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Jan. 1. 1823
to May 31. 1824
Deborah Norris Logan-

THE
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OF
PENNSYLVANIA.
PRESENTED BY
Miss Maria Dickinson Logan
Oct. 25, 1934

* Note from Page 148
Dear mama begins the
next page 109 & so continues

Jan 1 1823
May 28 1824

entirely examined by M D Logan
July 55 1855

Book No 6.

Jan'y 1st 1823
to
May 20th 1824

Diary 1823

"Where the prime Actors of the last Year's Scene
Their Port so proud, their Buskin and their Plume?
How many sleep, who kept the World awake
With Lustre, and with Noise.' Has Death proclaim'd
A Truce, and hung his fatal Lance on high?
'Tis brandish'd still,' nor shall the present Year
Be more tenacious of her human Leaf,
Or Spread of feeble Life a thinner Pall."

The first of the first month 1823. I have begun this Diary.
Upon looking at the close of the last Book of this kind which I have kept, I find my last entry in it was the 21st of the 10th m. (October), more than two months ago. Part of that period was pleasantly spent; at least as much so as the state of my own mind and circumstances will admit; and I had for three weeks the agreeable company of my amiable niece Debby Norris, and her offriend and mine, Elizabeth Keppele whom I sincerely love.
[illegible]

I will now give some little account of my present situation, and the things around me: — In the week between Christmas and this Day, Winter has reigned in all its rigour, the ground has been partially covered with snow and it has been extreme cold. It has snowed, and rained and hail'd all this day. but the temperature more moderate, which I am glad of, for it was with difficulty

I could preserve my Greenhouse plants from the frost. — I am alone, Algernoon being in Jersey: and my family, much smaller than it used to be, now consists of only 4 Persons.

The state of my mind is is not so easy to describe. I sometimes compare myself to a person that has suffered Shipwreck. I feel that it is not possible for this world to give me happiness — this world contains nothing that will make up my loss. — and almost every thing that I see, or hear or know is referred to the standard in my own breast, of how my beloved Mr Logan would have been affected towards it. — and oh how does the strength and constancy of my affection, thus interwoven with my life, and living every hour in my remembrance, reconcile me to myself for that torpid composure with which I was enabled to part with my dearest earthly treasure, and see it laid in the silent Grave! — my poor Girl too, who would have been such a resource to me at this time, and was so partial to me, and so affectionate! — but I must not, will not murmur, she has escaped the sad evils of this life — her removal was in Divine Wisdom, and I doubt not her happiness.

"Keep thou my Soul, in these appointments meek,"
And down the slope of age pursue thy way,
With humble hope, and faith unfailing cheek:"

and may my hopes aspire to Heaven, and my faith never fail me, for it is on these I lean.

my Employments have been as usual, and my reading (as it generally is) very desultory. only the narrative of the captivity of Buonaparte (the Voice from St Helena) has greatly arrested my attention, and filled me with wonder, at the different aspects with which actions and circumstances can be made to assume. — and indignation that the treatment which he received after he was a Prisoner should have been any other than the kindest and most generous consistant with his safe-keeping — it disgraces the British Character, on which he bestowed such a mark of his confidence, that it was not so. I have hated his Tyranny, and feared his Power — but divested of those attributes, what a Mind was there! what wonderful and various abilities! what energy! Oh if he had been Good, what benefit might he not have achieved for the human race! — but to view him in his prison, from whence escape was an impossibility, subjected to the vexatious privations, and petty difficulties, unnecessary restrictions, and mean insults of such a reptile as Sir Hudson Lowe: Selected, I have no doubt, for the office of Goaler on account of his detestable qualities, is surely enough to wound the feelings of any generous heart — let alone the duties which as Christians they should have practised. The emotions varied in my mind in contemplating the sufferings of this distinguished Captive, has been such as I should feel in seeing a beautiful and agile Tyger in the fangs of a Boa Constrictor.

The Cause of the Poor Greeks has also very much engaged my attention. they have my best wishes — cannot our country do something in aid of their exertions? The Tyranny of the Turks is detestable and leaves them no alternative. But every ennobling and generous sentiment, every Classical recollection, and chivalric feeling, is in favor of the Greeks. May they emancipate themselves! is my sincere wish.

2d of the m°. 5th. of the Week. all day alone, and living over the days that are past. I finish'd the Copy of my 'Biographical Sketches'. and much do I wish that the Work was more worthy.

3d. 6th day. at meeting in the morning, which was satisfactory to me. in the afternoon I went down to Summerville and drank tea — my children very kind and glad to see me, but during my visit Elizabeth run a Desert Knife into the palm of her hand, which accident has given me a good Deal of uneasiness for fear of bad consequences. This was the Day (the anniversary of the Day) that preceded the night of my dear Debby's Death. maria and myself recollected all the mournful circumstances. — I now experimentally know how great the loss of this dear Girl is to me, and I reflect upon her many virtues and engaging qualities in despair of ever meeting again with so interesting a Companion — But my loss is her gain. I must not

"view her favoured lot a chastening rod;
The Almighty's call was perfect love divine,
Unerring Wisdom — and the Will of God."

7th day 4th of 4th month.

It rained most of the Day but was not very cold, I was alone and buried with Domestic avocations. my mind not without its Distresses, and spirits sunk. So on First day. the rain preventing me from going to meeting, I dined alone, and do not know when I so much wanted to see a friend step in — but none come as yet. Evening. the Day has been spent chiefly in serious reading and religious retirement. In the afternoon I despatched Hughy down to Somerville to enquire how they all were, especially Elizabeth, for whom I felt uneasy on account of her hand — I had bound it up and put turpentine upon it, by her Father's special direction, against my own judgement. and the note which I rec'd. from Maria in return, is not calculated to make me any easier; so that I believe I shall have to go down there tomorrow morning to urge her going in to let Dr. Parish see the wound. The weather cleared up stormy & cold.

Second day 6th of the month. Hughey informed me I could not go to town to day, something wanting to be done to the Harness, which was done. I passed the day as well as I could in my solitude, no visitors coming. — a Poor man of Germantown was found Dead in Shoemakers Lane yesterday morning. he had been at Bockius's the evening before to meet the society, and left it before Supper to go home — he was a sober man and supposed to die in a fit. — So very uncertain is our time here. I did not hear from Summerville to day. Paid four Debts to Day. five, including Hughey's Great Coat, which I had promised and now got it procured for him. — The weather very cold.

5th

I was amused with the Publication of another of the venerable John Adams's Letters, this is addressed to the Albany Committee on the subject of affording assistance to the Greeks struggling with their Tyrants. in which the old Revolutionary Patriot cuts out work enough for them in all conscience for he says very truly, that, "The liberties of Holland, Switzerland & Italy are in a situation nearly as dangerous as those of the Greeks." — and that the cause of liberty, justice, and humanity is in a critical state all over the World. The large States of Europe being about to swallow up the small ones: threatning civil wars, and long and bloody contentions — but concludes with saying for himself, that he is just stepping into another world, and can do no more in this.

On Thirday the 7th I went to town, and fulfilled my intention of calling at Summerville. Maria readily consented to go to town with me, but took Dickinson instead of Elizabeth, who's hand is so much better than an appeal to the Doctors judgment was deemed unnecessary. We had a very kind reception — but I regretted much to see dear Sally so poorly. I went to some Shops, and to see Polly Welsh, and dined with Cousin, after dinner Maria went in the carriage to call on Phebe Bradford, & we then left town. I think I heard nothing of much moment. — the dear little children rejoiced at our coming, and I drank tea very pleasantly with them at Summerville, and got home to my solitary home about 7 oclock.

8 Fourth day was spent chiefly in domestic affairs; my little Mary went to town in the stage; our family is now so small that one person being absent is missed. Charles Fox paid me a kind and

acceptable visit in the afternoon, and drank tea with me. I had also in the evening the pleasure to receive a letter from Enoch Walker announcing that his dear Daughter was on her way to see me, and one from my beloved Algernoon very acceptable indeed.

I was just writing the above line on 5th day afternoon when

9 he returned in good health. Algernon was likewise here for a short time, but to my regret would not stay to tea. tho' not from any want of kindness or affection on any part. Three two hold between them all my earthly hopes of happiness and are equally and inexpressibly dear to me. Hetty Fisher and the little Girls from Wakefield and Elizabeth Wilson drank tea and spent part of the evening here. went to bed before ten — but I do not sleep of late so well, nor so unconcernedly as I used to do — and very rarely in my Dreams have I the comfort to see my beloved lost one — tho in my waking hours his Image is almost constantly before me — It is true indeed that "Love is stronger than Death."

10 6th Day 10th Jan: — I went to our little meeting in the morning, and thought it was a time of favoured refreshment. The day has proved very tempestuous with wind, which blew almost a Hurricane, and some small flirts of snow. In descending Germantown hill I, for the first time in my life observed the Phenomenon called 'Looming,' in the distant view of the city, lifted up, as it were into the Horizon. very bright clouds were drifted about all day with bright gleams of sunshine between their passage — I dined and spent the afternoon alone, for Elge: went to town, and as the shadows played on the Wall which the swiftly undulating branches of the Evergreens constantly varied, I thought of the time to come when the beams would fall on the ruins of my habitation, and myself, now its insignificant occupant, be no more remembered

"Life's little day
shall pass, and I be gone." and oh, if

favoured to find a mansion prepared for me in that better world to which my thoughts are sometimes earnestly directed— it will not pain me to be forgotten here— tho' I should like to live in the affectionate (not mournful) remembrance of some. I never saw a more Glorious sunset than was this evening, but the wind continues very high

Seventh Day 11th Jan. The morning was spent in my Usual domestic avocations in the afternoon I wrote a letter to my friend Walsh intending to send it with my Book for his perusal; but upon reading it over I found it so incorrect, and was so little pleased with it, that it will hardly be sent to him. my little maid sat with me in the evening making a pretty basket of Straw and silk to hold artificial Flowers. she is very handy and ingenious, and made easily happy by such employment. — I read John Quincy Adams's reply to the accusations of Ben: Smyth, who has proved but a helpful adversary to him, and given him a fitting opportunity to exhibit his claim to public Esteem and confidence. "Oh that mine Enemy had written a "Circular. may henceforward be the wish of a candidate for office."

First Day 12th. I did not go to meeting; Hughey wanting to go and visit his parents. — Algernoon came home to Breakfast. no one to Dinner — and only little George Fisher and his Cousin to tea. — a stormy day without,— occasional Snow drift and wind, and a dull day within, for I felt gloomy and heavy. — and now have nothing cheering to relate.
The weather very cold.

Secondday 13th a fine clear morning, but I did not rise as early as

common, the day having broke when I opened my windows. It was a day of considerable domestic occupation — a large Wash — The men filling the Ice house and Anne swamped with business, so I spent the morning in helping her, & the afternoon at my needle. The day throughout was extremely cold.

Thirday the 14th up rather earlier but the cold, and the difficulty of getting the room comfortable, prevented me from much exertion — I seem as worped and Bearish as an old President. A woman who came to me for work, which I had not to give her, staid all night and till after dinner: her name is Mrs Polhemus. I had clear-starching and work of that kind in the kitchen to do. Algernoon sold 50 Bush.s of my Wheat to Charles Logan at $1.50. he afterwards went to town, and I spent the afternoon and evening alone. Operations in the kitchen when I am not there, and the business but indifferently performed, vexed me, also fear for my Greenhouse from neglect, al together not a day of much enjoyment. — I thought too what a day of Grief it had once been to my poor mother, and in my family:— it was the anniversary of my Fathers death.

Fourth Day the 15th every way pleasanter than yesterday. In the afternoon I walked over to Wakefield, but was informed that Cousin Sally and Hetty had rode down to Somerville, and intended to return and take tea at Stenton, which I hardly thought Maria would suffer them to do. But they came, and were joined by Cousin William, and we spent two or three hours together in very pleasant chat. After they were gone, I spent the remaining part of the evening in writing. I had a letter from Sarah Walker, she is now at her Uncle Millers, and I may soon expect to see her.

5th day 16th 1st mo.

A lovely winters day, which tempted me to go abroad, and return Jane Stanier's visit — and the result was very agreeable: — her mother was confined to her chamber, but convalescent, part of the time was spent with her and part in the Parlour below, where were three travelling Friends who intended to lodge there and be at our meeting tomorrow. they were from New York State. Sally Johnson was likewise there, and very agreeable in conversation. — all our entertainment was abundantly good. and the house Old fashioned, neat, comfortable and convenient, beyond in my estimation, all shew and elegance of modern living, — and the cheerful kindness and sociability of our reception, made all as it should be — and I was much pleased, and thought that if Foreigners who seem to delight in misrepresenting us, were to be admitted into such families, how could they do otherwise than represent us as a virtuous & happy people.

17th 6th day I was at our meeting, where we had the company of the Friends I saw last evening, — And what was said among us appeared to me to be suitable to our state. Hetty Fisher came home with me to dinner after which we went down to Summerville and paid a social visit, Maria was glad to see us and took it kind that I brought down Hetty. Our ride home was quite pleasant, the weather by no means cold for the season, roads good, and a little light from the moon, and agreeable conversation, rather of the Confidential kind. We went up the York road to Wakefield, where I left my kind niece and returned home to my solitary dwelling.

Seventh day 18th 1st mo. Domestic occupations in the morning and after at home to Dinner. — The weather mild. so that the air within Doors is colder than that without; towards evening it grew very damp with great indications of rain, which, however, did not follow. When the Servant came from the Post Office he brought besides the newspapers a Pamphlet directed to my beloved deceased, "from his often obliged and ever grateful &c Christ" Ellery" of Rhode Island, who served formerly with him in Senate; and for whom he procured an appointment (often asking for others when he thought they ~~they~~ were honest and suitable for the office, but never for himself) the circumstance quite affected me; Can it be possible his friend has never heard of his death, in the lapse of time that has since occurred?

In the night I rose to look at a great light from a fire in town: my mary, intending to go to town with Slaves in the morning and occupied in her mind about getting up in time, waked and saw the reflection in the room, she then called me up to see it. It was about 2 o'clock I did not readily get to sleep again, many things at such times forcing themselves on my recollection. The fire proved to be a bad one, it destroyd several warehouses with all their contents, a Bake-house &c in Bank alley, between Church and market, and 2.d & 3.d Streets. happily the night was calm and warm, otherwise a great deal more mischief would probably have ensued.

First day the 19th after meeting I received a visit from my friend Walsh and his amiable wife and a party of their little ones: he looks ill, and told me he had received an injury on his leg. (the one of which the knee was so much hurt sometime ago.) but that in the issue it had proved beneficial to it, being now stronger than previous to the last hurt. — He seemed soo-

too, Grave and thoughtful, with up of that animating liveliness that seeks to extract Gay and pleasing ideas in every object that occurs — as if he had found the world, (as I believe we all sooner or later shall find it,) a scene of vice and trouble, and little, or no hope of its amendment. I found in conversation, that he thought Europe was like to be again plunged in war and bloodshed. and in our own country he was disgusted with the intrigue, and mean selfish policy which he saw at work. He spoke with delight of the advantages of often putting yourselves aloof from the busy throng, examining in your own heart, and cultivating whatever is good and excellent in that exclusive Vineyard: and I wish I could do justice to the beautiful picture which he drew of the human mind when ennobled by virtue and sustained by Religion.

At taking leave I put into his hands the best Copy of my "Biographical Sketches" together with a letter I had written to him and Sealed up with it, intending to have got Algernoon to have taken them to town — I wished him to see the work. and now I feel full of fears and shame at its imperfections, and dare hardly think of what I have done.

afterwards I spent the day alone. part of the time employed in Copying some Old manuscripts on Religious subjects; Algernoon not coming home until late at night.

2d day 20.th It has rained all day. and after we had dined, my son went to a township meeting at Branch town, to consider of some better way of providing for their poor: — It is but a few years since they had but two Paupers in Bristol Township; — now they have a numerous family of them, clearly deducible from the manufactories

lately established within its boundaries; seven person, a very lazy Englishman named John Gilpin, with his wife and 5 children have been transmitted from Norristown to them, at a shameful expence, because he had gained a maintenance by working a short time at Towers's factory. The Poor tax this Year is quite an oppression.

3.d Day 21.st As beautiful a day as ever graced the annals of January. the Atmosphere unclouded, the Sun warm and bright, the wind at N.W. fresh and exhilirating, but not at all cold. I had my Green house open and my parlour plants in the open windows. and enjoyed the fine day myself, taking a good deal of exercise in Domestic avocations. my little maid came from town where she had been to take leave of her sister; and mentioned that a ~~another~~ bad fire again occured last night in nearly the same neighbourhood as the other. If I record my thoughts as well as actions, it would be an almost constant recurrence to the dear memory of the Beings which are now lost to me; and I am consoled for the unnatural composure of my mind at the time they were taken, by the fervency and tenderness with which their memories are retained in my mind; the almost constant companions of it, whether in society or alone. I want no mourning for myself when I put off this mortal body, if there is any hope that the "Pearly Gates" are opened to receive me. But I should like sometimes to be remembered with a feeling of affection (not grief) by those I have loved. — I believe this wish is natural to the human heart.

"Still from the Tomb the voice of nature cries
Still in our ashes live their wonted fires."

22d Jan.y 4th day. Disappointed that Algernoon did not come home — my usual avocations, uninterrupted by any company, but Clio, Julie and the Cat, who staid on terms of kindness to each other by the fire. The weather cloudy and gentle rain towards night. The river clear of Ice.

It cleared up pleasantly for the season on 5th day afternoon. I had spent the day as usual, alone, and had taken a solitary dish of Tea and the House was shut up, and no one in it out of the kitchen but myself, when a rap at the front door startled me and going to open it, received my good and kind Young friend Sarah Walker — I was very glad to see her. her Brother and Sister were with her, and we passed a social and pleasant evening together. — She has come to stay a while with me, and gild a few of the wintry days to me. She is an excellent Young woman.

6th day 24th I could not get to our monthly meeting in the morning. my Guests staid with me. in the afternoon we all went over to Billy Fishers and staid till eight oclock very agreeably. But the division in our society of which I heard much to day, affected me very sensibly. I cannot see why People need to divide into others, or utter their own speculative opinions, and making them the subject of so much warmth, dislike and persecute each other on account of them. I heard too of a marriage like to take place at new Bedford very soon that surprid me greatly: Lydia Rodman to micajah Ruggles! — But it is a strange world, and whatever her aspect may be to the other Planets, to her own Inhabitants she is more variable than the moon itself.

Seventh day a rainy and snowy day, but Sarahs Brother and sister left us after Breakfast. nothing remarkable happened, the rest of the day, except that I should add — But I will not do it — and it must be left to conjecture what it is. —

On first day 26th Jan.y Sarah and myself went to meeting, which I thought was a comfortable one, my mind being favoured to worship in a degree of quiet contemplation. Thomas Cadwallader and Charles Fox dined with Algernoon, & sat with us very agreeably a while in the evening. I was much disappointed that my Children from Summerville were not here.

Second day passed without any thing to remark. it was a dull unpleasant day and terminated in rain and snow towards evening.

Third day. It cleared up and was colder. Sarah Walker and myself went down to Summerville to tea. where we found Albanus absent, and Maria poorly. Cousin Sally came a short time with Rebecca and Elizabeth, she looks miserably, and is indeed in a low state of health, her eyes being again so weak that the room has to be much darkened for her. Maria kept us somewhat in the evening, as she said she was lonesome. — We heard of nothing new, but some intended marriages. I have to seem as cheerful as I can for the sake of my amiable Young friend: but I am to myself in a low and suffering state of mind, and not at all happy. Dr. Betton here in the morning very agreeably.

Fourth day. Charles Norris dined here with Algernoon. in the afternoon Mary Betton and Mary Grey paid us a short visit. and Margaret

-garet Morris Drank tea with Sarah and myself. Alge: and Charles going to town with the intention of going to the Theatre; of which I told them my opinion. Sarah and myself spent the evening at Work, and I went to bed in a frame of mind nearly allied to unhappiness

Fifth Day 30th J. W. accepted of Molly Bettons invitation to tea, I took her as far as the Doctors in the Carriage, and then called myself to see Anne Potts, where I only staid a short time, her younger sister being ill of a fever. and came home. Spent the evening in writing. Sarah staid till near 10. they had quite a party. which I expected would be the case. [redacted]

Sixth Day 31st 1st mo. We went to meeting. and spent the rest of the day alone. We had a thought of going to town in the afternoon, but it clouded over and a squall of snow settled us by the parlour fire. It did not continue, but returned again towards night, which finally became a most sparkling Starlight, brilliant with frost. Alge: came home

Seventh Day Feb: 1st A Cousin of Sarahs dined with us, and the Wakefield Young folks came to tea, and spent part of the evening. It was quite a wintry day for cold, but the Sun shone out cheerily, which I am always glad of in this season for the sake of the poor Animals and Birds, who seem to comfort themselves in his Beams, as we do at our fire sides.

First Day the 2d 2d month 1823.

After meeting, which we attended, our friend Walsh and his wife and a party of their little ones, paid me a morning visit. He brought home my Book, with thanks for its perusal and for the confidence I had placed in him. He desired me to take care of it, and said my family would hereafter prize it. [redacted] I was very glad to see my children and the two dear Boys. They dined here. Dr Betton favoured us with his comp.y a little while after Dinner and then my sons walked home with him where they staid till late in the Evening. Maria and the Children remained with us. She was not well and low spirited, which was a grief to me. But I was truly glad they came to see me.

Second Day 3d Tho' not at all cold, it snowed the greater part of the day. which Sarah and myself spent alone. We had intended to have gone to Philad.a to the Quarterly meeting but the weather was a sufficient reason for our not doing so. It cleared up, but not very brilliantly, towards night, still thawing. I was a good deal indisposed to day, — and when I went to bed did not sleep well, revolving things in my own mind and uneasy at some which have occurred, for some of which I take blame to myself. How different is the World to me! It can now offer nothing that will stand the least in competition with what I have lost, which has indeed to my mind

"drawn life, a dreary, dreary coast."

Yet I am cheerful, and I dare say, many think, happy. But "every heart cultivates its own nightshade." and I have mine!

17th

Third day. 4th 2d mo. 1823.

My two nieces Debby and Hannah Norris and Eliz Keppele spent the day with us, very pleasantly. Dear S. W. enjoyed their company very much, but I could see oftimes that she thought of her poor deceased friend, who used to be so happy in such little social meetings. — I too, frequently inverted, in my own mind to other days.

As to public news, we do not seem to have much at present: — the allarms about the Fires in town are subsiding. and the European Intelligence seems to be that the Congress of Sovereigns Assembled at Verona, went in Augest State to the Theatre, staid about 20 minutes and then broke up. as they afterwards did their session without doing any thing (Publicly) remarkable except giving France leave to 'let slip the Dogs of War' on poor Spain, which however she appears to be afraid to do, least they should turn upon herself.

After a very early Dinner Sarah and myself went to town to a few shops, and after calling to see poor Polly Welsh, drank tea at Cousin Sally's; We found her very poorly. Maria and Albanus were there and Maria rode home in our carriage, which was warmer for her than the open Gig, and safer than the Rashing horse, which after having left with col: Wilkinson for some time on sale, Albanus has again taken to drive.

Fifth day was spent at home in very domestic occupations. It was an obscure, dull, and exceeding cold day. and unpleasant in its termination. one of the Girls having broke an article which I had affixed a great value to.

18th

6th Day. at home, without company, only a whishing call from Margarette Morris and a young friend of hers, for a short time to Sarah, in the afternoon. the Weather dreadfully cold.

8th of mo. 1st week The severity of cold continued thro' the day, which was increased by its being cloudy and dull. very fine Snow, like dust, in the afternoon, like that described in high Latitudes. no company. but Sarah and myself very comfortable.

First Day 9th 2d mo. We went to meeting, where we had some very good ministry from a Stranger. We dined, and spent the afternoon alone. the cold, the still severe enough for our feelings, something more moderate. Algernon: came home in the evening.

Second day 10th Cloudy with wind, but warmer and thawing. We went down to Somerville to tea. Albanus was gone up to Norristown, but maria and the Boys were at home. I took the Silver Tea Kettle to maria. it was dark when we got back. We heard of two accidents lately occurring, one of which, I fear, may prove of lasting bad consequence: Jane Haines fell on the Ice on Schuylkill last first day, and hurt her hip joint — she is said to be in great pain with it. and Dr Betton again thrown out of a Gig, which was upset and broke to pieces. Luckily the Dr not much hurt.

Algernon has brought me from town the number of the Port Folio for Feb: which contains an original Letter of my beloved Dr Logan, with a prefatory notice purporting to be from a friend: and it is friendly in the bearing of its remarks but

expressed in the most cautious manner, as if the writer was afraid of the departed Spirit of federal animosity, and has created, or rather revived the ardent wish in my mind that I were but able to do his character and memory Justice.

Third day was spent without company, except cousin Willm Fisher a little while in the morning. and nothing particular occurred.

Fourth day. had a fine afternoon of cheering sunshine. S. and myself were at work in the front parlour when a carriage drove up to the door and my dear Children from Somerville made their appearance. I was very glad to see them, and we passed a pleasant little time together. my beloved Albanus was in good spirits and very kind.— S. and myself passed the evening agreeably in reading. but I spent a part of the night in Curtesy.

Fifth day. my mind is clouded in gloom and I am very unhappy. but I desire to view our stake here as one of trial not of satisfaction, and would gladly, if I could, perform my brief part of it as I ought. Sarah went to Germantown to see Margaret Morris a little while, and Alger: to town, and I was alone thro' the afternoon, but Sally returned to tea and we spent the evening in working and reading. We have read the Pioneers with much interest as an American production, and also as true to nature in its description of the country, & in some of its characters; we both joined in thinking Natty the Hero of the piece and in exceedingly liking his kind and simple character.

It was a fine morning, but cloudy and raw afternoon, with a spit of snow in the evening.

6th day 14th Feb: a Day of winter's own formation: hail, Snow, sleet and wind; but yet Books and Papers with the needle and Conversation, enabled my dear Guest and myself to pass its 'sullen' hours with satisfaction to ourselves. as I seldom read over what I have written in this Book I suppose I sometimes make sad repetitions; from the sameness in which I spend my time, and from the constant current of my thoughts carrying me back to scenes happier than the present to me:— for indeed all is dimness, my regrets are lasting and my enjoyments few. but yet it will not do to intrude my feelings too much on others.

7th day was severely cold; the hail and snow had congealed on the branches of the trees and the foliage of the evergreens with a most beautiful effect, especially in the afternoon when the Sun shone out resplendently and converted the particles of ice into constellations of Gems of every hue, brilliancy beyond description. for I never saw such a blended variety of sparkling Jewels as they appeared to be, of every hue and colour, suspended from the branches and waving with the breeze. Sarah and myself enjoyed this fine display alone, for we had no company, and we had Walsh's papers and Books for our evenings amusement.

First Day we could not go to meeting on account of the Carriage not being done. but my dear Albanus and Maria and the Boys who were then came and dined with us. we spent a pleasant Day, and innocent, I hope, if not very instructive. Algernoon came home early in the evening. — the weather was severely cold through the day.

Second Day was of continued unusual cold, and not over agreeable otherwise, Sarah went to drink tea at Morris's, and Charles Fox spent the afternoon here with Algernoon; who went for Sarah in the evening in the Gig. Cloudy cold night and so likewise on Third day morning. of which day I have nothing particular to relate unless I should insert that I laboured under a Depression of spirits hard to bear and needing encouragement. It was very cold.

Fourth day. the cold not yet abated. (this was written in the morning) in the afternoon, Albanus and Maria called for S. and myself to go and drink tea at Wakefield, which we did and passed a pleasant evening there.

Fifth day. my spirits have been not good for some days; my views of life are all changed, and cheering hopes are at an end as to this scene below. a Depression I am unused to feel has taken hold of my mind, mingled with recollections of the utmost tenderness, and a melancholy veil is thrown over the future.— but I desire to bow in submission to the Divine will, and try to be benefitted by what I feel. S. and myself spent this day alone with work and reading. there was rain and snow in the morning, cloudy and thawing the rest of the day.

Sixth day. We made a laughable, tho fruitless attempt, to get to meeting, by putting old Tom in the Gig and Sarah driving me, with the precaution of Hughey on Horseback to wait on us. but we found on overtaking Tom Fisher, that the monethly meeting was held over at Frankford, so we came back and seated ourselves to

our usual employments; and the rest of the day went over as it usually does. The weather was pleasant for the season, with alternate clouds and sunshine, the walking very bad on acc.t of the thaw.

Seventh day 22. 2. m.o The anniversary of the Great and Good Washingtons birth. nothing very new or entertaining to relate. But I felt rather better myself, and with my kind and amiable young friend got pleasantly thro' the day.

23.d Went at meeting, where we had several Preachers, and a sense of good. we had no company but Algernoon thro' the Day. It began to snow about noon and kept on at intervals, I believe, all night. So that on 2.d day morning we had more of it fallen than at any period of the winter.

It continued to snow all day, not very cold however till towards night when it became exceedingly so. my two eldest Damsels asked and obtained leave to go sleighing with Dan Smith and his sister; — Charles was gone out to enjoy some of the scenes of frolic in the neighbourhood, and impudent Hugh & Bob also took themselves off. So that the old Castle was very weakly Garrisoned this the evening, only Sarah, Sall, and myself remaining at home, however no intruder came, and the faithful Dogs Clio and Juke lay before our hearth, whilst Beppo, indignant that he had been left by his usual out-of-door companions, (gone off with the Boys,) ran round the house, howling and barking all the evening. the Girls brought Bob from Nice town with them, but Mr Hugh staid out all night. The moon shone out almost full orbed, and the ether was clear and cold.

25.th 2. m.o

Passed much after the ordinary manner. we had no company nor news from friends or acquaintance, only a note from cousin W.F.

asking us to come over tomorrow at noon; Sarah to stay with the Girls and myself to go with Cousin Sally and himself to W. Rodmans in a Sleigh. We went after much debate and uncertitude respecting the Weather, for it looked extremely like rain. at a very little distance from home we found plenty of snow on the Cross roads, and got along with much celerity. It was a very pleasant visit, only that I was in a state of bodily suffering from a wrench I had somewayes given my poor back, of which however I said nothing, and tho hardly able to walk into the house, or raise myself from the chair when seated, I believe nobody perceived. I was uneasy to think how I should endure the ride home, for the Sleigh was a jarring one from the shortness of the runners: but I became easier and got home better than I had anticipated. Yet on the morning of 5th day. I was nearly unable to rise from my bed, and very helpless and miserable when I was up. I had the Sopha, and all the comfort to be derived from nursing by dear S. W. in the evening the little Wakefield Belles drank tea here. and their Brother came for them 6th day. Afternoon had a few of his friends to dine with him, but instead of sitting at Table with them I had to go to Bed totally helpless with the pain in my back, Mrs Morris and Margaret came down, I believe, to make a visit, but finding me so much indisposed did not stay to tea. the Gentlemen appeared to enjoy themselves very agreeably to their minds. on 7th day I was better. a very cold Spell of weather. I think the coldest first of march I ever knew, it froze in all our closets and even in the Rooms where a fire was kept. I have not much of any pleasure to relate as to myself. my thoughts relating to the Dead much more than to the living, and convinced that the Garniture of life for

me, it is so faded as to afford but small satisfaction in future — a thing I ought to be thankful for. the Weather to day was moderate and thawing.

First day. We were at a short, and not satisfactory meeting. Chas. & S. Logan were there and came home with us to Dinner. the family from Somerville not at meeting. I sent down in the afternoon to enquire respecting them and heard they were in town, Cousin Sally being very poorly.
Dr. Betton without my sending for him, kindly came yesterday and to day to see me, and in the latter visit brought a new Book which he thought might contribute to our entertainment. 'Davys accot. of Ceylon.'
We spent the evening, I think, profitably; I read to the family in Religious Books and the like conversation engaged in 'till bedtime.

Second day I had to encounter a goodmany domestic vexations this morning. I found my large pots cracked with the frost and that the Rats (who by the by, annoy me sadly) had committed depredations on one of them. and — But it is useless to complain of Anne, and these vexations must be remedied where they are remediable, and borne where they are not.

In the afternoon I had a hope my children from Somerville would come:— We were sitting at work, Algernoon with us, when a Carriage was announced; it proved to be Reuben Haines who brought his mother & Cousin, and his friend Jas. P. Parke to see us. they staid to tea and gave us much satisfaction in agreeable conversation. It is a new thing for me to read novels, but those which are the Works of Walter Scott possess an Interest which Books of that class have long ceased to exercise over my mind. We are now reading 'Peveril of the Peake' which has been lately published here.

my monotonous journal has not any variety to record on third day. We had intended to go to Somerville but a hope that my children would be coming here, and the continuance of severe cold weather, kept us at home. But it was in vain that we piled the wood on the Hearth to give them a warm reception — they came not, and S. and myself beguiled the time as well as we could.

Fourth day seemed in the morning to be fruitful in domestic vexations, every thing looking badly and seeming to go wrong. I do not recollect that I ever saw in Books a Description of the misery attendant on the consciousness that an Old Establishment is falling into Decay and every thing is retrograding around you; this is my own case, and the feeling certainty which Nature gives me that the frail tenement which my Soul inhabits is also in such a state, I receive as a caution to prepare for a removal, and to leave it all — which, if favoured to know that I may hope for pardon above, I should not at all regret that it very soon should take place.

"Then why repine — Dost life deserve my sigh?
Few will regret my lot when'ere I die."

We had a late dinner from Algi's absence and were preparing to go down to Somerville, but it began to rain and the Carriage was remanded. It did not however prevent some of our friends from visiting us. Sally Roberts from Point, her eldest Daughter, who is a fair & lovely Girl, and my own niece Hannah Norris came and spent the afternoon very agreeably here. Hugh Roberts joined them before we had Coffee. Very few women indeed are as pleasing in their manners as Cousin Sally, none more so, for she is truly charming.

they left us before dark, for it rained and the ride is long. During the night a great thaw commenced, and in the morning the Snow which lay on the ground in considerable Quantity yesterday, had disappeared, and a freshet in the little stream below, nearly laid half of the meadow under water. When I got up on 5th day morning I found myself very lame in my right knee, from what cause I know not, but received it as another intimation that the Old Tenement was becoming more & more Crazy and that I must try to secure another and a better one, which I hope will be.

"A House not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens."

Fifth day was very rainy and unpleasant, the Walls running down with dampness like the breaking up of frost — I sent down to Somerville to enquire after their healths and ask them to come and see me — but the Badness of the Weather prevented them — ~~[illegible]~~

Sixth day cleared up and moderate, the snow almost gone, nothing remaining but a very few solitary patches on the north side of places. We went down to Somerville thro' muddy roads, and found them out, having gone into town, except my poor solitary Gust. after seeing the Child, we went up the York road and round by Wakefield where we staid to tea and spent a very agreeable afternoon; and I thought the countenances and kind

-ness of my friends cheered me. On 7th day the morning was busied in domestic avocations and the afternoon we had the pleasure of seeing Cousin Sally N. Dickinson who with my dear Maria, the two Girls, and Becky Embree took tea here. this was truly pleasant to me. but they brought me the intelligence that poor little Hepsy was sick at Westown — and sick in a manner that occasions me considerable uneasiness.

First day. S. and myself were at meeting. which was satisfactory to me. my dear Albanus, Maria, and the Boys came home with us and spent the remaining part of the day. a great many transient people, visitors to my Girls, were here in the course of the afternoon. — I had but a poor night, laying awake and seeming to have all my Griefs, difficulties, faults and mistakes, to pass in fearful array before me. at length, fortified with good resolutions for the future, and commending my poor unworthy self to the protection of a merciful Providence, I fell to sleep again.

Second day was passed without much to remark, only that the news last received from Europe appears to be of deep interest. the notes of the allied Sovereigns (Septred Scelerats) to spain, and her spirited and dignified answer.* was in our papers. It is impossible not to frame a wish that constitutional and rational liberty may be the result of the present portentous appearance of the political horizon, not only to Spain, but also to their own Serfs and wretched Subjects composing the armies with which they threaten to subjugate her. — the Poor Greeks also, I most heartily desire may break their Yoke upon the Head of their Tyrants. only I wish they may not disgrace their Cause by any wanton cruelty.

*. notice of the notes to her own Ambassadors. for she justly forbore to answer such insulting calumnies.

Third day. A very great rain commenced. we spent the day in domestic avocations, and read a manuscript Life of James Pemberton, written, and lent to me by his Grandson James Pemberton Parke, — it was satisfactory to me to have such a review of the life and sentiments of this truly upright and pious man, who singularly judicious and energetic, was at the head of the Society of friends in this State for so many years. and of what value and consequence such a character in that station is, the present unhappy and unsettled state of many among us in the present day abundantly declares. We were at home alone, only Algernoon was with us. Thomas Dobson of Philad.a Printer and Bookseller, was buried to day.

On the 12th. S. and myself went down to Somerville to meet the wakefield family on a visit to my dear Children, Eliza Rotch was with them, and she is really a sensible, well bred, and interesting woman, with very agreeable conversation, so that we passed a pleasant evening together. and I am happy in anticipating receiving a visit from her here, and also in being able to meet her in some other places during her stay in our neighbourhood

I heard to day that accounts were in town that the allies had actually invaded Spain. — may she be true to herself:

Fifth day we spent in town, in pleasantness and love; I dined at Cousin Sally's where my children from Somerville also dined. my niece Hetty Fisher kindly went with me to make some visits, one of which was to Eliza Smith (wife of Ch.s Smith) who has lately lost her father. she is a very amiable woman. — we met in the street my dear niece Debby Norris and her young friend Elizabeth Roberts, the former was brilliant in beauty, her complexion unrivalled by any thing which I saw to day, and her

stature and appearance superb, for she was abundantly draped. In the afternoon I went to see poor Polly Welsh, whom I found poorly. And dear Hannah Smith kindly came to Cousin Sally's to drink tea, that she might see me; the greatest alloy to satisfaction throughout the day was to remark the infirm health of my dear Sally, who has been more unwell than ordinary for some time. We got home well tho' rather late, the Roads being none of the best, indeed off the Turnpike execrably bad. It was an uncommonly fine day.

6th day Rain all day — no going to meeting nor out. S. and myself 'wasted' it 'sullen' hours as well as we could.

Seventh day. The rain ceased and it cleared up in the night. This afternoon and evening were made pleasant in an other sense by the company of our Cousins from Wakefield and their very agreeable Guest, who is indeed a charming woman. And my dear Albanus and Marcia.

But "What human Bliss is free from some alloy?"

