Sellers are running, selling their cotton, fearing they will

be arrested, good enough for them,
Cavalry has burned Birdsong's cotton,

Thursday 31st 'Tis rumored that all
who have been dealing with Yanks, will
be made to suffer for it, Shame: shame,
on the cotton sellers, pie milk and
chicken sellers, but ten fold more on
her, who has been receiving presents
from those Imps, such as pickle pork
candy drops & sich like, Shame on such
patriotism, if this is patriotism, Good
Lord deliver me from it,

Friday,
August 1st, Another month gone, one
in which I have been excessively busy
sewing &c, Another months rolled
around and still finds the self-
same Yanks still at Larkinville
which would be whipped out
in ten days, I never was so perfectly
disgusted harassed and annoyed as
I was this morning when Wily told
one, 'twas rumored over the river, That I
& a Yanky Capt. were married, I have
not been as angry before since the
31st of January, when I was at Mrs Bradfords

Sunday August 3rd 1862

Excitement has been the topic of the
day both with white & black, Poor dar-
kies have been dodging from the Yanks
as they are out pressing negro's to build
breast-works at Stephenson, They called
in this evening, whilst 'twas pouring
down rain, to give a receipt of the
negro's they were taking from here,
It wouldn't amount to any-thing
at any-rate, The Lieutenant & my
self came in contact. I said some
very "tough" things to him, though
he pretended to take it all good hu-
moredly-- and acted the, gentleman, if I
could do them enough Justice-- to think
for one moment, that there is one gen-

tleman among them, but I said nothing to provoke him, made use of no abusive language, as that is something beneath the dignity of a woman,

Oh: how I felt for some of the negroes, if they were condemned to be hung, they would not have looked worse,

Monday 4th

Patsy, "picked up and left" this morning quoting from old Mrs Brown, for I believe all of hers have "picked up and left", Though Pat had no other motive in view only trying to get to Henry, but oh: Mr Johnson "picked up" her at Larkinville,

Friday 8th "O sleep it is a gentle thing, Beloved from pole to pole", how I was enjoying my pleasant slumber, until aroused very suddenly by Mary, telling me to "get up, that Mrs Morris is here", I thought she said Forrest, I bounced expecting to see Forrest Cavalry, but of course found it all but a dream, Mrs Morris & Beck, have spent the evening with us,

Saturday 9th Another rest day, as I have finished my dress & have nothing particularly to do, Mrs McCarroll & Manda, spent the evening here, Henry got a pass to come home, he thinks they will all be here soon,

Sunday August 10th 1862

'Tis said by Bailey, that, "Dreams are the rudiments of the great State to come, we dream what is about to happen" would that my dream last night could be realized, but I fear will never, We have safely landed at Sister Ann's, notwithstanding we have had a "tough" time reaching here,

Monday, 11th It has been some time since Sister Annis, Mary, Ann, & myself have spent a day together, 'Tis so seldom we all meet-- that is a great satisfaction to us,

Tuesday 12.. We all spent the day at Mrs Keeble's, enjoyed ourselves very well,

Wednesday 13 Mifs L_ Buck Keeble Mary & myself went to Cousin Cary's-- beat cider this evening, had a good time drinking cider eating fruit-- &c, James Austin is improving though slow, met Dr Wood coming on home, who bore the sad intelligence to my ears; That all my negroes had gone to the Yanks,

Thursday 14.. Spent the day at Mr Young's-- thinking perhaps I would hear the correct report about Kates leaving, but heard nothing satisfactory, consequently I will be off in the morning.

Friday 15.. After meeting with some difficulty in leading the horse, we at last reached Bellefonte at one O'clock. Fortunately found Kate safe, all rumors false, about her leaving, brought them all home, & they were exceedingly anxious to come, The two youngest children were not well, have been chilling, reached Mr Keeble's at dark, sent them on home & I stayed all night,

Saturday 16, I arose this morning with great satisfaction knowing my darkies

had all reached their
destiny safely.

Sunday August 17th 1862

Another lovely Sabbath has flown,
and we are still harassed with
those contemptible Yanks, occasionally
our Cavalry fires on them, generally
slaying one or two-- and wounding
about the same,

Monday 18.. I think
I shall spend this week at home, though
no place on the green earth can afford
one pleasure now-- specially in Yankee
dom, How Long O Lord will we be
aggravated with those ondacious
scamps, If the remainder of their
days were spent in Larkinvill I
should never carry a pass from
them-- unless in a case of emergency.

Wednesday 20th Sent to L__ for pow-
ders-- and Quinine, I am going to
make some effort to cure my
little negroes, Received the long
looked for, however none the less
welcome bale of thread this evening,
I shall be busily engaged for a
while,

Thursday 21.. I have wound
so much thread until my fingers
are all cut up with it; but
I am very thankful to Cousin Cary
for the nice present-- nevertheless I
was to divide with a great many.

Friday 22nd The Yanky devils have
been up here this evening, followed
Ned's wagon-- poor suspicious scamps
he brought a trunk of books
from Bill's for me to claim,
they seemed to gazed very ear-
estly at the trunk, though
they did not break it open,

have been very successful in
stopping the chills,

Saturday 23rd Kate has been
sick abed-- all day-- Mifs Lizzie
came this evening to stay all
night with us-- Sister Ann is
at Mr Compton's, Sent for the
D^r to night as Kate was very sick
the pickets wouldn't let him come,
God grant they will be Justly rewarded.

Sunday August 24th 1862

Bev Keeble and Mark Young called this
morning to accompany us to Mr Ellis's
to water-melons and other fruits,
I was very glad I was excusable for not
going-- though I should have relished
the fruits very much,

Monday 28th
Good news: Yanks have absconded, The
day of deliverance is at hand, God will
give us strength, will they use it, or
will they wait for further provocation.
I thought yesterday from their movements
That something was up among them,
Our cavalry or "Bush-whackers" are in
pursuit of them-- there has been great
rejoicing in Larkinville,

Tuesday 26th
Sad: distressing: Yesterday the heart
buoyed up-- by the hope of a final
deliverance of the Yanks off the
Memphis & Charleston road, but oh:
~~their~~^{our} hopes again blasted by their re-
turn, however they can't stay here
much longer, when we are
gaining victories in Virginia & other
places, The latest news, "The Devil has
dispatched to Stonewall Jackson, to kill
no more untill he made further prep-
arations to receive them", I have
been down to day viewing their for-
tifications, I hardly think it would

resist five thousand, as some of
them anticipated,

Thursday 28th

Johnie Moore spent the day with
us, spent the day very pleasantly,
notwithstanding Kate was very sick,
I had to call in the D^r again,

Friday 29th. Annis sent for Sister
Ann Mary & myself, she looks
rather lonely-- her families of negroes
are all over the river, in safety.
'Tis the place for all negroes
now, would that mine were
well enough to cross the river,

Saturday 30.. Mary came home,
went down in town got permission
to get Tuss, and over the river she goes.

Sunday August 31st 1862

Yanks gone again, though we are all afraid
to rejoice, until we hear they are entirely
gone. O: the destruction, destruction our little
Village presents, spent the day at Georg's
there met John, and Henry Dillard, he
moved a load of Bills furniture-- not-
withstanding it is the holy Sabbath.

