Boston December 18th 1822

Wednesday [18, 1822] – I have been in the Massachusetts general Hospital nearly five weeks and out of health nearly three months. By being taken off from my Theological studies my faith and patience have been severely tried. Though composed and as I thought in some degree submissive at first I have during my residence here had a violent struggle with my corrupt heart. There have been times in which notwithstanding my greatest efforts it would rise with a kind of unwillingness to suffer all my heavenly Father's will and a kind of resigning which would bring at the same time tears from my eyes and a thrill of horror to my soul. Of late this obstinacy has in a good degree subsided and I hope I feel more resignation to that will which I know is best.

Mr. Eaton has called to see me this day and told me that my friends at Bridgewater very much wished me to be there and perform service in the Church on Christmas day. O Lord, my father as I trust, in Christ Jesus, if it be thy Holy Will wilt thou restore me to health and grant that I may on that day be there and record thy goodness or else O Lord give me submission.
Friday 20th [1822] There is little prospect of my being well enough to leave the hospital soon. But why should I (unclear) at God’s dealings. He has certainly been very gracious to me and if I really have so strong a desire to preach the gospel why not preach it here? There is opportunity by example by advice & by exhortation to exert myself for the spiritual welfare of others. Yesterday the patients in the large men’s ward, beyond my expectations, requested prayers in the evening, This evening we there surrounded the social altar again. May God grant to them and to the others who attend the hearing ear and the understanding heart that they may hear the scriptures with profit & offer with sincerity and devotion the prayers.

Wednesday 25. [1822] Christmas day—Though I am yet in the hospital and not in Bridgewater yet I have abundant reason to bless the name of the Lord. Since last Friday there is a prospect of leaving the hospital and resuming my studies although I am not yet well. O Lord have mercy upon me I beseech thee keep me back from every thing hurtful to myself and injurious to thy cause Heal me if consistent with thy holy will if not make me I pray thee resigned and O prepare me for thyself whatever may be before me.
South Boston December 26, 1822

Thursday 26. [1822] I this day return to my lodgings here at Mr. Gould's having been absent since about the eighth of October and having been sick for these three months past. May God grant me gratitude for the restoration of such degree of health and for this return to my studies and duties in this place. God has appeared for me of late in a very satisfactory and comforting manner. I have very great reason to bless him for my affliction as well as for the degree of deliverance which his own hand has affected.

Sunday 29th [1822] Today I have been permitted by the goodness and mercy of God to perform service again in St. Mathews Church in this place. How often during my sickness has human probability been in my own view at least agonizing ever being able to return and perform the duties of my station here. And yet sometimes in my greatest illness I seemed to have a kind of assurance that I should be restored to the service of the sanctuary and be permitted to preach the gospel. O if I am spared for that glorious and honorable work great God may I not forget thy goodness.
December 29, 1822

It was delightful to see the faces of this people again in Church after so long an absence from them particularly to meet them when I can hope that my health is recovering and that there is a prospect of my entering again upon the duties which from my station I owe them. There is also something in the season of the year which to my present feelings and situation is peculiarly interesting. To begin a new year with restored health has something in it partly intellectual partly perhaps physical but pleasant and profitable to the soul. There is a feeling upon the mind almost involuntary and I must begin this year with more of zeal and diligence in the service of God. O my Father is it delusion or I the impression from myself that thy grace will be afforded that I shall be enabled to enter with increase activity upon thy service here. And O the joy that will attend – yea O Lord thy peace will flow like a river to comfort my soul if I be found in the way of duty. I bless thee my God. Thou hast been better to me than my fears. I derive here to make a record of thy goodness that this page may witness to me hereafter and to others if it ever meets their eyes that thou art God.
January 2nd 1823

Thursday [2, 1823] - O may the God who has brought me to the beginning of this year go with me through all its events and duties. Where I shall be a year from this he only knows. If my life is spared to see the beginning of another year may I be enabled to look back upon this page and upon my feelings and prospects at this time with that reference to an all disposing and righteous and good Governor which shall excite my gratitude and increase my love and devotion. What I know not now but which if I live to then I shall know respecting the dispensations of his providence in regard to me all this he knows as well at this moment as he will at that and far better than I shall know it even after passing through it. O my God if it be thy will restore me to health and extend my usefulness but above all make me grateful for thy goodness submissive to thy will & more and more fit for thy kingdom. I have been getting some tracts to lend to the children of this place. My plan is to collect as many of the children on Saturday afternoons as I can to lend them tracts which they are to return when they come for more. Thus I hope to have an opportunity of seeing them. Lord bless I beseech Thee the undertaking. Help me I pray Thee to say a word in season to these little ones whom Thou wouldest have fed.
Jan. 10, 1823

Friday [January] 10. [1823] In reviewing the week past I find much in myself to lament and much to be thankful for. My health through the manifest goodness of God and most probably in answer to the prayers which christians have offered in my behalf has been improving. My attempts to perform the duties of my place have been as much blessed and more so that I had reason to expect. The children met me here on Saturday last and are to come tomorrow. O that I might be prepared with a word for them. This is O Lord my constant petition for myself in relation to them.

Jan. 20. Monday. [1823] Unfavorable weather has made our congregation small for three Sundays past. There is a lamentable want of zeal and stability in attending publick worship in the people of this place. Novelty that "bane of souls" pleases which in such a place as this turns the Sabbath from a day of devotion to a day of amusement, O my Lord may this state of things be changed may this people be led to see the importance of constantly attending some particular place of worship and may an increased zeal for the truth as it is in Jesus and attachment to order and regularity prevail. The children still come for tracts May the number be increased and their souls benefited for Christ's sake.
Thursday [Jan. 29, 1823] - I have been several days in this place at the house of my friend Rev. B.C. Cutler in whose family I find hospitality, friendship, intelligence, and religion and pass my time here very pleasantly. My health seems not improving – The happiness which I see in my friends family and the innumerable advantages which it gives in addition to the comfort it adds to his life induce me to look upon the marriage state in a more favorable light than ever & to regard it as particularly desirable to the minister of the gospel in those circumstances which every man of tolerable prudence and discretion would deem obviously requisite. The trite observation that a man wants a wife to take care of him is indeed true in very many cases such as sickness and discouragement's of various kinds. Besides nothing so centres ones affections and views nothing so brings all his feelings to bear upon a point as having a family to employ his solicitude and to constitute his home. The man who feels himself a wanderer in the wide world may indeed exult in his freedom but he cannot conceal an uncasiness
a wild lonely uneasiness a widowed feeling a weariness of selfish concern which all his boasted freedom can never counter-balance.

April 21, 1823

Monday 21. I here record the goodness of God to me in restoring to me my health and also in serving a dear brother in his voyage from N. Orleans and giving his to us in safety though not in health. O merciful Father wilt thou restore him also; give him health and strength and gratitude and such a degree of prosperity in his worldly concerns as thou shalt see best for him.

Friday 25. I am at a loss to know how I shall be supplied with books to pursue my Theological Studies while I remain here. No plan has suggested itself as feasible as that of taking a place in the Boston Athenaeum May my Good Lord direct me.

May 16 Monday evening. Decide with moderation and act with firmness

July 28 Monday. The Lord has graciously appeared for me in several important particulars— in regard to books I have been tolerably supplied from unexpected sources. After passing through the requisite examinations before Dr. J.S.J. Gardner I applied last Friday to the Standing Committee of Massachusetts for Testimonials to the Bp. which I
have this day rec’d and now wait the appointment of the Bp. to receive orders. I look forward to the event as the one of the principal events of my life as one of unspeakable interest to myself and I pray that God would prepare me to enter upon the sacred responsibilities of the sacred character with proper feelings and views and enable me to perform its duties to his glory and with a constant reference to the solemnities if a future day of account.

September 11 1823 Thursday. This is the day which has been appointed by Bishop Griswold or my ordination. I thank God for his goodness towards me in bringing me to see this day which has been the object of my hopes and anxieties for seven years last past May he grant me needed grace for his mercies sake.

Sunday 14. I was last thursday set apart to the great work of the gospel ministry and this date entered upon the duties of it by preaching once in the House of Industry at 8 ½ o’clock in the morning and twice in St. Math. So. Bos. and also reading service in the evening. O God grant me needed grace.

January 11, 1824

Sunday 11, 1824. I am desirous here to record the goodness of God towards me in particular for the year past in which several
events memorable to myself have taken place which demand my gratitude and love.
O Lord duly impress my heart and wilt Thou for thy mercy's sake make me still the
object of thy kind care and mercy.

March 6, 1824 Saturday. Came up to Chelmsford the first time for the purpose of
supplying people in the Merrimack Manufacturing corporation with preaching and
divine service. Rode up with Mr. Boot and was hospitably entertained at his house.

Sunday 7. Preached.

Monday 8. Returned to Boston in stage.

Saturday 13. Came up in the stage.

Sunday 14. Preached, staid through the week. Rec’d an invitation from the people to
become their minister.

Sunday 21 preached [this entry crossed out with line]
March 20, 1824

Saturday 20. Saturday came from So. Boston to Chelmsford with Mr. Kirk Boot, Esq. for the purpose of supplying for a few Sundays this place with divine worship and preaching. Was hospitably entertained at Mr. B's. [this entry crossed out with an “x”]

Sunday 21. Preached and performed divine service.


Saturday 27. Came up in the stage.

Sunday 28. Performed service and preached, staid the week at Mr. Boots.

Thursday April 1. Fast day preached two sermons.

Sunday 4. Preached as before.

Monday 5. Returned to Boston in stage.

Saturday 10. Came up in the stage to Mr. Boots.

Sunday 11. Preached etc., staid through the week.
Friday 16. Service on the evening of Good Friday.

[no image]

Easter Sunday 18. Preached etc.

Thursday 22. Performed the funeral service over the body of Mr. Lawrence drowned in Concord river.

Friday 23. Returned to Boston.

Sunday 25. Preached in Trinity Ch. Dr. Gardiner supplied my place at C Thursday 29. Came up to Chelmsford and took my lodgings at Mr. R. Hills.
May 1824

Sunday 2. Preached etc.

Tuesday 4. Called at Mr. Webber’s. Mrs. W. and two daughters -- all appear to be pious. The family from Littleton. Not acquainted with the Church nor very partial to it. Observe whether they attend worship. Their boarders not much pleased with service nor very attentive. Want a supply of prayer books I am to call some evening.

Called at Mr. Reeds, saw Mrs. R. and two daughters apparently pious -- They seemed better affected towards the Church and the boarders were said to attend. Observe I am to call an evening. Called at Mrs. Morrill’s, one if not two daughters. The family has lately come -- not many boarders yet -- mean to fill their house -- saw a prayer book.

Called at Mrs. Currier’s -- she is well disposed an energetick woman -- boards men.

Called at Mr. Burbank’s -- Mrs. B. at in the last stage of consumption - Call there soon to inquire -- there is a child.

Wednesday 5. Called at Mrs. Taylor’s. A modest woman not inclined to say much.

Called at Mr. Browns. Mrs. B. a sociable well disposed woman. Has a family of
children, would like to send them to the Sunday school her boarders are men. Called at Mrs. Balcom’s – A true blood, one daughter who is a Baptist and not very well, keep close to them. A house full of boarders. Did not like Doct. Gardner, thinks every one should be allowed set up their own way of worship, speaks not very well of forms.

