January 1st 1863 1863

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3d I went to Hendersen to day with a load of Tobacco I was offered $14.50/100 on the street but concluded to prize it

4th Sunday I was about home in the morning and rode down on Pond creek in the Evening & this has been a pleasant day

5th Striping Tobacco to day

6th I stripped tobacco awhile this morning But it turned so cold I had to quit went down To Lane & Sea Mill in the evening and settled with W H Floyd he gave me a note on Lane & Co for $226.32/100 one on James H Clay for $110.50/100 one on W A Cowles for $45.15/100 one on Himself for $30 and my own note which I gave him 3 years ago for $108.33/100 amounting in all to $600 which pays for 64 acres of Land I sold him

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Receipts for 1863

	$	cts
Jan 5 Received of W H Floyd on Land	80	00
" 21st Received on Tobacco	36	00
Feb 5th Received from J T Hoskins for J J Allin	32	40
" " of do for 25 lbs of Beef	1	25
" 7th Received on claim for Fees as Clerk of Elections in 1860	8	00
" 7th Received on Tobacco	735	75
" 8th Received from R Utley	55	00
" 15 G B Martin	10	00
" 18th of J H Clay on Note	117	40
" " " on Tobacco	100	00
" 28 " on do	550	00
Mar 17th on do do	50	00
20th of H A Powell for Oxen	85	00
" Received of T L Hancock for Plough	3	00
" " Hosea Smith do	2	50
Apr 4th Received on Tobacco	402	50
" " " of Wm Ingram	640	00
" " 6th of B Hopkins	7	00
	2915	80

Expenses &c

April 18 Paid J A Hoskins	4	00
" " 22nd J Higgins for Seed Corn	2	75
27th 2 Bushel of Potatoes	2	00
" " 1 Pair of Pants	4	00
" " Expenses &c	1	00
" " 4 yds Domestic for Robt Turner & 25 cts Money	2	05
May 1st 1 Coat	10	00
" " 1 Pair Shoes	1	80
" 1 Hat	2	50
" Expenses &c	1	00

Expenditures 1863

	$	cts
Jan 1st Expenses in Hen (dessert)	2	00
" 3d do do	1	00
" 7th Paid Walkers Apt	6	25
" " 3 yds Jaconet	1	10
" " Expenses &c	1	50
" 12th One Cook Stove &	27	00
" " 1 Rocking Chair	3	00
" " 1 Kit of Mackerel	2	75
" " 2 lbs of Soda		30
" ½ quire Paper		10
" Expenses &c	1	50
" " 1 Bottle Whiskey		75
" " 1 set Table spoons		50
Jan 21st 1 Bll Flour	5	50
" " Coffee	2	00
" " 1 Log Chain	2	00
" " 2 Galls Whiskey	2	00
" " 8 yds Tinsey for J Cheatham	3	00
" " 6 yds Tinsey	3	30
" " 1 Pair of Blankets for Dr Taylors Boy Silas	3	75
" " Paid Rudy & Nunn for Sugar &c	15	00
" " 1 lb of Tea	2	00
" " Expens &c	1	00
" 24th Tin Cups &c		70
" " 1 Bottle Whiskey		65
" " 1 Pair of Pants for Phil	4	50
" " Drugs &c		20
" " Expenses &c	1	50
" 29th Expenses &c	1	75
Feb 5th Paid J T Hoskins on Execution of J P Balee	56	30
" 7th Paid Johnson S H C on Executions of Plant & Co & Clark	411	78
Taxes 1862	24	21
Do of Estate	7	90

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Expenditures 1863	$	cts
Feb 6th Paid S Nesler	25	00
" " 1 Pair Boots for Bob	3	00
" " 1 Bottle Oil & Whiskey &c	1	25
" " Expenses &c	3	00
" " Paid Dixon for Lumber	12	85
" " Farmers Bank	29	50
" 15th Paid Davy	5	00
" " " " Sam	10	00
" 16th " Mrs Vickers	20	00
" " " " Mrs Gibson	50	00
" 18th Bill of Goods at J E Rankins	89	00
" " 1 Barrel Flour	7	00
" " 2 Flat Irons	1	40
" " Ira Delano	23	00
" " 2 Boxes Caps		25
" " Seeds &c		40
" " Expenses	1	25
" " Let Ben have	2	00
" " Charges at Wharf for	1	50
" 28th 1 Pair of Boots for self	4	25
" " 2 Kegs Nails	11	25
" " 2 Pair of Shoes	2	60
" " 1 Corset	1	85
" " Expenses	2	00
Mar 9th Paid J McCormack	650	00
" " " " Execution W J Dallam	6	15
" " 10 yds Calico	3	00
" " 3 do Jaconet	1	05
" " Expenses &c	1	50
" 14th Paid A V Leslie	72	00
" " 2 Pair Lames Traces Backband Collars &c	8	20
" " 1 yd of Ginghams &c		85
" " Expenses	2	00
" 17th 1 Barrell of Molasses	28	20
" " 1 Two Horse Plough	10	50
" " 2 Curry Combs		30
" " Expenses &c		75
Feb 18th Paid L L Hancock	28	35

Expenditures 1863	$	cts
Mar 20th Paid J M Bekman	25	00
" 25th Bill at Mayers	3	10
" " Thread	1	25
" " Paid on Phils Coat	1	50
" " 1 Bll Flour	7	
Apr 4th W N Thompson	90	10
" " J E Rankin	165	33
" " Do For E Robertson	59	36
" " W A Hopkins	46	24
" " Rudy & Nunn	22	00
" " G L Dixon	15	00
" " Mrs M Alves	162	78
" " Beaty & Clark	43	91
" " R G Beverly	51	15
" " 1 Pair of Shoes For Davy	2	50
" " 1 do for Adelia	1	80
" " Revenue Stamps	1	25
" " Expenses	1	50
" " 1 Net		65
" 6th Capt J Dillingham	180	00
" " T S Knight	14	00
" 7th Dr T Taylor	50	00
" " John Higgins	9	60
" " A W Hasking	10	00
" " Mitchells for Posts Negro	4	00
" 10th for Crib	4	00
" 11th Robert Turner	22	00
" 13th Let Mary A Cooper have	50	00
" " Amt of goods bought By Adelia	60	00
" " Paid J McCormick Ballance on note	121	40
" " for Revenue Stamps for S Cooper	2	50
" " 1 Pair Shoes for Self	3	50
" " 1 Bucket & Dipper	2	00
" " Sweet Potatoes	2	00
" " Shot Caps Postage &c	1	00
" " Expenses &c	1	00

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Jan 7th 1863

Went to Henderson to day a verry cool raw day there was nothing talked of to day in the city but the recent Bloody Battle at Murfreesboro Tenn from all accounts it has been one of the bloodiest battles ever fought and the details are enough to make one shudder I had numerous friends and relatives in the confederate Army who were in this Battle and perhaps some of them were its victims but I hope for the best

8th This has been a memorable day in my history as the quietude of my domestic life was disturbed by the advent into this world of our first born a Boy this young bud of hopefull promise awoke the long silence of my quiet home by a cry that would have done credit to an older skin of lungs well there is now an object in life which the past never had an object for which to live aright a claim on the mind on time and talents which we should endeavor to fulfill Born in this age of trouble amid the clash of arms and the din of war I trust that ere he comes to take a part in this worlds affairs that dread epoch in the history of our country will only be remembered as a thing of the past

9th I stripped tobacco ~~to day~~ the weather is more like Spring than Winter

10th I stripped tobacco awhile this morning and went to a sale at Mr Howards there was but little sold and few Bidders

11th Sunday I have been about the House all day

12th went to Henderson to day this was a lovely day indeed warm as Spring

13th I went down to Mr Mitchells this morning and was at work on a flue for a cook stove in the evening We also Burned a plant bed To day

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Jan 14th 1868

It has rained nearly all day and is snowing to night I stripped Tobacco to day

15th This has been a winter day sure as the snow was about six inches deep this morning and it has been snowing hard all day and is still snowing to night with average depth of snow on the ground of from 8 to 10 inches I stripped Tobacco the most of the day but it was very cold work

16th This has been a cold day the snow is about 10 inches deep and still snowing occasionally I have been arround home all day shooting turtle doves

17th I went a cow hunting this morning and Loaded one wagon with Tobacco in the evening

18th Sunday I went to church this morning Elder Thurman Preached This has been a pleasant day overhead but the snow made it unpleasant underfoot

19th This has been a wet disagreeable day I have been doing nothing as tobacco was too dry to strip

20th Stripped Tobacco to day awhile and then went to Squire Eames after an attachment which I had levied on some Tobacco at B L Davis belonging to J C Allin this has been another wett disagreeable day

21st I went to Henderson to day with Tobacco I delivered it to Moat Clay & Price I have at his Factory 1380 Pounds Good Lugs Trash There was considirable Excitement in the city to day about the Small Pox as there was several cases in the place I sold the ballance of my crop to day to Clark Keer & Co at $16 cwt for good and Lugs and $6 for trash

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Jan 22nd 1863

I Stripped Tobacco to day with all hands

23d Striping Tobacco again to day I have Been Reading to night the speech of the Hon C L Vallandingham of Ohio it is truly refreshing in these times of Trouble to read an honest just and fearless speech from one who seems to comprehend arright in my judgment the nature causes and final result of this dreadfull war

24th went to Henderson to day with a load of Tobacco I delivered to Clay ~~to~~ to be prized there was so many wagons ahead of me that I had to unload without weighing this was a pleasant day

25th Sunday I was at church this morning Elder Mc Daniels Preached this was a warm winter day and to night it is raining again

26th I have been Striping Tobacco to day I had 14 hands at work but could not finish one barn

27th I finished striping Tobacco at the Barn in the orchard to day it turned cold and Snowed this evening

28th I went to California to serve on a Jury of Forcible Entry and Detainer and by William Greenwell against a man named Wally and they kept me on the jury until 2 oclock last night

29th I have been about home all Loaded one wagon with Tobacco in the evening

30th went to Henderson to day with Tobacco delivered to Clark & Co the the load weighed Good 1400 Tugs 550. Amt to $322.50/100 this was more money than I ever received for one load of Tobacco but such money the Lord Save us from such a currency

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Jan 31st 1863

This has been a pleasant day for the close of the month I have been unwell all day consequently I have been about the house I rode down to H F Coopers in the evening in company with D Weaver he bought Cooper Tobacco at $8 for Good & Fine & $10 for the trash this I call Big Figures for Tobacco But the Present Currency is such that a man may have his pockets full of money and not be able to buy much either another year of war and money of this kind will be as plentiful as Rags at a Paper mill another year of war a word easily spoken but oh how much horror and suffering it will entail on this unhappy and down trodden Nation yet I fear it will continue even longer than one year and hundreds of thousands of victims will yet be required to mark the devastation of this once happy Union in other words to gratify the ambition of the Abolition Party of the North I have hoped for some time back that the change going on in the minds of the people north and west would lead the dominant Party to something wiser than the ruinous course they have been pursuing but it seems that the Administration seems determined to disregard the voice of the People and Pursues its Emancipation Policy although it must be apparent that it is fast dragging this country into a vortex of ruin Common sense it seems now that Paper Proclamations and threats are about all the Formidable Operations of this pusillanimous and corrupt Administration But enough of this for the Present I have done but little on the farm this month as I have been stripping and delivering Tobacco nearly all the time the month has been warm and Pleasant

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February 1st 1863

This is a wet sabbath morning with a good prospect of a rainy day and if the morning is a type of the month it will a warm wet one I was about Untill evening when I went down to Col Coopers and from there to Mr Haskins who has been sick for some time and I fear he has the Small Pox if so it will be apt to spread all over this neighborhood

2nd I have been Burning a Plant Bed to day but it snowed in the evening putting out my fires &c

3rd This has been a very cool day and if there is not considerable change I think there will be Ice yet

4th Getting Ice to day I got my house about half full

5th The snow is about 8 inches deep to day and I have done but little but set by the fire

6th I have been getting Ice again to day this has been a pleasant day overhead but disagreeable under foot

7th Went to Henderson to day received Returns on Tobacco that I shiped to Louisville the Good Tobacco sold for 21 Cts. $18 25/100 Trash $12 50/100 weights Good 1385 Lug. 1566 Trash 1790 Total 4648 Amounting to $782 14/100 Expenses $46 41/100 Leaving Net Amt $735 73/100 I settled with G Mitchell this evening and he owes me $29- I paid off 3 Executions against me Two in favor of Plant &c and one in favor of Clark amounting to $11 40/100 I also Paid my Taxes for 1862 $21 50 also of Estate $7 90/100 This has been a warm day and the snow has melted off rapidly with a good prospect for a general thaw

8th Sunday I have been about home all day as we have had company the most of the time this has been a warm day and the ground is now

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Feb 9th 1863

This has been a Pleasant day I have been at work on the House to day & this night one year ago I was married and to night I have nursed the Baby to keep him quiet while his Mother Eat her supper thus it is in life ever ever changeing a man little dreams when he first enters out on the threshold of life as it were what the future has in store for him what trials what temptations he must Pass through in his journey through life at Twenty it seemed to me that life could be but one bright and sunshiney path surrounded on all sides with pleasures hitherto unknow but ah how soon was this dream dispelled and ten long years of trial and disappointments were the results of my wild chimerical dream although I say trials and disappointments I do not mean that all of that time was a succession of trials & no by no means for there are scenes during those ten years that ever live in memory as the most pleasant of my life yet all of that time I was chasing after shadows seeking to find contentment where it has never yet been found in the vain Pleasures of this world not believing that the greatest Pleasure in this life is a quiet home with loved ones around you domestic enjoyment which affords more real pleasures than all the outside show and vanities of this world truly as the Poet says there is no place like home but what a home worth to a man where it is not the abode of Love and affection where discontent reigns and discord & strife usurp the Place of domestic happiness but mine has been different to me home has more attractions than any other Place and I have enjoyed myself better than I did during the past ten years And though life still has its trials & crosses & contents with my lot

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Feb 10th 1863

I was at the Point this morning and in the woods after Board timber in the evening this has been a pleasant day

11th I went down to Wm Alberts Daniel Wm Utleys this morning and stripped tobacco in the evening a wet disagreeable day

12th Striping Tobacco to day another wet disagreeable day

13th I have been striping tobacco again to day this has been more like a spring than a winter day

14th St Valentines day I have been striping tobacco again to day it has been warm enough for spring

15th Sunday this is indeed a lovely morning as I strolled about my little home this morning enjoying the bright sunshine I could hear the spring birds carolling their joyous songs making glad this beautiful earth everything seeming Bright & happy in the anticipation of the spring time coming as I stood and contemplated this scene and in my own mind was thinking of plans for the future there was one dread thought of this awfull present as I looked toward the land of sunshine and flowers of this continent and thought of the condition of my once happy country though we have peace and plenty here god only knows how long it will last for soon the tide of war may roll this way and devastation and ruin sweep away the bright prospect before us but I hope this bright morn for better things that the people will soon see their folly and atone for the past by a long peace

I was at church this morning Elder Thurman Preached &c

16th I have been striping tobacco to day I settled with Mrs Pickers and I owe her Eighty six dollars got Paid Mrs Gibson fifty dollars on the hire of Ellen for last year this was money for which I get no return

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Feb 17th 1863

I Finished stripping my Tobacco to day at Mothers and Loaded two wagons in the evening

18th Went to Henderson to day with Tobacco The Loads weighed Good 1550 Lugs 1540 Trash 500 Amt to $539.85/100 I Paid to day for Domestics 43cts Pr yard for Calico 30cts and for Summer clothes for Negroes 60cts Every thing else in proportion The roads are as bad as I ever saw them in my life

19th This has been a wet disagreeable day I settled with E E Hancock this morning and we Ballanced accounts up to this date I Paid him $28.25/100 which amount entitles me to one half sack of Coffee I settled with Blaylock and we are even to this date Also with Bennett Hopkins and he owes me $7.

20th I was helping Thomas Smith Survey 10 acres of Land for William Powell this morning and at work about the farm in the evening This has been a pleasant day

21st I went to A J Andersons this morning after ~~[illegible]~~ hay I hauled one stack with three wagons the morning was pleasant but it commenced snowing and raining about 12 oclock and I do not think I ever saw a worse evening

22nd Sunday This has been a cold disagreeable day I went to Church this morning and although this was Quarterly Meting there was but a small congregation present Elder Alderson Preached this day presents quite a contrast to last Sabbath as last Sabbath would have passed for a Spring day while this will do for Winter in any climate

23d I was at the Point in the morning and went to the Steam Mill in the evening a pleasant day

24th I have been at work about the farm to day and went to the mill in the evening This was a damp cloudy day

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Feb 25th 1863

I started to Henderson this morning but concluded not to go as one of my neighbors Charles W Allin had died the night before and I wished to be at the Funeral

I went to the Funeral in the evening and as I rode up to the house and thought of the many different times during my eventful life I had visited that house before of the many Pleasant associations that were Parked and forever gone it was hard to realize that I was then visiting the house of death and mourning I could scarce believe that the Bright eyed Laughing boy the Pride of a fond doating mother and a favorite of all who knew him was lying in that house a corpse I saw him but a few days before in fine health and in all the Bloom and flush of Early manhood and little did I think I would see him this evening a corpse but thus it is in life we are here to day gone to morrow and truly applicable was the text of Mr Fallan to the occasion Man that is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble and this death should be a warning to us all as though we may be in good health to day to morrow death may call us hence and that ever memorable warning should ring in the ear of everyone Prepare to meet thy god for no mad knoweth the day nor the hour in which he may be called to lie down in death and it seems now that disease is more fatal than ever before and we hear of more sudden deaths of both old and young than I have ever heard of before It seems truly that death lurks in every Passing breeze

I could but feel for that disconsolate Mother and Sisters but yet I hope he is in a better world where free from every stain his Happy Spirit fondly waits to welcome them again Oh what a thought what a con

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Feb 26-63

solation to think that our friends are but
removed from this cold and callous hearted
world to live forever with their saviour
for truly this is a world of trouble especially
in this Portion of it at the present time
as the dread war with its work of carnage
and death still goes on Brother meets Brother
on the ensanguined field and neighbor meets
neighbor but to spill each others blood
on both of the contending armies and
I learned to day that a Brother of the deceased
had recently died in the Southern army (Philip
Allin) he was one of my boyhoods Playmates and
schoolmate and one I loved like a Brother
though years have passed since we were boys together
as I think of him now it is with deepest sorrow
at his untimely end (if it be true that he is dead)
and although he died in a noble cause I could have
wished him a better fate
Another Brother Jack Allin when last heard from
was also sick in the Southern army if there
is one being on earth to whom I bear no relationship
that I look upon and love as a true friend that
one is Jack Allin though we may meet
no more until we meet at the Bar of
god he will ever live in memorys sacred page
~~re~~ our associations during the past few
years and up to the time he joined the army
will ever be remembered and though he may
die in a far off camp or win fame on the
Battle field I will ever remember him as true
and tried friend
But I have wandered from my subject as the
mind wanders so I have written and were I
to write down all my thoughts in connection with
this death I would write several pages but
will close this by hoping that one day
our afflicted Family may all meet ~~there~~
where there will be no more parting
where the brightness of heaven will dispel
the gloom of this world

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Feb 26th 1863

I went to Hollingsworths sale to day everything sold verry high I bought some oats and Irish Potatoes for the Oats I paid 40cts per Bushel and $1 15/100 for the Potatoes

27th I have been at work on a hen house to day this has been a beautifule day and to night looks like February might wind to a close with at least two clear days and nights

28th I went to Henderson to day I think a man ought to have Pay for riding over such roads as the one from here to Henderson as it is allmost impossible to get there on horse back

I Received from Hear Clark & co $550 on Tobacco

There was a great many People in town to day notwithstanding the bad roads and the place still presents a lively appearance

This was the last day of Feb and I am not sorry that the month is gon as it has been wet and disagreeable throughout there has been but few clear days during the month and then it was too wet to do anything on the farm I have done but little this winter except to strip tobacco and I have sowed no plant beds yet I will have to sow alltogether in March but if it still continues to rain the Prospect will be anything but flattering for an Early Tobacco crop

Prices of everything have gone up rapidly and Tobacco is now worth from $20 to $30 yet with these prices it will take all a man can make to buy the necessaries of life

The Prospect for peace in this unhappy Country is anything but flattering it seems that both sides are determined to carry on this horrid war and Peace Parties will accomplish but little good allready has a conscript Bill Passed in congress and the endeavor will be made to press five or six Hundred thousand more men into the Union Arm how it will end time alone will reveal but I hope a free people will rise their might and resist it to the last

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March 1st 1863

I hail the advent of Spring with pleasure as this winter has been so disagreeable, that one can but rejoice at its departure. This has been a pleasant day for the begining and if this day be a type of the Month it will do well for March

2nd I have been at work on a Plant Bed to day a Beautiful Day

3d I Ploughed up and sowed 3 Plant Beds to day these were the first I have sowed this winter

4th I went to Hollingsworths to day after Oats and Potatoes that I bought at the sale there was 20 Bushels of oats and 3 Bushels and one peck of Potatoes a cool march day

5th At work on a Plant Bed again to day. March the fickle Jade has been cutting up all sorts of Pranks to day as it has rained and snowed at times and then again the sun would shine Brightly overhead to be succeeded by another Storm of snow or rain

6th This was another disagreeable March day I sowed my Plant bed this evening but it was very wet and to night it is raining with a good prospect for a flood

7th This has been another cold damp disagreable day I have done but little this week. Although the winter has passed and it is now time to begin the Spring work I am not half through what I expected to do during the winter as the weather has been so disagreeable that it has been impossible to accomplish much This has been one of the worst winters for out door work I ever remember of as it has been raining or snowing nearly all winter I am not done stripping tobacco yet but if I had it stripped the Roads are so bad that I could not haul it so the prospect generally looks like the weather rather dark

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March 8th 1863

This is a gloomy sabbath morning dark clouds obscure the cheering rays of the sun and the earth is damp and cheerless everything seems dark our own thoughts are dark and gloomy for there is no cheering ray to relieve the darkness as we look to the future for that curse of nations is all the topic every paper we see contains nothing but war war the latest news from the field of Battle is all that one cares to see Death seems to have lost its terrors for where we once shuddered at the details of a battle where but few lives were lost we now feel disappointed if there was not thousands of lives sacrificed and we hear men rejoice when they hear that tens of thousands of their countrymen have been murdered and that another Battle field runs gory with their Brothers Blood

Oh god! to what a state our unhappy country has at last arrived Anarchy and this will be the next step in this grand drama allready is life and liberty Jeopardized Man can no longer Boast of his freedom our free institutions will soon only be remembered as things of the past allready has a conscription bill become a law and soon will the fife and drum be leading an army of unwilling conscripts to the be slaughtered like the vast army that has allready passed away

I went to Mrs Allens this morning and assisted B Martin to Burry his little negro who had died at Mrs Allens it seems that there must be some contagious disease about that house as this was the third death there in about two weeks and another a negro woman it was thought could not live I felt truly sorry for the Bereaved family at that house out of a large Family only two remained at the old Homestead and they under the deepest affliction this time in life

This has been a cool march day

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March 9th 1863

Went to Henderson to day in company with G Mitchell there was nothing new in the city to day and no visible improvement in the roads I Paid J McCormick $650 on Note I also Paid off an Execution against me in favor of W J Dallam this is the last and if I have no bad luck it shall remain the last as I have Paid near one Hundred dollars in costs this winter

10th I was in Union Co this morning and about home in the evening this has been a pleasant day

11th At work on a plant bed in the morning and Planting some Irish Potatoes in the evening this has been another pleasant day

12th I commenced sowing oats this morning & I have felt this evening as though I had lost a Brother for I could hardly feel otherwise on hearing of the death of Henry Williams who died this evening with Small Pox his case has been truly an afflicting one confined with a loathsome disease no friend could visit him in his sickness to care for his wants or soothe his dying hours the one faithful companion his wife alone with none but hired officials to attend upon him or to watch with him in his sufferings and dying agonies God Knows from my heart I Pitied him and his Companion but dared not visit him for fear of the contagion it would have been a pleasure for me to have visited him during his last affliction and ~~if Possible~~ to have releived him as much as possible during his illness but he is gone his past sickness can never reach him or death ere come to that land where he is gone I trust he is now in heaven enjoying the full fruition of Glory where disease and death are felt and feared no more

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March 12th 1863

Where the wicked ceas[illegible] troubling and the weary are at rest.

