

1/1/21

Board of Trustees

Secretary

William L. Pillsbury Papers, 1857-1859

Box 1:

William L. Pillsbury Journal

Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass.

January 1, 1857

- a. Stands 1st or 2nd in Junior class.
- b. Possible "consumptive constitution"
- c. Mother's ill health
- d. Reasons for keeping a journal: wishes to improve penmanship, record significant events, and develop a "conciseness of expression"
- e. \$2.00 collected from all "members of the commons", \$0.02 per resident, for a present for Mr. Farley's daughter
- f. New Year's afternoon off-group performed a vivisection on a cat; the cat had been stolen
- g. New Year's resolutions: "I will be punctual", "I will commence each day with prayer"

January 2

- a. in a "very slow" class, teacher "lacks energy"
- b. friend, H.F. Spudington's sister's death by consumption
- c. prayed and read from Bible with his friend before bed

January 3

- a. vote on whether to have syrup at the tables
- b. attended prayer meeting "at the academy hall"
- c. party with "popcorn, apples, cookies, jokes and a good time"

January 4, Sunday

- a. Sunday School with Mr. Dwight
- b. went to sleep during both sermons of Prof. Stowe
- c. "7 or 8 inches of snow" on the ground
- d. wrote a letter to Sarah Hills, "gave her some good advice"

January 5

- a. "spend too much time in dreaming"
- b. ranked 7.93 out of 8, "I am ahead of all others"

January 6

- a. strong wind and remembrance of home life during similar bad weather
- b. "Mr. John L. Taylor was present [at the prayer meeting] and made some excellent remarks"

January 7

- a. so cold that his roommates are staying up all night to study
- b. "speaking exercise" in the afternoon "was rather poor"

January 8

- a. went off at night in bitter cold and bought two books at \$1.44 each
  - b. letter from home; noted his family was praying for him and his mother was in better health
- January 9
- a. "went to the 'Philo' tonight"; the address was on "the Politics of South America"
- January 10
- a. spent the Saturday afternoon "trying to make a sort of Mechanical Paradox" out of wood
  - b. expresses desire to "express publically" his faith
- January 11
- a. description of Sabbath sermon
  - b. letter written "to cousin S.P.C." to exhort her to become a Christian
- January 12
- a. wrote home about plans to come home the next Friday
  - b. weather perfect for "a sleigh ride"
- January 13
- a. did a "good day's work" of studying, including reading 2 1/2 pages of Latin.
  - b. Brother Stebbins and Prof. Burrows lead the prayer meeting
- January 14
- a. Latin class speeded up its pace
  - b. went to visit friend's room after the prayer meeting
- January 15
- a. record of speech by a physician, Dr. Alcott
  - b. recounts pieces of various medical theories, e.g., each person carries "the seeds of disease in them"; and that "solitary" leads to the "worst kind" of idiocy
- January 16
- a. a school meeting called and invitation offered to Dr. Alcott to deliver 5 more lectures at \$11.00 a lecture
  - b. left for home from Windham train depot, was met by father
- January 17
- a. "Andover seems like a dream to me" as "things seem so natural at home"
  - b. description of encounters with home-town people, including someone who "ridiculed the idea of a person studying the dead language"
- January 18
- a. attended hometown church "meetings"
  - b. note of troubles within the home-town (Derry, N.H.) church
  - c. temperature at ten a.m. was 12<sup>o</sup> below zero
  - d. "cousin came over to see me" but the storm prevented leaving; nor could "I go to Andover tomorrow"
- January 19
- a. storm continued with "unusual severity"
  - b. cousin helped bring mother to sitting room [evidently she is bed-ridden]

January 20

- a. returned to Andover in the evening; much drifting
- b. arrived just in time for prayer meeting

January 21

- a. "I got my average in the class for the last fortnight, it was perfect, it is the first time..."
- b. account of Dr. Alcott's lecture: on respiration, ventilation (of homes), eating and nutrition

January 22

- a. temperature in the morning got down to 22<sup>o</sup> below
- b. notes on another of Dr. Alcott's lectures: on digestion, cooking and diet