Monday Sept 1st Some rain, however
we have another load to bring from
Bill's,

Tuesday 2nd Bought Frone from
George to day, He is in the habit of
taunting me whenever he sees me
about confiscating property, This eve-
ning propose to sell me Frone, No
sooner proposed than accepted,
yet I gave an exorbitant price, one
thousand dollars,

Wednesday 3rd

The men generally begin to open
their eyes-- fearing the Conscript, I

think it the best thing in existence, I will rejoice to see men taken that have been condemning bush whacking;

Thursday 4th We have had four strangers to call in to day, for dinner, by the name of McCullum, Dodd and Targent, The latter a discharged soldier, who has been out bush whacking. The other two seemed to be gentlemen, Mr Dodd in speaking of the Conscript, says he "never met with as many weak-breasted and diseased men in his life as he has very recently,

Friday 5th Annis came home this morning-- reporting her Aunt Mary very much distressed about Georg's selling Frone, say she cries about it; she had better save her tears for something more important, for I hardly think she will ever own her again,

Saturday 6th
Tom Larkin and Davy Hart Jr have spent the day with us, have finished a good weeks sewing, I feel somewhat relieved, Sent for Jane to come to see her mama.

Sunday September 7th 1862

We have this lovely Sabbath, enjoyed the priviledge of assembling at church once again, with hearts full of gratitude for the great blessing of our deliverance. Grubs's sermons always appear unfinished to me, Keith's prayer was very affecting,-- we went to George's for dinner, There met Fan hadn't seen her in a long time before,

Monday 8.. Notwithstanding 'twas almost sunset, when the news reached me, That a company of Cavalry from

Huntsville, would be in to night,
 I completed my toilette hastily &
 walked down to town to see them,
 Just before reaching my destiny, I
 met Sister Ann with Meg Cotten
 coming home, they reported the la-
 test news was, "The Yanks are in
 H__ & company will not be there",
 how sadly disappointed I was
 though Meg & myself went onn and
 spent the night with Mrs Young.

Tuesday 9 Mrs Young came home
 with us & spent the day, very
 pleasantly until George & Bill
 came up, George ripping and
 swearing about Sister Ann's house
 he sold, 'twas sufficient to mar
 the happiness, of any one, they
 casted a gloom over the remainder
 of the evening,

Wednesday 10..
 Meg & myself stayed together
 last night Sister Ann went
 home with Mrs Young, That
 company passed through yesterdy
 False rumor about the Yanks
 being in H__ Just as I expected,

Friday 12, Wore off my sickness
 to day by twisting thread, have
 twisted ten cuts,

Saturday 13
 Feel greatly relieved, having
 finished a weeks sewing
 for my little darkies, it
 is no little trouble,

Sunday September 14.. 1862

Several gentlemen passed this even-
 ing on their way to Nashville to
 get their Yankee Negroes, among
 the no. was George & Bill. I
 sincerely hope they will be success-

ful in getting them, since their departure I've heard that the Yankees are in Nashville, A great many Southern Soldiers have passed through on their way to join the Confederate Army, I am glad the Conscript has such good effect, We have now more men in the field than Lincoln has, God grant, we may have a complete and decisive victory-- if their is any fighting done at Nashville, we have recently had several victories in Virginia, one at Manassas,

Wednesday 17.. Lizzie and myself have been preparing to go to Cousin Cary's will leave this evening,

Thursday 18.. This day has been wisely decided upon, by our President; for fasting and prayer, though I must confess with shame I was not aware of it until this morning, or I should have made preparations for going to church, Dave & George left with the rest of the company this morning, What noble boys, not waiting for the Conscript to take them, Those men that started for negroes have returned as they left,

Friday 19, Had it not have been for old Mr Keith we might; as we returned from Cousin Cary's have met 20 of our Soldiers with forty Yanky prisoners. It would have been a glorious sight to me,

Saturday 20 Mr Stephens and Lain Allen called very unexpectedly to day.

Sunday Sept 21st 1862

I couldn't keep from feeling a little sorry to see my little darkies leave this morning. Heard a very good doctrinal sermon from Robt Frazier this morning. After services accompanied Dr Erskin in his buggy down to Georges,-- there met with Mary & Annis-- who went on with us to Sister Ann's.

Monday 22nd

I have nothing now of any consequence to do,

Tuesday 23rd, It has been some time since I left here I feel quite anxious to return, found Mollie almost on the eve of matrimony-- however any one would judge so-- from her secret communications to H__.

Wednesday 24.. Poor old Mr Green after a long protracted illness-- this morning at two O'clock, "shuffled off this mortal coil", John Parks came riding up about dinner time. Mary was all smiles, with occasionally a blush playing upon her lovely countenance,

Thursday 25.. Mr Ogilvie has returned from Virginia on a furlough, his arm was broken by a shell in the Manassas fight, we have had several fights-- victories very recently in Virginia, one in Maryland. Said to be the bloodiest of this war, we have forces now both in Maryland & Pennsylvania, making them share some of the evils of invaders,

Friday 26.. Jerry went to
Larkinville & brought Mr Ogilvie
home with him, he is looking
well, and as awkward as ever,
This evening I was looking in Mary's
trunk-- came across a note she re-
from Mrs Elliot concerning those
things she had written down for,
became exceedingly wrath-- when I asked ^{her about it}

Sunday September 28.. 1862

Another lovely lonely Sabbath, Though
every-thing appears brighter in our
political world-- since Providence has
been lavishing his smiles and bless-
ings upon us, we have within the
last ^{four} months-- had twenty six vic-
tories-- with only two defeats,

Monday 29.. Feel less like practicing
on Monday-- than any other day
of the week,

Tuesday 30th Annis
Lizzie & myself were disappointed
this morning in not getting
our visit to Allen Robertson,
the horse was sick, I did not
make the discovery until I mounted,
no sooner dismounted than he
lay down, After our return in
the house, Mary commenced
rejoicing over our disappointment,
She then revealed the anxiously
wished for secret, which is
that she and Mr Parks are
to be united in the holy bonds
of wedlock, in the morning at
ten Clock, but again disappointed
received a note this evening stating
he was very sick, could not
be here-- but as soon as he
is able to ride, will be over,

Wednesday 1st Bill Williams,
& Lady-- after spending the day

& night here, went over to Ira Brown's with a "pack of lies", about great preparation for a wedding--

Thursday 2nd Spent the day at Bill's-- saw his ugly offspring-- though Lizzie wouldn't allow any comments--

Friday 3rd Finished one quilt-- though that was nothing to quilt, Jerry returned from Huntsville yesterday-- Hollenbery wouldn't exchange any music, but sent other copies,

Sunday October 5th 1862

Not having the privilege of attending church, we all spent the day with Cousin Betsy, I never approved of visiting on Sabbath until very recently, There is too great a monotony of Sabbaths,-- staying at home every Sabbath-- lounging about,

Monday 6th Annis very busy-- preparing Jerry off, had his coat to make over, sent for Mrs McCarrol to assist in making it over,

Tuesday 7th 'Tis exceedingly strange we, at least Mary-- has not heard from the Lieutenant If I were her I should not feel so unconcerned,

Wednesday 8th Jerry with several others left this morning to Join Capt Girly, we spent the evening with Beck Morris-- She & her mother must lead a very lonely life, I wouldn't be placed in a similar situation for anything.