I have known Henry Williams ever since I was old enough to know any one he was one of my Schoolmates and as memory goes back to youth I remember him as one of my Boyhoods friends and Playmates and as years rolled on I remember him as the Cherished friend of Early manhood which friendship ended only with his death will ever be cherished in memory sacred shrine till like him the clods of the valley are Piled above me

I have indeed felt sad tonight but such is life our brightest dreams are often dispelled before their consumation our friends die and and Pass away only to be remembered in our thoughts of the past

13th I was sowing oats this morning and this evening as I stood at a distance and saw the Body of my friend and neighbor Bourne to its last resting place by hired Officials and Strangers followed by his faithfull companion Only ~~to his grave~~ I felt as I have seldom felt before Oh god what a sad fate left to die without one of his friends being able to visit him from the fear of that loathsome disease But I trust that his last affliction taught him the worth of his immortall soul and that when seemingly deserted by all his friends there was one friend who would comfort him in his affliction and save him with an everlasting Salvation high up in heaven although he like too many put off the day of his return to god until a dying hour yet if in that hour he gave himself to god which I trust he did he found a willing ~~& savior~~ But Adieu Henry on Earth forever no tears of mine could Ere recall thee But Oh may we meet in heaven where no more disease no more death will cause us to mourn

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March 14th 1863

Went to Henderson to day in company with G Mitchell a Pleasant day

15th This has been a beautiful day every thing seems joyous and Happy except Poor Mortal Man Disease and death are around him War and Pestilence teach him that life is but fleeting at best and this evening one of my neighbors children died with Small Pox no one can go near them the Father and Mother will have to wait on and Burry their own dead

I was at Sam Cooper to day a visiting I also went to Hosea Smiths

16th This has been another beautiful day I have been at work on the farm I commenced Ploughing Tobacco land with my Mule team to day &c

17th I went to Henderson to day in company with G Mitchell carried up a load of Trash it weighed 1333 lbs this has been another Spring day

18th Helped Bennett Marshall roll logs to day this was the first Rolling I have been at this Season

19th I assisted to Burry John Smiths little girl Clara this morning ~~this morning~~ as I looked on the face of that girl in deaths Cold embrace it seemed like a smile was on its countenance as though it had met the grim Monster with a welcome Smile Oh how sweet to die in infancy and leave this cold and cheerless earth ere one feels its Chilling Breath of sorrows

I went to Mr Haskins in company with E A Powell this evening &c to day has been a changeable March day

20th Went to Union Co to day with G Mitchell Came home in the evening and set up with a Corpse until Midnight this has been a Lovely Spring day Received from H A Powell Eighty five Dollars for a yoke of Oxen

March 21st 1863

This morning looked very much like rain but the evening has been beautiful I went down to the Steam Mill this morning and to Dr Newmans with Phil Kirk in the evening this has been a Spring day indeed allaround as we see the Vegetation Putting forth and a few more such days as this and the Peach and Apple trees will be in full Bloom I noticed in the woods wild flowers for the first time this evening

22nd Sunday I was at B F Martins this morning & this evening we had a verry hard rain which will make the ground to wet to Plough for several days

23d Striping Tobacco to day

24th I finished Striping Tobacco to day and I am not sorry as it has been a long tedious job

~~25th I did work about the farm to day~~

26th Went To Henderson to day with Tobacco this was the last and I am glad to get through with it the two Loads weighed Good 1470 Tugo 630 Trash 300 Amt to $367 50/100 My Crop has weighed Badly this year as I only Make 1600 Pounds on 20 Acres and I sold for less than its Value thus reducing my year's labor considerably below what I Expected my crop Brought Me $230 23/100

27th I have been at work on a Plank fence this morning and it has been raining this evening Paid Capt Dillingham $180 The Ballance of two notes he held against me for Interest at 24 Per cent Per Annum this was tall figures but it will teach me a lesson as the whole Amount has been a total Loss to me

28th I was unwell this morning but helped Mother Roll logs or in other words stood around and looked at others do the work This was a regular March day

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March 29th 1863

Sunday this is the 5th Sunday in March and a cold disagreable day it is I have been sitting by the fire all the morning endeavoring to keep warm and have partially succeeded I had hoped from the pleasant weather about the Middle of this month that we would have an Early Spring but of late the weather has been verry cool even for march and to day everything looks more like mid winter than Spring This day is truly a good one for thought and Meditation and as the saying is the Blues generally for as we look around us an all Pervading Gloom seems to hang over everything it seems like Poor man allways the Sport and plaything of destiny and but a mere tool in the hands of fate as at this time more than ever before but a plaything of his own fellow Mortals for to him act as he will there is ever before him some difficulty or danger which has to be met which he must overcome or it will overcome him in the brightest moments of his brief existence there is ever a dark and portentous cloud hanging over him that may at a moments warning forever Wreck his hopes and aims in this life No one thought a few years ago that through the machinations of man that this country would at this time be devastated by civil war that blood would flow as it were in rivers that five hundred thousand lives would have been sacrificed and all for the folly of a few men base Politicians could one view the sorrow and distress that this war has occasioned throughout the land this morning could he visit the home of the widow and the Orphan could he hear the groans of the wounded sick and dying Soldiers of both armies he could but feel that man is the Child of destiny and the Plaything or tool of his own fellow Mortals and that a few control the destinies of the many

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March 29th 1863

We often see men whose prospects in life seem Bright who seem to enjoy the occupation they may follow and on whose countenances contentment appears to be written suddenly abandon the Pursuits ~~to~~ which they have been reared to follow and through the influence of others enter upon some perilous enterprise that would soon lead them to their graves

How many unsuspecting youths by the glitter and Pomp of war, have been led off to an early death how many through the glowing Speeches of some stay at home Politician followed by a Band of Music and a Military display have suddenly enlisted and gone out to the war to return no more in all ages, in all the pursuits of life man seems but to follow out the rules of destiny the few controlling the many

as an illustration of this we will look back through the Past few years of our own lives there has ever seemed to be an impending fate hanging over us we see our friends led off by different causes some become their own Executioners others ~~through others~~ through the influence of designing men ~~are~~ led off in one pursuit and another until they meet their fate at the hand of destiny

I have stood above the open graves of cherished friends and assisted to consign them back to the Mother earth and turned away sad and defeated yet at the same time I felt they had but fulfilled their allotted destiny I have seen volunteer men enlist for the Southern army and leave their homes some of them were cherished friends some of them sleep their last Sleep in the South a few have returned and others are are still following the fortunes of war the tools of others and the sport of destiny

March 30th 1863

I Rolled Logs to day I believe I got the best days work done to day that I have ever got done my life the day was cool

31st March took her departure to day with a mixture of Sunshine and Snow as the old saying is she came in like a lamb but went out like a Lion I was down at Mr Mitchells this evening, to a log rolling

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April 1st 1863

I sowed some oats in Mothers field this morning &c. This has been a March day instead of an April one as the ground was hard Frozen with a heavy frost this morning
2nd I was at work on a plank fence in the morning and went to Hiram Turners and the Steam Mill in the evening
3d I was at work on fence again this morning went to John Greens to a log rolling in the evening
4th went to Henderson to day in company with G Mitchell a pleasant day
5th Sunday this has been a pleasant day after so much windy March weather I spent the day at T C Hancocks
6th I was setting posts for a plank fence to day
7th I was at work on fence again to day
8th Do do do
9th at work on fence and new ground to day the weather is pleasant but dry
10th I was at work on fence &c again to day
11th At work on fence &c
12th Sunday this has been a pleasant day I was at home untill Dinner and walked down to Sam Coopers in the evening
13th went to Henderson to day in company with Mary A Cooper and Adelia the day was pleasant and the roads were as dusty as Summer although everything wears a lively aspect in the City as Business seems to be brisk but nevertheless a general gloom pervades the whole community the Merchant Smiles pleasantly as he displays his wares yet there is care on his brow and when you talk with him he is anything but hopefull Union men as well as Southern Rights men are becoming despondent as this war seems no nearer an end than it did one year ago and the conscripti

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April 13th

which is soon to be enforced will only
agravate the all already distressing state
of things I saw for the first time a guard
of Soldiers around a store (R.B. Allins) he was
arrested by the Millitary Authorities for selling
goods to Persons who designed carrying them South
the Court House was well Peopled with Prisoners
who have been arrested and confined there
for various offences against the Millitary
Law
14th this has been a wet day and the rain
was badly needed for tobacco beds &c
15 I was at work on plank fence again
to day the weather is fine for farming
16th Helped Thos Smith roll logs this day
this has been the warmest day of the season
17th I finished my plank fence to day
and got my woods lott nearly fenced
all around
18th At work on gates &c to day
another warm day
19th Sunday last Saught the rain
Poured down as it were in torrents
and it is still raining this morning
The rain stoped at eight o'clock this
morning and the sun came out
Brightly all nature once more is
Putting on its green robes the birds
are warbling their sweet songs and
everything seems full of life the hum
of insects resounds through the air
and the frogs render the streams vocal
with their never ceasing songs
I was at church this morning but there
was no preaching I was over at Uncle Steps
Martins this evening with Adelia and Mother
and spent the evening Brother Fallan held
a small prayer meeting and it was
with feelings I have seldom felt before
for as I kneeled down in that room

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April 19th 1863

Under so many and varied circumstances memory went back in spite of the pleading of the Minister for the sick and the afflicted to other days and other scenes in years that are forever past and gone I could but feel sad over the many changes time has wrought changes perhaps for the best which have left an indelible impress on memorys sacred page which last during life

It was indeed a change to get from the wild jesting world to a religious meeting though it was but a family gathering

20th I was at work in new ground to day commence breaking

21st I planted my first corn to day in the Orchard next to the Methodist Church

22nd I was running off corn ground awhile this morning then went to the Point where I was pressed into service by a company of Federal Soldiers to guide them to Kings Mill I went with them to the Mill where they arrested one many a citizen for Harboring guerillas this was my first act in guiding Union Soldiers and I am satisfied with this one trip

23d I was planting corn this morning and went to H Coopers with O S Knight and from there to H Smiths in the evening

24th I finished planting corn to day & went down to Mr Andersons in the morning

25th I went to a sale at Mrs Mills to day There was but little sold but what was sold brought good prices

26th Sunday I was at church this morning Elder McDaniels preached the day was Pleasant

27th went to Hendersons to day it Rained awhile this morning but cleared off and the day was pleasant

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April 28th 1863

I was at work on a Stable this morning and riding arround in the evening we have had verry heavy rains lately and the ground is now too wet to work

29th I Sheared my sheep this morning &c there was another heavy rain last night and to day has been cloudy with the appearance of more rain.

30th This is the last day of April the Morning Sun shines over a scene of unrivalled Beauty and everything but Poor discontented Man

I went down to Lame & av Mill this morning. and Helped Mother raise a shed in the evening

The Past month has been one of the finest months for farming I have ever seen and I have got along with my farming operations finely and for the first time in my life I have kept up with my work

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May 1st 1863

This is a pleasant day for the beginning of the month I took dinner at B G Bastins and was hunting up some contraband negroes in the evening &c

2nd I went to Henderson to day I carried up some negroes who were freed by the Emancipation Proclamation of Abe Lincoln this was the first case that has come under my own observation

Mr Mitchell who was arrested the day before for having these negroes in his possession was released when the negroes were given up

Military Rule has already usurped the civil and it is now common for citizens to be arrested and confined without knowing for what they are arrested or being allowed even a form of trial

My Country O my native land
Outspread Neath Heaven
By heavens own Hand
Will thou the wrath of Heaven Bear
Will Heavens wrath Awake despair
Whether it is the vials of Heavens wrath
Being Poured out upon this down trodden
People I am unable to say
But we are at Present under an Abolition
despotism which is perhaps worse than
it has ever been the lot of freemen
to submit to

3d Sunday I was at church to day
Elder Fallin preached &c

4th At work about the farm to day
went to Mrs Mills &c in the evening

5th I Planted some Chinese Sugar corn and some cotton to day

6th I was at the Point this morning and went a fishing &c in the evening saw a lot of men from Tennessee to day who were forced to leave their homes

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May 6th 1863

and seek a living where war has not as yet swept over the land with its devastating horrors each day but adds a fresh chapter to the allreadly accumulated horrors of this awfull war

7th this has been a cold wet disagreeable day I have been about home doing nothing in particular

8th I was about the Farm in the morning went a fishing in the evening with Mitchell

9th I went in Company with G A Sugg & B F Martin to survey a tract of land on Pond Creek that Belonged to Sugg & the Estate of my Father we sold the land to W H Crenshaw at six dollars per acre and he paid Nine Hundred dollars of the money down my Part of the money amounted to one Hundred & twelve dollars & fifty cts

10th This is a lovely Sabbath May morning This is indeed a pleasant termination of the last weeks wet cold and disagreeable weather everything looks flattering for the farmer at present and were it not for the war we might look into the future with confidant assurance but as we look arround us and see the effects of this awfull struggle see men dragged from their homes and imprisoned for no offence see our friends and our neighbors who have been so unfortunate as to engage in this war return to their homes only to driven off or imprisoned only a few days ago I saw a mother with her only son who had been in the Southern Army going to Henderson to deliver him up to the authorities there affraid to even give him something to eat or even to place to sleep and I have since learn that notwithstanding the young Mans wish to remain at home and to submit to the laws of the land and the

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May 10th 1863

of his Mother he will be sent to Johnsons Island to remain during the war or be exchanged but this is only one instance of the many thousands that are daily occuring women and helpless children are not exempt for all who sympathize in any way with their Southern friends and Brothers in rebellion are liable to be imprisoned or Banished from their homes

And lately the tide of Battle has again Rolled over Virginia down trodden and allready blood washed soil the heights of Fredricksburg have again been the scene of one of the most bloody and sanguinary Battles that has ever been fought and at one time the accounts of this dreadful slaughter would have appalled us but now we only think of the folly of man and wait eager to hear from the next contest I was at Church in the morning but there was no preaching went to singing in the evening

11th Went to Henderson to day I visited Jack Allin to day in the guard House this was the first time I have seen him since he left with the Guerrillas there was a number of prisoners in the court house Both Citizens and soldiers

12th I was about home this morning went a hunting and fishing in the evening

13th At work on Barn in the morning and hunting in the evening this was a wet day

14 A Pleasant day I went down to Tame Neo Mill in the evening

15th I was at work in the Morning went a fishing in the evening I caught some little fellows but [illegible] to Pay [illegible] trouble

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May 16th 1863

I was at work hauling Logs &c to day the weather is a little too cool for the season although it is verry Pleasant 17th This was another Pleasant Sabbath day I was at Sabbath School in the Morning and to Singing School in the evening

18th went to Henderson to day I heard a portion of the Speech of Col McHenry who is a candidate for congress but I could not agree with him in his views and think I will not be a voter at this Election

19th I was at the Sale of H D Williams in the Morning there was but little sold and but few Bidders went a fishing in the evening

20th I was cow hunting in the Morning and a fishing in the evening

21st went to Henderson to day I settled with F H Dallam who was my Carayer for the Estate I Paid him $135 — I intended to have made a final Settlement as Executor of my Fathers Estate but owing to circumstances I could not do so we had a fine shower of rain in the evening

22nd I was about the farm in the Morning went down to Mrs Allins to see a man by the name of Pierce who was thought to be dying as I stood and looked upon that old man who had lived to an old age without making Preperations to die standing as it were upon the Brink of Eternity I could but reflect upon the Frailty of human nature putting off until the last hour that which should be our first attention heedless of that Memorable warning, Prepare to meet thy god for no man knoweth the day nor the hour when he will be called from hence

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Receipts 1863	$	cts
May 9th Received of W S Crenshaw	112	50
" 14th Received of T Smith	52	50
" " S L Cooper	42	50
" " of Lame & co on Note	50	00
" 26th of S Cattin	300	00
" 8th of L W Powell on horse	40	00
	597	50
	2915	80
	3513	30

Expenses 1863	$	cts
27th Gave to M Preacher	2	00
28th Paid Sullivan for Tobacco Plants	5	00
30th Gate Hinges &c	1	40
" " Expenses	1	25
July 8th Suspenders &c		85
" " Atlas		65
" " Nails &c		50
" " Expenses	1	50
" 16th 1 Pair of Shoes	2	00
" " Carding Rolls (Cheany)	2	00
" " Repairs on Saddle	1	25
" " Merchandise	1	25
" " Expenses &c	1	00
July 4th Paid Bob Turner	5	00
5 yds Cottonades 60cts	3	00
23d Expenses &c	2	50
" Paid J C Williams for Vickers	10	00
28 do	1	50
Aug 2nd Gave 50cts for Sexton		50
4th 1 lot of sundries		65
" Expenses	1	25
13th 1 Pair of Pants	7	50
1 do for Davy	2	50
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Expenses 1863	$	cts
May 9th Paid G Woodfork	12	00
May 11th Domestic &c	2	25
" " Pocket Hdkf		90
" Shot Caps &c	1	00
" Expenses in Hd	1	50
" 14 Paid W Monton	50	00
" " G Huston for Estate	50	00
" 18th Paid J Robertson	10	00
" " Dallam & Soaper	6	00
" " J E Rankin	1	35
" " Expenses &c	1	50
" 20th Paid H F Dallam	135	00
" " D Lockett	9	75
" " Expenses &c	1	00
" 26 Paid J E Rankin	14	50
" " Mowing Sythe &c	2	75
" " 100 lbs of Sugar	16	30
" " 2 Hoes	2	00
" " Hat & Shoes for Baby	4	25
" " 1 Pair of shoes for Davy	1	75
" " Socks &c	1	85
" " Expenses &c	1	75
June 3d Expenses &c	1	00
" 5th Paid to Sabbath School for Books	1	00
" " Expenses &c	1	00
" 12th do do	1	50
" 17th 1 Cradle Stock	2	00
" " 5 yds of Tinner for Bob Turner	3	50
Expenses		75
29th 3 yds of Jaconet	2	00
" " 1 Bll Flour 97 lbs Bacon	14	65
" " Paid L L Hancock	15	00
" " 1 Sythe Blade	1	65
" " Shot Caps &c	1	15
" " 1 Pair of Shoes for Robert Turner	1	50
" " 1 Inch Bit		65
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May 23rd 1863

and careless through life yet when we come to face the grim Monster death we look back over a misspent life and feel how vain and transient were the fleeting pleasures of sin which we had bartered our souls
I also went to see H. J. Cooper who was very sick thus spending the most of the day in visiting the sick
24th I was hunting in the morning and went a fishing in the evening I set up a part of the night with Henry Cooper
24th This is a calm Beautiful Sabbath morn Spring has Mantled the forest with its usual Luxuriant growth all around us we see the Boundless wealth and beauty of nature and if we lived as we should do we could enjoy the manifold blessings bestowed upon us yet poor dissatisfied man instead of following the only true Path of happiness has let his ambitious and evil nature plunge into struggles which entail upon all sufferings to a greater or less extent
For to day the ambitious projects of a few designing men has plunged us into a war whose horrors are unequalled in the history of the world and which fills the mind with dread not knowing how soon we may be drawn into the vortex and be engulphed in the ruin that has swept Broadcast over so much of this once happy country we hear nothing but war war. Ever if we go to see a sick friend or to church or to a social gathering we talk of nothing else but this horrid struggle it engrosses every other yet I still trust in an all wise god who will overrule all for the best
Went to Sunday school and church in the morning and to singing in the evening

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May 23rd 1863

Easter Monday I went in company with Henry Finley to John M Hancock this morning and spent the evening at home a pleasant day

26th Went to Hendyson to day in company with Mitchell There was considerable Excitement over the rumored fall of Vicksburg and the dreadfull Battle that had been fought there

I Received $360 from Sam Catlin to day

27th I went to Henry Cooper in the morning and to the Point in the evening

28th I was running off Tobacco ground to day

29th When I awoke this morning I heard the welcome sound of rain falling on the roof and arose with the one Idea of setting out tobacco to day but in this I was Partially disappointed as it did not rain enough upstill noon to wet the ground but I set out in the evening about 5 acres which will stand a fair chance to die if it does not rain again to night

30th I was setting out tobacco again this morning we had a fine rain in the evening

31st Sunday I was at Sabbath School this morning and also at Preaching Elder Thurman Preached and went to singing in the evening the day has been pleasant and showery with this ends the Month of May and the Spring of the year the Past Month has been a fine one on the Farmers as it has neither been too wet or too dry yet cool and pleasant the prospect for a good crop was never better and the Farmer could look with pleasure into the future were it not for this dreadfull war

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June 1st 1863

I set out some Tobacco this morning but the ground was so dry I had to quit not have had numerous showers of late but the ground is very dry yet I Helped to burry a little child of John Blaylocks in the evening

2nd I went to the Steam Mill this morning and this evening it is raining again with a prospect for a good rain I set out tobacco awhile this evening

3 I was setting out Tobacco to day.

4th Went to Henderson to day in company with Thos Smith I was verry sick in the evening the day was verry cool for the season

5th I was not unwell to do anything to day but set about the House

6th Went to Henderson to day I purchased from Miss Mary McCullagh thirty dollars worth of sabbath School books for the Sabbath School at the Methodist Church I was forcably reminded of the power of Sabbath Schools over the mind of apparently Hardened and Cordid Man by a little incident that occured to day I was stoped by the Pickets and my buggy examined and as I had not permit to carry the Sunday School Books out of the city of Henderson I expected to have to go back for one but on telling the man who searched the buggy for what purpose I had purchased the Books he bade me Pass on for said he when I was a boy I loved the Sabbath School I loved to read those books and recited to me some of his old lessons and ended with the request that I would give him one of the Books to read in his leisure hours while doing his duty far away from loved Friends and associations I gave him that Book of Books which above all others we should study and read the New Testament and as I turned away and left him to do his duty as a Soldier in that I think to

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June 6th 1863

A bad cause I could but wish that the little book would not only revive early recolections but lead the Erring Mortal to seek an interest in a higher source than an earthly power and enable him should it be his lot to meet death on the Battle field to gain a nobler victory than will ever be gained by Mortal arms

7th This Morning resembles the Spring only in appearances for it is cool enough for a March or April Morning the Spring and Summer so far have been very cool and pleasant I was at Sabbath School this Morning there appears to be an increased interest in our Sabbath School and allready it has a large Number of Scholars and I hope it will get succeed in bringing all the children of this Neighborhood into a well organized and well conducted Sabbath School I was also at Preaching Elder Fullan Preached

8th About Home in the morning went to Sam Coopers in the evening &c

9th Doing nothing in Particular

10th It Commenced to rain this Morning and rained until twelve I set out Tobacco in the evening

11th I set out Tobacco until dinner to day but the rain has been so light that I fear it will all die

12th Went to Henderson to day on the L & L Hancock there was but few People in the place considering it was Circuit Court week there was a fine rain this evening

13th I was setting out Tobacco to day went to Church in the evening Elder Taylor Preached the sun has been warm enough to day to kill what Tobacco I set out

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June 14th 1863

Sunday I was at Sabbath school this morning and to Preaching at the Cypress Church Elder Taylor Preached a verry interesting Sermon also in the evening at 4 o'clock this has been a warm June day

15th Doing Nothing in Particular

16th I was at home in the morning went to Scarlett Tattas in the evening Also

17th I went to Henderson to day in company with Sam Cooker I was at the Funeral and Burrial of L B Weaver who died the evening before he was one of the first men I ever remembered and from my earliest Recolection he has allways been called a Generous Kind hearted man he is gone the clods of the valley are piled above him and I trust he is enjoying the full fruction of Bliss in Heaven

18th Doing Nothing in Particular

19th I was at the Point in the morning went to the Steam Mill in the evening

20th I was setting out Tobacco to day But the ground was too dry to set

21st Sunday Went to Sabbath school this morning and to Singing in the evening

22nd I was at work about the farm to day

23d I went down to Mr Sullivans this morning and a squirel Hunting with James Fegan in the evening

24th We had a fine rain last night and it has rained nearly all day to day I went to Sullivans after Plants this morning and set out tobacco in the evening I Paid him $5= for a Plant bed

25 I have been setting out Tobacco again to day the day has been showery and a fine tobbacco season

26th I finished Planting and replanting And replanting my Tobacco crop to day I have had to [illegible]

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June 26th 1863

My Tobacco crop so far as the seasons have been verry light and the cut worms have been worse than I ever remember of Before as I have had to set out some of my Tobacco three times and the most of my crop will have to start from the Bud If it is raining again this morning with a good prospect for a days rain and as I have nothing else to do I will indulge in writing down a few stray thoughts in the first place the all engrossing thought which engrosses every is the war we can as it were hear its distant mutterings and feel its terrible effects each day of our lives but brings us nearer to its stern reality but I fear that many of us who have looked on it from a distance are yet doomed to participate in its awfull Struggles already are arrangements made for the purpose of forcing the conscription upon both White and Black and Hundreds of Thousands must now be taken to fill the decimated ranks of the Federal Army already have vast armies melted away like the driven snow and yet that daring race of rebels appear stronger than ever at least 500.000 fifty Hundred Thousand men have fallen in this two contending armies up to the Present time and yet the call is for more men I have read of gory fields untill I

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June 28th 1863

Sunday I was at Church and Sabbath School in the Morning and at singing in the evening the das has been warm and I think we will have more rain

29th Went to Henderson to day in company with G Mitchell

30th This has been a warm day with Occassional showers I commenced cutting my wheat this evening my wheat is verry good considering I have pastured it all the year to day brings us to the close of the month of June the month has been a dry one untill recently it has rained allmost evry day and the ground is now too wet to plough crops of all kinds with the exception of wheat are verry backward

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July 1st 1863

I went to Henderson to day in company with G Mitchell it rained again to day
2nd I Rode down to Mitchells this morning and went a cow hunting in the evening &c
3d I was assisting the boys to prepare a place for a Pic Nic this morning an replanting Tobacco in the evening
4th Went to the Pic Nick to day everything Passed off pleasantly we had plenty to eat and drink allthough there was a large crowd in attendance I enjoyed myself finely among that large and joyous crowd there seemed to be no other aim than Pleasure all appeared happy and it is a fine thing for us that the Bouancy of our feelings will at times lift us above the gloom by which we are surrounded I have been at celebrations on this day from my earliest recolections memory goes back to many pleasant 4ths forever past and gone when the shrill clarion of war was not heard in the land and a united People met to celebrate this day yet oh how changed the days of Republic have passed away and a Millitary despotism Rules in its stead: the hopes of Millions have been crushed and the land deluged with Blood even to day the two hostile armies are said to be engaged in Battle in Pensylvania while at numerous other points they occupy a threatning attidude two years of horrid war and yet we seem but at the begining time will alone reveal its length and its horrors
I missed numerous friendly faces with whom I have associated on this day in past years and I missed a number who were at the same place one year ago some were in the confederate army and others sleep in the old church yard one friend in particular who was with me last year and who was ever

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July 4th 1863

Foremost in affairs of this kind I missed more than all others I rode by his last resting place with a saddened heart for I thought of this day one year ago and remembered incidents that occured at that time in which he was a joyous participant but thus it is in life the friends of to day to Morrow may have passed away

5th Sunday I was at Sabbath School this morning and at church Elder Fallan preached I was also at singing in the evening the day has been a warm one with occasional showers

6th I was at work about the farm this morning we had another heavy rain on our all ready drowned land this evening which will allmost ruin the Tobacco crops

7th I have been over my tobacco this morning trying to let off the water went a deer driving in the evening

8th Went to Henderson to day in company with A T Taylor there was considerable excitement over the war news in the city to day as it was Reported that Vicksburg had at last surrendered to General Grant and that Lee was badly whiped in Pennsylvania &c

9th I was verry sick all the night and have kept my bed all day this has been a warm day

10th It is again Cloudy with every prospect of rain

11th I went to Church in the evening Elder Taylor Preached

12th Sunday I was at Sabbath School and church this morning went to Sam Coopers in the evening

13th I was at work about the farm to day

14th Doing Nothing in Particular

15th I Finished Cutting my oats to day

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July 16th 1863

Went to Henderson to day in company with T S Wright this has been a cool day and to night the fire is a pleasant Companion

17th I Stacked my wheat to day went to Thos Smiths in the evening

18 I was hunting this morning &c and at B F Martins in the evening I heard to day of the death of James E Cheatham it seems that war and disease are sweeping away our friends on every hand when last I met with him I thought I could see disease and death stamped on his countenance and when I conversed with him he seemed to have but little hopes of living long and soon have those anticipations been verified Death has called him hence

19th This is a calm still Sabbath Morn all nature seems tranquill and the light breeze which scarcely ruffles the leaves on the trees serves only to remind us that time like the summer breeze is speeding onwards or more fitty like the clouds which obscure the morning sun will soon pass away

I was at Sabbath school this morning and heard Mr McCullagh adress the Sabbath School at 11 went to H F Coopers in the evening and from there to singing

20th Went to Thos Smiths this morning and from there a Sow hunting with John Jacobs &c

21st Doing Nothing in Particular

22nd I had company to day and have been about the House all day Bob Turner quit work for me to day at 12

23d Went to Henderson to day in company with Garett Mitchell I was at the Funeral of J E Ricketts in the evening

24th I was at B F Martins to dinner today &c

25th the verry windows of heaven appeared to be opened last night and the rain came down in torrents my tobacco crop

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July 25th 1863

is again overflowed this has been the worst season for Tobacco I ever remember to have seen as my ground has not been dry enough to plough for a month and my crop is a poor one

26th Sunday this is a lovely morning and I have been walking about veiwing my prospects for a crop but they are not flattering went to Sabbath School and Church ~~in~~ this morning Elder Mr Daniels Preached and to singing in the evening

27th I was at work about the farm to day but the ground was too wet to do much

28 went to Henderson in company with G Mitchelle

29th I had one hand cutting Hay at Mitchells to day I went down there at 12 and from there I went to a Blackberrying

30th I went with William Melton to John Hites after meat this morning I Bought 200 Pounds at 5½cts per Pound came home ~~to~~ dinner and went to Mitchells in the evening

31st Sunday Brings me to the close of the Month and I have spent the last day Ploughing Tobacco a verry good way to spend a day but rather a hard one especially in mean tobacco This Month has been a wet one throughout as the ground has been too wet to plough the most of the time the Branches instead of being dry as they usually are at this time of the year are full of water and nearly all of the low ground is drowned out the Corn crop is a good one but the Tobacco looks badly and if we have much more rainy cold weather it will be allmost a failure for unless we have a fall it will not have time to ripen

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August 1st 1863

This has been a warm day for the begining of the Month I went to the Steam Mill this Morning &c I assited to Burry a little child of A W Haskins to day thus as we Pass along the journey of life we are ever reminded of the uncertainty of our stays

2nd I was at Sabbath School and church this morning Elder Fallain Preached I was also at Singing in the evening

3d I went to the Election this morning and cast my vote for the Wickliffe ticket but as it turned out it amounted to nothing as soon after the Polls were opened according to the laws of the State of Ky when but sixteen men had had the Priviliege of Freemen the Priviliege which we once exercised unawed and unmolested of voting for the men of our choice the Election was stoped by Military Orders and the Poll Book taken Posession of by a Federal Captain

Our state was placed under martial law for the Purpose of Prostituting this Election and carrying by force what they could not accomplish otherwise

Ky No doubt deserves this and worse treatment we have tamely bent our necks to the yoke and invited this despotism by a base truckling to power we have become a by word and reproach to our Natural Brethren and the Slaves of the Federal Government

Boasted land of Freedom Ky Once the Proud and Chivalrous State whose sons were noted for their Bravery has now become the footstool of Northern Abolitionists

I have no doubt but our lesson of to day has been repeated all over the state and to Morrows Papers will contain news of a great Union Abolition Majority in this state which will be taken as the voice of the state by those who know not better

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August 4th 1863

Went to Hendersop to day I learned that the Military authorities had carried out the same Programe all over the county and the result was a small vote with a Majority for the Union Candidates

5th At work in Tobacco this morning and went to Lane & Co Mill in the evening

6th I was Ploughing a Turnip Patch this morning and went with Capt Dillingham & G P Tilly after Turnip seed I also started to the Burrial of Wm Higgins but he was buryied before I got there I sowed my Turnips this evening I sowed some Patent Office seeds in my Garden I sowed one Paper of Purple Top Yellow Aberdein Turnip in the row of apple trees below Grape Vines and one Paper of Tendus Turnip next the above extending down to Dwarf Pear tree and one Paper Orange Jelly or Robertsons Golden Ball Turnip Between Dwarf Pear and the next row of Apple Trees &c.