January 23

- a. "we are having colder weather than has ever been known here before", "the railroads are blocked in many places"
- b. News of the first telegraph
- c. discussion of "Women's Rights" at the "Philo"
- d. attended "Lyceum lecture by Bishop Clark" on "Soul and Body"

January 24

- a. chose speech to read for "declamation"
- b. gift authorized by students to Amherst College of \$50.00 as they had had a fire recently

January 25

- a. outline of Sunday sermon on God's law versus human law
- b. attempted to "declare himself for Christ" twice, but "was prevented each time by some one rising before me"

January 26

- a. "last Saturday it was 50 below zero" in the "northern parts of N.H. and Vermont"
- b. "Boston harbor is frozen and they are cutting a channel for the steamers"; "Long Island Sound is frozen..."
- c. sent the \$50 to Amherst, the seminary hadn't done likewise yet

January 27

- a. "I received a letter from cousin H.M.P. -- she is one of my best correspondents."

January 28

- a. "I declaimed today a speech and got through without criticism"
- b. another lecture from Dr. Alcott, on "water inside and outside the human body"

January 29

- a. "have got a severe sore throat", and a letter from home
- b. notes on another lecture from Dr. Alcott, on muscles

January 30

- a. attended several evening lectures, including one on Geology

January 31

- a. new songbook introduced at the prayer meeting

- February 1
- a. notes on two Sunday sermons
- February 2
- a. resolution to rise early in the mornings
  - b. "rank in class for the last fortnight was 7.96"
  - c. recommended that Dr. Alcott see his mother in a letter home
- February 3
- February 4
- a. was caught day-dreaming in class
  - b. "Uncle Sam has gone to Derry tonight"
- February 5
- a. bad ice storm
  - b. the last of Dr. Alcott's lectures, on vegetarianism; claim that Cuvier said man is naturally "herbivorous"
- February 6
- a. ice that had coated everything melted
  - b. "the question in the 'Philo' tonight was 'Ought a person to assist a fugitive slave under the present law,' decided in the affirmative by both the Pres. and House"
- February 7
- a. wrote two letters to friends, urging them to become Christians
  - b. prayer meeting well attended despite fog and storm
- February 8
- a. warm Sunday; notes on two sermons
  - b. "Alcott [not the Dr.] and myself spoke in the [prayer] meeting for the first time and avowed that we were on the Lord's side."
- February 9
- a. "Uncle Sam told us this morning that he would give us some account of his travels in the East..."
  - b. started reading The Laws of Health by Dr. Alcott
- February 10
- a. "played backgammon with Bixby..."
  - b. Uncle Sam showed the "curiosities"
- February 11
- a. speaking exercises given (speeches)
- February 12
- a. borrowed a telescope and surveyed the country and later the stars
- February 13
- a. attended the "Philo" debate
- February 14
- a. studied Latin, reading Roman History
  - b. went into town "to get my miniature taken"
  - c. didn't get back in time for the prayer meeting, the first such absence this term

- February 15
- a. comments on the mud everywhere and about a condescending "sabbath school" teacher
  - b. notes on morning and afternoon sermons
- February 16
- a. rank of 7.97 for last fortnight
  - b. two-hour talk form Uncle on "The East" (Asia)
- February 17
- a. so warm and muddy that some plants are budding
  - b. "India rubber boots are almost the only thing that a person can keep his feet dry with"
  - c. "...if I study Latin much longer, I shall like it as well as I do mathematics."
- February 18
- a. "'Uncle' has gone to Manchester to attend a railroad meeting"
  - b. speaking exercises; wrote a letter; bought boots
- February 19
- a. problem in "translation class"
  - b. lecture by Dr. Alcott on "The Physical Relations of Social Life"
- February 20
- a. sought and received permission to go home
  - b. train ride with uncle David to Windham
- February 21
- a. father asked to attend to Allen Taylor's dying grandfather, a former "steward in the Methodist Church"
  - b. did the chores at home as father was out of town
- February 22
- a. visits with friends and relatives
  - b. comment on the "bad state" at the vacant Derry church and the split in the congregation between two prospective ministers
- February 23
- a. trip back to Andover early in the morning
  - b. "another lecture by Uncle on Palestine"
- February 24
- a. finished the Latin "Anectodes" and started "Roman History" in translation class
- February 25
- a. much warmer weather
  - b. "Uncle Sam" and the seniors took speaking exercises
- February 26
- a. regional prayer day for colleges
  - b. grass fire in nearby field put out by students
  - c. afternoon prayer meeting in the Chapel led by professors
- February 27

