

1854

Journal

Oct. 20 Just closed a series of Meetings at Foy's Ferry. Rev. W. H. ... Collins were with me. They are both good preachers. We had a very interesting time & I think much good accomplished. One Member was added by certification. The meetings continue for more than a week.

Nov. 21 This day I left for Martinsburg for company with E. Entler. Our object was to attend Synod. Met most of the brethren there. Heard General deliver an Education Sermon. Then - Pa. divisions we ought to be like Paul in Body, Mind, Zeal, & Spirit. I also heard Bishop of W. A good Sermon. The Brethren absent for fear of Cholera were not excused. I expect to join that Synod next year if I am spared. They meet the 1st Sabbath of Oct. 1855 in Zion Near Harrisburg.

1855

Jan. 23 Left home to assist Bro. C. P. Krouth in Winchester Va. A good work has been going on for some months. I preached for 4 days. That people are very kind to Bro. K. Mrs. S. was with me. we enjoyed ourselves very much. Made some valuable acquaintances. Hope to visit that people often. The result of that meeting was an addition of about 30 members.

Aug 27 Left Winchester in care for Smithfield for Summit Point. Met Bro. Reeves & assisted him at his meeting for several days. we were staying at Mrs. Howland's a widow lady & clever woman. Bro. Hutz was also with us. The first time I heard him preach. He is a good preacher. Then I met an Universalist who wishes to join the Suth. Church. He made application to Mr. S. Th. & also Rev. S. ch. & was refused. We also request him. He desires a personal visit. Future Pentecost - Eternal. & blessed by means of the resurrection all shall be saved. He by these become interested on the fundamental of God's word. I pray he may yet see.

Feb. 1 About this time Mrs. S. was taken sick. under the physician hands & continue complaining for some weeks. Brener prolepsis later. accompanied with dyspepsia. Leucorrhoea & nervous prostration.

Feb. 28 Anna has gained strength to be about again, & a prospect of being able to hunt again. Our youngest son Morton Luther has always been afflicted with a humor, Scrophula, & has had for the past year a very sore head. a continual running sore. This day by the advice of 2 Physicians Drs. Stephenson & Alexander he was vaccinated for the disease. It acted finely, his arm became sore & the humor appeared to leave him with the exception of his head that became worse. We seem to rejoice that the one disease was driving the other out.

Mar. 4 Sabbath. This day the Spasms fever left him, but left him with a sick stomach. Nothing would lay on his little stomach, not even a drink of cold water. Then he began to sink, & we did every thing in our power to rouse him but could not.

Mar. 10 This Morning (Saturday March 10th 1855) 1.30 min. A.M. Morton Luther left us for a better world. His Grandmother, & Grand father were present & closed his eyes. He was sensible to the last moment. & seemed conscious of leaving this world. A few moments before his death he said he was his boy & Mother's baby.

1855

Journal of Diary

Morton was buried by the side of his brother under a chest tree in his grand father's yard. & will remain there until the completion of the Suth. cemetery of Harper's Ferry Va. vide Family Record.

Three little boys in Heaven! Three little angels in Glory! Their of the strongest ties that ever bound me to the Sontary above. By the Grace of God I will meet them in Heaven. It is hard very hard to part, but that separation must take place & why not now. They have only gone a few days before me. Unless I could leave the assurance of their comfort & final salvation I could not sell them back had I the power. They have gone before they know I will yet die. They are reborn in the Sover. righteousness & what a happy band must that be. An only brother, a beloved wife, & Three lovely children (all of which I know are in Heaven) & perhaps others are together enjoying the rest of Heaven & the smile of Jesus. Little boy! "There is a happy land, far, far away," & "Jesus loves me" & has taken them to himself. Pa. & Mother will soon be there.

(1) Is little Martin dead? Ah yes! We saw him gently sink to rest: Weak grew his pulse, & dim his eye, We knew that Martin now must die. But is he dead? O No. 'Twas said By the Saviour, who pre'd them to his breast, All must be like them, who'd enter my rest."