7th Helped Thos Smith Thresh wheat this morning and Put up a stack of Hay at Mitchells in the evening this was a very warm day

8th Went to the Mill This morning and to Church in the evening Elder Taylor Preached

9th This is a calm Sabbath morning as I look around me I see the Bounties and beauties of nature on every hand duty we have cause to be thankfull to the creator for the many Blessings by which we are surrounded for although War has swept through the lengths and Breadths of the land devastation and desolation has marked its course we have been unmolested and prosperous Compazitively Speaking for although many of our friends and relatives have gone into the strife some to return more the dread devastation of the war has as yet passed us by we enjoy the Blessings of Peace and plenty duty dictating from afar the horrors we shane thus far dear

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August 9th 1863

I was at Sabbath School this morning and at Church at the Cypress Church ~~in the~~ Elder Taylor Preached and at a Baptizeing of an aged Negress in Mr Haskins Pond and Preaching at the Methodist Church in the evening

It was indeed a Solem and impressive scene To Witness that Poor old decrepid Negress who had Passed the Ordinary age of Man whose head was silvered over with allmost if not quite a century of years Blind and infirm she still desired to Follow her Saviour in the Ordinance of Baptism as in her rude and uncouth Manner she told of her love for him who died To redeem a world in sin many arround that Beautiful Pond Might have learned a Lesson

10th I was at work in Tobacco to day

11th Toping Tobacco again to day a very warm day

12th Toping Tobacco in the morning and Helped William Haskins raise a Tobacco Barn in the evening

13th Toping Tobacco this morning and went to Henderson with L. D. Hancock in the evening

14th I went to G. B. Martins this morning &c We had a heavy rain in the evening

15th I have been very unwell to day and Remained about home until evening when I rode out to my mill Place with Mr Pierce I met with one this morning who I have long and intimately been acquainted with but oh how changed the circumstances since we last met then he walked the earth a free man now skulking through the woods a fugitive in his native county Oh war war will they Horrors ever be known I hope and trust a nation Baptized in Blood will get Profit by its Horrors

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Aug 16th

This is the day of Rest set apart as a day on which we are to serve god and rest from our daily avocations and I feel this morning in the Language of the Apostle I would that all men everywhere might serve him But oh how few in this heaven favored Land are really serving him to day I was at Sabbath School this morning and at Singing in the evening

17th I was about home to day doing nothing in Particular

18th Doing Nothing in Particular

19th I went to See John Higgins this morning he was very low with Typhoid Fever took dinner at B B Martins came home and toped some tobacco in the evening

20th Doing Nothing in Particular a squirrel Hunting in the evening

21st Toping Tobacco in the morning went to Sam Coopers in the evening

22nd I was at Church this evening Elder to day Fallan preached this is my Birth day aged 35 I am

23d I was at Sabbath School this morning also at Church Dr Nicholson Preached this was one of the most interesting discourses I have ever listend to and though the weather was excessivly hot he had good attention Paid him for 2 hours he also adressed the congregation again in the evening

24th I have been riding arround all the morning went to Mrs Allins & went out in the hills with B F Martin & J Smith and from there to John Higgins in the evening There was a verry sudden change in the weather this evening as the morning was verry warm and the evening cold enough to make a fire comfortable

25 This has been the coldest day I ever felt in August and to night I have had a fire that looks like winter

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August 26th 1863

Went to James Buckmans with A J Taylor this morning and Coping Tobacco in the evening the weather is still very cool

27th Went to Henderson to day in company with B F Martin

28th I went to Union Co this Morning and Coped some tobacco in the evening

29th I went to the Mill this morning and ~~went~~ to G Mitchells in the evening the weather is still very cool and I think we will have frost to night

30th Sunday This is the coldest morning I ever felt in August as there was a hegvy frost last night Our Baby was verry sick during the night and I have experienced considerable uneasiness about him it looks hard to see ones child suffer yet this entailed upon the whole human race and all all have to bear their share as I have stood over and watched the changing countenance of my child as he seemed to suffer so much I have felt all the force of that deep feeling which is only known to a Parents heart

I was at Sabbath School this morning and at Negro Preaching in the evening

31st I was at work about the Farm to day the day has been verry cool for the close of the month of August and we are compelled to have fires like winter time the crop will be seriously damaged by the late cold weather in many Places the frost has seriously damaged the Tobacco in this county and in some places the corn crop is said to be seriously injured

This Spring and Summer have been the worst on the Farmers that I have known for years as the spring was a verry wet one and the Summer commenced wet and ended cool and dry

with this ends the month of Aug and to morrow begins the Fall

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September 1st 1863

I will commence the month by saying tha
I finished Toping my Tobacco crop to day
I went to S L Coopers in the evening &c
2nd Helped B F Martin raise a barn to day
or a least was there a portion of the tim
3d Hunting a Board tree in the morning
and Helped G B Martin raise a barn in
the evening
4th I went to the Walnut Bottom to church with B F Mar
this evening Elder McDaniels preached there
has been a great revival of Religion at this
place and a number of accessions to the
Methodist church there were only three mou
rners this evening all young men I trust
this meeting will do much good in that
section
5th I was in the woods after board timber
this morning and went to the Mill in the
evening
6th I went to church in the Walnut Bottom
to day Elder Thurman preached two sermons
one at 11 and the other in the evening
to days meeting was an interesting one and
there were several conversions I saw an
old grey headed man to day who I have
long known as a wicked sinner exhorting
sinners to turn to god and seek religion
7th I have been making preparations to
Raise a barn to Morrow &c
8th Raised my Tobacco Barn to day I
t a good days work done but did not
finish
9th I Finished my Tobacco Barn this morning
nd went to the steam Mill in the evening
th went To Henderson to day in company
th W T Smith
th At work about the farm to day &c
I was at church this evening Elder
lor preached we had a fine shower of
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Receipts 1863

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[illegible]	7th Received of W A Fowles on Note	46	87
[illegible]	24 Borrowed from T S Kn[illegible]	100	00
"	" Received from Dillingham for one quarter of Beef	3	90
Nov	30th Borrowed of Mr Pierce	100	00
Dec	7th Received from P A Blackwell Exc &c	58	00
		308	77
		3313	30
		3822	07

Expenditures 1863

		$	cts
Aug	20 Paid Blaylock	1	05
"	" 1 Bottle Castor Oil		35
"	" Indigo		25
"	23d Expenses		25
"	27th 7 yds Calico	1	40
"	" 1 File 2 Pr Overlen Hose	1	20
"	" Expenses &c	1	40
"	28 Bought of O Maley		
"	128 lbs of Bacon	9	60
"	Paid 1 Quarters Postage		10
"	Paid Buckman for W	2	35
Sept	10th Nails &c	1	25
"	" 1 Hat	2	75
"	" Paid for Recording Mortgage Dep from W T Smith	1	25
"	" Expenses in H	1	75
"	" 1 Pocket Knife		85
"	14th Loaned W T Smith	3	00
"	15th Bill of Goods at Rankin	39	60
"	" At Holloways &c	13	00
"	" Expenses &c	2	00
"	23 Paid Taxes	28	15
"	24 Paid Mayes &c	2	40
"	Expenses &c	1	00
Oct	18th Expenses	2	0[illegible]
"	13th Expenses	1	3[illegible]
"	17th Bot for Davy one Over Coat	15	[illegible]
"	do Paid on Watch	1	[illegible]
"	" Expenses	2	[illegible]
"	24 1 Bl Flour 1 Do Salt	11	[illegible]
"	2 Bushels Potatoes	2	[illegible]
"	2 yds Lustre &c	1	[illegible]
"	Powder & Lead		
"	Let Phil have	2	[illegible]
"	29 Paid Eastin Surveyor	[illegible]	
Nov	10th Linsey &c		
"	" 5 [illegible] 1 Tape line		

Expenses 1863

		$	cts
Nov	10th Expenses in H	2	00
"	" Sugar & Coffee	4	00
"	" Loaned H Smith	5	00
"	14 Let W T Smith have 67 lbs Pork	4	02
"	23d Paid W T Smith $10	10	00
Dec	1st Paid Wellington on Pork	100	00
"	" Paid Revenue Tax	34	85
"	" Bought goods Amt to	4	00
"	" Expenses in H	1	00
"	7th Paid for Cloak for Cynthia		
"	" Mutton	12	00
"	" 1 Pr Small shoes		60
"	" Revenue Stamps &c		60
"	" Expenses &c	1	50
"	14th do do	1	50
"	" Loaned G Mitchell	5	00
"	15 Expenses in Owensboro	2	00
"	" Loaned G Mitchell	11	00
"	16th Expenses in Henders	3	00
"	" 1 Pair of Boots	7	00
"	19th Expenses in H	2	00
"	21st do do	1	50
"	24th Loaned Gy Mitchell	4	00
"	" 1 Small Chair	1	35
"	" " Notions &c	1	00
"	" Expenses	1	50

Sept 13th 1863

Went to Sabbath school and church this morning Elder Taylor preached an able sermon on the duty we owe to god &c I was also at Church in the evening again the day was cool and Pleasant

14th I was at work in Tobacco to day the sun came out hot again to day

15th Went to Henderson to day in company with Adelia we took dinner at J E Fogans

16th I have been unwell to day and consequently doing nothing in Particular it is raining again to night

17th I was hauling lumber from the Mill to day we had a verry heavy shower of rain to day

18th I was at work on Tobacco Barn to day The wind veered arround to the North this evening and there is a fair prospect for a frost to night

19th Old Hoary headed frost showed himself verry plainly this morning and I have learned that he made himself felt in some places but I do not think he has done me any damage I was at work putting the Roof on my Barn to day it has been cool a day and this evening it is cold enough for frost again

20th When I walked out this morning evening was white with Frost and My Tobacco seemed to be Froze but when the sun came out and dried the frost off it looked much better than I expected - allthough it has damaged my crop considerably a I had not cut a plant

I was at Sabbath school this morning and at Negro Preaching in the evening

Notwithstanding the severe frost this has been a beautifull and pleasant fall [illegible] can look forward to the fe[illegible] [illegible] weather in which [illegible]

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Sept 21st 1863

I Commenced Cutting Tobacco to day
I find my Crop but little injured by the
Frosts as yet
22nd Cutting and Housing Tobacco to day
23d do do do
24 went to Henderson to day there was
considerable Excitement over the war news
in the city to day as there had been
another of those Dreadfull Battles which
have characterized this war fought between
the Forces of Bragg and Rosecrans in which
the Rebels Appear to be victorious
25 Cutting and Housing Tobacco again
to day I have filled Two Barns and a part
of two sheds this week
26th I went down to Squire Turners Court
this morning and helped G B Martin cover
his Barn in the evening
27th Sunday I was walking arround through
the woods this morning and I could but notice
the changes the last few days has brought in
the Appearance of Nature the sere and yellow
leaf was falling to the ground and the
Beautifull green of Summer was fast changing
to the manny colors of Autumn times wheels
are steadily moving on this fleeting Autumn
will soon pass away then winter and yet
'is hard to realize its rapid flight
I was at Sabbath School this morning and
heaching Elder Fatton Preached took dinner
at Mothers and went to Prayer Meeting
in the evening
28th I was at work on Tobacco Barn
making Tobacco sticks & to day
29th This has been a warm day I Finished
Covering My Barn this morning and
went a Fox Hunting in the evening &c
30th This is the last day of the month and I think
will end with a rain I was at work

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Oct 1st 1865

When I awoke this morning the rain was falling on the roof and dark angry looking clouds obscured the heavens and if this day is a type of the month it will be a disagreeable Month. I was making Tobacco sticks &c to day

2nd Housing Tobacco at the new barn to day

3d I was at work in Tobacco to day This evening was very cool and I fear much we will have another frost

4th Sunday I was at Sabbath school this morning and at Prayer Meeting in the evening The day has been very cool and I have thought it best to break the Sabbath by hireing hands to cut Tobacco to day

5th This has been a very cool day I finished cutting Tobacco to day

6th There was a hard frost last night and all the Tobacco I had out is more or less frosted I had between three & four Thousand sticks on the ground it commenced to rain about three o'clock in the evening and now the Tobacco is both wet and frosted

7th It Rained all night and is raining this morning I commenced Hauling Tobacco as soon as it quit raining and hauled about one thousand sticks of wet Tobacco

8th I was housing Tobacco again to day

9th I Finished Housing Tobacco this morning and to night I feel like a Freeman since the 20th of Sept I have cut and housed Between 8 and 9000 sticks of Tobacco that is what I call good work for my Force This has been a beautiful fall day

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Oct 10th 1863

was in the woods Hunting some Cattle
n the morning and at Church in the evening
th Sunday I was at Sabbath School in the
morning and at Preaching Elder Taylor preached
also in the evening
12th This was a rainy disagreeable day I was Fireing
Tobacco all day
13th Went to Henderson to day in company with
Mitchell I bought a portion of my Negro Clothing
ut prices are enormously high
14th Fireing Tobacco &c to day
15th I was getting out my wheat to day my
rop is but a small one and the weavill has
ained that as it is so badly damaged that it
ill only do to sow
16th I commenced sowing wheat to day
17th Went to Henderson
18th Sunday This is a lovely Fall morning after a
tormy night it rained verry hard during the night
accompanied by heavy thunder and lightning one would
have thought whilst listening to the deep toned thunder
and watching the vivid playings of the lightning
at it was a mid summer rain but on looking
t upon old mother earth this morning the delusion
soon dispelled allthough the sunshines warm and
enial the sere and yellow leaf of fall tells us that
he summer is oer and the harvest is passed
the many variegated hues of Fall have taken
the place of the green of summer and soon so
soon that we hardly realize the lapse of time
old winter will entirely disrobe them of all their
loveliness
Thus it is in life in youth we wear the bright
and joyous Bloom of spring as we come to the
turning point of manhood we enter upon the quiet
Bussy summer of life and like the fall of the
year we commence to decay our youthfull bloom
of spring is gone the mature man of summer is
becoming old the furrows of time are upon
brow grey hairs take the place of his once
ing locks the fall of life is upon him

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Oct 18th 1863

And soon old winter of death will come and cut him down

18th I was at church this morning but there was no preaching I was also at preaching at night Elder Thurman preached

19th I was sowing wheat to day went to church at night Elder McDaniels Preached the prospect seems good for a revival as there were a number of mourners to night

20th I was sowing wheat this morning awhile and then went to church I was also at church again at night

21st I was at church again to day also at night the meeting seems to encrease in Interest and I seldom attended a meeting where there was more interest manifested by the Christians or the People to night reminded me of Earlier days

22nd I was at Preaching again to day the weath turned suddenly cool this evening and commen commenced raining about dark and rained al night

23d I was at Preaching to day again also at night there were more mourners to day than at any other time

24th Went to Henderson to day came home in the evening and went to church at night

25 Sunday I was at church this morning also at night there is a general awakening among the peop

26 I was at church this morning also at night To night I witnessed a scene which does no Happen often in ones life time I saw over twen souls rise one after another professing to hav found Pardon and to have received that gift which Enables them to look beyond this wor to a home in heaven I felt to night as I hav often wished to feel that is shouting happy And the Powerfull display of his goodness wa enough to make any christian shout to see their friends all happy around them and to feel th own acceptance with god I heard persons sho to night who it were so cold that it were im [illegible] them to be moved

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Oct 27th 1863

Went to Henderson to day in company with Miss Laura Watkins Came home in the evening and went to church at night

28th I had considerable company at my house to day and consequently have been about the house all day went to church at night

29th I was Surveying the Mill tract of Land to day we settled the line between us and Martins survey by Running the line at S 61° W. Passing near the corner of the Barn on the hill to a Large Poplar in the Hollow and from that in a direct line to the Poplar corner claimed by Martin The Mill survey will not hold out by 21¾ acres what my deed calls for went to Church at night the Meeting Broke up to night and the Preacher announced that there had been 55 Conversions and 45 additions to the church

30th this is a wet disagreeable morning with the Prospect of a wet day

The day fully sustained my expectations as it rained the day throughout with only a few intervals and wound up with a snow storm at night and it was cold enough for winter

31st This was a cold winter morning for the winding up of the month as the snow lies scattered arround in Patches and the sombre clouds oer head tell us of the approach of King winter

The Fall season which is fast Passing away has been unusually cold and I fear we will have a verry hard winter if so there will be much suffering throughout this distracted and unhappy country

as prices are perhaps higher now than ever before known and must be higher before the winter is over

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November 1st 1863

I was at Sabbath School and Church this morning Elder Taylor Preached the Funeral sermon of William F. Hancock this was a pleasant day after the Past few days of gloomy weather

2nd I was hauling the Plank from Pond creek Bridge to day went to church at night Elder Taylor Preached

3d I was at church this morning also at night

4th I went down to Eames Mill this morning and from there to church I was also at church at night The meeting seems to be productive of little good as yet but there appeared to be an increased interest to night

5th This is a gloomy looking morning but the clouds Broke away about 10 o'clock and the evening was pleasant I was at church this morning also in the evening

6th I was at Church again this morning also at night

7th Went to Sam Higgins sale this morning and to church at night

8th Sunday I was at Church this morning also at night

9th I was very unwell to day and consequently Remained about the House went to church at night this was the last night of the Baptist Meeting

10th I went to Henderson to day in company with Elder Taylor

11th At work to day about my corn crib and stable

12th went to the Steam Mill this morning and to Prayer Meeting at night

13th I Raised my corn crib to day I had hands a plenty and got both cribs up

14th went to the Steam Mill after lumber this morning and was hunting a board tree on the evening

15th Sunday I went to Sabbath School this morning also at church Elder Hart of the Reform Church preached I was at Prayer Meet

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November 16th 1863

I was at work on my corn crib and Stables to day

17th I have been at work on crib again to day

18th Do Do do do This has been a regular Indian Summer day

19th at work on crib again to day

20th Do Do

21st I went to Mrs Allens Sale to day everything sold unusually well considering the times and the condit of the stock sold as it was generally verry Poor I Bought one old horse and some Geese

22nd Sunday I was at church this Morning Elder McDan Preached the Funeral sermon of Henry Williams this I suppose is the last tribute we can pay to our departed friend I felt unusually sad as the minister related the circumstances attending his last moments on earth I could say with the Psalmist how Blest are they who died in the Lord Poor Henry we know not whether thy last prayer was answered or not but we would fain hope that even amid the agonies of dissolving Nature that god heard and anwsered your Prayers and that we will yet meet you arround the throne of god Farewell to Earth forever schoolmate and cherished friend & will memory go back to Past years Spent in your company oft as I stand above thy last resting place will the tear unbidden fall in Memory of that warm generous heart which has ceased to beat and Pray God to make me more Faithfull that I may atone for past bad influences and that instead of Plunging with the sinner into all manner of vice and folly that I may henceforth be ever ready to point them to the lamb of god

I was also at Prayer Meeting at night at the Methodist Church

23d I have been nailing boards on my corn cribs to day & Paid W S Smith Ten dollars for work

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November 24th 1863

I was at work on Corn Cribs &c again to day

25th Do Do

26th I went to Mrs Allins old place after some Geese I Borrowed One Hundred dolla from Mr Pierce which Amt I am to pay when called for I was at Prayer meeting at nigh

27th Hunting sheep &c in the mornin and started to Union Co in the even But turned back on account of the rai

28th it Rained steadily all night last night and throughout the day it has been trying to snow but it is most too cold for snow to night I was Rambling arround over my Hill Farm with Gabe Tilly Jr this evening and to night I am seated by a good fire and it Requires a good fire to Keep warm

I feel for the Poor this winter and very cold snap I begin to fear that winter has indeed come allthough we have had but little cold weather as yet

29th Sunday last night was a verry cold night and this Morning the ground is hard Froze I was at Sabbath School in the mornin and at Prayer Meeting in the evening and to night I am seated by a cheerful fire with an old Fashioned Goose Quill Pen that I made myself and I will indulge in a few thoughts I took the lead in a prayer Meeting this evening for the first time in my life I have felt lately more of a determination to serve god and to live the life of a christian than ever before and I hope ever to continue this frame of mind

as the Poet has it Tis Religion that can ve sweetest Pleasures while we live

Religion must supply solid comfort when we die ter death its Joys will be Lasting as eterni s Promise should influence every one to live christian life for oh how much [illegible] ion would now be [illegible]

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November 30th 1863

This Day brings us to the close of November and the Fall of the year to morrow ushers in old winter with it Frosts and Snows and it is cold enough this morning for a commencement without waiting for the morrow

I cannot help looking forward with a feeling of Dread to the coming of this winter

[illegible] not only the orphan and the widow will be exposed to its rigors but the destructive [illegible]andalism of our armies must cause immense [illegible]ering among both Male and Female Thousands are now homeless wanderers who once lived in [illegible]pulence and who never knew what it was to want in this god Favored land

But oh how changed the scene war has swept over their homesteads their Families are scattered Negroes armed against them and dragged off to fill Pauper graves in some of the Northern states or to hang arround the varrious camps of the Union Armies exposed to all the diseases incident to camp life untill death ends the scene

I believe that the Poor innocent Negro will suffer more during this war than any other class for wherever there is a Battlefield there the Negroes Bones lie Bleaching for what will be of no Benefit to him in the end for if this war frees the Slaves of the South there conditi[illegible] will be worse than slavery the Poor ignorant Black cannot compete with the white race and no matter how you change his conditio[illegible] he will ever be subservient to the more in[illegible]gent white

As it is now the Master takes care of him [illegible]tects him from the Avarice of those who wol[illegible] defraud him clothes Feeds him and attend[illegible] his Temporal welfare and he has nothing to [illegible]fter or see to but obey his Masters Order[illegible]

I have conversed with numerous contraba[illegible] [illegible] commenced they all wanted [illegible] and [illegible]

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Nov 30th 1863

Seemed anxious to stay there in slavery rather than go with the armies and I have no doubt that nine tenths of all the Negroes freed by Lincolns Proclamation wish themselves back at their old homes

and I can but feel sorry for those who are forced into the Union Army

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Gs

December 1st 1863

I went to Henderson to day in company with G Mitchell Paid my Revenue Tax Amt Thirty four Dollars and 85 cts

2nd Went to W G Walkers this morning Nailing on board in the evening &c

3d At work on my corn cribs again to day &c

4th Nailing on Boards Cow Hunting &c to day

5th I was Nailing on Boards in the morning went to the Steam Mill in the evening this has been a Pleasant week throughout and to day has been warm enough for spring

6th Sunday I was at Sabbath School this morning Also at Church Elder Boswell Preached I was at church again at night Elder Boswell preached an excellent sermon on the operation of the spirit of god on the heart of man &c

7th Went to Henderson to day in company with G Mitchell I Received $58 from the Ricketts Bank it being one third of the Amt I had there on deposit I Paid $12 for a cloak for Cynthia Minton which Amt is to be credited on the Note I gave her for $56 Willed her by my Farther

8th Helpe Thos Smith raise his house to day

9th Striping Tobacco

10th do do

11th do do

12th It has rained allmost incesantly all last night and all day to day I striped tobacco this morning but it was so high in order that I had to quit in the evening

13th Sunday this has been a gloomy miserabble day I was at Sabbath School in the morning and took Dinner at B F Martin and went to Prayer meeting in the evening

14th Went to Henderson to day this was the commencement of the Circuit Court but People seemed to think of nothing talk of nothing but the draft meet who you would you could hear of nothing else

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Dec 15th 1863

I started for Owensboro this morning in company with G Mitchell B F Martin G B Martin & B M Rankin we stayed in Henderson untill 2 oclock when we hired McCombs with his hack to take us to Owensboro & Back for $5 apiece we arrived in the town at 9 oclock at night and stoped at a hotel kept by a man named Burgess a Rough old customer where we fared tolerably well untill morning

