

1872

Sep. 1 During the last two weeks I worked hard on my house. papered & painted & whitewashed some of the rooms. It now presents a new cheerful appearance. It has rained much for two weeks. Seven thunder showers. I made but few visits this vacation. Heard from Schmuoker in Va. He seems to be doing well. Hope & pray he may succeed in life. Received a letter from my first father in law, was glad to hear from Old Md. The friends are passing away. I too must soon go.

Preach to day with earnestness. May the word may reach the heart & that many may be inclined to serve God. It was an old sermon but it seemed new to me & I trust was to others.

Nothing particular has happened the last few days. " 15 Since my last record College opened more prosperously than ever before. I hope & pray the college is not dead. Some no doubt would wish its death. Nothing worthy of record has happened since I last wrote. Today I preach on the "promise of the Keys." I hope I corrected some errors. I impress some truths.

1873

Nov. 30 Sunday night. One you has passed away since last I made a record here. Nothing particular has happened. The same duties as the year before. Nothing new in my Church. Few have visited to it. I know not the reason. I have not time to attend to pastoral duties. I ought not to have a Cong. or ought not to teach. I would sooner here a charge than be Pres. of Newberry College. Schmuoker has succeeded beyond my expectations. He is Prof. in Shepherd College Shepherdstown W. Va. His success, his piety, his love of parents encourages a father's heart. May the Lord bless him continually under his prelection. I find that I have forgotten to record that our best college conferred the degree of D. D. upon me at its commencement about June 1871. No doubt many things of importance has been omitted which would interest those on after life, & which I might read with pleasure.

1876

Nov.

On the 5 of March Charlie left us for a better world. It was his ~~last~~ part. But now I would not call him back. He died of Cancer of the Liver. He suffered excruciating pain for 6 weeks. He left a bright testimony of his acceptance in the great Hereafter. He did not dread death, & spoke of it as taking a Journey. He left without a struggle. I know he is in Heaven, safe in the arms of Jesus. He was only 16 years & 5 mos old, & yet had the faith of older Christians. I must have seen & some of the 2000 churches I have of his piety. He united with the Church when young, & was faithful to the last. When I said to him Charlie I have nursed you tenderly, if you live your trust nurse me when I am sick. Yes he answered if I die I will be the first to meet you on the other shore. He said that he would love to stay with us, but if God called him, he would meet his brothers & friends in Heaven. I secured a minister to him whether he would or not. All my friends sympathized with me & rejoiced at the same time. The large church closed. This indicated the esteem in which he was held.

The Lord sanctify his death to our good.

Departed this life, in Walthalla, S. C. March 5th, 1876, CHARLES MILTON SMELTZER, son of Rev. J. P. Smeltzer, D.D., aged 16 years and 5 months.

The subject of this notice was received to full membership in the Lutheran Church by the rite of confirmation when about thirteen years of age. Although so young, he faithfully discharged his christian duties, never missing a single communion season. He lived and he died in the faith of the gospel. In the beginning of his last illness, which he bore with true christian fortitude, he said he was prepared and willing to obey the will of his Lord. He said if the Lord permitted him to live he would serve him here; and if he took him home he would serve him there. His last audible expression was, "Blessed Jesus." Thus he fell asleep in the arms of Jesus. "Asleep in Jesus! blessed sleep! From which none ever wake to weep; A calm and undisturbed repose, Unbroken by the last of foes."

On Monday, the 6th inst., suitable funeral services were conducted by the pastor, Rev. J. F. Probst, in which Rev. Prof. Holland of Newberry College, and Rev. Mr. Law of the Presbyterian Church, participated. It was a solemn service. Most of the stores and shops had been closed, and all who could find a place in the church entered it. The class-mates and other fellow students of the deceased manifested the deepest interest and feeling during all the exercises connected with the funeral. The body was committed to the ground in the beautiful little cemetery connected with the Lutheran church of this place.

"Asleep in Jesus! oh for me May such a blissful refuge be; Securely shall my ashes lie, And wait the summons from on high."

We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. Charles Milton Smeltzer, which occurred in Walthalla, March 5th, 1876, aged sixteen years and five months. He was a son of Rev. J. P. Smeltzer, D. D. President of Newberry College. It is sad that one so young should thus be called away, just when his young life was budding into manhood and usefulness. We are told that he was not afraid to die, being fully prepared to enter upon that life which is eternal and full of happiness in the future beyond. His relatives and our heartfelt sympathy in this their sad bereavement.