(2) Is Martin dead? Did we not feel A coldness o'er his body steal? Which told us plainly death was nigh, And little Martin now must die. But is he dead? O No. 'Twas said By Him, who conquered death, & leads to Heaven, "My life for these loved little ones was given!"

(3) Is Martin dead? No more he'll stand And sing, "There is a happy land;" And "Hail my lambs," he'll march till he - You little Martin now must die. But is he dead? O No. 'Twas said By heavenly hopes, to trust the pleasing story, That his bright spirit sings again in glory.

(4) Is Martin dead? We saw them lay His body in "bed of clay;" And surely lost to mortal sight, You Martin pass'd through death's cold night. But is he dead? O No. 'Twas said Through airy regions to his home a love, Where spirits sweetly sing, & dwell in love.

(5) Is Martin dead? We look in vain To see our little boy again; That sparkling eye; that child-like play - O little Martin now has pass'd away. But he's not gone, He often comes This little brother, Pa. & Ma. to greet, And shall continue till in Heaven we meet.

(6) Is Martin dead? Were not the tears Shed freely o'er his little bier; Yes, tears & sighs from more than one, For little Martin now has gone. But he's not dead, His little head Now wears a Crown - and reborn by Christ shall be A lovely child to all eternity.

1855.

Journal.

August

31

This has been a very luxuriant season. Corn crop extraordinary, & garden vegetables abundant. We have had the best garden we ever had. Frequent showers since early spring. Heavy thunder showers often. Much damage done by floods. The springs of the earth have not yet ceased. Few very warm days this summer. Cool August. Quite healthy, for summer.

The churches of my charge have remained about the same of any change for the worse. No additions but well attended, Party on the decrease! Nothing particular, out of the regular routine of labor happened this summer, except a few deaths, & one record. I had an invitation to Grassburg with a view of becoming Pastor which I declined.

The health of my family has improved since Mother's death, & been very good the past few months, for which the Lord be praised.

Sept. 12

The past few days the family were much alarmed. On Friday morning the 7th we received word to go home to Mrs. Eckelberger's to see a sister father, who was low with bilious dysentery. It was no doubt near death's door. As he recovered from the violence of this illness he is still improving. His relation to our little church at Harper's Ferry, caused the Presbytery feel very uneasy. Mr. Mum in a Prayer Meeting & petitions for him, & it be God's will spare his life. Our Prayers were heard & now his pain arise from his sick bed. The Lord grant it. During his sickness I was called to fill My appointment at S. & then proceeded to a Church Meeting when I preached at night.

19

For the last few days we have been in great anxiety, not knowing what would take place in regard to Papa's sickness. Sometimes we have hope of his recovery & then all hope seems to have fled. One when these hemorrhages of the bowels become so violent he passed away rapidly. Perhaps this morning & with anxiety & prayer we waited for a change. Sep. 30th 1855. This morning at 12 o'clock he died. I watched him as his pulse grew weaker, & his breath became shorter & as he sunk down near to the beam. He was conscious of his situation & said he was "dying". He went down to the tomb solemnly, without the moving of a muscle, in full confidence in that Saviour whom he loved, & whom he served. His brethren his lips out in the midst of his family. His children will see remember that night of sorrow, when called to look for the last time upon the pale features of a dear, honored, & now dying father. It is a sad sight indeed, when we would keep but cannot. It is called & must go & we cannot keep him, Thy will O God be done.

34

He was buried in the New Cemetery Harper's Ferry. Pres. Sentman & Dutton officiated. Many persons present. Papa little thought he would be the second one buried there. The family has been sick for the last few days Child & fever. Mat severely thought.

Oct 8.

Last night some presents me with a daughter, The first daughter. These seems we desired, I dislike them, The mention of worms, & protracted labor weakened her mind. The hemorrhages which followed rendered life precarious. Still she has passed over it & I rejoice & praise the Lord for his mercies.

1855

Another Immortal Committee to my care. Help me Lord to do my duty as long as she is permitted to remain with me. May she be a blessing in my old age of the Lord will continue me here. This is the fifth immortal will given me. 3 in glory, & 2 with me. O Lord give us grace so to live that we may meet in Heaven. What a world this is! I sometimes laugh & sometimes cry. Now I rejoice & then I feel sad. It is a world of change, anxiety & sorrow, yet in many things a blessed world.