I heard from Becky Embree that poor little Step continues in an alarming way; excitement of any kind producing returns of fainting, which tho' slight, I think shews considerable derangement of the nervous system — however she was better and would be sent home as soon as the roads &c would permit. Cousin Sally too had been more poorly since we were in town.

First day March 16th The first indications of Spring. the Birds shewed their joy at its approach this morning — agreeable as it is, to me it speaks of Sufferings as well as of former enjoyments. deep & ever to be felt regrets!

Sarah and myself, with little Sall, were at meeting — which was satisfactory to me, the Day was spent alone, and not without some improvement. but my mind is overspread with languor and Gloom in a way unusual to me.

Second Day 3d m. 17th 1823. A Spring-like Day moderately warm, damp & cloudy. the Pewitt has come, and the Blue Birds are singing. very much oppressed with a want of spirit, feeble and full of sorrowful recollections. I spent the morning in various avocations. and was not sorry that I was engaged to go abroad in the afternoon in hopes of better feelings. just as we were ready to step into the Carriage, my friend Walsh came with his agreeable wife, and two of their pretty little Girls to make me a little visit. — his conversation, always interesting, was to day partly occupied with a local subject. — A very bad fire of destructive effect, occurred early this morning, in which the Washington Hall & the mansion house hotel were consumed, — a greater Blaze was never seen in Philadelphia, its light even reached our here, so that our people in the farm yard below who were up before day to milk, could see by it to perform their work, and put out the light in the Lanthorn — nothing but the calmness of the night prevented a more severe destruction, for the fire had got to a great height before it was discovered. the mansion house was full of lodgers who had to rise and make their escape as they could; happily no lives were lost. my Son, who has been used to lodge there when in town, was at home, but feared he had lost a trunk of Cloathes left there, which he went this afternoon to enquire after. — the vexation and trouble to William Rawle must have been great; — his office was on fire, and they likewise feared it would be crushed by the falling of the Wall of the Hall adjoining. so his papers &c were thrown out into the Street in the utmost confusion; the roof of his house was also considerably injured. and the roofs of many houses, at a considerable distance were repeatedly on fire. the whole neighbourhood now covered with extinguished Brands and Ashes. —

After our Guests had departed, S. and myself went to Reuben Haines's. where we met a small but agreeable circle of ffriends, and passed a very pleasant evening. — his agreeable wife is finely recovering from her illness, Eliza Korck is now with them. Among other entertainments we were regaled with the sight of some beautiful Prints, which I could have wish devoted a much longer time to have examined.

Algernoon returned home this evening. after having been so fortunate as to recover his trunk: the Waiter in whose care it was left, having safely deposited it with a neighbour.

3d. day 18th. 3o. The Weather to day exhibited all the varieties of the month: snow hail and continual rain in the morning, thunder, hail, rain and wind in the afternoon, after which it cleared and was a beautiful evening, the sun coming out with lustre and the Beautiful Planets and Constellations which now adorn our evening's, shining with the finest radiance in the ~~east~~ west. We thought we might fulfil our engagement with Sally Johnson, and accordingly went and paid her a very agreeable visit, and had the satisfaction to see her Daughter Elizabeth finely recovered — but not yet quite well. — the children of this family behave with remarkable propriety and good manners.

Fourth Day. We should have gone down to Somerville but for the expectation of Molly Betton's company, but we were disappointed, she neither came nor sent us word. — We spent the day by ourselves. the Weather was fine and mild, and it was not without great surprise when we arose on 5th Day morning to find the earth covered with a considerable snow which had fell during the night, and which continued falling during the whole morning, untill the trees and shrubs were incased in ice. the Sun was obscured during the whole day, which was of as wintry an appearance as any we had in January. — We had Books however, and read and worked.

6th Day we went to meeting, thro' a lane of 'deep wading' and the turnpike itself bad enough: the meeting was satisfactory to me. the rest of the day heavy, my spirits low and depressed, a sense of difficulties, some of a pecuniary nature, exceedingly harrassing me, — I can hardly tell in how many ways I feel a want of comfort. — But I must see if adhering to strict resolutions will relieve me. "Oh that I were as in days past" is my frequent but unavailing wish.

Our friend M. Betton came on 7th Day afternoon to pay us the promised visit, her father did not come with her, she feared, from indisposition, and the fr from his kind and careful occupation of attending upon his Patients: her little Son alone was with her. and if my wishes for him are fulfilled he will be amiable and worthy, and a Blessing to his Parents; repaying the obligations of many to his father, who have found him a comfort and blessing in the dreary hours of sickness and distress.

On First Day. Albanus and Mariaf, having left Elizabeth sick at home, proposed after meeting, to dine at Shenton and then for us to accompany them to drink tea at Somerville: We did so, and as my Algernoon was also invited and went along, my heart received a satisfaction for which I was thankful. — and the day on other accounts was not without some cause of ~~satis~~ comfort, from my mind being turned to that source from whence all good proceeds: — so that when I went to rest I had to acknowledge the Blessing, and felt an encouragement which revived me.

Second day 23d march. the Weather was warmer, with an high and drying wind, the Earth still very wet, appearing saturated with Water. At home, without any company; reading, Greenhouse work and sewing.

3d. 4th. Days at home without any thing remarkable; only a consider-
Mar 25 -able snow fell on 4th day the 28th. We are reading the correspondence between Mrs Carter and Miss Talbot, which we find instructive and enter-
-taining: the Ladies wrote in the 'Ramblers' time, and we have turned to the Papers to which they allude with great interest

On fifth day afternoon [redacted]

Sixth day was our monthly meeting, where we went, and I hope my mind was not misemployed. The afternoon was rendered more than commonly agreeable by the company of my dear Girls, Debby Norris and Liz: Keppele, who with Lloyd Norris to wait on them, came to bring Nessy, deposited from Wilton, at their home yesterday, home.

They did me good, for I was cheered and enlivened by their conversation. and felt the gloom and Depression of my spirits give way to their brighter influence. Hepe has been sick and her nerves considerably affected, but I have no Doubt air and exercise will renovate her.

On Seventh day, Hannah and Ann Johnson and the Girls from Wakefield, with their worthy Governess, and little Sally Smith, drank tea here. the latter is a sweet child, and behaved with so much modesty, propriety and gentleness that I was delighted with her, and hope she will live to realise the prospect which at present she gives of being a Delight and Blessing to her excellent Parents; — But all our Guests were very agreeable, and the visit which they kindly made us was Quite so. — Hepe romped and ran about all day, and tho' sufficiently tired at night, had no fainting nor twitches.

The equinoxial Gale was on First day 30th march, attended with rain, and afterwards a very severe Snow storm, with high wind from the N.E. quarter that I am fearful of disastrous scenes at sea and amongst the shipping on our wharves. — We did not go to meeting: for now whilst I write, the storm appears awesful. —

It proved one of the most tempest-
-ous days throughout which I ever remember to have passed — We were kept in constant apprehension of some of our trees being prostrated, one fine Cedar between the house and Germantown hill was blown up by the roots, another pine tree, not large, near the house; and the yard is now thick strewed with twigs and Branches from the Hemlocks. the Ground is covered with frozen Snow. and the aspect as winter-
-like

-like as can be imagined. only some poor warblers are trying to get out something like a note of pleasure on Second day morning, when the violence of the wind has abated tho the clouds are not withdrawn

It proved a pleasant sunshiny day, but the wrecks of the sad storm were every where visible: the northernmost of our fine old Hemlocks at the front of the house was dreadfully despoiled of its foliage, & I trembled for the tree itself during the Storm, for I saw it rocked about like a switch. five or six trees on the plantation are blown down: and we dread to hear of great damage and many lives lost along the coast. It was a year to day since I attended the funeral of poor M. D. Fox. We are reading the Letters of Mrs Carter and miss Talbot and are much pleased and interested.

April 1

Third day April 1st

We, that is Sarah, Hepe, & myself spent the afternoon at Somerville. And Maria engaged to meet us in town tomorrow. Charles Fox drank tea at Somerville.— the conversation details accounts of the Storm on First day, which all agreed in thinking the longest continued severity of that kind which they remembered to have seen. from new York the relation of its effects are miserable: 34 Vessels on shore, it is said in the papers, between the mouths of the Hills and Amboy. and a passenger killed in a Stage by a tree falling on it. on the road, several others hurt.— a great many Vessels and Craft damaged along the Wharves in Philadelphia.

Maria told me that the Rodman and Roberts families at new Bedford are thrown into a most mortifying situation at this time. But they should methinks rejoice that the folly

of their daughter Lydia is thus mortified by the impudent Impostor micah Huggles. feeling a stop in his own Crazy mind against proceeding in the marriage. I do not pity the Girl who has suffered herself to be decoyed by his impudence out of the road of Delicacy and duty: but her Parents I do feel for and compassionate.

2

On fourth day 2d 4th m. I went to town accompanied by S. Walker. We went to shops and paid a visit to Eliza Roberts also to Cousin R. Smith, I dined at Cousin Sally's, who I was indeed sorry to see so poorly. my dear Children Albanus and Maria dined there likewise. after dinner I went with Maria & to shops and to see poor Polly Welsh; who very infirm and feeble, has at least the comfort of her senses remaining firm. While we were out E. R. returned my visit. We staid to tea in town, a refreshment which I covet much when fatigued, as I always am in town. and coming home by some means the Pole of the Carriage broke and we got out and walked a few hund.d yards intending to have gone up to Somerville for assistance, but Hughey made out to come after us, so we got in again and arrived safe at home. Where Algernoon was waiting for us. and I was glad it was not worse.— The day was warm and Spring-like. I have engaged Dan Smith and began to Garden.

3

5th day. At home alone. Spring weather.— rain at night. The newspapers contain an account of some spirited and proper observations on the invasion of Spain by the allied Powers, or rather by France foolishly and wickedly urged on by the detestable alliance. and in the legislative Councils of France herself. I for the first time applauded Talleyrand (whom the public papers have told us was dead some time ago) for his honesty in deprecating in open terms the threatened Invasion.

Sixth Day. A short visit from Dr Betton in the morning. the Girls Walked to meeting— alone in the afternoon with them. the weather cool and clear. When Algernoon came home in the evening he brought me a fine mocking Bird.

Seventh Day. the morris's Drank tea here and prevented Sarah who was just on the point of setting out to see them. They told of the entertainments &c which they had witnessed in the city, but nothing worth much notice.— my spirits not very good and in the evening I felt them depressed with the most mournful recollections; but I said nothing of what I felt to Sarah who herself is often a prey to such feelings.

The city has been of late much disturbed with dissentions respecting St Mary's Church; the Streets and avenues to which, have been filled with people for several days. the Mayor and civil authority have at length interfered, and it is now more quiet.

First day I could not go to meeting on account of the Carriage but S. and one of my Damels walked there. Albanus Dined with us. Maria was not well and Elizabeth had her bad cough and fever, so were not out.— It was a Spring day, Cloudy but with the air soft and bland, the revival of Vegetation begins to be apparent, but the season no longer brings with it gay and pleasing Images to my mind for its most beautiful appearances are mixed with Gloom.— I suffered Great depression of mind and spirits to day.

They had an Allarm of fire in town which threatened to destroy an ugly range of houses ridiculously called the 'Shakspear Buildings', and likewise the new Theatre, but it was fortunately got under.

an unhappy affair has lately taken place between Genl Cadwalader & a certain Mr Pattison of Baltimore a scotsman by birth; which eventuated in a Duel, the former is said to be badly wounded in the arm.— An occurrence which I am sure must give pain to many, as the General is much esteemed by his fellow Citizens. I am told it arose from the impertinence of the latter in endeavouring to thrust himself into Society where his company was not desired, but surely a reprimand of his impertinence might have been effected without such a consequence.

On Second day morning I received a very friendly visit from Jonathan Roberts, who thus kindly evinced his respect for my Beloved Mr Logan. He is a man, who tho' denied opportunities in his early Youth, which education would have afforded, has nevertheless cultivated his mind and stored it with abundance of furniture drawn from history and Politicks. He has long been a Representative of this State in Congress, but now out of Public life. and I should suppose wd make Pennsylvania a better Governour than Shulze or some others that have been named.

It was showery all day, very hard rain in the afternoon. warm. and on Thirday morning the progress of vegetation was surprising.— Drank tea at Somerville. Elizabeth bad with a hard Cough, but fat as possible. heard that Hetty Fisher was ill. Tom spent the evening here but did not seem to know it. my spirits very indifferent to day. and my mind filled with a Gloom which the returning season forcibly presents to its view.

Fourth Day 9th 4th m. This is the anniversary of my honoured husbands death and devoted in my mind to his cherished memory. but I am not able to express, even in the Bullet proof, any thing of the force and tenderness with which I

daily reflect upon his many virtues, and the never to be forgotten affection and kindness with which he regarded me — a loss never to be made up to me untill I happily rejoin his glorified spirit in a better world.

Fourth day was spent at home and alone. devoted to its affecting Recollections.

10 Fifth day. Passed the day in considerable uneasiness respecting dear Hetty Fisher who is very ill. nor did the account which I heard from Cousin Sally Fisher who had been in to see her, abate my uneasiness. Elizabeth Logan is also sick and they have blistered her, and Maria herself is poorly. on 6th day. Sarah and myself went to town, calling at Somerville on our way thither we found things but bad, Elizabeth's cough intollerably troublesome and Maria worn out with anxiety and want of sleep: I would have staid with them but wanted to ascertain for myself the situation of poor dear Hetty Fisher: Sarah accompanied me to James Smiths, who with his excellent wife we found oppressed with the utmost anxiety on account of her illness. I was admitted to see her, she suffered a great deal of pain and is in a most critical state, yet from her apparent strength and the lively indication of her countenance, I cannot relinquish my hopes that she may get through this illness — an issue most earnestly desired by all her friends (if it is consistent with the will of God) as her life is a most useful and valuable one indeed! I dined at cousin Sally's and in the afternoon went again to Cousin Smiths, to witness again the same anxiety; — the house is full of kind enquiring friends, among whom I saw and took leave of the amiable and very pleasing Eliza Rotch. In coming home we overtook a Dear-

-borne

wagon with Sarahs Youngest brother, and she left me and went home to Stenton with him whilst I called at Somerville, where I found things no better, and left them with regret and uneasiness. Sarahs brother staid with us all night. — the evening was not an over agreeable one to me, for I found things at home less comfortable and in order than I liked. Seventh day morning was passed in bustle: Coleman Fisher and Algernoon went to an agricultural quarterly meeting at Norristown; and after an early dinner, Sarah, went with her brother on a visit to their old neighbourhood; she took Heps with her to see her sister, for the dear Girl proposed to go to the Hall that she might visit her poor friends Grave, she took some Roses and violets to plant on it, and many a sigh will the sight cost her, and many a tear will she shed over it! affectionate and valuable creature! her whole Soul is made up of kind and endearing qualities.

After they were gone I found abundance to do to get things in any sort of order, and had so far effected my object and set down to a comfortable dish of tea when George Fisher and his Cousin William came to see me, and I found some entertainment in the little fellows company, and endeavoured to make them something the better for mine.

The accounts from Hetty were not more unfavourable than yesterday; and from Somerville I think rather better. I am thankful for it — and now that I thought I could set down and write with a little leisure and convenience, I find some body has spoiled all my Pens so that I could almost as well attempt to write with a bit of stick as with those which are before me, and I unfortunately do not possess the art of making them for myself — and as to compleat the fabrick of our enjoyment there is almost ever something wanting: — my head aches and my throat is sore with a cold, so I will throw the defective things in the fire (which by the way has sadly plagued me all the evening) read Walsh's paper, and go to bed.

13th 4th m.o First day. I was at meeting, but had no one to take with me but my Sally. afterwards went down to somerville to dinner, where we found Elisabeth better, and her mothers anxieties on her account releived, to fix on another object, for poor Cussy cried almost all the time I was there with an intollerable ear ache — and as he is a Boy that does not willingly complain I felt great compassion for him. when I got home in the evening I found Algernoon had returned and had two Gentlemen with him, who had Coffee and soon after went. He told me this evening what I have for some time expected, and rather dreaded to be told: that my lovely and beloved niece Debby Norris is likely to marry; the Gentlemans name is William Brown, an Irishman by Birth, of a moral and honourable character, twice her age (it is said) and very rich, 500 000 dollars it is said: but if he had a Ducal Coronet to bestow he could not place it on a brow that would become it better. — she is a most lovely and excellent young Woman, and I could have wished her to have united herself to one of our own People and citizens, tho' they had not been possessed of a tenth of his fortune. — Sister has been over at her brother Geo: Fox's & has communicated the matter 'officially'!

2.d day 14. april. much domestic business and running about in the morning, and now that I have sat down nothing to say but a few lonesome thoughts; complaints they are not, for I love to be alone, my mind then invariably turns to other days, and the dear Being that I have lost who prefered me to all others, is constantly present to my soul; near and dear and inseperable from my ideas of happiness. — But I hope the seperation is not forever.

Third day. 15th. my son went to town, and I spent the day alone, partly occupied in looking over old papers, of which there are a great many in the house, and partly in domestic avocations. sending over to Cousin Sally Fisher to learn the last accounts from Hetty: I heard with grief, she was not so well, and a fever still continued. also that a good little Domestic of theirs over at Wakefield, was so ill that they did not expect her to live over the night.

Fourth day 16th.

16 many family vexations and avocations in the morning, but I found time to write and read a little, what I have done of the latter has been Mrs Carter's Letters: — the Collection is large: two Quarto volumes, and in such a one doubtless many unimportant and triffling Letters are to be expected. But I surely never had a stronger conviction impressed upon my mind that the writer was a wise and good woman by any correspondence, than I have by the one now before me. To day the intelligence respecting Hetty were more favourable. and tho poor little mary Burchall lies in a dying state, she is quite composed and resigned.

Algernoon returned from town in the evening and brought me word that my favourite nieces marriage was concluded on, and Parties of Congratulation, and visits of a like meaning, (a new article!) were going on among her family and friends. most sincerely do I wish her happiness — which, if wealth could purchase, would be in a great way of forwardness. But it is made of materials less Gross, and is seldom cherished by Gold or warmed by Ermine. — I hope however, it may be her's, and that she may make the true use of the wealth she will be able to command.

I have an idea it has been an affair of considerable magnitude in her Fathers estimation, he is very fond of his children and she appears to me to be more of a companion to him than any of them — her good sense leading her

to appreciate his agreeable as well as valuable Qualities; and choosing to be his Friend as well as very affectionate Daughter.

Two of Alg^{n}: Friends Drank Coffee with him. The day was warm but cloudy.

On 6th day I went down to Somerville to hear. found Eliz better but not much enlarged yet; — And my poor little Fussy quite hard of hearing from the late pain in his ear; — As it is exactly the way in which Algernoon Deafness commenced, it gives me a good deal of uneasiness.

On Seventh day I received a visit from my niece Mary Shrack with her husband and elder son — they brought Hepsy home with them. and dined and Drank Coffee with us. — To do every one the Justice to which their conduct entitles them, I must say that I regard her husband as a very upright and kind-hearted man: and the little Boy quite took my fancy by his open countenance and the activity and cleverness of his actions and address. I gave to Mary almost all of my dear Debby's things; and desired her to consider as her own what articles of furniture with an exception in the Hall which had belonged to Debby, with the exception of the large looking Glass, to be kept for Hepsi. — I had a right from the dear Girls with them to dispose of her things, and I gave them to Mary as having a House and family, and consequently uses for the various Articles which her Younger Sister will not have for many years. She received them gratefully. spoke of her deceased Sister, as she well merited, with tender admiration and affection. and left me with a feeling of kindness and good wishes towards her.

First day I went to our own meeting with Hepsi and Mary. Tom Fisher dined with us. After Dinner retired alone in the Library I experienced

more real enjoyment than I ever do in the most brilliant society. the quietude of all around me, the view of nature bursting from her wintry prison, and the solemn and soothing reflections which spread over my mind, are never failing sources of pure delight, which I know how to appreciate; and dread the thought of leaving my beloved Solitude for a week in town, which I must do tomorrow in order to attend the Yearly meeting in Philadelphia.

29th of the 4th m^{o}: 1823.

It is, I fear, not now in my power to give a circumstantial account of all that has befallen me, or of what I have seen and witnessed since I last made an entry of my thoughts and transactions in this Book. I was most kindly received and attended to at my dear Cousin's in town where I made my home. Maria was also there and Elizabeth, still a subject of anxiety to her mother from her late indisposition, but lively and well, they lodged in the same room with me. — Debby Bringhurst was also a Guest and part of the time her daughter also. — I attended every meeting after I went to town, which was on 2^{d} day morning. — Sarah Walker lodged at her Uncles, but was frequently with me in my visits to my friends; and Hepsy to her great delight, if not improvement, was with her Cousin Ellen Morris.

The collection of friends in town was very large, the meetings being exceedingly thronged. but I cannot record my own satisfaction in them: I am sensible that it is not at all times in our power to command that frame of mind which is but suited to a reverential approach of our penitent and humbled Souls to the great Being who fills all space, and who has declared that although Heaven is his throne and the Earth his footstool, he will look with favour on the poor and contrite ones. Yet I am fearful that not being able to command this disposition, I could

not

not sincerely say I did what I could ~~to-com~~ by humble watchfulness to attain it. I was not a Communicant at the heavenly table, but have returned home empty, and as without oyl in my Lamp.

An unhappy Spirit producing dissentions, has been for some time at work in our Society both in Philadelphia and at other places: and its effects were evidently felt at this Yearly meeting:— It is so complicated and spread into such various ramifications that I know not how to describe it, but believe it has its root in the Difference of opinions in matters of faith and practice first introduced in these latter times by the ministry of Elias Hicks, a man of a good life and good understanding, but bold and daring as Luther himself, attacking not only with an unsparing hand the tenets and prejudices of others, but attempting to explain, or put aside subjects not necessary to be so canvassed, and of which perhaps the human mind is not capable of an entire comprehension.

In an opposite rank were ranged other spirits unused to yield and accustomed to dictate, who saw with allarm their province invaded and their authority controverted, and who in order to prevent further innovation were for uttering a rule of faith as the Belief of the whole Society— this was resisted, almost by acclamation; and a spectacle quite new was seen in our meetings for Discipline of persons other than religious, espreping their opinions and demanding to be heard. — two sittings of the mens meeting were thus agitated: but we were comforted in hearing that it finally concluded in solemnity and Peace

In the intervals of the meetings and in the evenings, I embraced the opportunity of visiting many of my friends. where I was received with kindness and distinction. but would have gladly have

excused them from the necessity they imposed upon themselves of inviting company to meet me:— for those large parties (but they called them only a few of their friends) afford me only the pleasure which I should enjoy in looking over a Parterre of Tulips or Hyacinths— I see with delight the beauty and elegance of the charming young persons who are assembled, but as to conversation, or any thing of entertainment to the understanding, it is totally out of the question.

I drank tea during this week at my Brothers, at Kreppelis, and at S: Fox's. and dined with Cousin W. Smith, and also at her sons. I was many times at Cousin Js Smiths and with my dear Hetty, who is, I hope, (tho' slowly) recovering. and I had the fortunate Candidate for my Bobby's favour, introduced to me:— all unite in representing him as a worthy plain man, of Great Wealth; his morals and conduct are said to be unimpeachable: he is of the Presbyterian persuasion, and has a Pew in St Peter's Church. an Irishman by Birth, but has been in this country since 1798. (Consequently is not young) and greatly successful in business, which he has now nearly relinquished with a fortune of half a million. The marriage will take place before many months are over. After all that I have enjoyd in this week; opportunities of spiritual comfort, and the pleasures of social converse, with temporal good things and blessings of various kinds, I have returned to my own home, (the solitary and bereaved of its dearest attraction) with a thorough conviction that to me no way of life is so safe and so happy as solitude and retirement. and that by myself (with occasional breaks at the call of friendship and social duties) I am happier and better contented with myself than I am in Society. and that if it please the Divine Being to protract my life a little longer it must be devoted to Virtue and Utility.

On 7th day we got home and on first day evening Enoch Walker and his son arrived here, they staid two nights and on third day morning took Sarah

Sarah with them to her and my own regret, to her Uncles in Chester County for a week or two; her Brother will then go to a Boarding School and she will return here until about the middle of June when she purposes returning home with her father. — nor can I in conscience endeavour to persuade her to any other determination: for I think her prudence and stability are of the utmost consequence to sway him and fix his wavering resolutions.

Since I came home I have received a visit from my young Wakefield relations and have been anticipating a pretty general one from the Younger children of my Brother's family, who were engaged to come to enjoy the first of May in the Country; but a cold N. E. wind and a small rain has prevailed for several days, and now that the day has arrived, I doubt they cannot come.

2d of the 5th mo. I should have expected my little Guests to day, but the cloudy and drizzly weather still continued until afternoon, when it cleared up beautifully, the blossoms and flowers and vegetation all breathing life and fragarance. [illegible]

On Seventh Day the 3d of may. The weather proved very fine and my brothers little folks and some of their young friends, together with my Grand children were permitted to enjoy a very happy day here, which probably, they will long remember: two Carriages as full as they could hold of children from town, under the care of Elizabeth Kreppele and Hannah Morris; 8 of my Grandchildren from Germantown so that in all 20 of us sat down to table. nothing could exceed the agreable and pleasant anticipations with which my innocent Guests had regarded this visit, and the Day was as lovely a one as could be desired. they were here early, and soon divided themselves into parties, the Girls running over the fields and meadows in search of flowers, and the Boys fixing their rods and lines to go a fishing and great triumph there was when little George Emlen caught a fish (the only one of the noisy anglers who was successful) it was afterwards carried home as a trophy. They had a table in the Garden called the 'Hotel', to which they occasionly resorted for Lemonade and Cakes and other good things. and they played, and enjoyed themselves without formality or restraint; so that Dinner and Coffee time passed in rapid succession, and the declining Sun gave notice that it was but for them to prepare to go in order to be at home before night. one of them wished they had but just began the visit, another that the day was longer, and Ellen Morris said that "it was worth fifty town parties." at last the Coaches filled with them and their Bouquets of Blossoms and flowers drove off, and left me pleased that I had made so many innocent Creatures happy for a day.

4 may

First Day I was at meeting, where Priscilla Hunt from Indiana paid us a very acceptable visit. I had previously heard a great deal said respecting her, part of which was that a coldness was shewn towards her by some Friends in Philadelphia. — but I am free to say that no reason for it could have existed against her ministry, if she always preaches the

the Gospel as she did this day, for it was indeed to edification and comfort: for its divine love and charity seem to cloathe her own mind, and prevade her discourse, so that it was as bread broken for the multitude.

My dear Albanus dined here, but went directly after dinner. Maria and the Children were in town.

Second day was passed at home. Mrs M. from Germantown and Margaritta, drank tea with me. She told me of Jane Willings extreme illness from a fit of Apoplexy (she died as I afterward heard, yesterday) another instance of the uncertainty of all things in this world: she lost her excellent husband last fall, whilst with him in Boston, they having accompanied their only Son to the College at Cambridge. and this last week the remains of her husband had been brought to Phila: for reinterment in the family vault; and her Daughter Mrs Sterling arrived from London on a visit to her only 3 days before she was seized with the fit. — they had great wealth, and had just thoroughly repaired and embellished the family mansion in third street where his father had lived, looking, it is probable, to many years of comfort in it, but now are both consigned to the silent tomb:

Third day. The weather has been so cold that we have had severe frosts for two nights.

I went this morning to the funeral of my old ffriend and neighbour Susanna Roberts. — She was ~~84~~ in years and had been for a long time infirm and poorly. — the funeral was large but not many of the old ffriends and Connections of the family at it, which I was sorry for. — but her two affectionate Daughters seemed deeply to mourn her loss.

Hyer was with me, we came home to dinner and then rode down to Somerville, where we paid a pleasant visit.

Fourth day I staid at home, and was not unpleasantly employed in Gardening and attention to my plants. — my mind, it is true, not so easy as I could wish, for disapointments in receiving my money has consequently made me unable to fulfill my engagements and pay off my Debts, for some of which I am unusually pressed. — and when I reflect on the past it brings back a portion of the agitation of the tempest of former years, with sorrow & regrets, now equally vain, so that I must endeavour to shape my course as well as I can, and if I make a peaceful harbour at last all will be right.

Fifth day 8th may. after a morning passed in domestic business. I went to see Charles and Sally Logan, taking Hyer with me, and my little maid Sally who always considers it as a treat to go there. — they appeared very glad to see me, and the visit was very social and pleasant, but the weather, which had been cloudy all day, now thickened fast and a Gust of thunder, lightning, and Drenching rain came on, as it drew towards night and no prospect of its clearing off we came home in the rain, but those inside the Carriage were none the worse for it, for they sat perfectly dry: only Hughy with his scratched face and swelled nose, (contracted by a door giving way and precipitating him into a cellar in Nice town whilst looking at the Dancers at a military Ball on the eve of last previous Day) looked like a hideous Capuchin with the enormous Cape of his Great Coat put over his hat to save it from being wet.

after we got home a little while it ceased to rain but was very dark and cloudy.

13.th of the 5.th m.o 1823. Since I last made any record in this Book, I have paid a very agreable visit to my friend mary Jones and her Sister, at merion. Sarah Walker had wrote to me from their home, and I went by appointment to bring her home with me and to return their visit to me last summer. — they live in much comfort and harmony, every thing around them appearing in excellent order, and their own dispositions most friendly and kind. — After dinner on 7.th day mary took me in her carriage over to Harrington to see once more its venerable tenant, whose appearance now is affecting: His strength is now so decayed that he cannot walk from his chair to the Couch without the help of another; is a mere shadow he is so thin, and his memory ~~is~~ so gone that he cannot read or converse to any purpose; a casual ray of intellect only at times breaking forth. — yet he seemed to have some recollection of me. He slept the most part of the time we were present, but sat at table with us to tea of which he partook after solemnly repeating the Lords Prayer, in which, I again observed, he adhered to his own translation. his sister of 84. (still with intellects unimpaired,) told me that he was born in november 1729. — I think I never saw any one look so very old.

When we returned to mary Jones's house we found Sarah Walker there, who had been some days away at her Uncle Thomas's.

On First day We went to merion meeting with the family. — It was silent, but my mind was carried back to the time when its seats were occupied by the Old Welsh Worthies who followed the fortunes of their friend William Penn to this new hemisphere. — their descendants were around me, in much respectability, if not as zealous "for the

Law and for the Testimony" as themselves had been, and my spirit saluted the memory of the dead with veneration and the presence of the living with kindness and affection. After dinner we took leave of our friends and had a very pleasant ride to town where I drank tea at my Cousin's and returned home in good season — having only to regret that in going in we were a quarter of an hour too late for the Stage and that I had to leave Hope to meet them at her Uncles till next Stage day, by which time doubtless, She will have her trunk deranged and her apparel dirty.

Second day was spent much as usual, only that friend Walker and Enoch dined here, and that my Amiable Young friend seemed affected on perceiving her Fathers wavering and unsettled frame of mind to be increased; her Brother was not placed at school, and he seemed undetermined what to do with him — I just intimated what my advice would be, and left them to themselves — the Conference concluded more satisfactorily to my poor Sarah than it at first seemed like to do, and her father left her 'till 6.th day when she is to meet him in town to go home with him she previously placing Enoch at school in Chester County.

Sarah and myself afterwards walked up to Dr Bettons and drank tea. our visit was very pleasant, he was himself at home, and mary returned from town after we had been there a short time. both truly kind and polite. our Carriage came for us in the Evening, when it began to rain which continued most of the night and all 3.d day, which prevented John Smith and his Amiable wife and Sister from paying me a visit ~~which~~ they had promised. But on the next day they came, as did maria, and we passed a social afternoon together. Sarah had walked up to Germantown in the morning, and brought home Margaretta Morris with

her, who staid all night. On fifth day we drank tea over at Wakefield. John Wistar and his wife, and Sally Logan were also there. — pleasant and unceremonious. — I now begin to wish to be more alone and to be able to discipline my mind in a different way. I feel as if my time was slipping away without improvement and I am not satisfied with myself

6th day morning Margaretta Morris left us, her eyes bearing witness that she parted from Sarah with regret. We proceeded to town for her to meet her father with all her things packed up for her journey; but in town a Letter was handed to her which ought to have been sent to Trenton, from her father who had altered his plans and now does not intend to set out before the latter end of next Week.

We dined with Cousin Sally, who is, I grieve to say, in very bad health: She is extremely weak and seems unable long to stand. if a little recovered strength does not help her. Maria was there in the afternoon and is much distressed on her sisters account. We left her down at Somerville, for she had come to town with Albanus in the Gig, and I think the horse had frighted Maria, tho' she would not say so, he is vicious and quite unsafe. — much warning has been given of his dangerous propensities. It rained in the afternoon and at night. — This has been a day of considerable trial and bitterness to me on one account.

I sent Hughey again round for Sarahs trunk and brought her home with me — She did not care to stay in town — and I was glad to have her. — I forgot to say we were at Cousin H: Smiths and saw Hetty down stairs — her recovery will be a blessing.

Seventh day. very necessary attention to domestic affairs employed me in the morning. it was a beautiful day: the air soft and bland. and nature attired in her freshest robe, an inexpressible charm was diffused over her whole appearance, but.

"If Gloomy thought the human mind sir power
O'er vernal hours glide unenjoyed along."

The day was spent alone with only Sarah, and passed in tranquillity. But I have now come from meeting on first day and find my House so full of people that I am really concerned for fear they will not have dinner enough and as no pleasure or satisfaction on my part, I presume not to expect any such thing. I now date from 2d day morning and have hardly recovered from the rout of yesterday, which on many accounts was any thing but agreeable to me; twenty three persons besides our own family, dining and drinking Coffee here (but some of them were Guests to my people in the kitchen) I have always remarked to myself a satisfaction in spending First day in a religious manner, and added to my uneasiness at swerving from what I think right, was the reflection of how exceedingly disagreeable it was to my own honoured and beloved Dr Logan in the latter years of his life, to have company on this day. however I did the best I could. — My children from Somerville were here — [illegible] The poor insane daughter of my neighbour Roberts who's funeral I lately attended, was here at dinner: her mind now quite overset by her mothers loss, of whom in her best state she was very fond and kindly careful, but of whom she now spoke not at all, but flitted about very wildly: fences, she said, were no impediment to her, and away she skimmed over the meadow very unfit to be abroad by herself — I pitied, and was kind to her. And let her [illegible] her own direction.

I ought not to conclude this account of Disfatisfactions without adding one circumstance of a contrary and comforting character and that is the provision for dinner was abundant and fragments were left.

This morning was partly consumed in getting things to rights after the derangement of yesterday: the rest of the day pleasant and tranquilly, with the exception of a row got up by an insolent fool of an Irishman against his wife, a decent woman I hired with his consent lately, who takes care of my small dairy and poultry, and is now bleaching my Linnen.

Algernoon returned early from town and told us hostilities had actually commenced between France and Spain, Accts of the investment of some of the frontier Cities are rec.d in town. (but this is a mistake I believe)

Third day. William Emlen and Coleman Fisher dined with us, and some more of Algernoons company joined them in the afternoon; but Sarah and myself went down to Somerville to tea. Where more visitors assembled than mamma expected: Mary Dickinson, Mary and margaret Reed, Mary Fox, and afterwards, Sally Logan and Charles came. the Girls were very lively and agreable — Mary Dickinson (whom report says, my Son is much attached to) very pleasing indeed. — The day was oppressively warm, equal to our hottest Summer weather I thought.

And now, that I am seated in the Library, and have been revolving my various affairs in my own mind — [illegible]

[illegible]

4th Day 21st 5th mo. 23. The Weather is remarkably warm — I think I never remember in so much so in this month but once before, and that was 37 years ago: The Vaughan family were then living in Philad.a the Parents and Sisters of John Vaughan, with whom I was very intimate as was also my beloved husband: — they had emigrated to this country but had not settled themselves, and dreaded the heat of the climate so much (tho' they had spent one Summer here in travelling) that upon a spell of very hot weather in may they quickly arranged their affairs and went back to England. — We regretted the loss of such agreable acquaintance, and frequently remarked tho' a very pleasant summer that succeeded, in which we had no weather half so warm as that which had frightned them away, how well they might have staid. It will be worth remark if the same result shall be found to follow this year.

Nothing worth notice occurred to day. (I mean as to incident, the mercies of every day, and the comfort of passing them in Peace and Safe are truly worthy of grateful Commemoration)

5.th Day a Small shower in the night which has refreshed every thing and made the face of nature pleasant this morning. We have begun the troublesome but necessary Job of Whitewashing. Old Jacob officiates as high Priest. Hannah and Elizabeth as Priestesses in these mysteries. — I feel the effects of 62 winters on such occasions, and am no longer able to fly about and assist as formerly. —

First day 25th 5th mo 23. If I were in as good spirits as I used to be, I would attempt to give the opposite picture of Frank Hopkinsons inimitable description of a whitewashing, and describe the vexations to which honest Housewives who are desirous of maintaining a character for cleanliness and good order, are subjected, whilst they are exercising their undoubted Priviledge, of at least, an annual cleaning; both by erratic visitors who are so thoughtless as to struggle for admission during the celebration of these Rites, or by the sly remarks of some hardened Baccanalian Bachelor, or pert Dandy lately set up as Critic upon their doings. I could say a great deal once upon the subject but now will confine myself to remarking, that it seemed as if more Friends and acquaintance than usual thought of us at this period and wandered hither — but as to preserve kind sentiments and good will is beyond convenience, they were all received and entertained, 'sans ceremonie'. — And one of our Guests, at least, afforded us much entertainment, this was — Watson Cashier of our Bank at Germantown, who is engaged at present in Antiquarian Researches, and is writing a Manuscript of his notices and observations, which he means hereafter to present to the Library, or Historical Committee: the account which he gave of himself, exploring old Houses and marking the remains of the first improvments and scites of the Adventurers under William Penn; his introduction of himself to the hitherto incurious tenants of these ancient abodes, Question eliciting Question, untill at length he struck out some Spark of his own Curiosity in their breasts, and was taken thro' their yards and buildings to see and judge for himself; was really very entertaining; — a note and Sketch Book in his Pocket to assist his memory. — he says he has left his Book with my Brother who has promised to

add notes and Corrections; after which I am to see it. — He came about 4 o'clock on 7th day afternoon (Charles Norris had dined here, and poor old Polly Welsh had been brought here a day or two before by Cousin Sally and Becky Embree, to stay a week or two.) And he staid, indulging in Antiquarian lore, till near 10. (Sarah, helping to entertain with all the requisite qualities of a good listener.) — and for our own part, we heard, and communicated, things innumerable; And I believe the time of our Guest was spent quite to his mind. — So much has been said of this visit that I must be brief with my accounts of others, most of whom saw that the house was 'upside down', but could witness that our Friends were not excluded. And as to the myrmidones and Auxilliaries that came from all parts to assist in this War against dirt, they were innumerable very many indeed — old Jacob went to town for a day, and brought up without leave or licence, his fat wife named Comfort, and poor old neighr Landenberger came over to see if she could do any thing, and did several very useful ones. Just as we had finished the House and the Priestesses were at work on the back entry, my valuable friend Walsh and Mrs with 3 of their little ones came they staid about an hour and tea was ready but they would not stay to partake of it. I saw with concern that he looked worse than usual, but he was as usual lively and very agreeable — his poor wife must soon expect another Confinement. — My dear Albanus was here and I saw with pleasure that he won their hearts by his kind attention to their children whom he carried with him into the Garden and gathered them flowers. As to Algernoon he cleared out at the first onset, taking with him Cole Fisher under pretence of his wanting to see Logansville, But I have no doubt (tho' I never suspected it till Charles Norris suggested it to me) are gone to this Great horse race on long Island, the fame of which has brought people to New York from Kentuckey itself.