July 21 This day Mrs. S. started on a visit to Pa. to see her relatives & friends. As the children were all crying when she left. I feel pretty sure she will suffer from headache. She has been faithful & deserves the vacation. She will no doubt be refreshed. I know I shall be homesick. Will wish her back a hundred times. She will miss Schumaker who has been a few years Prof. in Shepherd College Pa. May the Lord have her in his keeping.

July 16 Last week I attended the Convention of Ministers & Members of the Luth. Ch. Met in Bethlehem Ch. Newberg Co. It was on a Thirteenth Meeting. I think the Church is now about to endow the College. Resolutions were passed favorable to this end.

Aug. 13 Wrote again to Mrs. S. the thought of starting home on the 20 or 27 of this month. I hope she will soon be home. No one knows the blessing of a wife & mother but those who miss them. It has been to me as if a death had been in the family. The time for her return is drawing near & I rejoice.

June 28 I resigned the Presidency of Newberg College. I find there is a desperation since the College will be removed to Newberg to have the charge in the Presidency. It may be better for the College & for me. I have been 16 years connected with it. Was it pleasant through all its trials.

June 30 The Board has accepted my resignation & in some respects, am sorry & in others glad. This is the 5th time I resigned. I have often prayed to be met somewhere else but no opening presented itself. What I shall now do I know not, but hope some opening will soon present itself. I plead for Wolfville at the Synod that determined to remove it to Newberg. I think the Synod made a great mistake. If all the members of Synod would have supported it here it would have prospered better than at Newberg. This ends my connection with the College. I now hope my heavenly Father will send me as a pastor to some place. I am tired of teaching & think I could exert a better influence in the pulpit. I have this testimony from the public statements of many that I at least kept the College in existence. I am glad to do this I had to sacrifice the best years of my life. I might have done better had I begun soon after the war, but then the college may have gone down. As I then prayed to be removed from this position, I must look upon it as the will of Providence. Had I continued it, Pres. or had not resigned I cannot now say I would have gone to Newberg with it. I have a desire to live in Newberg because when there my family was very much afflicted, & as I have purchased property here I did not wish to leave it.

1877

July 1 I delivered this evening at Candle Lighting an address before the Theological student at our best school here. The address was well received. Grand Dr. Brecken on the morning, & a Res. Minister the afternoon. The College & Seminary at our best seem to flourish. I met some friends to Brecken is a very devoted Christian & a perfect gentleman. Dr. Gear Pres. of College is also a very agreeable companion. I was well treated & was highly pleased. Could not stay as long as I would have wished.

July 5 I delivered an address on "Sanctified Education" before the student of Berea Academy & the Citizens of that place. This address was so well received that it was requested for publication in the Local Herald. This is a nice place & springing up in a few years 3 years ago. A cabin was the only dwelling within miles. Now it numbers about 1200 inhabitants. It is a beautiful place as much as any in Northern Virginia. I visited Leasa Falls. 2 miles from this place. It is a grand sight. A small stream falling perpendicular about 185 feet. It is worth a visit. Before the water reaches the bottom it is spray. I am told in winter it is grand when this spray is ice. What wonders are to be seen when one leaves home especially on sight seeing.

July 29 I do not know yet what I shall do. I am urged to take up a Female School here & establish a College of a high grade for females. This I may do. A few weeks will determine. I would sooner enter the pulpit. I preached twice yesterday in morning for Leith at night for Pres. H. Hornum. Sermon in the morning & the subject was Faith at night.

Aug 5 Rec'd a letter from Bro. Joseph giving me assurance that I could get the Hopewell Free Congregation. The fine 200, or perhaps 250 dollars. I could get a school worth 600 dollars. I do not wish to preach & teach. would sooner have a charge that would support me. I am still urged to be to commence a Female College here. The offer is a good one generously but it will deprive me of the pulpit. This I do not wish I want to preach. Whether I have preached as often as I had a charge with the exception of the last two years. Pres. Brett had a congregation here. I do not know what I will do. I will wait awhile before I determine. It may be Providence has some place for me.