16th We went before the enrollment Board this morning allthough we were early there was some sixteen of the invalid Corpse allready at the door we waited our turns and at last stood before the board anxious to know our fate Mil Dock & George Martin got their exemption Papers but myself and Rankin were more unfortunate as we had to come back as we went so much for diseases we left Owensboro at 10 oclock and drove through rain and snow all day and arrived Henderson at 7 oclock at night where we ended the Hancock house untill Morning

17th I Remained in Henderson untill evening then came home in a wagon so ends my first effort for exemption and to night I am seated by a good fire with no wish whatever to show a soldiers fate such night as this and if all were as well satisfied with home to night as I am there would be few Soldiers and no more wars

18th Last night was a verry cold night and to day has been too cold to snow I was at the Point in the morning and went to Mrs Hopkins in the evening allthough liable to the draft myself I feel sorry for the distressed mothers who have sons liable to the drafted I felt for the old Lady and it would have been one of the greatest pleasures of my life could I have been able to have told her fears were groundless and there was no danger

Dec 19th 1863

Went to Henderson to day the Place was crowded with People anxious to avoid the draft I attended the Meeting at the court House and I trust we may avert the great evil but fear our efforts will be in vain the meeting appointed a committee to raise funds and get recruits with Power to offer a Bounty of $200= in addition to that allready offered by the government I came home in the evening and whilst seated by the fire My Brother astounded me with the news that my Sister Margarets Child Bettie was dying I went with (hing) to that house of mourning and as I stood by the Little sufferer and realized the fact that she had allready commenced to cross the Dark river of death I could but Pray that the crossing would soon be over for it is hard to see a little child suffer and I felt for her to die as gain allthough it seemed like her Parents could not give her up the ties of nature are strong and we cannot see them rent, (assunder) without feeling their full force but oh while we wept over her loss I looked away to him who said suffer Little children to come unto me for of such is the Kingdom of heaven and I could but feel that her happy spirit would soon be pratling the song of triumph in a world of bliss I waited untill the Breath had left its frail tenement and then wended my way homeward solitary and alone reflecting on the vicisitudes of this life and the many sorrows we have to encoun along its dreary Pathway

10th Sunday I was at Sabbath School and Preaching this Morning Elder Thurman Preached we Burried Little Bettie this evening oh how Beautifull that little corpse lay in its last sleep and as we laid her in the ground and turned away I could but ask the question who of our Family would be the next one Perhaps it may be me if so if I could but die as that little Babe I would say come Welcome death I'll gladly go with you

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Dec 21st 1863

Went to Henderson to day to serve on the Petit jury But made my excuses to his Honor Judge Fowler and got released the excitement with regard to the coming draft is still unabated and many anxious enquiries are made of those who are liable to be its victims

22nd I was getting Ice this morning & got my Ice House about half full went to Hame & Co Mill in the evening &c

23d Went in Company with G P Tilly to A L Crutchfield this morning we made arrangem so that all might have an opportunity to giv something towards raising an additional Boun to secure Volunteers to evade the coming draf

24th Went to Henderson to day & sold Hams & Lar Tobacco on the street to Barrett at $8½ for Go and Eggs and $2 for Trash rather low considering th Prices of every thing else

This was a beautiful day and the roads were as fine as I ever saw them at this time of th year I went to church at night but there was no pre we held Prayer meeting though and I felt that this wa the most appropriate way of spending Christmas eve that we could engage in

25th Christmas day This has been one of most quiet Christmas days I ever spent in my life dur this day I have seen no one drunk no wild Boiste crowds care seems to mark ever Brow and one would not know it was Christmas day if it was not for the Negroes

I have been about Home the most of the day Adelia has been very sick and my thoughts have been more upon the present than the Past although wh I look around me I miss many familiar face who were with me on this day one year ago

Some of them are in the Army and some slee in the old church yard time breathes many chan and death claims its victims yet we pass a regardless of all until we come to the en of our journey and Pass into Oblivion

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December 26th 1863

This has been a damp day I have been about the House all day as Adelia continues too sick for me to leave her I have seen but few Pleasure seekers so far this Christmas and I would not be surprised if the Customs of the times change the Holidays and the days of old Lang Syne be forgotten
27th Sunday I was at church this morning Elder McDaniels Preached this was the last sabbath in the year 63 and it has been a gloomy miserable rainy day I could but reflect to day upon the many incidents connected with the christmas Holidays in years that are Past and gone and as memory goes back over many scenes and Pleasures forever Past a Great many of the Friends of youth have Sleep in the Silent tomb even the Past year has swept away some who were here one year ago
But this should but warn us to prepare for that final day for Oh how blissfull the thought that there are Friends who have gone on Befor Awaiting they watch approaching the Shore
ringing to Cheer us through deaths chilling gloom
child thy farther calls Some home
28th I have been about home all day Adelia has been too sick for me to leave her
29th This has been a Beautifull day one that comes if it were to Cheer up old winter with its smiling sunshine and though in this world of trouble and sorrow we feel the Hand of affliction laid upon us yet when we come to look forth upon the earth in its genial sunshine enlivening the appearance of everything arround we can but feel that there is a ruler over all to whom we can turn in our saddest hours and draw consolation such as the world can neither give nor take away
30th To day has been but a repetition of several days past I have been about the House the most of the time as Adelia continues very sick
There is but one more of the christmas Holidays and I am truly glad for I am tired of seeing [illegible] doing nothing

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Dec 31st 1863

To day Ends the Month of December and
Year 1863 Another year has Passed into the inter
nable Space of time Another year fraught with
with its blessings and its Misries
and oh how much Misery has man by his wanto
acts inflicted upon some Portions of the human
Family our Poor distracted and unhappy country
has been one vast community of Sufferers m
have been made to mourn for their sons wives for
their Husbands Children for the Parents
The dreadfull Blast of War has devastated son
of the Fairest Portions of this once Happy lan
and its victims lie mouldering back to dus
upon many of the Hardest fought Battle field
the world has ever knowon
and yet the cry is for more men to fill
up the Decimated ranks and carry on the d
Strife and devastion
1863 has been the Bloodiest year in the anals
American History and at its close instead of be
at the close of the war we appear to be dri
into wild fanaticism and universal ruin go
alone knows how far and how long this will
on as the Party in power seem determined to
crush out every vestige of Freedom from thi
land to Elevate the Negro
But enough of War for I have not space to g
to its Multiplied and Multiplying Horrors
During the Past year I have been tolerably suc
in my Financial Operations my receipts were
larger than any year before although my ex
owing to the high Prices of everything were very
heavy My Total Receipts During the year
Amounted to $1382.- and my Expenses including
old debts was about that same amount I am
nearly out of debt and I expect the present
crop to Pay off my indebtedness and leave
for the first time in my life a Surplus
I cannot say how much for that will depend
the Price of Cotton altogether as that will
I will have to sell

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December 31st 1863

This Page Brings me to the close of my Bo
for five long years this book has been my daily
companion every day of the five years have
turned to its Pages to inscibe thereon my simple
but truthfull history or when away from home o
journey I have written from memory all the mo
prominent events and oh what a Pleasure it has
been to me when solitary and alone to turn
to this my silent friend and read of incidents
Past and gone or write out my own thoughts
and feelings upon its Pages
Many events happen to a man in the course of five
years and to day as I look back over the Past and
read my chequered career over again I think of many
pleasant and happy days on which memory loves
dwell
but as we think of those pleasures forever gone
memory too reverts to other and sadder scenes I
followed friends to the cold and silent tomb
have Parted with others in sadness to meet no more
till we meet at the Judgment Bar of god
have clasped the Plighted hand and received the
of Eternal fidelity only to have my name
become a by word because of my own implicit
confidence I have had cause to feel the treachery of
I esteemed my nearest and dearest friends
and too late see my own folly and weakness
tis thus in life Poor inconstant mortals perhaps
are all alike and though we think diferent of ourselves
others may view us as we view them
and now as my Page is allmost gone I will take
farewell of my Book though I can write no more
its Pages ~~of~~ will I turn to refresh my memory
read this 5 years experiency for though it may not
interest others it will ever be interesting to me
may live long or I may die soon yet though
hairs adorn my head and Feeble old age lead
totering to the grave while life lasts I will
avoid to preserve this Book and then leave to my
that they may sometimes while away a
turn over its Pages L. W. Smith

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January 1st 1864

will begin the New Year by spending the coldest
Years day I ever remember by the fire as it is too
to venture out without getting Frosted 63 left
last night with the Thermometer at 14° Below
and it turned cold so fast and so sudden that
was allmost impossible to keep warm even with a good
this was the annual hiring day for negroes but the day
so intensely cold I have understood there were but few
in Henderson negroes though hired verry high considering
times I Hired a man from Youngs Estate at $235 this
a higher Price than I have ever Paid for a negro before
will have to work hard to make his hire
was the first New Years day I have spent at home
years as I have generally gone to Henderson
This morning another little infant was added to our
number a little girl she was born into this world of trouble
about 2 oclock this adds another to our little circle another
another charge through lifes fleeting journey I only trust if
should live I may be able to raise it arright I have
perienced considerable anxiety about Adelia to day as she
been verry sick
Sunday I have been about home all day as it has been
cold and Adilia has been too unwell for me to leave

getting Ice to day but it was verry cold work
It snowed again last night and the snow is about 6 inches
and Bitter cold
It is still snowing and has snowed steadily all day notwith
ding the severe cold the snow is now from 8 to 10 inches
I was at the burrial of G R Floyd this evening
was getting Ice again to day
I Filled my Ice House to day I got Ice off from
Pond that was 2 inches thick that made last night
I was at Sabbath School this morning the weather
rated somewhat to day and a man could get
verry comfortably without danger of getting frost

Partridge hunting to day
to Henderson to day this was my
to the city this year

Jan 13th 1864

This has been a pleasant day after the long cold spell as it has thawed considerably

14th It was a disagreeable day I have been about the house all day

15th It snowed again last night it looks like the snow will never get off again as before one snow melts off two snows fall upon it I was Partridge hunting with Al Sayler this evening

16th Went to Henderson in company with L Mitchell I sold Dans and Phils Tobacco on the street to B Lee at $11.25 for two and $8.25 for Lugs and $2 for trash when I came home at night I found our little infant in a dying condition

17th The Angel of Death has seemed to hover over my home all day I thought our little infant, (only not five) might yet live but it is still alive at the close of this day I have stood by many death beds in my short life and it appears like the little infants dies harder than at any other age

18th It commenced snowing last night at dark and has snowed all day our little Babe still continues to live and to suffer it seems strange that any little thing could stand as much suffering as it has done in the last 48 hours it is still snowing at dark and the snow is now about 14 inches deep

19th After three days and nights of apparently intense suffering our little Babe died 10 minutes to one o'clock this morning I could but feel when the Poor little thing died that it was a relief for I had stood by and watched its sufferings until I could have prayed for its god to have relieved it by taking it to himself

It lived in this world of trouble and suffering only 18 days when its sinless spirit took its everlasting flight to a home in heaven where I feel that it will be much better cared for than it could have been with the most watchful care we could have bestowed upon it where it will live forever with its creator and god

The ties of nature are strong and it seems strange that we could weep over a little Babe when we realize that it is freed from a world of suffering that in heaven

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Jan 19th 1864

will live forever free from sin and death where if we live aright we may meet it to part no more forever Oh what an incentive to be a Christian not only that we might meet our children in heaven but we may with them enjoy an eternal rest where all is peace and pleasure I trust one day to meet this little one in heaven and shall ever endeavor to live so as to raise my little ones in the way they should go

We consigned our little one to the cold and silent grave this evening although we laid her little form in the cold snow covered earth I felt that her happy spirit was where the chilling winds of winter never blow and where graves will no more claim their dead and as I turned away and left the grave of my little one could but pray that the little circle now broken might all again be reunited in heaven

20th I was at the point this morning and striping tobacco in the evening

21st I was in the woods with G B Martin sheep hunting all this morning to night is one of the most beautiful nights for sleighing I ever saw

22nd This has been a pleasant day doing nothing in Particular

23d Striping Tobacco the snow has melted off verry fast and a few more days like this will unveil the Bosom of old Mother Earth to mortal view once more

24th Sunday I was at Sabbath School this morning also at Church Elder McDaniel preached this has been a pleasant day and the snow has disappeared verry fast

25th I was at Thos Smiths this morning and loaded a wagon with Tobacco in the evening

26th I went to Henderson I sold my tobacco on the street to J Adams at $9½ for good $4 for lugs and $2 for the trash it weighed Good 420 Lugs 390 Trash 240 Amt to $67.90/100 this was a poor start and I don't do better than this my crop will bring me in debt I paid of a Note in the Farmers Bank of $128 &c

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Jan 27th 1864

This has been a lovely day I have been walking around enjoying the bright sunshine and planing for the future

28th Helped G B Martin raise a negro cabin untill dinner and Burning a plant bed in the evening

29th At work on plant bed again to day I got it partly sowed this evening

30th We had some rain last night accompanied with thunder and Lightning I finished sowing a plant bed this evening

31st This has been a gloomy disagreeable day I have been about the house trying to pass off the time the best way possible under the circumstances this is the last of Jan the first Month of the year 64 has come and gone and but few will mourn its departure as this has been the coldest and most disagreeable months I ever remember

With the exception of the past week there has been no weather that we could do anything on the farm but get wood and feed and at times this has been dificult

I fear there has been a great deal of sufering among the poor during the past extreme cold weather I have read of a great many persons freezing to death in diferent portions of the country and a great many have been frosted even in this sect I expect the weather has been colder during this winter than ever before in this latitude

I have done but little on the farm so far and will have to mak up lost time during the remainder of the winter

And this sabbath night as I take a last farewell of Jan I am seated by a cheerefull fire surrounded by my own little home circle how I wish it was so with all the people of this once happy country then there would be no tented fields wars discord notes would not be heard in the land and the peacefull pursuits of life lead a nation to enjoy the Blessings of peace once more So may I see it before the end of the pre year is my Prayer

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Feb 1st 1864

1st Stripped Tobacco a part of the day but it was most too dry the day has been pleasant for the begining of the month

2nd This was a regular March Day as it has rained snowed and Blowed with alternate spells of sunshine I stripped tobacco until 12 oclock

3d This was a pleasant Day doing nothing in particular

4th I was at Eames Mill this Morning and at the Burrial of Mrs McDonald in the evening as I stood above the grave of this old Lady I could but think how chequered is the drama of life and oh how much trouble this lady had seen during her long sojourn in this unfriendly world

I first knew her when I was a little boy and two of her sons were my schoolmates (Edmund & Robert) one Robert filled an Early grave by his own hand committed in Dungeon in New York city where he was incarcerated for the Murder of his Paramour

Edmund led a wild roving life he was with Lopez in his expedition to the Isle of Cuba and when Lopez was taken and put to death Ed was sent to Spain and imprisoned where he was released through the intercession of the American Minister he was afterwards conected with Walker in his Filibustering Expeditions in Central America after Walkers failure and death he came back to this neighborhood and left here about the time of the breaking out of the Rebellion he went South and Entered the Confederate Army where I have understood he was killed in a duel both of these young men had kind and noble hearts and had they have been content with the peaceful pursuits of life they might have done well

Another Daughter Mary Died in Memphis about two years ago leaving only one of the Family now living Louisa who was away at the time of her mothers death

5th I was at work on a plant bed this morning went to J W Martins and J H Jacobs in the evening

6th At work on a plant bed again to day I rowed this evening This was a pleasant day

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Feb 7th 1864

Sunday was at Sabbath School this morning also at preaching Elder Boswell preached took dinner at F Collins and went to prayer meeting in the evng

8th At work about the farm &c

9th A pleas day doing nothing in particular

10th Burnt a plant bed in my new ground Saping Sor trees &c

11th Tapped Sugar trees this morning &c went to young mens Prayer Meeting at night

12th Went to Mrs Dances this Morning in company with Thos Smith I Borrowed from Mrs Eades Five hudred dollars in Ky money I paid 2½ premium on it in Green backs I borrowed this money to enable me to hold on to my tobacco crop as I was compelled to have some money

13th Went to Henderson to day I transfered my Ky into Green acks once more and thus saved my premium I Paid Garett Mitchell $90 which I had borrowed from him I paid G L Dixon $32.50/100 amt of act Paid B W Saylor $21 Paid $9 for 1 Bushel Clover seed Paid Holloway $14.80/100 Dillam & Tibers $3.02/100 Thomas Smith $40 Borrowed Money &c

14 Sunday I was at Sabbath School and Church this morning Elder Saylor preached he also Baptized Mrs Clay in my pond at three o clock in the evening and Preached again at night

15th I have been at work clearing up a portion of my woods lot to sow in Orchard grass to day

16th The wind got around in the North west last night and it turned as cold as Blazes and it has been as much as one could do to day to keep from freezing

17th This has been another bitter cold day and we suffer more from it than usual in cold weather as for some time back it has been verry warm and pleasant

18th Went to William Mellons sale to day a cold but not verry disagreeable day as the sun came out Pleasantly Property sold well considering the times

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Feb 19th 1864

I was at the Point this morning and went out to the old Mill Place in the evening to settle with W P Smith

20th I have been riding around with a Baptist Preacher by the name of Crawford to day I was endeavoring to raise money for Mission purposes we succeeded tolerably well

Went to Church at night Mr Crawford preached

21st Went to Highland Church in compl with Elder Crawford and Royal Utley there was out a Small congregation at old Highland but Elder Crawford preached us an interesting discour myself and Utley took dinner with Larkin Peters and came home in the evening

22nd Went to Henderson to day there was a large crowd in the city as it was County court day there was a good many negroes sold at the Highest bidder and good negro men and boys only sold from two to three Hundred dollars everything seemed to wear a gloomy appearance and there was considerable apprehension that our Abolition President would soon issue another Proclimation setting all the Slaves of the Border States free I would not be surprised at anything this was Washingtons Birth day and this morning the loud Booming of Cannon told a nation of its departed Glory for could Washington look back doon upon us now he would no doubt weep over the desolation and ruin of his once happy country

23d I went out to the old Mill place to settle with W T Smith this morning and have been at work on the farm this evening I planted some frozen Irish Potatoes this evening

24th I went to Sam Coopers this morning and from there to a log rolling at Scarlet Lattas this was a beautiful day

25th Mr Eastin surveyed the old Mill Place for me to day it fell short 20 acres my deed calling for 103 acres Leaving 83 acres in the tract this at $14 per acre Amounts $1162

26th I was at work on my woods Pasture this morning went a Turkey Hunting and to Mr Marshalls to a log rolling in the evening this was another Beautiful day

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Feb 27th

I settled with James W Martin this morning and took notes for the Bill Place the 1st note was given due one day after date for $100 the Second due March 1865 with interest from date the last note for $362 March 1st 1866 with interest from March 1st 1865 this closed out the old Mill Place this was a beautiful day although it was verry Smoky looking more like Indian Summer than Feb

28th Sunday it commenced raining last night about 12 o'clock and this has been a very disagreeable day as it rained in the morning and snowed in the evening I was at Church this Morning Elder McDaniels preached

29th this has been a cold disagreeable day for the close of a Pleasant a month as Feb has been I do not think I ever saw as much pleasant weather in Feb as it has been dry and warm with but little exception it is snowing again to night

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March 1st 1864

March Commenced this morning with the earth
carpeted over with snow and the day has been
cold allthough the sun came out pleasantly this
evening I have been doing nothing in particular today
2nd A Cool March day too wet to do much outdoor work
3rd At work in my sugar camp this has been a pleasant day
4th I have been allmost sick to day and have been nothing
about the house we had rain this evening with a wind
and snow storm

The snow rapidly disappeared this morning under the
melting rays of a March sun I went a duck hunting
with B Martin this evening but killed no duck
6th Sunday this has been a beautifull day I was at Sabbath
School this morning also at Church Elder Boswell
Preached a very interesting sermon on the subject
a watchfull and divine providence over his people
his text was The Lord hath a care for his People
I thought whilst the minister was Preaching as I look
Back over my own past life that if it had not been for
an unseen influence over my own fate in laying the
heavy hand of disease upon me I might now have been
an outcast and a wanderer or perhaps sleeping in a
nameless grave on some if the Bloody fields that mark the
path of this horrid war for even when too sick to travel
I had a temptation presented to me which would have
led me ~~back~~ on perhaps untill I would have risked my all
upon the fate of this war I had wandered as far from god
as a man could to make any pretentions to christianity and
when upon the bed of affliction I could but tremble to
think how far I had gone it required the hand of afflic
tion to bring me to my senses and back to my god
what I then looked upon as serious affliction I now
look back to as special intervention of providence in my
behalf though life has not been to me a smooth and
flowery path since that time I have enjoyed myself
as well perhaps as most mortals
I have had the conscious pride of leading and honest
and a god fearing life surrounded by home ties and
affections which together with the hope of heaven that I feel
at this time I would not give for all the vain allurements
of this world

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March 7th 1864

I have [illegible]n at work about the farm to day
this was [illegible] pleasant day
8th Went [illegible] William Poseys sale to day I bought
a lot of [illegible]ttle that is myself and R M Allin, we
bought [illegible] one head at $280.76
9th Went to Poseys after Cattle to day we got them
home [illegible] evening after a tedious drive
10th Went to Henderson to day there was considerable
Excitement in the city to day over the orders for
the [illegible]ollment of the negroes it seems that the
Abolonists are determined to ruin us I paid
A Leslie apt $25 50/100 other Bills $10 this was
a [illegible]utifull spring day
11th was at the Point this morning and sowed
Son Orchard Grass seed this evening
12th finished sowing Orchard Grass seed this morning
and went to Church in the evening Elder Taylor preached
13th Sunday I was at Sabbath School this morning also
at preaching Elder Taylor Preached I was also at preaching
in the evening This has been a Bluisty March day and we
had quite a Snow Storm this evening
14th I was sowing oats to day
15th we had considerable snow to day and it is cold
enough for winter
16th Went to Lame & Co Mill this morning and to
Mitchells to a Log Rolling in the evening
17th Myself and B F Martin were Getting Locust Pa[illegible]
this day a cold day
18th Went in company with B F Martin to Davis
Mill to day where we spent the most of the day
in getting a few Bushels of meal ground
19th I was assisting to clear up the grave yard
to day we had quite a crowd to work but did
not finish
20th Went to Sabbath School this morning and to
hear Elder Hart at the Cypress Church we have two
Sermons on the third sunday one a Campellite the
other Methodist I went to hear the Campellite
to day but I did not like the sermon I th[illegible]
it a most dangerous doctrine I went to

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March 20th 1864

the Burrial of Mr McKinneys Little c[illegible]d this evening I thought while four of us ~~[illegible]~~ [illegible]en were Bearing that little Corpse to its long rest[illegible] place tenderly upon our arms that a few hours [illegible]fore a convoy of angels had borne its little [illegible] happy spirit home to him who said Suffer little [illegible]hildren to come unto me for of such is the King[illegible]om of heaven I could but feel for its parents [illegible]d weep with them over their loss yet I felt [illegible] was that little boy immortal gain freed from a w[illegible]d of sin to live forever with a just god

this was a cold March day the weather has [illegible]een extremely cold during the past week

21st I was at work on the Grave yard again to day the weather still continues very cold

22nd I Rolled Logs to day I had a large crowd but did not finish

23d I finished Rolling Logs this morning with my own force this was a pleasant day I sowed some Cloverseed in the evening

24th Helped Sam Cooper Roll Logs to day

25 This has been a wet day but I fear not enough for a Tobacco season

26th I was Stuping Tobacco this morning but it was not in good order I went in company with three other gentlemen to C M Taylors in the evening to [illegible]st one of his negroes who had become refractory I could discover considerable dissatisfaction among his negroes and I would not be surprised if [illegible]ded not loose then all the abolition admin[illegible]ion is determined to rob us of our property [illegible] I fear soon our lives and all we hold dear will be at the mercy of an armed negro soldiery madness seems to rule the hour and a man can now look forward to nothing but anarchy and ruin

I fear that the People of this state will see worse [illegible]es this year than ever before Abolition Emisaries [illegible] be among us tempting the negroes to leave their Masters and go into the army negro soldiers [illegible] will incite them to insurrection &c

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March 27th 1864

Sunday I was at Sunday School this morning also at preaching Elder McDaniels preached I was at preaching again in the evening Elder Crawford Reached this was a lovely Spring day

28th This was Easter monday and all hands took Holiday I was at Preaching in the morning at the Methodist Church Elder Crawford preached the morning was a Blustry March morning and it wound up with a heavy rain and hail Storm in the it seemed for awhile that the very windows of the heavens were opened for the rain poured down in torrents whilst the hail pattered upon the roof threatning the destruction of all exposed windows &c

29th I have been at work about my Garden & Horse lot &c to day

30th I went to William Crenshaws this morning received from him $45 in full of my interest in land sold him by G A Sugg & my Fathers heirs this was a cool disagreeable March day

31st So day brings me to the Close of the month of March and for one I am not sorry as it has been a cold Blustry month

This month robs a fit ending for the cold winter as the ground was frozen at least half the month and cold enough for January while the other half has been snowing hailing shining &c with a very few days of pleasant sunshine a great many poor cattle have received their death blasts from its chilling winds while man and beast alike have suffered from its sharp cutting winds

Enough of this as she is gone I will bid her farewell forever without a sigh of regret or a tear over her departure

I have done but little on the farm this winter and spring and will have to turn over a new leaf or make but a small crop this spring as it is at present everything looks gloomy enough but as the old adage goes a Bad Beginning for a good ending I can only say god grant it

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April 1st 1864

All fools day and a raining when I awoke this morning The rain was pattering on the roof and it bids fair to rain all day I stripped Tobacco to day

2nd Striping Tobacco again to day

3d Sunday I was at Sunday School this morning also at preaching Elder Vallan preached took dinner at E D Hancocks this was a pleasant day

4th went to Henderson to day there was no news excitement in the city for once this was a cold disagreeable day

5th Striping Tobacco to day

6th Stripped Tobacco again to day. but it was most too dry in the evening

7th This has been a beautiful day I have been strolling around the place enjoying the first Spring day of the season

8th It Rained this morning and the day was quite a contrast to yesterday I loaded two wagons with Tobacco in the evening

9th went to Henderson to day with Tobacco sold 1 load on the street to J Adams at $16 for the good & $13 for the Lugs The Load weighed Good 600 Lugs 610 Amt to $173 30/100 The other Load was Trash and weighed 1300 I left it with Mat Clay to be prized

10th Sunday I was at Sabbath School this morning also at Church Elder Taylor preached he also Baptized A Negro Woman and George Lloyd in my Pond in the evening this has been a cool day the month so far has been but little better than the winter

11th I was Striping Tobacco to day

12th Stripped Tobacco until dinner and went to E D Brown Mill in the evening this was the first one of the Kind I ever saw and I think this Mill will supercede all other Saw Mills as its simplicity and Durable character makes it much the cheapest while at the same it will cut more lumber than the old fashioned Mills