Thursday 9, Col. Snodgrass is now at home-- wouldn't be surprised if he

& Mollie Jane didn't step off,
Put up a quilt this morning,
was so annoyed-- I think it
shall be the last for a season,

Friday 10, The clouds are threatening
rain-- it was drizzling a little
this evening-- when the Leften
rode up-- very unexpectedly too,
I then as a matter of course was
deprived of Mary's company, though
Annis came up and assisted me
in quilting had our room arranged
for him to sleep in,

Saturday 11.. Had some rain last
night, 'tis really chilly this morning--
though we feel the cold much
more sensibly-- having had some
s very warm weather, Mr Collier
& family received a ticket to Mary
Jane Brown's wedding-- who will
bid adieu to single wretchedness Monday ^{morning 9 Oct}

Sunday Oct 12" 1862

Quite a raw day-- How delicious those
peaches were, Allen Robinson ought
to be happy-- has every comfort and
convenience in life, though it is
by his own personal exertions,

Monday 13.. Mary Jane has a
very gloomy morn to leave single
blessedness-- for double wretchedness,
They will have quite a
"bust-up" at old Mr Snodgrass's,

Tuesday 14 Mary looks very un-
concerned about to-morrows morn
I went into the parlour prac-
ticed awhile, & then commenced
preparing the room Mary
would come in & occasionally
look into the room,

Wednesday 15.. "This is one of the morn-

ings of morning"-- so says Mr Elliotte,
 The crowd begins to gather, Sister
 Ann Mary-George and Cousin Betsie
 Robinson have come-- then Mr Jerry
 Brown and Lady, After anxious look-
 ing, and impatient waiting, we hear
 the buggies, at some distance,
 Here they come "Old Bobbie" Mr Parks,
 Parson Brown & Ben Snodgrass, It was
 with a little effort, that brother Eddie
 prevailed on Mr Frazier to take his
 propper seat, however succeeded, Then
 comes the bride & groom, I never felt
 as serious in my life I made great
 efforts to refrain from shedding tears,
 however I don't think any one noticed
 me in the parlour except Lizzie as
 I was sitting in a very retired place,
 Yet after they left, I gave vent to
 my feelings, and it was a great
 relief too,-- Oh how much I did
 miss her last night, I woke up in
 the night as usual, but Mary was
 missing, no one can imagine how
 much I do miss her,

Friday 17

Annis & myself went to Mrs
 Ledbetters' this evening,

Sabbath October 19 1862

Mr Frazier preached again for us to-day,
 though I could not feel interested in
 his sermons to save me, How very sad
 I feel without Mary's society-- "I feel
 like one who treads alone, some
 banquet hall deserted", Yet the hope
 of meeting her again tomorrow
 consoles me, we took dinner with
 Mary George.

Monday Oct 20,

I have been gazing anxiously this
 live-long day-- expecting Mary & Mr
 Parks to drive up every moment,
 Annis S was more disappointed
 than myself-- as the old saying

is, "She put the big pot, in the little one",

Tues-- 21st Have again been disappointed by Mary's not coming-- Annis looks cut-down, We have all feasted onn the cake & custard she made for Mary-- I have almost despaired of her coming this week,

Wednesday 22nd Waited until after dinner-- no Mary & off I went to Sister Ann's, She also has been disappointed,

Thursday 23rd Lizzie & my self left home this morning with the expectation of spending two days with Johnie Moore, but Sister Ann sent for us this evening Mary & Mr Parks have come at last, I was very glad to meet them, feel as if I had not seen her in a great while--

Friday 24th
Very unexpectly Miss Lizzie rode up this morning-- I'm again disappointed-- should like to have gone with Mary & Mr Parks to Larkinvile-- as Mr Billy Robinson was in town & did not honor me with a call,

Saturday 25.. Mary leaves this morning-- what a great change in the weather-- it has turned ^{so very cold}

Sunday October 26th 1862

How perfectly astonished I was-- when gazing out at the door this morning to see the ground covered with snow, notwithstanding the cold inclement morning-- nothing would do Miss

Lizzie as we had promised, but that we should go home with her, we could not prevail upon her to stay with us-- as Mr George has come home, he has very much the appearance of a soldier-- Look old and altogether weather-beaten-- though they make quite a fuss over him-- it has been exceedingly cold all day—

Monday 27.. The weater has moderated some, I think we acted wisely last evening in staying all night with Miss Lizzie, how delightful that drink of brandy was Miss Lizzie sent in the room this morning,

Tuesday 28.. The weath-er has moderated greatly, the middle of the day is quite pleasant now, though the morning and evenings are quite cool--

Wednesday 29.. Sister Ann spent the day with Mrs Martin and I with Cousin Ellen, it reminds me of old by-gone hours-- to some extent to be with Cousin Ellen,

Thursday 30, Lizzie with the children & myself went out Thaw hunting and succeeded in getting a quantity of haws, I like them very much.

Friday 31, Sister Ann went home with John this morning to see Jeff-- he has had a very serious time of it, his death would be regretted-- besides a great loss to John, He proved himself to be a true Southern darkie-- whilst the Yankis were in here, he has gained many friends, from the manner in which he conducted himself then--

Saturday 1st-- Sister Ann
 came home with me yesterday
 evening-- I sent for Frone & left her ^{with Sister Ann yesterday}

Sunday November 2nd 162

Mr Frazier preached again for us to-
 day I never went out to church,
 I have been troubled with the
 "blues" awfully. Kate came with
 her Father yesterday--

Monday 3rd
 Called on Kate at Sister Ann's

Tuesday 4.. Frazier family and
 myself stayed at Bill's to-
 night-- there met a Mr
 & Pat Ragland, who is quite
 a curiosity to sit & listen to
 him talk about ornamenting
 "pipes" &c,

Wednesday-- Spent the
 day at Lizzie's & to night
 with Mary George,

Thursday
 "Kentuck" refused to let Kate
 myself ride, we therefore very
 wisely concluded to walk,
 Never in my life have I been
 so excessively fond of haws
 I know if they could
 damage any one I would
 have fallen a victim,
 We are having some excessively
 cold weather, No rain yet,
 No news yet-- What a mo-
 notonous life, I expect I have
 divulged too many of my
 secrets to Kate, I feel con-
 scientious about it-- fear
 she might betray me though
 confiding in any one (with
 some exceptions) is running

a great risk, Have been practicing allmost all day-- Kate keeps me behind the piano incessantly.

Friday

Kate Mary George & myself spent the day with Mrs Ledbetter, notwithstanding the inclemency of the day-- & the little grate fire, which is not at-all consistent with country customs, I like a "big warm cheerful fire in the winter,

Sunday November 9th 1'62

We stayed all nigh with Mary as George was absent, Kate has been reprovng me to day for not reading my Bible more, I am conscous I am growing luke-warm, but I hope for the better, George has returned, reports a "skirmish near Nashville, little damage done-- the Yanks wouldn't fight" John Brown slightly wounded in the leg.

Monday 10.. We came on home with Annis as she came from Larkinville shopping-- here found another stack of haws awaiting my arrival, Every eye is gazed upon me with perfect astonishment at the quantity of haws I've devoured .

Tuesday 11..

Have been practicing all day-- whilst Kate has been absorbed in "Milton's Paradise Lost"-- she is reading incessantly and occasionally take note of every new idea & sentenances that tickle her fancy.

Wednesday 12.. We walked out & stayed all night with Cousin Betsy. Kate is anxiously awaiting her Father's arrival from Huntsville,

Mrs Brown has called with a long catalogue of complaints about this negro & that one "picking up & leaving" until she now has all of her work to do, though her treatment to her negroes are so well known that she receives no sympathy from any quarter-- poor wretch. What a great fault-- she has other admirable qualities.