Set upon Antiquarian Discoveries by our late conversations, (in which poor old Polly Welsh joins with great Interest;) we discovered a vacant place between the back of the best parlour Closet and the closet in my room, stuffed with old Newspapers, which having tried in vain to get out at the top in the high Closet in the Passage between the two rooms, we got Dan. Smith to saw a Board in my closet and put in his hand — nothing was forthcoming but Newspapers a Century old, and a Book partly eaten by the mice, without title Page, but which appears to be a very old translation of Ammianus Marcellinus. —

But it is vain for me to attempt to entertain others, or to amuse myself, it is now the twenty eight of the month and thus has passed away my time. — The weather is now cool and very dusty. — a monstrous wash has succeeded the Whitewashing. Cloaths, Curtains, Blankets, Coverlids Bless me what a troublesome establishment for one poor old Woman!

29th We had a very rainy day. — my trouble now is that every thing will get dirty again.

Nothing remarkable occurred during the day in the family: but the Prints gave us an account of a bad fire at Sem. Hart's Tavern and Stables in B. Stock — The winning of the Race by Eclipse on Long Island; and a commemorative Celebration of Linnæus at the same Island, on which occasion Dr Mitchell displayed his usual Quiz-proof vanity and fantastic devotion to Science; the account of which is handed forth to the world in such a strain as to throw an air of the ridiculous over the love of Science itself.

I ought not to include the evening in "nothing remarkable" happening in the family: for Charles, an Englishman who has lived in it for about a Twelvemonth, and who fought at Waterloo, but who has now

beat his Sword into a Ploughshare, and is an industrious fellow and no Eye-Servant, held a fete down at Slaves on account of his Birth day, most of the People and my Damsels, went to it, taking Plates and Glasses for the accomodation of the Guests in abundance — and keeping Sarah and myself up till a late hour awaiting their return.

my constant avocations and the great exercise which I have lately used has had a beneficial effect on my health, I sleep better and have more appetite. — Health and ease are great Blessings and should be cause of devout thankfulness; — neither is it fitting dependent Beings as we are, to put by the blessings and comforts which are liberally offered to us, because it has pleased our Creator and Benefactor to reclaim some which we have formerly been indulged with.

31st 5th mo. The conclusion of the month has been so cool that I have frequently remembered the words of an English writer as relating to their own climate, and quite as applicable to our very versatile one, that it often happens "When the lilac blossoms and the laburnum drops its golden clusters the shivering possessor of them is compelled to seek for warmth at his fire side". — and now our mornings and evenings are not comfortable unless we have a little blaze kindled. Cousins W. & S. Fisher Drank tea & spent an hour or two here very delightfully.

Sent

On the first of the 6th mo. The cool weather continuing. S. & myself went to meeting and brought home Sarah and Elisabeth Fisher who with my dear Albanus dined here, Margaret Morris and Sam and George Fisher Drank tea, and had lively chat as they sat round the tea table. In the evening S. & myself finished the life of Dr Bard which we had been reading. — (A very examplary life indeed!) and closed the day, which had

been too dispirited for me, with a feeling of good on our minds.

I began the day of 2d Day 2d 6th m. with a portion of quiet from a desire to depend on the goodness of God in all my future allotments, and to earnestly strive to attain a greater degree of virtue.

Sarah and myself drank tea down at Somerville, where Cousin Sally came for a few minutes — It is now determined she shall go to the Pines in Jersey and try the effect of that air and water. — She means to set out on 4th day, Rebecca and Mary accompanying her, & Albanus to see her safe, who will return and take up Maria to them next week — Somerville is at present being painted and Papered, & much Bustle there, which Maria hopes now speedily to dispatch.

Whilst on our visit Dickinson got out of the window on the stairs, his mother was terribly alarmed but he did not seem to be much hurt, only did not appear to any advantage by the adventure. he is a good and very delicate little fellow, and his father says learns with considerable facility but is not an animated Child, and this was a wofully careless act. — It was a mercy he was not killed on the spot.

On Thirday morning whilst pursuing some of my usual avocations in the Library, I heard a noise of hurry and alarm on the pavement below, and calling to enquire the reason found it proceeded from intelligence that Coleman Fishers House at his farm was in flames, I sent all our men and Boys immediately to give what assistance they could, and before they had got back, Algernoon and his friend made their appearance in the yard, returned from their excursion; I went out to receive them and had to communicate the disagreeable intelligence to Coleman

in apologizing a reason for nobody being within call to take their horses: he bore it very philosophically, and as the mischief by that time was surely without remedy or mitigation, came into the house and partook of a hasty dinner with Algernoon, after which they hurried to the scene of action. The house was nearly consumed, the furniture nearly all saved, the mischief occasioned by the Chimneys taking fire — which ought to operate as a caution to have them duly swept. Algernoon drank Coffee at home at which we were without visitors. Sarah spent the day pleasantly at Mr Bettons.

Fourth day the weather has now become warm and dry. We passed this day without much variety. Charles Fox came here with Alge: We drank tea alone, talking of other days.

Fifth day also passed without any thing particular to note, except that it was very warm. —

6th day The same even tenor, with the exception that I vaccinated the two little fellows born on the place last year George Heath & George Shaw. and that we received an Evening visit from our friend the Antiquary.

7th day we went down to Somerville where we spent an agreeable afternoon and had the satisfaction of hearing a pretty good account of Cousin Sally, as tho' fatigued, she bore her journey as well as could be looked for, and Albanus left her settled in pretty comfortable lodgings. I had likewise the pleasure of seeing Dickinson unhurt after his adventure, I hope it was a slip and that he was not so silly as to go out on purpose. Mary Dickinson, Mary Read, Mary Fox and her Brother, drank tea again with Maria, afterwhich we were regaled with some delightful Straw berries, and staid till quite late in the Evening. — The Lady visitants are uncommonly agreeable Girls, with cultivated minds and very pleasing manners — it would not require seeing them very often to become extremely attached to them.

A little rain in the morning (which however appeared too much to expose Hughy to for fear of a shake, as he calls it) kept us from going to meeting, and the family from Somerville from dining with us; they however came up to tea, the weather clearing up quite cold for the season, so that we had a fire. [illegible]

On Seconday I was unhappy, and in vain attempted to get relief from employment. — The weather is most unnaturally cold for the time of year, It is the season of Roses and the Garden is brilliant with them and other floral beauties, and the air loaded with fragarance; but it is so cold that Boreas and Eolus usurph the place of the milder Zephyrs; So it is with most of our enjoyments here, and no doubt it is ordered in Gods wisdom.

3? day the 10th was a day of a good deal of gloom to me, altho' my dear Maria in the early part of it brought her two dear Children to leave with me during her excursion to the Pines. — I employed myself in writing some account of my honoured Dr Logans family for dear Hannah Smith — I am grieved to hear that poor Hetty has had a relapse, and that Dr Parish goes several times in a week up in the Steam Boat to see her.

Veronique came up to day to see her Great Aunt poor Polly Welsh — She is very pretty, but indiscretely married — and now appears in a beginning Consumption. The weather is still cold and dry.

Fourth day 11th 3th mo. oppressed with a presentiment of evil, I have hardly known how to support the weight upon my spirits this morning — I am not afraid of any reason for my uneasiness, and would fain avoid superstition, yet it hangs over my mind like a dark cloud — the absence of Algernoon is known for some days makes me fear all is not right with him — I am unusually sad and unhappy. afternoon — I hope now my supposed presage of misfortune will pass over without being realized, I account for it from my unhappiness for several days past;) at dinner time Algernoon made his appearance and seemed well, Sarah went to spend the day in Germantown, and the Children with the usual buoyancy and spirits of their age, bounded about like Fawns let out of an Inclosure — poor Old Polly is helpless and infirm — Barbara sober and industrious, and myself — "can I forget the hours which I have spent

When I have chid the hasty-footed time
For parting us? — Oh is it all forgot
All former scenes? —

and I may truly answer "it is not" for I still live in times that are past more than in the present.
The day was passed but little different from our usual routine.

Fifth day. One of those little accidents which appear ridiculous when committed to paper, convinced me to day of the imbecillity of my nerves — and as my constant and unwearied recurrence to those I have lost likewise does, that tho' I dreaded a seperation I did not know all its bitterness!

Albanus called this evening on his way home and took Barbara who had been a very good Boy, along with him. I was pleased to hear by a few lines from Maria that Cousin Sally seemed a little better, and to hear from Albanus that Hetty Fisher was again convalescent.

On 6th day the Depression which now harrasses me amounts almost to illness. I seem unable to bear the least hurry or additional weight. — But I will say no more, if I can help it. — Mary went to town to the Dentist, who promises to preserve her teeth for a while. Sarah and Elizabeth to meeting, and myself employed not very agreeably in the family — things not to my mind, and oppressed with care and anxieties of various kinds — so that I should not set down this day on the agreeable side. — But reflecting on the infinite mercies of our heavenly Father, I desire to submit to what is not altogether pleasant, and if I can, be benefitted by such trials.

It grew very warm, and the day closed with the appearance of a Gust which however went over without rain.

7th day 14th 8th m°. It is now the Prime of the Season. Before the turn which always seems to commence when the Days are past their utmost length. And now whilst I write, this is entirely a Summers morning, warm and still, the Sun beginning his powerful reign, no sounds salute my ears but of animal life and enjoyment — I am in the Library, the windows all open, various Birds are carrolling their matins — amongst which I distinguish the distant Whistle of the Partridge, and the near and cheerful Crowing of the Cock — the Shy and scarce Birds too come to live in our shades — the Woodpecker whom ill policy has rendered rare, and the Rain Crow, are our visitants — and I thought this morning I heard the tremulous note of the Dove — yesterday I caught a little flying Squirrel on the back Stairs and the Girls found found one of its Twin Brothers in the Yard — We have no Cats now, and Groundis live

near the Garden Gate, and run about without danger of being destroyed. They put me in mind of the great pleasure my Beloved Dr Logan once received from a little creature of this kind, which in his solitary seat with a Book near the Door, he had imperceptibly tamed so that it would take nuts or Grain from him with perfect fearlessness and go into his Pockets and suffer him to lift it from the Ground in his hand — This circumstance, which he was delighted with — has made that kind of little Animal almost sacred to me — but I hear the family all mustering and must go down to Breakfast.

It is now afternoon and I resume my seat and my Pen — but to write about nothing — It has been a Bustling day, but like the Idiots tale, tho' "full of sound and fury" has signified nothing, unless it is that Veronique has gone. She got better in the few days she spent here, but her Uncle Josey Smith coming for his poor old Aunt, the suddenness put her in such a nervous way that she was not fit to go, besides that he had a young Horse in his Gig which she feared to venture with, so it was settled that I should take her to town next week to her Uncles, & that he shall come up and fetch her from thence; which will divide and make the Journey easier to my poor old friend — and this being concluded on, Veronique went with him. — It is a very warm summer Day.

First Day 15th A Change in the Air from S. to N.W. has made a most delightful morning — all my young people are in bed whilst I am enjoying it — and I often want words to express my sense of gratitude for the Beauties of nature and the Gifts of a Beneficent God!

A disappointment occurred in going to meeting to day, but my Young people went. and I in retirement have experienced something of that Blessing which nourishes and consecrates the Soul. Oh what a mercy it is to be visited with the irradiations of Divine love! to be drawn to the footstool of the Being who fills immensity with his presence, and yet disdains not the poor and imperfect homage of his low & erring Creatures! My Soul accords him Honour and Glory, and Praise, thro' the mediatorship of his Blessed Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, for ever and ever!

"Let him that will ascend the tottring Seat
Of Courtly Grandeur, and become as great
As are his mounting Wishes: As for me,
Let sweet repose and rest my portion be;
Give me some quiet shady Spot, a Sphere
Out of the Road or Business, or the fear
Of falling lower; where I sweetly may
Myself and dear Retirement still enjoy:
Let not my life or Name be known unto
The Critics of the Time, lost to and fro
By Censures or Applause; but let my Age
Slide gently by, not overthwart the Stage
Of popular Observance, unheard, unseen,
And Unconcerned, as if I ne'er had Been.
And thus, while I shall pass my silent Days
In shady privacy, free from the noise

And Bustles of the mad World, there shall I
Contented with my lot, resign and die.
Death is a mere Surprise, a very Snare
To them who make in their Life's greatest care
To be a Public Pageant, known to all,
But unacquainted with themselves, they fall."

The remainder of First day passed without any thing very remarkable tho it was a day of great splendour and beauty, and a good deal of Company was in the "Outer Court" — George and Rachel came to spend the day, and poor things, I was glad to see them doing well and reputably. Mary's mother and her baby were also here.

My dear Albanus, and his Barbarus Frank tea with us. Alge: went to Dr Bettons and returned in the evening with Cole Fisher and Charley Fox, the latter came and sat with us in the delightful moonlight at the front Door. her Serene and Silvery beams streaming thro the dark embrace of the Hemlocks, whilst the lighter branches of the Willow gracefully varied the shadows. and the Brilliant Hesper, still further in the West mingled her Diamond Rays with the last retiring light of the long summer day which had just closed — It was late before we could leave such a beautiful Scene and go to Bed.

On Secondday morning we went to town — and such Doings as followed Being of rare occurrence would require more time to narrate than the hasty Sketch which I can give (Drawn usually in the half hour before Breakfast in which by early rising, I am in advance of the family

will allow, however we will try: We took my poor old friend along with us and left her at her own desire, at her nephews widows in 13th Street — She said (in giving an account of herself to her niece) that she had felt herself recruit very sensibly the time she was at Trenton — at parting from me she burst into tears, as thinking perhaps, we might see each other no more. I then went to Cousin Sally's where Algernoon waited on me to the office to sell some Shares more of the Bridge Stock, which I did reluctantly. — The day proved very warm & walking in the Streets almost overcame me; however I rested myself in my Cousins cool and silent parlour and indeed I believe slept a little in an arm chair; Elizabeth then joined me and we went together up to my Brothers where we dined and sat an hour or two afterwards very agreeably engaged in talking of the Past. Sarah Walker joined us after dinner, and we then called to see Cousin Hannah Drinker — drank tea at Sarahs Uncles, & finding Hughey and the Old nags ready for us in Cousin's Alley, we got into the Carriage and came home most heartily fatigued.

3d Day 17th of the Mo. The weather is most oppressively warm. — We have been busy Ironing this morning, and now I hear that Sarah and Eliz Fisher are down stairs I must go to them. They and their Governess Elizabeth Wilson who is a very good and agreeable Woman, drank tea with us, and told us Cousin Wm and Sarah are returned from their little excursion, better; which I rejoiced to hear. I have little Dickinson now with me, and I retract what I said some Pages back as my opinion — He is a very tender, and gentle, and backward child, but an innocent, sweet affectionate little Soul that I love very tenderly — He wants encouragement and not depression — Elizabeth is a fine romping Girl, very Good hearted, but too careless and hard to make happy herself.

Fourth Day. Dear little Dick was sent for, his Papa and Brother having returned from Wilmington. The Weather was oppressively hot. — And the day passed not over pleasantly. Cole Fisher and his little Brother drank Coffee here in the evening.

Patience alive! I have not written any thing in this Book since fourth day! and we have had them "Inexpressible Agreeable Ladies" for our Guests for most of the time which has since passed; ~~were entirely of that description~~: Debby and Hannah Norris and Elizabeth Sleppele came to us on Fifth day morn. and staid till 6th Day Evening. Upon this occasion that said Old Personage called Time did not appear decrepit and bald with Batts wings and Leaden Feet, but was spruced up almost like a Cupid, I believe he prevailed on a Zephyr to lend him a pair of 'murky wings': he borrowed Hetti's Slippers, and his Forelock was smoothed and parted over his bald pate which he persuaded Flora (as Flowers are plenty now) to crown with a Chaplet of Roses, so that he appeared quite another thing. — But I must have done with this Trifling, and tell without a metaphor how delightful this visit has been: The Girls seemed as happy and gay as Youth, and health, and innocence could make them; yet I observed on my dear Debby's brow at times, a thoughtfulness, which considering her engagement, I did not at all wonder at, and Sarah's eye would glisten whilst her lips wore a smile; a feeling which I believe we all partook of as an oblation to the memory of her who will return no more — for often and often did I think of her, and her sufferings, and excellent example, when I saw them in the rooms she used to occupy. — On the first afternoon we had a pretty large Company to tea, amongst whom was the charming mary Mead from Philada pretty, gentle, and well informed & accomplished, Mrs Betton and her friend Mrs Davy, and also the favoured Admirer of my Dear Debby, who will

before long be her Husband, if God permit. He is not at all showy. but bears an uncommonly good character, appears exceedingly attached to her, and has realized a prodigious fortune. On 6th day my little niece from Wakefield dined with us. and when I saw so many lovely Girls together decking themselves with flowers it forcibly reminded me of a few lines of poetry which was below an old Print of such a like scene—

"What mean these arts, this little pride of Life,
And what do all these beauteous Flowers espouse?
Youth! the fair season of Delightful Love,
When the Gay hours to softest measures move;
When gentle cares alone the Heart employ.
And each eye sparkles with a silent joy.
Oh that our fleeting lives at Youth would stay.
And this sweet Spring be our eternal Day!"

Seventh day went over as 1st Days usually do, with scrubbing and cleaning—dull work at best, especially when you are regretting those who have departed, rather than preparing for expected pleasure.

I was up very early on first day, but did not go to meeting an appearance of rain—and some indisposition prevented. and I am now retired to the Library endeavouring to lift my mind above the cares and prospects of 'this dim spot'—indeed what are my earthly prospects?—they have faded into a Blank—and I have but little to look forward to—Let me then seriously endeavour to secure a better heritage—Let me come to the

footstool of that Being, who will never leave nor forsake those who put their trust in him—I have need of such a friend!

There is that often pass in the mind to express which words are inadequate, and such have been my feelings this afternoon.—and how is it that when we endeavour to approach the Deity and lift up our hearts to the contemplation of his glorious perfections, to bow before him in silent adoration, the sweet Idea of those we have loved that are gone and we hope are happy in the Divine favor, seems to arise and accompany us in this worship of the Soul?

Oh say, to what bright World above
Has thy benignant Spirit fled?
Where is thy resting place my love?
And where the mansion of the Dead?

Sure 'tis not in that little Space,
Where thy loved form enshrouded lies!
The verdant Spot the sacred Place,
That hides thee from my Sorrowing eyes!

No! for when weeping Mary came
To seek her Lord with pious care,
But found him risen—the honoured Dame
Turned—and the Saviours self was there!

In the evening as I was beginning to read the 4th Book of Paradise Lost to Sarah and Elizabeth. ffriend Walker came and very unexpectedly proposed to his amiable daughter to leave me tomorrow!

From the time of his coming to that of going to Bed was pass'd very differently from what it otherwise would have been; and I could not help regarding the anxiety with which the dear Girl remarked how unsettled her poor Father appeared to be. — And on Second day morning she took a most affectionate leave of me, weeping and pressing me to her Heart with Appearances of love like a Child to a Parent. — I was not in Spirits before and now feel almost desolate — I have been into her Room, and have thought of her excellent Qualities with a tender regret that She has gone so far from me. — But I pray God to bless her and Give her Good Days here, and an Everlasting felicity in a better World!

I felt but low after her departure, and in order to divert myself went over to drink tea with my ffriends Alex.r and Rachel Wilson — my new Horses for the first time conveying me abroad, and they behaved perfectly well. They were recognized at ffriend Wilsons as old Acquaintance, ~~they~~ having at first belonged to her father-in-law Dawson. a Gent.n of their own name there Who knew their Horses rejoiced they had fallen into good hands and told me they were Brothers — ~~and~~ are very nearly alike — Elizabeth was with me and rec.d pleasure at looking over two folio Scrap Books, (one belonging to this Gent.n) with some very good engravings, but no Acc.t annexed.

ffriend Wilson told me that last week their Thermometer fell 30 Deg.s

Thirday. the 24th 6th m.o We had a fine shower in the night and it is pleasant, tho' warmer to day. I miss my poor Sarah sadly: but cannot think I did wrong in encouraging her (if any thing) rather to go — as it seemd to me her good and useful Brother needed some attention: he is devoting himself

to the maintenance of the family in the best Season of his life, at a time when the most of young men would think it enough to provide for themselves, and as he is particularly attached to Sarah her company and approbation would be some reward to him.

We had a busy day in the family: Ironing up a large Wash — towards Evening Sally and Charles Logan came and drank tea with us very agreeably. I doubt not they are embarrassed with their large concern for which they have to pay a large Interest. But Charles is industrious, and Sally prudent & managing, and withall very cheerful — they have my good wishes.

Fourth Day June 25th The Weather was pleasant, not too warm with clouds that occasionally threatened a Shower, but none ensued. — We are now in the height of our Hay Harvest. — It grew cool towards night — The fragarance of my Jasamine, at the South side of the house, surpass'es every thing of the kind we have had — I never saw such a 'bright profusion of its Scattered Stars' before

Charles Norris and Charles Fox drank tea here — the former is much more conversable, and seems Contented since his marriage. I rec.d a 2.d letter from Dear Maria this Evening.

26th A Small Rain and wind from the East came on and put a Stop to Hay buiness — In the language of the Childrens old Journals — nothing particular happened to day.

27th Spent this day chiefly in the Library, engaged in looking over my Books of Selections which have been returned to me, and in Copying out some of my Brothers notes which are not many and are desired by me to be designated with the initials of his name.

28th The very bad Hay weather still continues, cloudy and dull with occasional showers, Wind to the E. but it changed to day to the West and became a fine afternoon with however that peculiar aspect of clouds and feeling which indicated no entire clearing.— It rained a little in the Evening.

George Fisher and Wharton Chancellor drank tea here

29th First Day. I had a good meeting, and the frame of mind which is indeed helped to enable me to pass thro a day of considerable trial. my dear Albanus and his two dear Boys walked up from Somerville to dine with us— I was glad to see them [redacted]

The account which he gave me of the contents of Maria's last Letter was but melancholy: she represents her sister as very little better— and Josey Bringhurst as in a very declining state.

Calm reflection undoubtedly enables the mind to bear up against the Evils of life.— Things must be borne— and will be borne with some degree of resignation and composure, if we do not place our Prime Good in things here, if we look upon this World as a State of Probation, and not of enjoyment.

Second day. The wind changed in the night to the East, so that the morning was very cool, with small rain— very bad for the quantity of Hay now down— but little rain, which held up altogether before noon and the afternoon proving tolerably pleasant, John Johnson and his wife and their

interesting Daughter Elizabeth, came to see me— He appears lame and feeble from the repeated attacks of his painful disorder— the Gout. and Elizabeth seemd (tho very fragile) better than I expected— after tea Sally asked to go up in the Library, where she seemed much satisfied— and said she could spend a long time very delightfully.

The wind got round to N. W. and the Sun set in Splendour, afterwards Venus shone with vivid brightness, but the weather was very cool. So that on Third day morning "The First of the 7th mo." it was so cold that my winter morning Dress of a Double short Gown was assumed to be at all comfortable— I was up very early and I think I saw frost— in our very variable climate, full of changes as it is, this seemed remarkable. It is really as cold as a march morning.

I now date from the 3d of the 7th month. The afternoon of 3d day, I went to Philada to Shops and on errands, I took Elizabeth and little Sally with me and pretty well tired myself— the town did not look pleasant many of the Streets being dug up to lay Pipes for the admission of the Schuylkill Water. after walking about I went to Cousin Sallys and waiting in her retired and shaded house for my maid to join me, abundance of thoughts arrived me of things past, I have no pretensions to Philosophy, but really every thing relative to this Life appears a complete dream, it is illusive, and as rapidly passing away.— We called at Somerville on our way home and saw my dear Albanus and the Boys.— I slept soundly.

2d of July. Even among the changes of our very versatile Climate, I think the present Season may rank preeminent: yesterday was of a most agreeable temperature, to day extremely warm and close. This morning I recd a Book from my friend John Vaughan (an abridgment of the Life of Wm Penn) with a very polite and friendly note requesting that I would read it and

and offer any suggestions which I should think might improve another edition about to be undertaken.— and in the afternoon I had a visit from two Young men, one, a Son of Enoch Lewis of Chester County, about to write something on the Local history of that County, and wishing me to give them what information was in my power respecting it— I was kindly civil to the Young men, entered into conversation with them on the subject and had Holmes old maps brought down for them to see— but really was ready to laugh at the thought of my poor Judgment and slender information being in demand upon any occasion.— and have wished that I really were the capable and intelligent person that they seem to take me for.

We had two showers with distant thunder in the afternoon. Charles Fox Drank tea here. nothing else to relate of this Day that I know of.

Fifth Day 3. July.

There is something odd in the aspect of the weather to day. It has been threatning a Gust and is very warm— I should think from appearances much Electricity in the Atmosphere— there is a haze on the distant objects. not from too much moisture for it still appears very dry, the quantity of Rain that has fallen, not being great. and I think I saw Gleams of light darted thro the very thin vapour that seems to be in the air;— now for the situation of things in the family, and the little intellectual World within of which I can give an account. Algernoon having been at work with his men throughout the Day, has now, at 5 oclock stuped and gone Abroad. Mary has gone to Germantown on an Errand of mine and her own— Elizabeth, my Grandaughter, has begged to go with

her for a walk, Barbara is in the Green house at work, Anne at hers. and Sall, wandering about, I fancy eating Currants. I am in the Library, the place of my Greatest satisfaction— and an homely expression of Shakespeares will well suit well my employment.

"Chewing the Cud of sweet and bitter thoughts."

After these ruminations, I went down stairs, and towards evening spent some time in the Inclosure where the remains of my best loved friend are deposited, I watered his Grave, as I frequently do, to try to make the sod verdant, and the Trees which I have planted & the flowers which I cultivate, in that beautiful little spot which is sacred to his beloved memory.— It is the most beautiful Spot of Interment which I ever saw, and it looked this evening particularly so.— the view of the meadow beyond the wall having all the neatness of new mown ground, and the foliage of the neighbouring Trees being in full Luxuriance— the Chesnuts out in Blossom (and I think the forest trees have a peculiar fullness and brightness of foliage this year.)— Here Elizabeth and Sally joined and assisted me, bringing water from the Creek for my purposes— Then we had our Tea, pretty late, for Algernoon who had not gone out as I supposed, but was aiding his men in getting in the Hay, did not care to leave them till evening.— and so ends the relation of a Domestic Day in Summer.

Fourth of July. When I wrote the account of yesterday I little thought that I should have to spend this day abroad in consequence of the illness of the children at Somerville. But a note from my beloved Albanus telling me that Gustavus had a Chill and fever yesterday and poor little Dickenson a violent Convulsion fitt, soon carried me down there.— I found that upon

Gustavus complaining of sick Stomach in the morning. his Papa had given him a little medicine and had gone to town on some business — the only hours he had left them since their mothers absence, when without any previous notice, Dickinson went into a Convulsion, in which he was upon his fathers return, — Molly Hoff and the Women fearing he would die when only they were present. — an Emetic, which brought up Bile relieved him, but he lay insensible for a considerable time. Gustavus had a chill and fever. I found them better but in the nursery and languid, and so they continued throughout the day. a slight chill and fever again occurring in the afternoon with Gustavus, and Dickinson looking thin and delicate in the extreme. I spent a Satisfactory and pleasant day, (abateing my uneasiness about the children) my dear Albanus being very kind and attentive to me. — and when I got home found an Invitation to my dear Debby Norris's wedding, which is expected to take place on the 10th of this month.

I never saw Somerville look so delightfully pleasant as it did to day: the house scrupulously clean and shaded with Jasmines and Wisteria's, which beautifully twine over the Windows, and the Pillars of the Piazza: the Garden luxuriant with fruit and Vegetables most neatly kept — and indeed the whole Farm like a Garden, doing the greatest credit to the industry and skill of my beloved Albanus.

On 4th day I remained at home under an expectation that the Children were better their Papa having promised to send for me if that was not the case. he did not send to me but was so frightned himself with Gustavus fever making him a little rambling, that he despatched one of his men to hasten Maria's return home. I was

myself made a good deal uneasy with Elizabeth's complaining of a bad head ache (for when one of the Children gets sick the others mostly follow suit) but a good dose of Rhubarb and Cammomile tea soon helped her. — George Fisher drank tea with us — the little fellow is always Welcome to me for the Sake of his amiable Parents.

I spent Fifth Day down at Somerville with the dear children. Dickinson was better considerably, but poor Gus: had a good degree of fever, not any chill that I perceived. The little Boy's affection towards me is in itself very endearing. Whilst we were at tea poor Maria arrived, having passed a time of great anxiety after she was sent for. — She was recd with great and sincere Welcome, and I think looks better for her absence. Cousin came with her as far as Burlington and is paying a very melancholy visit there, which I fear may undo any little benefit the Piney air may have effected for her: — at Cousin Sam.l Emlens, where she has not been since the death of his lovely wife — poor Sally Sharples now lies in a State of great weakness, principally occasioned by the rupture of a blood vessel — and it is to see her for the last time that she is now there.

The morning of 2d day the 7th was very warm, but it was not long before indications of a Gust might be discerned and about noon a tremendous Rain took place. The lightning was vivid and the Thunder heavy, but it was the quantity and force of the Rain that was chiefly remarkable. It cleared off partially, so as to allow Cousin Sally Fisher to bring her agreeable Guest Becky Rodman over in the afternoon to tea, Cousin William accompanying them — I was much gratified with their company. and thankful to hear, upon sending, that my Brandson's escaped fever to day. The Harvest has commenced under very unfavourable auspices.

3d day a close foggy morning, every thing appearing drenched with rain, but it cleared up by degrees; a warm sunny day with westerly wind. —

Nothing of notable occurrence (I believe) will appear on record to day, nor had I any company; only 3 of Algernoons young friends came to see him who was very busy in the harvest field among his Reapers, they staid till evening and drank Coffee with him. my own Spirits were below par, untill his kind and cheerful conversation in the evening dissipated the clouds that had gathered on my mind and restored me to cheerfulness.

Fourth day was warm — and a bustling sort of day my strength is not what it was, and I am fretful when I see work left undone or badly performed, and I am unable to do much to remedy it. — In the evening I went down to Somerville, and had the satisfaction of finding the little Boys playing out of Doors — after drinking tea with my dear children I came home and went to bed. a very sudden Death occurred in the neighbourhood yesterday: The man was well in the morning and went out to his work, he is now in his Grave!

Fifth day. This is the Day set apart for my Dear Debby's nuptials — most sincerely Do I wish her happiness! — my little maid mary would go to town this morning and carry her a Basket of Flowers. She accordingly sett out at 5 o'clock with her Floral Present, but how it will look after a five mile walk, I have to learn. The Day is very warm.

It was spent by me in no very distinguished manner. at 6 Algernoon, (who had a throng of work and had industriously attended to it all day) Dressed himself and went to town to be at the wedding. Elizabeth and Sally took a walk to the Post Office and I had to water all the Plants, Daniel being sick — the Girls then brought me the news Papers, and

finally, mary returned delighted with the kind reception the Bride elect had given her, and also delighted with a sight of the splendid Dresses and ornaments upon which she had been permitted to gaze — the House was full of preparation and bustle. mary said the dear Girl mentioned me with great kindness. It was a lovelyful evening, radient with a Present moon and the beautiful Hesper. But now on the morning of the 11th it is cloudy and close, we had, in the course of the day a Thunder Shower, and great heat. Algernoon came home after Dinner. — I have as yet (what I should think) was an imperfect account of the wedding. but can gather from it that the Bride looked as pale as the Pearls which adorned her. — my serious thoughts on this match is, that something, perhaps, too much, has been conceded to wealth and that the Public opinion will say so — and yet I doubt not William Brown will make her a most affectionate husband, and she will have affluence and all it will procure, but a mind like her own, capable of very great things, and now possessing Spirit, sense, and delicacy, she will in no wise meet. — She is, undoubtedly, one of the very first Girls in our City. — Her personal appearance is lovely and dignified, of Commanding stature and graceful manners, her Understanding excellent, her Principles good, her disposition kind and generous, her temper cheerful and affectionate, and her talents & abilities capable of great and successful cultivation — but I have said enough — and I hope her husband will prize and cherish her as he ought, and that the use she will make of his vast riches, will have the same blessed termination that Adversity submitted to, and improved under, with humility, generally effects for us: And that when Prosperity here can do no more for her, her virtues will receive the Soul-consoling reward of "Come ye Blessed of my Father, receive the Kingdom, &c". I can wish her no more!

Seventh Day the 12.th 7.th m.o The Harvest still going on and the weather very hot, if it was not for the pleasant mornings and evenings and Comparitive cool nights which we here enjoy, I do not know how I could bear the Heat which always affected me very much, now more than ever. — I sensibly feel the approaches of old age in my bodily frame, tho', thank God, not yet in my mind. — an unusual rigidity and stiffness in my limbs, and an inability to make the exertions I have been wont — to day I felt great debility and I thought in the evening, was feverish.

George Fisher paid us a visit in the afternoon and brought with him another Boy, a Young Spanish-american, the nephew of Bolivar, sent here for his education. — a clever well-behaved little fellow, who has not been here a twelvemonth but has acquired the language very well, I wish they would send many of their Youths to be educated amongst us. —

To day my new married niece and her Spouse with a Party of [illegible] Young people, set out on an excursion to visit the Falls of Niagara and the watering places, expecting to be absent about 6 weeks. — the facility of performing the Journey, compared to former difficulties and fatigue, is like the effects of magic.

On First Day I went to meeting and was favoured to know a degree of that Worship, where the Soul prostrates herself in lowly reverence before the Unspeakably Great and awesome Being who has created her — and to feel that his mercy, and goodness, and love, are over all his Works. May my Soul ever utter Praise to his Great and Glorious name!

I paced an hour or two over an Wakefield in the afternoon very agreeably.

The temperature of the air to day was as pleasant as could be desired, and a long serene day closed with a beautiful evening, adorned with Venus and the moon on a glowing Western Sky.

I awoke with the Dawn of Seconday, which was so cool, that to shut instead of opening Windows appeared desirable. and now that the sun has advanced to the meridian nothing can be more pleasant, for a renovating N. W. breeze has purified the Atmosphere

Evening. I have spent the day chiefly in transcribing old Documents, and looking over memento's of times long past, and as the day declined took my accustomed walk down to the spot of turf — but to describe the various musings that have glanced thro' my mind, connecting the past and the future, would take up more time to elucidate in words than the scanty portion of Daylight with now allows: the subject I was upon naturally led me to reflect on the excellent Character of James Logan his fine understanding, cultivated knowledge, extensive usefulness, and unblemished Integrity — the virtues of his amiable Consort, and of those that succeeded him — with the events in my own honoured and beloved Fr. Logans life — all floated before me, and left me — the poor helpless remnant of this venerable and beautiful spot which they once inhabited, for a little time — perhaps very brief — and I thought that perhaps hereafter some one, who was not (as the bulk of mankind are) totally absorbed in the present, in walking thro' the pleasant Shade of the lofty Avenue and viewing the Graves in the inclosure, would add some little value to my memory for having honoured and endeavoured to pur-

-petuate them! — Thus the Day closed upon me. and the evening being very cool, was spent in the house at my needle.

14th 7th mo. A cloudy and cool morning — but became warm and Gust-like. I had the satisfaction of receiving a letter from my good little S. Walker the first I have had since she left me, it is dated the 8th — they were a week in getting home, going round to some other place, which made the Journey 225 miles. — I answered the letter in the afternoon, a Practice I would recommend to myself and others, as it saves from that sense of regretful uneasiness which is apt to hang over the mind when it is too long delayed, and is more clearly and better done early. we had some rain in the afternoon — It was not a very pleasant day to me any how — perhaps indisposition in part occasioned it, for I had a terrible head-ache all day

4th Day. when I date in the morning thus, I often think: — The Account is opened. How will it be closed? We know not what is to come next.

The morning was spent in getting the House and places about it a little comfortable and tidy. I was but poorly and almost overcome with the exertion I had even made longed to lie down; after my nap when Elizabeth and myself had retired to the Library and she was reading to me — Maria and her two little boys arrived — poor Elizabeth did not want to go home — and rightly conceived that her Mama would take her — presently my Brothers Carriage with Sister and himself, Sam and Ellen — then which we were at tea, Cousin Sally and Ette Mary. — I thought of the old Proverb, or rather saying, "It cannot rain but it pours". It is a treat to see my friends, but I am so old fashioned that what with care for

their entertainment and hurry at receiving them, I enjoy their company least when many come together. [illegible]

[illegible]

But this subject painful and distressing as it is. I must now leave. — I thought my dear Sally tho apparently very weak did not seem worse than when I last saw her. and to my good and kind Brother my heart warmed with the most tender affection. — may he enjoy every Good, and his family be blessed to him, and for his Sake.'

I heard with sorrow from Cousin Sally, that dear Hetty Fisher has had another return of her distressing disorder and I fear her good Constitution will sink under such repetitions. —

What I said in the morning has been too just a description of what has befallen many poor families during the Day: — a dreadful fire in Callowhill and third Streets, has ruined many. It was burning, when our Guests came thro' the Northern Liberties, with great fury; and a Scarcity of Water and want of Buckets was severely felt. (The Schuylkill water is not introduced into that part of the town, and the use of the Hose elsewhere, has occasioned a neglect in the Article of Buckets among the Citizens generally.)