- a. spent that Friday afternoon reading a book unrelated to school exercises
  - b. "Philo" debate on the habitation of other planets
- February 28
- a. about two inches of snow on the ground
  - b. played several games of chess
- March 1
- a. Sunday sermons and exercises: notes
- March 2
- a. continued wintery weather
  - b. average in class: 7.97 (as were two others)
  - c. "a Lyceum Lecture": "The Eloquence of Revolution"
- March 3
- a. noted that today was the last day in government for the present administration: "I should like to be in the House of representatives tonight and see them do business in a hurry. They will pass more bills tonight than they have passed in some months of the session."
- March 4
- a. "Buchanan has already taken the oath of office"
  - b. speaking exercise and a private prayer meeting
- March 5
- a. "Philo" lecture and debate
  - b. "Mr. Dwight came down to see me tonight"... brought me a book 'Cheever's Voices of Virtue'..."
- March 6
- a. students attempted to "stamp out" an unpopular teacher's remarks and were scolded
  - b. Lyceum lecture by Wendell Phillips on "the Philosophy of Reform"
- March 7
- a. spent Saturday afternoon in leisure, "reading, popping corn...and mending clothes"
  - b. used telescope to survey countryside, "but I find that the object that most attracts my attention is the 'Fem. Sem.'"
- March 8
- a. Sunday sermons by Professor Phelps, "next best preacher after Prof. Park."
  - b. attended "sabbath school at Abbot village"; also, "When it was first established a student could not go through there without being insulted, but now they can go there any time with entire safety"
- March 9
- a. "S.J. Clark went home today to vote at the State election"
  - b. some came to the prayer meeting with the "intention of trifling"
- March 10
- a. "it is Town Meeting in the N.H. today. I hope that the cause of right and truth will prevail and that the Republican Party will be triumphant"
  - b. "the decision of the Supreme Court on the Dred Scott case was read in our Club"

- tonight"
- c. "...the slave power is making desperate efforts..."
- March 11
- a. Uncle Sam attended a church meeting in Boston concerning the "Old South" (church)
- March 12
- a. "but one more Friday shall we spend here this term"
- b. Played backgammon; attended "Philo" debate; last "Lyceum" lecture given
- c. list of predictions made by Lyceum lecturer, Bishop Clark, concerning technological advances in the next fifty years (e.g. a sort of typewriter is predicted) "If the cause of truth and Christianity keep pace with this march of science and art, fifty years hence will certainly be a glorious period in the world's history"
- March 14
- a. elections for next term's class officers
- b. "went to the Library at the Sem." "...and..." spent most of my time looking...at sculpting and painting"
- March 15
- a. notes on two Sunday sermons (4 pages)
- b. a boy who had attended prayer meetings just to cause trouble, declared himself a Christian
- March 16
- a. got an 8.00 for the past fortnight of school
- March 17
- a. got hit in the face during a snowball fight
- b. prayer meeting had larger attendance than any other this term
- March 18
- a. speaking exercise held for the last time in the term
- b. officers elected for the "Philo"; "I think I shall join the Philo next term."
- March 20
- a. schedule of closing exercises for the term
- b. speech by President A. C. Burrows
- March 21
- a. cleaned up room and went to prayer meeting one last time
- March 22
- a. lost notes on the sermons, so had no account on them
- b. went to "the experience meeting usually held at the close of the term", where about 65 people spoke of their Christian faith
- March 25
- a. examination day; final class rank was tops, it was 7.97
- b. five students were expelled for scholastic deficiency
- c. nearly missed the train home to Derry
- d. mother's health is still bad
- e. "intended to spend my vacation...going out selling stationery with Clark"