Friday 14.. Up rolls Mr Frazier-- though there is no room for Kate, Mrs Chaddick was very complimentary of Kate to her Pa, said "Miss Frazier is susceptible of making a moderate lady if she had a chance", spent the day with Cousin Ellen-- call to see Mrs Morris-- Mary has come.

November 16th 1862

Another lovely Sabbath-- Mr Parks accompanied Kate and myself to church-- Kate became "miffed" from some course, I can't conjecture from what course, would scarcely speak going to church, looked as if she could bite a ten penny nail, into, went home with Johnnie Moore from church, rode double, so anxious to go, she may "tuff" it out for what I care, Mary George would have Mary & myself to go home with her, Mr Parks leaves us this morning-- I'm going to see how long Mary can stay from her "better half",

Tuesday we go out to Annis's, found another stack of haws, have an assistant to help eat-- Mary. I think she can equal me,

Wednesday morning,
 we have spent day with Cousin
 Betsy-- just a week this morning
 since I left here, who is frequenter
 visitor than myself-- it has been
 raining all day-- but not sufficient
 to do much good, Whilst on our way
 to Mary-- we had a good rain
 on us-- Mary was complaining all
 the time-- we have needed rain
 so much I could not complain,
 We got to Georges as wet as water,
 very unexpectly too-- for she was not
 looking for any one such an evening.

Thursday 20.. Spent the day with
 Mrs Ledbetter, then the evening
 at Cousin Ellen, Mrs Murray
 showed me how to piece the
 Mosaic quilt, from there we
 spent the ~~day~~^{night} with Bill, I saw
 a notice in the "Chattanooga
 Rebel", of Rosencrantz arrival in
 Nashville with three divisions
 which makes the fifth, It will
 be so difficult now for our men
 to take Nashville, I can't imagine
 why it was not taken at first;

November 23rd 1862

Mr Parks was very sick, last night
 had a chill yesterday on his way
 to see Mary, suffered greatly last night.
 When Dr Moore called to see John
 Mr P. got some medicine, ^{he} says Mr P
 is taking the fever, that he will call
 to see him again to-morrow--
 John Larkin looks badly-- he fatigues
 himself too much sitting up.

Monday
 Mary & Mr P. left for Bellefonte,
 Annis and myself in a few min-
 utes after, so we leave Sister Ann
 lonely again,

Tuesday 25-- Just one month till Christmas, I feel so much interested in my new quilt, I think it will be beautiful, have altered my old silk, makes a respectable looking dress now, Have finished the seventh pair of of stockings I've been knitting this Fall, There is such a monotony in every days transactions that I scarcely can get anything new to put in my Journals even weekly-- hear of some more skirmishing about Nashville & that is about all we can hear, expecting a fight at Frederickburg Virginia, see nothing new only Soldiers-- I don't mean soldiers, but men employed be the government to carry on the work at Saltpetre Cave, the Conscript Law has caused a good many to go to the cave for employment, 'Tis a great Law-- though I really believe-- there are more exemptions than need be, though it is good on Speculators-- they are the men that ought not to be exempted, John Brown is at home now on a furlough, his wound was more serious than thought to be,

Saturday 29.. Have spent the most of the day practicing.

November 30th 1862

Another skirmish at Nashville, Would to God it had have been a general engagement-- for I dread the fearful consequences-- though not if they would come out and have a fair fight.

Monday Dec 1st "This is the morning of mornings" Every month I promise myself to spend my time more profitably, After reading my Bible this morn-

ing I commenced "Buckeye Abroad"--
 have become very much interested--
 I am also engaged at my leisure
 in picking up scraps left from my
 quilt to knit Soldiers' socks, (I
 meant Gloves) Can't buy wool or any-
thing else at a reasonable price,
 The Conscript is good on specula-
 tors-- though it will not catch them
 all-- however, it will check them
 for awhile,

Tuesday 2nd Rain last
 night-- more this morning I
 hope we will get enough,

Wednesday 3rd Rainy damp weather
 can't get to practice-- which was
 the most essential of my improv-
 ements this week-- Mrs Birdsong
 dined with us to-day

Thurs-- 4
 The Conscript was in action yesterday
 in Larkinville I guess there were
 some grim looking faces of the
 "Lords of Creation"-- The best Law
 that is in existence-- for
 there some that would never
 have gone-- but this catches them
 or a Substitute over forty years of
 age, Charming news to hear of the
 deserters being caught-- has been
 raining all this week off & on,

Saturday 6th Another big frost,
 though a lovely day-- but--
 oh my: I sang a different tune by
 the time I reached Mrs Hodges's,
 I have no idea now, when I shall
 get my dress, for she has a piece in the loom
 Came home & put my carpet down,

Sunday December 7th 1862

I was preparing to attend church, & Annis
 sent me word that it was a very cold

windy day, I therefore very wisely declined
 have been engaged reading all day long,
 my snug little room, the carpet is a great
 advantage

Monday 8.. The weather has
 moderated some, I feel like a new
 being-- after the weather moderating from
 such extreme cold, we've had some heavy
 frosts, and a great-deal of ice, Will
 give no cause to grumble about
 ice next Summer I hope,

Tuesday 9.. Have been pieceing on my
 quilt all day-- very unexpectly Miss
 Lizzie & Mr Bev, rode up this eve--
 and solicited my company to
 Mr Brown, I went & spent the
 night-- though reluctantly-- next
 morning walked around to Mr Mc
 Carrill's-- says my shoes will be fin-
 ished next week, came home accompa-
 nied by Miss Lizzie & Beck, found

Annis ifn fine spirits, as Patsy
 gave birth to a fine son,

Wednesday 10..
 Mr Gabbet is the topic of the conversa-
 tion, To gratify my own curiosity I in-
 tend to call on her at my earliest
 convenience, Beck & Lizzie are good
 at making remarks-- and slandering
 generally-- "Whose edge is sharper than
 the sword: whose tongue out-venoms
 all the worms of Nile",

Thursday 11..
 Have been practicing nearly all
 day--

Friday 12. How lovely the
 day-- delightful sunshine, paid
 Mrs Gabbet quite a fashionable
 call-- put on my best attire
 went up-- sent in my card &

was invited in-- was very happily surprised, not the Lady represented at-all, though her manners are different from the country, yet she is a very intelligent pleasant woman, from there I went to Cousin Cary's,

Saturday Cousin Susan & I went to ^{Mr Young's}

Sunday December 14th 1862

The clouds threaten rain-- Mrs Thompson & family look better than when they left-- After reading all morning-- I felt inclined to indulge in "Tired natures sweet restorer"-- as I haven't been guilty of the like before since last Summer,

Monday 15.. Finished Buckeye Abroad, have been very much interested, specially his visit to the "Crystal Palace", what a structure of beauty and magnificence, "How fragile, yet how substantial; this structure of Joseph Paxton-- this palace of industry-- wherein are seen the fruits of human progress, resulting from the common labor of all men, The number who visit this place a day-- average from thirty to fifty thousand, their first step is marked down by a machine so the number can be told, each department is a world's fair of itself The beautiful fountains, in the far west is seen the largest mirror in the world,

"The Rigia Cot or (Cradle) was very much admired by the Ladies, carved in Turkey boxwood, one end exhibits the Queen, surrounded by natural flowers & birds, on the rocker beneath is the head of Night-- beautiful sleeping female, the back of the head of the cradle, is devoted to the arms of Prince Albert, on the rocker a head of "Somnus" with closed eyes, on the interior of the head of the cradle, guardian angels are introduced,

Sunday December 21st 162

"His words are bonds, his oaths are oracles;
 His love sincere, his thoughts immaculate;
 His tears, pure messengers sent from his heart;
 His heart as far from grand, as heaven from earth;"
 Shakespeare, Two Gentlemen From Verona,
 "If music be the food of love, play on
 Give me excess of it; that, surfeiting,
 The appetite may sicken, & so die--
 That strain again; -- it had a dying fall"
 "She sat like patience on a monument
 Smiling at grief," Twelfth Night
 "The miserable have no other medicine,
 But only hope;" Measure for measure,
 "Friendship is constant in all other things
 Save in the office and affairs of love;"
 Much ado about nothing
 "The course of true love never did run smooth;"
 Midsummer night's dream,
 "The iron tongue of midnight hath told twelve;"
 "A stage, where every man must play a part,
 And mine a sad one"
 Merchant of Venice.