Fifth Day I seemed unusually left alone to day and anticipated a Day of leisure to be spent up in the Library. but dabbling about to get the House a little cleaned up, took up most of the morning,

and by the time my Sister was over, Hetty and Anne Goldower were announced: the dear Girls paid me an affectionate and pleasant visit, and renewed many old thoughts and associations in my mind. — Anne has been an Invalid for years — before the Death of her valuable mother, but by dint of medical treatment and the attentions of two kinder of Sisters, has lived along with a liver complaint and pain in her breast, a Prisoner all winter, and thro the Summer only getting a little out. — She looks pale and delicate in the extreme but is very interesting and uncommonly cheerful — they have another Sister at home in much the same way, Ellen, and still another, Mary, who is a sensible pleasant woman. — They have excellently well regulated minds and live in the discharge of their several Duties in the most examplary manner — There is no mistaking these things, and when People do so, their particular mode of belief, and speculative opinions, are no subject of enquiry with me. They had driven themselves in a Chaise with a quiet horse. and I had Tea at an old fashioned hour that they might have time to get back before night — and now my mind is soothed and refreshed with their affectionate notice. — I hope the visit was as agreeable to them.

after the dear Young Women had left me — I took my accustomed Walk, and adjusting some of the Vines and fixing their Branches where the tendrils could clasp the twigs put for their Support, I afterwards sat down beside the Grave, which it is an inexpressible comfort to me to have in my own Domain — and whilst I staid, a most harmonious little Warbler, perched on the top of the Large Wild Cherry which grows beside the Cave, pour'd forth a Strain of melody that served as an acceptable Requiem to my mind. and so closed the Day. Algernoon came home at an early hour. and the family retired quietly to rest.

Sixth Day 18th It began to rain before Day and continued to pour down thro' the morning.

and was throughout throughout a very wet day. I was not at all well myself and poor Barbara was very sick indeed. I spent the best part of my time in the Library and employed myself, but it was but a melancholy and sombre day to me.

Seventh day does not give me much to remark, tho' my mind was busy and some thoughts perhaps not quite unworthy of record passed thro' it— my old mansion looked clean and comfortable, and towards evening my friend the Antiquary came and sett an hour or two with me: when people are drawn together by any thing similar in their tastes and pursuits it makes them good company to each other. — He again brought his Book and many sheets of writing which my brother had done for him on the various objects of his research. after he had taken leave my Son came home and the day closed in Peace.

First day I was at meeting — Albanus, Maria and the Children came home with me to Dinner. — Wm Chancellor, John Shepherdson and Charles Fox drank Coffee with Algernoon. — It was a very trying day to me. — I endeavoured to get a little quiet in my mind before I went to rest.

Second day. I was very busy in the morning, in order to comply with an engagement I made to call for Maria and go with her to town — when my friend Hannah Chancellor and her venerable Mother, and Sister, and Daughter, came to pay me a morning visit. and spent an hour very agreably with me. I afterwards took a Slight dinner (which I always find best agree with me, especially when going out) [illegible]

[illegible]

I thought in order to divert my mind and see if I should be better I would try to pay my visit in the afternoon, I went and was rec^d with great kindness and respect by Hannah Chancellor and her venerable mother. I paid a pleasant visit only that I felt some symptoms of illness, flashes of heat passing over me, and pain and weariness throughout my frame, I had a disturbed night, and dreams of sickness (I had a remarkable one the night before) but will not now incur the charge of Superstition by relating them.

On fifth day I felt very unwell which increased so much upon me that after Dinner, (of which I could not partake) I went to bed. a dizzying head ache, and pain in my bones, especially my back, made me feel quite ill, however before bed time my head was somewhat relieved — and now on 6th day morning I am up, but feel as if I had been bruised all over.

It is but Justice to remark the kindness of my dear Algernoon on this occasion, — besides he put off a party to the Shore to which he was engaged, because he would not leave me. — I pursued my usual occupations in the morning, but had something like a Chill, and felt very poorly afterwards. If this illness should increase and become mortal, as it has done to a poor

desolate Englishwoman in the neighbourhood who is to be buried this morning, and who I greatly regret I had not known of and relieved) I have no hope but in the mercies of God through Jesus Christ. this is all my Dependence.

24th July.

13th 8th mo 1823.

A severe illness from which I am now mercifully recovering has filled up the suffering interval of time since I last made an entry in this Book. But first I desire in humility and prostration of Soul to return thanks to my Creator and Preserver in that he has been pleased to sustain and bring me safely thro' this gloomy period of deep suffering and distress; and that he has also graciously healed those of my family, three in number, besides myself, so that we are now all convalescent; and that Death has not been permitted at this time to enter our Dwelling. — My Soul bows in reverend thankfulness to his Great and holy name!

I cannot at this time pretend to give any connected account of my illness, for tho' I can remember some particular events that occured, yet the time in general is blended in my mind into a chaos in which distress and anguish are the most prominent characters. — I believe I had never a fever before, for the sensations and feelings were quite new to me — and most distressing indeed they were. — my most worthy and excellent friend Dr Belton attended me with the best skill and most affectionate solicitude, and my beloved children, my dear Albanus and Algernoon, and dear Maria, and Sally Logan, (who with her husband was as kind and attentive as to a mother) deserve from me the kindest returns which my grateful heart can ever make them, they nursed me, watched by my bed, gave me all my

medicines, and manifested in every way the most affectionate solicitude. — my poor little Mary too, who had been unceasing in her attentions to me, about the middle of my illness was seized herself with the same disease in a very distressing manner, and Marianne who exerted herself to do all she could in the family, (now become large from enquiring friends and offered assistants) likewise became unable to keep up, and also one of the men sickened, so that there were four of us at once sick in the House. Mary and myself underwent the torture of the Cupping Glasses applied to our heads, and experienced considerable relief from it — I was also bled in the arm previously, which gave me for a time immediate ease. But how shall I describe the distressing sensations occasioned by the fever? I seemed floating on a chaos of anxiety and suffering, and uncertain of my fate, for I knew myself to be very ill, and I found I had not the least merit that would avail me — nothing to offer, but a small hope of experiencing the mercies of God through Jesus Christ my Saviour, which afforded me any consolation, and I thought if this was extended to me, to leave life would be to cast off cares and difficulties which have of late exceedingly harrassed and perplexed me, and I felt a portion of heavenly love, sweetness, and good will to all spread over my mind which comforted me and enabled me to return the kindnesses which I received with thankful acknowledgments and sincere expressions of grateful love.

My Good and kind Brother, who with his wife and daughter Emlen had gone for a few days recreation to Long Branch, upon hearing of my illness immediately returned home and has been many times up to see me. — They found on their return their own daughter Ellen ill of a continued fever, which has reduced her very low and is still afflicting her — indeed a great deal of sickness has prevailed both in the country and in town, and setting in so early in the Season appears discouraging, but we cannot foresee nor controul events and must hope for the best. — During the time of my illness, Richard Warren, the Gardener down at Summerville died of the prevailing fever — he was of a very corpulent habit, and they thought something like Apoplexy intervened. he was, like myself in his 62d year, a most capital man in his business and has lived with them ever since they kept house, so that he is a great loss to the family. He died on the 28th of July and was buried the next day at Germantown.

our good Dr Betton is almost overdone with his constant calls to attend the sick; but I think considering the great prevailance of disease, for the measles, dysentery, and other complaints are also rife, not so many die as might be expected. but when the aged and infirm are attacked they have not strength to carry them thro'. Wm Morris an aged and delicate woman who lived in a small house near our Gate is to be buried to day. — and many of the neighbours have been, and are, ill. I have been two days in writing this account. and close as I began with thankfulness to God for the mercies myself and family have received. 15th 8th mo 1823.

16. 8.th m.o after very severe heat, we now have abundance of rain. It rained a smart shower on the afternoon of the 10.th then every day more or less until the 16.th when a heavy rain commenced in the night & has continued so far as noon with but very little intermission — yesterday we rode out. Charles Fox on a visit to Algernoon detained by the weather all night — I rec.d a second letter from my dear S. Walker, and am concerned she had not received mine. I answered her letter in the afternoon, which I spent alone, as also the evening, diverting myself with the Papers and my needle. I had some uneasiness least my faithful little attendant was going to be sick, but now hope it will go off without bad consequences. on First day, (which is fairer than yesterday, tho' the wind still keeps in the rainy quarter) I felt so very low and weak that I have declined going to meeting, and have been in the library reading in the Bible, devout to Praise and trust in God.

Coleman Fisher, who himself has just recovered from this fever, dined with my Son, and afterwards they went up to Chancellors. But much company came in the afternoon; Cousin John Smith his wife and Sister Hillis and their two little ones, my kind Brother, dear Liz Keppele and William Emlen, my ffr.d Walsh and 6 Children, Cousin Wm Fisher the two Girls & George, but only my Brothers party, and W. Fs staid to tea. — When at the tea table we had some very improving and agreeable conversation, unmixed with any remark (save one) which I had rather Cousin William had not made. — and I had the satisfaction to learn that my niece Ellen after a severe struggle with disease,

is now thought to be convalescent, on fifth day they feared she was near going, her extremities were cold, her face covered with a clammy sweat, and so weak that she could not speak; it was the 21.st day of her fever, the next day she was better.

After my Guests had gone Charles and Sally Logan and her mother and Sister called in going home, and set a quarter of an hour by moonlight very pleasantly. — then I read in the Bible to two of my maidens — Algernoon came home in good time and we all tranquilly retired to rest.

18.th 8.th m.o The weather has not materially altered altho' yesterday it abstained from raining. I never saw the Earth in this month so verdant — the Corn, Potatoes, and 2.d Crops of Grass all remarkably fine. It was suspected that the Drought of the two last summers occasioned the sickness by the lowness of the Springs; but that is not the case this season — some unknown Cause, which we must hope will cease to operate. — When I first came to this place now 40 years ago, we had 3 or 4 of such Seasons, many died in the neighborhood of fever, and Dysenteries, I well remember going with my beloved husband along the Schuylkill and calling at different houses where almost all of the family were sick — this afterwards ceased, and intermittants became very rare, Fever and Ague almost unknown, he often noticed it.

We have a Wren who for several years has annually returned to her nest in the Piazza, and who tho' she seemed to be preparing for a second Brood, did not sit the 2.d time. this

year she has done so, and now is feeding her second family almost fit to fly. It is a plentiful year, but fruit not very abundant, owing perhaps to the late frosts in the Spring.

I had no company to day only my dear Albanus called to see me in the evening, and set half an hour very agreeably with me. — When Algernon came home he brought me the unhappy intelligence that my poor niece Ellen is so low, notwithstanding her supposed Convalescence, that it appears extremely doubtful if she can be raised. I thought a great deal of my Brother and Sister, and dreamed I saw the little Girl languishing on a Bed, surrounded by weeping friends. — We had a severe Gust, thunder, lightning, and great rain at night.

19th. Cloudy and Damp, but no rain to day, in the afternoon the Sun came out flashy and hot. I went down to Somerville to tea, Maria had the tooth ache, and Lii was complaining, her mother feared beginning with the fever. I sent Hughey to town whilst there to bring me word how Ellen was, and had a more favourable report from her Sister Emlen than I had dared to anticipate, in the evening I rec.d a letter from Sarah Walker — She was right in her fears respecting my sickness, even to the time when I was most indisposed. I felt weak and tired, but slept well at night. Auth.y Johnson of Germantown was buried to day. aged 78 years. 20th of 8th m.o anniversary of the Death of my Beloved Gustavus, now twenty three years since. — and what a variety of Events are crouded into that space of time. He I doubt not, is a happy

little Spirit, permitted to behold the ineffable Glory of his God! and Solacing his Beloved Father as he often did here below. Oh that when I shall put off this mortal coil, I may be permitted to join them, and my honoured Parents, and other friends that have gone before, never again to know Sorrow or seperation.

'For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne, shall feed them, and lead them unto living fountains of Waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their Eyes'.

Rev: VII chap.r 17th v.

In the afternoon I took a ride over to Frankford and drank tea with my kind Cousins Charles and Sally Logan, where was also an agreeable Young Woman of the neighborhood who had lately been up at Bristol, and gave distressing accounts of the sickness of that quarter especially in the manor, where she said several families had lost two or three of their numbers by death.

I heard in the evening that Ellen continued better. and as I sat up in my own room at work after the rest of the household were asleep was alarmed by a step on the Piazza and a rap at my window: It was Frederick Shaw who had come up for some assistance, his wife being taken very ill with a Cholic — I called Anne and Susan who took her down medicine, and the former staid all night with the Patient, this took up till after midnight, and I was accordingly very little disposed to rise too early on
20 fifth Day, when the first news that I heard was the Death of one of my old Horses, Tom, the strongest and best of the two, He

has been a most faithful Serviceable animal. I think they were bought in 1806. then about 7 years old. He was out at Pasture where he had been for above a Week with the other Horse who has been out the Whole Season unemployed. the men dug a grave and buried the poor old fellow; not without my feeling a something like affection and regret.

Both 5th and 6th days I was down at Somerville my kind little Lii. being seized with this oppressive Disease. On 5th day she was quite ill and we all felt very uneasy about her. But on 6th day the fever was off and she seemed much better. Her aunt and Debby Bringhurst were there both days. The Weather cleared up Delightfully, Wind at N.W. and quite cool. The Earth looks like Eden and the refreshing breeze seems most Salubrious. — I hope the dire malady will be checked. H. Chancellor and her daughter Sweet called to see me. both talk of retiring into town. Poor Stockton now lies very ill, the Drs. have scarce any hope of him — but I heard he seemed rather better this evening. We hear every day of many Deaths.

22

It is now 7th day afternoon. I am not very well being conscious that I have indulged too freely in butter and other rich food which has created Bile. but I have dressed myself and have been taking a walk in the Garden and my old (and now Solitary) residence looks very Delightsome: — the House clean and in good order. the Grass and Garden Green as an Emerald, and in full Luxuriance. The Autumn approaches but not a vestage of Decay is yet to be seen, the Days perceptibly shorten and the

whole Season reminds me of that of my own life. — Oh may it be preparatory of a brighter Spring that shall remain eternal and Unchanged in never fading verdure!

William Didier came to me this evening to ask for some advice and medicine for his daughter who was taken sick — He was exceedingly uneasy, saying that he had been in vain to look for a Doctor; but could He told me of the Death of Polly Mecklin, and of the two Irvings, father and son lying dead in the House together. Dr Brunchel he added, had a Paralytick Stroke to day. (untrue)

Conrad Carpenter, an honest good Citizen, died this night.

It is now the evening of the 26th. In order to give other, and I trust, happier days, an idea of how things have been in this afflicting Epidemick, I will try to give some account of its progress and effects. It begins with sickness of the Stomach, Head ache, Lassitude Pain in the bones especially in the Back, extreme Distress Chills and violent fever, sometimes the fever commences without any cold fit, and then it seems more difficult to manage. — There is scarce a house in the neighbourhood where they have not been, or are several sick: The Doctors are so much engaged there is no getting them to call unless the case is very urgent. I have felt a great responsibility in several Patients depending entirely upon my Judgment, and taking all their medicines from me. Shaw's two children, and Polly Shaw herself have been very ill to day, but this evening are considerably better. the Baby Chill stopped by taking Bark, and the fever succeeded by a plentiful Perspiration in the others. A new Case in one

of the men occurred, to make the number of four at the farm house.

Last First day Algernoon and William Chancellor set off for the Jerseys, intending to stay a few days at Schooleys mountain. Poor William Stockton about whose fate he had been very anxious for several days, and who he had gone before his departure to enquire after: died about eleven oclock on that day. — He appears to be much regretted, was in his 41st year. a fine looking man for whom nature had done much. I have myself sorrowed for him as if he had been an intimate acquaintance: — For he kindly came to enquire after me during my illness. and little did it then seem probable that his fine athletic form would be in a few days carried to the Tomb, and my aged and emaciated one should be revived. He has left a widow and a family of young children. He was interred at Rookers Church this afternoon. I sent and offered my Carriage to convey some of ye family, and it was thankfully accepted.

At Somerville they now have four sick; Gustavus has had a Relapse worse than his first disease. I was down with them on Second day. [illegible]

Before Bed time I had the Satisfaction of finding the People at the Farm house were better, and Dr Betton who visited them in the evening approved of all I had done. A Note from Cousin S. Fisher informed me that they left dear Hetty Fisher better, (she had been dangerously ill again) and the rest of the family pretty well. But several of their own household were complaining. I had not Breakfasted on 4th day morning before I was applied to for several Emetic's and other medicines. amongst others Mary Kean who seems as desperately bent upon thinking 'Micky is for Death'. as she was 30 years ago. when my beloved husband, by the blessing of Providence, brought the poor [illegible] thro' a dangerous illness. — a kindness which he has al- [illegible] ered: — for when assisting old George to dig the Grave for [illegible] master he told Mary it was the 'hardest days work [illegible] done!' It is impossible not to like the Irish for [illegible] and warm attachments!

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11 Days past —— Days to come 354

JANUARY

11

TUESDAY

We fail!
But screw your courage to the sticking-place,
And we'll not fail. *Macbeth.*

[illegible] now the 28th of the month and I have thankfully to re- [illegible] y Patients are all better. yesterday I was down at [illegible] indeed I go almost every day. The Children are better [illegible] about; but Eliza continues quite ill, and the Cook [illegible] g Chill and went to bed in the afternoon. Poor Maria was almost sick with fatigue. and Albanus complained a good deal. but was so kind and affectionate to me, that I came home comforted beyond the power of words to describe. and with a heart

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It is now the 28th of the month and I have thankfully to record that my Patients are all better. yesterday I was down at Somerville, indeed I go almost every day. The Children are better and running about; but Eliza continues quite ill, and the Cook had a strong Chill and went to bed in the afternoon. Poor Maria was almost sick with fatigue. and Albanus complained a good deal. but was so kind and affectionate to me, that I came home comforted beyond the power of words to describe. and with a heart

tendered and thankful. This morning I sent my Sally down to help nurse the sick and do what she could in the family. and I had the satisfaction to find upon sending Danny to give Micky a dose of Rhubarb, that the poor old fellow had mixed his chilk and fever yesterday and seemed much better. It is said that the Disease spreads rapidly in town and the Doctors are almost as much worn out as their Brethren in the Country.

The Disease with us here, like Aarons Rod, swallows up all other subjects. I have had no time it seems to think upon the affairs of Spain, nor read Las Cases's more dignified account of Napoleon in exile. yet I hope the affairs of Spain are not at such a desperate Issue as the French accounts would lead you to expect. and as to the Duke and Dutchess of Angouleme, from pitying and respecting them in their misfortunes, I now dislike and contemn them, and sincerely hope they may speedily be obliged to retreat from the Peninsula covered with ignominy and disgrace. and so prosper all Tools of Tyranny, and Invaders of the Rights of other Nations!

I went down to Somerville to tea and found Eliza better and Mary no way, to appearance, alarming: but at my Dear Maria's desire I left Sally all night to ease old Molly Rofs who thought herself about to take the fever and was sure if that was the case, she should die. Maria was quite uneasy about Cousin who had not been up for two days. I spent the evening pleasantly tho' alone. Hannah Wistar died in Germantown about two o'Clock to day, of a Consumption. She was not worse than she had been for some time but the Phlegm rose and she was not strong enough to discharge it.

whilst I was from home Mr and Mrs Walsh and my friend Jn.o Vaughan came to see me. I greatly regretted being absent.

The old Castle is but thinly Garrisoned. It seems like the remnant of our former family. The Evenings especially would be very lonesome if it were not for the constant employment to which I have accustomed myself.

Sixth Day. Was at a very small but good meeting in the morning and in the afternoon had the apparation of a visit from my dear Debby Brown and her husband, they wd not stay tea. Being, as I understood, engaged at Charles's: presently after their departure Charles and Coleman Fisher arrived, they had miss'd them on the road by stopping at Cole's place, and upon my inadvertently mentioning who had been here and whether they were going, they would not stay to tea tho' it was quite ready. so I drank it without much pleasure Solus.

I wrote a 3.d letter to Alges to day. and recd a very acceptable one from Cousin Jn.a Smith.

Seventh Day I went to Jn.o Wistars funeral, having recd a particular invitation, but did not follow in the procession further than to our Gate. it was respectable but not large. There seemed to be great Grief among her young Connections. two of her nieces have attended her thro' a trying illness with affectionate and exemplary care and attention. The weather to day is extremely disagreeable, very close foggy and damp. but I have favorable accounts from the Sick to whom I sent medicine this morn.g

I have often thought since this Distreping fever has been so rife amongst us, of the anxiety and attention which such a state of things would have excited in my Beloved Dr Logans mind had he been living: he would have been most unwearied in his endeavours to have relieved the Sufferers, for he was tender and compassionate and unaffectedly kind to those in Distress. — But the scene has closed for ever here with him, as it soon will also do upon us who as yet survive.

I was down again at Somerville in the afternoon, and found Eliza slowly convalescent, mary still bad (if I was to say Brunting it would be characteristic) and poor old Molly Ross seized with Chill and fever, in bed, and labouring under a strong presentiment that it will kill her. Cousin Sally, Becky, and mary were there. We all endeavoured to cheer her, and indeed left her better, for her fever was gone off and a perspiration succeeded, she took a Dish of tea, & was more comfortable. — Poor maria suffers great fatigue both of body and mind, which makes me uneasy about her. I still continue my little Sall there, who, all day, has rendered them very acceptable service. I sewed till 10. then read a Chapter, and went to my repose.

31.st 8.th m.o We feel no regret at August's departure, for the Weather is excessively warm with fogs and damp mornings. Close, and Dog Day like. We hope a brisk N.W. wind will soon occur and be favourable to the Sick.

I did not go to meeting this morning, one of my Horses appearing unwell. I answered Cousin H. Smiths letter. I dined alone. It is scarce possible to convey an idea of how much at times I feel the loneliness that surrounds my Dwelling, nor how greatly I miss those who used to inhabit it with me. This evening I walked up and down my empty Hall, after having sat in my lonely chair at the door watching the declining Sun gilding with his parting beams the glowing West, till twilight gave place to night. I then went into the Dining room and with mary and Susan for my audience read some Serious Poetry and several Chapters in St. John's Gospel, and then retired to bed.

I had sent for Cousins W & S. H to come and Drink tea with me, but as a note from dear Sally informed me, the Duty of watching a very sick Woman in the next house would prevent her accepting my invitation.

1.st 9.th m.o 23. September commenced with a very pleasant Day. the wind had changed in the night and it was much cooler.

I was at home and alone, employed chiefly in writing. I had heard that Albanus and maria had gone to town which made me easy about going Down to Somerville. just at Twilight Cousin William and Sally paid me an acceptable little call. they told me of dear Jane Shoemakers increasing debility, and advised me, if I wished to see her to go soon. their family, including the Gardeners wife are better, and they contemplate going to see Cousin Sallys brother in Chester County tomorrow.

2.d Sep.r a delightful morning of

an autumnal East, so cool that the windows shut down was most agreeable. the morning was employed in domestic affairs, and in the afternoon I went to see, I apprehend for the last time! my valued friend Jane Shoemaker; it was a melancholy visit, for she is indeed very much altered from what she was the last time I saw her, and seems sinking fast. however she did not seem in much pain, received me with her wonted Courtesy and kindness, recollected & asked after all my family, and talked a good deal. Her disorder which has been very obscure, seems now near its termination; I had a melancholy ride home, tho' the evening was pleasant; in addition to the pensive train of thought induced by such a visit I had an uneasiness on my mind that this pimple on my lip which I have now had more than a twelvemonth, but which has of late increased a good deal, should prove of bad consequence to me.— however I quieted my fears as well as I could and passed a quiet evening at my needle — and I may add, slept soundly.

8d Sep.r I went down to Somerville in the afternoon, and found Cousin with Maria, who was exceeding fatigued and very anxious on acc.t of Poor old neighbour (molly hofs) who is very ill of the prevalent disorder.

On the 4.th Sally Logan came and spent the day with me, her husband bringing her in the morning and taking his tea with us in the evening. Tom Fisher was over in some distress, about dinner time; his father and mother had gone into Chester County, and the Gardeners wife, who was better when they went, now lay dying. She died in the afternoon. Which was distressing to the

+ That cruelly proved groundless. Happily.

poor Girls at home. a little shower in the afternoon with thunder

5.th Was at meeting, at the close of which we were invited to Jane Shoemakers Funeral. The swelling, which was rapidly progressing when I saw her, became the next day, universal over her whole frame, her head appearing of a monstrous size, she soon after died; I take it to be a fatal symptom. I went after meeting to see micky and mary.

I drank tea at Somerville my dear A. returned from Norristown where he had been attending the Division of my Brother Charles's Estate, which at length has been effected. Cousin did not come to Somerville, as maria expected, but sent Thomas to enquire after poor old molly who had been very ill yesterday, but now seemed rather better. Poor Becky Embree, (the note which maria rec.d said,) had received the painful and unexpected intelligence of the Death of one of her brothers, an intelligent and promising young man, engaged in navigating a Steam boat on the Missisipi. on whose banks he was interred. She was overwhelmed with distress at the news.— As the Children and Sisters of Sally Emlen have been at the accounts they have lately received of her Death shortly after she arrived at Bellfonte, where she had gone to see one of her Daughters, who married to J. m. Fox. her 5 other Children were in Philad.a She was an amiable good woman, and had been a Beauty in her Youth. The Daughter of Will.m Fishbourn and Widow of George Emlen, (first Cousin to my dear Dr Logan) and was in the 68.th year of her age.— (She was a Great Grandaughter of Samuel Carpenter, so often mentioned in the old letters, a friend of William Penns.

I have, with deep thankfulness, to recount a mercy

experienced by myself this morning: upon first awakening, I went to see the Pimple on my lip, which projected a little and had a black speck like a Grain of Gunpowder in the middle:— to my joyful surprize I could not feel it. I ran to the Glass and with the help of my Spectacles could see the mark like a dent from which it had been extruded. I found it on my neck, a hard Lump about the Size of the head of a ~~the~~ large Pin. — my great comfort, and Satisfaction, and thankfulness must be imagined! my first notice of it was last Spring twelve months. I hope it is entirely gone.

6th The anniversary of our Marriage 1781. — of the Persons present now Survive except my Brother Charles Thomson, Jenck Cope and myself. I spent the day at home and alone. Polly Welch was also an inhabitant of my dear Mothers house at the time.

First Day 7th 9th mo. I went to the Funeral of dear Jane Shoemaker, Cousin W. Fishers Son, and two Girls accompanied me.— The Funeral was prodigiously large. I think the procession must have been more than a mile in length, and the meeting house was crouded with people. Dr Moore spoke and Prayed. Some other Friends also spoke. She was indeed a woman of an excellent character: liberal in her sentiments, Generous, and kind, and Pious, without ostentation or severity. Her loss will be much felt in her family and neighbourhood, and by the Society to which she belonged.

It was an excessive warm day. a little rain had fallen in the night, and it was close and oppressive with frequent appear-

ances of a Gust, but it did not rain untill I got home near 2 o'clock, after having set down my young companions at Wakefield, when a small shower came on. I was fatigued with the exertion and after dinner lay down and slept. I am very glad that I visited her before she died; it was the last day she could have seen me, or I her with satisfaction. The day closed with a glowing Sunset, gilded clouds, and great heat. But the wind shifted in the night to the East and Second day was misty and cold. indeed a greater or more sudden alteration can hardly be imagined; in the latter part of the day I had a fire in the Stove and found it comfortable; yesterday so very warm that it was scarce to be borne in meeting, and in the course of a few hours, Flannel and Fire! however by attending to change, one may prevent some of the effects, at least. I spent the day alone, wrote to S. W. and read in Las Cases's memoirs. Poor Mary Crain died this afternoon, to my sorrow and regret, a devoted adherent of mine, my best Spinner, the affectionate Wife of Old Micky, who has been a Labourer on the farm time out of mind, and a strictly honest and unsophisticated Child of nature! I had hoped she might have recovered. Dr Betton attended her, and she was kindly attended likewise by a cleanly and clever Irish Woman, whom she once took in sick.— I sent daily to them, and they wanted for nothing, and yet now I feel disconsolate and would gladly have retained her longer in this abode of Sin and infirmity from whence she has escaped. She was born in 1761. The year of my own nativity; and for a long time it was her business to spin the linen my beloved husband wore.

Then it

is that I have write her Eulogy, the only one it is probable she will ever have, but it is no matter, the most splendid name are only revived for a brief space from the Gulph of Oblivion.— and I doubt not 'the single talents well employed' has gained her a seat in the realms of Peace. I am glad I was always kind to her.— I do not think it was entirely the fever that carried her off:— She was extremely thin and often complaining, especially of a palpitation at the Heart and of a pain in her side.— Her blisters drew very well but she was low from the first and said she should not recover. though at one time they brought me word she was better— She is indeed better now! how disconsolate and comfortless she would have been if Micky had been taken, and herself had survived!

I feel however as if I had lost a friend— a sincere tho' humble one.

On Thirday whilst just finishing the above my dear Algernoon came home, I heard his wheels pass the front of the house and flew down stairs to receive him. may he never want a friend to give him a kind and Welcome reception: I had dined myself, and after I had some for him, I went down to Somerville, where I had the satisfaction of finding all convalescent, and my dear Children comfortable; they were sitting in the Library, Maria at work and Albanus reading to her.— [redacted]. — I drank tea with them and then brought my Sally home— Whom all praised for being good and very useful. This was the anniversary of my own beloved Mr Logans birth in 1753. if he had lived to this day he would have been 70. Fourth Day 10. 9mo. 23. I have sent my Carriage to convey poor Micky to the interment of his faithful mary.

I have passed but an uncomfortable day from minor uneasinesses; such as Quarrels amongst the Servants; Hughey staying out with the Carriage beyond the expected time and then coming home sick and disordered with liquor, and things of a like nature. But the day itself was very fine, the Sun shone with great Splendor, and the Season just answering to that Shake in the human fabric

"When the Mind ripens, e'er the Form decays."

The full luxuriance of Summer ready to cede her place to her successor.— I took my usual walks and employed myself as common— I had my Norris Pears picked. Amy came over, and there is still a prevalence of this Disease, with frequent relapses, from which her husband and my poor little namesake are now suffering. Also one of our men at the Farm house, that I went down to see, in the evening.

I am reading the Napoleon memoirs— He was indeed an extraordinary Being, that has passed like a fiery and sublime meteor across the horizon of our time.— I can scarcely realize the possibility that all these things have occurred, it seems like a romance.— and his fall, and sudden extinction, what a subject for contemplation!

But I can never forgive the Pitiful and unworthy conduct of the English ministry towards such a Captive!

It will be the fault of the Reader if he is not wiser and better for reading the Book— it has corrected many of my prejudices.

5th Day. The morning was spent in domestic work— Clear Starching.— my mind in an uneasy shake burthened with a sense that my affairs are not right, and a helplessness as to the remedy.

the Day was spent at home and lonely, nothing interesting occured, the Weather damp and Drizzly, Wind at East.

12.th 9.th 23 The dull weather still continued, only that it actually rained in the afternoon, my employments much the same as usual, only the novelty of a little Colt, foaled last night, to pay the attention of frequently sending Anne down to feed with Cows milk: its mother (the pretty Clara) not, as yet, having any milk — a thing of rare occurrence in the Animal world.

I had deprived myself of the Reading in which I was interested, by sending home Billy Fisher "Napoleon," and relying on our own sett— the first volumes of which I now find are lent out. There is too much Boswelling in the work for such a subject, not but that it amusing, and what we eagerly look for when it is not too liberally bestowed, but it brings down great men on a level with their fellow mortals, it occasionally may make us love them the more, but it derogates from mysterious Veneration. I look at what is written on the Subject of Napoleon and his Wars now, as materials for future historians, it is not immediately after such a period that things are known and understood exactly as they were, Time Developes many facts, and gives to objects their true bearing.

It seems to be that Buonaparte effected so much because he aimed at doing all that was possible, and acted with things en masse. and yet at last grasping at too much was his ruin— and confiding too much in the honour of his Enemies cost him his life! How he lived thro' the Disasters of the Russian Campaign I know not— it was enough to have broke even his, Heart. I have yet to hear

how he reconciles that to Prudence and right. I pity him greatly at Saint Helena, and have lost many of my prejudices; but cannot forget the Mountains of human Beings that have been sacrificed to his ambition. His Conscience appears to be formed on a large scale as well as his abilities.

13.th 9.th m.o We have become very tired of Easterly wind and Cloudy drizzle, but such Weather we still have. The little Colt is like to do bravely, but its master regrets that it will not be pretty after all the trouble. Its Dam has now milk. Such themes must do for to Day for I have nothing new to relate.— It would not be any thing new to say that I am not happy.

14.th The Day has gone without improvment or satisfaction: I was at meeting where I was like the multitude before the Bread was Blessed and Broken. I had expected Maria and Albanus, they were not at meeting, and upon sending down to enquire found the former had been poorly and kept her Bed since 5.th Day but was now better and hoped to come down tomorrow. I had to eat a very nice Dinner alone, for Algernoon went out with W. Chancellor to Dine. before I had finished my afternoons nap. (which has been discontinued for some time but resumed to Day on account of a disturbed night.) Charles Fox came, he staid to tea and paid a long visit for he went not till after Alge. came home. Ch.s & S. Logan called in the evening to inform me that the English Friend Anna Braithwaite had an appointed meeting at Frankford tomorrow, to ask me to come to it and Dine with them.— which must be according as things will serve in the morning. my poor little Sall was sick all Day. and thus has this Day passed! I must try if I yet can find a centre for my mind in what is good.

I got up on the 15th a very beautiful September morning, with the intention of going to the meeting, but I became discouraged, and gave the matter up — perhaps too soon. The rest of the day must remain in this Book a Blank, for some things occurred which I would wish it were possible to obliterate for ever from my memory. And I hope they are not recorded any where.

16th my poor little Sall has the fever, but I hope it will not be a severe attack. I ——

The day was spent at home with a good deal of Gloom and unhappiness, but towards evening my mind seemed to regain some thing of its wonted cheerfulness. Col. Lambert Cadwallader died at Trenton on the 13th was buried on the 15th of this month.

17th The rain and Damp of yesterday still continues, we have had a great deal of such weather lately. [illegible]

The foregoing paragraph was written in a moment of sadness and is not altogether just, for many of my friends cherish me with their kindness, and I acknowledge its worth and gladly accept it at their hands,

but the truth is my mind is unhinged and diskessed, and at such seasons the most cheerful temper will droop. — I must try if possible to find a Remedy.

21st and I must endeavour to recollect how this interval of time has been spent: I cannot give the incidents in order but just say what has occurred.

One afternoon I drank tea over at Wakefield, was treated with great kindness, and had a few hours of agreeable conversation, — notwithstanding Billy was sick with this reigning disease and reposing on the Sopha.

I went to our meeting on 6th day without any intimation that Anna Braithwaite would be there; — She spoke very well, and Prayed beautifully I went to her after meeting and having introduced myself as well as I could, requested they would dine with me, but they were previously engaged to Reuben Haines's, yet promised they would call to see me as they went into town, which they did, and I was much pleased with her manners and conversation and the Sweet Spirit which she seemed to be of. — Mary Allinson of Burlington is her companion, Thos. Stewardson's daughter, and a Friend I did not know were with them. I had tea and Coffee, which they partook of but did not stay long. as it was still quite early I went up to Morris's and paid a visit there, both to my friend Margaretta and to the Young and pleasing Lady whom her brother has lately married; I got home by the light of the Full moon which shone most splendidly on the rich herbage and vegetation fresh from the abundant rains we have lately had. Seventh day passed not so agreeably. my Son was absent having gone to shoot Rails, His Mare was taken so sick that I feared she would die before he got home, but he came home unexpectedly soon, and all that it seemed likely would help her has been done but I fear with out avail. nothing very agreeable occurred

on Seventh Day: on first Day it was not convenient to me to go to meeting, Mary was away and the other Girls seemed inadequate. Maria and little Dickinson came and dined here, and in the afternoon we rode over to Wakefield to see our sick cousin, who we found poorly and depressed in Spirits. We came back to Coffee and found Dr Fox & Charles here. Maria was very kind and agreable but seems overdone with fatigue, almost all her invalids have relapses: her Cook gone to town sick, and all the others very helpless. Poor Li in bed, but her Papa at home to nurse her. my own little Sal with chill and fever to day. and Betty Fisher, an long established neighbour on the other side of the Germantown Turnpike, died on 7th Day. She had something of the Dysentery of which she got better, but a kind of melancholy took possession of her mind under which she sunk. heard of several Deaths which have lately taken place within the last week.

Second day. There was a severe change in the Weather yesterday and last night, so as some of the tender plants were a little injured and we could sit by the fire.

This day has been spent in bustle without any thing particulary agreeable. The evening quite cold.

The poor little Mary Clowe after great sufferings, died in the night.

Third Day. Unpleasant, cloudy and cool. every thing seems wrong. there is a great deal of work to be done and it dont seem to go on, and my mind is as oppressed and void of satisfaction as it well can be.

I sent down to enquire after their health at Somerville and find that the children have all been sick again. Cousin W. Fisher is considerably indisposed with the fever.

Fourth day. The weather pretty much as yesterday, but not so cold the wind at East and a kind of a Dry equinox.

[redacted]

How often when I contemplate the Portrait of my beloved Husband, which hangs in the Parlour, and which is a striking likeness of him, do I apply those lines of Cowper's, out of his inimitable address to that of his Mother.

"Life has past
But poorly with me since I saw thee last."

This event is indeed the occasion of bitter sufferings to me: But no direct remedy being in my power I must drink the cruel Cup, and endeavour to bear with patience the sad destiny taking care to guard my own mind from every feeling or thought that is not of the kindest description.

Fifth day. Rain, dullness, want of energy. — But I employed myself. Lydia Jones who formerly lived here as Dairy maid, "crossed our Path to day"

like an erratic Star, she was received and treated with kindness, and staid all night on account of the rain, but she almost talked the Girls to sleep, and then roused them at two in the morning to go down with her ~~to Slaws~~ to get a conveyance with ~~them~~ Slaws in the Cart. she afforded a good lesson against such excessive and indiscreet garrullity. but they will not want to see her again very soon.

6th day attended our monthly meeting. C: Fisher dined here, & in the afternoon I went over to Champlost to return my visit there and the kind notice of Eliza Tunis during my illness, Eliza is, I think, a very estimable woman, her kind attentions to her infirm aunt are very praise worthy; and she keeps her fathers house in the best manner. my visit was very agreeable. — it is a place of great retirement, and the road to it the most lonely of any in this neighbourhood, but I got home a little after dark quite well. Algernoon drank Coffee with us, but left the company before me on some business. [illegible]

Seventh day, 'Tho we had a fine sunset last evening, it is a cold cloudy morning, and I think the least sunshine in this September of any which I remember. Our second crop which was unusually abundant, in danger of damage, if not spoiled.