Aug 10 This morning I received on inquiry as to whether I would receive & accept a call from the Union Charge Mt. Comprising the Congregation of Lewisburg, Cooperstown, & Bittel. I do not think I can accept. I am anxious to enter the pulpit again but I am pressed very hard to open a Female College here. This I may determine alone will tell. May the Lord direct me in the course I ought to take.

Aug 16. Last Saturday I started for Andover Co. where I organized a Congregation to preach to them & administer the sacrament. We had a blessed time. Much solemnity. The members were refreshed. There was a large crowd. I preached twice, at 10 & at 2. It may be the last time I will preach to them. But I may continue at Wolhollen & preach to them often. May the Lord direct me in my movements. Came home Wednesday 15th found all well. While absent I laid off by surveying 50 acres of Mr. A. Cronis farm for his son. These good people come for me & bring me home.

To day I have almost determined to remain in W. & open a Female College. I am urged to do so. I think I will receive the support of the Community here. A few days more will determine. I heard a few days ago that the people on the Dutch Fork, a Chief of 3 or 4 Cong. would give me a call. I do not think so. For I feel no inclination that way. A few days more will see.

Aug 17 I met the Board of Trustees of the Wolhollen Female College. That Board elected me President of the College, so says the Charter. I believe now that I will accept. This seems to be the leading of Providence. Every thing so far seems favorable. I believe I will succeed in building up a First Class Female College.

" 18 Preached for the Pres. Good Cong. Under unfavorable circumstances. The Baptists having a protested effort here & some interest.

" 26 I preached to day for Rev. D. West. There was a good Cong. present. I hope I made by divine aid a good impression. This is only known to him whose spirit carries home the truth. Last week the Baptists had a proclaimed effort. They are trying to carry the town. Make great efforts to get converted. They immersed 6 or 7. They are the most bigoted of all the sect. There is no conversion than that they are wrong. Nor changing their opinions in regard to conversion.

This morning received a letter from Prosperity inquiring whether my services could be obtained there to preach & teach. I need no regular call. I do not know what they want.

Yesterday I completed the arrangements of purchasing Mr. Boyce's property adjoining mine. The object is to establish a First Class Female College. I hope I may succeed. This is the best opening for a female College I know. I think if the proper effort is made a good school will be opened here. I shall have no stone monuments. It will be some years before the building will be completed.

Sep 10 This is my birth day. I am now 58 years old. How time flies. I have only a few years to labor under the best of circumstances. My school is not yet certain. I have trouble in obtaining the property. I fear I will not secure a good title to it. I know not what will be the result. Yesterday I preached for the Methodists. Stayed at home in the pulpit. I cannot leave it must preach. It seems to be the place for some

Dec. 3 The property of which I had doubt, has been purchased. The house has been moved & rebuilt. The three are now one. I commenced the College Sep. 12. In a month and a half moved into the new building. I have now a school room sufficient for my present school. I have now opened this institution & hope it may be a perfect success. Thus far I have been encouraged. I will not regret this move if it continues the same as at present. If this people will give me their moral support it must be a success. As yet I have no boarders. While the work was going on I met with a severe accident which compelled me to walk in crutches for one month. I fell in walking across a sleeper & bruised my thigh. As no bones were broken I recovered from the accident.

To day I preached in Little Ch. The Cong. has asked me to do so as a supply until they secure a Pastor. I consented to do so. Rev. Bonimer has been elected, but I have not yet heard whether he has accepted the call.

I have now determined to leave no stone monuments in the work now before me. God helping me I will build here in this mountain town a Female College, which will be the means of doing great good. & aid greatly in building up the Kingdom of Jesus. I do not know where the means are to come. I have none. But as by a well directed train of Providence, I am where I am. When I look back & considering the influences brought to bear upon me, I could not do otherwise. Well, I believe it is God who has ordered it, & will help me to accomplish it. I must have his help or I will fail. He can despise the minds of his creatures, & can bring that to bear which will lead to the desired end. To him I look & will zealously labor to cooperate with him in this work.

Thus far my school has been a success. 70 pupils in attendance. No complaint any where. The girls all please. & I pray that it may continue so. My prayer is the Lord will keep me to do my duty, & bless abundantly my school.