"The web of our life is of a mingled yarn, good
 and ill together; our virtues would be proud,
 if our faults whipped them not; and our crimes
 would despair, if they were not cherish'd by our
 virtues_" All's well that ends well,
 "I to the world am like a drop of water,
 That in the ocean seeks another drop", "Comedy of Errors"
 "When shall we three meet again in thunder,
 lightning, or in rain; When the hurly-burly's
 done, when the battle's lost & won, Come what
 may; time & the hour runs through the roughest
 day," Macbeth,
 "Anger is like a full-hot horse; who being
 allowed his way, Self-mettle tires him", "Like the
 lily, that once was mistress of the field, & flourish'd
 I'll hang my head & perish". "Be Just & fear not;
 let all the ends, thou aim'st at, be thy country's,
 thy God's & truth's," "King Henry VIII"
 "The worthiest people are the most injured by
 slander, as we usually find that to be the best
 fruit which the birds have been picking at."
 "What can he know of love, who has never

drunk from its sacred springs."

This life is all checker'd with pleasures & woes,
 That chase one another like waves of the deep--
 Each brightly or darkly, as onward it flows,
 Reflecting our eyes, as they sparkle or weep,
 Our life should remember a long day light,
 And our death come on, holy & calm as the night.

"O: Cupids two eyes are not liken each other,
 In smiles & in tears than that moment to this,"
 "Remember in sorrow, in absence, & pain,
 There's one heart, unchanging, that beats but for thee"
 "All that's bright must fade-- The brightest still the ^{fleetest}
 All that's sweet was made, But to be lost when sweetest"

"So warmly we met and so fondly we parted,
 That which was the sweeter e'en I could not tell--
 That first look of welcome her sunny eyes darted,
 Or that tear of passion, which bless'd our farewell,
 To meet was a heaven, & to part thus another.
Our Joy and our sorrow seem'd rivals in bliss,"
 "O what was love made for, if 'tis not the same,
 Through Joy & through torment through glory & shame
 I know not; I ask not, if guilt's in that heart--
I but know that I love thee whatever thou art"

Pricilla Stephens

Chronological Index of Names and Places

Priscilla's brothers and sisters include:

Sister Ann, her oldest sister, Sarah Ann Larkin Dillard (1828-1863).

Mary, younger sister Mary Elizabeth Larkin Parks (1840-1863).

George, brother George Washington Rutledge Larkin (1833-1901).

William, eldest brother William Rutledge Larkin (1830-1899), former state legislator, who managed Priscilla's financial and legal affairs.

Lizzie is William R. Larkin's wife, Frances Elizabeth Higgins Larkin, Priscilla's sister-in-law.

Annis—Malbuff failed to mention Annis Adalain Larkin (1832-abt 1911), another of Priscilla's sisters. She married Ed Cotten in 1851; they were my 2nd great grandparents. Annis's identity is confirmed by several family trees at Ancestry.com that list June 20 as her birthday. Priscilla notes Annis's birthday in her diary. [added by Janet Parks]

Mr Donigan (January 1) is James J Donegan, President of the Northern Bank of Alabama, resided on Randolph Avenue near Calhoun.

Murrays company (January 1) is Company K, the Larkinville Guards, 4th Alabama Infantry, Captain Alexander C Murray commanding. Captain Murray was wounded at Gaines' Mill and at Second Manassas, and killed at Petersburg, July 1864. Early muster rolls for Company K show quite a few officers in relation to enlisted men. It must be said, though, that this Company, far from being 'defunct', distinguished itself in five years of faithful service to the Army of Northern Virginia. Early in the War, regiments elected their own officers and these contests often devolved into petty politics; additionally many officers' one-year commissions were set to expire early in 1862, and some did; all this may have contributed to morale problems within the unit during winter quarters.

Mrs B (January 1) is Mrs J.B. Bradford, owner of the boarding house on Randolph Avenue east of Lincoln where Priscilla lived while attending college.

Mr Cruse (January 1) is probably Samuel Cruse, secretary of the I & C Railroad whose office was at the Northern Bank of Alabama; or possibly William O. Cruse, secretary and treasurer of the Madison Turnpike Company.

Mrs Patten (January 12) may be Mrs Martha L Patton, who resided at

Green and Meridianville Road.

Dr Ross (January 12) is the Reverend Frederick A Ross, pastor of First Presbyterian Church at Lincoln and Gates.

Mrs Figures (January 12) is Mrs William B Figures, who resided on Randolph Avenue between Lincoln and Calhoun.

Mrs Chaddick (January 12) is Mrs Rev William D Chadick, who resided on Randolph between Lincoln and Calhoun.

Beck (January 12) is Rebecca Morris, of Jackson county, Ala., a student at the college.

Cumberland Gap (January 19) refers to the battle of Mill Springs, Ky., generally regarded as the first Confederate defeat of the War. Rebel troops under the command of General Zollicoffer (*q.v.*) advanced from Cumberland Gap to the Tennessee River but were driven back by Union forces commanded by General George Thomas. [Captain C.C. Ham, my maternal great grandfather, fought for the Union in this battle.]

Gen. Solicoffer (January 19) is Brigadier General Felix Kirk Zollicoffer, C.S.A., killed at the battle of Mill Springs (*q.v.*).

Judge Hammonds (January 19) is Judge F.L. Hammond, who boarded at Mr William Fleming's house on Holmes opposite Lincoln.

Mr Brickel (January 19) is Robert C Brickell, of Walker & Brickell, Attorneys at Law. His office was on Eustis between Public Square and Green.

Dixon's (January 19) refers to R.K. Dickson & Co., Wholesale and Retail Grocery, on Public Square between Eustis and Randolph.

Mr Pleasants (February 2) is James J Pleasants of Pleasants, Spotswood & Co. (Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, &c., corner of Eustis and Public Square).

Ucre (February 2) refers to Euchre, a popular card game of the day.

Florence, Alabama (February 9) is located on the Tennessee River about 70 miles east of Huntsville. Union gunboats under the command of Lieutenant S.L. Phelps landed there after the fall of Fort Donelson

upriver.

Roanoak Island (February 9), on the North Carolina coast, was captured by Union troops under General Ambrose E Burnside, February 7, 1862. Brigadier General Henry A Wise, C.S.A., was commander of the garrison at Roanoak Island. The "correctness of this dispatch" was, as Priscilla suggested, not complete: General Wise in fact escaped capture by the Federals and later served in the defense of Petersburg.

Beauregard (February 9) is Lieutenant General Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard, C.S.A., first commander of the Confederate Army and hero of Fort Sumter.