## April 15

- a. the three week vacation ended today
- b. account of the stationery-selling job (12 pp.) with stops in Wilmington, Billerica, Lowell, Westford, Forge Valley, Groton and Pepperell (Mass.) and Hollis, Nashua, Reeds Ferry, Manchester, Hooksett, and Bedford, (N.H.)
- c. an observation about bowling alleys; that they were "good exercise", but "the things connected with it were very bad."
- d. visited the soap factory and the Academy in Groton, a village which has "an air of thrift and neatness"
- e. visited the fm implement manufacturer in Groton Junction (now called "Ayer")
- f. noted the paper mills along the Nashua River near Pepperell
- g. went on a tour of the Manchester mills
- h. weather was good enough over the past weeks that his father had started working in the fields
- i. The Derry church was still having problems finding a minister
- j. The visiting preacher visited his mother
- k. spent a day in the field, "holding the plough"
- l. attended a concert of the Derry Glee Club
- m. returned to Andover on the train for new term
- n. his class of 23 was "much better this term than last", "as we got rid of four of our poorest scholars"
- o. had devotions with roommate, Smyth

## April 16

- a. "today is the day set apt in our state for the public fast"... "I went to church at the 'Old South'"
- b. spent the afternoon fixing up his room

## April 17

- a. this term his class has 26 students
- b. classes in Latin and mathematics are getting organized

## April 18

- a. had their first prayer meeting of the term that night

## April 19

- a. as the Seminary was still on vacation, there was no preaching or "Biblical exercise" on the campus this Sunday
- b. went to the "Old South" in Boston for both services: "Ex-President Pierce attended church here all day...I would have been willing to forego this pleasure [of seeing him] to have seen Fremont or Jessie."
- c. at evening, "we had an experience meeting", where, "nearly fifty" talked of contacts they had made with other Christians during vacation.

## April 20

- a. they are doing about one page of latin translation a day, working on Roman History
- b. his class is growing in size and is of higher quality than the previous term



May 10

- a. pause in journal by being very busy
- b. during the past weeks they finished the Roman History and started another book, plus Latin grammar lessons
- c. he got an average of 8.00, "next was Adams with 7.98"
- d. "The religious interest in the school has increased and there have been several conversions"
- e. they had a "revivalist-preacher" come and speak to them

May 12

- a. played baseball in front of a store; plays so much that he "sometimes neglects other duties"

May 13

- a. went to "speaking exercises" and "singing school", later played both football and baseball
- b. He and a friend put water in the bed of his roommate, Smyth, to get back at him for messing up their beds

May 14

- a. his turn to give speech was set at next week
- b. some classmates have bought a set of boxing gloves

May 15

- a. went home on the train in the rain
- b. mother's health is still bad
- c. wanted to work in the fields for his father, but they were too muddy

May 16

- a. went fishing with a friend, Ben Warner, at "Island Pond"; "caught 14 perch and 2 flatsides"
- b. still too wet to "sow the carrots"

May 17

- a. while it was clear weather for a short while, they could "see that mountains were all white", "this is pretty cold for this time of the year"
- b. the church in Derry still doesn't have a preacher

May 18

- a. some of the unplowed fields of his father have standing water, halting activities for the time being
- b. traveled back to Andover, taking 2 hours (from the time he parted home, till he arrived at his room)
- c. played football and boxed with Smyth
- d. 19 of the boys of his class have professed their Christian faith in the prayer meetings

May 19

- a. it rained all day and is still much too wet for the farmers
- b. the history lesson was particularly tough