6 To day I administered the sacrament to a Ser. Lady, partly in her & partly in my. Mrs. Ritter. She is dying with cancer. I will not live long. She is a member of the Lutheran Church & is selling her house in order, for she knows she cannot live long. Preached in morning & night to small audiences, owing no doubt to the cold weather. Prof. Julius Sraher paid me a visit to day. He is looking well. I do not know what his business is here except to see his relations. I still receive great encouragement in my school. I hope it will continue. I wish to make this school quite a success. My hope is in the Lord.

On Feb. 14. Ella my eldest daughter was married to a Mr. Fred^d. Muller of Charleston S.C. They were acquainted several years. A most excellent man. Very popular in the City. All speak of him in the highest terms. I feel sure he will make a kind husband. The marriage took place in the Lutheran Church. I married them on bended knees. A supper was prepared at my house. Only a few were invited. Six couples were in attendance. Ella received over 50 presents from her friends & the friends of her husband. Only a few from her relatives. She was deservedly popular. We have heard from her since she has been in Charleston & she is very happy in her new relations. She could not be treated more kindly. This I know will continue for Ella will draw friends around her wherever she goes. She is a good girl, & a lovely disposition. May the Lord keep her in His keeping. May the Lord guide the younger ones as happily.

Vide Monique Record in this book.

1879
Sept 4 Nothing particular worth recording has occurred since my last record made here. My school has steadily increased & 111 pupils were in the New cast Session. This day I commenced the session for the third year. So far it has been successful beyond my fondest expectations. During the last vacation I with John repaired the school room by painting & repairing. It is now a very pleasant room. I have been preaching at St. Andrew's as a supply & will continue over a month for 6 months. This will end the 4th Sabbath of October. My ministerial acts during this time are recorded in their proper place. My daughter, ^{Ellen} Martha has bought her Annie, who has been with us during the summer. A charming first born. Annie is my first grandchild. I like the dress but the first I have seen. This summer was remarkable for a drought of 8 weeks. Scarcely a drop of rain fell in this district. We have had no serious sickness in the family since the last record.

September 10th 1879.

This is my Birth day. I am this day 60 years of age. I will keep it secretly. It is the first Birth day I have kept. I can remember when a student in Penn^a College, I feared I would not see the day of my graduation. I have prayed to my Master to spare my life at least for 2 years in the Ministry. Now I am three score years of age. God has spared my life. He has blessed me in many respects. I have enjoyed health during these long years. I have had no serious spell of sickness. To the Lord be all the praise.

I wish this day to commemorate across my wife, life & labor to the service of the Lord. I feel & acknowledge that I have been remiss in many things. I could have done more for the cause. May the Lord forgive the past, both sins of omission & commission. I do not yet feel old age. I am as active as when I was 21. I hope that I will always remain thus young in feeling until my days are past.

I have been blessed with 11 children, & the youngest Willie is now past his 8th Birth day. 5 are on the other side of the River. Safe in the Kingdom above. Of this I have not the least doubt. I have been enabled to give them a good education. I hope I have a great desire to live to educate the younger ones. I have endeavored both by precept & example to lead them along the path of wisdom & truth. So far my hopes have been realized. May the good Lord keep them from the evil of the world, & bring us finally all together in Heaven.

For 28 years my beloved wife & I have traveled together. We have shared with each other our joys & sorrows. Often we have drunk together the bitter waters of affliction & disappointment. & we have rejoiced together in our successes. We have labored for the rebuilding of the Redeemer's Kingdom & the best interest of those given to us. Our tears & prayers have mingled together. Our joys have been the joys of one. Every day, that Providence would permit, we have bowed with our little ones, before a Throne of Grace, & around our family altar & committed ourselves, & our children to the care of our Covenant Keeping God. So far God has been with us & blessed us.

It is the great desire of my heart, to build up a good class Female College here. That will be blessing to the State a great instrument in elevating humanity, & a means in the hand of God in building up the Redeemed Kingdom. This work I cannot do without the aid of my Heavenly Father & His blessed Son my Savior. To Heaven I look, In Providence I trust. This work was thrown upon me, I could not do otherwise. & I commenced it in the fear of God. May the Lord bless this school.

This day I am 60 years old. I will transcribe the dedication of my self to God, when a student in my 20th year.