Called at Mr. Balch’s. Mrs. B. and her mother both from Medway, Mr. Ives’ Parish. The mother objected to repeating in the confession. They kept a publick house in Boston from which they came here. Mrs. B. has occasionally been at St. Paul’s. Both Mrs. B. & the mother appear to be sensible women.

Called at Mr. Doan’s. Mrs. Doan not at home.

Called at Mr. Stephen Brown’s, saw the daughter a sensible and well behaved girl, the mother was out.

Called this evening at Mr. Webber’s find that I have seen him before. The family seem well disposed and hope that they and the boarders will be gradually reconciled to the Curch [sic]. They seem to be perfectly open and plain particularly Mrs. W made a prayer
May 1824

Thursday 6. Called at Mr. Pollock’s and was made acquainted with Rev. Mr. Lawrence [Sauders is crossed out] of Tyngsborough.

Called at Mrs. Hazelton’s, she from Dracut – Mr. Sears’ Parish, appears well disposed and desirous to get the boarders to publick worship somewhere called at Mrs. Parker’s. They moved to Westford this afternoon, invited me to call.

Called at Mrs. Lyon’s, she from Boston with four children, two girls in the factory and two boys at school, a woman of more than common worth is a well wisher to the Church and has attended Mr. Eaton’s in Boston.

Called at Mr. Peasley’s, was agreeably disappointed in her. Call there soon for tea.

Called at Mr. Buzzell’s, Mrs. B. a fine woman, lost two children and is now childless from Salisbury and expect to return after this season they have a Prayer Book and are interested, am to drink tea there soon.

Called at Mrs. Hoyt’s, her daughter sick at Amesbury is a little better, enquire often.

Friday 7. Called at Mr. Adams he one of the watch from Brookfield, lives in the front of the house two children, one in school.

Called at Mrs. Sherman’s, from Acton. Children Mrs. S. a sensible woman.
May 7, 1824

Called at Mr. Bronson’s, he sick of ague & fever, from New York state.

Rode up to Dr. Green’s with Doct. Huntington.

Called at Mr. Webster’s found her a woman of some sense and words, she is the sister of Rev. Mr. Balch of N. Salem NH, Calvinistick. They worship now at The Falls.

Called at Mrs. Carlton’s, she a lovely woman, interesting, intelligent, cultivated, and serious. Call often -- From Billerica.

Called at Mr. Pillsbury’s, she appears a good woman from Waltham - likes Mr. Harding - wants a Sunday school.

Called at Mr. Dodge’s, she a young woman appears well disposed.

Saturday 8. Walked in the morning with George Pollock.

Called at Mr. Morrill’s, Mrs. M. better, Mr. Cheney to whom I was introduced a few Sundays is the Rev. Baptist minister of Brentford N.H. I think that Mr. M. and Mrs. are decided Baptists and suspect they mean to be so at present.

Called at Mr. Tyler’s, Mrs. T. sociable and friendly. She says her family is the only one which was in the place before anything was done by the corporation, she attends church very constantly. Rev. Mr. Merrill of Dracut was acquainted with Mr. Morrill’s and Mrs. Worthen’s families of Amesbury. He is probably thoroughly Calvinistick.
May 9, 1824

Sunday 9. Wrote the whole of two sermons since last Sunday, the like I never did before, both passable was mortified exceedingly this morning to see so few present neither Mr. Boot nor any of his family were there. I preached on Deliverance from the fear of death Neh. II 15. Afternoon on the Education of children, Mr. Boot. called - had a son born at one o’clock today

Monday 10. Visited the school this afternoon. My first object is becoming acquainted with it.
Called at Mr. Boots in the evening.

Tuesday 11. Dined at Mr. Pollock’s, Saw Mr. Morrill, nothing said. Called at Mr. King’s this evening – he bigottedly attached to extempore worship – objected to the clause in the creed “He descended into Hell.”–
Was sent for to Mr. Bronson’s, he seems to be better at least thinks himself so. Thinks he this day began to have a heart to pray. I talked with him and made a prayer. Saw Mrs. Peasley, there engaged to drink with her tomorrow. Would it not be well in your visits to be gathering subjects and materials for sermons.
May 12 1824

Wednesday [12] - Called at Mr. Ayer’s, Mrs. A. pleasant and sociable, spent half an hour pleasantly.

Called at Mr. Fox’s, I met with a very cool reception the most so of any have experienced since I have been in the place. Mrs. F. made not the least conversation sometimes obliged me to asked forced questions twice and said nothing about my coming again.

Called at Mr. Bassetts was pleasantly received. Saw Mrs. Ball there.

Called at Mr. Cooks. Mrs. C. is good natured and I think not disposed to be difficult on religious points.

Saw Mr. Morse at his work.

Drank tea at Mr. Peasley’s, Mr. P. was more sociable than I expected to find him, had on the whole a pleasant time.

Thursday 13. Called at Mrs. Taylor’s, Mrs. T. not at home.

Called at Mr. Barnes, Mrs. B. lately confined, comfortable did not see her.

Called at Mr. Brown’s, Mrs. Brown complaining of a cold, asked me to stop for tea.

Called at Mrs. Hoyt’s, she expects to hear from her daughter in a few days. - Saw Mrs. Worthen. - Called at Mrs. Balcom’s.
May 14, 1824

Friday 14. Drank tea at Mr. Pollock’s. Met there, Mr. Boot. After tea saw Mr. Goodwin.
Called at Mr. Bronson’s, he getting better.

Saturday 15. Called at Mr. Worthen’s also called at Mr. Moody’s, where I saw Mrs. Morrill. Mrs. Moody asked me to call and take tea at any time, think I shall accept the invitation - have written two sermons this week.

Sunday 16. Preached. The congregation pretty good - sermon on God is a Spirit. Made a beginning in the Sunday School.

Monday 17. Wrote to Rev. Mr. J. Morse of Newburyport proposing an exchange on the 30, instant. Saw Mr. Morrill at his store and Doct. Huntington but neither of them said a word about the sermon yesterday.
Called at Mr. Morse to leave the letter to the Rev. J.M. Saw the daughter of Mr. M. a modest pleasant girl.

Tuesday 18. Called for Doct. Huntington in the morning and proposed a walk.
Called at Mr. Pollock’s Mrs. P. returned from Boston.
Mr. Morse drank tea here with his wife and daughter.
Saw Mr. King in the evening.

Wednesday 19. Called at Mr. Nichol’s, saw Mrs. N’s mother. Mr. N. at home.
Called at Mrs. Morrill’s her daughter gone to Amesbury.
May 20, 1824

Thursday [20] - Took a long walk with Doct. Huntington mistook our road and went further than we intended took a little cold and suffered with a pain in my bowels the rest of the day - kept in - received by the stage a letter from B.C.C.P informing me that the consecration of Leicester Church takes place on Wednesday next, the 26, instant and that he will be with me either tomorrow night or Monday.

Friday 21. Called at Mr. Barnes, Mrs. B. quite comfortable, went upstairs saw Miss Brockwell who talks of taking a class in the Sunday School.

Called at Mrs. Reeds did not see her. Saw the daughters and several young men who seemed to be serious received encouragement that one of them might take a class in the Sunday School.

Called at Mr. Webber’s, Mrs. Webber complaining of rheumatism nothing said on last Sunday’s sermon.

Called at Mr. Davison’s, Mr. Holmes boards there - saw a young woman from New Salem. Called at Mr. Smith’s, Mrs. S., a plain pleasant English woman from Manchester two years in the country, ought over by Mr. Pollock and he works in the print works, her health poor.
May 28

Thursday 28. Was at Boot’s last Friday evening & got the promise of his horse and chaise or sulky to go to Leicester on the 21, inst.

Saturday 23. Afternoon G.J. Worcester from Brookline called upon me and spent the Sabbath. Also rec’d a line by the stage stating that William and B.C.C. Parker were on the way here and would be with me, the next morning.

Sunday 24. Morning my two friends arrived held the Sunday School in the morning preached in the forenoon without notes for the first time of Sunday, since I have been here. William P. returned as far as Billerica Sunday evening.

Monday 25. Morning Mr. Worcester left me for Hollis and I spent the day in talk with B.C.C.P. In the evening ascertained that I could have only a sulky of Mr. Boot, went to Mr. Worthen and got his chaise and Mr. Boots horse.

Tuesday 26. Morning started for Leicester arrived at Worcester about 7 P.M. In the evening met with the Massachusetts clergy, agreed not to take any part in the ordination of Doct. Ducachet tomorrow.

Wednesday 27. Attended the consecration at Leicester had a very pleasant time and returned to Worcester in the
May 28, 1824

evening agreed to exchange with Rev. Mr. Cutter in the first Sunday in August, am[?] to exchange with Rev. Mr. Morse of Newburyport next Sunday.

Thursday [28 1824] returned to Chelmsford had service in the evening it being the festival of Ascension. Preached.

Friday 29. Called with Rev. Mr. Morse at his brothers and in the evening at Mr. Worthen’s. A Mr. Vose formerly from Stoughton but now of Chelmsford called and spent several hours with me in religious conversation. He is a Baptist and appeared to be a pious man.

Saturday 30. Went to Newburyport in company with B.C.C.P. arrived there about 5. o’clock. Called on Mrs. Bass, Mrs. Ashby and Mrs. Farris. Slept at Rev. Mr. Morse.

Sunday 31. In the morning found my horse sick, sent him to Pearson’s stable. Preached, dined at Mr. Rand’s with Rev. Mr. Otis. Mr. O. declined preaching in the afternoon. Baptized Martha T. Ashby for whom I became responsible as godfather stopped after service at the Sunday School and addressed the children walked in the burying ground saw the grave of Bp. Bass and
May 1824

George Tyng, drank tea at Mr. D.A. Tyng’s, with Mr. Otis and Mr. Rand, returned to Mr. Morse and found Mr. Jenkins with Mr. & Mrs. Ashby and Martha Terry.

Monday 31. returned to Chelmsford with my horse – he appeared to fail the first part of the way.

Tuesday June 1. [1824] Dined at Rev. Mr. Allen’s with an association of congregational ministers Dr. Abbot of Beverly preached the sermon. I had called in the morning at Mr. S. Brown’s, Mr. B. not so well as when I called before.

Wednesday 2. Mr. Davis and Doct. Green called. Called in the evening at Mr. Boots door did not find him at home nor Mrs. B. down

Thursday [3] - Called at Mr. Reeds and at Mr. Browns Mrs. B. somewhat better yet her symptoms still alarming.

Friday 4. have not been out today, several of the singers called this evening received a note from Mr. Morrill. Have a fire in my room today.

Saturday 5. My brother John came here in the stage in the evening and spent the Sunday with me
June 6, 1824

Sunday 6. Was informed that the singing society was last night broken up.

Tuesday 8. Was at the Boots in the evening.