April 13th 1864

I striped Tobacco awhile this morning and then went to Squire Lillys to a log rolling I also went to John Greens to a Log Rolling in the evening

14th At work about the farm Loaded one wagon with Tobacco in the evening

15th Went to Henderson to day I took up one load of tobacco I let Mat Clay have the Lugs & good at $12 and six and left the trash to be prized the Load weighed good 160 Lugs 250 Trash 500 I went to the sale of Dr John Smith eorything sold enormously high and Negroes hired for nearly as much the ballance of the year as they did the 1st of Jan Remained in town all night at J Fegans

16 I spent the most of the day in the city to day Paid J E Rankin last years act $146 14/100 Paid Adelias Bill at Holloways $65 24/100 Bill at Dallam & Soaper $6 20/100 do at Rankins $3 45/100 do at Nunn & Rudys $7 20/100 do at Mrs Jenkins $13 70/100 Do at Baums $7 45/100

17th Sunday I was at Sabbath School this morning and Preaching Elder Thurman preached the Funeral of Sam Higgins We were again forcibly reminded of the uncertainty of life to day as there was an appointment to preach two funerals at the Methodist Church and the congregation waited for the arrival of the corpse of Gabriel Lilly but owing to the roads it did not get down in time for the appointment

I felt truly sad to day as the Funeral procession of Gabriel Lilly stoped at my house when last I saw he was a hale hearty god defying man and to d he lay in front of my house a cold inamanate corp whilst his spirit had gone to try the realities of a unknown world

18th I have been too unwell to do anything to day but stay in the house by the fire, the weather is still verry cool and the spring unusually backwe

19th Doing nothing in particular Loaded one wagon with Tobacco in the evening

20th Went to Henderson to day sold the remainder of my crop of Tobacco to J M Clay at $16 for good and Lugs and $2 for the trash the load weighed

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April 20th 1864

Good 773 lbs Lugs 815 Amt to $242-08/100 I paid Dallam & co $42= Amt of Note I gave F H Dallam in Part of Lawyer fees this was a pleasant day

21st At work in New Ground &c in the morning and hunting some Poor Cattle in the evening

22nd This is a dark gloomy looking morning and the prospect is good for a wet day I striped tobacco in the evening

23d I finished striping Tobacco in the New Barn this evening it rained some this morning and then turned off windy but rained hard again in the evening

24th Sunday It Rained all night last night and nearly all day to day and it raining at the present time Doclock at night if the rain has been a general one there will be a flood in the river as the high land are now nearly flooded I went to Sabbath School this morning but there were no scholars I was also at preaching Elder Alderson preached the Presiding Elder of this district he also preached again in the evening on Baptism I only heard a portion of his sermon but from what I heard I thought it a poor thing

This so far has been the most backward spring I ever remember as it is now nearly the end of the month and cold enough for March so far this month has been unusually cold and everything is backward the leaves are just begining to show on the trees and grass hardly looks green as yet

25 Striped tobacco to day it rained awhile this morning

26 Striping Tobacco again to day

27th it still continues wet and I have done nothing but strip Tobacco so far

28th I finished striping my shed and Barn in the woods to day and Loaded two wagons with Tobacco in the evening

29th Went to Henderson to day I delivered to Clay & co 1180 lbs of Good Tobacco 973 lbs of Lugs & 926 lbs of Trash Amt to $323 20/100 I got docked 80 lbs in order

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April 30th 1864

I Planted some Irish Potatoes this morning
&c this ends the month april and I am [illegible]
sorry as it has been a cool wet disagreea[illegible]
month and from the looks of the farm it do[illegible]
not look like I have done anything as yet
I do not remember ever to have seen a spring as cold
and Backward as this has been as the leaves are
Just begining to put out on the trees and vegeta[illegible]
is too backward for stock to live in the wood[illegible]
or on pastures as yet Everything looks gloomy
and I can but partake of the general gloom
there is nothing to encourage a man either in the
Elements or in the condition of the country wars
discordant notes is still heard all over the la[illegible]
and the too armies of men of the same nation[illegible]
embittered by this long strife are fighting with a
desperation unknown in the anals of warfare
the land is still deluged with blood one secti[illegible]
fighting for their homes & firesides and I migh[illegible]
say for everything a man holds dear hon[illegible]
liberty conscience & Freedom
The other with an avarice which the war [illegible]
fully developing for power Plunder and devastatio[illegible]
finding they could not conquer their powerfull fo[illegible]
by an honorable warfare have resorted to every m[illegible]
no matter what to attain that object Emancipatio[illegible]
Proclimations arming a servile race carrying the to[illegible]
in one hand and the sword in the other sp[illegible]
neither age nor sex, and for what, to restore
which they themselves are endeavoring to destro[illegible]
Oh what a curse will rest upon those who
the prime movers in this strife The Blood of
Murdered Millions will rise up against the[illegible]
the tears of widows and the Orphan will con[illegible]
them at last when a just god will meet [illegible]
due punishment upon their sin cursed soul
But enough of this as a man little knows
what a day may bring forth and whe[illegible]
she will be on the Morrow in the th[illegible]
troublous times but I will begin the last
[illegible] if alive be hoping it will be a [illegible]

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May 1st 1864

was at Sabbath School this morning
o at church Elder Boswell preached this
s a cool day for the commencement of the month
d to night it will do well for winter
A Cool disagreeable day I was at Mitchells
heering sheep nearly all day if may continues
ng as it has begun the prospect of the farmer
ill indeed be a bad one
I went to Thos Smiths this morning & to James
Mill in the evening and from there McKinneys I
rented some corn land of him at $4= Per acre
4th I commenced Planting corn in the Orchard
day and I have been droping corn
I went to Joshua Hancocks sale to day I bought
mare for $139= and 5 head of Cattle at $49.60
Commenced planting Corn in the field below the
Barn this evening Received from J W Martin $200= on note
Went to Henderson to day Received from
M Clay $500= on Tobacco I paid G Mitchell $265=
note which I gave for Mule Paid Wm Vickers $82.90 in full
note which I gave his wife for a ballance on money
oaned to myself & H D Williams in 1860 Paid Nunn &
udy $44.30/100 Grocery Act J E Rankin $28.90 Paid Lockest
Side Saddle $22.50 Paid Howard $10 for Mare
her Items & Expenses $3.00
Sunday I was at Sabath School and church
morning Elder Stinson preached I was also at
again in the evening when Elder Taylor preached
was a warm Spring day
At work on ground that I rented from McKinney
y we had considerable rain in the evening
Striping tobacco to day it rained nearly
day
Striping tobacco again to day I loaded two
ons in the evening
Went to Henderson to day I delivered to Clay
pounds of Good Tobacco 584 Pounds of Trugs and
pounds of Trash Amt $288.72/100 I also delivered to
1084 Pounds of Lugs 629 Pounds of trash
James Hoskins $10 for work Paid Bill at Fisher

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May 13th 1864

At work on the farm manureing my p
Beds &c. I loaded one wagon with Tobacc
the evening

14th Went to Henderson to day my load of
weighed Lugs 484 Trash 599 this makes 4516 Poun
I will have prized I sold to day 75 lbs of Hide
16¾ cts per pound Amt to $12.50 Paid David Ha
$127 44/100 Ballance in full of the old Partnership
contraband business of Miself Mitchell & William
I lost about this amt besides other Expenses in
the trade there was considerable excitement in
the cty to day as the long dreaded draft had
actually come off and those who were liab
to be drawn were anxiously looking over a
large list of letters to see who was and wo
wasent I was lucky enough not to draw a priz
at this time

They have put the Negro and white man in
the same box lately as both were drawn
together Poor Ky tis thus she is getting paid fo
her treachery to her Southern sisters

The times are truly ominous and it seems that
we are rushing headlong to destruction with a wea
vascillating administration destroying the energy
of the people driving the tillers of the soil
from their peacefull pursuits to the field of Battle
everything now at prices before unheard of a coun
deluged with blood and for what future ages must
answer this question

For eight days the Battle has been raging near
Richmond thousands upon thousands are lying
dead upon those sanguinary fields and
it is still going on

Even while writing this I have no doubt the struggle
all its horrors is going on man [illegible] man brothe
to Brother in the dreadfull strife the dead unbu
decaying neath Virginias Sun the wounded
offering all the Horrors of Hunger & thirst wo
thing near to relieve it between the contin
[illegible] where aid cannot reach [illegible]
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May 15th 1864

ay I was at Sunday School this morning and
eaching at the Cypress Church Elder Hart preached
also at the Burrial of Widow Lady a sister
ohn Blaylocks in the evening this has been a
asant May day
At work at McKinneys to day
we had several light showers during the day
was at work at McKinney again to day
th Planting Corn at McKinneys to day
th I finished planting Corn at McKinneys to day
th At work about the farm Rolling Logs &c
st I started for Henderson this morning and went
s far as Mitchells but found he had left me
so I came Back home and went a fishing
the evening
22nd Sunday I was at Sabbath school in the
morning also at preaching Elder McDaniels
preached I was at singing in the evening
23d Went to Henderson to day there was the usual
amount of Gossip & war news on the streets
but as yet nothing Definite is known of
struggle in Virginia
24th I went to Evansville to day with A W
Haskins in search of his negroes who ranaw
a few days ago but we gained no clue of
this days trip has taught me a lesson I hav
seen the guaranteed rights of our people tram
on by this abolition government ever since
war commenced but I visited to day for the
first time a negro recruiting office an of
established upon our border for the purpos
of stealing from us our property Ky is now
worming it beneath the feet of her cho
friends so much for her perfidity to tho
who are still struggling against an unsc
loe for the rights of freemen
Evansville seems to be in a pros
condition and one would hardly think w
devastating the country by the look

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May 25th 1864

I went to George Phips in Union Co to d[illegible]
with Thos Smith &c
26th At work about the farm to day
27th went to Lames Mill this morning Let
Lame have a note on W H Floyd for $30 I
went to McKinneys & Col Cooper's in the
evening
28th Went to Henderson to day Paid Mrs
Williams $293 for Mrs Hancock I saw Elder
Miller Immerse 14 Persons in the Ohio to day
there was considerable excitement in the
city to day the federal Soldiers had been
impressing negroes in Union co taking all
the slaves from several large plantations
and a number from Uniontown
While the Federals were pressing the negroes
in the adjoining Co the Gurillas were pressi[illegible]
Horses near Henderson thus it is we are being
rob[illegible] by both parties
29th Sunday I started to go to the chapel
to day but I turned back for fear I might
get my horse taken from me I was
at Sabbath School church and singing
as usual
[illegible]th At work on the farm to day
[illegible] To day brings us to the close of the month
[illegible]d to Morrow ushers in the summer I have done
a good months work on the farm as it has been
cool and fine weather for work yet I am a long way
behind with everything I am not done delivering tobacco
yet and have ~~only~~ not set out ~~about three acres of~~ any
tobacco and I expect it will be some time from
present Indications before I will be able to plant
[illegible]ch the prospect for crops of all kinds is not
[illegible]erry flatering and the extreme high prices for
everything at present and the way the negroes
[illegible] leaving the Draft &c renders the prospect
[illegible]till more gloomy everything seems to be
[illegible] the high road to ruin with no bi[illegible]
[illegible] in the future

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June 1st 1864

I went to Mr Faulkners this morning I let [illegible]
have a note on J W Martin for $400 the Interest [illegible]
all he will make in the transaction as he gave me $[illegible]
for the note I went from there to Wm Crenshaws recei[illegible]
$45 from him for Mary A Cooper we had a slight showe[illegible]
of rain this evening but not enough for a tobacco [illegible]
2nd it is raining this morning but the ground is dry
yet I set out about four acres of tobacco to da[illegible]
but expect it will all die Paid Hancock $99.00 in full of [illegible] to date
3d I was ploughing in my garden this evening pla[illegible]
some Irish potatoes.
4th Went to Henderson to day I Paid Dr Taylor $85 for
the hire of Silas last year Paid Rudy & Nunn $32.50
for 100lb of sugar and one Jar of lard Paid James Lilly
$4 for logs bought from him last year Tocket & Co
$1.50/100 for a Back band Dallam & Tairers $3 for a coat
Items and Expenses $3.50
5 Sunday I was at Sabbath School in the morning
also at preaching Elder Fallan preached the
day was pleasant
6th Knocking about the place doing nothing [illegible]
particular
7th Went to Henderson to day in compan[illegible]
with R M Allin I spent to day $4 for Sundri[illegible]
8th Doing nothing in particular
9th I went to Sam Coopers this morning and
hunting and fishing in the evening with Sa[illegible]
and Dock Martin we had a fine shower of rain
the evening but hardly enough for a season
10th Setting out Tobacco to day but the
season was verry light
11th I have been hunting the most of this [illegible]
went to church in the evening &c
12th At Sunday School this morning also at [illegible]
Elder Taylor preached I was also at church ag[illegible]
in the evening the weather is unusually cool fo[illegible]
the season
13th I planted a piece of corn this morning
[illegible]ther is still verry cool truly a fine [illegible]
[illegible] cut worms and they seem to be [illegible]

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June 14th 1864

Went to Henderson to day under an attachment for the Commonwealth against Scarlet Latta the trial came off and he was fined to the limit of the law for not keeping road in repair I bought to day Nunn & Rudy 1 Bll flour $8.50 1 do of Salt at 60 cts Per Bushel 1 Gall Whiskey $2.50 of J Held 2 bushels of Potatoes $2.00 of E L Starling one Kit of Mackerel 3.50 of Dallam & Livers, Domestic Linen &c $8.75 Paid John Young Brown $102.75/100 for Jeffs hire last year Paid Nunn & Rudy $12 in full of account to this date Expenses to day &c $2.00

15th Doing nothing in particular

16th I went to Henderson to day on a summons before the Grand Jury I bought to day of Dallam & Livers 1 pair of shoes $2.25 and of J E Rankin for J Hoskins 5½ yds domestic at 50 cts $2.85/100 Paid J E Rankin $18.12½/100 for one bolt of Domestic Expenses &c $1.50

17th I commenced cutting Clover this morning but quit thinking it was going to rain but calculated in vain as it cleared off and the prospect is fair a continuation of the dry weather crops have allready suffered greatly from the long continued dry weather and unless we have rain soon there will be but small crops of anything rain

18th this has been a hot summer day doing nothing as usual

19th Sunday, I was at Sabbath School and Preaching as usual to day the community were considerably excited this evening by a rapid fire of shot guns &c thinking there was a fight in our peaceful neighborhood it turned out that it was a party of Guerrillas who had been to Henderson the night before and were caught in the rain and were shooting off their guns

We had a fine rain this evening

20th I have been setting out Tobacco to

21st do do ~~we had~~

22nd I finished setting all of my plants all I could beg from my neighbors this evening but not finish all I intended

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June 25th 1864

I was Striping Tobacco to day untill dinner went a squirrel Hunting in the evening &c

24th Finished striping Tobacco this morning this has been a long tedious job and I am glad to get through with it

25th went to Henderson to day delivered to B McClay 350 pounds good Tobacco 330 Pounds Lugs 213 Pounds trash Amt to $113 00/100 Paid Rudy & Nunn $76 25/100 amt of a note I gave them for groceries last fall bought of J E Rankin $7 35/100 dry goods of Holloway & co $4 15/100 de Dallam & Givers $3 00 Expenses &c 3 00 I Received from Clay $70 75/100 for 1 Hogshead of trash which I shipped to Louisville and 474 Staves

26th Sunday I was at Sabbath School this morning and at church Elder McDaniels preached I was at church again in the evening when Brother Fallan preached to the negroes this was a verry warm day

27th hot hot hot is the expresion one hears every where he goes and I have been trying to keep cool to day

28 The morning was cool and pleasant but hot enough in the evening

29th Doing nothing in particular

30th To day brings the month of June to a close And it is hot enough to roast a pig in the sun This month has been warm and dry I have allways heard it said a dry June for a good crop but I think this month has rather overdone it as the Tobacco crop will be nearly a failure the dry weather and cut worms together have made it allmost imposible for the farmers to get their crops to stand whilst in many places the negroes have been forced off and run off ~~together~~ the Lincoln army untill there is no one left to make a crop

[illegible] though a loyal state with fifty thousand her sons in the Federal army is treated but little better than the other Southern States her property stolen the state overrun and [illegible] laws set at defiance truly she is [illegible] the reward of her perfidity

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July 1st 1864

The month came in this morning clear and hot but I think the prospect good for rain I have been hunting &c to day

2nd We had a fine shower of rain last night but hardly enough for a Tobacco season although I have been replanting all day and did not get through at that My crop of Tobacco is anything but a flattering one

3d I Dedicated the Sabbath for a short time this morning by replanting some Tobacco but the sun I fear will Kill it to day I was at Sabbath School this morning also at church but the preacher did not come

4th I have spent the 4th in the Harvest field cutting wheat

5th At work about the farm to day

6th Went to Henderson to day in Company with Mc Kinney Received from W & Mc Clay $360 the last Payment on Tobacco sold I spent to day for Goods &c $3.50

7th Doing Nothing Particular

8th I set out some tobacco this morning but I expect it will all die

9th About the farm in the morning went to church in the evening

10th I was at Sabbath School this morning also at preaching Elder Taylor preached I went down to Longs Landing in the evening to the Baptizeing Elder Taylor Baptized Elder Martin and Stephen & Evans Gibson

11th I have been at work about the farm to day

12th Went to Henderson to day in company with Thos Smith there was considerable excitement in the city to day as a band of armed men had entered the place the night before and after stealing what they wanted they shot Mr J E Rayskin through the neck and it was feared that his wound would prove fatal our country is in an awful condition no man can tell what moment he may be robbed

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July 13th 1864

or Murdered armed bands of men are scoureing all over the country pressing Horses &c claiming to be confederate Soldiers and acting under orders from their government it seems that our state has to support the Marauding bands of both sections without the Power to resist either Expenses &c to day $3=

13th I wast at home doing nothing in particular to day

14th Do Do

15th One can but feel gloomy in this once happy country of our war still rages all over the land with no prospect of Peace Everything looks gloomy we have had no rains of consequence this season and the weather is now so dry that even the small crops we have planted look like they will die and unless we have rain soon there will not be a half crop of anything raised

16th went to Henderson to day in company with Squire Lilly the day was verry warm

17th Sunday I was at Sunday School and church this morning Elder Thurman preached I was also at church again in the evening Elder Fallin preached to the negroes this was another warm day

18th About home to day doing nothing in Particular

19th Doing nothing as usual

20th The weather still continues warm and dry we have had no rain of consequence since May and unless we can have rain soon we will raise nothing to live on during the next year

21st I went a fishing to day but caught no fish as usual took dinner at Gabe Lilly and went from there to Tom Knights and from there to Andersons and from Andersons we went to the Rock Spring where the Rebels have had a camp for several days we learned that a company of Federal troops had arrived in Henderson with two Prisoners who were condemned to be shot in retaliation for the shooting of Jas E Rankin by a squad of guerrillas the 13th tilt the Rebels had arrested Dr Coo

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July 21st.

and Ben Williams to be held as hostages for these two men it created intense excitement in our community I felt to day as I have never felt before during this accursed war two men to be shot for a crime that they knew nothing of until it was committed two unoffending citizens arrested in retaliation for these men torn from their homes and families perhaps to be shot down like dogs without mercy

if this state of things should go on god only knows where it will end no one is safe these two citizens may be shot and in retaliation others will follow untill it becomes a reign of terror

Such inhuman such fiendish orders could only emenate from such sources as the men who are now in Power in this state

we are fast approaching the fate of Missouri and a few more days may witness scenes in this hitherto peaceful section that will appall the stoutest hearts

22nd To day has been another exciting one I rode up the Henderson road this morning expecting to hear of a fight in Henderson but learned that the Federals had agreed to treat the two condemned men as prisoners of war and that the Rebels had withdrawn from the place after a slight skirmish in the street I also learned that Cooper & Williams were released

23d went to Henderson this morning I could but feel sad this morning when I learned that the Federals had shot the two prisoners and left the place I could have seen their mutilated Bodies but had no inclination to do so it looks hard for young men in the prime of life to be shot down in cold blood in such a manner god only knows where this will end

I bought to day of D Hart 30 yds Domestic at 75cts Amt to $22.50 Other Items $4.75 Expenses $1.50

July 24th 1864

This is a calm beautiful Sabbath morning The long continued drouth alone of all nature to disturb the mind it seems that god in his wisdom has determined to bring man to a sense of his dependence for the prospect is indeed gloomy we have had no rain for over a month the ground is parched and dry the water courses dried up a rain now will not make a half crop of either corn or tobacco whilst the Pastures are dried up and the grass in the woods is dying from the long continued drouth Still if a Partial famine would bring this dreadful war to a close I would be glad to see it for the People would be better off suffering for some of the necessaries of life than to behold much longer the horors of this unnatural and cruel war I was at Sabbath school and church this morning But did not hear the sermon as I went in company with several gentlemen to see the Col of the Confederate forces in the neighborhood in order to insure the safe return of two of our citizens who had left the neighborhood but we failed to see the Confederates as they went one way while we was going another

25th I was getting out wheat to day

26th Finished my wheat I made but a small crop this year as my wheat was too thin on the ground I only raised about fifty Bushels

27th Commenced digging a well in my yard to day

28th At work on well &c went down hunting with Dick Allen in the evening

29th At work on well again to day

30th I have worked hard to day trying to finish my well but did not get through we had a light shower of rain this evening the only rain since the 2nd of the month but it has hardly rained enough to lay the dust

31st It is raining this morning but not enough to do much good unless it mends on it considerably to what it is doing now the ground has not been wet through this ~~[illegible]~~ since May in fact there

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July 31st

has not been rain enough for a good tobacco season since the 1st of may the corn at the present time is about as high as a mans head and the Blades are fired up as high as where the Ear ought to be but alds there are no ears as yet and unless there is more rain than has allready fallen there never will be my corn will not make a half crop no matter how much rain falls from noww on and as to the tobacco crop it is too far gone to ever make much

I was at Sabbath school this morning but there was no school as there were but few present I went to Uncle Stephen Martins in the evening we were visited once more with a fine rain this evening enough to wet the ground and Partially save the crops

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August 1st 1864

I was at work on my well untill dinner went to the election at Longs Landing in the evening there were but few persons at the Rolls and but few votes cast the People seem to be entirely under the influence of war and care for nothing else

2nd Went to Henderson to day in company with G Mitchell I Bought to day of B W Sollin 12 Doz Spun Cotton at $1 Per Doz it used to be worth 12½ ct before the war Other Items &c $5

3d At work about the farm to day

4th Do Do Paid James Harins for Dom b Stones $70

5th Toping Tobacco to day we have had fine rains of late and everything is growing finely

6th Went to Henderson to day I found the City once more in a state of wild Excitement a Company of Negro Soldiers had been landed there the evening before and had commenced to fortify themselves on the river bank Poor Ky. it is not enough that she should suffer all the Horrors of this war but our people must be placed under Negro rule so much for Loyalty to the Union these were the first negro soldiers I have ever seen and I hope they will be the last if these negroes are permitted to stay there they will soon have all the negroe men in this and the adjoining counties in camp with them

7th I went to the Walnut Botton Church this morning Elder Thurman preached the Funeral of J E Cheatham took dinner at W S Coopers and came home in the evening I learned that gratifying intelligence this evening that our negro protectors had left us for parts unknown and I trust they are gone to stay

8th Toping Tobacco to day

9th do do do

10th I was toping tobacco this morning went to J W Martins in the evening &c

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Aug 11th 1864

Went to Henderson to day in company with Thos Smith. There was more than the usual excitement in the city to day Col A. R Johnson has issued his orders for a conscription of all the able Bodied white men between the Ages of 17 and 45 into the Rebel army and only giving us until the 15th Inst to volunteer or Skedaddle or be brought in to camp under the conscription we are certainly getting in a fix. Between two fires claimed by both Parties arrested and conscripted by both one takes our negroes the other our horses and Saved and both sides say we must fight for them. this is certainly a hard case and god alone knows what is to become of us I Bought to day 1 pair of shoes $2.25 other Items and Expenses $2=

12th I went in company with E D Powell to the Confederate camp near Morganfield Ky I met with several men to day who have been in the Rebel army since the commencement of the war they looked well considering their long term of service

I found Col Johnson looking a little worn and considerably tanned by exposure in the sun and field I would have known him though it has been years since we met before while I Respect and admire him as a soldier and a gentleman yet I do not like the look of his camp or the conscription which he says he is here to enforce for I am content with the life I am leading and have no desire to enter either army

13th I was at the Point this morning the excitement is still at its highest pitch men have quit their crops apparently and are running arround to hear the news and see what they can do to keep their sons out of the conscription or avoid it themselves Numbers of young men are going into the army while all that are left here are riding arr

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August 13th 1864

Undecided what to do numbers are escapeing from the state northward and if there is not a change soon our country will be depopulated I have been truly sorry for the woman of our county during this intense excitement Mothers are anxious for their sons wives for their husbands every face seems care worn a general gloom seems to overspread our once Peaceful Community such as I pray heaven I may never see again

I was at Church this evening but the Preacher did not come

14th This was a calm peaceful sabbath morn and as I look out over natures tranquil and Refreshing scenes I can but contrast it with poor deluded mans distracted condition at this time I could but think of the many anxious throbbing hearts throughout this war cursed land and ask my god for peace once more I was at sabbath School and Church this morning But there were no scholars at the Sabbath school Brother Fallan preached in place of Brother Taylor who did not come

15th The day set apart by Adam Johnson to commence conscripting I went to Henderson and witnessed the delivery of two Prisoners by Col Johnson men under a flag of truce to the civil authorities to be tried for Robbing & Murder &c committed in this county The Prisoners were demanded by Capt Perkins in the name of the United States and were turned over to him by the civil Authorities for what purpose I could not learn Henderson is almost depopulated a great many have run from the conscription while others have left for safer climes there were only two or three stores but what have shut up and moved their goods away everything looks dark and gloomy Expenses to day $5

16th This was a wet disagreeable day I was Dodging around watching for Johnsons Conscript Officers But was agreeably disappointed in not seeing them

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August 17th 1864

I was toping tobacco to day the weather is still dark and threatning rain everything looks gloomy

18th Went a cattle Hunting with R M Allin But did not find any Cattle took dinner at Henry Finly &c.