"I thank & I bless God! I desire to present my self before Thee, with the deepest humiliation & abasement of soul possible how unworthily such a simple sinner, is, to appear before the King of Kings, & Lord of Lords, the Holy Majesty of Heaven, & especially, on such an occasion as this, ever to dedicate myself without reserve to Thee, but the scheme & plan are Thine own. Thine infinite condescension both offered it by Thy Son, & Thy grace hath inclined my heart to accept of it.

I come, therefore, acknowledging myself to have been a great sinner, smiling upon my heart, & saying with the humble publican, "Be merciful to me a sinner!" I come invited by the name of Thy Son, & wholly trusting in His perfect righteousness, intruding, that for His sake Thou wilt be merciful to my unrighteousness, & wilt no more remember my sin. Receive I beseech Thee, O revolved creature, who is now convinced of Thy right to hark, & desires nothing so much as that he may be Thine.

This day do I, with the utmost solemnity, surrender myself to Thee. I renounce all former Lords that have had dominion over me; & I consecrate to Thee all that I am, & all that I have - the faculties of my mind, the members of my body, my worldly possessions, my time, & my influence over others - to be all used entirely for Thy glory, & resolutely employed in obedience to Thy commands, as long as Thou continuest me in life; with an ardent desire, & humble resolution to continue there through all the riddles ages of eternity; ever holding myself in an attentive posture to observe the first intimations of Thy will, & ready to spring forward with zeal & joy, to the immediate execution of it.

To Thy direction, O Lord, I resign myself, & all I am & have to be disposed of by Thee in such a manner as Thou shalt, in Thine infinite wisdom judge most subservient to the purposes of Thy glory. O Lord, I leave the management of all events, & say with out reserve; "Not my will but Thine be done," rejoicing with a loyal heart, in Thine unlimited government, as what ought to be the delight of the whole rational creation.

Use me, O Lord, I beseech Thee, as an instrument of Thy service. Number me among Thy peculiar people! Let me be washed in the blood of Thy dear Son! Let me be clothed with His righteousness! Let me be sanctified by His Spirit! Transform me more & more into His image! Dispart to me, through Him, all medicinal influences of Thy purifying, cheering, & comforting Spirit! And let my life be spent under those influences, & in the light of Thy gracious countenance, as my Father & my God!

And when the solemn hour of death comes, may I remember Thy Covenant, well ordered in all things, & sure as all my salvation, & all my desire, though every hope & enjoyment is perishing; I do Thee, O Lord, remember it too. Look down with pity, O my Heavenly Father, on Thy languishing, dying child. Embrace me in Thine everlasting arms! Put strength & confidence into my departing spirit, & receive it to the abodes of those that sleep in Jesus, peacefully & joyfully to await the accomplishment of the great promise to all Thy people, even that of a glorious resurrection & of eternal happiness in the heavenly presence.

And if any surviving friend should, when I am in the dust, meet with this memorial of my solemn transactions with Thee, may he make the engagement Thine own; & do Thou graciously admit him to partake in all the blessings of Thy Covenant, through Jesus, the great Mediator of it; to whom, with Thee, O Father, & the Holy Spirit be everlasting praises ascribed by all millions, who are Thine saved by Thee & by all those celestial spirits in whose work & blessedness Thou shalt call them to share. Amen.

Wellsburg Anniversary
July 26th 1839.

Towards the close of my school days, when looking forward to active life, I made the following record. This I also transcribe on this my 60th birth day.

O Lord, Thou great & Holy Lord God of Heaven & Earth, who art omnipotent, omniscient & otherwise. Look in mercy on Thy servant, who now intends, once more to consecrate his soul, body, time & influence to Thee; all to be under thy direction & governed alone by Thee. I desire to feel Thine fulfilment, that since I last dedicated myself to Thee in this solemn manner, my vows have been kept sacred. O be with me in future. May they still be sacred & holy. In Thy strength, O Lord, have these vows been made; help me to keep them. Go with me in future. And finally save me in Heaven is the prayer of Thy unworthy servant.
J. P. Smeltzer.

August 20th 1845.