25.

The past week I spent in Washington D.C. attending the session of Synod. I enjoyed myself much. Heard good preaching. Stayed with Cap. E. C. Carrington. Cleve man & had a clever wife two smiling boys. treated me kindly. Washington is a pretty place. Must to be seen. There was the first time I partook of a "Lap Supper" excellent idea. Cup of Tea & a cracker is just rate for disciples. Come home this day & found all well & doing well. May the Lord bless us.

Dec 8

This day called to bury one of my members at Shepherdstown. Little an afflicted family. He felt the loss of a Parent, & when one of the children cried "My poor father!" Many an heart can sympathize. How solemn to bury one in whom we trusted, whom we loved. Few attend the funeral. So it is, very soon he will be forgotten, only missed by a very small circle. But there will be a vacant chair in that family & there his absence will be felt. Went to S. in carriage with Jane & Schmecker. Returns the same day, Prayer meeting that night in our house.

I have lately undertaken to instruct Br. H. Keller in Theology & hope to be able to give such instruction as to make him an acceptable minister. I hope I am not deceived when I think him a young man of good talents & energy. I have likewise in view another young man Br. J. Rosenberg. Both these young men I recommended to the Education Society, & both studied to the Freshman year in College at Westbury Pa. The Lord only knows whether I am right in so doing. I am conscientious & shall do for them all I can.

Our little daughter has surpassed much the last few weeks from "Catie." Tho' she grows finely. I love my family much! This has been a remarkably fine fall. Pleasant & warm up to this date. Tho' day. Corn crop never better. Should we have an Early Spring, then a short winter.

My Congregation have increased slowly. The audiences have increased greatly. On an average trebled during the year. If I had but one I think more good could be accomplished. I would love to have but one congregation so I could preach twice a Sabbath to them & attend Lectures & Prose meetings. &c.

This fall has been sickly. Chills & Fevers more than for many years past. Many of my people were sick & some have died. Oh how I feel the loss of good members. as if one of my family were gone & so it is one of that family of which I am the head has left when a member dies. Bolivar has been the healthiest of all the places I visit in my charge. West of S. is a very healthy neighborhood. So is Waverton. May the Good Lord make me faithful in all my duties. Amen & Amen.

Jan. 5 This day a snow fell to the depth of ten inches. The fall up to the first of the New Year, was very moderate, some gawing weather. No snow Christmas day. According to the old German Maxim, "A Good Christmas a fat Crayzerd." Between the Holydays Thomas & James removed our two little boys Martin & George into the New Cemetery at Harper's Ferry. I am glad they are now at rest. They will now lay until the Resurrection day.

" 11 This morning I heard that John M. Farland froze to death last night. Poor M. Farland what an end! what an end!! The brother since the fall of the snow has been very cold. Thermometer down to 12° below zero, several mornings. The last few sabbaths few attending preaching. I heard lately Rev. S. Eichelberger D.D. has been preparing a history of the Eichelberger family. I would like to read it.

" 29 The weather has been extremely cold. Snow, snow, about 30 inches fall together. Every Sabbath this month has been unfavorable to Church.

April 2 Made my preparations to start for Staunton Va. Left my family at Mother Es. Entered the Cars at Halltown. I arrived in Winchester about 3 o'clock. Nothing transpire during the way. At 4, I entered the Stage & rode to Woodstock where we Supped. at Mine o'ell. From th. to this point there was in the Stage a very talkative woman. This fact & the crowd for mine were in make it very disagreeable. At daylight we arrived at Harrisonburg where we took breakfast, & at 10 AM. we drove into Staunton. tired & dusty. Met at the office Dr. Davis whom I expected to assist at a meeting. Spoke long with Col. G. Taylor. A very pleasant family. Preached myself worse during my stay. The Church in S. is not completed. See the Basement. The Cong. Small. The deaf mute asylum is an institution doing much good. The Hospital had many crazy men whom I saw congregated in worship quite orderly. Public buildings all well attended. Left on Sunday in a crowded stage & came home the next day & found all well.