On Saturday August 7, came up in the stage from August with Mr. [space left by Rev. Edson] Atkinson to Lowell [[This record was made August 7, 1869]] [Entry in double brackets made by Rev. Edson]
Aug. 27, 1826 Lowell An Episcopal visitation of Bishop Griswold. He arrived here last night in a chaise sent for him to Newburyport. Said last night on the subject of his fixing the payments to be made to Doct. J. on leaving St. Paul’s, that he verily thought he had the power to do all that he did; that he appointed two payments because he believed something of that sort was necessary to avoid serious injury to the Church. He had the good reason to believe that serious injury would have accrued to the parish had they been compelled to pay the 5000 at once and from what he had learned and observed since he has been much confirmed in his opinion. He said that Doct. Jarvis’ book in regard to fairness of payment was as the argument of a lawyer arguing but one side. I said that I thought I Doct. J. should have stayed to the Gen. Con. He said the clergy four to one would be against him in the Convention. I read to him my speech at them M Miss M[?]. He approved the ideas on the peculiar facility need and duty of union of the clergy of the Epis. Church. He attributed the want of union & intimacy among the elder clergy [?] [?] the[?] independent[?] [four previous words are unclear] spirit of their congregations to circumstances of their having been so long without a Bishop. He regarded the seriousness and apparent devotion of the youngest clergy in particular as a most favourable indication of their future union and usefulness.
I said to him I did not like a piece in the Epis. Reg. on Mr. Barlow’s proposition. I thought the affairs of the Society [as far as? unclear] related to the choice of books to be printed etc. could be safely entrusted only with the Bishops. He said he did not like accumulating power in the hands of any set of men what ever. I wish said he that our Bishop might always be poor and have no more power than is necessary for the discharge of the of their proper duties of their office. If the station is rendered one of ease and splendour improper persons will always be intriguing and striving for it. If it is only a place of labour and usefulness without the reward of worldly honours or emolument [meaning salary of fee], there will be little danger of any one seeking or accepting it but from a desire to do good.
January 1827

1st. Monday a stormy day kept close, visited School No 5, a few ministers Mr. Colburn only here at the S.C. Meeting in the evening.

Tuesday 2. Tuesday evening at Miss Boott’s.

Wednesday 3. Wednesday Evening Mrs. Boott and here.

Thursday 4 Thursday Evening the School Com met and prepared for a report. Also were of opinion that a report should be prepared for the town. Saw Mr. Bridge in the afternoon. Subscribed to the Tract Society 50 cents a year.

Friday 5. rode to Mr. Whipple’s and to Tewksbury.

Saturday 6. Commenced a Bible class at my study. Eleven attended. May God bless it if it be his will. S.D.P. Esq. arrived from Boston in the evening with Elisabeth and four others.

Sunday 7. Church poorly attended – singing poor. S.D.P. returned with the little party left Elisabeth with us. Mr. Bunce here in the evening. John started for the South.

Saturday 13. The Bible class met, seventeen attended. Rev. Mr. Cost from Salem arrived on exchange.

Sunday 14. Started from home a little after 4 o’clock in the morning for Salem. Roads filled with snow was afraid I
should not be able to get therein time to commence the service at the usual hour in the morning. By the good providence of God I arrived in time. Had much experience of the Lords goodness today particularly at the Communion – Staid at Mrs. Carliles[?].

Monday 15. Returned home safely and desire that my heart may be impressed with a sense of the divine goodness - Doctor Huntington accompanied me.

Tuesday 16. Buried Mr. Morse from the Church. He died last Saturday.

Thursday 18. Spent the evening at Mr. S. Adams at Middlesex with Mr. & Mrs. Bent and Mrs. [?] of Milton.

Saturday [20] Evening Bible Class met. Present eleven

Sunday 21. The Howe family at Church.

Monday 22. Was at School No. 4. Wrote to Susan P. Parker.

Feb. 7. [Thursday, 1827] Buried the infant child of Mr. Jonas Balcom.


Thursday 14. First mentioned to Mr. Lewis my thoughts respecting giving the Agent notice required on leaving. My reasons for thinking of leaving here are that I see no prospect of being successful as a minister of the gospel and the Church under existing circumstances. I am willing to stay at any sacrifice and at any expense of labour and difficulty within my power to meet
Feb.

provided there be but a rational prospect of usefulness. I am willing to engage myself here for life even with a diminution of salary provided this congregation can be allowed equal facilities with the other denominations here.

Friday 16. Mentioned the subject to Mr. Colburn, the Warden preparatory to giving requisite notice.

Saturday 17. Conversed with Mr. Lewis this evening after the Bible Class had retired and was well pleased with his feelings on the subject of the Church’s interest in this place. Believe him to be truly friendly to the interests of this congregation.


Mr. Abbott’s Funeral Hymn sung after service.

Monday 19. Visited at Belvidere

Tuesday 20. Baptized at Belvidere, Elizabeth the sick child of Patrick Montague.

Sunday 25. Preached in St. Anne’s. Sermon adultery

Tuesday 27. Buried Miss Lucy Haskell who was at Church all day on Sunday and died suddenly on Monday, funeral in the Church.


March 4. Sund. [Sunday, 1827] nineteen persons at the Communion. Sunday school Committee chosen at 5 o’clock P.M.

Monday 5. Wrote the report of the Town’s School Com., which was presented in the afternoon in town meeting Rechosen Chairman.
March

Wednesday 7. Evening Sunday School Com. met. Myself on the Visiting Committee Distributing Com and the Committee for instructors. Received a letter from S.D.P. Esq. same date. Friday examined School Dist. No. 3.

Friday 9. Examined school dist. No 3.

Saturday 10. Mrs. N. came here. Bible Class met at half past seven evening.


Monday 12. Communication of the R.A. Chap..

Tuesday 13. . Visited Miss Bates, wrote for her to her sister.

Wednesday 14. Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Tract Society.

Saturday 17. Evening Bible Class seems to be diminishing. O God direct me.


Monday 19. Rec’d a letter from S.D. Parker and Mrs. E. and from Elizabeth. Spent the day at Mrs. Adams’ at Middlesex.

Tuesday 20. Judge Livermore & Mrs. L & E spent the evening here.

Wednesday 21. Com. on Sund School Teachers met and appointed the instructors.

Saturday 24. Evening Bible Class was better attended than before. Mr. G. mentioned giving up the girls school.

Sunday 25. Miss Battles died this morning.

Tuesday 27. Saw Maj. Moody with Mr. Cookson.

Thursday 29. Buried Mrs. Charlotte Abbot wife of Abiel Abbot from the Church.

Friday 30. Met the philanthropick Society in the Evening.

Saturday 31. Bible Class not quite so full as last time.


Monday 2. At Col Brown’s in the evening.

Tuesday 3. Sick.

Wednesday 4. Mr. & Mrs. S. Adams here with S. Bent.

Thursday 5. Fast Day Mr. Colburn read the service sermon from Doct. Paley on Religious Meditation – Mr. Currier from Boston here with C.N. Parker and S. Parkman -- his cousin. I kept my chamber.


Tuesday 10. B.C.C.P & S.S.P returned to Boston

Wednesday 11. Nurse and the child went to B.


Easter Sunday 15. Took a collection in the afternoon for the Bishop at $11.00.


Wednesday 18. Attended a meeting of the free will Society at Mrs. Gliddens. Mrs. G. sick.

Sunday 22. Rebecca sick -- J. L Abbot at church
April

Monday 23. Sowed my beets carrots onions parsnips.

Tuesday 24. Mr. J. L. Abbot left Lowell with his family for Canton. Weather rainy and cold Tuesday night a heavy rain.

Wednesday 25. river rising on account of there in, weather rainy and cold.

Thursday 26. Buried Albert A. Budlong infant son of Thomas Budlong of this place. Weather cloudy and cold & river rising. Evening met the Com on Charity at the Lodge room.

Saturday 28. Mr. Batchelder sent me three grape vines.

Sunday 29. Mr. Boott returned to his family from England having been gone since the beginning of Nov. last.

Monday 30. Mrs. Hoit and Capt. Hoit, &c. with us at tea. Sent the Philadelphia Recorder to Ben C.C.P. at Lenox, the first time.

[May 1827]

Wednesday 2. Went to ride. Middlesex Mr. S. Aldam’s and Mr. Baldwin’s R. and E.M.

Friday 4. Preparatory meeting Mrs. Batchelder present. School Com met in the afternoon. At 6 o’c, drank tea here. Maria and Sam came up in the stage.

Saturday 5. Buried the infant child of James Dow of Dracut at 10 A.M. Bible class small.

Sunday 6. S.N. Parker arrived here before 9 A.M. from Boston and spent the day with us returned at 5 1/2 P.M. Com from S.D. Communion 26 present those who may be reckoned communicants here are as follows, Kirk Boott, Anne Boott, Rebecca J. Edson, Mary Batchelder,
May 1827

Sarah C. Livermore, Mr. Currier, Joel Lewis, Mrs. Green, Erina Bridge, Hepzibah Bridge, Martha Bridge, Nancy Bridge, Chloé Sprague,


Wednesday 9. Increase Robinson and his wife came to Lowell.

Thursday 10. Made report at Lodge.

Friday 11. night communication of the A. Council of royal & select Masters.

Saturday 12. Went to Marblehead & staid at Hon. Br. French’s, Mr. Lewis conducted the Bible class.

Sunday 13. Preached at Marblehead in St. Michael’s Ch. three sermons.

Monday 14. Returned from M.

Tuesday 15. Visited & examined Mr. & Mrs. Balcom here and examined School in Dist. No. 4.

Wednesday 16. The annual meeting of the corporations. Buried the infant child of Mr. Wright. We were at Mrs. Livermore’s in the evening.

Thursday 17. Visited and examined Mr. Bassett’s school. Rev. Mr. Allen visited the lodge in evening.

Friday 18. went to Boston – visited the picture exhibition. In evening was at Mrs. Stanley Parker’s.

Saturday 19. went to Bridgewater in the stage. Stopped at J. (?) Rob’s.

Sunday 20. Preached in the morning and Baptized Sukey Thayer, daughter of Benjamin Clark & Caroline Louisa daughter of Zoroaster Edson.
May

Preached in afternoon and at a third service. Capt. Sprague paid me five dollars for my expenses in going.


Wednesday 23. took the stage with John to Boston and returned to Lowell in the afternoon.

Friday 25. Maria returned to Boston with George Pollock in chaise.

Saturday 26. S.D.P.’s party came up and took the Bradley house. Bible class continued with three present

Sunday 27. I gave an address to parents and children before the two Sunday Schools in Lowell – in the Church at 6. o’clock P.M.

Tuesday 29. Rev. Mr. Moffit preached in the Church in the evening. William Althorp came up.

Wednesday 30. Election day. Attended the Masonic ceremonies & laying of the cornerstone of the Methodist Meeting House in Lowell as grand Chaplin... so ...
Thursday 31. Mr. Prince and family drank tea here.

June [1827]

Friday 1. Friday Evening the preparatory meeting was rather better attended than usual.

Saturday 2. Bible class better attended.

Sunday 3. Whitsunday [Pentecost or seventh Sunday after Easter] Baptized Warren Colburn in Church P.M.

Monday 4. Our friends returned to Boston. Rev. B. B. Smith & wife and child, called and spent a few hours.

Friday 8. Mrs. Foster of Cambridge and Mrs. Parker Bedford St. came up staid all night & returned on Saturday.

Saturday 9. Evening Bible Class small.

Sunday 10. Trinity Sunday.


Saturday 16. Better Bible Class.

Sunday 17. Preached at home.


Tuesday 19. Finished examining Mr. T.

Wednesday 20. Preached the convention sermon

Saturday 23. Went with my wife and child to Braintree. Rev. Mr. Potter heard the Bible Class
Sunday 24. Preached at St. Paul’s Boston. Mr. Potter preached at St. Anne’s

Thursday 28. returned to Lowell.