The *Fourth Alabama Regiment* (C.S.A. Infantry) (February 9), was indeed dear to Priscilla's heart. Two of her brothers, George and John, both served with Company K, the Larkinsville Guards. The regiment was commanded by General Evander Law in John B. Hood's division of Longstreet's corps, and saw action in both battles of Manassas, at Sharpsburg, and at Fredericksburg. At Gettysburg, the Fourth distinguished itself during Hood's attack on the Federal left (Little Round Top and Devil's Den). Later, at Chickamauga, her brother John was wounded. Company K alone lost three captains killed in action during the war. At Appomattox, the regiment surrendered 21 officers and 202 men.

Fort Donelson (February 9), a Confederate breastwork constructed on the Cumberland River in central Tennessee, was captured by Union troops under General Ulysses S. Grant on February 16, 1862. It was the beginning of Grant's successful Tennessee River campaign.

Col. Toney (February 16) is Colonel Edmund Toney, planter, who resided on Randolph Street between Lincoln and Calhoun.

Mr Robinson (February 16) is likely James Robinson of Robinson & Jones, Attorneys at Law, who resided on Randolph Avenue near Lincoln.

Figures (February 16) is William B Figures (*q.v.*) , Editor and Proprietor of *The Southern Advocate*.

Dr Wilkinson (February 16) is Algernon L Wilkinson, D.D.S., who resided at Mrs C. Erskine's house on Franklin between Williams and Dry Creek.

Mrs Ruckman (February 16) is Mrs Mary C Ruckman, matron, Huntsville Female College.

Mr Stephens (February 23) is Absolom Stephens (1830-1890), a traveling salesman and native of Jackson county. His family, whose lineage traces back to the Norman Conquest, had come to America in the 17th century. He served as quartermaster with the 55th Alabama Infantry, C.S.A., and two years after the war ended he and Priscilla Larkin were married. Their son, William Larkin Stephens, became a Judge in Jackson county before relocating to Washington, D.C., circa 1900.

Miss Snead (March 2) is Miss Mary E Snead, teacher of mathematics, Huntsville Female College.

Mr Johnson (March 9) may be Alex Johnson, proprietor of the Johnson House on Washington between Randolph and Clinton, or possibly Andrew J Johnson, hat manufacturer, who resided on Lincoln between Maiden Lane and Randolph.

L P Walker (March 9) is Leroy P Walker of Walker & Brickell, Attorneys at Law, who resided at the corner of Williams and Adams Avenue.

Breckenridge (March 9) is General John C Breckenridge, corps commander in the Army of the Mississippi, former Vice-President of the United States (1857-1861), and unsuccessful presidential candidate (1860).

New Madrid (March 16) is a town in southeast Missouri on the Mississippi River across from Kentucky, captured by Union troops under command of General Pope.

Columbia, Tenn. (March 16) is a town in south-central Tennessee on the Duck River, about halfway between Nashville, Tenn., and Huntsville.

Capt. John Morgan (March 16) was a legendary Confederate cavalry commander. A native of Kentucky, he led successful cavalry raids throughout Tennessee and Kentucky. Promoted to brigadier general in 1863, he was captured by Federals, but escaped from Ohio State Penitentiary and continued to fight until killed at Greenville, Ky., on September 4, 1864.

Corrinth (March 16) is the town of Corinth, Mississippi, which was the

Confederate staging area for the battle of Shiloh on April 6 and 7, 1862.

General Johnson (April 9) is Albert Sidney Johnson, C.S.A., commander of the Army of the Mississippi, who was killed at the battle of Shiloh.

Michell (also known as "*That detestable old Michell*", April 11) is Brigadier General Ormsby M. Mitchel, U.S.A., divisional commander in Gen. Don Carlos Buell's Army of the Ohio. He captured Huntsville on April 11, 1862, as noted herein. Priscilla may not have known that he died of yellow fever in October 1862, after his promotion to major general and transfer to South Carolina.

Mr Wilson (April 13) is probably Robert D Wilson, justice of the peace, who boarded at Mr John Fairest's house on Randolph between Lincoln and Calhoun.

Kerby Smith (April 13) refers to Brigadier General Kirby Smith, C.S.A., divisional commander in General Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee.

Bridgeport and *Stephenson* (April 18-19) are towns in northeastern Jackson county, Alabama, ten miles or so from Priscilla's home at Larkinsville.

Murfrees. (April 19) is Murfreesboro, Tenn., about thirty miles south of Nashville. It was held by Union troops under General Buell for much of the War.

Henry Dillard (April 20), born ca. 1844 in Jackson county, Ala., was son of Francis and Elizabeth Dillard of Virginia. Priscilla's brother George W.R. Larkin married Henry's sister, Mary Ellen Dillard Larkin (1840-1894).

Camden (May 6) is present-day Paint Rock, Alabama, about ten miles west of Larkinsville. Contrary to Priscilla's fears, Larkinsville was never burned, although it was looted.

H (May 6) refers to Huntsville, Alabama.

S (May 9) refers to Scottsboro, Alabama, the present-day county seat, about two miles east of Larkinsville. Many county residents relocated there after the state highway, which bypassed Larkinsville, was built early in the 20th century.

Lizzie (May 13) is Frances Elizabeth Higgins Larkin, Priscilla's sister-in-law and wife of William R. Larkin. Known to our family as "Granny Larkin", she traveled from Larkinsville to Washington, D.C., in the early 1900s, to visit Priscilla's grandchildren. She was in her late seventies at the time.

"Room number one" (May 18) is where Priscilla had been boarding during her time at the Female College in Huntsville.

Williamsburg (Virginia, May 18) was the site of a battle in General Joseph E. Johnston's Peninsula campaign. A strategic retreat, it was hailed as a victory in the Southern press.

Richmond (Virginia, May 28) was indeed the site of a "grand battle" or series of battles-- Seven Pines, which was followed by the Seven Days' campaign in June.

The passage (June 1) refers to a side hallway in the home, where the ceilings were high and the walls close together. In summer, the parlor and sitting room would get hot and stuffy. Hosts therefore would entertain their guests in the hallway, where the cool breezes passed through.

Kelley-troopers (June 2) are Confederate irregulars, or "bush-whackers." Ambushes of this kind infuriated the Federal army, and those accused of harboring the guerillas often saw their homes and barns burned in revenge.

Cousin Cary (June 5) is Cary Staples (1820-1903), Priscilla's first cousin, a native of Franklin county, Tennessee.

Ocolona (June 6) is Okolona, Mississippi, located about fifty miles south of Corinth.

Huntsville Reville (June 18), a local newspaper. Note that the Union commander was willing to detain runaway slaves for their masters. This would change six months later when the Emancipation Proclamation was signed.

John Parks (June 21) is Lieutenant John Parks, C.S.A. (1839-1875), who would marry Priscilla's sister Mary four months later. He was mayor of Scottsboro, Alabama, after the war. [He was a son of Wm. Delaney Parks, Sr. (1812-1888) and Lucinda Ann Kirby (1812-1876),

my paternal 2nd great grandparents. John was my great granduncle.]

C_ (June 25) refers to Chattanooga, Tennessee. Located about 70 miles northeast of Larkinsville, it was a strategically important rail and river transport center. Despite repeated attempts, the Union army would not secure Chattanooga until late in 1863.

Tenth Wisconsin (June 30). The regimental history of this unit shows over a dozen engagements in the Larkinsville area during 1862. Almost all of them seem to have been skirmishes with "bush-whackers", as there were no regular Confederate Army units operating in the area.