19th When I awoke this morning it was Raining with a good prospect for a flood. I Rode up to Dock Martins and while there I saw a Body of Federal soldiers Chaseing Capt William Quinn I Rode down to the point and found our once peacefull little place turned into a Millilary Camp Gen Hovey with Infantry Artillery and Cavalry supposed to be from 2 to 3000 had camped there for the Night I was placed under arrest but was soon released by the Gen, I came home to find my little home taken possesion of by the Soldiers and thought for awhile that I would loose all I had on the place they had taken my Horses and my Best mule all my oats hay and corn and Had two negroes cooking my provisions for them and I could not say a word: about 100 of them camped in my Lot Stables &c I procured a guard from Capt Stone who at last succeeded in Keeping straglers from the House and we had an orderly time considering the Circumstances I succeeded in getting one mare back from them this evening and got a receipt for my mule

20th After a restless night I got Rid of my Protectors this morning I found they had left but little that they could carry off with them every inducement was offered to my Negroes to leave me but they remained true notwithstanding and I now have more confidence in them than ever

Went to Henderson and succeeded in getting Back two of my Mares but lost my mule a good many Negroes left Henderson with them

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August 20th 1864

And they carried off a number of mules and Horses this raid was I think more upon the citizens than it was after Adam Johnsons men and the Majority of them will return home well ladef with Spoil

21st I staid all night at Sam Coopers and came home this morning everything wears its usual peaceful aspect and one feels this morning as though it would be best to give up all use than for peace if that would obtain it

There was neither Sunday School or Church to day

22 This is my Birth day and I wish I could spend it in a different way than at what I have been doing I went to Henderson this morning in search of my mule but was again unsuccessful I went from there to Evansville but could not find it there Evansville presents quite a contrast to Henderson Everything there seems full of life and Business appears Brisk whilst Henderson with its closed houses and shut up shop look like some deserted place

We made the trip to Evansville and back in the evening and remained all night at the Hancock House Exp Expenses this Trip $6= I Bought in Evansville one pair of Pants $7= one Pair Shoes $2.50 other Items $4=

23d I staid in town until the trial of Davis Hoskins came off he was condemned by the Jury for Treason and will be sent to the Dungeon at Hopkinsville took dinner at Ed Powells and came home in the evening

24th I was about home to day Bought of Ed Powell 8 Bushels of Rye at the rate of $1.50 Per Bushel I sowed 4 Bushels this evening

25th Finished sowing Rye this morning the weather is still damp and cloudy with occasional showers of rain there has been too much rain of late for the tobacco crops

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August 26th 1864

I have been at work in tobacco to day the weather is extremely hot considering it to be so wet

27th Doing nothing in particular went to church in the evening Elder McDaniels preached

28th Sunday this is a beautiful Sabbath morn as one looks out upon the many Beauties of Nature the growing crops and many Bountiful surroundings on every hand we can but return thanks to the giver of every good and perfect gift for these manifold Blessings and think how ungrateful Man is to turn all these Blessings to naught and make this Beautiful earth a hell in which to live instead of a Paradise this expression is perhaps a strong one But when we look around us at the misery and suffering on every hand we can compare this unhappy country to nothing else

Our Best citizens are torn from their homes and Families hurried off to prisons or Banished from their native state Anarchy and ruin seems to stare us all in the face the rich the poor all classes are alike affected By these untoward events

Even in the Darkest days of Marat and Robespiere could not have been much worse than we are now under our present rulers men are led out and shot down like wild beasts Firesides desolated homes laid waste Women outraged by both white and Black fiends called in this enlightened age soldiers

A few days more and another draft for 500,000 men takes place and for what to fill the places of the last 500,000 who have gone with all their crimes to their Bar of a Just God Five hundred thousand more men are required to carry on this work of infamy to sink still lower the name of our once proud and happy country

Great God How long must this go on

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August 28th 1864

Are we not punished enough or is the curse still hanging over us

Must this Struggle go on until every man shall be an enemy to his fellow man I can but say god forbid and still pray for peace I was at Church this morning Elder McDonald preached also in the evening

29th Went to Henderson to day this is the day the Chicago Democratic Convention was to meet and everyone is looking with anxiety to the action of that Body Paid Schaeffer $18 for a Mule Expenses $1.50

30th Doing nothing in Particular

31st To day Brings us to the close of the month and I am not sorry as it has been an exciting one throughout our little community have all seemed to have as much trouble as they could well bear but the month has passed forever away and I trust our troubles with it but god alone knows what is to befall us in this war cursed country I went to Henderson to day there was nothing new in that almost deserted town the usual groups were to be seen on the side walks talking over the latest news a few Sharpers here and there looking out for a stray bargain are about all the signs of life one sees in this once prosperous little place war war war is written on everything as plainly as though the grim monster were really enacting his dread scenes among us

I Paid Walden Sheriff my taxes for this year Amt to $29.93 Paid Geo Dixon $6 for one pair of Boots Mc Cullach $8 for Books purchased for Sunday school Schaeffer $12 for a Mule Expenses $1.50

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September 1st 1864

This Morning was rather threatning heavy thunder was heard in the distance and we had a light shower of rain I hope the day will not be a type of the Month as we need dry weather instead of wet at this time

2nd At work in Tobacco to day &c

3d Do Do

4th Sunday there was neither Sunday school or preaching to day and I have spent the day at Home there was considerable excitement in the neighborhood to day as a company of confederates were trying to induce the young men to join them by threatning to conscript them and actually carried it out so far as to arrest several of them

5th Went to Henderson to day I Bought of of Mayer & Co 2 Tobacco Knives 50cts of G T Dixon one pair of shoes for James Hoskins $3.25 Expenses $2.50 Paid Adam Rankin Fee Bill $1.50

6th At Work in Tobacco to day

7th do do

8th We had a heavy rain last night I was at work in Tobacco in the morning and went To Parris Mill in the evening Paid him $5.00 for meal I Bought of J Hite 400 lb Bacon at 18cts per lb $18 Loaned Z L Hancock $21.00

9th At work in Tobacco

10th I was at work in Tobacco untill dinner time went to church in the evening

11th I was at Church this morning also in the evening Elder Taylor preached

12th Went to Henderson to day I sold a mule a Mr Ash at $130 Expenses &c $1.50 Henderson was again occupied by Negro Soldiers they had taken possion of the Court House and were using every indirectment to get Negro recruits

13th At work in Tobacco to day

14th At work in Tobacco this morning went to Shoe Steam Mill in the evening came Home I took a chill (rather a hard one)

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Sept 15th 1864

I have not been well enough to do anything but stay about the House to day
16th Doing nothing in Particular but taking quinodine to keep off the chills
17th I was cow hunting with R M Allin to day But did not find many cattle Paid James McClellan $7 25/100 for work in Tobacco
18th Sunday I was at church this morning Elder Thurman preached also in the evening when Elder Thurman preached again everything begins to look like the fall of the year again
19th I commenced cutting tobacco this morning my Tobacco is not as ripe as I would like to have it but it appears to be heavy and I will make some verry fine tobacco Paid P Latta $8 in Tobacco for work
20th Cutting and Housing Tobacco again to day the weather is unusually fine
21st do do
22nd I filled my Large New Barn to day
23d Housing tobacco again to day
24th Went to Henderson with Adelia & Mary Cooper Bill of goods at Dallam & Rivers $36 20 Do at other places $15 Paid G L Dixon $18 for three Pair of Negro Boots Expenses $5 Henderson seems allmost in a lifeless condition Houses closed and one looks in vain for some signs of improvement the Ringing of the Auctioners Bell and the Voice of the Auctioneer tell that other Houses are closeing out and in a short time if there is not some improvement it will take one of the places that was
Negro soldiers Parrade the streets and there are several Hundred Occupying the Court House
25 Sunday I was at Sabbath School and church this morning Elder McDaniels pr[illegible] there was considerable excitement to a[illegible] at church over the report that the [illegible] soldiers were coming to the neighbor[illegible] conscripting all able Bodied Negro[illegible] [illegible] but the report proved [illegible]

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September 26th

I Have been cutting tobacco to day
27th Commenced Housing tobacco this morning
But the rain put a stop to all opperation
about ten o clock I Rode down to C. M. Taylor
after the Dr this morning and from there
to Lames Mill on my return home I found
my Little Boy verry Bad and in the absence
of Dr Taylor I employed Dr Rich
28th This has been another gloomy day
have been Housing tobacco to day
29th Rain Rain Rain I have been any
watching the clouds this morning in Hop
they would break away went to Lam
Mill in the evening
30th To day ends the month September
in the morning I commenced cutting toba
But was stoped by the rain in the evenin
the first three weeks of the month was fin
for the Tobacco crops but the last week
been cold and ~~wet~~ wet which will make
Tobacco crop late in cutting and Housing
and perhaps cause a large quantity of it
to get frosted I am not more than half
through with my crop yet the large num
of Slaves that have gone into the arm
will leave a good portion of the cr
without sufficient hands to secure
and the worms were worse this year
they were ever known to be before
with the Losses from all I do not th
there will be a half crop raised
saved in good condition
During this month our unhappy
has been the scene of some of the
Battles on record Thousands have f
deadly strife others maimed for life
witness of the Folly of War and
terrible consequences of being engaged
strife from which no good can pass

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October 1st 1864

When I awoke this morning it was raining and it has rained all day or nearly so the wind has shifted arround to the north this evening and bids fair for frost truly a bad beginning for the month

2d This has been a dark gloomy day and this evening looks like snow I was at Sabbath School and preaching this morning Elder Fallow [illegible]ed also in the evening

[illegible]tting Tobacco to day &c

[illegible] do do do

[illegible]es do do do

[illegible]tting and Housing Tobacco I cut my [illegible] of Tobacco at Haskins to day

[illegible] Housing Tobacco

[illegible] Finished my crop to day and from [illegible] Indications just in time as it is verry [illegible] this evening

[illegible] There was a heavy frost last night [illegible] I expect there was considerable tobacco [illegible]ured by it I was at Sabbath School [illegible] morning also at church but the [illegible]eacher did not come

[illegible] I have been Cow hunting all day [illegible] I was hunting Cattle again to day [illegible] dinner at G Mitchells

[illegible] went to Henderson in Company with S Z Bought of Rankin Estate $5 30/100 Goods of Mayer 1 Bushel Sweet Potatoes & Bag $2 90/100 Expenses $1 30 was a pleasant day and Henderson wore more cheerful aspect than usual as here Negro [illegible]ator had fled and left her in an ungaueded cheerful Mood

[illegible] was Hunting Cattle again to day Doing nothing in Particular

[illegible] Little Bethel Association of United [illegible]ts Met with Our church to day was a verry fair delegation present [illegible]dering all the circumstances the Ass [illegible]

Oct 15th 1864

Church where the Introductry Sermon was preached by Elder Lacy Elder Hay Preached at the Methodist Church

16th I was at Church at the Methodist Church to day Elders Miller & Taylor Pre[illegible] There was a large congregation Present Elde[illegible] Hay & Colgan preached at the Cypress Church and I undestood that they had a good congregation also

17th I was at the Association again th[illegible] Morning evry thing passed off pleasantly and the Body adjourned about 3 o clock in the evening

18th I was at Church this Morning Eld[illegible] Taylor preached he has agreed to stay and protract the Meeting awhile Elder Lacy at night pre[illegible]

19th I was at preaching again to da[illegible] a[illegible] also at night Elder Taylor preached f[illegible]

20 I went to Geo Higginson Sale to fo[illegible] I Bought 20 Head of Hogs for $221 30 [illegible] sold Brought good prices I was at church at nig[illegible]

21st Went after the Hogs I Bought yestera[illegible] to day I was at church again at night the Meeting has been progressing favorably there has been several professions and there are still a number of Mourners [illegible] Anxious seat Paid Higginson on Note $2[illegible]

22nd I was at Church again to day a[illegible] at night

23d I was at Church to day also at night This has been a beautifull Sabbath day

24 I was at church again to day the Meeting seems to grow in interest at night there were some twenty mourne[illegible]

25 I was at Church again to day also at night

26th This has been a rainy wet day I was at Church to day also at night there was a tolerable good congregation notwithstand[illegible] the rain

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Oct 27th 1864

Went to Henderson to day in company with Jack Allin I Bought from Holloway &c 1 Pair of Shoes $3- of Geo Dixon 1 Pair of Shoes $3- other Items $2- I saw some Rebels in the place to day Riding around as though they were in Jeffs Dominions I was at church again at night

28th At Church again to day

29th Do do do

30 Sunday I was at church this morning Elder Taylor preached also at night when Elder McDaniels preached his farewell sermon at the Methodist Church

31st To day ends the month of October the month has been dry and pleasant with hard frosts at nights generally

I have done but little during the month although it has been one of the finest months to work I have ever seen

For the last two weeks I have done nothing but go to church during this time there has been some sixteen professions of religion and I trust the meeting will do much good and that all who have attended this series of meetings will derive lasting benefit from them the Christian Portion of the community seem much revived and I hope determined to live better Christians in the future

I have never seen a more general feeling among the people of this community than there is at present to night at the close of the meeting the interest seems unabated as there were some 15 or 20 mourners and 3 professions there has been up to the present eight additions to the Baptist church

Although I have lost nearly all the month I do not regret it as I have been trying to serve god in my own weak manner and I have felt at times my acceptance in so doing with this I bid adieu to this pleasant month forever Hoping that I may see its next year if I should live that long

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November 1st 1864

I was at the Baptizeing at Longs Landing to day Elder Taylor Imersed Five Persons in the Beautifull Ohio ~~O~~ what an impressive scene in these troublous times 3 were young men in the prime of life who instead of Mingling ~~with~~ and joining in with those who are desolating this once Happy Country are trying to follow in the footsteps of their Lord and Saviour the other two were young Ladies one just turning from childhood who desired to follow the injunction Remember thy creator in the days of thy youth &c

2nd This was a rainy disagreeable day I was about home doing nothing in particular

3d I was Striping Tobacco to day this was another Rainy wet disagreeable day

4th I was down on my Mill Land getting some saw Logs to day

5th Went To Henderson to day in company with Thos Smith the Place was once more occupied By negro Soldiers I cannot see what good they can do here unless they have come to recruit Received from B M Clay $100 on 1200 lbs of Trash sold in New York it sold at 14 cts Per Pound I Bought of Nunn & Rudy 1 Sack of Coffee at 48 cts Amt to $86 16/100 of Holloway & co 6 Blankets at $18 other Items $5

6th Sunday I was at church this morning but there was no preaching this was another wet day

7th I was at preaching at Mrs Clays in the Diamond Island Bend This morning Elder Taylor preached he also Baptized three Ladies in the Ohio in the evening (Viz) Miss Fannie Clay Sallie Smith and Luritta Dennis this was one of the Calmest times for an Immersion I ever saw as there was scarcely a ripple on the water and I could but think that any one no matter how prejudiced could take any exceptions to the Batisms as performed to day

8th I was Striping Tobacco this morning and went to the Election in the evening I voted for McClellan and Pendleton but with little

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Nov 6th 1864

hopes of their Election as the Public plunder and Corruption of the present time is too much for an honest Man the vote at our precinct was a very small one as not more than half the votes were cast that are in the district

9th I was in the woods getting Saw Logs Stave timber &c to day

10th went up in the Bend to Mrs Clays to Preaching and Baptizing to day Elder B F Taylor Preached in the Morning and Baptized Mrs Clay Jones Hoskins and two Negro women in the Ohio in the evening Brother Taylor Closed his meeting in the Bend this evening he was perhaps the first Preacher that has preached in that section for many years and his labors have been truly Blessed I could but feel solem this evening when I saw Mrs Clay who had passed her three score years and had just of her return to her god until her hair had silvered over with age until her feeble footsteps were verging on the grave she came up and the water Raiseing her god and no doubt regretting only having neglected to serve him for so long a time

11th I was at work in the woods again to day

12th I was at work about the Garden putting away my Cabbage Potatoes and Turnips this morning went to Church Meeting in the evening this has been a rainy wet disagreeable week throughout

13th Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder B F Taylor preached on the second coming of Christ in support of the theory that this earth will be the future abode of the just I thought his Sermon rather a speculative one

14th went to Henderson to day Bought of Dallam & Soaper 12 yds Negro cloth at $1 per yard $12 other Items and Expenses $5 in coming home this evening I was arrested by the Negro Soldiers Alex Mitchell they released me but held him

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Nov 14th 1864

To appear to morrow at nine o clock the negroes shot at Mitchell and I thought for awhile they would shoot me so much for Lincolns Policy of arming a servile race and placeing them over their former Masters and yet the people have seen fit to elect him as president again my Country Oh my Country I fear thou art gone beyond the hope of redemption I stoped at Mr Eakins to preaching at night Elder Taylor preached I came home after preaching through the rain

15 I went to Hgnderson to day in company with Mitchell she was released by order of Col Sleeva and I trust he as well as myself will be able to keep clear of the negro Soldiers in the future This was a cool damp day and to night I feel considerably worse for the trip

16th Finished Gathering my Corn at McKinneys to day it rained again this evening and bids fair to rain all night I do not think I ever saw so much rain in the Fall of the year before Received from Thos Smith $20.00 for 2½ lbs of Coffee

17th this has been another wet day I was striping tobacco to day

18th Striping Tobacco again to day

19th Went to Highland Church to day in company with four other Members of this Church (Mt Pleasant) to endeavor to settle a dificulty Between two of the Members of that Church we did not succeed in our mission of Peace as one of the Members proved refractory and would not listen to reason

I Pray heaven that I may never again witness such a scene in the House of god an old grey headed Member of the church setting at defiance the Laws of God and by his own actions severing a long connection with this people But god has said the wrath of man shall praise

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Nov 19th 1864

him and I trust that the Church at Highland will be blessed by god for her actions this day and that the Brother who acted so Badly will soon see his error and return again to the fold from which he has strayed

I was at Church at night at Mr Harringtons Elder Taylor preached he has been laboring verry successfully in that neighborhood during the present week there has been several professions and five additions to the Church up to this time

20th Sunday this Has been a Beautifull fall day I was at Sabbath School and preaching this morning Elder Fallan preached went to L B Martins in the evening

21st This has been a verry cold day I was hunting cattle with Sam Cooper in the morning and have been trying to Doctor a Bad Cold this evening

22nd It is cold enough for any kind of winter to day I have been endeavoring to keep warm by the fire

23d I have been killing a portion of my hogs to day this has been the first clear day for a long time

24th I have been too unwell to day to do much but set by the fire

25 I was unwell again to day and have been setting around the fire in no enviable mood

26 Sick and doing nothing

27th I was at Sabbath School and church this morning Elder Crow the Methodist Circuit rider Preached I went in company with L B Martin to see Thos Crowder in the evening

28th About home in the morning and was in the woods where the Boys were making staves in the evening this was a warm day for November

29th I have been cow hunting to day in Company with Steve Martin to day has been as warm as a Summer day one would almost think the winter was gone and this was spring if were not for the looks of everything around us

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Nov 30th 1864

To day ends the month and I have spent it as usual doing nothing this has been a beautiful day a fit ending for a tolerably pleasant month November has ever born the name of a Chill Dreary month Novelists love to write of a Bleak November day and one to live in the Tropics would think from what writers say about the month that it was indeed a dismal one

But for me I love the month I love its bright moonlight nights or its dark cloudy or sunshiney days to me it is the harbinger of winter with its long cheerfull nights where assembled with my little Family around the Blazeing Log fire we discuss the news of the day or read or write as the humor suits us or with my boys arms around my neck I sing the sweet songs of Zion until he is fast asleep in my arms oh what pleasures we might enjoy in this life if we would only live aright although through the machinations of wicked men this Beautiful land is all deluged with blood yet when we live near our God though we know not at what moment our lives may be taken or at what time we may be forced to take a part in this unholy war we can feel that there is a protecting hand over us who has promised that he will be a sufficient help in our time of need in him I have placed my trust and no matter how dreary the prospect looks around me I feel that his watchfull care is over me and I endeavor to be happy and contented and can say to night with the Poet

Tis Religion that can give sweetest pleasure while we live Its Religion must suply solid comfort when we die

I commenced to write about the month but have wandered far from my subject I have been gathering corn making staves &c during the whole of this month and have not as yet commenced my winter work my negroes are still with me but how long Abrahams Minions will let them stay I cannot tell with this I must leave now with the past and to morrow commence with old winter

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December 1st 1864

I went to Henderson to day in company with Mrs Virginia Williams & Received from B Mc Clay $205 38/100 Amt of 1 Hogshead of Leaf Tobacco sold in Louisville the Hogshead only weighed 1328 lbs net and sold for $18 25/100 per 100 lbs I was only offered $6 for these Leafs in Henderson last Spring I also Received from him $31 — Amt of note I held on a/c of Tobacco sale this was the last of my Last years Crop and if I had not have sold too soon I would have done a good business Bought to day At Millets $20 33/100 worth of goods at Lyne & Johnsons 1 lb of Pepper 75 Expenses & other Items $3 — Paid Munn & Rudy on note $100 — Mrs Alves do $100 —

2nd Went to Henderson again to day with Thos Smith to a meeting called to endeavor to correct the enrollment list of this county so as to avoid the draft Expenses &c $2 50 Paid Dr Taylor $10

3d I have been doing nothing in particular a gloomy looking day

4th Sunday I spent the day at Sam Coopers a pleasant but I do not think the right way of spending the Sabbath

5th I was out on my Mill Land getting Staves &c to day

6th I was riding around this morning went to A J Andersons in the evening

7th Went to Henderson to day Bought of Munn & Rudy Groceries Amt to $34 60 The wind got around to the North this evening and it got as cold as Blazes

8th This has been a verry cold day I went down to see Col Cabell in the evening and from there to Mrs Barnes I Paid her $7 50/100 for weaving 29½ yds Janes

9 Another cold day if it remains this way a few days longer we can get Ice

10th The ground is all white with snow this morning and it is verry cold I was at Church Meeting in the evening &c

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Dec 11th 1864

This has been a cold Sunday and I have spent the day at home

12th it still verry cold I have done but little to day but set by the fire

13th I was Killing Hogs to day the weather has moderated considrably

14th went to Henderson to day I bought Holloway & 19½ yds Linsey at 70 cts per yard $13.65 of Rankin a Bill of goods Amt to $4.20 other Items $.50 Expenses $2.

I came home in the evening and went with Mrs Williams to see George Cabell I found him in a dying condition But he seemed resigned to his fate Oh how changed everything looked in that room to what it had on other occasions Mr Cabell was ever known for his hospitality and often in my earlier life have I seen gay crowds assembled there arround the same fireside by which we were assembled to night but how changed the scene disease has laid its hand on the head of this Family and his pale and emaciated face showed that this poor wasted frame had stood all or nearly all that it was capable of standing and a few hours or days at farthest his spirit must take its flight into that unknown future and to night as we knelt arround his couch while his old friend and neighbor William M. led in prayer I felt as I have seldom felt in my life but oh how consoled my own poor heart to be thus engaged for one who has allways been a Kind neighbor and friend and when I took his hand and bade him farewell I thought it was the last time I should ever do so on earth

15th I went down to Mr Andersons this evening on my way back home I met with a man from whom I bought a horse which I have but little doubt that he had stolen as I only gave $10 for the Horse Bridle and saddle

I came by Mr Cabells and found he was dead and this evening as I stood by and looked on him calmly sleeping in death I could but feel that we had lost a good Citizen a kind [illegible]

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Dec 15th 1864

and a generous friend one whose heart was ever open to the cry of the widow and Orphhan or the poor and needy of all Classes one who we have no doubt lived and died without an enemy But oh I felt to rejoice that while his family and friends mourn his loss his happy spirit was rejoicing with the redeemed in Heaven for he said he had made his peace with god and his words were glory be to god for his mercy and goodness and I could but say in the word of the Psalmist let me die the death of the Righteous and let my last end be like his

[illegible]th This has been a wet disagreeable day I was at the funeral and Burrial of George Cabell [illegible] day Elder Fallen preached his Funeral sermon from the 14th Chapter of Job and 14th verse after the [illegible]neral we laid him in the Family Burrying grou[illegible] surrounded by his Father Mother and his own [illegible]ldren with this I must take a last farewell for my old friend and neighbor on Earth but I [illegible]st I will meet him again in heaven where [illegible]rting will be no more

[illegible]th I have been striping tobacco to day the weather [illegible] damp and warm for the season

Sunday this has been one the gloomiest looking days [illegible] have ever seen I was at church this morning [illegible] there was no preaching

[illegible]th Striping tobacco to day it turned cool again [illegible] evening and I am in Hopes we will have a spell [illegible] clear weather now

[illegible]th The ground is covered with snow again this morning and it has been a verry cold day

1st This has been another cold disagreeable day

2nd Doing nothing in Particular

3d I was Bird Hunting awhile this morning and [illegible] the Methodist Church in the evening trying to get my [illegible]siogomy Photographed &c

Went to Henderson to day I Received from Tollman $30 [illegible] staves Paid Bill at Holloways $3.35 Do at Rankins $6.60 [illegible] $2.50/100 Received from Held $13.64 for 88 lbs Hides Paid [illegible] J Hoskins $5 this was a pleasant day

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Dec 25th 1864

Christmas day I was at Church this morning Elder Crow preached a very good sermon on the Birth of our saviour the Corruption of the times &c And this evening I am seated by a cheerfull fire while it is raining just enough to keep one in the house and as memory goes back this evening over other scenes on this day ~~Dec 25th~~ I have been setting here this evening I have felt sad when I have thought of some things forever past some friends who I will see no more untile we meet at the bar of god oh how changed are the scenes of this life in fancy I go back to my childhood I remember many co- ial meetings with friends on this day sometimes I wish cou that the day might have been better spent in a diferent manner but now as I look back through the vista of time I can but feel sad a Father a Brother two sisters and manny manny cherished friends are sleeping in the co and silent tomb I meet with but few of those once fa- ar faces who I so often met with in the days of my you they are gone in memory alone do we recall them their Places are filled by others and one looks in vain for the cheerfull faces of yore ing wears a gloomy aspect wears discordant notes have dr away even the pleasures of the young a once happy peacefull country has become the Theatre of the mo sanguinary and Bloody war ever known in the hi of the world Millions have allready perished in its course and still it goes on some of the friends of you have become its victims others are still encircled its deadly folds whilst I with manny others may be drawn in its vortex to fill up the measure of its woe I can only say god forbid

Even the Poor negro looks dejected it has ever been the cus of this Race to look forward to the Christmas Holidays with great anticipations but now if he is able Bodied he in fear of being forced into the army and those who have no fear of the army seem dissatisfied and unhap- le tempting Boon of freedom which is being held ou them does not bring Happiness

et enough of this as Customs and everything else to be changing I expect I am changeing my melancholy mood is perhaps but fake

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Dec 31st 1864

Recapitulation of Receipts Expenses &c for the Year 1864

I. Received on my Tobacco crop raised in the Year 63 $1700 I sold The Mill Tract of Land to W Martin and during this year I Received from him $600 and Let Ben Faulkner have one of his Notes for $400 which made $1000 I received on the Land I Borrowed from Mrs Eades $500 in March I sold 2 Steers for $40= and about the same time I Received from W A Crenshaw $45 the last payment on land that we sold him I also sold a Mule to Mr Willett for $45= and a Mule to Mr [illegible] for $130 and from other Sources $150 Amounting in the Aggregate to $3320= I have Paid out all of it one way and another in somethings I have perhaps been too extravagant but I have tried to be saving and the most of this Amt has been applied to the Payment of my debts