Friday 29. The preparatory lecture few attended.

Saturday 31. Bible Class pretty full. Received forty dollars to constitute me a member of the missionary Society. Rev. Ben. C.C.P. and Doct. P. came up from Boston.

Sunday July 1. Rev. Ben. C.C.P. preached and I administered the communion. Ben & the Doct. returned to Boston

Monday 2. Drank tea at Rev. Mr. Cookson’s. Communication of Mt. N.R.A. Clap.

Sunday 8. Went with Rebecca to Newton. Preached and administered the Communion. Went on Sunday evening to Boston.


Sunday 15. Preached at home. Spent the evening at Mr. Boott’s.

Monday 16. Spent the evening at Mr. Batchelder’s. Had an intimation that an Episcopal Society might be formed. Received an invitation to attend the services and the dinner at the ordination of Mr. Beckwith.

Tuesday 17. Find that Wm. Appleton has interfered about the Society and have stronger intimations that it
may be effected.


Sunday 28. Mrs. Colburn had a son born G.J. Worcester – called was at the Bible Class, staid all night.

Monday 30. was at Middlesex at S. Adams. Met Mr. [A?].

Tuesday 31. Rev. Mr. Otis called negotiated an exchange for the Second Sunday in August. At Mr. Bootts in evening.

[August 1827]

Wednesday 1. Rebecca and Elizabeth Mason went to Boston in chaise with Samuel Adams Esq. Mr. Boott called on subject of Society. As. Council met.

Thursday 2. a note left by Mr. Otis informed me that he preferred putting off exchange till 3 Sunday in September. I accepted the invitation to preach the sermons at the consecration of St. Stephen’s Church Middlebury, VT.

Friday 3. Movement about a room for the sick occasioned by the case of Mrs. Clap. Evening Preparation meeting pretty well attended. Afterwards called at Mr. Princes.

Saturday 4. Bible Class pretty well attended R. with C.

Sunday 5. Sunday Communion. Sunday School received their books. Rev. Mr. Cookson asked a d[?].

Monday 6. examined School No. 6. Buried Archibald Waugh son of John W. aged 1 year 7 months.

Thursday 7. Mr. Lewis here conversed on the subject of organizing this congregation. He well disposed.

Monday 16. Returned home.


Wednesday 29. Went to Commencement -- returned to Boston sick -- had a sick night.

Thursday 30. Had engaged to preach at Quincy this evening and to stand Sponsor for John's child, But was unable to leave my chamber.

Friday 31. Col S. N. Parker brought me home in a chaise. The communicants were assembled when I arrived -- I was unable to hold the exercises of the meeting.

[Edson_083]

[September - crossed out] August

[Edson_089]

Sunday 2. The Bible class was omitted last night -- Rev. Mr. Blaisdell preached here for me. The communion was omitted. I was so far recovered from the attack of dysentery as to be able to preach.

Sunday 9. I was so far recovered from the attack of dysentery [sic] as to be able to preach.

Saturday 15. Went to Cambridge. Mrs. Colburn accompanied me with her babe.

Sunday 16. At Cambridge on exchange with Rev. Mr. Otis. Staid At Mr. Fosters.

Saturday 17. Went over to Newton with Mrs. F. in her carriage. Saw Rev. Mr. Barry Afternoon returned home.


Monday 24. Set off from Lowell for the Con-
vention of the Diocese of Claremont N.H.

Tuesday 25. Arrived in Claremont – Evening read prayers in Union Ch. Mr. Barry preached.

Wednesday 26. Convention day – Mr. B.B. Smith read prayers and I preached.

Thursday 27. Went to Windsor -- preached in St. Paul’s Ch. at 4 o’clock in afternoon. Rev. J. Clap performed services.

Friday 28. Went to Woodstock performed service in the evening. The Bishop preached. Saturday 29. Returned to Windsor.

Sunday 30. Preached in St. Paul’s all day.

October 3. Performed service in Enosburgh in the meeting house. The Bp. preached.

Thursday 4. Performed service in Berkshire -- Evening preached

Friday 5. Evening preached at Montgomery. Rev. J.G. Clap performed services.

Saturday 6. Visited St. Armands L.C. dined at Rev. James Reid’s.


Tuesday 9. went to Burlington Read prayers in the Meetinghouse, evening Bp. preached


Saturday 13. Rode to Middlebury.

Sunday 14. Consecration Preached in the morning. Rev. A Bronson read the morning service

Monday 15. set off for home.

Wednesday 17. arrived at Lowell.

Sunday 21. Buried Peter infant son of Christopher Baron[?]

October


Tuesday 30. Buried Pardon Darby.


May [1828]

Sunday 4. Baptized Harriet Mumford Budlong, Thomas Budlong, James Sewell Budlong – children of Mr. Thomas Budlong of this place.
Wednesday 6. I perceive that this is the day of the meeting of the Maine convention at Bangor. Having recently spent a fortnight in that city I feel quite interested in the church there whose affairs seem to be approaching near a crisis. Indeed the sooner it comes the better for they have had suspense too long. I hope this may be a favorable opportunity - that the attendance of the Convention may put things in motion and produce a favorable result. The accounts of the church might I think be settled so as put the society in a hopeful condition with but very little money. The interest of all concerned is a settlement

- the sooner the better. I made some very pleasant acquaintance there and cannot but hope and pray that something may be done to put the congregation in a way of increase.

Thursday 7. The papers announce the election of the Rev. Marston Eastburn, D.D. to the bishopric of Maryland by the Prost Esp. Convention of the Prost. Esp. Church of that state - The election of another individual was expected by some in this quarter. What effect will the event have on the doings of our own Mass. Con. Approaching?

E.M.E. is in Woodstock for a few weeks. We have given her nearly three months in Boston previous to her going into the country. Her health is the chief object of the excursion and I hope that the region and atmosphere which have proved to beneficial to myself may be conducive to her health. We are much indebted to the well meant and concerned attention of Rev. B.C.C.P.

and his wife by the name of Bodham[?] called – poor laboring people bringing a letter from Rev. Mr. Taylor – Eaton Lower Canada stating that they are communicants of church. They have a large family of children. Went for a Sunday intro to Mr. Burnap 2 cong. meeting and the children last Sunday to that S.School. They promised to come to church at least to attend service in the S.S.House and in church as often as maybe & that the children be brought to the school. We shall see.


Monday 11. Went into H. School to noticed S’s death – pupils serious – Married, Baptised and Buried in Dracut today – called at Mrs. Worthen’s learned that the Dracut people have nearly quarrelled away their minister --Rev. Mr. Goodwin who has been settled at the orthodox Cong. meeting about a year and a half. A few grew suspicious of him and put some frivolous charges under power of a magnifier till by the half of a Cong. connived they easily minded a dissolution of relationship which had been formed but little more than a year and a half { }. An illustration of congregationalism. It is said that Rev. Mr. Blanchard who was on the concil was paid off the people very smartly. There is but little doubt that they deserve it. But they who deserve reprof don’t receive it most meekly and it was probably on this account that I was sent for to bury a child instead of the congregational ministers in the neighborhood – Margaret Standing poor thing! I am afraid I have done a sad job for her – marrying her to Schofield –

Tuesday 12. Buried a child of Willis drowned – on returning from funeral called at Mr. Swan’s spent an hour or more. Mr. and Mrs. S. at home – Was a great while since I was there and I feel that I have scarcely done justice to them as parishioners. The distance and location are the only cause.
Had a letter from Bill & Co. - New York inquiring about the property of Richard Plant – I would not give a penny for all the father will ever get of R’s property. Uncertain whether Richard is dead - announced the letter.

Tuesday Evening Meeting. William grilian seem awakened was present - I felt encouraged about him. O way the spirit lead him.

Wednesday 13. Tried to persuade Henry Prescott to conveine the S.School again. O that the Spirit of God wd speak to his heart. Meeting attentive. Miss Cooper came that I might have opportunity to speak to her, She feels interested and decries to feel more so.

Thursday 14. Read 168 pages Goodes Belton Government finishing it. It contains much very precious doctrine and I hope to be benefited by what I read. Tomorrow if God permits go to work for Sunday.
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Tuesday 5. A cold day. Having finished a Book of memoranda today I take this up again here: for the present at least. Marvin Fisher brother of William Fisher and if I mistake not the eldest br. of the family called to see me, he lives in Boston. Came up yesterday to see Wm. and was on his return when he came in to see me. He spoke very feelingly of my visits to his br., said he had great hopes that good was done and begged me to repeat my visits as frequently as I might be able to do while Wm. should live. He wish me to question him closely and told me he thought I might. Called in the evening saw Waldo, there who told me he thought Wm. greatly changed and desired me still to come. Wm. was asleep and I being in a hurry did not think it best to wake him. In the evening called by particular request at Mrs. Davis’ No. 5 Boott Corp. read part of a chap and prayed. Found Anderson the Norwegian at my house who seemed to have called to see me about the sacrament. He is a communicant in the Lutheran Church at home. And in this country has received it among various denominations in the different places where he has been. Though he has been here at several celebrations he has never come forward. Has the idea that it is sin to take it unprepared rather than sinful to neglect preparation. Received a letter from Rev. Mr. Mason, Salem proposing exchange which I accepted and answered the letter immediately.
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Wednesday 6. A very cold day. Kept at home in the morning. Went out in the afternoon. Made calls at several places, the Means at CO Room. Miss Preston at 29 Lawrence. Mr. Fisher, Mrs. Miles. Found Rachel more comfortable. She told me that for about a fortnight she has been better than she had been any time since last June, that she has not been lost during that time but a fortnight. She has felt more herself, her mind is better but her pain in the head continues. I told her if I could find that the pain diminished considerably I should then feel encouraged. She said that was what the Doctor said “If she could tell him that she felt less pain he would think she was better, She expressed the fullest resignation to the will of God “He knows what is best He knows the right way to lead me He will bring me the best way”. I said “The will of the Lord be done” She replied “O yes His will is the best I feel it is”.

Called at Mrs. Darrah’s, She has had a trying winter thus far. Ellen has been sick for several months with an affection [sic] of the heart which she is given to understand is incurable As was natural the Mother felt a great deal for her. The more as she did not seem to give that evidence of preparation which could be desired Doct. D had a desire to go to the South to pass the winter as an itinerant Dentist he should thereby avoid a fit of the rheumatism. His felt unwilling he should go and persuaded him to get it up. He was taken down in
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with rheumatism. The worst turn of it that ever he has had. He became exceedingly helpless so that for ten or eleven days he was not moved at all. And then by an amount of help at an expense of three dollars. At first he wanted his wife about him all the time and became withal exceedingly irritable and captious. She took care of him night and day and bore with all his fretfulness till she became very sick herself for a few days she was kept from him by physicians advice. But so soon as she could be in his room she took the care of him again and watched over him with the greatest assiduity. Which has kept her low and prevented her getting well again the trial has been very great to her especially on account of his want of religious principles to sustain him in his suffering and his lack of preparation for death. So much sickness and of so distressing a kind and the interruption to her business has made her trial very great but she has borne it with great patience and with a pious resignation to the divine will. I am fully convinced that she feels the lack of religion in her husband more sensibly than she ever anticipated before marriage and probably more during this trial than ever before. It was fortunate for him that he did not go South. He must have died away from home. Evening at home. Mr. & Mrs. Means with Doct. and Mrs. Bartlett and Mary Hinckley called after the Lyceum Lecture. They all turned out to hear Rev. Mr. Miles who lectured on the advantages of the study of natural History. Mr. Means said his lecture was very well.
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Th[ursday] 7. Left Lowell in the 2 o’clock train for Boston. Case, Lock etc. in the car. It was stated that Murdock who was now to keep the Merrimac House and who is now in Cambridge has detected one of his servants in the plunder of eight thousand dollars taken a few dollars at a time during many years that he has lived with him. The money is secured and the servant goes free. Arrived in Boston in time to attend the Convention services at St. Paul’s chapel. Br. Blackaller preached on Christ’s offering himself unto God. In the evening I preached No. 684 and Mr. Stone made an application.