May 20

- a. "Uncle Sam" went to "a meeting of the oriental Society in Old Salem"
  - b. "I spoke a piece written by Victor Hugo on Universal suffrage" in speaking exercise and "got through without criticism"
- May 21
- a. his average for the first two weeks of the term was 8.00; "but I shall not get so good an average next week for I have already missed twice this week"
  - b. sent a letter to a cousin, Sarah Perkins
  - c. they had their "first lesson in Latin Prose composition"
- May 22
- a. first sunny day in about a week
  - b. attended the Philo debate
- May 23
- a. the beauties of a New England spring season extolled
  - b. "Played at wicket till suppertime", the first time he had played the game (cricket)
  - c. attended prayer meeting at which some seminary students spoke
- May 24
- a. "I heard this morning for the first time the Golden Robbins singing", and the Bon'olink
  - b. went to the morning "Biblical exercise"
  - c. notes on two sermons and the evening prayer meeting
- May 25
- a. went swimming at Shawshin
- May 27
- a. the farmers are catching up in their work due to the clear weather
  - b. "played ball awhile up front of the Clubhouse"
  - c. continued evangelistic efforts with classmates
- May 28
- a. speaking exercise went very well today
  - b. went swimming again
- May 29
- a. didn't have to recite today in latin class due to a misunderstanding as to what lesson was to be used
- May 30
- a. did some work in the garden; went swimming
- May 31
- a. Sunday preacher from Salem; notes on two sermons
  - b. "After our service was over a large number of us went down to the Episcopal church to witness the rite of confirmation...I like a simpler service better."
- June 1
- a. fruit trees are in full blossom
  - b. "my average for the last fortnight was 7.94"
  - c. prayer meeting in Clark's room was well attended

June 2

- a. got a letter from a friend who said she wasn't ready yet to become a Christian

June 3

- a. speaking exercises were held but the singing class was cancelled in favor of ball games
- b. "Uncle Sam" lectures on Athens in the evening

June 4

- a. the classroom for Latin recitation was changed to "the Brick Academy"
- b. "had Latin Prose this afternoon"
- c. played "baseball" rather than cricket, as he had the day before

June 5

- a. his "chum" got in a water fight with "the fellows who room in the upper story"
- b. attended debate
- c. got a letter from home and from cousin, Abby Choath; his mother isn't doing well

June 6

- a. spent the day helping a fellow survey 50 acres of land in West Andover

June 7

- a. notes on the morning sermon
- b. as he isn't a member of any church, he couldn't partake in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper

June 8

- a. four students were suspended and one expelled for drinking during a visit to Lawrence
- b. another meeting in Clark's room

June 9

- a. two fellows left for home because of their ill health

June 10

- a. speaking exercises were held, "Uncle Sam" presiding
- b. "I took charge of the prayer meeting in Clark's room tonight"; seminary student was present

June 11

June 12

- a. attended the Philo debate
- b. "played at chess with Gould"

June 13

- a. went with 13 others to swim in Haggett's pond
- b. "It was predicted by our astronomers that the world would be destroyed by a comet today"

June 14

- a. notes on both morning and afternoon sermons
- b. attended the prayer meeting in the evening

June 15

- a. average was back up to 8.00 (perfect score)
  - b. "Tonight we inaugurated a set of parallel bars in front of our commons"
  - c. the students got together and decided to ask permission to attend a statue-raising ceremony in honor of the battle at Bunker's Hill to be held on June 17
- June 16
- a. "Uncle" turned down the request
  - b. received a letter saying that his sister and father would pick him up on the coming Friday
- June 17
- a. got a haircut; had speaking exercises
  - b. weather was good for the ceremony in Boston
  - c. at a school meeting they passed a resolution concerning the "associations connected with the 17th of June" to be printed in the Andover Advertiser
- June 18
- a. a Professor Russel started a course "for learning to declaim"; and charged \$50 for a series of 10 lessons, of which the Academy paid half
- June 19
- a. received permission from "Uncle" to leave for home at noon; traveled on the cars (train) in the rain to Derry
  - b. visited with cousin H.M. Pearson; "our brindle heifer had a calf..."
- June 20
- a. worked all Saturday on the family farm, picking up a team of oxen and mending fences
  - b. visited relatives and friends; helped his father with the chores
  - c. too hazy "to use Porter's telescope"
- June 21
- a. the Derry church is still split over whom to call as their new preacher
  - b. the book being used in "sabbath school class" is "Wayland's Elements of Moral Philosophy"
  - c. went to a nearby village for the afternoon service
- June 22
- a. traveled from Derry to Andover on the train
  - b. didn't make any mistakes in class, though not having studied while at home
  - c. Professor Russel held his first lesson for his course on speech methods
- June 23
- a. received a letter from cousin Sarah Perkins
- June 24
- a. "After speaking exercise I went up to the associate library to help the librarian. This library numbers some 950 volumes and is owned jointly by the members of the two societies of the school. After this I went over to the ball ground and played so long that I lost my supper at the Club."
- June 25