Glorious victory at Richmond (June 30, July 8), the conclusion of the Seven Days' battles, in which Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, despite heavy losses, drove General McClellan's invading Army of the Potomac away from Richmond, saving the Confederate capital.

Buell (July 8), is Union general Don Carlos Buell, commander, Army of the Cumberland.

Larkinsville Guards (July 8) refers to Company K of the Fourth Alabama regiment. Priscilla's brothers **George and John** served in this unit. A.C. Murray (*q.v.*) was the company commander.

Billie Robinson (July 13) is Captain William H Robinson of Company K, 4th Alabama Infantry (*q.v.*). Wounded at Gaines' Mill during the Seven Days' Battles, his leg was amputated and he was discharged August 1862.

One hundred Alabamians (July 18) were Jackson county Union loyalists who later comprised the First Alabama Vidette Cavalry, U.S.A.

Old Mr Green (July 20) may refer to John Green, a neighbor of the Larkins, born ca. 1789 in Pennsylvania.

Kate (August 14-16) is Priscilla's personal slave, a mother of three children. In the 1860 slave census for Alabama, Priscilla is listed as owing four slaves-- one adult female and three small children.

Bellefonte (August 15) was then the seat of Jackson county, about ten miles east of Larkinsville on the Tennessee River . Today it is under water, having been flooded by the TVA in the 1920s. The Widows

Creek nuclear power plant stands near the site.

Bev Keeble (August 24) is Beverly Kibble jnr, who served as Corporal in Company K, 4th Alabama Infantry (*q.v.*). His dates of service are unknown.

Mark Young (August 24) is likely Mark H Young, 3rd Sergeant, Company K, 4th Alabama Infantry (*q.v.*), discharged due to 'disability', no date given.

Memphis and Charleston road (August 26) is the local railroad, which connected Larkinsville with Huntsville and Chattanooga. It has long since been taken over by Southern Railways.

The river (August 30) is the Tennessee River. Union troops did not venture south of the river until much later in the war; consequently that area was a safe harbor for slaves and "bush-whackers."

Frone (September 2) is a slave, probably a skilled house slave considering she cost a thousand dollars.

Conscript (September 3) is the Confederate military draft. One could pay for a substitute in a manner similar to the U.S. draft. Also, some exemptions were granted to owners of large plantations, though it must be said that many wealthy planters (such as Wade Hampton of South Carolina) immediately enlisted and served for the duration.

Victory... at Manassas (September 14) refers to the battle of Second Manassas, where General Lee's army routed the Union Army of the Potomac and opened up the Sharpsburg campaign.

Mr Stephens (September 20) is Absolom Stephens (*q.v.*), now a captain and quartermaster in the 55th Alabama.

Robert Frazier (September 21) is possibly a neighbor of the Larkins', born ca. 1806 in Kentucky, father of seven. A Robert Frazier served briefly as chaplain of the 4th Alabama Infantry and resigned in December 1861.

Mr Ogilvie (September 21) could be either John Ogilvie snr or John Ogilvie jnr, both of whom served with Company K, 4th Alabama Infantry, and were wounded during their service.

Mollie (September 23) is **Mary Jane (Mollie) Brown Snodgrass**, a neighbor of the Larkins. Her brother Jeremiah later taught law to Priscilla's son William Larkin Stephens, in the 1880s.

H_ (September 23) refers to Huntsville, where Mollie Brown's fiancé, **Colonel John Snodgrass of the 55th Alabama [my great granduncle]**, was based.

Maryland (September 25) refers to the great battle of Sharpsburg, a week earlier.

Ira Brown (September 28) is probably Ira E Brown, First Lieutenant, Company K, 4th Alabama Infantry, discharged April 1862 (same time as G. W. R. Larkin).

Lizzie (September 30) is Frances Elizabeth Higgins Larkin, Priscilla's sister-in-law, wife of William R. Larkin.

Allen Robertson (also known as Robinson) is a relative by marriage who owned land at Long Hollow between Larkinsville and Scottsboro. J.R. Kennamer's *History of Jackson County* states that "Allen Robinson's home was located at one of the finest springs in the county."

Hollenberry (October 3) is the sheet music dealer at Huntsville. Priscilla owned two large bound monogrammed books of sheet music. These books survive to this day and are in our possession. Some of the sheets still bear a stamp from Mr. Hollenberry's store.

Cousin Betsy (October 5) is Betsy Staples Robertson, wife of Allen Robertson and sister of 'Cousin Cary' Staples.

Captain Girly (October 8) is Captain Frank B Gurley, commander, Company C, Fourth Alabama Cavalry, C.S.A.

Col Snodgrass (October 9) is John Snodgrass (1836-1888), a wealthy planter and landowner from nearby Bellefonte. He commanded the 55th Alabama infantry. His aunt Margaret Snodgrass Stephens, wife of John B Stephens and mother of Absolom Stephens, would become Priscilla's mother-in-law in 1867.

Leften (October 10) refers to 'Lieutenant' (in this case John Parks).

Old Mr Snodgrass (October 13) is Thomas Snodgrass (1807-1868) **[my**

2nd great grandfather; father of David Nathan Snodgrass] of Bellefonte, a native of Virginia, and father of Col. John Snodgrass. He was one of four brothers who came to Jackson county as pioneers in the 1820s.

Jerry Brown (October 15) is Jeremiah Brown jnr, brother of Mary Jane Brown, a Jackson county lawyer. Priscilla's son William Larkin Stephens later studied law under him.

Ben Snodgrass (October 15) is Benjamin Snodgrass (b. 1812), brother of Thomas Snodgrass and uncle of Col. John Snodgrass [so, he was my second great granduncle]. [Note: This also could have been Benjamin Snodgrass (1841-1869), son of Thomas, who was murdered after the Civil War. He was closer in age to the bride and groom. Additional information about Ben is posted at www.cacox.net.]

Haws (October 26) are the fruit of the common hawthorn bush (*Crataegus monogyna*), also known as "Mayhaws", a regional delicacy often used to make jellies.

"Blues" (November 2). There has been much debate about the origin of this term. Its casual use here definitely establishes it as pre-War in origin, and therefore some theories regarding its origin pertaining to the Union Army (of post-War Occupation) or the Freedman's Bureau may safely be discarded.

Rosencrantz (November 16) refers to General William S Rosecrans, U.S.A., who succeeded General Pope as commander of the Union Army of the Mississippi.

Saltpetre Cave (November 25) is a series of caves in Jackson County used for the mining of saltpeter, and leased from its owners by the Confederate government during the War. The process was conducted by Captain James H Young's Guard Company, Alabama Nitre and Mining Corps, C.S.A.. Contemporary accounts describe the mining and extraction process as unbelievably grueling. The mining operations continued until the caves were captured and taken over by Union troops in the summer of 1863.