Friday 8. Mrs. J. R. Parker sent me Doct. Schroeder’s pamphlet containing the correspondence between the vestry of Trinity Church and himself respecting the new principle of precedency among the assistants ministers of Trinity N.Y. It appears that they have taken precedence according to the date of their engagements as assistants until during the negotiations with Doct. Wainwright. The rule was first adopted that the assistants should rank according to the date of ordination to the ministry. Doct. Schroeder is first made aware of the rule in the beginning of January last by a letter from the Rector stating that it was the wish of the Vestry that it should be complied with the consequence was the resignation of Doct. S.
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Brethren met at Br. Stone’s. Had a pleasant meeting. I dined at Miss Stocker’s. Br. Barry preached in the afternoon Prayer meeting and Missionary meeting in the evening. Speeches at the latter by Mr. Rand Esq. of the Board Mr. Cutler Esq., Br. Howe, Stone etc. Collected about seventy dollars. I was made the bearer on the present occasion of one hundred and fifty dollars from the Ladies of St. Anne’s Church to the Mass Board of Missions and received the receipt for the same this day of Mr. Richardson, Treasurer.

Saturday 9. Called on Mr. Barry and was invited to dine. He remains in the city over Sunday, preaches in exchange for McBurney. At five o’clock after having spent the dinner hour and afternoon cozily with Br. Barry I took the cars for Salem and arrived at Br. Mason’s at 6. o’clock. Evening by myself with pleasant books. Christian Keepsake etc.

Sunday 10. Preached at St. Peter’s Church Nos. 501 650 & 684. Dined at Mr. Treadworth with his pleasant family. Called at Mr. French’s. Rev. Doct. Packard was at church morning, afternoon and evening and very cordially greeted me. Saw and spoke with good Mr. Howard. Seen my friend Mrs. Sweat the Ives and Catherine Bell. Spoke a word in the Sunday School.
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Mond[ay] 11. Started at half past eight for Boston fell in with my old friend D.P. King of Danvers. Had a pleasant interview with him till we parted at the Pearl St. House in Boston, He thinks the temperance law will stand as it is after all I learned also his views about the Education Board and found they [sic] that his opinion of the Secretary agrees well with my own that he is entirely wanting in practical talents and that he was entering on the office without any practical knowledge of the subject. With such important disqualification I think he will hardly be able to stand against the strong religious difficulties that are rising against him. His particular friends are endeavoring to make much of the fact that the most intimate have not been able to discover to what religion he inclines. Ergo say they that there can be no danger of his favoring any particular religion. Lizzy who has been in Boston for a week or more and who was to have returned with me was at the earnest invitation and wish of her friends and her desire left behind to stay a few days longer. I returned in the middle train up and found my family well. Rev. Mr. & Mrs. Mason called at half past twelve. They go down at ten o’clock Meeting of S. Com. Called at Wm. Fishers R. Prescott and M. Hanscom here in evening. Meeting at J Wilson’s, Robert Wilson prayed.
Edson_047

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Tuesday 12. The report is recently come out that Doct. Green is engaged or likely to be so to Miss McBurney. Appearances seem to sustain the report. I am told that he took her today to see an exhibition at the City hall. It is a match with which I am much inclined to be pleased. She is an Episcopalian and a communicant and I hope one that will make him happy. His first wife an excellent woman who was already a pious woman when he married her though he at that time was not. So far as we can judge, She was the occasion of his becoming a Christian. His second wife an excellent woman was not professedly a Christian when he married her though he at the time was. To all human appearance he was the occasion of her becoming a Christian. Should he marry the lady which report seems to assign to him it may be said, they are both professedly Christians and both Episcopalians. Called at Cyril French’s, Hulmes, Dodge, Carlton’s, Moody’s, Met O. Scott in the street and paid him four dollars for an engraving her purchased for me long time ago. Elizabeth Livermore spent the day with us at the Parsonage, was in very good spirits and seemed to me better than I have seen her since she has been sick. She made allusion to religion more freely than usual Mr. C. Cook here in evening. Wm. McArthur called for Prayer Books.
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[Wednesday] 13. Ash Wednesday. Church opened this morning at half past ten o’clock. The congregation was pretty good, more were present than I expected. Doct. Green, Mr. Carlton, Mr. Hanscom, Mr. Robbins, Mr. Mather, Mr. C. French were the men. I preached No 356 and the season was on the whole a pleasant one.

Mr. Cook told me last night the neighbor French was not out at the Sunday School last Sunday afternoon as I expected. He gave me reason to depend on him and I did not think he would disappoint me after what he said by allowing him my class in my absence to be without a teacher.

Rev. Mr. [?]en Broach called on his way down from Boston to Concord His business has been to obtain subscriptions for the church in Concord, N.H. He has been in Newburyport & Salem Marblehead Boston and Lowell and has obtained about the amount of six shares of forty dollars each. He is too fainthearted. One cannot succeed in such a matter without some energy determination and perseverance. Mr. Ayer has gone into N. Hampshire. If the parish could have been canvassed thoroughly I doubt not that several shares might have been taken It is my intention with Mr. Ayer’s cooperation to make out a share Mr. J.N. will probably see him before I do or if not the share I think can be made up.
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[Edson_049]

A Miss Cutler came with the Rector of St. Paul’s Concord. I met her at the Merrimac House. He did not at first intend I should see her but at length he introduced me to her.

Mr. Smith called this evening. He has just returned from Washington. He had a sad time getting there on account of the freshet which had carried away bridges and brought down ice in abundance. He saw nothing of Mrs. Coburn who is now at Washington. Mr. Holmes the poet lectures at the Lyceum tonight. Bixby informs me today that the Mechanics Association have recently received a donation from the Boott Corporation by which the association is out of debt and will have some money to purchase books. He inquired whether I still had my share. I could tell him that I still held it and that it was free from the encumbrance of assessments having been recently cleared.

I have been looking over the first half of a memoir of Cardinal Cheverns very recently translated. The second part not having arrives in Boston a few days ago. The book is in a style of great exaggeration so far as I have any means of judging. It is interesting to me as it brings up things which
had some knowledge of at the time. He left Boston the same Autumn in which I was ordained Deacon as recorded in the early pages of this Book. I remember seeing him and hearing him perform part of the service of high Mass and deliver a discourse on the grave of M. Matignon the 18 September 1823 which was but a few days before his departure. He said much about his being forced away by the authority of his king and other superiors. I had at the time some doubts whether there were not a willingness on his part to go though I doubt not it was very painful for him to leave his flock. The book discloses some facts in regard to the way how it was brought about by which it is plain as I suspected at the time that he had felt a desire on the whole to return to his native country. Such a feeling was most natural and on that my opinion was chiefly founded while every body said that his heart was wholly here and that nothing but the authority of his king etc. would or could have induced him to go. It seems as I should judge from the book that after the death of Matignon he felt inclined to be at home with friends.
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Thurs[day] 14. I received an invitation by letter from Morton Eddy Esq. Bridgewater to deliver one or more temperance addresses at Bridgewater on the last Tuesday in the present month of February. I happen to be unprepared and how to give the time otherwise I should be glad on that ground especially and for several reasons to bear testimony to the good cause of temperance the cause seems to be looking up. There seems to be hope that the shaking that the subject is now undergoing in the Massachusetts Legislature will cause the roots of the tree to strike downward the deeper and to grow the firmer in the soil of the Old Bay State. God grant it may be so I have this day received from Manlins[?] Sergeant his letters to H.G. Otis who has recently added another circumstance of notoriety to his name as little enviable as any that have preceded it I have not yet read the letters but doubt not that S. gives him a good drubbing. The Bible class was pretty well attended. Mr. Carlton present. Mr. Puffer proposed to undertake to sing with the children again this winter and called to show me Lowell Masons book
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which he will use with my consent which I freely gave. He will save the Hymn books. Mr. P. called after the school.

Friday 15. Today came the sad news of a tremendous gale or hurricane in England which has wrecked three American packets at Liverpool or vicinity. Loss of life is very considerable loss of property very great. Extensive damage is done throughout England and in Ireland, it occurred on the night of 6-7 of January. Much distress and loss of life the 7. On the 11, same month there was a dreadful earthquake in the West Indies, doing great destruction in Martinique. Received a letter from Richmond Jones in Troy N.Y. Also a letter from Lizzy in Boston the Friday services were held today and I began upon a familiar explanation of the Catechism, detained the people nearly an hour. Do not intend to keep them more. Had a call from Rev. Henry Wilbur. He spoke of Doct. Payson and his acquaintance with him and of his own ministrations in the Doct.’s Parish. He was employed to assist the Doct. He spoke much of the richness of Dr. P’s imagination. Took a vapor bath first time this afternoon at Doct. Ford’s.
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Saturday 16. Spent the day chiefly in my study in preparation for Sunday. Catechism in the afternoon there were present forty three children. Mr. Calvin Cook was on the ground early to see that the house was prepared. R. Prescott, Mary Hanscom, and Mrs. Edson assisted in hearing the children recite. Had an interview with Susan Andrews who says she means to try to live consistently with her religious profession gave her “Pay thy vows” also to Ann Sharple’s who appears well as a Christian. Wheeler came in for the Ps and Hs I have not received the times from Isaac this month, sent word to him to furnish me with them.

Sunday 17. Met my class Mcader present. School full. Preached No’s 751. & 752. Young Allen of Harvard College present all day and at Sunday School in afternoon. Came home with me spoke and prayed in evening meeting staid with us the night. I am pleased to find him so much engaged in religion and I had a very pleasant conversation with him about Henry French. Chas. Josiah Gillis told me this morning that he has received intelligence from Mr. Cushing of his appointment as a cadet at West Point Academy. He seems much pleased with the appointment. I fear and tremble lest his temptations there should be such as to overwhelm his religious character. O what can I do previous to his
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departure which is to be in June next to establish him in the faith and comfort of the Gospel of Christ. O that he may be in Christ and Christ in him. Blessed Saviour do thou take full and entire possession of his soul and sanctify all within to thyself and thy glory. O that this lamb may be preserved.