May 5. Attended Conference at Smithburg. & remained over Sabbath with Dr. Herbst. Fine change. ^{It is doing good, his people love him. I} become very Hoise find I need renounce my Palate.

" 11 This day Dr. Reynolds clipped my Palate, with a dull pair of scissors bruised it some, & it became very sore, inflamed much, & I was unable to preach for 2 weeks.

July I attended the Closing exercises of Hagerstown Female Seminary. I was very much pleased. Think Dr. B. an excellent Principell, so well adapted to his post. He has certainly a disposition to be mild yet firm. I know of no one better calculated to fill his situation. The School is flourishing. It is worthy the encouragement of its patrons.

Aug. 4. This day I started on a tour from my sister Es, to my old families home, having had a furlough for a month, from my Congregation. We dined at Beckenbough's hotel Frederick & stayed all night at Mrs. John Bonick's woodboars. Md. Here I learned Dr. Hunt goes next Sabbath to Cragertown Md. This was a rainy day, yet we had a pleasant time.

5 Started for Mr. Ruffingtons, & had a pleasant trip, arrived about noon, & found all well except Mother B. who has been afflicted. Here we learned the particulars of Sarah Carter's death who died the last of July. She of Hemorrhage 15 minutes after the birth of her babe. Mother & babe buried in one grave, side of Harriet my first Companion. We spent the week with them very pleasantly. Heard the news of the neighborhood, & enjoyed that social friendship common to friends of a long separation. Heard much news & gave some.

10 Preached for Br S. of Tanystown. These Congregations are not as large as they once were. Br S. is not so well situated. Spent some time with him, ^{visited, he gave by my wife} about the parties in our Church, find him a Platform man. He is opposed to Dr. Sheffer's views. I found him the same noble man, friend & Brother.

11 Returned to my father in law. I surveyed his land. Especially each field. Found Mother improving, & remained some days there.

15 Started for the Old home on Little pipe Creek. Dined at Mr. Stryels Middleburg, then I went to Minnetts to assist me at a Corner Stone Laying in Sep. Va. on the 28. Stayed all night at Hunt Sarah Sant's. Heard the news of the neighborhood. Broth. of A. Haines a Cousin. a few weeks previous. Next day we dined at Mr. Tued. I stayed all night at Uncle David S. Every thing looks so familiar, excepting the change of fence & cleared land. The hills seem to be as inviting as when I rombled them in my youth with the gun on my shoulder & the dog by my side. Pipe Creek flows as it did when I bathed my young limbs in it, & drew from its depths its living beings. There is the spot I once trod, & there the tree from which the pheasant fell. The Old chestnut tree, whose branches I climbed & stoned slant as if unkind by my youthful violence. O how familiar these scenes of my youth. How they prove the indelibility of thought.

17 Preached for Br H. at Winters. Henry is loved by his people. Here in the Grove yard were many of dear friends are lying. The spot where I consecrated my soul to God, many years ago. Place hollowed by many associations. Stayed all night with Rachel Brack's Sister in law by a former marriage. The next day started again for Ruffingtons. I arrived safely.

31 After a hearty "good by" we started for Cragertown to visit the relatives of Anna. dined with Louisa Otta & stayed all night with George Barrack's. Here we heard from home, also the news of the neighborhood. Had a political conversation with a catholic. Cont convince them of error. The next day we arrived at Hunt Botey's in C. During our stay here I preached a funeral, & also a Sermon at night on Sabbath. good Congregations. visited our friends talked & prayed with the Sick. & heard news upon news. At this place I taught school in '41 & '2, the school house & Church are still familiar. This is the place where Anna spent her youth before going to Va. & to her no doubt the scenes seemed as little pipe Creek to me.

25 Started for home which we reached safely. We had no sickness while gone. no accident. I found all right when we arrived at home. My pulpit was filled by my students. I was glad I arrived safely, for I was tired, but much improved in health.