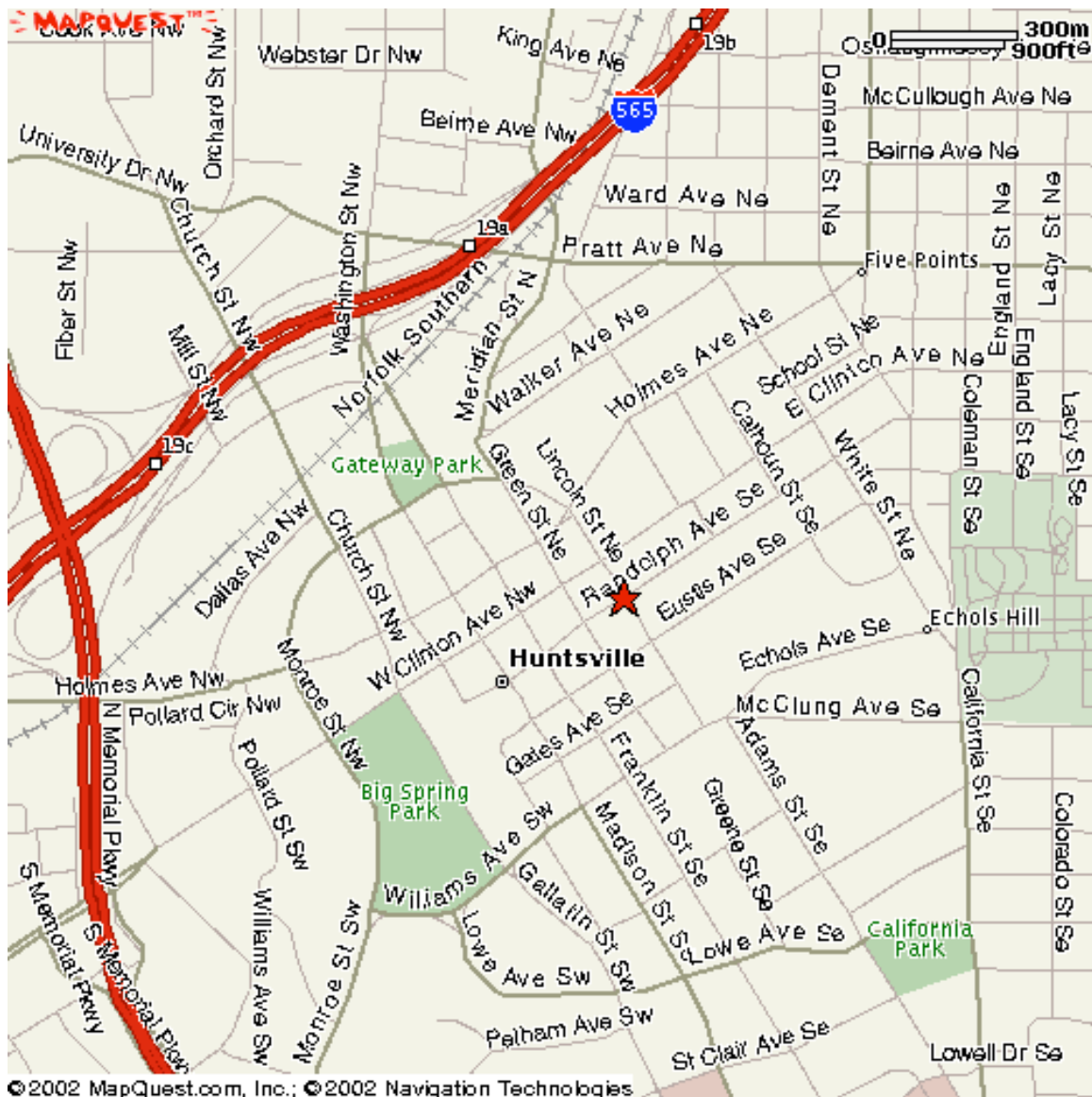
"Buckeye Abroad" (December 1). *A Buckeye Abroad*, by Samuel Sullivan Cox (1824-1889), American statesman and legislator, native of Zanesville, Ohio. He served as U.S. Congressman from Ohio during the War, traveled extensively and published several books. Evidently Priscilla's distaste for 'Yankeedom' did not extend so far as to include

Mr Cox.

"*Crystal Palace*" (December 15) was a large iron-and-glass building in Hyde Park, London, the centerpiece of the 1851 Great Exhibition. Hailed as a triumph of the Industrial Revolution, it remained a popular attraction for years until it was destroyed by fire in 1936.

"*This life...*" (appendices). Following a series of quotations from Shakespeare, in these last pages Priscilla quoted verse from the great Irish poet, patriot, and balladeer, Thomas Moore (1779-1852): *This Life Is All Chequer'd With Pleasures and Woes (The Bunch of Green Rushes that Grew at the Brim)*, *O Had We Some Bright Little Isle of Our Own (Sheela na Guira)*, *All That's Bright Must Fade*, and, perhaps most poignantly, *Come Rest In This Bosom (Lough Sheeling)*. Moore, who among many other things was a contemporary, friend, and biographer of Lord Byron, was undoubtedly Priscilla's favorite poet; she quoted him on several other occasions (January 12 and October 19, e.g.).

Pricilla Stephens: A later addition to the book, written in pencil rather than ink, in a different hand, possibly by a child (note the misspelling of her given name!), and certainly not meant for attribution to the verses from Moore.



"Old town" Huntsville, where the events of January through early April, 1862, took place.



Randolph Avenue in 2005. The Huntsville Female College stood on this block.



This plaque commemorates the location of Huntsville Female College, the first school for women in Alabama.



First Presbyterian Church at Lincoln and Gates, where Dr Ross preached.



The Reverend William D Chadick of Huntsville, Alabama. See entry for January 12.

Brigadier General Evander Law, C.S.A., whose command included the



Fourth Alabama regiment. See entries for February 9.



Huntsville Depot, where Priscilla boarded the train for Larkinsville.



Ruins of the depot at Larkinsville, where Priscilla arrived home from Huntsville on the Memphis and Charleston railroad.



Entrance to the Larkin plantation as it appears today. The original mansion built by David Larkin was destroyed by fire after the Civil War.



The old Larkinsville stage road, looking east toward Scottsboro from the Larkin plantation entrance. Up this dusty road rode **Lt John Parks** on September 24, 1862, to propose marriage to Mary Larkin.



Priscilla Larkin Stephens died at age 29 on February 29, 1868, five weeks after giving birth to her only child. She is buried at Blue Springs Cemetery, just west of Larkinsville.

Sources

1850 Jackson County, Alabama census (available at <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/al/jackson/census/1850/>)

1859 -1860 Huntsville, Alabama City Directory, originally published in 1859 by Coltart & Son (available at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~almadiso/citydir.htm>)

Blue Springs (Jackson Co., Alabama) Cemetery index (available at <ftp://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/al/jackson/cemetery/bluesprings.txt>)

Jackson county, Alabama, Marriage Index (available at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/al/jackson/vitals.htm>)

The Civil War: A Narrative, Fort Sumter to Perryville, by Shelby Foote (Random House)

The Photographic History of the Civil War, Francis T. Miller, Ed. (1911)

'History of Law's Alabama Brigade 1862-1865' and Muster Roll for the 4th Alabama Infantry (available at <http://www.tarleton.edu/~kjones/lawsbrig.html>)

'The Forgotten Regiment: A Day-by-Day Account of the 55th Alabama Infantry', by Rex Miller, Patrex Press, 1984.

Rand-McNally USA Road Atlas (2001 Edition)

The Columbia Encyclopedia, Sixth Edition (2001)

Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, 10th edition (1919)

The 1860 Federal Census (available at <http://www.ancestry.com>, among other places)

History of Jackson County, Alabama, by John Robert Kennamer, Sr

Memorial Record of Alabama, Brent and Fuller (1893 ed.)

Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M University

McCutchen Family Archives (available at <http://www.mccutchenfamily.net>)

Snodgrass Family Source Book (available at rootsweb.com)

Judge William Page, Huntsville, Alabama

Mrs Ann B. Chambless and the Scottsboro (Ala.) Public Library