The weather afterwards cleared up and it was a delightful day.

Charles Fox, George Fisher and his interesting little Schoolmate Bolivar, drank tea with us, the latter brought me a Present of a very small Green Paroquet from South America, perfectly tame.

First Day I was at meeting my Son giving me the satisfaction of going with me. He was engaged to dine at Dr Bettons. [illegible]

I went to wakefield to tea, desiring to see Cousin Hannah Smith who was at meeting and dined there, and did see her for a few minutes. my dear Albanus came there to tea as he promised me he wd. Oh 'tis impossible to express my love and concern for him. — [illegible]

I heard to day a very extraordinary account of Eliza Roberts first setting down in the Speakers Gallery, and afterwards speaking Publicly in meetings at Bedford. — they have had such singular doings at that place among Friends that one knows not what to say on this occasion, only I should hope her good sense and clear discernment has not been misled, and that she will come out different from some that have seemed very Religious, and afterwards relapsed into all the vanities, they had professed to renounce. She has those talents and qualities that will make her highly useful, if properly directed.

We were up early on 2d day for Alge to sett off on his Journey towards the Grouse Plains. he will go on such expeditions, so it is vain to remonstrate; yet he never leaves me on such occasions but a melancholy spreads over my mind, accounted for by the many accidents (and I may add, remarkable Preservations which he has experienced). I had but a dull day. I feel oppress'd with a sense of abundance to be done, and neither energy nor means to execute the task. a great White frost on 3d day morning. My Dear Brother came to see me in the afternoon, [redacted]. Sarah Walkers father was here this morning. he came down as a witness for his Brother in a law case, and finds the Trial put off till next court. but I conjecture does not dislike the jaunt; he seems better reconciled to Susquehanna County than heretofore, yet, poor man, seems still easy to be unsettled, a temper of mind very disagreeable in those on whom we have to depend, and very trying to my good young friend; I wrote to her in the evening

I had some of my best trees put in the Green house.

Fourth Day 1st of October. I spent at home in Domestic avocations. In the afternoon Jane and Ann Haines, and little Sarah, came down to talk with me respecting a Scheme for employing the poor of Germantown and wanted me to draw up a paper soliciting

Contributions; they staid to tea. nothing else occurred.

5th day In the morning abundance of minor vexations, such as Hughy poking a Pole thro' a Pane of Glass when it might have been avoided. And the same august personage setting down on a 5 Gallon Demijohn and smashing it to pieces, and such like doings. I am getting the House cleaned.

The weather moderated, quite pleasant in the afternoon. nobody came, Breakfast, Dinner, and Supper Solus.

6th Day I "Prevented the Dawn" to forward little Sall in getting to town with Slawi, on a visit to her mother. there was always something delightful to me in early rising. I feel a spirit of power within me fresh and invigourated to what it is at other times. — the Earth then is veiled from our sight and we naturally look up and contemplate the Glories above us. The morning was devoted to those cares which Women usually have to perform, which cannot be neglected but with Discomfort and Disgrace, and of which an almost daily repetition is demanded. I went down to Somerville to tea, where Maria and the children appeared glad to see me, as I was to find them all down stairs & pretty well; tho most of the family have had relapses. Albanus has also gone to the Grouse shooting. I had the pleasure to see Cousin Sally. and Mary, who came to tea.

The evening was dark and Hugh drove too fast in coming home for which I had to speak to him. He is the Reverse of obliging.

The weather warmer, but I had Danny to put up the Plants.

7 day There is almost always a contrariety in such things; the weather now is so warm and moist, that I wish the Plants were out to enjoy the small warm rain of ~~last~~ this evening.

I spent the Day alone, not Disagreeably; in the evening Algernoon came home with all the Dogs, in Johnny Whittier Dearborn. He was in very good humour and Spirits, and gave a very Diverting account of their Adventures, and the Droll ones of another Party which joined them, some of the incidents and Characters would have given good hints to Matthews himself.

On first Day I went to meeting, where I was sorry I could not command a more attentive and Devout frame, for I was dull and heavy. I brought George Fisher home with me to Dinner. It Began to rain in the afternoon, and kept on till some time in the night. We Drank tea and spent the Evening alone. The Day closed better with me than it Began

2d. Day. 6th 8br. The anniversary of the Birth of my Beloved Gustavus in 1786. (not one living with me nor around me, except his elder Brother, who were with me at that time. What a fleeting and varying World!) It is also the anniversary of the Death of my dear Brother Isaac Norris 1802.

The Day was very fine with an autumnal aspect, the trees begin to change, some exhibit a purple, others a yellow tinge, whilst the tops of the maples look like a flame.

Third Day was spent at home without company, Algernoon also being here. I have been trying at last to write a few brief notices of some of the memorable Dead in our family, for our friend Walsh, for his Biographical Dictionary, at his request, but am out of patience with my own compositions; I can produce nothing fit to offer.

The Autumnal teints now progress Daily, or rather I should say, nightly, for it is the work of frost. in my walks down to the Inclosure, the little woods and grove to the left, present a beautiful Landscape. I have at least that pleasure left of enjoying the rich and lovely appearances of nature, tho' I am unhappy.

Fourth Day. I was entirely alone, and passed the Day agreeably enough, with the exception of painful thoughts that will occur. I am now reading Tacitus.

With respect to La Cuis opinion and character of Buonaparte, it strongly reminds me of Falkland's defence of Alexander the Great, in Caleb Williams. 'Did you ever read of a man more gallant, generous and free? was ever mortal so completely the reverse of every thing engroping and selfish? — A man who for the cultivated liberality of his mind and the unparalleled grandeur of his projects must stand alone the Spectacle and admiration of all ages of the world. — The Death of a hundred thousand men is at first sight very shocking; but what in reality are a hundred thousand such men more than a hundred thousand Sheep? It is mind, Williams, the generation of knowledge and

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† This sentence, as corrected, would run thus: "I have at last, been trying to write a few brief notices of the memorable Dead of our family, at the request of my Friend Walsh for his Biographical Dictionary."
To People like myself, Correction is always needful, and would often make a great alteration.

and virtue that we ought to love. This was the project of Alexander; he set out in a great undertaking to civilise mankind. — Alexander was the builder as notoriously as the destroyer of cities. — Alexander was a true and judicious lover of mankind, and his real merits have been little apprehended."

To give into La Case's statements and opinions, one must have forgotten the Panics and fears which were every where experienced from his (Buonaparte's) inordinate ambition; the unjustifiable invasion of Spain, the Campaign in Russia, the horrors of the conscription, and so many of his acts that it is needless to enumerate them. — and yet I own I have parted with many of my prejudices, have condemned the treatment which he received, and wished him to have been made as comfortable and happy as he could be when no longer able to disturb others.

Fifth Day. 9th Oct.r was paced quietly and without any company: my rambles in the Garden to look for what the frost has yet spared: and down to the Inclosure, which terminates mostly my walk, are amusements that none will envy me. — to say truth my natural cheerfulness, returning when any one is with me, is but sadly contrasted with the gloom that hangs over my mind when I am alone, and reflects on the cause of my unhappiness.

On 6th Day I was at meeting, at a Shop, and down to Somerville; at meeting, we had good advice, and I had a polite and kind invitation to drink tea at Reuben Haines's with some company, which

I declined. Algernoon dined at home. the people very busy in digging Potatoes.

I went directly after Dinner down to Somerville where I found the two boys quite sick still, with fever. Marie and the rest pretty well, [illegible] I spent the evening with Algernoon who had been at home all day. the weather delightful, wind at N.W. Sky the most lovely blue, with bright light clouds floating over it. and the reign of Autumn now decidedly marked by the richness and beauty of the variegated foliage.

Seventh Day 11. 10.th month The day very fine — all hands engaged in digging Potatoes. I pursued my usual avocations in the family with as heavy a heart and under as great an exercise, [illegible] — [illegible]

[illegible]

my poor little Sall also continues drooping and feverish, not having

recovered any thing like so well as the rest of us have done.
George Miller, of the rising Sun, Son and Grandson of old neighbours here, was buried to day. indeed, his Great Grandmother was living and owned the fair house in Germantown, on the other side the road, many years after I came here to live.

First Day the 12th. I was late at meeting but notwithstanding that (which was not my fault) was glad I went, as I was enabled to worship and bow in prostration of soul before my God.

From what Albanus told me of the continued indisposition of his little son, I was uneasy and after dining alone, went down to Somerville, where I found Maria with the two Boys in the little room, they, a little better, and she engaged looking over old letters. Albanus had gone to the city. I passed an agreable afternoon with them.

Second Day 13th. Oct. appearances of an approaching storm — one might have foretold the wind of today, by the twirling thin clouds of yesterday wreathed into fantastic Shapes over the blue expanse. but in the evening the moon shone thro' a mist. The Day was spent in a musing kind of way not far removed from melancholy. Ann Haines and Eliz. Morris were here a few minutes and brought me Bricoms Tour which I began to read in the evening. my Prognostications of the weather have totally failed now, for B.day is as beautiful an October Day as can shine. It is the day of Election and great Canvasings are making, and great Bets at stake, but so great is my abstraction that it is but lately I

have taken any Interest in it. I wish, sincerely wish, my country well, but seem as if I had little more to do with this world. after my usual walk and planting a few acorns, I drank my solitary dish of tea, and divided the evening between Dr Bricom's work and my needle. the writer like a man of good plain sense, who communicates to you what he has seen in an Unaffected style. and really it is astonishing what effects have been produced by combinations of men and of intellect, and what improvements have been made in the Arts and Sciences within the last century.

15 Fourth Day I was up before Day light. Algernoon asking me to call him at an early hour. I had a few lines from W. Fisher informing me of Tom's being badly hurt in town, occasioned by a large Wool Sack falling on him from a loft, whilst he was superintending its delivery to the Carter. His mother and Sister are with him, too bad to be moved home; he was taken up insensible, his Head has received a hurt.

I spent the day alone in writing and reading, I travel rapidly with John Bricom and Jemmy Smith, but I don't think I should have been satisfied with the polite reception and agreable conversation at Bailey Wood. when Hannah More avowed her enmity to my country and would (I suppose) hardly admit, we had many worthy characters amongst us. She has by all accounts done a great deal of good in the World, and I accordingly respect her, but her writings have never been favourites with me independent of the virtuous sentiments they contain — and I could

not

help picturing to myself the authoress as very pedantic and overbearing, with a tollerably good opinion of herself and her own party in Church and state, and very little love or Charity for others. — perhaps I go too far.

16 Fifth Day. A fine warm rain began in the morning — and it turned out as 'Sullen a Day' as we have had a long time, none of the spirit stirring emotion of a storm, nor the verdure-restoring humidity of an April day, but a gloomy forecast of winter, without its desolation, telling what is to come of days made shorter by clouds. — and to add to it all, increasing age — and Solitude, now rarely broken in upon — but this I do not complain of as an evil. and would endeavour to cheer up and proceed on my journey as pleasantly as I could. — If — but I must do it without stipulating for any thing but a Blessing

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Sonnet

The Vision

There is a blest voice in the Sabbath air
Of souls rejoicing on their Makers day,
And my dark spirit, on her mortal way,
In holy thought a moment hovers there;
And well forgets this vain earth's gloom and care,
Her shews of transient date, and gauds, and play;
Beating her prison-house and bonds of clay.
She strives to mingle with the good and fair.
O earthless visions! dear to my sad soul,
Pour your rich beams with more celestial fire,
And chase these shades of doubt and vain desire
That o'er my spirit thus their darkness roll;
And lead me pure in heart, the path to God —
And I will drink the Cup, and bless the rod.

Copied

upon my honest intentions. Algernoon came home at night. nothing particular occurred to notice. I have been travelling to the vale of Chamouny and taking a view of mount Blanc, I beleive every thing is honestly & plainly told and there is much useful information in the Book of Doctor Griscome.

17 Sixth Day I was at meeting — Dined at home with Algernon and afterwards went down to Somerville where I drank tea. Cousin Sally and Mary were there likewise. — I have been very dull and low to day but was very kindly entertained. — and had the comfort of finding them all better. my low spirits were a presage of my trouble from another cause, rather of my fears and anticipation of evil to my younger Son. — — What passes in a mothers Heart who is anxious for the wellfare of her children! — I pray for them, and it seems almost all that I can do.

18 Seventh Day. was a very raw cold day, at home, and no company. The leaves are falling about us, and every thing bears the marks of frost. — and my disconsolate state of mind is in sad unison with the scene of decay. — but whoever shall hereafter read this Record will be tired of my complaints, as I am of writing them.

I think I feel glad to shake off Prejudices: — some years ago we had a Frenchman (I beleive he was french) in this neighbourhood who kept a Boarding School for Boys, purporting to be on the Pestalozzian Plan; I beleive he did bring them forward in learning and information, but it was said he was a decided Infidel in his

Principles, and something slovenly and rough in the manners he assumed, and taught his scholars. he taught Contradiction, and would suffer his Pupils to say, if they dissented from him in a Statement of any thing to say. "Now Mr Neff you lie;" This roughness I thought was like that swaggering tone which his atrocious Countrymen assumed at the time of "Liberty and Equality" as Republican manners, and I loathed the Idea. — However, I confounded poor Pestalozzi with this degenerate disciple, and I now find from Mr Briconni's account of him that he is an innocent affectionate old man, a Christian, and acting, and teaching, upon purely christian views. In short the account strongly reminded me of my excellent Old master Benezet.

19 On First Day I was at meeting and my dear family from Somerville were there also, and came home and dined here; the Children, Elizabeth and Barbara quite glad to get here once more, C. Logan also Frank tea here. A pretty little Girl of our tenants at the mill, aged about seven years, died to day.

Very fine weather, and in the Evening the moon "full orbed" shone with silvery brightness. I almost forgot to mention that this was my Birth Day: — About 10 o'clock this evening I finished my 68 year, being born on the 19th of October 1761. None living now but myself, who composed my Fathers or Uncles families at that time. — I have a notion I have made a similar remark in this Book before, but no matter. —

20 Second day. Was up between four and five, to get my Son an early breakfast. the morning beautiful but a great white frost.

frost, and the Garden now a Disconsolate waste! after a solitary dinner, I took a walk over to Wakefield to hear, and had the satisfaction of finding my nephew Tom at home and very well indeed, when the dreadful accident which so lately occurred to him is recollected; he was for some time almost bereft of Pulse after the fall, and then bled violently from the head and vomited blood, and afterwards a dreadful Head-ache, of which he has now no remains.

I passed part of the evening with my Cousins, and then returned in my Carriage, which called for me on its return from attending the funeral of the pretty little Girl at the mill; where my Mary also went, to assist the family on the melancholy occasion. The dear little innocent was sensible to the last moment of its existance, and shortly before it embraced its little Sister and wished that she, and their Parents, were going with her to "The Good-man". as she in her innocent comprehension called the Supreme Being. They had but the two children.

21 Third day was passed Solus, Domestic work, Green house tending, reading and writing, and a walk to scatter Acorns & gather what few Flowers survive.

22 Fourth day was applied to By Antony Davis to lend my Carriage tomorrow for his Brothers funeral, who, poor fellow! died of a Disease in his throat for which there was no remedy and which prevented him from swallowing, even liquids, — they were old neighbours, and he remembered from his birth by me, about the age of one of my own children. After an early and hasty dinner, I went to town to some shops and bought several things for the

family. I called to see cousin Hannah Smith and Hetty Fisher, and Cousin Sally, and afterwards came home to tea with a relish for the meal, after the exertion which does not now often occur to me. My Son was at home and after spending the evening with him, I slept better than I have done for several nights.

5th Day was spent at home and without any Society. my mind was in a troubled and unsettled frame, at times ready to fail of all expectation of cheerfulness and comfort During the remainder of my time here, and full of a variety of fears, [illegible] I sent my Carriage to attend at Poor John Davis's funeral.

6th Day 24th oct: was a pleasant day for the season. The landskip still is beautiful because the Fields and meadows are Green, but the trees are looing their autumnal richness and becoming too sere. this I observed as I rode over to Sally Logans in the afternoon, where I drank tea. I had intended to have gone to monthly meeting at Frankford in the morning and have dined with them, but could not make out to do it. They were very kind, and I was satisfied with my visit — but have been sadly burthened in my spirits for some days past. every thing mournful and tender seems in union with my mind, and all past Scenes of that description crowd on my memory, so that I am internally cloathed with Sackcloth, and set, as it were, in the dust. But it is vain to attempt to describe what I feel unless I had a better talent than what I possess: When I think on my beloved

one that is gone, and who I <u>am</u> sure loved me, the world seems like a Desart without him. and I also remember with tenderness and regret one who is abundantly brought before me when I visit the apartment she so long occupied in a state of sickness and suffering that has sanctified her to us, for the firm yet pious manner in which she endured what was her portion, and I doubt not is now happy: and and then I go back to my honoured and tender mother, and call up that fond affection, with that of my Darling Gustavus. — but I rejoice that he is with God. Such is the State of my mind — and it has strongly reminded me of the 'Feast of the Dead' which our poor Indians before their manners were corrupted by the Whites, used to celebrate.

[illegible]

Seventh Day was passed pretty much alone, it rained in the morning and was so dark that at 8 and 9 oclock we could scarcly see without candles. A: took his Gun and went out when it held up, for it did not clear thro' the day. We spent the latter part of the afternoon and evening together and had newspapers and a letter from Sarah Walker from the office.

First Day I was at meeting, and had to mourn for myself, and came home to dine by myself, Algernon going to town, Chas & Sally Logan were at meeting but declined my invitation being engaged to her Uncle Robinsons, and my children from Somerville not there. The day very blustering and unpleasant, and my state of mind not much better.

This darkness was noticed in the newspapers in accounts from various places. at Norristown there was Hail, and thunder and Lightning ensued. we had rain.

at first, but I employed myself and found a help in it from afflicting, and troublesome thoughts.— I wrote a long letter to poor Sarah, whose seclusion renders such a letter very grateful.— But in reality, tho' at a greater distance from the Athens of the new world, I do not believe she is near so secluded as myself.— every walk I take now seems like repeated farewells to the beauties of nature for this season— but I forget we are to have 'Indian Summer' yet. I found two Sweet scented Pea blooms in the Garden, and one wild yellow flower in the inclosure, all of Flora's gifts that were left.

"Pale flowers! pale perishing flowers
I woo your gentle breath—
I leave the summer rose
For younger blithsome brows!
Tell me of change and death—"

On Second day afternoon accompanied by Algernoon I went to see my Nephew Norris and his wife. They seem at a loss for a name for their place, and I believe it is yet undesignated, but Clearfield, or Sunnyside, or Eastend, or Fairview, would any of them answer, and I like the Scottish idea of a name for every body residence.— If I had a home even in town, it should be named. We paid a very agreeable visit; social and friendly in their manner they seem very well suited to each other and happy and easy in themselves. the night was dark for our ride home but all was well as my Son was with me.

Third Day Alge: went out on another shooting expedition. after my domestic avocations were a little past, and my Hermits dinner over, I went down to Somerville, and had the great satisfaction of seeing my

little Grandsons out at play, and consequently better. Maria was pretty well herself, and Elizabeth so very fat and large as to surprise me every time I look at her, not in the most agreable way, for I had rather see her light and agile, than so ponderous, but she is an affectionate clever Girl, and I love her. Cousin Sally and Rebecca came to tea, and the afternoon was but too short for it was soon over. Algernon was not at home, one of the excursions of the season to meet his old friend Kalph Eddowes having taken him abroad. I returned to my deserted Dwelling, and employed myself at my needle till Bed time.

Fourth Day. It rained a little in the morning, and after my domestic affairs were a little settled and I seated in the Dining room, I had company; Charles Logan being in the neighborhood, kindly called and took a Dinner with me. He told me of the impoverished situation of his Sisters in Virginia, especially his sister Barber, whose two remaining Slaves were seized for debt and unless redeemed, would be sold from her in a short time, She wants her relations here to send her at least 500 Dollars! a Gift I am sure I cannot join in— Justice going before Generosity, [illegible] I had a letter in the evening from Maria Barber to the same purpose, but she extends the want to one thousand Dollars, to be raised amongst us.—

Fifth Day 30th Oct.r I had the pleasure of seeing Cousin William and Sally Fisher and their agreeable Guest from new Bedford, Charles and Sally Morgan, and the two Girls my nieces, with C. and Sally Logan to take tea with me this evening— they were all very sociable and quite agreeable.— I found myself better for their company, and the load seemed lightened that

has heavily oppressed my spirits for some days. the evening was serene and beautiful Star-Light, those dazzling luminaries beaming with uncommon lustre. Lectures on Astronomy are now delivered in Philad^a by a Mr Goodacre, very instructive and entertaining, from which, if I could be an Auditor I should derive a rare gratification. I go on with Bricom tour, and on the whole am amused and instructed. his description of the different Professors at Paris, their Conversations, the glimpse of their families and way of living, their houses in the Jardin des Plantes, are very pleasing; and I could not help believing that such persons would form a Society infinitely more desirable than the polished treachery of the old Court, so much vaunted of, could have been. The account of the intended formation of a Society composed of Philanthropic and excellent men from various Countries, to concentrate their wisdom and experience on subjects connected with the general welfare and improvement, struck me with peculiar force; and O I thought, how would the heart of my Beloved Fr Logan have been in union with such a Society! how gladly would he have contributed his efforts for such a result! — Science and the Arts have been in various branches greatly improved by such combinations of men of ingenuity and talent in their various Departments, and why should not such a benevolent intention be crowned with equal success?

Sixth Day I attended our little meeting to some sense of comfort. was alone the rest of the Day. In the afternoon with Sally for my companion I took a longer walk than usual. and returning to tea at a pretty early hour in "Papa's Parlour" as we always used to call the room to the right on entering ye Hall; I was forcibly

impressed with a feeling of his loss as if it had just happened, his vacant chair standing by me! and my own solitary Cup and Saucer placed alone on the tea tray. It was a refreshment he much particularly to enjoy, and he liked it early. — and oh how often do I think with the Poet,

"My happy hours, beyond recovery fled,
What share I now that can your loss repay?
Whilst o'er my mind these glooms of thought are spread,
And veil the light of life's declining day."

Seventh Day 1st 11th m^o 1823. The morning was damp and cloudy, but about noon I went over to Wakefield to dinner, as I had promised dear Sally Fisher I w^d yesterday. Algernoon had just come in, and gave me his arm in my walk over, and intended to have returned home, but She would not suffer him to do so. After dinner my Carriage came, and their was gon up, and we all, except Alg^n. went over to Charles Logans to tea: it drizzled a little, but we found we had been expected, Sally had a good fire in her large Parlour and every thing in the nicest order for us; She is an excellent manager in her family, as well as a very pleasant agreeable woman. — We went quite early, yet notwithstanding the decreased Days & the fear of a very dark ride if we staid out late made our visit but two short, for it was very social and lively. When we first set out I could see the road and Objects round me, but before we reached home it was dreadfully dark and rainey, however we got home safely, parting with our company at the York Turnpike. I slept better than usual. But on First Day staid from meeting, as several of my People wanted a holliday, and

I let Hughy go to see his sick father. after meeting Sally Fisher and Susan L. kindly called to enquire after me, for missing me there, they feared something might have happened in my Dark ride after we parted at the turnpike. They would not stay, having an engagement to go to their Guests at Peter Robeson in the afternoon. my Somerville children did not come, and I dined alone. after dinner I had to give audience to Sam. Copeland. and received a short visit from Col: Forrest who left a paper for Alge: I had two letter sent to me from Somerville, one of which from poor Polly Welsh I knew was there, [illegible]. Oh how my heart overflows with love towards them, and with a tender and inexpressible concern that they may be blessed here and hereafter— [illegible] I felt something of Divine goodness to be near this evening, and thought of myself as one afflicted, toped with tempests and not comforted! but encouraged to trust in my God.— my Soul is contrited in a view of myself, and I desire, greatly desire, to be purified and fitted for an admission into the kingdom of my blessed Redeemer. and thus was spent this day.

I was up early on Second day morning, my Son was come home and breakfasted with me. It was very cold, a severe black frost and Ice quite thick and strong in the tub of rain water. I spent my morning as usual, and having consulted Alge I resolved to go tomorrow (nothing unforeseen preventing) to see my poor old friend Polly Welsh, the letter which I rec^d last 7th day making me desirous of doing so. my Plan is to set off at Day light and if I find her still at the place in Ridley, as I hope I shall, after spending a few hours with her to return to town and

John Andrew Shulze is to be our Governor!

stay all night at Cousin Sally's. next day pay some visits and return home. Alge. dined with me, and then went to town leaving many charges about going &c. nothing particular afterwards marked the evening. He came home to lodge. and now on Third day morning I am up and preparing to sett off. It was only Four when I first rose, and after making my fire and rousing my People, I have been contemplating the Splendours of the morning Star, the first time I have seen her since her preceding the Car of Aurora, this season. I hear mr Goodacre meets with encouragement, I wish I could attend his lectures myself— the little, the very little, which I do know, has given me a thirst for more knowledge, especially on the subjects of Astronomy; but I must crimp my Cap and attend to getting ready.—

6th nov.^r I have returned from my expedition and am well satisfied that I went, as we passed thro' town I had to leave a parcel for Hepsy at the Stage office, and then for a little tea to take as a present, after which we passed up market street and proceeded over the Bridge till we got into the Chester road where old associations revived very fresh. I have not been along it for many years, but formerly often travelled it, for it conveyed me to my dear mother and to my Cousin Dickinsons where I passed many happy hours— But the 'World' is not the World it was then. We stopped at Darby to enquire our way, the Landlady who said she did not know herself, very obligingly stepd out and brought in a young man. who directed us so as we found the place directly; about half a mile from the road, turning out at the 12 mile stones. Polly was rejoiced to see us, and seemed nearly as well as when I last saw her. They are about removing to a place which her sister has purchased

and would have been gone in a day or two. It seemed a great satisfaction to my old friend to see me which rendered it so to me. I had taken my little Sall with me for company, and I don't think it was more than 10 o'clock when we got there. Peggy Smith (Polly's sister) got us a good little dinner and we took an early leave in order that we might get to town before night, which we accomplished in very good time. I lodged at Cousin Sally's where I met with a kind and welcome reception, and had intended to have paid some visits on the ensuing day, but it proved wet and stormy, snow mingled with the rain, so I had to stay in and we "washed" it as well as we could. Before dark I arrived safe at my old Castle, where I found all well. and now on 5th day it is as dull and wintry as yesterday, dark this afternoon so that I have a Candle at a little after four to write by, and a cold and chilling rain is falling.— The day continued of this description and nothing of moment occurred.

Sixth Day. 7th Nov.r mist and rain continued all day without intermission. We spent it together with the help of Books;— I finished John Bricom's tour, and I, for one, thank him for the information and entertainment which it has afforded me. I am satisfied with these and do not want to display my refinement and acumen by finding faults.

I am mightily satisfied likewise, that I undertook my little excursion to see Polly, the day which I did, the bad roads now commencing would render such a jaunt much more tedious than it was to us.— But let not the expression of all these satisfactions induce a belief that I am at ease and happy, for

Cadiz has fallen— The Cortes Dispersed— and the Fool let out of the Stocks.

that would be a conclusion which I unfortunately cannot admit. I feel anxieties and distress which is deep seated in my heart.

Seventh Day it cleared up and was very pleasant. my son was out with his Gun but returned to supper. I spent the day in my usual employments. It was a beautiful sunshine, and not cold, succeeded by a brilliant evening. Nothing very noticeable occurred here.

First Day I went to meeting where I was disappointed in not seeing Maria and the Children— I had hoped they would all have dined here. I did not see my Son, but he was there, and called on his way home, [redacted], and after I had taken my solitary meal, I went down and was rec.d very kindly by them and the dear children.— I spent the afternoon with them, they very affectionate. and indeed I stand in need of some Consolation— [redacted] I came home safe and without uneasiness from the Horses fright, [redacted] for he got out of Hughes hands & ran on the lawn before we went, but was orderly enough afterward.

In the evening I read a few chapters in the Bible to some of the family. and now I greatly want to have my mind stayed on God.

Seconday was like an Indian Summer Day, warm and mouldy. I put my Bulbous roots, with which R. Fox had presented me,

into Potty. I read, I wrote, I worked. and so paped the day without any one to interrupt me. it rained towards night.

[illegible]

Fourth Day. [illegible] ___ the day was spent entirely alone with only my Young Girls coming in from time to time to enquire if I wanted any thing. [illegible]

[illegible]

Fifth day after I had breakfasted, Algernoon and his Friend William Chancellor came up from town to Breakfast, and then set off for the rest of the Day to Willow Grove. I spent the day alone, endeavouring to alleviate my melancholy by occupation: I could do extremely well alone, and prefer it to a companion now, if my mind was not so ill at ease as it is. ___ I am inhabiting the Parlour we used to call "Papas" in which he spent so much of his time, his chair in which he used to sit, ___ the Drawer which held his papers, and his ideas constantly present to my mind! but now, I ask, "In what new region to the Just aspir'd,
What new employments please th' unbodied mind?"

[illegible]

I went to our week day meeting on 6th day. and after making some purchases for the family returned home to dinner. Cousin Hannah Smith and her daughter ann Robeck, with some of the children, spent the afternoon here, Cousin W. and S. Fisher came likewise, and they staid later in the evening in pleasant chat. Algernoon came home to Coffee and took a kind and handsome notice of my Guests.— I have nothing of moment to relate.— He went afterwards to town to Supper at Claperies

Of 7th day the memorial is but short as to incident— I had no company, no one, I believe, was here but People of the mendicant order: old Jacob Hayes, who on a mision for help, had staid all night, and another more miserable object who had his dinner and small pittance; my employments were as usual, and my heavings of heart but little abated, how natural to every heart in trouble is that exclaimation of the Psalmist

"Oh that I had wings as of a Dove:
then would I fly away and be at rest."

My Diary now proves but a continued account of my unhappiness.— from Day to day I have to tell of the distressing and uncomfortable situation in which I find myself— but I will endeavour at least to avoid saying so much about it. I was at meeting. and my dear family from Somerville were likewise. they dine here and Algernoon was at home. The Day was cold and raw. [illegible]

Second Day. I went to Philad.a to do some Shopping. after I had taken an early dinner, called at Cousin Sallys, and there saw some of the Somervilleans, who had come to town on the same errand, but dreading to be out too late I did not stay to tea, to which they did, and I was kindly invited. I came home. — The Day was very raw and cold, and in the night there was a Spit of Snow. I perceive by this sudden coming of winter weather that all our people have taken colds.

About noon on third day, Elizabeth Ireppele and Charles Fox came to see us, Charles spent the rest of the Day with Alger: and Elizabeth kindly intends to stay a week with me;— my only concern is that our cold and bleak house, not yet fitted for winter, and I fear she will suffer from its inclemencies. We spent the Day in pleasant conversation. Alger went to town with C. F in the evening.

Fourth day, Sarah and Eliz: Fisher dined with us, but were sent for directly after to some company at home— just as they were going, Mario came for me to go to Wakefield to tea; Elizabeth consented, and we went with her, leaving Molly Rofs and Sus: to drink tea with Barbara and the Girls. We had a pleasant visit; Peter Roberon and Betsey, and Charles Shoemaker and his wife, daughter, and niece were there— a social and friendly party. my friend the Antiquary called, and promised me another visit shortly. Our weather now is cold, with that kind of atmosphere that shews a rayless Sun and moon. I am afraid it is Indian Summer in a cold style, for it looks, but does not feel like it; and it is not improbable, is occasioned by the very early appearance of winter and Snow, in our N. W. regions

5th day, Elizabeth and myself drank tea at John Johnsons, the Girls were very polite and agreeable to her, and Sally exceedingly friendly and kind. He, poor man, is a great sufferer from repeated and almost continual attacks of the gout, but is very patient and cheerful, tho' evidently much weakened and broken, — they have nine children, and the order and conduct of things about them reflects great credit on Sally, who is a very active intelligent woman. John Wistar & his wife were also there. We had a pleasant chatty visit.

6th day. a dark misty morning, however I went to our monthly meeting; Sarah and Lii Fisher came over to spend the day with us. and after dinner, went down with us to Somerville, where we drank tea and staid till it was so dark that I did not know how Hughey could see to drive us — however the Horses are excellent, and we arrived at home in Safety, where we learned that in our absence, Mrs Clapier, Mrs Treppele, miss Caldwell and Fritty, had been to see us: such Strangers, and we abroad! after much regret expressed by Eliz- and myself, we gathered round the stove to spend the remainder of the evening, when we were joined by Tom Fisher and afterwards by Algernoon; and care was beguiled by cheerfulness. — Tom left the Girls to stay all night as it was both dark and damp. — and so ended a day, the recapitulation of which is, that at Somerville I was glad to see the family all once more well, was kindly and agreeably entertained, at meeting we had two honest country friends to visit us who spoke suitably to us, but I was stupid and dull myself and without that bread which nourishes the Soul; nor could I find thro'

out the day, any etherriality which refines and elevates the mind, and urges it to improvement, but it seemed to sink down clogged with heaviness. and sleep itself brings no pleasant Dreams to cheat me into the possession of a momentary comfort, and yet I talk and laugh and seem pleased!

Seventh Day 22d. nov. Anniversary of my dear Albanus's Birth, 40 years this day. — All gone but myself and him, and the House where he was born (my fathers House in Chesnut street) razed to the Ground, and on its scite, that Great temple of mammon — the Bank of the U:S: built! But to come back to the present day — we had morning visitors; two of the sisters of Elizabeth, and the devoted Beau of one of them. We spent what remained of the day alone. — the Weather grew colder towards evening.

First Day 23d. Eliz. and myself were at meeting, where I was very dull and unprofitable. — We dined alone, and spent the afternoon in reading and conversation, no one came, but towards night my dear Albanus called, and brought me a letter from Sarah, which I partly answered in the evening. He had dined with Dr. Betton. my Spirits were but so, so, to day. yet I get along.

The Weather clear and agreeable, a Brilliant Star-Light night.

Second-Day. 24th. Coleman Fisher dined with Alg:n. afterwards they went down to his place and returned, with the addition of Ph: Norris, to Coffee, previous to which Eliz and myself had received a visit from Mrs Norris and Margaret. — the latter gave us an account of the Astronomical Lectures of Mr Goodacre, some of which she had attended.

to great satisfaction on account of his beautiful apparatus, but as a lecturer, independent of the facts which he communicated, she thought him very poor.

It was but a dull unpleasant day, and became cloudy and very dark at night, and a small sprinkling of snow on ye ground on
25 3d day morning, which proved a very rainy day throughout. Algernn spent it at home with us, and Elizabeths conversation helped to enliven us.

Fourth day without rain, but as dull as yesterday. all that
26 we heard to day, was the death of Elizabeth Shoemaker, widow of Benjn Shoemaker, who I have no doubt, died of a broken heart. — she lost her only remaining son about a twelvemonth ago, who whatever else he ~~was~~ might be, was affectionate and considerate to her; her daughter, a beautiful and specious woman, staid but little at home, and when at home did not seem to consult her mothers comfort, but she returned lately from one of her visiting tours, to be married to a Mr Bloodgood who followed her to town. they were married ye first of this month. the Grand children all dispersed but one who was sickly remained with her. she has now left a world which it would seem had but little satisfaction remaining in it for her; — Her husband was a very agreeable amiable man, and a distant relation of mine. — I have been affected with the account of her death — and sympathise with the hours of bitterness, which she has doubtless passed.

5th Day. C: F: and W. C. McCall, dined with Algernoon;
27 maria and the children drank Coffee here, she kindly coming to see us

before her intended visit to Wilmington, and I rejoiced to have them with me, tho' not very comfortable in myself. It cleared up this morning, but was somewhat blustering, with heavy dark clouds. But the Day-light of 6th day was remarkably beautiful, the moon and Venus together in the East, illuminated that portion of the heavens, whilst aurora "unbarred the Gates of light." The pleasure which I have derived from early rising has more than compensated me for the trouble of making my own fire. a little time in the morning to myself is the sweetest portion of it thro' the day, generally speaking.

6th day we expected to have seen Debby
28 Brown, or some of Elizabeths friends from the city, and after dinner cleaned our Hearth and trimmed our fire in anticipation of their coming, the afternoon too was beautiful, but we had to enjoy it alone, for no visitors appeared till after Candles were lighted, and we had set in to amuse ~~to~~ ourselves with reading 'Comus,' when a knock at the door announced Tom Fisher, and presently after Charles Fox who staid all night, in order to go with Alge: to Trenton to-morrow morning.

7th Day I was up early and again had a view
29 of the soft, and brilliant luminaries which now decorate the mornings:- Dian following in the wake of Venus, and

"E'er her Crescent head she rears,
See Phosphers lovely star appears!"

I was much indisposed yesterday with a bad head ache, and have a constant sinking of heart and spirits, yet I keep up a shew of cheerfulness!

My Son and his friend set off on 7th Day on a visit to Trenton. after they had gone Elizabeth and myself went to Philad[a] in order to be at the funeral of Eliz: Shoemaker, which I felt a wish to attend, and was afterwards very much satisfied that I was there, it was very small for such an old respectable Inhabitant. — I had gone without knowing that I had any invitation, but found one in town for me. I dined at Cousin Sallys, where I was very kindly entertained. and at the Funeral Coleman Fisher attended to Eliz. and myself in the most polite and friendly manner. We felt comfortable when we got home to our tea, and spent the evening in conversation.

On First day the 30th was at meeting. my dear Albanus dined here and staid with us part of the afternoon very agreeably. but poor Gus was at home because he was sick yesterday. Maria and Eliz have gone to Wilmington in the stage. — after my Son was gone Cousin William and Sally Fisher came over and drank tea and staid great part of the evening with us much to our satisfaction. I think good was elicited in our minds by our conversation

Second Day we were engaged to spend the afternoon with Jane Haines and her family; [redacted] Walter Johnson, the Principal of the Germantown Academy, and his wife, also Margaret & Susan Morris were of the party. In the course of the visit, Reuben shewed us

a book belonging to a Club of which he is a member consisting of 10 Persons, and not to be added to. it contained their Articles of Association most elegantly written, and their Portraits inimitably painted, the Likeness most rarely done. the Book itself to belong to the longest liver of the Club. I never saw likenesses more truly resembling their originals than these. they were painted by James Wood. — a Painter quite unknown to me, but certainly possessing an admirable talent.