- a. "My chum [roommate] was 14 years old today"
- June 26
- a. some old alumni of the Academy, including a Josiah Taming, Jr., spoke to the school  
b. Philo debate was on the question, "ought judges to be chosen by the people"
- June 27
- a. notes on the morning sermon  
b. went to a meeting at the Old South church in Boston, where a person representing the "five points mission" collected \$70 in contributions after he spoke
- September 3
- a. first day of the new term; has a new room  
b. the last two weeks of the previous term aren't noted in the journal; during them he was sick for a day and missed recitation, thus getting a 7.985 instead of 8.00, though still the best mark of his class  
c. the summer vacation was spent "at home at work haying, gathering grain, picking rocks, and helping to build a wall."  
d. his mother's health is still bad and she is now too weak to sit or talk very much  
e. studying Cicero and Greek grammar this term  
f. "many new faces" at the prayer meeting
- September 4
- a. because he is setting up in a new room, he has "lots of old furniture to sell"  
b. received a letter from his friend Clark, who is in Illinois as "an agent of the Bible Society"
- September 5
- a. spent a good part of the day on mathematics, and spent the afternoon "putting down a carpet"
- September 6
- a. heard "two good sermons", which was a change from vacation in which he "heard very poor preaching"  
b. attended "the 'Abbot Village' Sabbath School", where he teaches a class of 7 young girls during the term  
c. also attended "the usual experience meeting for the beginning of the term", at which many members spoke out and God's blessing on the term was sought
- September 7
- a. letter from home revealed that his mother's health is failing  
b. "had a nice time kicking football"
- September 13
- a. "Last Monday morning when I went into prayers I received a letter from home by express informing me of my mother's death."  
b. stopped in Lawrence on the way home "to make several purchases"; had "dinner with Caleb at no. 49 Atlantic Corporation."  
c. when he first saw his mother's body, he didn't weep, for he felt "that death was indeed gain for her..."

- d. a considerable number of relatives from both sides of the family showed up for the funeral
  - e. At the funeral, there was a quibble about which pastor was to take charge of the service, and whether or not the choir would sing
  - f. helped some of the relatives to the Depot the next day, and then the following day "My brought me to Windham Depot" from which he returned to Andover
  - g. returned in time to teach his Sunday school class in Abbot village, where he "had one new schollar."
- September 14
- a. "We recite in Greek in the morning this week"
  - b. ate a melon with some friends, had devotions before bed in the Psalms
- September 15
- a. packed up some of the belongings of a schoolmate, Gilmore, who isn't able to attend this term
- September 16
- a. speaking exercises were rather poor, the Greek lesson very hard
  - b. "After I had been to the library I went over to the ball ground and played at football..."
  - c. the senior class is challenging his class to a "match football game"
- September 17
- a. after a long meeting, his class voted to accept the challenge, 28 to 25
  - b. he is reading, "Dr. Kame's Arctic Voyages"
- September 18
- a. "Uncle" said he wouldn't allow the challenge match, despite efforts of both classes to convince him otherwise
  - b. cleaned up his room in the afternoon, and attempted to rid his bed of the bedbugs
  - c. a boy visited who is attending the seminary, which opened yesterday
  - d. he plans to join the Philo soon
- September 19
- a. finished putting the carpet down in his room
- September 20
- a. attending the morning sermon
  - b. gave a list of 5 girls in his class, between 12 and 15 years old
- September 21
- a. had a really bad Latin exercise today
  - b. played two ball games after Greek lessons
- September 22
- a. "cool winds tell us that it is autumn"
  - b. enjoys his Latin homework despite its length
- September 23
- a. "the speaking exercise was rather poor"
  - b. had a lecture on "Congregational Singing" in the chapel at night