Aug 27 Received Dr Essett from Cornchester, at Bufffields to assist me at the laying of a Corner Stone near Union School House. Dr M^r Con has got out the Cars of Horner's Ferry & went to Charlestown & did not reach us until night

" 28. This day the Corner Stone was laid by the J. G. S. From 13 to 15 hundred people present. Large dinner prepared, Congratulatory proceeds, & by three with the Collection we realized 300 dollars. It was a fine time & the presence of Sep^t for an account of the same. This Church was necessary here, the Lutherans needed one much. I think it will rapidly increase, this neighborhood would soon be lost to the Church without something of the kind. The Members entered into it with zeal & earnestness. After the Stone was laid we continued a series of meetings & held the Communion on sabbath morning. These meetings were well attended, & did good.

Sep 3 I visited Mr. Dow's Mother, who is dying with Cancer in his mouth. Poor man he will not live long, I received him into the Church six weeks or so ago, & he is preparing for his latter end. How earnest men are in the Salvation of their souls when they know they must die.

Nov. 1 During the month of Oct. I attended a glorious revival of Religion in my Congregation at Shepherdstown. There was no undue excitement. They have Confirmed me in my views that undue excitement are not the best way to make Christians. Our anxious meetings were attended with very good results. (Side Conf) During this month I attended Synod. I was not at all pleased, not religious exercises enough. & too much quibbling.

1857
Feb 4 This has been a cold winter again so far. Every new moon soft & warm. Every full moon cold & windy, a Snow Storm came on Sunday & Monday the 18 & 19 of January. I blew a Storm, Greater drifts than I ever know. The family was covered up in Mud, for nearly two weeks. I had some difficulty in getting them home, I had been a cold winter some Christmases. People can scarcely get to Church.

Mar. 17 I started this day in company with Mrs. S. for Martinsburg to attend to the funeral exercises of the wife of Rev. Wm. Kopp, Harriet (Little) Kopp, who died on Sabbath morn Mar. the 15th (Disease Cholera) She left 4 children & a bereaved husband. These scenes brought vividly before me again the scene of May 1850. When I passed through the same affliction. Dr Kopp seemed to bear up under the affliction with st^r fortitude. She was buried in the new Cemetery at Mt. The funeral was preached in the Church. We remained over night at Mr. Campbell's & came home the next day.

When one after another is called away. Come to the world to come soon very soon perhaps I will be called. Well I will live & pray that I may be ready for the summons. This world is a world of disease sorrow & death; that one of love, light, & immortality. I preached this day from the 13-17 verse of Rev. 7th. I hope that not only was my heart rejoiced in view of that heavenly home but many others felt that it is the only thing worth living for. to be ready for the messenger death, & conveyed by a convoy of angels to the rest that remains for the people of God.

March 29 There was a singular circumstance happened me this day, at one of my appointments. I related my Skeleton before I left home for Paines Hill School House & determined to preach from it. When I was in the desk at the School house I took the Skeleton from my pocket & looked at the text which was John 3:14 I concluded to read part of the chapter before proper but by mistake read the 3rd ch. of John. When I arose again I announced as my text John 3:16. I related the Son's interview with Nicodemus as the introduction, I did not discover my mistake until I looked at my Skeleton for the first division. I then lay aside my Skeleton & preached Extempore. I have then been particular for they may be a Providence in it.

1 This Spring I moved from Mr. Westgel's House & rented Mr. L. Bell's a smaller house in appearance but in reality a more suitable one. I am now comfortably situated. The house is near the one I occupied before. This is another change I have made, & considering all things it seems providential. I had some difficulty in procuring a house. I once thought of moving to Shepherdstown, but failed in doing so. We are now settled again. May the Lord prosper me in his work; & make me faithful in attending to it.

4 This Spring & Summer thus far has been rainy & cold. Many seeds, & heavy rains, harvest very late no grain cut yet, & looks green. The last few days it has been very damp & cold. Nothing particular happened worthy of record. My duties have been performed, my audience have increased, my salary raised & all things seem to move along slowly & sure.