Looking back over the past year I see where I might have reduced my expenses considerably and in others instances I see where I have Spent money very foolishly this years receipts was the largest of any year since I commenced farming or I might say the largest of any year of my life yet at the close of the year I find myself without money and Considerably in debt I made but a small crop considering everything this year and during the coming year I do not expect much if a surplus But if I am not molested by Either of the two contending armies I have enough to live on through the Coming year and will avoid much of the Expense of the present one but now one cannot count on nothing as everything depends on circumstances we have been overrun by Both armies during this year and it may be repeated during the next which is very likely But I shall hope for the best

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Dec 26th 1864

I was out in the woods this morning loading a couple of wagons with staves the day has been a gloomy looking one and warm for christmas

27th This has been a pleasant day I was about home doing nothing in particular

28th I was at a quilting to day at uncle Steve Martins it turned very cold this evening and to night is a bitter cold night Paid S Watts $5.00/100 on note I gave to Mrs Miles

29th I Had company at my House to day and we have been having a little Christmas at home the day has been very cold

30th I was hunting awhile this morning I was also at Henry Coopers and to night the negroes are having a Jollification at my house I have stood by to night and watched them in their wild sports & dances and I thought if the Abolition Fanatics at the north could have seen the negroes in my kitchen to night and have contrasted their happy cheerful condition with that of those who thier Miserabel Philanthropy have [illegible] during this accursed war

31st To day Brings one to a close of the year 64 the day has been verry cold with the ground covered with snow I spent the day at B F Martins

The year 64 has been an eventfull one in the history of this nation numerous hard Battles have been fought Between the two contending sections Hundreds of thousands of men have been Killed and have died in the two armies and still the war goes on

At the present time everything looks gloomy for the south but things may soon change and we may have another years war

Prices of everything are enormously high corn is worth from $1 to $1.50 per Bushel Pork 15cts per pound and everything Else in proportion I Raised a tolerable good crop this year and if tobacco brings the price some seem to think it will my farming operations will pay tolerably well my receipts & expenses &c will be found on the 32nd page I have spent much

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Dec 31st 1864

Money this year than usual for it seems that the times allmost make one extravagant Our county has been in a constand excitement during the whole year there has been 3 or 4 draghts by the federal government in the whole amounting to over one Million of men this of itself was enough to cause all able Bodied men to be more or less troubled but from early in the spring up to the present time there have been Bands of Guerillas or Southern Soldiers sometimes in small squads and often in Bodies of from fifty to a hundred men Pressing Horses Saddles Shott guns Pistols &c and at one time Col A V Johnson made the attempt to carry out the Southern conscription causing many to leave their homes while many others joined him rather than be conscripted a good many of them were picked up by the Federal Forces some were killed whilst others got through south This great trouble was hardly over before a Body of Negro Soldiers were sent to Henderson to recruit from our slaves who have up to the present time filled nearly two regiments from this county alone and add to this a Raid made by Gen Hovey with three or four thousand thieves who stole Horses Mules Hogs Cattle and everything else they could get hold of or nearly so and numerous small Bands of thieves who have been stealing murdering &c on their own account the uncertainty of everything added to the gloom of war has rendered this an unpleasant country to live in and to night as I take leave of 1864 forever I cannot sigh over her departure but while I feel thankfull to the giver of every good and perfect gift for my own preservation and that of my family through all these troubles I pray to Him for a more peaceful time and hope for a better future with that consoleing thought that all shall work for good to them who love the Lord

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January 1st 1865

This is a cool Sabbath day for the Begining of the new year the ground is all covered with snow I was at church this morning Elder Fallen Preached &c

We enter this morning upon another year god grant us a more peacefull one than the one that has just passed and allthough it seems like hoping against hope I have no doubt this will be the wish of allmost evry one in this war cursed country

2nd Went to Henderson to day this was Properly the begining of the year this day in Henderson was quite a contrast to what it was a few years ago or even last year to day there was a few negroes hired out but they were all hired privately squads of negro soldies were patrolling the streets who insolently regarded a white man with less respect than the negroes

Negroes hired verry high as so many have left the county and gone into the army that laborers are scarce men hired from two to Four Hundred dollars and women in proportion and if the people could have been assured of their being able to keep them during the croping season they would have hired much higher I Hired one man to day Jeff Belonging to Youngs Estate for $275 I Hired him last year for $235 there was fewer People in town than I ever saw on new years day before I Received from A B Weaver $40 for one Thousand staves Paid William Tilly $10.50 for making Staves Paid J Dixon $14.75 for two Pair of Boots one for J Hoskins $9 the other Pair for Sam $5.75 Paid Nunn & Rudy $4.50 Expenses &c $2 I attended a party at McKinney at night

3d Getting Ice this morning but it soon got so soft that we had to quit

4th Went to Henderson in company with McKinney I Bought to day of Dallam & Livers $5 of Holloway &c $1 other Items & expenses $5 this was a pleasant day and there was a good many People in town

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Jan 5th 1866

This has been a Beautiful day I have been about home doing nothing in Particular to night it is raining again and I fear we are doing to have more Bad weather

6th It Rained all night and is still raining this morning it rained awhile and then commenced snowing with a good prospect to snow all night I do not think I have ever seen a worse day than this in all my life we managed though to strip tobacco by getting on the windward side of the barn and keeping a good fire

7th I was striping Tobacco to day until in the evening when I went to church Meeting this was a Pleasant day

8th Sunday I was at church this morning Elder J S Taylor preached this was another Pleasant day overhead but very sloppy underfoot

9th Rain Rain it first rains then snows and then rains again this so far has been about the variations in the weather it has rained all day and is still raining to night I have been striping Tobacco to day

10th It Rained all night last night and looks this morning like it will rain a week it rained awhile and then commenced snowing and to night the snow is several inches deep I striped tobacco awhile this morning and then went to Dear Cat Tattas where I spent most of the day

11th The Sun is Shineing Brightly this morning and it has been a Pleasant day overhead I have been about the place doing nothing in Particular

12th Doing Nothing in Particular

13th I was cow hunting a Part of the day and the rest of the time doing nothing as usual

14th Went to Marions Sale to day there was not much sold but what was sold brought very good Prices I Bought three old Jumpers for $2 This was a Pleasant Winter day and to night is a beautiful night

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Jan 15th 1865

This has been a pleasant Sabbath day I was at Church this Morning Elder Thurman preached I was well pleased with the Sermon for it showed in its true light the love of god to the fallen Race of man and the glorious Hope of the Christian

16th Went to Henderson to day with the negroes Tobacco Sold it on the street to Paul Semonin at $20 for the good and Lugs and $2 for trash the Load Brought $246.40 Bought to day of Rudy & Nunn Groceries Amt to $16 of Rankins Estate a Bill of goods Amt to $4.50 of Dallam & Livers 2 Pair of Boots $11 Expenses $1.50 of Palis Bed stead & Small Chair $8.25

17th I Helped Sam Cooper raise a Cook House to day it has been a verry cold day

18th I Drove my cattle down to Mr Andersons this morning took dinner at Gabe Lillys &c it commenced to thaw rapidly this evening

19th I was getting Ice to day

20th Finished getting Ice this morning

21st Went to Henderson to day I sold Bens & Mary Tobacco at $20 for the good 10 for Lugs and 2 for trash I bought to day of Nunn & Rudy Groceries Amt to $3.90/100 of Rankins $4.40 Expenses &c $1.50 Received from J T Hoskins on Note $33.85 I sold my tobacco to Tollman to day for $30 for good & Lugs and $10 for trash

22nd It Rained awhile this morning I was at church Elder Crow preached and this evening I think the prospect is good for another winter there has been more snow this winter up to the present time than I ever remember to have seen any winter before we thought last winter a disagreeable one but this so far has been worse

The Preacher prayed to day fervently for peace oh What a sweet word peace really is a nation deluged in blood for four years seems to be returning to some little reason and from what I can learn there is a disposition on both sides for peace God Grant that the welcome sound may soon be heard all over the land is the prayer of every honest heart

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Jan 23d 1865

It turned very cold last night and to day has been too cold to do much but set by the fire it has been trying to snow nearly all day

24th This has been another cold day although it has been clear I was bird hunting & co with Sam Hopkins this evening

25 Doing nothing in Particular

26th Last night was one of the coldest nights of the winter and to day has been Bitter cold I went down to Andersons the cold though rendered traveling rather a severe business

27th I went to Mrs Clays Sale to day there was a lot of poor cattle sold but I did not buy this time I thought they sold at fair prices this has been another cold day

28th Went to Henderson to day This has been the most pleasant day we have had for some time I spent About $10 for Sundrids

29th Sunday this has been a beautiful day as this was the fifth Sunday there was no preaching I spent the most of the day at Home

30th I went to John Jacobs after some Cattle I Bought of him I sold them to A McHath away I made $27½ on the lot

31st I went to Henderson to day I sold a load of Tobacco for $27.50 Per Hundred Pounds the load Belonged to Mr McKinney Expenses to day $2.50 the Roads this morning were very slippery as they were full of Ice but this evening there was quite a change as the Ice had turned to mud and water and I hope we will have no more such freezes as the last one this so far has been a cold disagreable winter if anything worse than the last

To day ends the month of Jan but I cannot Praise the month any this time but hope for a better one during the short month of Feb

To day has been warm and Pleasant but the prospect to night is good for rain

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Feb 13th 1865 61

sick bed has been relieved by her presence
But she has gone. the Last conversation I ever
had with her was at a Party at Mr McKinneys
she was then alas like too many building high
hopes in the future and to night as I recall that
scene I can scarcely realize that one so young
and gifted now lies in the narrow precincts of
the tomb she told me she intended soon to
have a social gathering at her home and
gave me an invitation to be present and I little
thought we would meet no more untill we
meet at the Bar of god Oh what a warning
prepare to meet thy god for no man knoweth
the day or the hour when the last summons may
come and though we will not meet in a social
gathering on earth I trust that we may meet
in an endless social gathering high up
in the paradise of god
14th I have been about home this has been
a pleasant day but it is raining to night
15th I went to Andersons a Duck hunting this evening
with Barnett Rankins but did not kill any Ducks
16th Striping Tobacco to day it snowed awhile
this morning and then rained the Ballance of the
day
17th Striping Tobacco again to day
18th Doing nothing in particular a Beautifull day
19th Sunday I was at Church to day Elder
Thurman preached another pleasant day
20th I went to Henderson to day with a load of
Tobacco the Load weighed Good 1080 Lugs 415 Trash 400
which at $30 for the Good and Lugs & $10 for the trash Amts
to $488 50/100 this was my first Load in my contract with
Burbank & Co and I got along verry well with it
as I was not Docked a Pound I saw considerable
Tobacco selling on the street which sold from $4 to
$32 according to quality
I Bought to day of Munn & Rudy 1 Bushel of
Cloverseed $15 of Rankins Good Amt to $2 50 of
Dallam & Livers $1.50 do to day was pleasant
but the roads are verry muddy & Bad

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Feb 21st 1865

I Have been Burning a plant Bed to day this was my first attempt this year and I did not get more than Half of a bed burned

22nd We had heavy rain last night and it has been raining nearly all day I stripped Tobacco in the evening

23d At work about the farm &c

24th I Drove some cattle to Mr Andersons ~~in~~ thes Morning and Loaded a wagon with Tobacco in the Evening

25th It is Raining this morning very hard I sent my Load of Tobacco out on the road yesterday evening and from every prospect this morning it will get a thorough Wetting it stoped raining about nine o'Clock and I started for Henders overtook my wagon near Canoe creek Bridge Broke down I got a wagon from Dr Beaty and succeeded in getting my Tobacco to town in a wet damaged condition the load weighed good 500 Pound. Lugs 475 Trash 333 I was Docked 75 lbs on the lugs and 35 on the trash which was a very light dock considering the Tobacco was wet this Load brought me $390 Expenses &c to day $5— I came home at night but had a most disagreeable ride through wind rain & hail

26th Sunday this has been a dark gloomy looking day after a tempestuous night I was at Church this morning Elder Crow preached a very interesting Sermon on the Depravity of man &c &c

27th I have been pruneing Apple Trees to day

28th To day brings me to the close of month and the last Winter month the day has been pleasant the low plaintive cooing of the Dove and the voices of numerous frogs tells us that Winter is Passing Away Spring with its manifold beauties and attractions is at hand

and if one could judge the future by the present looks of everything it will be an early Spring At any rate I hope so

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March 1st 1865

This has been a Beautifull day for the begining of the month I was at H F Coopers this morning I hired his negro Boy Bob for the remainder of the year for $65. I went with L L Hancock a Cow hunting this evening &c

2nd I was Striping Tobacco to day &c

3d Doing nothing in particular I loaded my wagon with Tobacco for Henry Cooper this evening It rained again this evening and it is still raining with a fair prospect to rain all night

4th This was a Blustry March day I was triming apple trees to day

5 Sunday a lovely day this has been the first spring day yet and I trust it will be followed by more of the same sort there was a fight in our neighborhood this morning between the negro soldiers and some guerrillas which resulted in the wounding of one negro and one guerrilla but no one killed

6th I went to Henderson to day with Tobacco for H F Cooper I sold it to Paul Semonin for $20 for the good and Lugs and $2 for the trash I bought to day of N H Barnard 1 Kettle $5 of ~~Rankin Estate~~ other items and Expenses $6 =

7th Burning a plant bed to day a pleasant day

8th At work about the farm to day

9th Went to John T Hopkins Sale this was a cold disagreeable day and I had a long ride for nothing as everything sold too high for me

10th At work on plant beds again to day

11th Burning plant beds again to day went Tanner &co Mill in the evening

12th Sunday this is a lovely Sabbath morning I Have been strolling around over my little place this morning enjoying the warm sunshine and viewing my prospects though not as bright as I could wish yet if there are no changes from the present to deprive me of my force I am satisfied I will be able to catch up with my work there is every indication of an early spring and I trust indications will hold good

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March 13th 1865

I have been burning a plant bed to day this makes the sixth one I have burned and I think I will quit this day has been warm and pleasant although it has been windy

14th I went to Garett Mitchells this morning I Bought a Black Poney from him for $115 Came home and went to Squire Turners and from there to C M Taylors I sold my poney to Benj Williams for $125 quick sales and small profits this has been a wet disagreeable day

15th I was triming apple Trees striping Tobacco &c to day

16th This was a wet disagreeable day I was helping Bennett Marshall to put sills under his house

17th I Helped Mr Marshall again untill dinner time and was triming apple trees in the evening this was one of the windiest days I ever saw

18th I was at a log rolling at Mitchells to day &c

19th Sunday went to Church this morning Elder Fallan preached the Funeral sermon of John Dance who died of Small Pox at Camp Douglas another victim of this cruel war this has been a lovely spring day

20th I went down to Andersons to day to see about my cattle &c

21st went to Henderson I delivered a load of Tobacco which weighed Good 580 Lugs 590 Trash 550 I was docked on a Portion of the Good & Lugs 15 Per cent this load Amt to $376 30/100 I Bought to day of Nunn & Rudy Groceries Amt to $37 50 Paid Dallam & Livers $34 35 Amt of apt &c Sam Rankins $7 Amt of apt Other Items & Expenses $5

22nd At work about the farm &c

23d I was at Geo Phips sale to day myself and Mitchell Bought a lot of Sheep that is 30 old sheep and 11 Lambs the lot cost $165

24th I drove the sheep to Mitchells this morning that we bought on yesterday and went to Anderson in the evening

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March 25th 1865

Went to Henderson to day Received from Burbank $250 on Tobacco I Paid J D Floyd $16 66/100 amount due him by the will of my Farther I Paid Bill at Holloways Amt to $4 50 Paid Dixon for Hat $3 50 Dallam & Rivers for J Hoskins $8 do for self $1 50 Expenses $2

26th Sunday This is a lovely Sabbath morning a little cool for the season the late dry windy weather has dried the ground and it is now in good condition for ploughing &c Went to church this morning Elder Crow Preached I went down to Mrs Hopkins in the evening and found her dead she died a short time before I got there she was an Estimable old Lady and I trust her spirit is now at rest with its saviour and god in a conversation with her a few days ago she spoke feelingly of her daughter who died but a few weeks ago I tried to console her as best I could under the circumstances little thinking that would be our last conversation this side the grave but such it proved to be that fond and loving daughter was only taken a few days before her aged parent and I hope this night they are reunited where parting will be no more where the sorrows of this life are forever over and a saviours presence is a well spring of Joy forever

27th Went to Henderson to day to arrange for the Funeral and Burrial of Mrs Hopkins

28th I was at the Funeral of Mrs Hopkins in the Presbyterian Church in Henderson to day the Funeral sermon was preached by Elder Woolbridge after which we laid her by her daughter in the Cemetery this was the last act of friendship we could do for our departed friend and neighbor took dinner at Mr Neslers and came home in the evening

29th Striping tobacco to day a wet day

30th I was striping tobacco again to day

31st to day brings me to the close of the month of March and I will say taking wrything into consideration that it has been a pleasant windy month I loaded my wagons with tobacco this evening

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April 1st 1863

I went to Henderson to day I delivered two loads of Tobacco which weighed Good 1300 Lugs 928 Trash 675 I was docked from 5 to 15 pr cent on these loads It All Amt to $733.90 I also sold a load of tobacco for Sam Cooper at $15 for the Good $11 for the Lugs &c $2 for the trash Expenses &c $2 = Paid McKinney $10

2nd Sunday I rode down to Sam Coopers this morning to see my sister who was verry sick I also went to Church but there was no preaching went to singing in the evening

3d This has been a regular spring day warm and showery I loaded one wagon with tobacco in the evening

4th Went to Henderson with my tobacco to day the Load weighed Lugs 1190 Trash 923 = this was an inferior article of Lugs and I only got $15 Per Hundred for them which was just one half The load Amt to $271 = I Paid John Lyle $297.37 the Amt of note I gave for Cattle at Poseys Sale Paid B W Taylor $2.50 Dixon $5.00 Expenses $3 = Received from Hosea Smith $50 Loaned money There was considerable Excitement to day over the Fall of Richmond it seems that the Confederates have at last been forced to abandon their Capitol some think this will soon end the rebellion while others seem to think diferently but no one can tell as yet what the Rebels will do

5th This was a wet disagreeable morning I striped Tobacco untill dinner and rolled Logs in the evening

6th I was rolling Logs again to day and managed by hard work to finish my new Ground

7th About home the most of the day I Loaded my wagon with Tobacco for Henry Cooper

8th Went to Henderson to day My Fees for Hauling to day Amounted to $16.70 Expenses Bills &c $10

9th This was a wet disagreeable Sunday I was at Church notwithstanding the Rain Elder Colgan Preached

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April 10th

This has been another wet day I striped Tobacco and Loaded my wagon in the evening 11th Rain Rain Rain it rained all night last night and it still continues to rain this morning I fear that the great rejoiceings over the Fall of Richmond & Surrender of Lees army will cause the whole country to be Flooded I finished striping my crop of Tobacco to day

12 Went To Thos S Knights Sale everything sold verry high I Bought one Plough a Lot of Gear &c Amt to $13.20 and me and Mitchell Bought the Lot of Cattle Amt to $185

13th Went to Henderson with Tobacco the Load weighed Good 670 = Lugs 440 = Trash = 765 ~~Trash~~ Amt to $409 30/100 Received from Burbank on Tobacco $500 Paid Mrs Alves Ballance on Note I gave for Davys Hire in 1863 Amt to $95 66/100 Paid Sam Hopkins $200 = Paid Mum & Rudy $100 Bills Expenses &c $10 = Paid W T Smith $14 50/100 in full of all claims to date

14th Helped Mitchell drive some cattle to his place this morning and Loaded my wagon with Tobacco this evening it is raining again to night and I fear we will have another wet spell

15th Went To Henderson to day I delivered the Last of my crop of Tobacco to Burbank the Load Weighed Good 530 Lugs 460 Trash 800 I Paid J E Rankins Estate $221.50 ~~This has been~~ ~~Other Items $500~~ when I got to Henderson this morning there seemed to be a general spirit of rejoicing among the People at the early prospect of Peace I saw Confederate and Union Officers Eating and drinking together and was allmost led to believe that the war was over when the news came that President Lincoln was Murdered everything was brought to a sudden stand still faces that a few minuets before were smileing now looked sad and anxious though few in the place had any love for Lincoln all seemed to dread the consequences of his death all seemed to fear

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April 15th 1865

That it was the forerunner of some evil perhaps destroying every prospect of Peace and Plunging the Nation still deeper in this ruinous war but we shall soon see Lincoln has been the cause of the war Millions of Poor souls have been hurried to their graves by the unrelenting and remorseless course Pursued by Lincoln and his Party and now by an assassins hand he has gone before his god to answer for it all

16th I was at church this Morning but there was no preaching I was riding arround in the evening with some men who wished to buy Cattle

17th I sold 14 head of Cattle this morning to a couple of men By the Name of Robertson & Conner for $389 I traded off my Gray Poney to Dick Posey for six head of Cattle and $35 in money I let Conner & Robertson have 3 Steers that I got from this trade at $90 helped to drive the Cattle to Henderson everything was shut up to day and everybody seemed to be taking a holiday Expenses $3=

18th I Bought a Yoke of Oxen from P Latta this morning for $185 and let Royal Utley have my Keeper Oxen at $185 Sold the Oxen I bought from Latta to John Doyle at $185

19th At work about the farm to day we had rain again this evening

20th I have been Shearing Sheep at Mitchells to day we got about 80 sheared this has been another wet day

21st I have been at work putting up new ground fence to day the ground is too wet to plough and has been ever since the spring of the year set in

22nd Started to the Diamond Island Bend this morning but turned back on account of the High water it turned very cool this evening and I fear if it clears off we will have frost to night

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April 23d 1863

Sunday this is a Beautifull Morning allthough it is cool for the season as I look around me this morning and contemplated on the present prospects of the People here I have thought we will all soon return to the primitive times and customs of old we have been growing rich and neglectfull of our duties to god we have depended upon a system of labor which the present dominant Party have despoiled us of and many who have looked forward to ease and pleasure must now follow the plough and dig for a living but if the African race could be removed entirely from among us I would not object to the present Party taking them all but I did not intend this Sabbath morning to write about Politics so I will go to church Eder Ford of Henderson preached this also in the evening

24th Went to Henderson to day to Help Mitchell ~~Mitchell~~ drive 3 yoke of Oxen that we had sold to John Lyle he (Lyle) took two yoke but refused to take the other one Expenses &c $5=

25th I went to the Cross roads this morning Bought a horse of Philo Sanderfur for $75= came home in the evening and sold the Horse to Dave Askew for $105= quick sales & Small Profits are sometimes best

26th At work about the farm to day

27th Doing nothing in particular

28th Went to Henderson to day myself & Mitchell drove up five head of Cattle to (C Sechtig) the lot weighed 3865 lbs which at 6 cts per lb. amt to $231 90/100 we knocked off $11 90/100 which made the Cattle bring us $220 I received $110 of this amount Mitchell retaining the other half I also recived from Mitchell $30 profits on Oxen ($17 50/100) sold (Lyle) and Mare sold ($12 50/100) Haskins, I Paid out to day to Rudy & Nunn $5= Dallam & Soaper $11= Expenses &c $2=

29th I started this morning to the diamond Island Bend in company with Mitchell & Steve Martin but we could not cross a Slough without swiming so we turned back we bought 12 head of Cattle from

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April 29th 1865

Mr John Eakins for $184 and drove them to Mitchells in the evening the day has been cool for the season

30th Sunday to day brings me to the close of the month when I awoke this morning it was raining and the day has been cold damp and drizly I was at Church this morning Elder Hart preached I was also at singing this evening

this month has been an eventful one in the pages of American history the great rebellion which has withstood all the Military power of the government for four years has apparently received its death Blow Richmond its capital has fallen Lees army surrendered and Johnstons cut off from its retreat to the compelled to follow Lees example

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May 1st 1865

Went to Henderson to day to a government sale of Old Horse I purchased one old mare at $76 and traded her for a Yoke of Oxen in the evening Horses sold verry high at this sale myself & Mitchell delivered to C Sechtie 10 head of sheep at $8 per head

2nd Went to Union Co in company with Mitchell and McKinney we drove 11 head of sheep from Dennis O Malahe) home I commence Planting corn this evening

3d I finished planting My Orchard near the Methodist Church this morning and rolled logs untill late in the evening When I went with B F Martin to Union Co after Some Guerrillas who had taken three of his horses out of the plough and rode them off taking a negro boy with them we followed them to Uniontown or near there where we met the Boy coming back with the Horses I was in Hopes that the county was rid of these pests and outlaws but it appears we will never get clear of them

4th I was shearing sheep at Mitchells to day

5th Shearing sheep again to day we managed to get through with this Job by hard work

I Received from James Green $100 on order of D Asken also fifty dollars for G Mitchell I also received from R Utley $185 for a Yoke of Oxen I sold him

6th Went to Henderson to day Paid G Mitchell $130 one half for the sheep (54 head) bought from Milan Hancock this makes us even with all sheep apt except $53= due on sheep purchased by Hoskins and one half of $45= due from me on the (O Mala) sheep

6th Went to Henderson to day everything seems unchanged in that Soldier cursed little town Notwithstanding they say the war is over they still continue to recruit negro soldiers and decoy from their homes the negro women and children at the rate they have been going in the last few weeks there will soon be none left Bought to day of Dallam & Livers 1 Pair of Shoes $3 Expenses &c 2.50

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May 7th 1863

Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Fallan preached also in the evening this has been a warm growing day

8th I went to a trial of forcible Entry & Detainer Between Henry Higgins & W S Crenshaw the land in dispute was the tract sold to Crenshaw by Sugg and the Heirs of My Farthers Estate there was no Jury and the trial was set for to morrow

9th I was at the trial again to day and the Jury decided Crenshaw guilty of the Forcible Entry & it rained again this evening

10th It Rained a Portion of the Night and has rained all day and it still continues to rain to night during the last three days there has an immense quantity of rain fallen and if it was to stop now it would take the ground a week to get dry enough to Plough

11th The ground is too wet to do anything on the farm and I have been getting some sills for a Porch

12th Riding around to day doing nothing in particular

13th Went to Henderson to day in Company with Mitchell we sold Woodruff $136 worth of Wool I received on this amount $68 I Paid $55 or my one third of Amt due John J Smiths Adm for Sheep bought by Myself Mitchell & McKinney Bought to day of Holloway & co Bill of Good $13.40 of Dixon $6.75 other Items & Expences $2 of Rudy & Nunn $5 this was a pleasant day

14th Sunday I was at Church this Morning Elder Colgan Preached at the Cypress Church also in the evening when ~~Elder~~ McDaniels preached at the methodist church