September 24

- a. "went to the ball ground to kick"

September 25

- a. "The lesson in Cicero was uncommonly hard this morning"
- b. wrote a letter to former schoolmate Clark, who lives in Sycamore, DeKalb Co., Ill.
- c. went to Prospect Hill and used this telescope to survey the ocean ships, and "our church at Derry"
- d. "picked pt of Aunt Sarah's peaches
- e. attended the Philo lecture and debate
- f. paid a half dollar to join the Philo

September 26

- a. could see the Old South's steeple above the fog
- b. sent off four letters to friends and relatives
- c. went and visited relative and farmer Paul Pillsbury, who "keeps 12 cows, and furnishes milk for the State alms house, 16 gallons per day at 4 1/2 cents per gallon."

September 27

- a. heard a visiting preacher from Elmyra, N.Y.
- b. used some new books in teaching his class of girls

September 28

- a. homework consisted of 28 sentences of Latin and 18 of Greek, for translation

September 29

- a. worked for 2 1/2 hours in the evening, cutting up wood for 50 cents

September 30

- a. the Greek lesson was hard, so "there was some 'flunking' in the class"
- b. the speaking exercise went very well
- c. saved enough wood to earn 50 cents again
- d. found out that a letter from his sister, Mary, is lost

October 1

- a. played football; read a novel, Silver Knife

October 2

- a. reading the Pickwick Papers; dislikes Dickens' "derision of religious affairs"
- b. attended the Philo debate and was called on

October 3

- a. went to North Andover "peddling paper", and made \$2.21

October 4

- a. had a new "biblical teacher" this Sunday, one who had attended Yale
- b. had one new girl in his class this day

October 5

- a. "Lesson in Cicero was recited uncommonly poor today"
- b. sawed "about 5 cords of wood at Mrs. Parker's"

October 6

October 7

- a. "the weather has been so clear and mild that a walk by moonlight if one could have suitable company, would be a most agreeable performance"
  - b. "Carter, the blind boy, spoke" in the speaking exercise
  - c. "I am spending all my leisure time in sawing wood"
- October 8
- a. the trees have good color in them
- October 9
- a. sawed wood all afternoon
  - b. question for debate in the Philo: Was Napoleon's banishment to St. Hellena justifiable?
- October 10
- a. made \$6.50 over the last week in sawing wood
  - b. his sister Mary wrote of plans to visit him on the next Friday
- October 19
- a. spent the past weekend in Derry
  - b. collected chestnuts
  - c. got back at 8 a.m. (Monday), just in time for prayers, "so that we did not have any time to study our lessons"
  - d. four boys were suspended "for making game" of a member of the senior class
- October 20
- a. Entry ends in the middle of the first sentence (which was describing the day's weather, as was the usual pattern for each day's entry.) The term had not yet ended.
- August 31, 1858
- a. beginning of his senior term at Phillips, and resumption of the diary
  - b. made two resolves concerning attainment of a Christian lifestyle
  - c. wrote to his friend Clark in Illinois
- September 1
- a. "Uncle" frightened the new students with his demanding presence in recitation
- September 2
- a. he was sick the past night and missed recitation today
  - b. the class graduated last term is sorely missed "in prayer meetings and the Philo"
- September 3
- a. resolved to read the Bible more regularly
  - b. enjoys being a senior and having "Uncle" for a teacher
- September 4
- a. attended the first prayer meeting of the term
  - b. sent off letters to Clark and to his sister
  - c. wrote up a "bill of fare for the Union Club of which I am president"
- September 5
- a. notes on the Sunday sermons
  - b. returned to Abbot Village to teach his class of girls (ages 14 and 15)
  - c. had annual "experience meeting" at night



September 6

- a. finally "getting back into my old study habits"
- b. "Uncle" teaches at a very demanding level

September 7

- a. first anniversary of his mother's death
- b. (eulogy)

September 8

- a. beautiful view from the windows of his new room
- b. "We had our first 'Latin Prose' lesson and the way 'Uncle' flunked the boys was a caution."
- c. after prayers in the morning they "had the reading of the 'Rules'"
- d. had their first game of football of the term

September 9

- a. "had our first Greek recitation this morning"
- b. "we had the first meeting of the Soc. of Inquiry (of which I am the big Pres.)..."