8 This morning before sunrise I started on a very sad errand. To announce to Dr. S. Kephlinger the death of his son. He was drowned yesterday about 1 o'clock in the Potomac near the relay or Junction of Washington road. He had come out there with the Sabbath school of the Westminster Presbyterian Ch. on an excursion. Having left the company with another young man he went bathing & was drowned. he was brought home to day 11th o'clock. I was buried at 4. It was a sad duty to break the news to the family. It was a sad stroke, yet they bore up with Christian fortitude. So much excitement gave me this day a severe headache. I can scarcely talk. Harvome was a model boy. His prospects were opening richly before him in the City whether he had gone. He was converted at a revival in the Church St. Methodist Ct. a few weeks before, had made application for church membership in Dr. Morris' (first, South Ch.) God moves in a mysterious way, why dost thou eat down those who grow up in sin & idleness? Tho, we cannot see & understand these things now, we will hereafter.

About this time I heard of a singular circumstance, which I must record; A Mr. S. of Wrenton, purchased a horse sometime back at a sale I had some difficulty of procuring it with. He asked a Mr. E. to go security for him, remarking if he did not pay the money before the note came due, he hoped God Almighty would strike him down dead. On the last day on which the note became due, it was not paid, & he was alive, but that evening, about the close of the day, he endeavored to procure some honey for a sick child, & in doing so was stung very badly, & about one hour after midnight, the day on which the note was due, he died.

1857

Aug. 2. I administered the Commission to the Dissertor Cong. this afternoon in the Woods on Davis Hill. The audience numbered about 500. At the time I had a duty to perform. I never did before. I conferred to the Church a Prof. Medici. I visited her previous to her Consignation. & by writing endeavours to instruct her in the duties she would take upon herself. I found she could not comprehend abstract terms. She knew nothing of "Faith", but "believe in Jesus". Now I see the difficulty Missionaries have in instructing those who are not familiar with terms, "Household words with us." The manner I proceeded was this. She come out before the Congregation & I gave them the result of my interview with her. Her faith, Resolutions &c. She then knelt down & I received her by the laying on of hands. It was a solemn time. I trust much good done.

Sept. 5 This Morning 10 minutes past 12 o'clock Mrs. C. was delivered of her fourth child, a Boy, named in attendance, also Mrs. Smallwood & Mrs. Calaman. Providence has been to my people. She suffered less than either of the previous births. Oh how anxious I have been. How I feared serious difficulty, & how all my fears were vain. This some nights a few minutes previous Sister Lou was delivered of a daughter.

Oct. 8 This day I write with the Do Synod. The Convention was in Stoutton. I was the guest of Col. & Doyle while there. We had a pleasant time. The journey there & back was very unpleasant most of the way in the Stage. I think I shall be better satisfied with this Synod than with the Mid Synod. I was chosen Director for the Third Seminary at Haysburg Pa. for one year.

1858.

Jan 31 The New Year came in Cambridge. & the past month was more like April than July. There has been no cold weather, not even freezing at night. There has been ice yet. There has been some rainy days. Snow, & melting, but always clear & warm. Some few days were warm. There has nothing particular happened since the last date in my Journal. The Sabbath with few exceptions has been very mild & clear. & the roads good. My Cong. here increased this winter, & the audience very much. During this last month there has been a temporary revival in Shepley. Many signed the pledge again. & the order of Song was reorganized. On New Year's day I went with Mrs. S. to N. V. Stonehamburg to another New Personist. The first installation I ever witnessed. The exercises are calculated to do much good. I should show the mutual obligations under which Pastor & people rest. We remained with her on work. During this month Dr. Knapp has in an editorial in Obs. given a very glowing account of this charge & our Ministerial work. I always dislike publishing any thing of this kind in the Obs. it looks so much like boasting, & many of the brethren look at such reports suspiciously. The remarks of the Dr. were repeated in N. S. Obs. of the same month. I fear the impression that will be made on those who do not know, will be rather too favorable. During the past winter our prosperity in the matter (I mean at least) to instruct other chs. around us. We have been charged by them of proselyting their members. (Wh. is not true) Some have come to me, & made application & I will receive them. I have been opposed ever since I commenced operations in this part of God's vineyard, & I expect nothing else while I am here. May God keep me true him in my prayer.