Monday 18. Answered Morton Eddy’s letter this day sent it by morning Mail accepting the invitation to deliver the address one or more on temperance at Bridgewater on the last Tuesday of this month on the anniversary of the Bridgewater Society for promoting temperance. Called at Fisher’s, Meeting at John Wilson’s, He being called upon made a prayer. John McDonald has no objection to be called upon in case there should not be others there who should be asked in preference. Mrs. E. had company Doct. Green and Miss McB, Miss Catherine Lawrence, and Mr. Appleton etc.
Tuesday 19. Allen called before going out of town. I had a good talk with him. Rachel Miles is in her chair today. I hope if it pleases God she may be better yet. Old Mr. Poulson began his history with me. He was five years old when he went into a weaving shop and was employed to do something about the looms. At seventeen he enlisted in the army at that early age married. He was twelve years in the army and left in 1815. There may be some mistake in dates for the above
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reckoning would make him none but 50 and he seems much older. I must take up the subject with him again and then I may get my dates better. Mrs. Burke spent the day with us. She was last Autumn sick and supposed in the early part of winter to be in consumption. She applied to Doct. Kelly, took his medicine and wears his medicated jacket the change in her is most surprising. I never saw her look so well as she does now. Whether Kelly be quack or no she is manifestly improved and we cannot but be thankful. Mr. Burke and Mrs. Prescott were here in the evening. I called at Mr. Cyril French’s.

Wednesday 20. Lizzy began going to school today. Made many calls today. At Wm. Page’s, I was very kindly received. They are going to move. Gave me a poor account of Thomas the Barber. What can be expected of people who think they must work Sundays. Mr. Benj. Blood who used to do boating for the company and who brot up [?] furniture from Boston presented a bill of fourteen years standing for the freight. I paid it 3.35. [might be 8:35] and took a receipt Mrs. E. and Lizzy go to Mrs. Princes tonight called at Cheatham’s Belvidere, found him and her both in bed he from a broken knee her for [?]
Feb 1839

Thursday 21. Today the Rev. Mr. Blanchard called to consult with me about a Bible meeting to be held in the City Hall this evening. We drew a constitution for a Society in Lowell auxiliary to American Bible Society and made some arrangements for the meeting. The Hoopers from Marblehead spent the day at Doct. Huntington’s, I hear some whispering about Mr. Lewis uniting with the Methodists in a long protracted meeting in Marblehead It seems that his course is displeasing to some and there are intimations that it may result in his leaving them I hope not, the Bible meeting was held Attendance not full Perhaps there were from fifty to a hundred people. Doct. Huntington in the chair, Pelham Warren, Secretary. Speeches by Blanchard, Burnap, Stickney, Thurston, Ballard made objection on the part of the Baptist to whatever should connect with the American Society. Mr. Cyrus Alder from Fall River was here soliciting aid for the church there.

Friday 22. Mr. Alder called and took names of persons to call upon I subscribed and paid ten dollars. The same amount as for Grace Ch. New Bedford. Friday Lect. was well attended. William, William here this evening to recite, appears well. The Mechanics Building Ball is tonight. Fewer of our people attend now than in years past.
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Saturday 23. The week past has been one of some excitement on account of some hostile movement of the British forces in New Brunswick and the people of Maine respecting the boundary line. I do not think there will be battle. It does appear to me the parties know better and yet there is a surprising avidity manifested by all classes of people to take hold of war. Last night was the annual Ball at the Mechanics Hall. It has been for several years last past got up with an extensive interest and I have felt sorry and grieved to see so many of our own people concerned in the matter. The plan is intended to embrace all classes of people and they are to mingle together in the dance once a year there are several objections in my mind. One that dancing here publicly is a step to licentiousness and I am sorry that influential people should give countenance to a practice which is other forms is doing much harm. But further the laboring man and woman who go there and dance make themselves ridiculous in the eyes of those who have nothing to prevent their dancing. Well, it is not to be expected that a hard working person once a
year should be able to leave his hammer, anvil or saw and dance as elegantly as a child who has been taught and practiced and the awkwardness of the mechanic and his hardworking wife is a matter of sport and such dancing is indeed most thoroughly and truly ridiculous. It is a pity they should put themselves in a way to be laughed at. Benj. Walker was at the Ball about two o’clock in the morning his house took fire and the people were alarmed. Not much mischief was done to the house.

Mr. Brothers drowned at the Middlesex Corp.

Sunday 24. Weather beautifully fine. I preached Nos. 353 and 140. Church full. Charles McBurney at Church and in Sunday School. I do not see anything of Tirzah Richard at Church or Sunday School. Received an intimation from Joseph Corson that Wm. Liswell is getting in poor company. Must see him. I am to go to Bridgewater in the morning if God permit.

Monday 25. Took the morning train of cars S. McB. in company, Mrs. Ripley of W, Mrs. Dana & her daughters. Found Madam Parker quite ill. Called on Mrs. Door about our twenty dollars worth of testaments they have been put up for us 111 muslin at 9 cents and 80 sheep[?] at 12 ½ cents 9.99 + 10.00 = 19.99. At noon took the stage for Bridgewater the whole day was rainy
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arrived at half past five o’clock and found friends well.

Tuesday 26. The Rev. Mr. Doggett called on me spent the morning which was very fine & chiefly in preparation. At two o’clock went down to the old South Meetinghouse and delivered a temperance lecture. The occasion was one of special interest to me on account of the sight of faces with which I was once acquainted. In the summer of 1813, if I rightly remember I attended the first temperance meeting that I ever did attend in the same house. Docts. Sanger and Hunt were in the pulpit and Doct. Reed gave the sermon on the evils of intemperance. In the evening I preached No 697 in the orthodox Meetinghouse Mr. Gays. The weather was very unfavorable and the attendance was small, some hundred people perhaps in the evening, considerable more in the afternoon. Old Mr. Nathan Mitchell is the president of the Society and was present the whole time. I visited the grave of Lieut. B. Willis who died March 8, 1809 aged 45. Death has made sad haven recently in the family of Jacob Perkins his wife son and two daughters having been taken off by typhus fever, within a few months the harbinger of death seems to have visited another. Shubael Lovell who has had an attack of paralysis. I had a moment’s interview with him.
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Wednesday 27. Took the stage in Bridgewater for Boston at about twenty minutes after seven arrived in the city at between 12 and one o’clock. Mrs. Robinson came home with me for a visit of a few days. I dined at S.D. Parker’s Esq. and took home with me the above named testaments 191 in number as was told me. In the evening I had a small catechizing in the S.S.H. present about seven.

Thursday 28. Saw Wm. Fisher who seemed to suffer less than I have seen him at other times, thought his disease affected his mind some what, I cannot say much for the state of his feelings except that he seems very desirous to have me with him and pray with him, and assents to all I say. Bible class in the evening.

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Friday March 1. Church at three o’clock pretty well attended. Evening Wm. William was in to recite.

Saturday 2. Catechizing as usual, well attended.

Sunday 3. The weather snowy and unpleasant. The Sunday School was well filled. At the communion about ninety received. Among others my dear sister Mrs. Robinson who became a communicant last Autumn. She attended all the services today and seemed to enjoy them, as indeed she has all the exercises since she has been here. In the evening we had the customary Missionary meeting at which I read from the Spirit of Missions March No. in which the people appeared to take an interest, Doct. Green and Miss McBurney were present. Sermon preached in the afternoon was 375. Gave notice of Bishop’s visit on Easter Sun.
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Monday 4. Election of city officers. Meeting of the Board of Sabbath School Union this morning in Sunday School house. I took out two half quires of thin letter paper this day. Buried William Fisher today. He died on Saturday. Missed the meeting of the School Committee on account of the funeral. Had a good meeting at John Wilson’s, Br. John Edson & Increase Robinson came in the cars at night so that we had a Bridgewater company. I wrote to Rev. Mr. Haggard of Taunton requesting him to spend the passion week with me stating that I can afford to give him ten dollars for his weeks work. I find myself reelected on the School Committee this year to come. I did hope to escape.

Tuesday 5. I find a dissatisfaction felt at the measures taken by Unitarians to effect the election of their men on the School Committee One of the six was nominated from that cong. on the regular ticket. By means of making up a ticket closely resembling the regular one except the name of Mr. Miles instead of that of Mr. Burnap, the former was elected and the Unitarians succeeded in getting two out of the six. A similar trick was played to effect the election of Elisha Fuller but happily did not succeed. Br. John left at two o’clock. I attended the funeral of Martha Cheever a member of the Sunday School. She died suddenly at four o’clock Monday morning. She went to bed as usual the night before though she was in a poorly way yet about house
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and not under physicians care. I visited my colored people this afternoon and proposed to carry the gospel to them by holding a meeting on Friday evenings for them If they will agree to it and come into the measure it will I think be an important undertaking and worth following up.

Held my first inquiry meeting with a view to the approaching confirmation. Janet Kitchen came with Martha. She appeared well and I hope is disposed to become interested in religion.

Wednesday 6. The catechizing in the evening was better attended this Wednesday than the last though I am not able to get in many who ought to come. A meeting of the Sunday School Managers was held at the parsonage this afternoon when a resolution as adopted expressive of the opinion that more room was desirable and should be supplied for the School and it was voted that it be presented to the S. School Committee at a meeting to be held on Monday evening.

Thursday 7. Spent the morning in my study and the afternoon in calls. Bible class in the eve.

Friday 8. Mr. Allan Pollock, Sarah and Susan came up in the morning train they have suddenly determined to have residence in Boston and to go to reside for the summer in Litchfield, Ct. where Susan is to be under the care of Doct. Abbey for the spine disease with which she has been afflicted. They are to be at board in L. till Autumn and
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then go to housekeeping in N. York city. The determination was sudden to me. Some what is perhaps to them though I now recollect an intimation not probably designed as such dropped when I was last at their house in Boston and noted in my journal of Jan 13 of this year. I then learned they had offered their pew for sale while at the same time I could not believe their attachment for the Church was diminished I recollect further a remark then dropped not however in connection with the above fact that indicated no preference of Boston as a place of residence. On the whole I doubt not they were thinking of this present change. But it was sudden at last and much so that they had not time to call on their friends in the city but only to leave cards. They however tho, they had but only one day kindly devoted that to us and came to Lowell where Mr. P. had not been since he left in 1826. The day was passed very pleasantly to us Mr. P seemed much gratified and I gave my time to him with pleasure. He visited The Mer. and Print Works counting Room. Saw Mr. Prince, Mr. Goodwin, and Ephralet[?] Brown, went to the carpet works was shown the whole process by Mr. Wright who gave him great attention, looked at Mr. Boott’s picture in Mechanics Hall and in
the afternoon they all took carriage with Mrs. E. and went over the circuit of the city so as to see the outlines. They called on the Prince’s, Moody’s at Mrs. Worthen’s Mrs. Mansur’s, and Mrs. Livermore’s. They went down in the last train of cars. At the two o’clock train my dear sister Mrs. Robinson who has been staying for the week past left us. Her visit has been very pleasant to us.

In the evening I commenced holding a little meeting for the colored portion of my people if they maybe called mine who so seldom come to church though they have a pew. The evening was very stormy, muddy and dark. My object was to be able to come at the young men. Out of six who I suppose might be expected I got but two. How the thing will eventually succeed I do not know and though they were very civil and expressed great sense of my kindness in coming I could not quite satisfy myself whether it is likely to be on the whole sufficiently satisfactory to them to induce their attendance. The time of the next meeting was left unsettled.

Saturday 9. Spent the morning in study. Afternoon catechized but the key of the Sunday School House being missing we could not get in and occupied the tower of the church. Called on H. Bridge, She expressed her readiness to depart whenever it may
God's will said she should prefer to go tho she desires to be patient and to want the time of his appointment.