[redacted]

Third Day. Quite early, before the Breakfast things were removed, Sally Logan came to see us, whilst Charles went after some business in the neighbourhood, she would not stay to dinner. tho' cordially invited, about 12 Charles called for her and after they had taken a little refreshment and were going, Debby Brown in her elegant new equipage, with her sister Hannah, Kitty Treppele and little Betty Sergeant arrived. I thought too that they would have dined with us, and had a provision in store to have given them something good to eat, but they positively declined the invitation, but had likewise some refreshment, which they were pleased to like. and paid us an acceptable visit. In the afternoon we drank tea at Morris's in Germantown, and passed a social and pleasant hour or two with the Ladies without any other company, which I like much better than collecting a great number together. The weather was very mild and agreeable to day. and not very cold in the evening.

Fourth Day 3d Dec.r Elizabeth and myself went to the funeral of my neighbour John Roberts, he was but of middle age and has left a young widow and several small children. here Elizabeth observed manners, and doings, that were quite novel to her, but her kind heart sympathized with the scene of Grief, and piously listened to the admonition given to us at the Grave by good old John Robinson, to prepare ourselves for Death. We returned home to dinner. and in the afternoon Mrs morris and two of her Daughters drank tea with us, very pleasantly. Poor Sarah Donnelan came here in the Stage this evening, evidently in a deep seated decline, and being invited into the Parlour, gave us a dreadful account of her sufferings from her inhuman husband: which with reading and work completed our manner of spending the day.

Dec.r

Fourth of Dec.r anniversary of my honoured and beloved mothers death 1799. "Blessed are the Dead that die in the Lord." (and oh that I were prepared for a removal and slept in Peace! [illegible] but desire to learn every lesson of Patience that may purify and fit my Soul for her great change, then I would welcome Death as a release from my difficulties. but I know that I am not prepared, and feel quite insufficient of myself to accomplish the great and necessary work; It rained very hard through the day, which was indeed one of the Dark ones which preceding Christmas. poor Sarah had to stay, for it was too wet to think of her going, and I had the Couch and its bed brought down by the kitchen

stove for her accomodation, which rested and made her more comfortable. Elizabeth and myself read and worked. and so ended the day.

5 5th up early and called the family up to expedite the going of Poor Sarah who must be in town to day, as her Cause (sueing Pat for a seperate maintenance) is to come on, it will be but for a short period, for she looks like a shadow, and the hectic Bloom glows on her wasted Cheek. — the day glided on with our usual employments, when Coleman Fisher called to see us, he staid to Dinner on condition that I made no alteration — and he might be convinced that I did not. after he went. which was soon after we arose from table, we went over to Charles Logans to tea, where we spent a pleasant hour or two, with Sally and her neighbours, and upon our return found Algernoon and Charles Fox in the parlour who had returned from Trenton without accident from the Tandem, and were very well.

6 6th Day. We spent at home, Cole Fisher and Willm Chancellor drank Coffee with Algernoon and ourselves — they had a great deal of Chat: — afterwards Alge: read the Presidents Speech to us.

7 1st Day tho' spent quietly and agreeably, not much is to be said. We went to meeting, and had no company — the Bible and other good Books occupying our attention. I sent to Somerville to enquire after the family and found that Maria was not yet returned, and Gustavus who was taken to town on 4th Day had a chill and fever and had been left at his aunts, his Papa visiting him every day; but that to day he seemed quite well again, and his Mama was expected to

morrow. —

Second Day. If I were to note my feelings and sentiments daily, it would be but an unceasing repetition of sorrow and uneasiness. a Presentiment I fear, of evil, which hovers over my mind.— but I am a poor helpless being.— and have outlived all my happiness.

Our agreable young neighbours from Wakefield drank tea and spent the evening with us. How is it that I can seem cheerful with the young and lively whilst my heart is heavy and oppressed?

3d was a very busy day, and much further work in contemplation from the killing of our Hogs tomorrow. Thomas Cadwallader, Wm McCall, and Charles Rose dined with Algernoon, Cole: Fisher came in the afternoon. they are all Gentlemen, but the first mentioned appears in my eyes to great advantage, as a sample of that order of the Generation that has gone by:— Polite, friendly, well informed and having an interest in things past, as well as in the amusements and follies of the present Day. he is capable of agreeable conversation and appears to prefer it to the intellectual enjoyments.

The Day was uncommonly cold and stormy, towards evening it began to snow and hail.— I had but a disturbed night, and as from uneasiness of mind about various affairs, sleep appearing to be banished, I got up at 3 on Fourth Day morning. nothing particular occurred thro' the Day except that in the afternoon Algernoon took Elizabeth to town; and that our people were busily employed in the work of the season, in which they had help abundant. I spent the evening pretty contentedly alone. It was a dreary wintry morning, but the Sun shone

out in the afternoon during its momentary stay above the horizon glancing his rays over fields of ice. I should have felt Elizabeth going with more regret only that she has promised to return in a few days and stay till Algernoon returns from Jersey. It was a cold night beautifully clear, the moon and Stars shining with great radiance. I was fatigued and slept well, nor did I rise very soon on 5th Day morning, I think. I have nothing particular of the Day to note. which was spent in greasy business, only that my Son came home to dinner and brought Spence's Anecdotes along with him, which appears to be a book of notes of what he had heard from particular persons, (especially of Pope) set down without specification of time or place or circumstance. and no link of connection.

Sixth Day and Seventh both Spent in domestic affairs without any thing to vary or distinguish them— only that seeing an advertisement in the papers of a new edition of James Logans translation of Cicero on Old age, which ascribes that work to Dr Franklin, I wrote to my friend Walsh about it, and he has corrected the mistake nearly in my words, with a notice of the work very gratifying to me

I am amused with Spences Anecdotes, and introduced by them to a great many characters, just seen as it were in passing, so that not much remains on my mind from it. It seems to be just such a Book as Dr Johnson conjectured People would at length get to write: all Anecdote, without the trouble of any explanation or connecting links. It amuses, but does not satisfy. It gives one a heap of confused Ideas, and no clear perception of any thing. But I

must qualify this, for I see Pope in a much more amiable light than I had heretofore considered him in.

14 I have passed Sixth day with but little pleasure. — from Maria's note yesterday, I expected them to dine but they came not, I did not get to meeting, one of my horses proving lame. George Fisher dined with us, and is a clever intelligent Boy. I love him for his worthy Parents sake, and oh I thought of the deep interest felt for his welfare by his courteously amiable and most affectionate mother; now released from all the cares and vicissitudes of this sinful but transitory world. — Who, that has hopes that Death would prove a Door to a happier State, would shrink from his approach? my mind has been full of such reflections.

15 Second day was very snowy and stormy thro the day, but having first rained, did not continue much on the ground nor was it exceedingly cold, tho a very wintery scene from the Snow adhering to the branches of trees and shrubs and powdering the evergreens. Alger: dined at home and spent the day in seclusion. I had a few lines from my friend Walsh in the evening, in return for mine about Cicero.

16 On 3d Day I was indolent in the morning as well as yesterday's, not being up till near 9 oclock, the Servants constantly lie in bed if I do and consequently all the business of the family is late. I spent the day in transcribing, very well satisfied to be alone for Al: went to town to dinner. I sent down to Somerville to enquire after them and had a message in return for my note that Maria was sick in bed with a violent

tooth ache and swelled face, Becky Embree staid all night with her. — I was sorry to hear of her sufferings and indisposition, but rejoiced it was not from a worse cause, as fever or any other complaint. In the evening abundance of thoughts crowded me some of which were sufficiently troublesome, and I had not unbroken repose. — It is wearisome to be always repeating my Griefs — but tho' I am silent they are not less felt. It continued to snow all day at times and was cloudy and raw but not very cold.

17 4th Day. I was sooner up and saw the moon in the West and the dancing radience of Venus in the East, when I opened the shutters in either direction. and the wintery scene caused me to think that to the Inhabitants of countries where such Images occur, calling on the Boy to brush down the Icicles and sweep the Snow from the Door, it is as natural, and may be for ought I know, as poetical an occurrence, as tending Sheep and gathering flowers, in Theocritus. — however that may be, the northern Poets have consecrated the clean hearth and its social comforts to their own art, and I do not recollect any passage that brings so vivid ideas of a social party, more true and excellent than Cowpers description of a winters evenings tea drinking, in the 'Task', even to wheeling round the Sopha, and letting down the window Curtains. — yet it is poetical..

After dinner C. F and C. Fox came to see Algernoon and staid to Coffee with him, afterwards I withdrew to my own room and they staid till 9. I sent down to enquire after Marias, fearing to injure my horse by using him too soon, and by a line writ with a Pencil by Cousin Sally, heard she was still in a very suffering State.

It is in vain to write down my cogitations, but if I were to do it, unavailing regrets, inexpressible tenderness, and hope, defined, beyond the present scene, would make up the Sum of them. I have often to resort to outward objects to calm my mind and furnish me with some degree of pleasure and this was one of the most glorious nights I ever saw, a full moon and very clear Atmosphere with snow on the ground reflecting the radiance. and of an equal brightness was 5th day morning the 18th. After some domestic Business which occupied the early hours. Polly Roberts paid me a visit, and tho' a poor demented Woman is so innocent and full of good and friendly feeling, that I can but make her welcome and treat her kindly; I had something for her to eat and drink, and she sat talking 'till Charles Norris came, when she went up to Sammy Johnsons in Germantown. Charles staid tea and an hour or two afterwards very agreeably. I sent down to enquire after poor Maria, and had the satisfaction to learn that she was something better. in the evening I had abundance of Newspapers, and a letter from Sarah Walker to read. The former not very entertaining.— the Game seems up for the present in Spain— But I trust, only for the present. For the cheering Light which has dawned upon mankind will not suffer such Cimmerian Lanthorns as the Autocrats, 'the Sceptred Selerats' of Europe, long to enforce their Privilege of alone enlightning the Globe.—— and I fear a period of long and bloody Warfare must be expected.

19 Sixth day passed without much to notice. no company— a kind note in answer to my enquiries informed me Maria was better. It rained very hard in the morning with a warm South-west wind, then it cleared up, the wind high

at N.W. but not cold as I had expected, then clouds as if the weather was unsettled and so thro' the evening. We had Governour Shulze's Flapping and Crowing Address on his Inauguration, in the Paper of to day.— We shall see how he will proceed— I take him to be very weak— but it is by no means certain that men of good abilities will always make good Governours, they can be the more mischievous: Yet I should wish a man to be at the head of the State, competent to the Situation, and one that we should not deprecate an accomplished foreigner's conversing with.

20 Seventh day morning was spent in domestic affairs— after Dinner Henry Davis came, and I believe has taken the Lower place of me— Algernoon has behaved extremely well upon this occasion, but the subject has troubled me for months.

Afterwards my friend the Antiquary came, Dr. Frank tea and spent part of the evening here. He read me the extracts which he had made from Letters lent him by James P. Parke from Wm. Penn to Jas. Harrison Great, Great, Great Grandfather of J.P. Parke, relating to the building and improvement of Pennsbury in 1683. odd.— To which place if I live until next Summer I certainly intend to make a Pilgrimage:— happy if I can recognise any traces of what was in his time.

21 First day I was at meeting, and not without a sense of good tho' a poor sorrowful and sinful creature. and often thro the day did the idea of my lost beloved pass thro' my mind, reviving the kindest and tenderest affection. George Fisher and his interesting little Schoolfellow Bolivar dined with me, and wishing to go in the afternoon to Somerville, I proposed their accompanying me which they cheerfully agreed to

and we had a pleasant ride and visit, my dear Albanus was not at home and Maria up stairs, but the Children enjoyed themselves with Books of Prints &c. and I tried when alone with the boys to talk on subjects that would awaken an interest in their minds to science, and benefit them. after they had left me, I read in the Bible till my Son returned from the city, and the family retired to rest. — my mind tho' inclined to think of the past with tender melancholy, was nevertheless in an affectionate and pleasant frame thro' the day. centered in God. and love to all my fellow Creatures. and ready to praise his great and glorious name for all his Benefits.

Decr 22 On Second-day my Beloved Algernon left home to go to Loganville, the Bustle and preparation for which took up part of the morning. after Dinner Henry Davis and Polly came and took the lower farm for which they are to pay me 450 Doll^s for the first year in quarterly payments. Amy too was here with some Accounts and promised me money the Beginning of next month. And afterwards John Wistar and his wife most obligingly and kindly, came to visit me and brought with them his venerable and truly respectable Aunt Susanna Mancarrow, now on a visit to them: — In our conversation old things and scenes were revived and brought back to our remembrance, and it was a time of very considerable enjoyment to me, and I hope to them; and much more so, I think, such meetings of a few, where conversation can be obtained and cherished, than the overgrown promiscuous Parties now in use. — they staid till pretty late in the evening. — It was very dark but I hope they got safe home.

On Third Day I was most of the day busily employd in preparing mince pies, and also wrote a letter in my Book: — the notice of Sir William Keith beginning at P. 133. Sir William was of the high Church and I dare say loved mince Pie, but yet I dare say would have been very indignant that any person concerned in the manufacture of them should ~~have~~ dared to heave attempted the smallest memoir of him for the information of Posterity. — all his cotemporaries ascribe excellent abilities to him, and yet how poor a one they proved, even to himself! — The union of abilities to good Principles seem absolutely necessary to render them useful to mankind, or even in the long-run to the Possessor. no Policy proving at last Beneficial, but the honest one.

It was one of the most rainy days this day that I have known for a long time, no cessation or intermission and now, on 4th Day morning at eight o'clock, it so dark that I can scarcely see to write this article. We have had an unusual number of dark Days before this Christmas. I think, —

Well, the day was chiefly spent in preparing good things for those who will come to partake of my little Hospitability. and before evening Hughey was despatched with a Basket of no small Dimension to the Somerville Children: small Bags of Raisins and nutts to be placd in the suspended Stocking by night; toys, Apples, Dough-nutts, and mince Pie — not forgetting old Molly Rose who wanted some yarn to knit for herself which Christ-child took care to provide for her. The coming of Hughey was hailed as an auspicious omen by the little ones, and their dear Mother sent me a kind note of thanks. and in the evening I rec^d a Letter from my dear Alg^n dated at Ringgold, his first days Journey.

Christmas Day. The weather had cleared up beautifully, the wind at N.W. but not very cold, and nothing could exceed the clear brilliance of the moon and Venus before the Dawn of this morning, with Saturn and Jupiter in the west, and when I first got up, the ~~Dog-star~~. — My little attendant Sally is so often called upon to survey these beauties that she now looks of her own accord, and this moment has come in to tell me that she saw a 'Star with a tail, over the Pear tree." I went out, and sure enough, beheld a Comet in the direction in which she pointed! I looked at it over and over 'till convinced there was no deception, and if I live and am well shall again look for it tomorrow morning. I wish I had a good Pen, pity it is that such a scribe, or Scribbler, should not be able to make them for herself.

Now it is evening, the last Resplendance is fading in the West of the Christmas Day of 1823. Spent as pleasantly as my present situation will allow: for my dear Brother passed it with me; — he came out alone and dined, and staid till after he had partaken of tea. We had much conversation of times past, and he seemed pleased, as I am sure I was. He had been lately at Harrington, and thought our venerable friend recollected him — but he does not now say much — his mind is gone. Susan Nancarrow told me that she had heard from her sisters in his neighbourhood, that being lately irritated at seeing his Carriage go out, he followed it without the family missing him, got over two fences, they knew not how, and cut his cloaths very much before his return to the House, where they persuaded him to enter, now distressing such a state from long protracted life, to such a man!

Amys little ones spent the day with Sally, and Anne asked leave to go to Charles's wedding this evening, I was surprised, as well I might be at this, for I did not suppose they were to be married before Spring — The former Husband of Sophia only dying last August! and he had never mentioned his intentions to Alge or myself. however I think he will repent of his precipitancy.

The old Castle is very slightly garrisoned this evening: — mary in town, anne and the Groom at the wedding — micky out on a Drunken bout, and Jacob somewhere on a visit — I have been out in the kitchen where there is only Susan, Sally, and Hugh. and I am alone in this great house with no other company than the mocking Bird, Paroquet, and Clio.

and now going from the present to the Past, and thinking how this day two years was spent, the Christmas before that, and this time nine years ago, opens the Door of recollection to a great many afflicting remembrances. — But it is in vain, for,

— I argue not
Against Heavens hand or will, nor bate a jot
Of heart or hope; but still bear up and steer
Right onward, —

Desiring and imploring the Protection of my Gracious God!

I have been out just now and think I never saw a grander display of the Glories over head than this evening afforded. The atmosphere was beautifully clear and disclosed a perfect view of Saturn, the Seven Stars, Orion and his attendant Gems, the Sparkling Sirius darting his prismatic rays, and the magnificent Jupiter with other countless orbs, sailing thro the blue expanse. — Surely, I thought,

"The Heavens Declare the Glory of God, and the Firmament sheweth forth his handy works."

26th. unfortunately overslept myself (a thing that happens so seldom!) for the observation of Sall's Comet, (first Discoverer being entitled to Posession according to Old Stingly ideas) The Moon and larger Planets remain Only visible; Charles's wedding keeping some out late and disturbing me the first part of the night (So here is human affairs having influence on Astral concerns,) and it will (if this is not to be again reversed,) for surely it would not be good to be married "when there is a Comet in the sky." as some Superstitious old Poke in King James's time, resolved not again to do a thing which had proved unfortunate, when that was the case. It has an influence perhaps here, for surely I express myself very badly this morning. — But Breakfast is ready, & so I leave this impertinence. Well, I thought it was monthly meeting day and I must go, so I had up the Carriage and proceeded up to Germantown where we found the meeting house gate shut, and the Friends Switched over to Frankford (I had forgot it was their turn, I don't like Ambulatory meetings) then I called at Mrs Langleys Shop to get some Articles I wanted. and came home, where I busied about a while, and my cloaths, which had been put on in a great haste to get to meeting in time, not suiting me, I put on a clean check apron and short Gown in order to feel more tidy, when Charley Fox came with Sis Reppele, — we dined together very pleasantly. and he then left us, but as the Door was in his his hand to go, Mrs Morris and Margarettas came to see us. — they staid tea, and afterwards Eliz and myself pap'd the

evening together very cheerfully. And now on Seventh day morning I have been up ever since four o'clock in order to try to get another sight of the comet, but a hazyness over that part of the Heavens, I fear will prevent my seeing it. Sall is up and trying to rouze the Sleepy maryanne, who deprecates such early doings.

I have been out again and have caught a glimpse of the Stranger, but not now, nor as well defined as I saw it on Christmas morning. ab 10 minutes before Six, we all saw it perfectly.

Col: Forrest, his Daughter Mrs Betton, & Grandson, Mrs Davy, and Elizabeth Morris all spent the evening here, for it would be so farce to call it an afternoons visit, they not coming untill after the Sun had set. — I was not in very good spirits myself, but did what I could, as in duty bound, to entertain my guests. When they went Elizabeth and myself read by turns in Franklins Life. The period of his first coming to Philadelphia being that to which I have arrived in my Book of Selections from the Letters and Papers in our posession, and by its coincidences has entertained me much. I think I see Sir William Keith and Colonel French, 'gaily decked,' coming over the Street to old Keimers shop to speak to the Young Printer, and taking him with them to the Tavern to taste some 'choice Madeira!' the circumstance of Captain Annis's yearly Voyages for the supply of merchandize — The Passage in his Vessel taken by Andrew Hamilton and given up at that time, on account of the proffer of a large fee, — and many other things are corroborated in the Letters, and did not fail to interest me — But Oh dear! the pains (and well bestowed too) which the Doctor took to improve himself in Style! — (in which I feel my miserable deficiencies,) would be well worthy the attention of the young aspirant.

First day I was at meeting, but my mind was dense and not of that state in which I wish it to be. all four of my Grand children with my dear Albanus and Maria and Tom Fisher dined here; and in the afternoon, Charles and Sally Logan and their two little ones came — and last, but never the least, Dr Betton. I was glad to be thus surrounded; and felt love and tender affection flow towards them. they all went away about nightfall, and Elizabeth and myself spent the evening in reading the Bible.

29th 12th mo. This morning I again saw the comet and more distinctly than any time before.

It was a beautiful day, rarely have I known at this season so delightful a temperature. In the afternoon Elizabeth and myself went down to Charles Norris's, his wife was not at home and so we did not stay; we had gone down the Turnpike and crossed over to Fairhill, the second street being much too bad to think of using for the purpose of a ride or visit. We returned about sunset to a clean hearth, snug fire, and comfortable dish of tea at home. and spent the evening in reading and working alternately, In the Papers and Dr Franklin's life.

30th Barbara came down for a day to do some work for me, and I was all the morning busily employed. after dinner ~~Elizabeth and myself~~ Elizabeth and myself passed the time happily in reading and work — and in looking over the account of my poor Debby's illness and Death, of which this season strongly reminds us. we embalmed her memory with tender recollections and tears. — Margaret Morris came down to tea and staid all night.

31st 12th mo. 1828. I ought this Day upon a solemn review of the Past to make good Resolutions — I have often made them before but have not kept to them. one year more has been added to my life, and I have experienced Great and unmerited mercies! — my allotment of late has also been to experience some Trials and to feel the pressure of many difficulties which formerly hurt me not. but I doubt not it is best for me to have these Trials, and to suffer from this pressure. — I am old, but it is never too late to amend, and when we so plainly perceive what is the consequence of certain rules of conduct, it is surely enough to make one tremble for the final consequences of adhering to folly, and resolve to pursue that only which will lead to Peace. Nothing very remarkable occurred to day but that the temperature was uncommonly mild for the time of year, and in the afternoon the Sun shone out with radiance and warmth. Cousin William and Sally Fisher and the two Girls drank tea and spent the evening with us. and the Day ended, and with it the year 1828.

1824.

The Day was spent without any thing very particular to notice;— the Girls are still with me, but no other company came, we had intended to go down to Somerville to tea, but rain came on and towards evening. was pretty hard. We read an account of the Transit of Venus in 1769 in the Philosophical Transactions, and some part of the Article Astronomy in the Encyclopedia, and afterwards the affair of "this dim Spot" in the newspapers. and much of our conversation was about my poor dear Debby, the time so near the anniversary of her Death, brings it vividly before me. I wrote also a Letter to Sarah Walker to day.

and now, if I should live till next New Years, I shall desire to turn to this time and answer to myself these few Queries.

1st whether I have made any improvement in the discharge of my most important Duties?

2d Whether my Debts are paid, and no new ones, but such as are quite unavoidable, contracted?

3d Whether desultory, negligent, and uncommendable habits are broken? and whether I endeavour to fulfil my engagements scrupulously, or not?

On 6th Day the 2d of the 11th and Year we went to drink tea at Mrs Morris's in Germantown: nobody but ourselves were there, and we paid a social friendly visit. it was very dark when we returned which made me resolve not to stay out till night again when it is like to be dark, as I certainly think at the time at least that it is hazardous;— but we got home very well. In the Night

my poor

little Sall who is my room-mate, had the tooth ache, and getting up in the night to procure her some relief, I was unable to settle myself to sleep again for a long time, and so I trespassed upon the morning.

We have had cloudy, dull, but not very cold weather for some days past.

7th day brought its usual cares, but finished, and dinner likewise over, I went with my two Aunts, down to Somerville where we were kindly received and paid a very agreeable visit, but I soon found from the pallid looks of dear little Dickinson that he had been again sick:— in fact he had had chills and fever attended also by a pretty severe convulsion. It happened about the middle of the week (~~illegible~~) my dear Albanus came home to tea and was kind and seemed glad to see us. We were out until between 7 and 8 but it was star light and we got safe home.

First day 4th anniversary of my poor dear Debby's death directly after meeting, which we attended. I rec'd. a note sent purposely by my Brother informing me of the severe illness of our old friend Polly Welch; tho' I expected such intelligence from her infirmities, yet nevertheless it affected me; for one after another of my early acquaintances have thus passed away, and she is almost the last! but for herself I believe the change would be happy, for her walk has been for a long time over the 'Broken arches' of the Bridge of Life, and there is nothing here to look for, but griefs and sorrows.

George Fisher dined here, and the afternoon

Poor Riego has been cruelly put to death in Spain.— But his name will be henceforth inscribed in the Rolls of Fame among Patriots and Hero's who have shed their Blood for their Country

and evening were spent not unprofitably in reading aloud. I had not a good night— a vast load of care and difficulties oppressing me, and preventing sleep.

Second Day was remarkable for being of a temperature more like may than January. the buds are swelled, the Honeysuckles quite out, and the frogs have let their voice be heard: in short it seems the Indian Summer transferred to the expending Sun. We had company in the afternoon; Coleman Fisher brought his Sister Elizabeth, Catherine Ireppele, and my charming niece Hannah Norris to see us, Charles Fox and Charles Norris also came, and the young people seemed to enjoy themselves very much— We had been engaged to drink tea at Dr. Bettons, but sent an excuse upon our company's arrival. There is no frost in the Ground now. ☆

Third Day 6th (anniv: of my poor Girls funeral,) but very different weather, for it rained and was quite warm for January. We had some reading in the morning and again after Dinner— but the arrival of my dear Algernoon put a stop to it; and chat, and mutual relations of occurrences and news succeeded. The weather cleared up in the evening with the Westerly breeze but not very cold, and the morning of the 7th was unclouded. I looked for the Comet as soon as I was up, but whether the Dawn had too far advanced or it had receded too far from our Hemisphere I know not, but I could not find it.

4th day 7th a very fine day followed the rain. I expected Cousin Sally out to Dinner, but She did not come. Margaret Morris went home in the morning. Sally Johnson

☆ The Thermometer at Jn: Johnsons in the open air at Sunrise stood at 69.

her daughter Elizabeth and a new England Lady the wife of Walter Johnson, Dranks tea with us. and spent part of the evening very agreeably. her husband also came.

On the morning of the 8th I again saw the Comet but much higher advanced and more to the N. of when I first saw it. The day passed as usual, Elizabeth and myself dined alone, she read to me in Dr Franklins life. The weather continued very fine and moderate. Maria and the Girls called for us to go to Dr Bettons where we Drank tea and spent the evenf. with a few of the neighbours, Reuben and Ann Haines, and Elizabeth and Margaretta Morris. The Doctor is an amiable Gentleman as well as one of the best of men, and his attentions to his Guests are always such as to delight and gratify every one.

On the 9th in the morning Cousin S. N. Dickinson and Reb. Embree came to spend the day with us — I was glad to see them for it a long time since they have been here. We were desirous of making the visit pleasant to them also, but know not whether we succeeded. Cousin would not stay to tea, and after she was gone we went over to Wakefield where Elizabeth much wished to visit before she left me. We paid a pleasant visit, but had to give their Coachman the trouble of driving us home, Stughey going off with himself and not re-appearing at the time we wanted to go, nor long after that we waited for him. Tom politely rode home with us, and my Gruff Colonel Gentleman received us at the door in rather a discourteous manner

because of the aid which we had found. however all Etiquette was at length got over — but I was provoked at his serving us so! he had gone over for us just as we had left Wakefield.

Seventh Day the 10th 1st m.

It rained all day with warm damp south west wind, what seems unhealthy weather and makes us uneasy thro' fear. We spent the day without any company. I had Domestic affairs in the morning to claim my attention and Elizabeth kindly read to me afterwards in Dr Franklin's correspondence.

First day 11th 1st m. 24. I was up very soon, but had no chance of seeing if the Article was in yet or earnest that told us of another Comet. it was very dark and cloudy. my mind when alone sinks sometimes under the oppression which covers it. and it is the case this morning. I feel very weak, helpless and miserable. and if I were any way fit for my change, would rejoice to leave all here below. but I know I am not prepared, and I have, (as Col: Forrest said the other day of old Timothy Matlack) "the consciousness of misspent time hanging over me," with many omissions and many commissions of what the 'warning voice' forbid, which I sincerely lament, as well as mistakes and evils to deplore. — But endeavouring to fortify my mind with good resolutions, and desiring to attain some composure from a sense of the mercies and Goodness of God I am encouraged to have a little hope — yet hardly able to keep the Presentiment of Evil down.

It proved bad weather throughout the day, we did not go out to meeting and dined alone, that is Elizabeth, Algernoon and myself — I had a source of bitter and uneasiness to muse on

by myself

THE COMET.

The following observations (copied from the Boston Daily Advertiser of Thursday last) are said to be from Professor Farrar of Cambridge University:—

On account of the cloudy weather there have been only a few opportunities of observing the Comet. On the morning of the 4th. inst. it was seen in the constellation, Hercules, about midway between the stars *beta* and *delta*, distant from Arcturus 36° 52. It has not been in Serpentarius as stated in several of the accounts given in the newspapers. Its apparent course has been from the left to the right arm of Hercules. The following distances were taken with a sextant, between five and half past 5 o'clock, this morning—namely, from Arcturus, 34° 40, from Benetnash, 43° 14, and from Gamma, 16° 07; from which the place of the comet for this time will be found to be in declination 23° 58, or in the tropic of Cancer, and right ascension 249° nearly. It rises a little after two o'clock in the morning, and sets a little after sundown. Its apparent course being westerly, it will continue to rise earlier and earlier, and will be visible for a longer time each day, before it is lost in the twilight. It is about as conspicuous as the comet of 1819, or Encke's, and it it sends out a faint luminous train, that may be traced in a clear atmosphere through an arc of 6 or 7 degrees.

Every new phenomenon in the Heavens, reminds us of our entire want of the necessary apparatus for a proper course of observations.—There is scarcely a corner in Europe unprovided with a building and instruments, and persons set apart for purposes of this kind. No less than one hundred and thirty observatories, most of which are costly and well furnished, attest the interest that is felt for astronomy in that quarter of the globe, whilst not one is to be found throughout the whole American continent.

Cambridge, Jan. 7.

v from enjoying what I otherwise might of comfort.
d to my mind very closely.

Second Day 12th. 1 mo 1824.

When I was first up I went
Comet and still saw it, but much more elevated
than it was, and no appearance of another one, as
(It seems to me to be in the constellation Hercules)
bor told us. Superstition here, respecting the Portent
much weakened, but I dare say in many places
e human mind, and the actual state of the world
of wars and tribulence to smother the Germ of
nake the sight of two at one time seem extremely
thing of this State of things; our President never enjoyed
city as he does now from the secluded home of his
pecting the views of the combined Scelerates of Europe.
yet I hope we shall not be involved in a War. after Breakfast Elizabeth Reppele took her leave, wishing now to go home; Algernoon walked on her to town in the Carriage and returned to dinner, when he met McCall and C. Fox here who dined with us, after their departure he went to Branch town to meet the overseers of the Poor of whom he is one. and I was left to seek my own entertainment, and it is certainly no small happiness to me that I can bear being alone— nay that I prefer to be so.

3d Day. Alger dined with me, otherwise alone all day, with a good deal of reading that I like— but I have ever read in a most desultory manner.—— The Weather keeps extremely mild, more like April than January. I began to notice the return of the sun as a little lengthening the days, this evening. Algernoon spent it with me.

4th Day 14. 1. mo 24.

The weather this morning was mild with a little rain: but it soon gave indications of clearing, for the horizon to the N.W. was bright the clouds flying before the wind which rose by degrees to a great height and about one oclock was scarcely to be faced, it brought with it a squall of snow, which it did not suffer to lie on the ground; and it became so cold that it froze in all directions. my Son had four of his friends to dine with him to day.— I think nothing very new was reported. In the evening the moon shone with the purest radience, and about 7. Jupiter appeared so near her that it looked as if an occultation might be expected, but they varied their course a little afterwards.— Some such aspect must have presented to Lord Byrons view in his fine description of an evening in Italy:——

"The Moon is up and yet it is not night.
—— A single Star is at her side, and reigns
With her o'er half the lovely heavens."

I quote from memory, and perhaps am not correct.

5th Day 15th.

The day was beautiful and not very cold. after we had dined Algernoon went to town being engaged this evening to a Supper Party at his Cousin Debby Browns, no company was here to day, only my poor good Sammy got up to see us. I had him into the Parlour and heard his account of the difficulties of getting along in humble life in the great city, and sorry I had but a little mite to bestow, that however was given with good will— In the evening I occupied myself in writing.

On Monday,
The 12th. of January next, at half past 6 o'clock in the evening, at the Merchants' Coffee House,
All that Messuage or Tenement and Lot or piece of Ground situate on the east side of Second street from Delaware, between Market and South streets, in the city of Philadelphia; containing in breadth, north and south, fifteen feet one inch, and in length or depth, east and west

which prevented me from enjoying what I otherwise might of comfort. and which adhered to my mind very closely.

Second Day 12th. 1st mo 1824.

When I was first up I went to look after the Comet and still saw it, but much more elevated in the heavens than it was, and no appearance of another one, as the new York Editor told us. It seems to me to be in the constellation Hercules Superstition here, respecting the Portents of these bodies is much weakened, but I dare say in many places still agitates the human mind, and the actual state of the world with the prospect of war and tumult to smother the Germ of Liberty, would make the sight of two at one time seem extremely ominous.—— thinking of this State of things; our President never enjoyed so much popularity as he does now from the decided tone of his last message respecting the views of the combined Sceleratos of Europe, yet I hope we shall not be involved in a War. after Breakfast Elizabeth Reppele took her leave, wishing now to go home; Algernoon walked on her to town in the Carriage and returned to dinner, when he met McCall and C. Fox here who dined with us, after their departure he went to Branch town to meet the overseers of the Poor of whom he is one. and I was left to seek my own entertainment, and it is certainly no small happiness to me that I can bear being alone— nay that I prefer to be so.

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I was occupied in preparation to go to town on 6th day morning and the Horses were put to, when a Dearborne arrived at the Door and out of it trip'd Sarah Walker! She had for her companions Hannah Drinker a Great Great Grandaughter of James Logan, and a little daughter of Dr Rose's. They were bound to the city, the Girls impatient to join their friends, and Sarah intending to bear her Father company to see her Uncle Miller before she commenced her visit to me; but I had the Table spread and some refreshments for them whilst they staid, and when they proceeded to town, I went also, taking Sarah with me in the Carriage, — we stopped a few minutes at Cousin Sallys, then I took the dear child to her Uncles, and took leave of her for a short time, not thinking they would get back to Stenton to night as she seemed to promise herself. I then went, with my little maid in attendance, to Shops, and returning to Cousin Frank tea, my dear Maria and the Children being in town, but Gustavus went home to his Papa in the afternoon, this Child had a Chill and fever yesterday. — I fear greatly for their Constitution, for this State of things seems to warrant extraordinary care, and they are debarred from going out in consequence. But I think exercise and the open air would do more to cure them than Drugs. We got home about 4. There was an Eclipse of the moon this morng. which I had forgot, and seeing her near setting with a partial obscuration, thought, as I saw her thro' the trees, that a branch intercepted her rotundity.

17th of Jan.y 4th Day A fine morning and only moderately cold. Occupations of the usual kind employed me in the morning and in the afternoon I received a pleasant little visit from Elizabeth and Susan Morris and George Fisher. The

Girls apprised me that they had heard from several persons, tho' they had not seen it themselves, that there was another Comet visible at this time and directed me where to look for it. I was up accordingly on first day morning at a very early hour to look for it, but the Sky which had been as clear as a Bell in the evening was now all overcast, so I went to Bed again. — The report of this Second Celestial visitant had made the People uneasy, and their being able to see the Planet Venus near the meridian, occasioned the most foolish imaginations, supposing it the Comet hastening to the sun; in the city Groups of gazers where to be seen looking up in all directions, and one poor fellow had his Watch switched out whilst attending to the pointing of the thief; some of our neighbours in Nice town made observations thro' Prisms Spyglass. and thought they saw the Comet in the Sun itself.

First Day the 18th. I was at meeting but was very dull and heavy and had not a pleasant day for this feeling continued throughout. Afternoon dined at home, and in the afternoon was an appointed meeting by George Hatton, a friend from Tennessee. I did not go but sent my Girls, who reported that it was a large meeting and he spoke well. — Charles Logan came from in here and drank tea. The Day was mild and rather damp and cloudy.

Seconday I got up opened my windows and made my fire without knowing what time it was for my clock had run down, but when I got up stairs to call my household I found it was but three oclock so I left them to their repose but

dressed myself and am now seated in the Dining room.

I had fine time for writing, reading, and reflection but it was almost too soon for I felt weary and sleepy before I got my breakfast, but some old Mocha Coffee set me up again. The Weather had altered to very raw and it snowed almost all the morning, without however, much to show for it. My poor little Sall had a chill and fever again to day. and was confined to bed. We had no company. It cleared up towards evening, wind N.W. very cold.

20th: 3d. day out in the morning pretty early but saw nothing of the Comet: I was engaged in my usual occupations all day without any thing very agreeable except my sons company, no other person here except Jackson with Goods to sell, and old Richard Childs to worry and heize me to pay an unjust trumpid up account. It kept cold all day.

21st: 4th day up before day and perceived that the Weather had moderated, cloudy and like for snow. It proved a very changeable day, but the Sun descended gloriously beneath a flame colored cloud. The wind was high and it became dark and spits of snow fell. Alger: was at home all kindly endeavouring to serve me in getting a reference with that unreasonable old man who was here yesterday. I suffered to day with a bad pain in my face, and had but an uncomfortable night. So that I got up on 5th day in hope of gaining more ease. But it proved a day of great bodily sufferings to me. I was alone, and hoped to have seen some one from Somerville or Wakefield, but nobody came. The Weather was delightfully clear, but cold. In the afternoon in a state of severe pain alone in 'Papa's Parlour'. I could

22d.

but reflect on other times, and the kind affectionate one I have lost.— my poor Debby too.— but I must not murmur at the appointments of Divine Providence in her removal, tho' I am sadly left at this time to myself. I had rather have solitude than much company, but a state of pain and anguish is sometimes alleviated by the company of a kind friend.

23d: I was better of the pain but had a sick headache. It was our monthly meeting at Germantown and dear Hannah Smith who was at it came down here. She positively refused to have Dinner saying she could not eat if it was before her. So I ordered tea, of which she scarcely partook, and before it was ready my Son Albanus came in, afterwards Mrs Morris and Margaretta from Germantown; the latter told me she had really seen the other Comet now visible, distinctly a few evenings ago, it is in the N.E. and within the circle of perpetual vision, near the Stars of Ursa major.

24th. Was as fine a day as ever followed in the train of January, the temperature being what we may imagine of Winter divested of every rigour in the most favoured climates. The Birds chirruped: and as a proof of the mildness of the season I have seen bushes and Honeysuckles in the open air that have budded.

I had the company of my Son at breakfast and Dinner, in the afternoon he went to town ~~to dine at home~~ to accept of an invitation to supper at Charles Whartons for ye Clapiers and their fair Guest Miss de Pau from new York. He told me of Cole: Fishers trouble in having his valuable old Coachman knock'd down and nearly deprived of life by a Drayman

blow from an insolent negro man belonging to Nich. Biddle, whom they immediately seized and Committed to goal. this incident has given Coleman great uneasiness.