September 11

- a. travelled to Bradford, Massachusetts, to see his sister, Mary
- b. spoke during the Philo debate yesterday

September 13

- a. spent the Sabbath in Bradford

September 14

- a. back in Andover, struggling with Greek lessons
- b. offered a prayer during the evening meeting

September 15

- a. streets of Andover are almost too muddy for traffic
- b. "election has come off all right and the Pine Tree state will send back an unbroken delegation of republicans to Congress"
- c. played cricket in the afternoon

September 16

- a. storm
- b. Election results not decided  
" a terrible blow to republicanism to lose in New England"

September 17

- a. pleasant and cool
- b. spoke on the arts and sciences and government at the "Philo"
- c. Called on two young ladies from Derry at the Female Seminary. Pleasant one hour visit.

September 18

- a. Constitution of the "Society of Inquiry"
- b. Visit to old maids, one of whom had taken care of mother. Disagreeable.
- c. Visit to Mr. Newton's cabinet, refreshments
- d. Walk to Sunset Rock with ladies from female Seminary

## September 19

- a. Sabbath thoughts, 40 in our class prayer meeting
- b. Prof. Barrows sermon on faith
- c. 20 at prayer meeting in Barker's room. prayed for Christian duty, singing

## September 21

- a. prayer meeting
- b. letter from home
- c. new lecturer on financial matters

Harvard College, Cambridge, Mass.

## September 21, 1859

- a. "here I am at last at college"  
pleasures, duties, tricks, temptations  
Packed last Wednesday  
Conversation with father at depot
- b. Reached my room at No. 10 Divinity Hall  
Rain.
- c. Spent the night in Cambridgeport with cousin Steele
- d. meeting of 30 freshmen, Holden Chapel  
examination in Greek and Latin grammar and composition
- e. Prof. Huntington led prayers at chapel
- f. studying Virgil with Perry for more exams
- g. Accepted into Harvard on the basis of his exams
- h. went to Boston to get some books
- i. wishes to connect himself (i.e. join) some church in the community, outside of Harvard proper
- j. annual football game between the freshmen and sophomores, "the whole [game] was a disgraceful fight."
- k. was put in the "fourth division" of the class; enjoys the tutor in math, Elliott, very much
- l. heard a Mr. Everett talk at the raising of the Webster Statue in Boston of September 17, 1859
- m. opening and subsequent use, of the gymnasium
- n. fourth week: "all things seem...to be going smoothly"
- o. some classmates have been very mean in their attempts to annoy the freshmen

## October 1

- a. "I had to declaim for the first time and did miserably"
- b. attempted to start a prayer meeting for the freshmen class with the help of Prof. Huntington who provided a list of 25 who were members of evangelical churches, "though many are Episcopalians"
- c. reading in Liddel's History
- d. went to a hill in Sommerville that overlooked Boston

## October 2

- a. first organized prayer meeting, 13 attended: Bishop, Daniels, Evans, Leve, Lathrop, Marrine, Mixter, Palmer, Stevens, Webb and Wales
- October 4
- a. lecture on "the abuses of sexual intercourse" by Huntington
  - b. went into Boston to pick up pictures to brighten up his room
- October 8
- a. spent the Sabbath at two services; heard a Mr. Bullard, "the agent of the Sabbath School Society"
  - b. will soon be gaining "access to the library of the Christian Brethren"
- October 12
- a. talk of eliminating "hazing"
  - b. 12 present at the prayer meeting
- October 18 (last entry)
- a. sought out the president of his college so as to get permission to visit his old roommate from Phillips, "a mile out of West Cambridge"
  - b. description of the good view (of the whole Boston Bay area) available from his friend's house
  - c. went rowing in a pond and played several games of chess
  - d. attended a Methodist church on Sunday, returned to Harvard on Monday morning
  - e. visited the Massachusetts House of representatives