1858.

Feb. 10 This Morning I returned home from Shepley. I started just one week ago. Took the Express at 11 o'clock. Reached Cambridge at 1/4 past 3. Immediately started for Shepley. I reached there (111 miles) at five in Morning. Weather was warm when I started, but there in the Mountains there was snow. The weather was still pleasant. Reached at San M. Culler's a pleasant family, was well treated. The Ch. is too far out of town. & at first the Cong. were small. & they increase. I ended in a revival. Promises were at the altar last night when I left. There is a great difficulty in the Cong. between 2 of its principal men. Dr. Tracy & Dr. Wood. (No doubt both are wrong & I would not be surprised if it went to Shepley Court. May the Lord heal this breach. I started down the Mountain after preaching & arrived home at 1/4 past five P.M. I was hurried here by the receipt of a letter from Mrs. S. but found them better than expected. Dr. W. is not so well settled as I wish. Although he may be pleased here in the Country, & I hope, I would not love it.

7 This day I commenced a particular effort in S. S. I chose this time because the Meth. ministers will go to Congers & I will have no meeting to interfere. I have long for a good meeting here & to have my Church in as good state as Shepleydown. I pray the Lord he will be with us. The Ch. seems dead. I pity us at a low ebb in this place. Come Lord & bless us. Dr. Butler from W. is expected.

24 Dr. Butler left this Morning. No particular manifestation of God's presence yet. All seems cold & dead. The weather was against us. Snow, & bad walking. The audience small. Will the Lord bless us? What is the matter? If I am in the way send me away Lord & secure another. If thou wouldst here we have made me faithful & encourage my heart by blessing my labor to the good of souls. Especially the Conversion of the heathen. I never felt more discouraged. Come blessed Father bless this meeting. Oh. Convert the ungodly! May we have a shower of reviving Grace!

28 Sabbath Evening. Administers the sacrament this evening. A solemn time I prefer these seasons of grace in the night. Previous to Communion I received 5 members by Consignation. A very solemn meeting indeed.

Mar 26 In looking at my Journal. I find I have not written in it for nearly a year. I have been more busy this year than I ever have been. Some more work than any 2 years previous. In April 1858 I moved to the large house of Mrs. Wagoner. There I commenced in May teaching School. I have often wished to be employed in this occupation but how long I will continue time alone will show. Since last May I have had a very good school. I hope I am doing good. I find it does not interfere with my Ministry only in visiting my people which I cannot do only the sabbath. During the time since I wrote last in this journal we have enjoyed health, been pleasantly situated. My Congregation here increased both in numbers, influence & audience. Nothing of a serious nature has occurred. I have increased in knowledge by teaching school. but have not made that advancement in my spiritual life as the time demanded. I hope heaven to be more faithful both in regard to my spiritual & temporal improvement. May the Lord help me.

Feb. 24

I returned last evening from a trip to Salem Rowan Co. where I have been for a few days preaching. I went thither at the request of the brethren there with a view of seeing the place, & with the expectation of remaining there some time. I left home on Wednesday evening (15th) Staid at the hotel until 3 o'clock Thursday morning. Took the care of Napier's Ferry. Staid all night in Washington & Salsburg for Br. Butler, who went to Cumberland, (a sister in law being dead) Br. B. is doing a good work in Washington. The very man for that place. Left Washington on Friday morning on the Alexandria & Orange R.R. & arrived at Linschberg about 4 o'clock P.M. Thence on the Va & Stern. R.R. to Salem. Nothing serious happened on the way, & the conversations were made. Most of Va. which we passed over was poor & dreary than parts of Va. Salem is a pretty place County seat of Rowan. Nicely built. The College buildings were fine, & about 100 students. The Lutheran Church is small, but there is hope under an active ministry that many will be brought in. The Cong. needs a minister & wishes one they offer \$650. & a house. I am now considering whether I ought to go or not. I believe there is great room there to build up the Church. & this would be one reason why I would go. I pray the Lord to direct aright.