We had no company on this pleasant day; and in the evening a little after 7 I saw the Second Comet myself: it was some degrees to the East of the North Star and rather more than midway between that Star and the horizon, the tail pretty long and darting straight towards the East. It was obscure but still I saw it plainly so as to leave no doubt on my mind; and as far as my information goes (which is indeed but very small) it is unprecedented to have two seen in the heavens at the same time, which was the case when this first appeared.

I have to record a mercy which I rec'd. to day, tho' I care not to specify the thing.— I desire to be humbly thankful, and receive it as a favour.

25th. I had a great deal of trouble (minor trouble) this morning to get a fire made, every spark in the house, and the night Lamp also, having gone out. In the kitchen where I had to go, I succeeded in lighting a Candle but the wind blew it out before I got into the entry, I then went back into the Kitchen but the Spark from which it was elicited had set in darkness, and after trying to recover it for some time in vain, I had to call up Bob to go down to Plaws for fire.— he proved a very Snailfoot in the errand and whilst I sat shivering, I thought of the poor man, the

¶ margaret Morris, her mother and Sister, Charles J. Wister and many other person beheld the two Comet's at the same time in the northern quarter of the Heavens.

Husband of one of my Spinners who died without a Coat in order to let his Children have something to cloath them.— Indian Mary who had kindly brought home the Woman's Yarn last night, told this circumstance, but I did not hear it till after she was gone, and was uneasy after I did hear it on account of their sufferings, tho' I sent her more money than she had earned and a small matter of tea and Sugar and rice for her sick husband: but I believe I must do something else to day, from what I felt this morning for them.

Though last evening was so brilliant, it proved a very stormy morning, so that considering my muffled face, I did not go to meeting, it pretty soon began to rain, and with a tempestuous wind has froze as it reached the ground, very uncomfortable and wintery indeed:— totally unlike yesterday, when the front Door was thrown open to admit the warm and refreshing beams of the afternoon's Sun, in which the Plants were all placed.

In looking over some Old Books I find that in 1664 two Comets appeared, the one in December the other in march following, which was noted as an extraordinary thing; perhaps these we now see are the same returning after a period of so many years, the course of one having been retarded or of the other accelerated a few months, from some of those causes which are supposed to produce such effects. I am sensible that from my ignorance, I may write great nonsense when I write on such subject— and that if my Science was as great as my curiosity, the case would be otherwise.— I also found in one of Jacob Taylors

almanacks, for 1742. (which by the way were quite entertaining) that as the Planets Jupiter and Saturn in the course of their Revolutions round the Sun, in 20 years, Saturn having gone about 2 third parts of his circuit, and Jupiter one entire circuit and 2. 3rds of another, it follows that they meet together in something less than twenty years, and one of these vicennial meetings took place on the 28th of August 1742 when they appeared to be only about half a degree seperate upon their Rising. the fixed Star Regulus, or the Lions Heart, being two degrees and a half above the Planets.

and in the next month Sepr. He tells us that Saturn, Jupiter mars, and Venus, all crowned the mornings with their Splendours, on the 7 of that month Venus rose about half a degree from the Lions heart; on the 11th. less than half a degree from Saturn, and on the 12th. Jupiter and Venus rose so near that they seemed almost to touch each other. — Quere When may we expect to see such rare aspects? was not something like it the case a year or two ago? But no one deigns now a days to instruct the ignorant in such speculations.

25th. There is a tempest of wind and Rain now raging, and so it has been throughout the day. I have been entirely alone, and since Candle light have convened the female part of the family into the dining Room and have read to them the history of Joseph in the Book of Genesis. a most beautiful story, abounding in strokes of Pathos that touch the Heart! I heard a great and wise man once say that he could never read it without tears; and such has always been its effect upon myself.

It is now ¼ past Seven, and the Storm is tremendous. It blows with Great violence indeed! and with such a Stygian darkness that my mind quails with fear when I think of the probable fate of many a poor mariner on the coast to night. — the Rain too drives in at every crevice, and it is altogether quite aweful.

26th. When I got up in the morning it still continued to rain and blow, but as the wind seems shifted to the N. I hope it will clear up. in this room (the S. E.) protected from the N. E. by the Kitchen Buildings, we do not hear so much of the storm but in my Room it was terrible, — The morning continued bad, towards noon it snowed very fast, but none remained. It cleared up the latter part of the afternoon and was by no means as cold as I had expected.

A little Reading, a little writing, a little Sewing, a little domestic employment, and so passed the Day. The Garrison is uncommonly small in the Castle, only 5 efficients on duty; for the spirited mary is away — the Grunting Susan is sick — and micky is drunk in Bed. — Algernoon came home at Bed time.

27th. The Sun has shone thro' the day and the temperature has been quite pleasant for the Season. — not much else to remark of any thing, for it was not (as I know) distinguished by any event, and as to the feeling of my mind, not very agreeable. We had a Reference of the disputed account with old Richard Child in which it appears I am like to be treated with the basest ingratitude for all my kindnesses to Patty, and cheated out of my money to Boot.

28th Was also a pleasant day. I had the company of my dear Albanus, Maria, Elizabeth and Dickinson in the afternoon the little fellow finely recovered and looking quite well, — if he does but continue. It was a pleasure to me to have them, [illegible]

29th. I had some Domestic avocations — and vexations — that occupied me pretty much of the day, which was of the fine temperate feeling of Spring: the Green house was opened throughout, and the Birds sung, especially the Blue Bird, as if 'the Winter was over and gone'. but tho' this doubtless will change, yet the lengthening days and the approach of Spring will disarm the storm of its gloom, I hope. — We have no Ice yet.

Dr. Amy was over in the afternoon — in great trouble. Poor Sis. has broke out with the Variola Disease; and a kind boy who has been sick for several days, with the natural small Pox! The Doctor immediately Vaccinated little George in both his arms. and I directed Polly Shaw to take up her infant directly to the Dr. for the same purpose. Which was accordingly done. I looked for Sarah Walker this evening but she came not. — All day alone — but if this was my greatest trouble, it would be nothing — I love to be alone. We looked in vain for the Comet this evening.

30th. It was cloudy and like for approaching falling Weather. I was at meeting where William Fisher spoke; — very sound doctrine, and urged with affectionate solicitude, but an unpleasant delivery and a defect in his voice. He went to Dine at Wakefield. many things in his discourse seemed aimed against some of the strange & very free opinions which have been prevalent of late with some.

After Dinner I went down to Somerville and thereby missed of a visit from Cousin H. Smith, her nephew Joshua Fisher a very promising fine young man of 17. now pursuing his Studies with an excellent character at Cambridge, Nancy Worral and George Fisher. — not meeting me at home they called at Somerville where they staid to tea, and by the time that was over it was near Dark, they went immediately, but Hughey made out to be so much longer that no trace of Day light remaining we had a disagreable ride home. Maria expects Cousin Sally up to morrow with Phebe Bradford and Sarah Walker who expects to meet me there.

It snowed in the night but was so warm it melted on the Pavement & about the House.

31st: To day will conclude the month. — the most pleasant January as to weather that I remember, indeed it has been much more like the approach of Spring than the middle of Winter. and one more instance of the folly of our anticipations. for I never dreaded Winter before on account of the cold to my own feelings. and the most formidable month has gone by without any part of severity. — So it is probable will be the reverse of the Scene when the Delights of Spring will be looked for, often in vain

It is best to take things as they come and enjoy when we can.

and we spent the evening pleasantly enough in conversation. This has been decidedly the coldest day of the Season, succeeded by a night of surpassing brilliancy. Thermom.r at 11. Got in Ice

3.d 2.d m.o It clouded over, and was a cold disagreeable day, and not productive of any great satisfaction to me, my little Great niece from wakefield, and Elizabeth Wilson paid us a visit in the afternoon and evening. It snowed and stormed towards night, but on the morning of 4.e 4.th it thawed and the air was moist & warm

4.th 2.d

Nothing very agreeable, except Sarahs company. Joseph Faulkner came down from Logansville, and knocked us up in the night. the weather comparatively mild but grew cold towards night. I concluded not to go to the Quarterly meeting tomorrow. we were alone thro' the day. It became extremely cold on 5.th day morning, which was however clear, the Ther.r down at 9.o as Sarah L. F. who was over

5.th day here with little Sally Smith, told me. We had a very acceptable visit from Dr Betton in the afternoon, but he w.d not stay tea, just as we were going to partake of that meal Enoch Walker came, he had been at Quarterly meeting, and gave us an account of it. I was made uneasy to day by my little Mary's being quite sick: a very heavy cold caught in her last jaunt to town by leaving off her warm home cloathing. and walking both in and out. I beleive we now have the 'Tug' of Winter for it is extreme cold.

6.th day I was up at three oclock in the morning, to "Speed the going Guests," for both friend Walker and Joseph Faulkner wanted to be 'off early.' We Breakfasted long before the Dawn, and they were

¶ S. Johnson says their Therm.r was at 4. on this Day.

'at Liberty to pursue their Prospects', as Friends say when they give Certificates to travelling friends. The rest of the Day was queer I think: in the first part we had a good deal to do, for Mary, who was very sick and had to be moved into another Room where was a fire place, for it was cold as Spitsbergen or Zembla. then the men who were finishing getting ice, and would have Whisky. made Jacob, who is naturally sober, a little tipsy. and the affair ended in Hughey having his Head broke, and bewailing the mishap with tears, whilst Susan bound it up. We had a supply of Books thro' the politeness of Walter Johnson who sent us 'Tudors Life of Otis'. 'A New England Tale' by miss Sedgwick and a Portion of the daily Bread of literature in a N.o of the N. A. Review, from what I have seen of this work, I think it well conducted, and would subscribe for it, if my embarrassments did not urge me to avoid encreasing my expences in any shape.

7.th 7.th 2.d The morning was whiled away with old Richard Childs, who has played a cheating game for his 40 dollars. He gave my good friend Peter Robeson the trouble of coming over with him to see it settled, which was at last effected after many hems and haw's. P. R. staid dinner. Billy Fisher came to see us for half an hour in the afternoon. Sarah read to me in the evening. Mary still confined to Bed, and the weather much moderated for it was quite a delightful day.

8.th 1.st day. We have a complete exemplification of the growling of a Bear with a sore Head in Hughey who would not get up, and I am afraid does not intend to take me to meeting this morning. It rained in the night and is damp and thawing. or rather no frost at all.

1 day 8th 2d mo. 1824. was spent at home, Hughey not caring to go out with his brother Pate, which I washed and dressed for him, and which relieved him. — Little George Fisher dined with us. Nothing in winter ever exceeded the beauty of the weather to day.

9th And it continued on this day which was our wash, the cloaths drying by the heat of the sun without much wind, as in summer, I am fearful for all this, for the Buds begin to come out in warm situations, and will most certainly be hereafter nipped by the lagging rear of winters frost! We were without company to day and tho' pretty well in health I was almost overdone before night with various exertions and a bad weakness in my back which almost crippled me. Mary is still in bed. The Boy over an Charles Heath convalescent from the small pox, which I hope will not spread further. The Vaccination took finely with little George. What a Blessing it is!

Halo round the Sun about noon

10th 2d. This morning there was a dense fog, which went up with an appearance of rain, and quite warm for the season. Jos: Smith, the nephew of my poor Polly Welsh, came to me for his Aunts Papers which I gave to him, viz.t her Will, and the Certificates of two Shares in the Bank of Penn.a 3 in the Farmers and Mechanic's Bank, and one in that of Philad.a the product of her Industry and care. — I was grieved with the description of her sufferings, and believe from what he told me, that even on the 'broken Arches' she was forced upon a 'Pikfall' by the folly of a young Physician. Her character was truly honest and affectionate. and she shall always have a place in my kind and tender remembrance.

In the afternoon we had a short visit from Sally Johnson and her daughter anne, and expected some company from town, but the likelihood of rain prevented, nothing of moment occured. towards night it began to rain

11th very warm and damp, the walls ran with water. We had an invitation to Hannah Fox's funeral, she died yesterday and is to be interred tomorrow afternoon, — after a long spell of weakness and suffering. She was an inoffensive, kind hearted woman. I should suppose at least 70 years of age. (She was 74.)

my mary is better to day.

The weather continued extremely unpleasant, the wind from S. W. blew a perfect hurricane towards evening, the House shook with it, and I feared for the Hemlocks before the Door, which have now withstood the Storms of very near a century. It rained in the night. Tom Fisher came and Frank tea with us and spent a couple of hours pleasantly.

12th 2d. after the despatch of some domestic affairs we went to Philad.a calling first at Somerville, where we found them middling, the little Boy having had a Chill yesterday, and maria looking thin from the pain in her face — she would have however, have gone to town with us, if her Husband had not remonstrated. We paied to a few shops and then went to dine at Cousin Sallys. We went to the funeral in the afternoon, which was large, respectable, and most quietly ordered. I saw my dear Brother at a distance, and his kind heart appeared much affected at the Grave. Sarah and myself afterwards drank tea at Cousin Sallys, and came home by beautiful moonlight

13th 2d. Old Candlemas Day, by which our ancestors used to reckon what kind of a Spring we were to expect, and by which they divided

the

the Winter. According to their rule we are to have bad weather now and better afterwards. Algernon came home to Dinner and in the afternoon we had a good Deal of company: Margt and Susan Morris from Germantown, and E. Steppele, Mary Read, Elizabeth Fisher, her Brother Coleman, Wilm McCall, Willm Chancellor and Thomas Cadwalader the Young people appeared very lively and staid till pretty late in the evening. I heard to Day that my niece Eliz.h Sergeant was confined with another Daughter, and that Dorothea Morris has another Son, which they have very properly called Joseph Parker. my Parents have now 39 living Descendants.

14.th A cloudy Day, cold and raw, threatning a storm. Algernon went to town. Sarah at 4 oclock to Reuben Haines's, intending to stay all night at Morris's. and I spent the evening alone Satisfactorily, and had the comfort to Dream of my ever loved husband. upon waking on First Day morning I found a heavy storm raging from
15. the N. E. It was so bad that I could not go to meeting where I proposed to meet Sarah and Margaret Morris, and has held on with a hurricane of Wind and ceaseless Rain throughout the Day so that no apology is needed for not sending for my Dear Girl, indeed on the contrary, one would be necessary for offering to do so. The meadow, which I see from the Dining room Window, is quite flooded, and the ground seems quite Saturated with Wet. — I have passed notwithstanding, a very agreeable time with Books and writing, only a little interrupted by the fear of Accidents from the Wind, and the rain forcing its way into the house in unwonted places. It is now ½ past 4 Oclock and nearly Dark.

The Day wore away and at its Decline the storm abated, but it was still sullen with clouds, tho the winds were completely hushed, on Second Day morning the 16.th

16.th This Day has passed but so so, — I sent for Sarah and Margaretta in the morning, and they seemed pretty comfortable, but Domestic affairs (for it was one of those Days when every thing seems unlucky and other than it should) and some sad reflections, made my mind gloomy, however I tried to counteract it and seem cheerful — I read to the Girls and conversed as well as I could. nothing otherwise to note. "I have lost a Day."

17 We went to Philadelphia, that is Margaretta, Sarah and myself, with little Sall to be left to pay her mother a Days visit. We first went to Cousin Sallys where Becky Embree went with us to Raphael Peale's Painting room to see the fine Portrait which he has just finished of our Great Washington. It is a happy effort of his Pencil, and represents our Venerated Hero very much as he appeared in his later years, (especially after the Discussions upon the British Treaty, which it was well known was the subject of deep thought and care to him.) ——— After staying some time contemplating this Picture we went to my Brothers, where I found my Sister looking pale and poorly, and appearing sad and dejected from her late loss. We also went to see Eliza Sunis who was much affected. After which we (Sarah and myself) went to see our Dear Debby Brown where we dined, she also shewed us her elegant and well furnished House, and abundance of fine and beautiful things, which I have entirely outlived the admiration and relish for, and which go

no further to contents

me, than the Dream of a Splendid entertainment would satisfy the cravings of a hungry appetite; — and her good sense will (I suppose) in a little time leave them but the same sort of value with her. — yet there is good taste displayed in her furniture and arrangements. E Reppels. came likewise to dinner and M. Morris in the afternoon — but we did not stay tea, but got home in good time to that favourite refreshment.

Fourth Day was not remarkable for any thing very pleasant: 18th. by stooping quickly and incautiously, I brought on that strain in my back, of which a renewal is so painful. — We expected Molly Betton to tea, but she came not. — the Girls were reading the new novel, St Ronans. but did not appear to attain to any thing very interesting. what I heard as they read aloud seemed tiresome, of the conversations of the Company at the Well, Lady Penelope Pendleather Lady Binks and Sir Bingo: — the illusion is destroyed by the Quizzical names — and the Author comes Quite too fast and too much to give his medals a ~~the~~ value with Posterity.

19th. Fifth Day. By a Letter from Joseph Smith I was appriz'd that his mother was in town and wished us to come in to prove the Will of my poor deceased friend Polly Welsh, knowing that the disappointment would be great if I did not go, I went to town, tho extremely unfit from my lameness, taking the two Girls, my Guests, along with me. after a time of waiting we all met, and the Will was proved. I dined, and staid at Cousin Sally's, where Catharine, Maria, and the Children were, in the afternoon Wm Foster and his companion [illegible] us a short visit,

he wanted to enquire of me if there was any thing relative to the early History of Friends in the correspondence of William Penn other than the Papers in Proud's Work. I presume for the use of a Friend in the State of Ohio who is compiling the History of the Society in America. I gave him what information I could, but it would be difficult to collect the scattered hints which are interspersed in the Letters. William Foster now has frequent appointed meetings in Philadelphia, which I understand are fully attended, and very acceptable; in Society he appears very amiable, kind, conciliatory and diffident: useing rather the Honey and manna, than the vinegar and Gall which George Withy employed.

Eliz. Reppels and Eliz Morris, came with Margaretta and Sarah, to Cousins to see me for a few minutes, after which we drank tea and got home before the departing beams of day had entirely faded in the West. and thus has passed the 19th.

20th. At home and quite lame all day. Maria and two of the Children drank tea here. the Girls walked over to Wakefield and to Dr Bettons in the morning. the day very delightful, the temperature being that of the Spring months, the Daffodils in the open ground up and in bud, the vegetation of the maple and other early trees rapidly coming on. three children in the neighbourhood beside Charles Heather Boy, have had the Small Pox, one of them a weakly child, and badly attended by intemperate Parents, has died with it.

The Girls kept reading 'St Ronans' to day but found faults with its want of interest throughout the first volume. our Papers contain a good deal of that commodity (Interest) this evening: the applause with which our Presidents manly and open Communication to Congress, was re-

-ceived in England, and the enthusiastic reception of poor Minas, was very gratifying.

21st. Mrs Morris came down and took Margaretta home with her in the morning, So Sarah and myself went to Somerville to tea without her. We paid a pleasant visit and I had the great pleasure of finding them all pretty well. the dear Boys having gone out to walk with their Papa, returned to tea. the Girls are almost grown up, and are companionable to their mother. And that they may all prove Blessings to their Parents is my constant Prayer!

When we got home we found that my friend the Antiquary had been here and had left his singular and entertaining manuscript for our inspection.

22d. Proved thro the Day very wet, so that our own stove-side was our place, without any interruption — for myself, I frittered away the day in looking over Watsons Book and writing a little in it. I could not derive all the knowlege and pleasure from its perusal which I might have done had it been writen in a clear plain hand, for it is small, obscure and running, the letters in some places scarce discernable. I wish those who write would correct these faults, for the good of their Readers.

I was dissatisfied with myself to Day.

23d. Sarah and myself alone, work and Books — The weather was cloudy and frosty all day, towards night it began to Snow and remained on the ground to the depth of a few inches. I believe it did not snow in the night but now on 3d day morn'd it has begun again. I felt better and got up and made my own fire this

morning, but I am assuredly very much broke and weakened of late. may I take warning and trim my Lamp — then no matter how soon the summons.

24th. About 12 the weather cleared and it was a fine afternoon, but rather cold. my Bear put the Horses in the Sleigh and took the Girls (without leave asked) over to Dickinson's Gate, thro' the fields, for there is no sleighing on the Turnpike. Alone, and seeking amusement from the memorial of Antiquities, S. and myself spent this Day

25th. more trouble than usual to get my fire made and room comfortable — Discovered carelessnesses of the Servants that vexed me. and in short it was not a very agreeable day to my feelings, but I have to check myself whenever I feel in this discontented mood and acknowlege I have much more to be thankful for, than discontented at, tho my purse is quite empty and I know not how to replenish it. and I have carelessness, and sauciness, and bad-wood, to contend with.

It was cloudy and raw all day, at night it rained a little and grew warmer. Charles Logan dined here, and made me quite uneasy by a description of Sallys poor health — She is very exertive and extremely clever, but I fear has too fragile a constitution to stay here long — her loss will be a deplorable one indeed! and if it is the will of God, I earnestly wish her restoration to health.

26th. was a warm damp day, towards night it began to rain and the wind blew a gale from the S. W. The walls of the House ran down with water as in the breaking up of frost, but here is none to break up! I had the wainscoting in the best parlour wiped, but the paint which I have most carefully kept for years is very much injured from the last spell of this kind we had.

Davis moved down to the other house to day, and held a great moving frolic, which I should think was very inconvenient from their having only a small part of the house, Shaw's not moving till April. It cleared up in the night.

27. And was cold all the day, a dull day mentally, tho' Alger. at home and Sarah with me. Billy Fisher called for half an hour in the afternoon, he says their children have chills and fevers. So had my little Sall to day.

28. Sall. was better, and about quite lively. It was a dull cold day. Mrs Morris and Elizabeth paid us a morning visit — no other comp.y thro' the day. It was negative. but I often reproach myself for not enough estimating the positive good which I daily receive. — God has been gracious and good to me far beyond what I have ever deserved.

29th. The Sun rise clear with the promise of a fine day. this month, the shortest of the year, has had an unusual circumstance attending it. of 5 First days, and ~~moon~~ more, the Moon had that number also in her Lunation, beginning and ending with the month. It is for Astronomers to tell when this state of things will again occur.

As to Sublunary concerns, Sarah and myself went to meeting and brought Elizabeth Fisher home with us to Dinner, my dear Albanus called to see us but did not stay, Maria having gone to town and the two boys left at home, Gusty with a hurt knee, and Dick with a chill the day before. my Sall had a chill and was laid up in consequence all day, and could be ill spared for we had abundance of company to hear (every thing

almost is comparative, and in my retired mode of life that company is thought abundant which in the circles in town would be thought nothing for numbers). We had Reuben Haines's family and their agreeable Guests, Hetty Morton and Daniel Smith, with Eliz Morris, and afterwards Cousin Billy Fisher. we had a great deal of conversation, some of it very agreeable, and they staid to a late hour owing to expecting their Carriage to convey them home (for they had walked) and it not arriving untill after they had set out, and then with a broken Harness, Hughey was called down stairs to assist the Coachman, and at length things were righted, and we retired to rest. Elizabeth Morris staid all night with Sarah, and on 2d

1st 3d month 1824. day morning, we all, with the addition of Algernon breakfasted together very agreeably. In the afternoon the Girls went to Jr Bettons and myself down to Somerville where I drank tea, both my Grand sons have chills and fever, and Gusty the hurt on his knee, which I hope is in a way of getting well. Sarah had agreed to go home with the Girls to stay all night, Algernon was in town, and so the Garrison was but small.

2d A cloudy cold morning, a dark cloud drawing curtain-like over the Heavens, but studded with stars, and ending before it reach'd the remote East, that horizon was beautifully illuminated with the saffron rays of Auroral. — but no time for poetry good or bad to day, for Ironing and clearstarching occupied us till pretty late, and then Charles Norris came and partook of a sociable Dish of Coffee with us. he looks very well and seems happy and contented. Dorothea is the very wife for him, and they now have 2 fine Boys.

3d. was a very nice day of a cool temperature. wind N.W. we dined early and then went over to Charles Logans where we spent the afternoon quite agreeably, and had the satisfaction of finding Sally better. a splendid display of the heavenly luminaries enlightning us home.

4th. Delightful weather somewhat warmer than yesterday. the Birds sang at noon, and in the evening we heard the Frogs. no company, but my dear Albanus called in the morning. my mind was not cheerful to day.

5th. we went to meeting in which something was said that suited my State. afterwards we paid a visit to Walter Johnsons wife who is in a delicate state of health — an innofensive timid Being, among strangers! she took the visit kindly. after dinner we again went to Germantown and drank tea at John Wisters, calling for Cousin Sally Fisher to go with us; and we spent a pleasant time for his wife is sensible and agreeable, very much so, to day.

6th of mo. 7th of 9e week. Algernoon had half a dozen friends to dine with him, which occupied us thro' the morning. after Sarah and myself arose from table we retired into the other Parlour and passed the afternoon pleasantly enough, I knitting, and listening to a recital of the "Times that tried men's Souls," in Tudor's 'Life of Otis.' and when I went to bed, my mind constantly recurring to the Past, and contrasting it with the unhappy present, in my own Life and prospects, produced a mixed assemblage in my dreams and reveries of no very bright or pleasing character. But I am sufficiently unhappy

without the anticipation of other evils, or the aid of gloomy ideas in sleep. — my mind is naturally light and cheerful, and not usually depressed without a cause, but at present — but I will endeavour to adhere to my resolution of not saying so much on these unhappy subjects.

7th. was a rainy First Day passed at home and without company, only Sarah and Algernoon — when I am entirely alone I can write — but never can compose any thing at all clever when others are setting by, and I suppose observant of what I am doing.

One of my reflections is that I have indubitable evidence of my own decay, that is, I am, (in other words,) very much 'broke', I feel weak and easily tired, and no elasticity of mind to help me to soar above difficulties. — If prepared for the change a release would be very wellcome — But I am not prepared.

8th. I have nothing very cheering to write about for I am sadly depressed, and uneasinesses and fears predominate continually. It was a fine Sunshining day, very like the opening of spring. In the afternoon Maria and my Grandaughter Elizabeth came to drink tea with us, my dear Son and the other children remaining at home. S. and myself did what we could to make the visit agreeable to those who did come. ~~[illegible]~~

9th. lately, ~~[illegible]~~ and the loss of my ever loved and honoured husband, with that of the inestimable value of his kindness and affection to me, has sunk deep and fresh as if it had but just occurred. On Thirdday no company came, in the morning we had Ironing and clear starching, in the afternoon I read to Sarah.

10th and on fourth Day afternoon S. and myself rode over to Charles Norris's, to see Dorothea and the little ones. we were agreably entertained and had the pleasure of finding her very well recovered from her confinement and down stairs. I never saw her look better and the little Boys are both fine children. We got home by clear and beautiful moonlight. and I found that my new Gardener had come which I was glad of. He is hired at 10 Dollars ℔ m.

11th a Great white frost in the morning, and several times in the day a cloudiness which went off in the afternoon. Cousin W. and S. Fisher Drank tea with us especting to meet Peter & Betsy Robson, but the latter did not come. We passed a few hours together in the solace of most friendly and kind thoughts and words. ——

to enjoy
"That which before us lies in Daily life
Is the prime wisdom."

But on 6th Day I seemed hardly to have the capability of enjoyment of these innocent pleasures left, 12 thro' extreme depression —— But I will try at least to avoid saying any thing of this foreboding of evil, which is in itself a real one —— all my Difficulties being brought in array before me and I scarce knowing how to go forward at all. ——

We were at meeting in the morning, and called afterwards at Dr Bettons to enquire after his health, who is now confined with a fever and severe cold. and after dining at home where nothing appeared [agreeable] we went to tea

at John Johnsons where we spent a few hours pleasantly, tho' our stay was prolonged beyond what I wished or thought entirely right owing to Hughey's dilatory and poking ways. We called as we went to enquire after Elizabeth Morris who is also sick with cold and fever, which is much about. Several Deaths have occured lately, some very sudden ones, one, (a very respectable man a Bookbinder in Germantown who was buried to day,) instantaneously, not a minute intervening between his speaking to his wife and his extinction as to this life.

13th 7th Day was passed at home in a more comfortable frame, hoping that at least things will not be worse, and having experienced how possible it is to get along even when under the pressure of great distress and difficulties. and I may add, confiding in the goodness of a watchful Superintending Power to help me, tho most unworthy of its interference in my behalf.

The day was fine, and occupied in Domestic affairs. — the Garden cleaning out preparatory to its culture, and such like doing out of Doors. no company. and Sarah and myself Drank our tea at a very early hour and spent the evening in work and reading poetry.

14th. A cloudy cold morning and a retiring Sun — we went to meeting which was a good one. My beloved Albanus, and little George Fisher dined with us, the former staid to tea, and it was a visit of great pleasure and kindness which gave me a great satisfaction. It began to snow about dinner time, and fell thick for hours so that all was covered with it but on the pavements it somewhat thawed. — the Jays screached, and all was winter like. and the Garrison very small in the old Castle thro' the day and at night. my mind was favoured with pious and calming thoughts; and could render Praise to the Fountain of all our mercies. Blessed be his holy name!

15th 8m. 24. Yesterday my Coachman Hugh seemed uneasy about his father, who has been for some time declining, and asked leave to go in to see him which was easily granted, but the snow coming on he did not go untill evening when he suddenly took his umbrella and started off — It was well he went: for the old man without appearing worse than for some days past, died in the night. this I mention to shew that we ought to attend to such admonitions of feeling. His father, (Hughes) was a very honest, pious, old man, and doubtless has gone to a Blessed mansion.

This afternoon our friends Peter Robeson and his wife, and their niece and Granddaughter spent the afternoon and part of the evening here, in a social friendly way that was very satisfactory to me. It was cloudy but not cold when we went to bed, but when I got up on 3d. day

16th. morning the ground was covered quite deep with snow and still falling, so that I think the ground had a thicker mantle of it than had been thrown over it at any time this' the past winter, but it thawed a good deal in the day, which was a gloomy one, and nothing very interesting occured.

17th. Fourth Day

Passed over likewise without any thing to note that I now know of. S. and myself read Wirts Life of Patrick Henry. A. came home in the evening. — very bad colds are now epidemical. It was cloudy and rained often this' the Day.

18th. The same sort of weather and employment.

19th. Was glad to see the Sun this morning. We went to our week day meeting and brought Hetty Fisher home with us. I felt glad and thankful to have her here once more, after Dinner we all went down to Somerville where we were joined by Cousin W. and S. Fisher and Elizabeth, and spent a few hours very agreeably. but the coming home was not so. — Hughey was sick, he had had a Chill and was very Gruffy — he answered me upbraidingly and snappish — It was dismal dark — he seemed to bobble on his Seat, as we saw his form indistinctly thro' the windows. and the Horses flew along regardless of the jolts — S. did not help matters by endeavouring to assure me, tho' against the evidence of my senses, that it was not dark — but we got safe home, and Gruff went to bed. I think if I visit my frds they must let me go home before night, if there is no moon. this night was cloudy and it again began to rain.

20th. Spent at home without any visitants. It was a Warm Springlike day; the remnants of snow fast disappeared, and the Birds sang. Sally procured a Dish of Grasshoppers for mocky. — So with Seventh days occupations in the morning, and Books and the needle, Sally Walker and myself made out to pass the time. But tho' I endeavoured for her sake to be cheerful, my mind was filled with sadness; for the return of Spring must now ever bring back to my mind the image of that loss which I daily find nothing can ever repair to me.

"Season's return, but not to me returns"
Joy," or the kind approach of him I loved.

It was a beautiful evening, but the wind changed to a Bleak N.E.ly in the night.

21st 3 month 24. First Day. Did not go to meeting, Gruff going to town yesterday to see and visit his mother. The Day was spent at home and quite alone by S. and myself. It proved cloudy and bleak — Algernoon came home in the evening he had been at Trenton to a Ball. and had this afternoon attended the funeral of Joseph Pleasants.

22d. I have been told that my wilfull nephew Billy Fisher has been publishing a Book of very unsettling and doubting principles, called the "Light of Truth." I deplore it. He will injure himself and his family — ~~[illegible]~~ — no one will receive good, and none but the Bedford people will applaud!

Cousin Hannah and Hetty are much disturbed at these things, and I truly feel for them in respect to it. — I love William Fisher and his amiable wife and family, and tho' I know him to be of a good life, I dread the unprofitable effects of such things.

23d. We were 'by our selves' yesterday, but for myself I am not warranted in putting the former word of 'happy' before the sentence. ~~[illegible]~~

~~[illegible]~~ Third day passed in this low state of mind and of inbernal suffering — yet except to Sarah, to whom I express myself freely, I question whether it was perceived by my family, and no company came this damp and disagreeable time.

24th The Sun rose clear and the morning was Spring like — but this return of the season must always now speak mournfully to me. I used exertion in the family affairs in the morning, and in the afternoon S. and myself went up to Germantown and paid a visit to Mrs Morris's. Elizabeth, after a pretty severe illness, being convalescent and down stairs. — We heard no news.

25. was pleasant, and the gardening now is going on — Planted Peas, and set Little Onions to day. I also went about, and down to the inclosure, with more activity than I have felt of late — but a brooding melancholy hangs over my mind, and a certain consciousness that what is yet to come of Life will prove but bitter dregs — no one can tell how every thing is connected, (sometimes indeed with wild associations) with remembrances of the Dead, and of my past comforts. but I will forbear complaint —

We were alone thro' the Day.

26th We went to our monthly meeting in the morning, and to William Fishers in the afternoon, where unaffected kindness received us with welcome, and we spent a pleasant and social visit. — nothing was said of Billys Book. — If he would but be quick and avoid publishing, he might encourage or reject cogitations, as he pleased, he is happily placed, has an excellent wife and a fine family — and his life, as I said before, is Good.

why then should he give occasion for censure, "By the uttering of strange fancies"? however I believe the worst is represented.

27th. was Seventh day, and as it usually is, a day of bustle, but unusually retarded in the morning, and about its height at 11 oclock, with Carpets and chairs in disorder in the dining room, and mary scrubbing in the hall, with anne waging the like war in the kitchen, when Cousin Sally and Becky Embree arrived to spend the Day! I could but most kindly accept the intention, tho' I was mortified that we were so illy prepared — however a good fire was kindled in the Parlour and S. and myself left all to entertain our Guests. — Cousin is better in health and cheerful, and bating that it is the "Streak of lean" with me now, and I could offer no delicacies of the table to my Frds! I do not know when I have spent so pleasant a day, for Love and unaffected kindness seemed to flow around. they staid till after tea. — We remembered many that are gone, and it seemed like a revival of satisfaction to me. — And oh I thought, if it is in our power thus to strew flowers in each others paths, why not do it?

After they were gone, Sarah expressed her satisfaction, and we spent the evening in reading, chiefly the papers.

28th. At meeting. where dear Maria and 3 of her children were also; they came afterwards and spent the day at Stenton very agreeably.

It was still cloudy in the morning, and about noon began to rain which continued pretty severely all day. and so almost thro' 2d day

29 when it cleared it in the evening — or rather night. and now on 3d Day morning is still raining. It has been altogether the wetest month of march which I ever remember. Sall. had her chill on 2d Day.

several are sick with the like revival of last falls disease. and the Small Pox still rages in some neighbourhoods; at the Rising Sun whole families have had it. — A bad fire occurred in Philada on the night of 28th. In which Gilbert Caw lost his life in attempting to save some of his property.

30th. Was spent quietly at home without company. — If I were to speak of the State of my mind it would be only to repeat what I have said over, and over again repeated, of tenderness for the living and the Dead, of Regret, and sorrow, and anxiety — I live now amongst feelings which would once have overwhelmed me. — But what can I do? all is equally unavailing — the poor Heart oppressed and burthened, has no resource of comfort but in the promises of him who has invited the weary and heavy-laden to come unto him.

31st. A note from Somerville received whilst we were at dinner, informd me that Elizabeth was very sick, having been taken with a chill on going home on First Day, followed by a fever, but not intermittent, and a vast discharge of Bile. we went down to see her in the afternoon and found her better, but her Parents very anxious still — Cousin was there and Dr Parrish had been sent for — he came — Maria said 'It was always the case when the Doctor came the children were better, he never saw them at the worst. for the dear Girl now seemed not so ill as to warrant the allarm — ~~[illegible]~~ We spent the evening at home, the Girls were out at neighbour Slaw's moving. 'Flitting' as the Scotch say.

1st 4th mo. 1824. was rather a cold day for the season, part cloudy, part sunshine. at home and without company — and under depression of spirits, a tender and afflicting remembrance, of my own best-loved and honoured friend filling my heart, heightened by meeting with one of his Letters in a Drawer where it accidentally had been left. my Soul is cloathed with mourning, and I had rather, and am better satisfied with myself that it should be thus, than that it should be consoled with the pleasures and delights of society, and mixing with the world, forget the sacred and indissoluble tie which forever renders his dear memory sacred to my Soul. ✠

2d 4th mo. Sarah and myself went to Philada. We called at Somerville and found Elizabeth still in bed, tho' better. We went to a few shops, and I called to see Hannah Chancellor — her son and son in law kindly inviting me in as I passed, and her daughter bringing in her beautiful little Babes to see me. I dined at my Brothers where I was most kindly wellcomed, and where my Dear Debby came to see me, and I went after dinner a short time to see Elizabeth Sergeant. We also drank tea at my brothers, and I was pleased and glad of being with them, called at Cousin Sallys before we left town and found great kindness from her — which is tenderly reciprocated by me I am sure.

We got safely home and I slept well after my days exertion.

3d 7th day. At home. the usual routine of domestic business occupying the morning, and a very pleasant visit expected and received, from my Brothers family in part, in the afternoon: Cousin W. and M. Emlen,

✠ "Sweet Spring, thou comest — but ah! my pleasant hours,
And happy days with thee come not again;
The sad memorials only of my pain
Do with thee come."

Hannah Norris, Elizabeth Keppele, and Heps who had arrived the Day or two ago from Weston, but was out yesterday when we were in town. my Guests came early, and as agreeable and social a visit as ever the Olden time could exhibit was paid to us. the Day was fine, less blustering than yesterday and grew still milder as the lovely sun-set and evening advanced.

4th was at meeting where I endeavoured to worship. after dinner Sarah and Heps took a walk over to wakefield, and I was alone in the house the blessed Scriptures were my companion. we had no company all day. I sent down to enquire after Elizabeth and found she was better.

5th was a fine Spring day, with the delightful prospect of opening vegetation and the Songs of Birds, but the care and affliction (I may say) that overshadows my mind prevents all enjoyment of the season, associated as it is with afflicting remembrances also of my loss. — We went down to Somerville to tea and had the satisfaction of finding Elizabeth finely convalescent. ~~[illegible]~~

6th 3d Day. was spent in Domestic avocations — and — vesations. — I do not know when I have passed a more Disagreable time, and a sense of my embarasments hang over me in such a way as hurts me exceedingly.