Sunday 10. Sunday School well attended. Preached Nos. 763 and 764. In the evening was the Union meeting of the Lowell Sabbath School Union at the 2 Baptist Meetinghouse in Worthen St. The house was crowded chiefly with women, very many went away. I wish that something might be done to hold these meetings before the men.

Monday 11. Met a Com. of Bible Society for Domestic Supply and agreed to authorize the Tract visited[?] to make inquiry for those destitute of a Bible that we will supply them. In the evening held a meeting of the Sunday School Committee in S.S.H. Report of Treasury made and accepted up to the present time, Library concerns settled up and the same accepted, an election was appointed on the 24 inst. and [?] [?] [?] by com. and a resolution on the want of room for the Sunday School was voted to be laid before the wardens and vestry by a most respectable committee of five. Went to Mr. Carltons's where I met a pleasant company all of my own congregation. Mrs. Moody proposed reviving the Ladies meeting of Sewing Circle.

Tuesday 12. Spent the morning in study. Calls in the afternoon. Went to Mr. Carlton's where I met a pleasant company all of my own congregation. Mrs. Moody proposed the reviving of Received a letter from Joel Fitch Esq. Treasurer of Mid. Co. Bible Society.
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Young Cotter the only inquirer at the inquiry meeting. Two of my faithful ones Janet Kitchen and Lydia Kelly were there.

Wednesday 13. Answered Mr. Fitch's letter. Wrote to Br. Fuller for help on Friday and exchange on Sunday. When I got to the Post Office I found a letter from him proposing the Exchange for next Sunday which I readily accepted on the outside of the letter prepared and sent it forthwith. Called at Cyril French's in the evening early. Met there Mr. Miles a connection of theirs who is a churchman and has now commenced studying for the ministry at Stow academy. The catechizing in the Sunday School house was very pleasant a goodly number attended. Horace Mann Esq, lectured in the City Hall before the Lyceum. I have lost entirely all confidence in him as a Secretary of the Board of Education I think him entirely unfit for the place for want of thorough practical talent. He makes beautiful comparisons, elegant figures, and fine lectures, i.e. as Miss Hinckley said fancy lectures. But he has no power to improve the system of common Schools. He talks of the forms seats, ventilation, libraries and so forth for want of power, as I suppose to find the right end. I think I see too much of his phrenology. And I strongly suspect that the library zeal is a mere
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printing and publishing concern I think will upset him. It will be well if it does not upset the governors chair with him. On the whole subject to him for three things 1. His want of ability 2. His religious [word crossed out] view on religion which I suspect him of inculcating improperly 3. His money speculations in the library matter.

Thursday 14. Mrs. E. talked of going to Boston but rain in the morning prevented. It rained freely most of the forenoon. Afternoon visited the Schools in South School House as yesterday I was in those of the North. Evening a meeting of the Directors of Education So of St. Anne's Ch. was held here and a vote passed that seventy five dollars be sent to Wellington E. Webb. There have been some doubts about this last appropriations. There were reports raised not favorable to him when he was here but I think they were entirely groundless. They were not so far as I could learn distinct charges of any particular misdemeanor but jealous intimations. I guess they amount to nothing more. I wrote to President Gotten whose opinion of the whole seems favorable. The amount of it is that I do not expect very great things of him. I never supposed that he would make a splendid preacher.
But I have ever thought him honestly and sincerely pious and possessed of some perseverence. I have supposed him devoted to the work of the ministry and determined to apply himself diligently to that object and doing so I have supposed that he would succeed so far as to make a very useful man. We want sound minded well educated men who are devoted to the work of the ministry determined to preach the gospel of Christ for Jesus sake who are not of the highest price in worldly estimation. Otherwise how are the numerous parishes to be supplied who are unable to pay any other than a moderate salary. If we train a good man for such a situation we shall do not less for the cause of Christ perhaps then if we educated a man of splendid talents. I am on the whole and from all that I can learn in favor of continuing to aid Webb so as to get him fairly through. and I trust to see the day when he will be usefully employed in the service of Christ in the Church. Our meeting was held in the early part of the evening so as that we got through by 7½ oclock. The Bible Class at eight was attended as usual. The aspect of things in Me. [Maine] is much more peaceful by today's papers.
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Friday 15. Mrs. Edson left for Boston this morning in the cars in company with the Moody family and Mr. & Mrs. Carlton. Spent the morning mostly in calls. Afternoon the service was pretty well attended. More men out than usual. two infants baptized Mrs. Mitcher's[?] and Mrs. Hobson's. Called at Mrs. Prince's. Learned that Dynely[?] has gone again to England. Called Doct Scribner. Evening attended a meeting in Belvidere of my colored people. Do not yet know who will come out, whether it will succeed or not. Received a letter with good news from Blackaller of Bridgewater. Also one from Susan Pollock, New York to Mrs. E. which I sent at once to Boston.

Saturday 16. Wrote to one of the Secretaries of the American Bible Society communicating the formation of our Society as auxiliary to the national institution and announcing our intention to send on money previous to the national meeting. Morning was partly spent in calls. Afternoon in catechizing. A pretty good attendance. At five o'clock took the cars for Andover. Read Parson Cooke's Antidote with which I was much pleased.
It has given me a higher opinion of his talents than I had before. The book is in a strong vivid style and his reasoning is clear and forcible. The Antidote is against the attacks of Garrison on the ministry though the thing is done in an inoffensive manner and antislavery is not named. I should judge that the writer though ably defending the ministry against abolition hostility is himself an abolitionist. I found brother Fuller at home passed a pleasant evening with him. He showed me a course of sermons on the church service to the number of more than twenty. Also a course of lectures on missions which I could wish might be given here. I proposed the matter to him in a definite proposition which he has under consideration. At seven o'clock in the morning he set off in a chaise for Lowell with a Miss [blank space] a relative in his family. He found the roads bad and did not get into the Sunday School till twenty minutes or more after the time of commencing the exercises. When he arrived he expounded the lesson for about ten minutes. I preached for him at Andover Nos. 312, 750 & 724. I found the congregation larger than when I was at A. last time. Things look promising, the people are attentive. The evening service was large and well attended by the seminary and academy students who are
not allowed to attend in the regular Sunday services. In other words not allowed to be absent from the chapel. To Episcopalians it is a serious fact that no pupil connected with the schools at Andover can attend Church services Sunday forenoon or afternoon without violating an express and operating law of the Trustees. In this respect they are behind Cambridge and so far as I know all other institutions of learning in liberality.

Owing I am willing to believe to the fact that there has been no special call for the repeal of laws which when they were passed were needful and prop[sic] and then interfered with no rights of others. We owe it to the church respectfully to petition the Trustees for such modification of their laws in this regard as to permit the Students to attend church, those under age when the same is requested in writing by the parents or guardians and those of age at their own formal petition provided account of their attendance at Ch. be kept and reported as often as required by the Trustees. This would be fair on both sides and what public opinion would require them to do if it were properly asked. I trust it will be asked and
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did not fail to urge it upon Br. Fuller to commence action on the subject. My plan was that a petition be drawn up by himself in terms sufficiently respectful and addressed to the Trustees. That the petition be presented to the Bishop for his signature and then to the Mass. Clergy generally and that when extensively signed by clergy and perhaps by laity it be presented by a suitable committee to the Board. I hope something of the kind will be done soon. At present the law seems operating much against us. Considering as we do that the privilege of attendance on our own worship so important and needful to secure a proper attachment to the church services it is a matter of vital concern to us that they who are churchmen and children of churchmen should while under so decided a religious influence as those pupils are should be permitted to attend on the worship of their fathers and of their choice. At the third service Nolcini's[?] playing on the organ was superb really beyond anything I have heard since Beale was in Lowell. Sat up with Br. Fuller (who returned to A. about six oclock) till after twelve. Took the seven oclock train and came home.

Monday morning 18. Met Joseph and Hannah
Buckley at the Depot they going to Boston She attends church very regularly though much cannot be said of the rest of the family. Hannah was confirmed in Lowell during her mother's lifetime. The mother was a woman decidedly attached to the church and I trust the latter part of her life to religion while the Father was a hater of religion and always making trouble about the family's coming to church. The mother kept the family together while she lived and kept up a nominal connection with the church through my pastoral visits which became frequent toward the last of her sickness she desired the sacrament. I gave it to her and Hannah received with her in the sick room. The only time that I have known of her receiving it. When the mother died the irreligion of the family seemed to have no restraint and they went to the Unitarian church and I fear almost deserted public worship. [?] talked with her some time ago about religion and thinks her very hardened. Yet from the time the family left Lowell she elsewhere has attended church. She has had [?]tion but I fear has had no religious consolations to support her.
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The family have been remarkable for [?] things their hostility to religion and [this incomplete sentence crossed out with lines]

This forenoon Mrs. Bunce [?] called [unclear]. Her errand seemed to get me to become responsible for the payment of about three hundred dollars for the other half of the Tewksbury farm and land which she now owns with another—I desired to be of service to her but felt obliged to decline the request. Brot home Richardson's Dictionary which I purchased some time ago of Bixby. Sent by mail seventy five dollars in a draft payable to the order of Wellington E. Webb of Washington College, Hartford Ct. It being the appropriation of the Education Society of St. Anne's church to him. Held the meeting at the Scotch block which was well attended and went off well.

Tuesday 19. A person called by name of John Taylor alias Robert - bred in Kentucky- as a bond servant in the family of a man by the name of Schulz who gave Robert to his daughter on her marriage to a lawyer. The legal gentleman undertook to chastise Bob for not catching a horse. It would seem that the lady thought the correction undeserved for says she to her slave who was probably something of a favorite "Bob don't you let him whip you" Accordingly Bob who was very strong as often as the man offered to strike him jerked the whip out of his hand repeating
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the process in a quiet and determined way till the Lawyer tired. For this offense Robert was sold to a slave dealer and carried with 50 others to New Orleans where he was exposed to public sale and purchased for 800 dollars as a house servant cook and coachman as he was bred. But the man having in mind to swap him away for another the slave took the opportunity to go on board a steamboat where the hands were free colored persons (captain white) and went up the river to Cincinnati thence to Marietta Ohio. But the advertisements went before him. And in Ohio he was apprehended and condemned as a slave put in irons, sent off in a wagon ironed in care of four men In a woods they had to pass about 30 men came upon them rescued Bob and sent him on from town to town toward the North to Pittsburgh thence to Philadelphia was sent to Gerrit Smith Esq. and to Birney who knew the old master well. Thru N. York he came to Boston where he was very sick of pleurisy from exposure in traveling lying out in the woods day and night in northern climate. Mr. Garrison befriended him But one day in Boston Cornhill he met an unexpected Kentuckian
slave holder whom he knew James Coburn and who recognized him at once saying "Aye Bob what are you doing here" He made himself strange. But felt that he must leave Boston. A Mr. Leonard from Ludlow Vt. had seen him in Boston and had said to him that if he wod [sic] come to him he would take care of him and he gave him some directions. Mr. G. sent him to Salem to a Mr. Wm. A. Dodge But his story getting wind he was afraid to stay there and came on to Andover where he was directed to Smith's the [Sch?] at Frye Village. Smith directed him to come to me—which he did by the rail road. He seemed to be what the dealers would call a very likely negro. At the inquiry meeting there was only one present and that was little Wm. Hancock, poor fellow he really needs a great deal of instruction before he will be able to undertake the sacraments of our religion fully. Yet his feelings seem to be well and much as they should be. Mrs. Edson returned from Boston in the evening train

Wednesday 20. School Committee meeting at two oclock and went till nearly seven. In the evening attended the catechizing. There were a pretty good number present The Lyceum Lectures closed this evening. Mr. Goodrich gave the last [?]
Thursday 21. A damp rainy day. At 2 oclock met the clergy of the city at Mr., Thurston's to make arrangements for a union Fast [?] such as we had last year. It was agreed to fix it on Thursday of next (passion) week which is the day appointed for the civil fast. My own proposition was that each congregation have their customary morning service and remain at their own places respectively and that we occupy the time before and after in Union exercises - But the proposition did not succeed and it was agreed to have but two services on this side the city and two the other viz. 1 Cong, and 1 Bapt. in the morning 2 Cong and 2nd Baptist in the afternoon. I had a conversation with Thomas Milnes of the Carpet and was truly grieved to find him so far gone from religion. He confessed his doubts of a future state and of a divine providence. I talked with him as long as I thought it would do and God only knows whether it will be of any benefit or no. The Bible Class was very well attended for a dark rainy night.