My First Move.

Salem, May 1st 1860.

After my return from Salem I thought over the offer made me, & my duty in regard to it very often. I prayed fervently for Divine guidance, & now having settled here, & determined to serve this people I will look back & record the changes, & my reflections without regard to dates. When the call was first extended to me, I had but little inclination to accept it. as the call only offered 650 dollars. & when I was I realize 400 dollars per year on all expenses (See Acct. Book) Still I was anxious to know why I could not see, My people love me, & wished me to stay. Still there was in my mind a disposition a desire to remove. It is said I had preached the Gospel in this charge. My friends were anxious for me to remain, especially those connected by ties of relationship.

After much reflection & prayer, in consultation with Mrs. M. we determined to accept the call, & did so. After the letter of acceptance was forwarded to Salem, doubt arose in my mind as to whether I had done right. This objection with the resignation of the charge produced a storm in my mind. At times I wished I had not accepted, & then I felt I was in the path of duty. During these times I often sought the mind of the Spirit by prayer. I seem to cling to my old charge, but something was driving me away. Every thing seemed to tend towards my leaving, I necessarily seem to be laid upon me. It may be I was not as faithful as I ought to have been. (Which I acknowledge) & the Lord has taken this way to chastise me; & it may be there is a work for me here which I could not do in my former charge. The Lord knows. His will be done. The mere act of resigning was not so difficult, but leaving myself away from that people was a different thing. No one knows the conflict in my mind, from the time I received the call to Salem to the first preparations to move to our new charge.

My school closed about the middle of March. which left me but a few weeks to prepare for moving. It was hard to part from these little ones. They became dear to me. I knew they loved me, I had evidence then & since. Had I but the one Charge Napier's Ferry I think teaching school in connection with it would have done much good. But my labors were too great. teach all the week & preach 3 times on Sabbath. Yet my health seemed to be better than usual. My own impression were when I took the school was that the pastoral office in connection with teaching the children of the parish was the highest form of pastoral duty. But my charge was too large. I was fond of teaching, & next to the ministry, I would sooner teach them do any thing else.

The separation was made to move. & then the friends saw we were determined to go. The selling off, & packing up was troublesome. Had I known the cost & trouble of leaving to Salem I never would have come I would have saved me. It is often well we do not know what is before us.

The time came to determine my farewell discourses to each of my congregations. This was a hard task. Many of my people I had confirmed to the Church & they were dear to me & to leave them without a shepherd was something I did not like. (May the Good Lord keep them near his bleeding side) Many tears were shed. I much regret at parting. Some of them I may never see again. I hope to meet them where parting is no more. I had nothing more than a skeleton & plainly told them my feeling on the occasion. Parting from friends was hard. Especially and god mother Capt. Childs without a relative in the world near here. Except a son in law whose wife was dead. It was hard to part from her, but I hope she will get along with me. I am now the only child she has. & under the most solemn obligations by nature & by Grace to see to her wellfare. After the partings were all said the move was to a better place our new home.

On Thursday morning about 4 o'clock we took leave of the friends at Br. Josephs & took the Packet boat at Harper's ferry bound to Georgetown. We arrived there in the afternoon. We had in company the family, Sister Lane, & servant Drury & Moz. Some had the sick headache. We staid all night with Mr. Rhodes a private establishment & was kindly cared for. Early the next morning we took the Omnibus for Washington Depot where we changed Omnibuses for the Boat bound to Alexandria. We breakfasted on board, after we left the Boat we took the Omnibus for depot A. F. O. R.R. after we were in the Cars then we resumed without change until we arrived at Linschberg. Then took the Cars for Sta. R.R. to Salem. We got here at 5 o'clock on evening. were met by friends at depot & conveyed to town. To Mr. Shryver. We well lived & dusty, & had a night rest now over 300 miles from what we called home before. Nothing happened on the way worth recording.

I then formed my resolutions to be a faithful pastor here, & as I could not see why we moved to another the moving, of Providence, to see whether it was chastisement or that God had something for me to do here. This will be discovered soon. I pray the Lord may make me useful in this field of labor.