Over 30 years have I been in active life. On this day, look back to the solemn dedication of my soul to God. That Covenant keeping God has preserved me from the evils of this world. I have preached on an average 2 sermons every Sabbath. I have endeavored to impress truth by teaching. And no doubt, I have done many things during & left undone that Thine Holy God

has been with me & blessed me. I then acknowledge that during these years of active labor, that which God has been with me & enabled me to do some little good, I am an unworthy servant & by no means kept my part of the covenant, as faithful as God has this. I fervently pray for forgiveness. May the few remaining years of my life, be spent to his glory.

This day, my 60. birth day, I accept, & renew my previous vows & make them again in my own. Pursuing the Lord to spare my life to educate my children, & to establish my school, & make it a blessing to thousands, & to continue to me my usual health & strength of body & mind. Nevertheless, "Not my will but thine be done."

Now, O Lord, my Heavenly Father, I this day solemnly rededicate my soul to the great work of my life. I desire with thy help to teach the young, & to preach to the world, salvation through Jesus Christ thy Son, my Saviour. Accept then, O blessed Saviour, this consecration of myself - My life, my soul, my body, my heart, & every interest, especially my children & my school. Draw for me in my work, grant me my desires, give accordance to thy will, make me faithful to my holy calling. Give me strength to resist all evil influences, & may I come off more than conqueror. May these vows be more sacredly kept in the future than in the past, & at last admit me, with all my loved ones, into thine eternal Kingdom, & grant us the rewards promised the worthy. Amen & Amen.

Madison Avenue College

September 19th 1849.

J. P. Smith Jr.

Oct. 19 This day I preached my last sermon at St Andrew. Where I have been laboring as a supply for 6 months. I hope & pray, that good has been accomplished. I endeavor to be faithful to the souls who heard me. I have been very much attached to this people, which is a weakness of mine, too much so for my good.

" 21 This night I preached the opening sermon of Synod. Paul the great's address to his son Timothy, "Lay hold on eternal life." I trust I have made good impressions both on the ministry & people.

" 25 On my return from Synod I had this day the remains of my boy, Lewis's disinterred & conveyed by the cars to Woburn & buried by the side of father at the foot of his Grandmother's grave. My object is to have all in the place that are buried in this southern climate.

Nov. 23 Nothing of importance, worthy of record, has transpired since the last record made. The daily exercises of the school were still continued. No serious sickness in the family. No particular news from our friends. On day the Lutheran Congregation had a meeting, an effort was made to secure my services as pastor until a German pastor is called. What will be the result a few weeks or a days will reveal.

Dec 7

There is still an effort to secure my services in the Sixth Ch. I do not know what they will succeed. The Germans are offered that it will be done entirely English. This may be the result if I am requested to preach in the Ch. So day I preached to a large congregation in the Pres. Ch. & I think I made good impressions. May the Lord bless the people. I was spoken to to day after Ch. by one of the principal members, this idea, "I do wish you were one of us" But I do not see how I can become a Pres. minister. I have been asked again, & again to become a Pres. Baptist, & even an episcopalian. I can not see why they wish me to change my ecclesiastical relations. Mrs. S. is in Charleston with our daughter Ellen, started the 4th. I will be back the 13th. Nothing particular since the last record.

" 21

I am still in doubts whether I will preach in the Sixth church here. I am called to preach in different places, & I do not think I can accomplish as much as if I had a cong. My school so far this session has not been as large as last year. The times are hard, poor crops in this section & consequently no money. It may be better after the holidays. I know of some new scholars. Mrs. S. returned the 13th safely. I brought favorable news from C. Nothing since my last record that needs an extended record.

1850

Jan 2

The holidays are past. I am glad of it. The winter days of the Deer Meadow is not kept as it ought to be. Dissensions, mess, & objectionable parties are not the kind of gladness that we ought to see among those professing Christianity. Surely the Redeemer would not be pleased with that kind of joy. It is not the joy that beclouds the service to this world, when all feedable's plumes were saying "Glory to God in the highest. And it ever be otherwise?"

I have accepted the offer to preach in the Sixth Ch. as a supply. There seems to be unanimity on the part of the majority & the best members of the church. They may call a German pastor & in that case I will resign my situation. I do not know that I can do much good among them, not having the authority as a pastor. I will try to preach faithfully, & pray God to carry home the truth, & may the truth have its desired effect. Some members seem to be trying to serve the Lord. Others are indifferent, & some do not know what is required of them to be members of the Ch. May the Lord make me an instrument of good among this people.