We had a fine warm Rain to Day. I spent the evening pleasantly enough, at work mending some of Hepys cloaths, Sarah sat by me at work too for the Sister and charge of her friend, whoi memory she cherishes with all the devotedness of early friendships. we often talk of the Dear Girl, now in a better World. I had but a poor night, at least the latter part of it. for I could not sleep and got up, but it was too early to rise, so I went to Bed again but not to sleep, and I now feel very wretched. I am quite conscious that I Break very fast

7th It cleared up in the night. I felt low, but went out and employed myself in family affairs during the morning tho' terribly depressed in my Spirits In the afternoon, I was left alone for a few hours — Sarah having gone with the wakefield Girls and their Governess over to see Clapiers Green house, Alge abroad, and Hepy to Germantown with Sally. the Girls all came back to tea, and with the beaux's who came for them, spent, I believe, an agreeable evening. My Anne gave me warning to Day that she intended to leave my service.

8th was a pleasant, tho' cool, day, the morning was paped as common, in the afternoon we went over to Point to see Sally Roberts, Sarah having when in town informed Hannah Drinker, S. Roberts's niece, that we were coming and appointed to meet her there. But when we got there the Drep and preparation seemed too much for such a simple arrangement and social visit, and after we had been received with

perfect courtesy, and a kindness which indeed seemed more than an imitation of the real feeling, I was somewhat surprised as Belle after Belle swam into the room and Beaus took their places beside them, but still did not suspect that we were in the way of the Partys enjoyment, till after tea when we ordered the carriage and came away. Some other company came but did not make their entree into the Best room apartment. — I was sorry it so happened that the Day we went was one designd for such a purpose, as I fear we were considerd as intruders, however the suspension did not last long. my spirits which have been very weak of late were not at all revived by any circumstance to Day.

9th I arose with a gloomy recollection of this sad anniversary. we went to meeting and spent the rest of the Day alone in the family. It was a Day of sad depression and dejection to me; — tenderness and love filling my heart, and memory placing her bitter Regrets in full relief before me. the kind Sarah sympathised with my feelings, and seemed to have likewise her own share of trouble in Letters she had received from home evincing the unsettled State of her fathers mind with respect to their place of future residence.

10th 7th Day. My state of mind is much as yesterday. The Day was like the season, and spent in domestic business, without company. We are reading Hayleys Life written by himself. a most complete piece of inflated Poetical Gossiping, affected in the extreme, yet bearing proofs of the authors kindness and good nature, but disclosing many particulars which to us seem strange. few would willingly burlesque themselves in a Work destined to be given to the World after their decease, yet this is broad

Burlesque

burlesque upon the Poets who compliment himself with that appelation almost continually. I have not the patience to read it regularly thro'.

11th Was First Day and a very wet morning. We did not go to meeting George Fisher drank tea with us. We read and entertained ourselves as well as we could. I was not well having a return of that prevailing disorder the Lumbago,—for this I believe it is that frequently ailes me.

11th It rained very hard in the evening of the 11th with thunder and lightning. Rain thro' most of the Day, and no appearance of clearing. A: went to attend to the Poor's business. the Girls and myself alone, my new woman, neighbour Bender came to Day.

12th I am persuaded that cultivated and reflecting minds enjoy even the present existence much more than do the mere votaries of pleasure. and that by the use of this power of reflecting, life seems longer to them than to the mere voluptuary, beside that one is consoled and raised by a sense of conscious dignity. and the other is forced to a self-acknowledgment of degradation and unworthiness. —— I have been interrupted, and have lost the thread of what I was going to say, so the sentence must remain unfinished.

It still rains on the morning of 2d Day. and to my sad recollection comes the dreadful Storm of this Day 3 years!

The morning has been spent as is common, and now I am sitting in the Parlour in a solemn and affectionate frame of mind. at that hour of the afternoon when we sat round the Corpse of my best and most tenderly Beloved friend, previous to its interment. and oh what a dreary road has life been to me since his loss!

I feel sad and disconsolate, and without any thing to cheer me in the Prospect of after life.— the world does not contain any thing

for me. its splendors, its friendships, its flatterys are less than nothing— I loath them all. no company came to Day.

13th Was cloudy but cleared up towards evening with an uncommonly beautiful Sunset— a great deal of rain has fallen— the earth seems saturated with it. we were alone also to Day. I sent down to Somerville for intelligence of their health and had a note from my dear Son. Marcia being in town— Elizabeth is well— the Boys have had agues. but are better— what a strange thing this disease appears— after its having been obsolete for so many years.

14th Cousin William Fisher paid us a morning visit and told us that Mary Newell and my friend Mary Roberts from New Bedford where in town on a religious ~~visit~~ account, visiting the meetings— one is disowned by the Friends where she resides, the other suspended from her functions as an Elder, and I much fear they will occasion (or be the occasion of, discord,) in the ensuing Yearly meeting, — We had no other company thro' the Day and got on as usual. cloudy in the afternoon— rain in the night. not cold.

15th We had company to Coffee on 1st Day afternoon in C. Fisher & his Cousin and friend C. Fox, the Day was of a mixed character as to the elements, so that I was caught out in a little shower as I was down at the enclosure putting in a few flower seeds in its little borders, but it quickly passed off. Old George, our good old neighbour the Seaton, came to do up the Grave to Day.

16th was passed quietly. no company. preparations going on to spend next week in town to attend the meeting. the weather cool and the afternoon cloudy it rained towards night.

17th A Bustling and unpleasant Day, of much preparation, I found full employment in the morning.— and Sarah was much engaged with her

Sister

Sister Phebe who had been left by her Father as he passed on to town, and who dined with us. She seems a clever hearty Girl, but neither herself nor Priscilla are at all comparable to Sarah, who has a Delicacy and refinement naturally her own, and is generous and kind hearted beyond mask. After dinner Josey Williams came, and with difficulty let me have the small sum of 11 Doll^{rs}. for Hepsy use. When foreseeing the inconvenience of getting so many Girls and their Bandboxes, in to town to morrow, I had the Carriage got up and sent Sarah and Phebe and Hepsy off before hand. I then quickly got myself ready, and enjoyed a little time of retirement very much. One of the events of the day is that it is to be the last of poor Anne's service to me, but it is her own ack that She leaves me, She has hired herself to another, and goes tomorrow.

18th. I am now waiting for my Breakfast, and nearly ready to go for a week from my Beloved Spot, which our many Rains and the few Spring Days which we have had, has made very verdant. I always leave it with regret, as it has been the Scene of much of my happiness and endeared by many Associations, and my residence now for above 40 years. Above all it contains the Remains of my honoured and Beloved Husband, and was the birth place of two my Children and the Seat of their Ancestors.

It is now the 26th I returned home on 7th Day evening and have so many things to record that I scarcely know how to begin, for some arrangement is necessary in order to preserve a little memento of what I have seen and heard in the week of my absence: but really the many things which have met and croped each other on the surface

of my memory have made such a net-work as I am unable minutely to trace, and so must jot note things as they shall occur without the order of time and place.— and first it seemed to be acknowledged by all that the meeting was a very favoured one, we had the ministry of our dear Anna Braithwaite, which seemed to make a very powerful impression, and was at least, listened to with great interest and delight. I visited her at her lodgings, and had the pleasure of spending two evenings in her interesting and valuable society. and should like if I could to convey some idea of her likeness and Character, tho' doubtless it will be attempted by better hands with better opportunities of observation than my own, So I shall content myself with a slight Sketch.— She is about 36 years of age, a large and graceful Woman, of polished manners, and sweet, but grave, expression of countenance, not to say handsome, yet very impressive, a fine pair of eyes and good teeth. her voice is sweet but powerful, She is Quite distinctly heard in our largest meeting house. She has had a very good education, her language is gramatical and copious, and her Doctrine that of the Scriptures of truth; Christian and Liberal in her sentiments, her Soul seems poured out in earnest Desire for the Salvation of all her fellow creatures, yet there are no seperate parts of those Sermons which I have heard, that could be Quoted as examples of Pathos or Eloquence; She does not seem to think for a moment of making this impression, all that She seems to desire is to gain Souls to God, and with deep humility of Soul after all her endeavours and her sacrifices, to account herself but an Unprofitable Servant.— and Doubtless to such as her who persevere to the end, a Crown of resplendent Glory will be given.

She appears to have naturally very handsome talents, which have been brought into use and polished by a very good education and deep habits of Reflection.

She i very modest, and entirely free from affectation — and certainly a very extraordinary Woman — in Personal Appearance She resembles Dear Cousin Susan Emlen more than any other person that I ever saw. I had the pleasure of Spending two evenings with her during my Stay in town, During the one at Cousin Sally's we had a religious meeting of a sweet and satisfactory influence.

It seems difficult now to recollect all that passed in the week: — I visited many of my Friends, was at Dr Griffitt's, Cousin Billy Smith's, James Smiths, Keppele's, Walsh's, my Brothers, and many more places where I made call's. But at the end of the week was painfully apprised that I was about to lose my kind and devoted young Friend Sarah Walker; — her father had come down in company with Daniel Stroud, and hurried to return with him, so that all the respite we could obtain was for one night: We came home on 7th Day evening. and on 1st Day morning very early went together up to Friend Pauls at Wissahickon, where Enoch and his party had lodged, and where I delivered safe his affectionate and Amiable Daughter ~~with him and back again~~ he has now a Desire to still further emigrate into the Michigan Territory to a settlement yet in embrio upon the river Raisin a Prospect altogether appalling to his poor Girls, but which I fear he will endeavour to accomplish.

27th. It is now the 27th of the Month. I have a world of care and difficulties of a household nature to attend to. my new woman in Anne's place, does not suit me, she is very cross and unaccommodating in the family, and does not seem at all inclined to do things, many of which must be done, And I feel so thoroughly weak and utterly unable to do as I have

~~been used, for a long time past I have experienced a very considerable diminution of my natural powers, and more particularly of my corporeal strength, and I am frequently reminded of the declining state of my health by the infirmities of old age. I feel a weight upon my spirits which I cannot account for, and a disinclination to engage in any business, or to converse with my friends. I am apprehensive that I am about to be visited with some severe illness, and I think it my duty to prepare for it by settling my affairs, and making my will. I have therefore sent for my friend Mr. Thomas Wistar, and my brother Mr. Caleb Cresson, and have requested them to be present at the time when I shall execute my will, which I intend to do this day. I have also requested my friend Mr. Wistar to prepare a codicil to my will, directing that my executors shall not be required to give security for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them by the will, and that my executors shall not be required to give security for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them by the will, and that my executors shall not be required to give security for the faithful discharge of the trust reposed in them by the will.~~

I ought to have remarked here, that it was generally thought our meetings were greatly favoured, and that it was evident that a Spirit which would have produced Discord and Division, was kept down and repressed. — To the great regret of myself and many other of her Friends, Mary Roberts from New Bedford was in town with Mary Newell, a person disowned by the Society there and I believe one of the prime movers of the Disturbance that have agitated it in that Quarter. they were at a Boarding House, and at some meetings for Worship they spoke, but nothing followed, which certainly was much better than to make public opposition. and at one meeting of Discipline a woman who appeared like a fanatical Ghost, uttered some bitter accusations against us, as that "if ever a People were Drunk with the Wine of the Whore of Babylon it was this People" but upon this head she was repressed and did not speak again. — another of the like sentiments preached against persecution. Quoting by mistake the Chapter composed by Dr Franklin in imitation of the Book of Genesis. But how

could she have conned her Bible to have made such a mistake I know not. She, I believe, meant to insinuate that Friends were Persecuting the carless Strangers — who now declare they have done with us and will go to others, and so let them.

It was a pleasant evening that I spent at my kind and most estimable and intelligent friend Walsh's; several persons of wit and information being present, the conversation better deserving of that name than our most polished Society usually presents. Amongst the persons present were the Catholic Bishop and another of their Clergy of very agreeable appearance and manners. Roberts Vaux and his wife, Joseph Hopkinson Esqr. of much ready wit, John Payne Todd the Son of our Madison, Mr Short, and major Long, a person of great merit and modesty, and some others. — I would, from a principle of gratitude, like to record many of the kind attentions I rec'd. this week, but I am now in the humour to do so, and all is forced work, which I had as good let alone. I miss poor Sarah sadly.

28th. Several Days of rain with cold N. E. wind. Algernoon went to town and I was left alone with Henry, who is a good deal of care to me from her careless habits, and foolish ways (tho' she is not deficient otherways in point of understanding. heard of a private calamity to day, very distressing to the connections: a Sister of Mary Temples fell over the Bannisters and broke her neck — and a Public one of the town of New Castle had had a great loss from fire. George Read's house where I once spent a night in company of my Cousin Dickinsons, in the time of the respected Ancestors of the Reads, was one of the

number destroyed. Charles Logan Esqr. Frank tea here, and I gave him a Letter from the Post Office so large that the Postage was above 100 cents, (18½) from his Sister S. Carter in Virginia, full of minute details of her case, very wretched indeed, but odd and queer, indicating a State of Society of which we have but little idea here: and little encouragement to attempt to do any thing for her, when all the acquisitions She makes are switched from her immediately by the creditors, who seem to leave the little they do as a nucleus to obtain more. She says she has raised eighteen negro's, some of whom she suffered to suck her with her own children! and as soon as they are big enough to do a little work they are seized upon and taken, most unwillingly, from her. In short, She threatens to throw herself and two daughters on her friends to the northward. I pity her exceedingly, and do not forget whose daughter she is, but feel quite unable to send her money, indeed as things are it would but be throwing it away to send it.

29th. A beautiful day; the Emerald Earth and Sapphire Sky, presenting a most lovely scene, illuminated by the golden Sun Beams. I was alone till late in the afternoon when Cole Fisher came home with Alger.n My little nieces and nephews expecting such a wish to visit me on the 1st of May, have been invited, and I expect will come. So to day I was making some preparations for their entertainment. But I feel nearly done with all such things, which now I am unable to do with spirit. Mary had a chill to day.

30th. In the morning I had a call from Mary Rotch, whose great nephew Tom Fisher brought over to see me. in the afternoon my nephew Charles Norris and his very friendly and amiable wife came to see me. I had a note

a note from maria telling of the continued illness of Eliza and that the children had both had chills and fever this week. consequently could not accept of my invitation. —— and it is as well that they did not accept of it, for now on Fruit Day morning I have nothing to say of the Day that is agreeable, only that I hope it was more so to my Guests than it was to myself, and that I believe I am resolved never
1st of may again to invite so very lively a Party.

Repose on Fruit Day, after
2d do 1824. the House had been a little set to rights from the overturnings of the previous day, was very desirable. I could not go to meeting for the Carriage was at the Coachmakers, and about noon my friend Walsh called with a whole bevy of his pretty little Girls, they are very modest and well behaved, tho' full of animation. In the afternoon, an old neighbour Polly Wurtz, strolled down to pay a little visit, [redacted] — When I was left alone I retired to the inclosure, to the Grave where rest the remains of my dearest earthly friend — and who shall tell the feelings which have prevaded my Heart? — But a thought like this struck me,

that perhaps what I now feel is a wholesome and needful discipline to my Soul, and may be intended for its purification — the time may be nearer than I am aware when I shall be released from all these cares and troubles, and if I am loosened by them from Earth and taught to soar beyond this narrow scene of things for comfort, it will not be to be lamented. my heart was calmed, and if not more happy I was tranquilized, and went to bed and slept, but not as I used to do — that kind of Sleep will never come again.

3d my family affairs completely occupied the morning. and my heart was not light. — It threatened to rain all the morning and was damp and warm, notwithstanding the Glorious Sunset of last evening. In the after part of the Day it cleared up a little. [redacted]

"

[redacted]

4th was spent without any thing to remark, except a great change in the weather by the change of wind from S. to N. E. and I was entirely alone part of the Day, tho my Son dined and drank tea at home.

5th Birth Day of my only remaining Brother Joseph, Born 1763.
spent the Day quietly, my son having gone Down to Chester to see after some money for me, and Hepe and Sall strolled out to visit Glapier's Garden; it was a fine day but almost too cold, I walked about and was down at the Cottage to see poor Polly Davis, as we talked together we both concluded that the World seemed very different to us from that

Which

which we once knew: She poor woman has buried her eldest Son, of a Disease which caused him to starve in the sight of food, and the remembrance of his sufferings causes many a bitter tear; yet they hope he made his Peace with his maker — and they know I have my trouble too; evinced by the Dissatisfaction they observe in some of my family

I had a letter from Sarah Walker.

5th day. 6th. Charles Logan was here in the morning and invited me so kindly to drink tea with them this afternoon that I accepted it, and wanting to get a few things at a Store, went first to Frankford, where I did my errands, and then paid my visit. Sally's Mother and Sister, her aunt Chancellor and Sally Twells, were there, and her good house wifery was conspicuous in the good things with which her tea table was furnished; We passed a sociable pleasant time together. Hetty and Sally were with me, and enjoyed their ride, the former found out a School mate at Frankford. It rained towards evening, and was a wet night.

7th — A showery time part of the day, but beautiful afternoon & evening. a few of Algernoons friends drank Coffee with him, amongst whom was William Read, lately returned from a voyage to Buenos Ayres who came in to see me, and gave me some account of the State of that country.

8th The observation of how swiftly a Week passes, was strongly felt by me first now, in recollecting that this day last week I had my ~~[illegible]~~ too lately young visitants — but I ought not thus to class them all, for some were gentle and very well behaved, and ~~[illegible]~~.

George Fisher and the nephew of Benᵉ Bolivar dined with us, and went down to Cole Fishers with Algᵉ. in the afternoon, they returned to tea, which my friend the Antiquary and his little daughter partook of with us — he entertained me with an account of some of his Researches, and produced a Book written by Francis Daniel Pastorius and addressed to my Grandmother Mary Norris and her Sisters, who with their father Thomas Lloyd were passengers with him to this Country, in the Ship America, Wapy master, they landed at Philadᵃ the 20th. of August 1683. when the Metropolis was in its most infant state, only a very few houses being built. the Book is written in commemoration of the anniversaries of the Day of their landing, most part in bad verse, and was found in Christian Lehmans garret.

9th. Was at meeting where Mary Newel preached largely, and did not broach any Unscriptural Doctrine that I perceived, Mary Roberts was not with her, only Anne Roberts, they dined at Wm. Fishers. We dined alone. My dear Albanus and his little Gustavus spent part of the afternoon with me. — which, with my accustomed Solitary Walk was all my recreation — my Spirits not very good, and a languid heavy feeling, as if incapable of much exertion, predominate. It was a fine day but cool.

10th My beloved Algernoon set out this morning for Loganville, and the annual Saturnalia of Houseless cleaning commenced.

At the time when company is most annoying (thought I to myself) the most make their appearance, as Gig after Gig drove to the Door. however all did not stay to tea. my friend Mary Roberts and Andrew Robeson, and Elizabeth Wilson, Sarah and Eliz Fisher were my Guests. and the latter part staid very late in the evening waiting for Tom as an escort. the

of "only three or four Cottages," says Pastorius 'being then built,' and I loosing my way from Wm Hudsons (corner of Chesnut & 3d Street S.E.) then occupied by a Dutch Baker named Cornelius Bom to the Water side, all the residue being Woods or"

reason of my finding their stay tedious, was the difficulty I had in getting any waiting done — I might ring and ring and no body appeared, a state of great insubordination seemed induced. It is indeed a complete Saturnalia.

I could but wonder at that state of things which step by step has occurred, to place so Superior a woman as dear Mary Rotch in the situation in which she now stands: — she is sensible and intelligent in no small degree, kind, charitable, and of great Integrity, striving to demean herself as a Being strictly accountable to her Creator. — she says she thought it her duty to accompany Mary Newell here, and now they are going to New York; I hope not to vex the Yearly meeting there likewise! Well, it is a favour not to conceive such things are our duty, as these.

Susan Morris and Ann Haines were down here to day driving Cipsey in a Gig. I lent Susan, Jeffersons Notes, and Ann, Vatteck. I loose so many Books I think it necessary to make mem.ᵒ to whom I lend them, in future. I wrote to Sarah Walker this evening.

4th Day. quite a warm day. Babel in the house and Yard! Tree's taken out of the Greenhouse! nobody came to day, to my comfort. Sally was better, took her Bark and escaped a Chill. Tho' I don't want company just now ~~[illegible]~~

The Germans, who mixed up a great number of odd and superstitious conceits with their learning and observations of nature, had a thought that the Climacteric Years of human life had a perceptible effect upon the constitution of the individual; and to the Grand Climacteric they

attributed a period of decay, which tho' vigourous constitutions might parry, the generallity of mankind who reach'd that age, could but experience — and I think I do it. It is only by comparison that we can judge ourselves, and I am now fatigued with what formerly would not have required half my strength — I was going on but the storm of cleaning has reach'd the spot where I am sitting, and amidst the din of scrubbing brushes and female voices I drop the Pen.

5th day 13th A very windy day, and the weather became quite cool towards evening, our work went on, and no interruption occurred, the finished part of the house is very comfortable. all upstairs, and the two front Parlours and Hall, are now done, the closets cleansed, the old furniture rubbed up, clean covers on the Sopha and chairs, and the Brasses burnished, an old mansion looks very comfortable when well kep't and in good order, and even a degree of decay does not offend when all is clean, but reverse the matter — and all is dismal & disgusting. — my recreation at such a season still is — 'times past' — in putting things to rights an old letter or Paper crosses my path, which I stop to read, and instantly my mind recurs to the period when it was written, and then 'busy meddling memory' calls up all the associations of cotemporaries, from the Bourne to which they have long been consigned, the Place, where

'where Setting Sun's and waning Moon's are gone."

and a Letter from One of the Mrs Lee's of Virginia to Cousin H. Thomson has had this effect upon me now.

6th day On the same business to day in the same temper of mind — But there is no describing how very comfortable a good dish of tea is after a day spent in this manner, obtained in some clean nook that is not usually appropriated to such a purpose, mine was taken this evening in my chamber.

(but please to recollect I had nobody with me but Hepsi) and my room had been nicely white washed and hung with white curtains and white chair covers

15 and on the 15th we Breakfasted in the Dining room the House being now done; and went early to town in order to place my young companion in the Weston Stages. We found the Driver fastening on the trunks and just ready to start, one of her school mates (a dear friend, as she said) arrived to go likewise, they fell to much chatting and congratulation, and departed in good spirits. afterwards I went to Cousin Sally's, drank a dish of tea with her (for she had not yet breakfasted) went out to a few shops, returned and took her with me to see Debby Brown and her little infant, and had the pleasure of finding them very well — paid a visit likewise at my Brothers, but found all out except Sam and Hannah and some of the younger ones. By this it was Dinner time, and after that, and a little siesta, had been obtained, I came home, where I quite unexpectedly, found my Son. and so ended the day, but not without much vexation when I found I had lost my Keys in town (I after recovered them next morning, by sending David's to Cousins, where it seems I had left them) for I had locked myself out of my usual employments.

16th. was at meeting, which tho' disturbed, was not without its Blessing. Dined alone with Algernoon — nobody from Somerville was at meeting. [redacted]

I wandered about the garden and grounds in the close of the afternoon, and saw it all blooming with the blosoms of Spring.

+ [redacted]

and 'tho' pleased with its beauties and having a real taste for the beauties of nature, yet the state of mind forbids the enjoyment which I used to take: I now sympathize from experience, with the feelings and sorrows of those who are (some of them long) gone, and know the meaning of many an expression which was unheeded when I heard it. — yet I try to be cheerful. —— another thing — the certainty of Death and its awefulness, often come before me, and I think perhaps it is not far from me —— I am not fit to die, and nothing but Divine Grace will ever make me so. for such is the folly and waywardness of my nature, I should not be wise & solid of myself if I were to live to the age of an antidiluvian — patriarch.

17th — Passed quietly at home. Algernoon dined with me, I was fatigued and slept after dinner, and Sall got my tea at a very early hour in order that she might go over to Shaws. I then amused myself in my Garden, now neat and pretty, and in that dear inclosure where I have unconsciously verified my own lines.

"For here a sacred Spot is made,
Adorned with flowers and Cypress Shade;
The Willow too, whose name appears
Fit emblem of affection's tears,
Her pliable boughs shall graceful wave,
O'er the cold Urn, or verdant Grave;
For here Remembrance loves to tread
And muse upon the honoured Dead:
To feed, and trim, that sacred fire,
Which whilst I live must never expire,
By Hope immortal bade to rise
And gain, with me, the opening skies,
A Seraph flame! — my humble trust,
When here I mix with kindred Dust."

I was alone, as I have said, till towards night fall when my Son and his two friends Coleman Fisher and Charles Fox came from Colesshole (for so he facetiously calls his place) and I had Coffee got for them with the addition of what made it a Supper, and they staid till after nine oClock.

18th Charles Logan dined with us and gave us the first account of the shocking accident which occured last 7th day on board the Steam boat Aetna, Capt Robinson, by the bursting of a boiler. 15 persons were killed and many others wretchedly wounded and hurt.

The weather has been very cool for some days past, cool & cloudy. To day it began to rain about noon but held up afterwards. I expect the rain was something to the discomposure of a large Party, who were to have a Pic-Nic Breakfast on the Banks of the Schuylkill, to which they were to go in a Steam boat hired for that purpose, down the Delaware to the mouth of the former river and then to ascend it to the place of Disembarkation, a little home below the lower ferry.

19th The accidents of the Aetna, and the misfortunes of a family of the name of Furman were forcibly depicted in Walsh's paper which we see this evening; four of the family who perished had left their home, well, that morning, in new York, to be returned to it in the evening life-less Corses! — I should suppose the gaiety of the Party mentioned above could not help being severely damped by this account.

I spent the 19th alone, if the day had been good should have expected Charles Fox would have brought out Eliz Kepple, as it was I did not look for them, and Alge: went to town — the day was not disagreeably spent by me only one circumstance pained me, and that was poor Mary had a bad Chill and

was in bed all the morning. I helped Cattie Salt to put the house in order, and afterwards went to my customary employment. I set up pretty late at some work, and tho' I feel no superstitious fears, no one can imagine how profoundly lonely my old habitation is at such a time: — the empty and still apartments, which then reverberated the slightest footsteps, the glimmering lamp in the Hall casting shadows in full relief on the White Walls, my little attendant asleep in my room and no one else in the two first floors. — it seems as if at such a time the most gloomy thoughts assail you and —

"Busy meddling memory
In Barbarous recollection, mutters up
The past endearments of your social hours."

and yet I would not give up my loved old mansion — for the finest establishment any where else.

20th As the Day was now very fine, I certainly expected my company: — In a quiet family and without you have Servants that perfectly know their business, such an expectation occasions some trouble; I rose early, helped to put things in order, made the Chicken and Peach Pie, saw the rest of the dinner in good train, Dressed myself and waited — at length Alger: noon came and informed me that no one more was to be looked for this Day. So we eat an excellent Dinner alone. — The Garden too looked uncommonly beautiful and I wanted some one beside myself to enjoy it.

In the afternoon Dear Hetty Fisher and the two Girls came to see me. The first intelligence communicated was of the Death of their Great Grandmother Elizabeth Roberts, who has died during the absence of her Daughter Mary — very suddenly — a sore stroke, I should think to her absentee who, others think, was not engaged in a duty that would bear her out on such an occasion.

A Meteor.

Richmond, (Vir.) May 22.—On Thursday Evening, between sun down and dusk, a large and brilliant Meteor shot across the Sky. It seemed to shoot from the South-east to the North-west. We understand, that to some eyes it appeared to fly over the Capitol—was a large ball—and exhibited a long train behind it. But indications of the size, distance and direction of these bodies, are very deceptive. Our informant is satisfied, that if it had appeared during the night, it would have been singularly bright.

The atmosphere was uncommonly clear, and the stars peculiarly brilliant. About 10 o'clock, Jupiter, as he was descending to the western horizon, looked almost as bright as Venus herself —and Mars flamed with an unwonted fire.— Arcturus sparkled with extraordinary beauty, and even Alphecca in the Corona Borealis looked like a star of the first magnitude. The late rain seemed to have washed down almost every atom which could obscure the vision—The whole firmament seemed to be hung with little sparkling lamps. Nor were these the only lights which attracted the eye; for in the space of ten minutes, as we stood surveying the heavens, two minor dazzling meteors flamed out and vanished.

tho' it had been cool all day, it clouded up and we had a severe
shilst it was gathering, I saw a large meteor rapidly pass from S.E.
apparent size was nearly as large as the moon when She is pretty
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for my Guests, who I fear got wet before they reached Wake-

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lovely. no Garden blooming and verdant as a little Eden, in which I
could find an innocent and pure pleasure, if my mind was suffered to be
at ease— but that is not the case.

22d. A Painful State of mind attended me this morning but I endeavoured to attend to employment and was down in the inclosure fastning up and supporting the Shrubs and vines. The day passed without company. many went to town and as my Son was also abroad, there was only Sall at home with me, besides the men and boys, and Mrs Bender in the kitchen. my usual walk out of doors afforded me the gratification of a view of the lovely earth verdant with the renewed bounties of its maker, and the Sublime Sky of the softest Azure, with white fleecy Clouds floating over its pure expanse. and I can find no expressions adequate to expres the delightful ideas which a contemplation of such scenes sometimes bring to my mind:— they inspire a worship of the Soul, to the Great Unseen Cause of order and Beauty! and they fill it with tenderness and love; then associations arise in the mind.

of beings and things that are past— the beautiful Simplicity of Patriarchal times, and that renovation of them after the lapse of thousands of years, that took place in the first settlement of Pear Pennsylvania; and which could occasion William Penn to write. "O, how sweet is the Quiet of this part of the World, freed from the tension and troublesome solicitations, hurries and perplexities of woeful Europe".— and then, (for the mind is its own place, and her wonderful power Quickly shift the Scenery and personates other actors)

"Or Ages past revolving o'er
Their Worthies place my eyes before,
Hero, or Patriot, Saint or Sage,
Who ever struck the Lyre with bold poetic rage."

And in such reveries do I find myself better pleased and more entertained than I usually am in Society. — Which yet I think was designed for us, and we are the better for, at times, partaking of it.

In the evening I rec'd. an invitation to the
May 22 funeral of Mrs Craige our neighbour, who died from a sad accident: She drove in the night, and in the dark fell entirely down the Stairs (which they say are Steep, and continued from the 2d Story.) She pitched upon her Head which was much hurt, and lay in that situation senseless till morning, but survived for two or three days. —So uncertain is human life.

23d. Fair day. I have now nearly filled my Book, as may be seen by the reader— and am now only desirous to close it with good resolutions.

towards evening, tho' it had been cool all day, it clouded up and we had a severe thunder Gust. whilst it was gathering, I saw a large meteor rapidly pass from S.E. to the N.W. its apparent size was nearly as large as the moon when She is pretty high above the horizon, it was elongated somewhat the shape of a Pear, and considerably elevated, none of the company saw it but myself. a Dearborne with a cover came for my Guests, who I fear got wet before they reached Wakefield.

21st. The day was cool, part of it warmed with sunshine. I walked out & thought I never saw my venerable and pleasant habitation look more lovely. the Garden blooming and verdant as a little Eden, in which I could find an innocent and pure pleasure, if my mind was suffered to be at ease — but that is not the case. [redacted]

22d. A Painful State of mind attended me this morning but I endeavoured to attend to employment and was down in the inclosure pairing up and supporting the Shrubs and vines. The day passed without company. many went to town and as my Son was also abroad, there was only Sall at home with me, besides the men and boys, and Mrs Bender in the kitchen. my usual walk out of doors afforded me the gratification of a view of the lovely earth verdant with the renewed bounties of its maker, and the Sublime Sky of the softest Azure, with white fleecy Clouds floating over its pure expanse. and I can find no expressions adequate to express the delightful ideas which a contemplation of such scenes sometimes bring to my mind: — they induce a worship of the Soul, to the Great Unseen Cause of order and Beauty! and they fill it with tenderness and love; then associations arise in the mind. of beings and things that are past — the beautiful Simplicity of Patriarchal times, and that renovation of them after the lapse of thousands of years, that took place in the first settlement of Dear Pennsylvania; and which could occasion William Penn to write. "O, how sweet is the quiet of this part of the World, freed from the anxious and troublesome solicitations, hurries and perplexities of woeful Europe." — and then, (for the mind is its own place,' and her wonderful power quickly shift the Scenery and personates other actors)

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Satisfaction from employment, and on the 30th which was first day, we had another esemplification (if such were wanting). of the uncertainty attending all sublunary possesions, in a Fire which broke out in Cousin W. L. Fishers Factory, and destroyed the Old Mill and a good deal of valuable machinery and wool. It took place from spontaneous combustion. I was not at meeting, my Carriage having gone to be repaired. I expected that perhaps, my Somerville Children would be here, only Maria and Gustavus came, we were preparing to go to Dinner when we heard the allarm of fire, The engine from Nicetown passing thro the plantation and by the House, Algernon and the men went, and it was a good while before they returned — the confusion and loss is said to be considerable, and poor William Fisher somewhat scorched and hurt himself, in shutting an Iron Door of communication between the Old and new Buildings. Our people are full of talk about it, relating the different circumstances that occurred, and discussing the Several employments of the actors, for thousands of people were assembled, and no less than 5 fire Engines attended. — Our Guests, with the addition of Geo: Fisher, drank coffee with us. Maria informed me that she had made up her mind to have the Tumour (which has disfigured her for some time) cut out of her shoulder and that it is to be done this week by Dr Parrish, at her Sisters. — I pray it may be favourable.

31st 5th mo: 1824.

I woke in the morning after a sound Sleep, without feeling refreshed from it: and I certainly now comprehend what "Breathing" and "Sailing fast" means. God grant, if it pleaseth him, that the faculties of my mind may be continued without much diminution, to me! The morning is quite cool, so that we have a fire, what further this Day may give me to note and end my Book with I know not, but I wish my affairs were settled, especially that transaction respecting the Burial Ground to be confirmed by me, for I feel how uncertain life is. and I feel likewise free here to express a hope that if I should die before this business is duly executed, my Eldest Son, my Dear Albanus, will not fail to do it immediately. As to a Will, I have so little to leave it is no matter, God bless my Children! they may divide it between them, but I would not sell it especially that pretty piece of Ground which was my Grandfathers and my hon: mothers, near Chester: and I should like 50 Dollars given in my name to the monthly meeting of Women Friends to which I belong, and a bed to Mary Logan (if she is living with me when I die) I do not know what makes me write this. (but above all my excellent friend Dr Benton must be remembered with a handsome piece of Plate).

In the afternoon of this Day Elizabeth Morris paid me a very acceptable visit, she is a sensible well informed Young woman, and it seems as if I had an hereditary right to the acquaintance of these Girls, their Grandmother Morris having been to me what I suppose I am now to them. We walked out in the Garden and among the plants, for which she has a great taste, and after my early tea, the Long days admitted of plenty of time to get home before it was Dark. I had sent a note of condolence and enquiry to Wakefield, and found they were as well as could be looked for, after the fatigue, exposure and anxiety of yesterday. E: M: brought home the two Books, Dathuck and Jefferson Notes. and book with her Cumberland Life.

I seem to leave off my Daily recurrence to this Diary with regret.

man goeth up the Stairs and where is he? Job.

"And where is he? not by the side
Where every wanderer we off would weed;
nor Her Sauntering Lover we off would weed;
Where Sauntering Lover we off would weed;
The Form beloved he marks no more,
Those scenes admired no more shall see,
Those scenes are lovely as before
And She as true! but where is he?"

"No, no, the radiance is not Dim,
That used the hill, favourite hill,
The pleasure that were dear to him,
The pleasure to life and nature still;
All dear to life and nature fair,
But ah! his home is not as fair,
His presence inspired and withers there, is he?"
Affection pining and withers there, is he?"
And well may whisper, where is he?"

"Ah, Isabella, dearer a verdant Grave
The dwelling where a vacant Chair,
And Love has there its care Sunplay O,
And marks the void with many a tear;
The life has gone, the breath has fled
And which has been no more shall be:
The well known form — the welcome tread —
Oh! where are they, and where is he?"

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26th of 9e 5th mo. 1824. Since closing this Diary at the 197th page I have not had an opperty of providing myself with another Book, and long use has made it seem a Blank to me to let a day pass without any ~~other~~ notice. I have just had a kind visit from Cousin James and Hannah Smith, Hetty, and her little namesake and Cousin Sally Fisher. And yesterday Elizabeth Keppele and Charles Fox dined here, and indeed I ought to say, spent the day, for they came early out and staid till near sunset. — this company afforded a season able diversion to my mind, which has been much depressed of late. The Public Prints tell us of a great alarm excited at New York ~~from~~ in the meeting house of Friends, occasioned by parts of the building actually beginning to give way under the pressure of a large audience, whilst Anna Braithwaite was preaching, but no lives were lost, nor very serious injury sustained. And they also tell us the very shocking circumstances of a horrible murder and robbery no further off than Darby. I felt somewhat afraid of something of a like kind occurring in our often very lonely situation. But encouraged to hope I should still find protection.

On the next afternoon, which was 5th day I had the satisfaction of my dear Brothers company, his wife and my Cousin Mary Emlen, and little Eliz Sergeant, and I thought they could not have gone any where else to have bestowed so much comfort and gratification: — The events of the day, the condition of our acquaintance and somewhat of the 'Olden time,' made our agreeable conversation. My dear brother walked out and looked about and said he thought he never saw the Garden in better order, and my Vegetables uncommonly fine. — indeed the prospect round is very verdant and charming, and what of decay is to be seen (as the Piazza wanting Renewal) is no more than what is incident to old buildings when the best care is taken of them: Will my Books and Diarys survive me? If they do, I should like them to convey a faithful view both of myself, and of my venerable old mansion endeared to me by associations of many kinds. — But it is no matter. The waves of Oblivion ~~soon~~ quickly cover every thing human — and in this Country, I think, things and People, are forgotten (even unusually) soon.

The 28th was spent at home alone, with the exception of my sons company. — It was the warmest day by far of the season, and followed by a Gust in the evening, and another in the night but not any great quantity of Rain, enough however to refresh Vegetation. The 29th was the first morning this season that we have had no fire kindled in the Stove for to breakfast by. The Gust, as we heard next day, was productive of sad evil to some of our neighbours, for a Barn belonging to Coll: Burns at Frankford was struck by the lightning and with its contents, destroyed, before the fire cd be extinguished, as help did not immediately come, it happening before day. The 29th was spent alone chiefly, rather pleasantly, and receiving