Friday 22. Service in church as well attended as usual. Drank tea at Mrs. Moody's with the Carlton's. I went to the Belvidere meeting at 8 oclock. Six young
men were present though they came in late. Yet the appearance was on the whole a little more encouraging. And yet I did not feel encourages. A meeting of the subcommittee of the S.S. Com. on furnishing more room for the Sunday School operation was held early in the evening in the S.S. House. The agitation of the subject will I think be useful. What will be the result is not easily foreseen.

Saturday 23. School Examination commenced went to the Falls, Miss Little's, and the Irish P. Schools. Met the Rev. Mr. McReading, Agent of the Am. Bible Society who arrived yesterday agreed that he should address our people Sunday evening on the subject of the Bible. I felt very anxious about notifying for fast day which must be done tomorrow Mr. Carlton Mr. French and Mr. J. Cook advised to adhere to the arrangement this year. A good catechising in the afternoon.

Sunday. Nos. 765 and 343. Sunday School full Mr. McReading was in and spoke to the children drank his tea with us addressed the people in church which was pretty well attended and stopped the night with us. He is much acquainted with Br. Lewis of Marblehead and has had some talk of coming into our church.
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Monday. 25. At Mr. McReading's request a meeting of the Directors of the Auxiliary Lowell Bible Society was called at ten oclock and he met with the gentlemen- I attended school examinations most of the day.

Tuesday 26. Nath Wright called at my request to give me an opportunity to speak on the subject of religion. He seemed to assent to what I said but what his own mind is did not so fully appear May the Lord direct him. Spent the forenoon in calls. Saw Mrs. Pelham Warren about Louisa Cotter. Her account is favorable Saw the Mother too she desires L should be confirmed. After noon School Examinations Graves' & Morrill's Made a speech at Grave's School Evening Drank tea at Mr. C.W. Cook's Inquiry meeting-present Miss Preston Miss Tibias, William Hancock and a Miss Kendal who appeared to come as company for Miss P.

Wednesday 27. Saw Mary Spurr who is very sick and afterwards called on Mr. Cyril French who I am sorry to say talks too much in the old strain on the subject of religion whereas I did hope to find him different. He spoke to me about a measure which was taken by the Wardens and Vestry in regards to building a new Sunday School house. The vote was passed on
the Monday last and Mr. French undertook to build it and get it done in May. Such a building will be quite a convenience to us. Had a talk with T. Dodge. Saw Sarah Taylor who has come to Lowell to stay over Sunday. Mrs. Cheever is coming to confirmation. Catechized in the evening. A good number present, Ruggles, Slack and Mr. Puffer were in. Anderson the Norwegian called with a Swedish friend Wachenfeldt.

Thursday 28. Fast Day. This is the day also appointed by the pastors of evangelical churches in the city for special fasting and Union exercises. I attended at 1 Cong., at 10 oclock. I suppose by appearances that the services commenced at 9 ½. There were prayers singing and addresses till eleven when customary congregational services commenced and Rev. Mr. Porter preached about forty minutes on "Evil communications corrupt good manners." Afternoon the meeting was at the second Baptist Meetinghouse- the house was filled and the exercises were interesting.

Good Friday 29. At the morning service at 10 ½ oclock the attendance was very good for the time say about a hundred. Afternoon there were a very good number present perhaps seventy five. Preached in the afternoon No 314 The examination of the High School, was today E.M.E. felt much mortified by the printed report of her standing and character.
Evening—Held to my meeting as usual in Belvidere, found one of the females interested in religion. She thinks she was converted last spring at Worcester, expresses a desire to enjoy Christian ordinances, likes the Church as well as any, is at present connected with none, has not been baptized, prefers immersion—I spent the time in talking to her. Two of the men came in the latter part of the evening. I said a few words on Christ's death for the ungodly.

Saturday 30. Spent the morning in calls and in the afternoon catechized the children in the S.S. House. A Scotchman called and gave quite an account of himself in writing with a view to some relief. He was stopping at Thomas Freeman's. Bishop came in the train of cars from Boston. The meeting in the S.S. House was well attended. The Bp was not present. I spoke to the people as well as I could and they seemed attentive and very serious.

Easter Sunday Mar 31 In the morning I felt a little despondency that so few were found to give themselves to God in confirmation. But I remembered that though there are but few comparatively now yet there have been much fewer in times past. And that though desponding when they are few yet afterward
there have been more and I have had reason of joy as well as of discouragement—Soon after breakfast I learned that Mr. Hanscom had been laboring with Mary Hanscom and Rebecca Prescott and that they desired to be baptized before church. At half past nine the ordinance was administered to them. The children of the school who had learned the catechism came in about a hundred and more and were seated around the altar before the service commenced and were comfortably seated—They behaved remarkably well. After service was ended as usual and nothing given the Hymn was given out “Christ the Lord is risen today” which was sung very well. They gave the catechism in presence of the Bishop who was much delighted with their singing and answers. From all that I learn I think it was well received by the congregation. In the afternoon the church was full. The Bishop preached on Deuteronomy 26 verses 17 & 18, “Thy hast this day avouched the Lord to be thy God &c”. The subject was confirmation. After sermon 14 persons were confirmed and the service was truly solemn and affecting. On returning to the vestry Mr. Cyril French came in and said that it was his intention to have been baptized in the afternoon before sermon &
and to have been confirmed after with the rest and that the reason why he had not given me notice was that he thought it almost a matter of course that there would be others to be baptized that preparation would be made and that he should come forward with the rest. I had seen and conversed with him as recently as Friday when he told me he thought he should come but did not speak decisively. The Bishop readily consented to confirm again in the evening-notice having been given out for the third service both morning and afternoon-I took the opportunity to have a talk with Rebecca Prescott and her mother called here after tea. I went also to see Mr. Phelps who seemed desirous to come out Also spoke to Robert Wilson respecting his wife. In the evening the services were very solemn and the Church remarkably well filled for an evening service. When Mr. French came forward Mr. Benjamin Green with whom I had conversed on Friday and who appeared inclined to take the important measure but did not then fully decide who had made the same calculation about coming forward as Mr. French did and was disappointed by there being no baptism in the
afternoon - came forward also and was baptized he and Mr. French side by side. The Bishop preached from “How long halt ye &c” [1 Kings 18:21] and answered five or six popular objections which people made to the duty of coming to the sacraments. The sermon was most excellent and the arguments perfectly convincing I believe to every mind. Bp. spoke with more strength and clearness of voice and more animation of manner than in the day time. At confirmation came forward besides Messrs French & Green - Mr. Phelps Reb. Prescott and Mrs. Wilson - making nineteen in the whole. So that on the whole the day which in prospect looked a little desponding closed with perhaps as lively feelings of gratitude to God as I have experienced on any similar occasion Let it be a monument of the Lord's goodness and an argument for me to trust in him.

I asked Isaac Shepherd to come to me in the vestry before service with a view to give him the opportunity of being baptized and confirmed if he should think proper. He was in a great quandary - knew he ought to go forward had no excuse by which he could satisfy his mind to refrain - felt it wrong to decline - but went to his seat and did not come forward. He thinks he has religion - thinks Christ requires him to
him to be pious to be baptized - has no doubt but that it is his duty yet delays. I have endeavored to represent to him the danger of his condition and he seems to feel it. How the strife will end God only knows. I hope he may be able to do his will. After the evening service the Bp seemed gratified and pleased with the day's work. He spoke of the children affectionately and said he could not keep their singing out of his ears. He reminded me to give him the names of those confirmed - which I did with the customary fifteen dollars which should be more. It is my custom to fold the money up with the list of names - and to have both ready on Monday morning.

Monday April 1 [1839]. the morning was fine and the Bp after breakfast took the cars at 7½ oclock for Boston. I met the Directors of the S.S. Union at 8 oclock in our S.S. House nothing of special importance was transacted. The city gov't organized at ten oclock. The Mayor's speech was partly written and partly extempore - he spoke in laudatory strain of schools, and was thought by some to be rather prolix. Sarah Taylor called here with whom I had a very pleasant interview on occasion of this visit. She came from Nashua to be present.
with us through the interesting services of passion week and Easter. I found that she had calculated on the communion, expecting that we should have it as of course on Easter Day. I called on Mary Hoyt who is at Mrs. Worthen's a few days and was at church on Sunday but who is staying for the present and possibly through the summer at her aunt's Palmer I think in Tewksbury. She also came expecting the sacrament. I feel the importance of regularity in these things and hope I shall be able to be more and more regular. I know not how many others may have been disappointed, though I do not see how we could have had the ordinance with so much profit as on Sunday next—The visitation of the Bishop brought so many things into the day that I do not see how I could on the whole have made a better arrangement than I did.

Afternoon the first meeting of the School Committee was held at the customary hour for organization and other business. Rev. Mr. Blanchard was chosen chairman by unanimous vote and Corliss Secretary The meeting was on the whole a pleasant one. My schools are gr. 2 & 6 P.1.15.21. The day has been uncommonly fine and the evening was pleasant.

The meeting at Mr. John Wilson's was held and was interesting Nath. Wilson present. I want to get in McArthur Freeman Lang Howe &c.
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Tuesday 2. Spent the morning in my study. Met Messrs James & Calvin Cook who told me they taken pains to inquire extensively and found the wish to be that the money contributed or rather subscribed a week ago last Sunday evening should go to make me a life member of the Am. Bible Society. The thirty dollars collected has been paid in to my hands and I felt some scruple about using for that purpose. My friends have made much inquiry with a view to remove the scruples. Made calls in the afternoon and drank tea at Mrs. Huntington.

Wednes. 3. All day in the study. Evening I delivered a lecture in the Freewill Baptist Meetinghouse - before the Quarterly meeting of the N. E. Te. Mor. Ref. Society held here by appointment. This the second held out of Boston. My lecture seemed to be very acceptable. The house was well filled and the ladies officers of the N. E. So. - chiefly from Boston desired to have them printed. On my declining they wished to know if I would be willing to go to Boston and deliver the same to which I assented and suppose I shall be called upon to do so when they get the time &c arranged. Bryan Morse was present and (unclear). I was told the afternoon meeting of the ladies was interesting.