- Jan 4 This the first day of the new year. I preached in the Luth. Ch. More present than I expected. I hope & pray that I may do the people good. I preached the Pastor's request. Nothing worthy of record since my last. The holidays were spent by me as usual. Rejoicing but not in a way that should, being glad that they came "drunk & merry". I am always glad when the holidays are over.
- " 18 To day I preached in Luth. Ch. at the Ch. in town first preaching. Met the S.D. in the afternoon. Encouraged wintered over the Augsburg Lesson Series. & succeeded. I hope to succeed in having a good Sabbath school. Every thing goes on as usual. I think in preaching & teaching I am doing a good work in this part of the world. At least I am trying to do so. If the Lord will less my work I will accomplish much. He has been one of the greatest gifts I ever experienced. If I can get through this I think I will succeed. Why it is so I cannot tell, except it be the corrupting influence of the government. It seems that bribery & money making is the principle, & good faith the exception. I have no confidence in public affairs. Both parties are covetously striving to obtain the spoils. I fear we must be twice deceived before the affairs of the National Government will be conducted properly.
- " 25 I took charge of the Sab. School in the Luth. Ch. here. I hope to make it a blessing to the children here. I will introduce the Augsburg Lesson Series. I think I will make it beneficial to teachers & pupils. How long this may continue I do not know. A letter has been received from Dr. Probst looking to his becoming pastor. If so, I will have to cease my work here in this congregation. I am pleased with my work here, & hope I may have the privilege for some time. I preached this day to great satisfaction to myself, & I hope it was pleasing to my Master, & beneficial to the congregation. I certainly was in earnest, & said some things which I do not think they will forget for sometime. Mr. Bender from Columbia was in Church. & I spent the afternoon with him at a neighbor's house. Nothing new has happened during the week. The school as usual. During the week there was a brutal murder near here, at Suceer. A boy there near Warkon, formerly a student in W. College. This makes the 4th individual who will be tried for his life at the next Court. Murder seems to be epidemic here at this time. I hope it will soon be cured. No serious sickness in the family this winter so far, & I hope that we will have health for some time.

- Feb 1 I preached twice in the Luth. Ch. in Waltham this day. I hope I made some good impressions at both occasions. The day was very, at night, quite a solemn time. Nothing during the week unusual & worthy of record. My school is still increasing. I hope I will reach the number I had last year. There are some seasons address why the B. P. M. should be established. I hope the winter trunk from the West to the East may pass here.
- " 8 I preached to a large Cong. No. 1 in the M. Ch. this day. There was a crazy man on the Baptist Ch. & broke up the meeting. Nothing worthy of record the last week, except the interest now felt in the completion of the B. P. M. I understand to arouse the people here to its importance at this time. They seem to be less indifferent in regard to this enterprise.
- " 22 My school is still increasing. I hope to say that I may be the instrument of establishing a first class college here. The prospects are very favorable. I preached this morning in the Luth. Ch. good Cong. They were given 1000. I had a call to become their pastor. I have not heard that he has accepted. If he seems my preaching, we that do is of an end. This matter I leave to the Lord. I am satisfied if he come or does not. I shall look upon it as the will of the Master. The Sabbath school was not so well attended. Yesterday Mrs. Willis wife of W. was buried in the Baptist Ch. grave yard. 1850. Wanga preached the sermon.
- In preaching to day I was forgotten & I hope very people were. I invited them to the Homeless kind to which I am trying to reach. I hope & pray that they may earnestly strive with me. A few grew at most. I will be there & hope to meet my loved ones gone before. I want for others to come on. I feel to day more like striving to pass through this wilderness work, bearing its trials, meeting its difficulties, until the Jordan is reached. My the Master help me. Amen.
- " 29 To day I preached to the Germans in the Eng. Cong. with comfort to myself & I hope to others. It was a pretty figure, the Paragon. It is indeed a responsible position to preach & expose the Ch. to G. I tried to be faithful. I hope I may do the people good. Many of them desire German preaching & will not go to the Eng. Ch. If Rev. I. A. Probst accepts the call extended to him I then will leave them & preach to others. I do not know where. Nothing particular since the last record. Good to come & success next winter.