15th I have been running off corn ground to day

16th Planting corn &c

17th I was planting corn again to day we had another heavy rain to night and the Prospect now looks anything but cheering for the farmer it has been too wet to plough nearly all Spring

18th I was at work about the farm to day Helped A W Haskins roll logs in the evening I witnessed this evening a joyfull reunion of Father & Son sister & Brother who had been separated by this cruel war for four years

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May 19th 1865

Doing nothing in Particular as it was too wet to plough to day

20th Went to Henderson to day I attended the County convention &c Expenses &c $5 D L Hancock $5 Paul McKinney $15 A W Haskins $10

21st Sunday I was at church to day Elder Thurman Preached

22nd I was planting corn to day

23rd At work about the Farm My man Sam concluded to get his freedom from the future ills of life by leaving home and joining the Negro troops at Henderson he had ever been a faithfull servant and I sustained a great loss by his leaving

24th I was running off Tobacco ground to day my Prospect for a tobacco crop would be a fair one if I could get hands to work it

25th Went to Henderson to day in company with L E Hancock bought for J A Hoskins 55cts worth Paper &c Expenses &c $3 we had a fine rain this morning and

26 set out my first tobacco this morning

27th Running off Tobacco ground setting out tobacco &c to day

28 I went to Henderson again to day in search of a negro woman but did not succeed in getting one I was in the fair grounds for the first time since the Negroes have been camped there and if this is a sample of the various Negroe recruiting offices in this and other states It is but a Poor Comment on a wise goverment and I do not think she will realize much profit from them Lazy Filthy Negro Women enticed from their homes of Plenty by the Idea of freedom and no work to do

The Farmers deprived of their hands cannot make a half crop of anything yet must Pay taxes to support these swarms of Lazy Negroes

29th Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Crow preached

30th Went to Henderson to day in company with G Mitchell I succeeded in getting a woman to day Expenses &c $10

31st To day Brings me to the close of the month this has been a pleast month but most too wet for the farmer

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June 1st 1863

I have been Ploughing Corn to day this was a pleasant day for the commencement of the Month

2 At work about the farm to day &c

3d Went to Henderson in company with W H McKinney I Paid Livers &co $14.85 Loaned McKinney $10.50 Paid Meyer & son $5.20 Dixon $2.30 Sol S Sizemore $104.85 amt of note I gave B W Taylor &co Munn & Rudy $2.25 Expenses &c $3 Paid J A Hoskins $14.30 Loaned G Mitchell $100

4th Sunday I was at Church to day Elder Fallan Preached

5th At work about the farm &c

6th Doing nothing in Particular

7th do do do do

8th I went to G Greens in the Walnut Bottom to day and from there to Mt Vernon this was the first time I have been in the place for four years

9th We had a light shower of rain last night but hardly enough to wet the ground I set out some tobacco this morning but fear it will all die

10th At work about the farm in the morning and started to drive our sheep to the river in the evening but the boat left us and we had to abandon the trip

11th Sunday I was at church to day Elder Colgan Preached this was a verry warm day

12th Went to Henderson in company with Phil T Allin I Bought of Holloway &co $4.80 of Livers &co $5.10 Other Items & expenses $5

13th When I awoke this morning the rain was falling and the ground was in fine condition for setting out tobacco and I have been busy all day with all hands

14th I have been setting out tobacco again to day

15 I Planted a late piece of corn to day

16th I was at work about the farm to day

17th This has been a verry warm day I have been about the house endeavoring to keep cool

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June 18th 1865

Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Chapman Preached I went over to Uncle Steves this evening to see Ann Cannon she seems fast sinking under the Accumulation of Diseases to which she has been subject for the last three years Poor Girl hers has indeed been a hard fate in the prime of life stricken down with disease confined to her bed for the whole time it seems that death to her would be a relief

19th Went to Henderson to day in company with Bennett Hopkins There was great rejoicing in the city to day as the Negro Soldiers so long the pest of the place left this morning and I sincerely hope that from this time forward we will be bothered with them no more Paid Munn & Rudy $137= Amt of note and Att up to this date Expenses &c $5=

20th At work about the farm &c finished setting out tobacco this evening one time

21st Went to Henderson to day with Adelia Paid Holloway Bill of goods $37 40/ M L Hicks & Co $3 45/ Other Items &c $10= This was a warm day

22nd Went in company with Mitchell to Anderson after some cows we bought of him we Bought 4 head for $90

23d At work about the farm &c

24th I was at work in tobacco this morning and hauling Clover hay in the evening this was a verry warm day

25 Sunday I was at church this morning Elder Crow Preached we had a fine shower of rain this evening

26th Doing Nothing in Particular

27th Was Ploughing Tobacco to day

28th do do do

29th Went to Henderson to day this was a warm day expenses &c $5=

30th To day ends the month of June it has been raining lightly nearly all day I finished replanting Tobacco this morning &c

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July 1st 1865

I have been sick all day and have spent the day about the house everything looks cheering for the farmer at the begining of this month we have had fine rains during the month of June and crops look unusually well there is a scarcity of hands to cultivate the growing crop is the only drawback the farmer has to contend with but under the existing state of we will have to make smaller crops

2nd I have been too unwell to do anything to day but stay about the house

3d Sunday I have been confined to my bed all day I have been suffering with sore throat and my neck has been very painful and considerably swollen from some cause ~~or other~~ I expect it is caused by my throat

4th This is the Aniversary of our national Independence a day we have been taught to look forward to and celebrate with pride and pleasure but the scenes that have been enacted in this county during the last few years have somewhat dampened our National Enthusiasem the priceless boon won for us by our Fore Fathers has been snatched from us and Liberty is but a mockery and a by word

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July 5th 1865

This has been a verry warm day I have been too unwell to be about much

6th I was unwell again to day

7th Our neighborhood was visited by the hand of death again to day Miss Jenny Allin a young lady in the prime of life was summoned before the Bar of god reminding us forcibly that life is uncertain but death is sure but a few days ago there was not one in this neighborhood who seemed more likely to live than Jenny Allin but now she lies sleeping in the cold embrace of death whilst her spirit is in the hands of a just god Oh what a warning this should be to both old and young in this neighborhood

8th I went to Henderson to day in company with Sam Hopkins after a coffin for Jenny Allin came home in the evening in company with P H Allin and went to the funeral but we were too late to hear the sermon

9th Sunday I was at Church to day Elder Colgan preached we had rain again to day

10th At work about the Farm to day

11th Went to Henderson in company with S L Cooper Expenses &c $10

12th Ploughing tobacco to day

13th At work about the farm

14th Went to Henderson to day Mitchell and Ingram drove to Sixty 4 Head of Cattle that weighed 28 00 lbs which sat 4cts Per Pound amounted to $112

15th I went to Lane & Co Mill this morning bought 2 Bushels meal $2= I was squirrel hunting with James Regan in the evening

16th This has been a rainy Sunday morning I went out to Thos Smiths to see if we could not find out the whereabouts of some money he had stolen from him by forcing a negro woman to tell who had stolen it but we did not succeed this was a verry unpleasant way of spending the sabbath

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July 16th 1865

I have been ~~Raising~~ Topping Tobacco to day in the field next the Methodist Church I also replanted a Portion of my Tobacco this morning

18th Toping Tobacco again to day &c

19th This has been a rainy disagreeable day I went in company with G Mitchele to the diamond Island Bend we took dinner at P H Allins came home in the evening &c

20th I was at a Pic Nic in the walnut Bottom to day there was a large crowd in attendance and Plenty to eat &c

21st Went to Henderson to day we sold (Sixty) 3 head of Cattle and 4 Calves at 4¢ Gross the lot Brought $123=

This was a verry warm day

22nd I drove some Cattle to Ben Williams this morning to Pasture and Toped Tobacco awhile when I came home this has been a verry wet week as the ground has been too wet to Plough the most of the time and it is only dry enough now on verry high ground

23d Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Crow Preached this was a warm day

24th I was Toping Tobacco to day it Rained again this evening

25 Went to Mt Vernon in company with G Mitch &c I Borrowed from W Pickers $500 we had rain again to day Expenses &c $3=

26th I went to Henderson to day in Company with Mrs Virginia Williams Expenses &c $5-50 Last night was one that will long be remembered by Timid People as one of the most terrific thunder Storms Passed over this section that was ever known

~~27th Went with Mitchele to Henderson after some cattle to day &c~~

28th I went to E D Powells this Evening after some lumber we had another heavy rain this evening which flooded everything it seemed that the verry windows of Heaven were opened as the rain came down in torrents

29th I went with Mitchele to Hendersons after some cattle to day we had another heavy rain this evening I Paid John Heancock $32 00 Ballance on note and herds bought of him

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July 29th 1865

This has been the first Clear day for a long time and I am in hopes that it will not rain to day. I have not been able to do much in my crop for two weeks on account of the rains and although my crop is materially damaged if we could have dry weather I would be in much better spirits I drove 3 Steers to B Williams Pasture this morning

I do not remember to have ever seen as much rain at this season of the year before all the low ground tobacco is either drowned out or materially damaged while the high grounds is either firing or not growing as it should do

30th Sunday This is a beautiful Sabbath the rain clouds have passed off and all the ground is very wet it is cheering to the to see a bright shineing morning there were church to day as this was the 3rd Sunday I was at the Burrial of a young Lady this evening met her death accidentally at the Hands of [illegible] Long in the Walnut Bottom she was his step daughter her death was caused by the accidental discharge of a shot gun

31st About home to day doing Nothing in Particular To day ends the month of July this has been a very wet month throughout as the ground has been too wet to Plough the most of the time Crops of Corn are unusually fine but allmost everything else has been injured by the rains much of the Wheat oats & hay has been ruined in the shock as there has been no times in which to save it in a good condition The Tobacco crop has been seriously damaged the greater portion of the crop on the low grounds has been entirely ruined while the whole crop has been Materially damaged the Month has been unusually warm the rains only seeming to cook the air whilst raining for the sun would come out as hot as ever as soon as the rain was over

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August 1st 1865

This is a verry warm day for the begining of the month I was hunting cattle in the morning and went to Mitchells in the evening 2nd I Helped to drive some cattle to Mitchells this Morning &c.

3d I went to a Sale at A J Crawfords to day ~~me~~ Bought 12 head of sheep and 2 Cows for $63 — It rained again this evening

4th Went to Henderson to day in Company with Mitchell I Heard Mr Ritter the Democratic Candidate for Congress speak at the Presbyterian Church he mad a plain but able defence [illegible] position of his party there was another [illegible] rain this evening I ~~was~~ [illegible] was considerably alarmed during last [illegible] about my boy as he was verry sick [illegible] the night I have spent the day at [illegible] endeavoring to keep him in the house, [illegible] Sunday I was at Church this Morning [illegible] Elder Fallan Preached &c

[illegible] Went to the Election in the evening at [illegible] Landing the Polls were again guarded by [illegible] Soldiers (a fit Commentary on a republican Government) [illegible] notwithstanding the threats ~~and~~ intimidation [illegible] Soldiers I think this county has gone [illegible] Democratic

[illegible] I went to Henderson to day in company with A W Haskins there was considerable talk on the streets over the Election but so far as heard from everythin had passed of quietly I Paid George R Rankin $71.75 amt of note and [illegible] he held against me Holloway & Hopkins $60 Mrs Jenkins $11 Expenses &c $5

9th At work on house hauling lumber &c to day

10th It is raining again this morning with a good prospect for a rainy day

11th Doing nothing in Particular

12th At work on house in the morning went to Church in the evening Elder Colgan Preached

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Aug 13th 1865

was a young Lady Miss Davis Baptized
ny pond this morning I was also at Church
er Colgan preached
I was assisting to fix for a supper to
ome off at the Methodist Church to morrow
I was at work about the Church this morning
and at the supper in the evening there was
a large crowd present and plenty to eat &c
16th Doing nothing in particular
17th Went to R M Allins in company
with G Mitchell after some Cattle but
we did not succeed in getting them
18th At work on house to day
19th do do do
20th Sunday I went to the Methodist Church
this morning to hear a fellow Preach who said
he had been a chaplain in the Rebel army
but if all the Chaplains preach no better
sermons than this man I think they were
a disadvantage to the Cause of Religion
in the army
21st I went in Company with Mitchell
to James Clays after a Steer this morning
&c
22nd Went to R M Allins after Cattle again to
day but we came back as we went
23d I was at work on house to day &c we had a Portion
of a Show company to stop with us at night Fat Girls
Giants Snakes &c Comprised this Portion of the
grand Humbug
24th I went to Henderson to day to the Big
show there was the largest crowd in the city I
have ever seen on similar occasions and I should
judge there were at least 3000 persons under the
Canvass I stood around in the the densely pack
throng endeavoring to see the show untill overcome
by the heat and stench I would get out in
the open air for a breathing spell but curiosity
would soon lead me back in the throng again
in this way I spent two or three miserable
hours so much for the show

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Aug 25th 1865

I have felt so unwell from the effect of
show yesterday that I have been unable to a
to day I went with Adelia in the morning to
Hoskins this Afflicted Family had lost another
Miss Sallie Hoskins who had been lingering with cons
for two years Past died the night before it seems
too true that in the Midst of life's gay scenes we
are also in the Midst of Death.

26th I was at the Funeral and Burrial of Sallie
Hoskins this morning the Funeral Sermon was
Preached by Elder Crow I could but think
this morning as I stood and gazed upon that
once lovely but now wasted form sleeping calmly
in death and heard the agonizeing cry of that
aged Mother saw the tears rolling down the cheeks
of sister and Brothers that it was wrong to weep
for one like her years of wasting disease had
been her lot in this life but now she was
free from all this her spirrit happy with him
in whom she had trusted for she had followed
the infunction remember thy creator in the days
of thy youth and allthough we stood and
gazed for the last time on her cold inanimate
form that happy spirrit will return and claim
this senseless clod and live forever with its
saviour and god

27th Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder
Crow preached Brother Fallan preached in the evening

28th Went to Henderson to day in company with
Mc Kinney this was County Court day and
there was a good many People in town
Expenses &c to day $10

29th At work on house this morning and went
to Andersons in company with Mitchell in
the evening

30th At work on house again to day

31st Went to Henderson in company with Sam
Hopkins I Bought of Barnard one Stove &c $29 = other
Items Expenses &c $10 = with this ends the month
of August the month taking it all together has
not been a favorable one for the farmer

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Sept 1st 1865

I will begin the Month of September with brighter Prospects than for several weeks past August left us yesterday with a fine rain which will greatly relieve the Farmer the Past two weeks drouth has begun to tell on the crops fearfully Tobacco had stoped growing and late corn was suning but this morning everything looks bright and cheerfull this rain insures to the Farmer the crop he has on hand and he can now cease his croaking we are often tempted to repine and murmur at the weather forgetting that we have the promise that gods watchfull care is over us and in him we should put our trust knowing that he controls the rains and will withhold or send them at his own good pleasure

2nd I have been about home to day doing nothing in particular

3rd Sunday This is a pleasant sabbath morning I have been walking over my little farm this morning and I could but feel I have very cause to be thankfull to the donor of all that is Perfect and good for as I look around me I see a prospect for an abundant crop I see on every hand the evidence of plenty and while I like others have been disposed to murmur at the rains or the drouth everything through the working of an overruling providence has been for the best I went to Corydon to Church to day in company with B F Maglish Elder Dimmitt Preached on the Union of Churches &c fully demonstrating the fact that if everybody would join this peculiar denomination we would all at least be in the same church

4th At work about the Farm &c to day

5th Went in company with Mr Mitchell to George McClures this morning to buy some cattle but we did not buy any

6th Went to Henderson to day in search of a cook I succeeded in getting a woman but whether she can cook or not remains to be seen

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September 7th 1865

It is raining again this morning with a good prospect for a rainy day although it did not rain all day it came very near it as it rained nearly all the morning and part of the evening

8th I was at work in tobacco to day

9th I was at work in tobacco in the Morning went to Church Meeting in the evening Elder Colgan preached the weather has been unusually warm for the season during the whole of this week

10th Sunday I was at Church this morning also in the evening Elder Colgan preached

11th Commenced cutting Tobacco this evening the Portion of my crop that I was cutting to day was verry fine tobacco considering the season

12th Hilling and housing Tobacco again to day

13th Do Do do do I filled one Barn this evening this day been one of the Hottest days I ever felt in Sept as the Thermometer was 92° in the shade

14th Went to a Sale at John Davis's in Union to day

15th At work in Tobacco &c

16th Went to Henderson in company with Sam Hopkins I Received from S Mitchell $100 Items Expenses &c $105

17th I was at Church to day Elder Thurman preached and went with Mitchell B Andersons in the evening

18th At work in tobacco &c

19th I have been firing a barn of tobacco to day

20th do do do

21st Cutting tobacco to day &c

22nd Cutting and Housing Tobacco again to day

23d Went to Henderson to day in company with Thos Smith Expenses &c. $5

24th Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Hallan Preached

25th Cutting & Housing Tobacco to day

26th do do do we had another heavy rain this evening

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Sept 27th 1865

I Cut Tobacco this evening but it looks verry much like rain again ~~This morning~~
28th Filled my Barn in the Orchard to day
29th Commenced Cutting my Tobacco near Mr Marshalls this evening
30th Went to a sale at Mr Myricks in the Diamond Island Bend to day I bought two Mowing Sythes 1 Pair of saddle Bags ~~and~~ Two Gate Hinges 1 Chissel &c Amt to $8 for which I Paid the Cash
To day ends the month of September the month has been unusually wet and hot making it verry difficult to cut Tobacco and at the close of the month I have about 8 acres out in the Patch but it is so warm I do not think there will be frost for some time yet

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October 1st 1865

Sunday I spent the day at Thos Smiths this has been a pleasant day for the begining of the month

2nd Cutting and Housing Tobacco

3d " do do do

4th do do do

5th I Rode through the Diamond Island bend to day in search of some cattle took dinner at Mrs Clays I was taken very sick coming home in the evening

6th I have been confined to my Bed all day my throat has been very sore and I have had high fever all day

7th I have been too unwell to be about much to day although I have felt much better than on yesterday I rode up to the point in the evening This has been a most Beautiful week for the begining of the month I Finished cutting & housing tobacco this week but I had to cut a portion of my crop green on account of the speck as it would have entirely ruined before it would have ripened there was slight frosts one or two mornings this week but not enough to do any damage

8th Sunday I was truly grateful this Beautiful Oct Morning to the Giver of every good and perfect gift not only for my own feelings of better health but for such beautiful weather and such abundant prospects of everything around us if any people on earth have true cause to be grateful I think the people of this section of the country have we have suffered but verry little from the effects of the cruel war which has devastated a great Portion of our country and were it not for the loss of labor the people are generally in better circumstances than before the war.

I was about home all day as there was no preaching

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Oct 9th 1865

I was Threshing my wheat to day &c
10th I finished my wheat to day I only made about 40 bushels this year and that not very good
11th I was fixing Tobacco &c to day
12th Went to the Walnut bend to look for some cattle I Bought an ox of William Crowder for $25 &c
13th Went in company with Gab Lilly Jr to W Barretts to look for some cattle
14th We that is myself & Mitchell sold Posey & Sheffer 30 head of Cattle which we drove to Henderson and weighed to day the Lot weighed 30173 lbs Amt to $1056= Expenses &c to day $5=
15th Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Fallan preached &c
16 I sowed some wheat this morning &c
17th This has been a wet disagreeable day about home cattle day I went to church at night in company with a Baptist Preacher by the name of Holsman but it was so wet and disagreeable that there was no preaching
18th This has been another wet day doing nothing in particular
19th Went to Henderson to day I paid Cheaney $16 85 for 22 yds Jeans Expenses &c $2=
20th Went to the diamond Island Bend a cow Hunting to day but did not get but two
21st I went to William & John Vickers to day This has been a beautiful fall day
22nd Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Crow preached also at night when Elder Fallan preached
23d I was at Church again this morning Elder Crow preached
24th Went to Henderson to day in company with Mitchell Expenses &c. $2 50
25 I Helped to divide our sheep at Mitchells we sold Elisha Buckman 93 head at $4 per head I received of this Sale $350 one

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Nov 20th 1865

About home to day doing nothing in particular went to Church at night Elder Dimmit of the Reform Church preached
21st Went to Henderson in company with G Mitchell Expenses &c $1.20 Paid $8.25 for apple
22nd Doing nothing in Jarticular went to Church at night Elder Demmit preached
23d Went to the Diamond Island bend a cow hunting with R McAllin to day went to Church again at night Elder Dimit preached
24th Went in company with G Mitchell to G G Eakins this morning and from there a cattle Hunting generally I set out this evening 25 Apple trees and 4 Pear trees. that I got from the St Clair Nursery I set out 5 Gradens Blush in the first Row next Trees which I got from the Rochester Nursery 3 years ago that is 4 in the first Row and one at the Lower end of the 2nd Row in the Second Row I planted 3 Early Harvest in the Third Row 2 Early Harvest at the End next the House and 2 Autumn Pearmain at the Lower end in 4th Row 3 Summer pearmain And 1 Seaw

23th Went to Henderson to day in company with G Mitchell Received from Farmers Bank of Ky $650.40/100 on note of Posey & Shaffer I Paid on Execution against me in favor of Hickersons Administrator $240.37/100 Paid G G Eakins for two steers $30= Expenses &c $5= I also Paid G Mitchell $157= Loaned P Catta $6=
26th Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Crow preached also at night when Elder Dimmit preached
27th I was trying to drive some Cattle from Keepers this Morning that is with Mitchell and James Hoskins we managed after a hard days work to get 1 steer to Mitchells

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Nov 1st 1865

This has been a wet disagreeable day I went to a sale at Gabe Greens in the Walnut Bottom We Bought 2 Mules for $150 there was but little sold but everything brought fair prices

2nd Doing nothing in particular

3d Went to Henderson to day in company with Thos Smith Items Expenses &c $5

4th I Helped to put Glass in the Windows and Lamps in the Cypress Church this morning and went to Harbert Powells in the evening we had the first hard frost of the season last night and to day has been verry cool

5th Sunday A Cool day I was at Church in the Morning Elder Colgan preached also at night when Mr Colgan preached again

6 I was at Church again to day but the preacher was taken sick and there was no preaching Elder Fallan preache

7th Went to Henderson to day in company with Mitchell I paid my revenue Tax that is I paid $1 on my watch & $10 for License to trade in Cattle &c this was a pleasant day Expenses &c $2 I was at church at night Elder Lacy preached

8th I was at Church again to day Elder Lacy preached also at night

9th I was at Church this morning also at night

10th I was in the woods this morning after a load of Staves also at preaching Elder Lacy Preached

11th Went to Henderson to day with a load of staves Sold to Burbank at $40 P. M. Expenses &c $5 I was at church again at night Elder Lacy Preached the Meeting appears to grow in interest the Christian portion of the community seem much revived and there were a number of mourners at the Anxious seat to night god knows we need a revival at this place and it done my heart good to see the Manifestations to night

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Nov 12th 1865

Sunday This has been a beautiful sabbath day one of those fall days which we all appreciate and love It was at church this morning Elder Lacy preached also at night there was a deep and growing interest manifested during the services this day & night And I trust to god that this meeting will yet be the means of bringing many souls to god

13th I was at church again also at night

14th 15th 16th 17th I have been attending Church day and night During the last four days and although I may loose that time from my other work I trust I have been spending it in a good cause Elder Lacy has been assisted by Elder Hopewell during the last three days and the meeting to me has been both profitable and interesting

18th There was no preaching to day and I have been about home went to Church again at night Elder Lacy preached

19th I was at the Baptizeing at Longs Landing this Morning Elder Lacy Immersed 6 white and 3 Black Persons in the Ohio River this to me is allways an interesting scene and I felt truly solem this morning when I saw these Persons dedicate themselves to their lord and Savour in Baptism Knowing as I do the snares and temptations that must befall them in this life yet feeling sure if supported by the religion of Jesus that he will be a present help in every time of need

took dinner at James Crenshaws and went to Church again at night Elder Lacy preached his farewell sermon and to night closed the meeting

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Nov 20th 1865

About home to day doing nothing in particular went to Church at night Elder Dimmit of the Reform Church preached
21st Went to Henderson in company with G Mitchell Expenses &c $1.20 Paid $8.25 for apple
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Nov 28th 1865

I Have been getting Locust Posts for the
Grave Yard at the Methodist Church to day
this had been a cool November day
29th Getting Posts again to day with all
hands bound to Church at night Elder Dimit
preached
30th To day Ends the month of November
I was getting post until Twelve o'clock
and Hog Hunting in the evening
This has been one of the most Pleasant months
I have ever seen Warm and Dry suitable
for any Kind of work that a Farmer has to do
I have not accomplished much on the farm
as I have but few hands to do any thing
with I have gathered my Corn and during the
coming month will have time to prepare for
old Winter

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December 1st 1865

This is a Beautifull day for the commencement of Old Winter I went with Mitchell to Andersons this morning we took dinner at Jack Allins &c I was at Church again at Night Elder Dimmit Preached to night ended the Long series of Meetings Held by the Methodist Baptists and Campellites in all there has been some 30 additions to the diferent Churches the meetings lasted six weeks

2nd Went to Henderson to day we drove up 4 Head of Cattle which Mitchell had traded for a Horse the Cattle brought us $114 — Myself & Mitchell Borrowed from the Banking House of Green & Marshall $500 Less $10 Int for two Months from date of this Amt I received $270 — that is $185 — in money and $85 that we owed T S Knight Borrowed money I Paid James A Hoskins in Money $5 — and he made an Apt with Leslie & Fenn, of $33 50. Expenses &c $3 —

3d Sunday This has been another beautifull day I was at church in the morning Elder Fallan preached

4th This morning when I awoke it was raining and it has rained nearly all day I have been striping tobacco

5th Another wet day striped tobacco again to day

6th Striping Tobacco again to day &c

7th Striped tobacco untill twelve o clock this morning &c

8th I Helped Mitchell to drive 5 Head of Beef Cattle to Henderson to day we sold to Sixty at 4 cts per lb Gross the 5 Head weighed 5000 lbs Amt to $200 — of this Amount I was entitled to $134 50/100 Mitchell to $68 50/100 the Net Profits on this lot of Cattle was $67 — I received $180 — Expenses &c $3 —

9th About Home in the morning I was at church meeting in the evening also at the Burrial of John Latta who died Ealy this morning from congestion again were we forcebly reminded of the warning

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December 9th 1865

prepare to meet thy god a few days ago this young man bid as fair to live as any one and he expect thought but little of dieing and I fear made no preperation to meet his god oh what a fearfull thing is death to all but the Christian
10th Sunday I was at Church this morning but there was no preaching
11th I went on the Diamond Island bend hunting Cattle with R McAllin I succeeded I think in finding all of our Cattle this was the luckiest trip I have made in that bend
12th Myself Mitchell & R McAllin drove our Cattle from the Diamond Island Bend to day &
13th this is a very cold morning and the day would have passed very well for a winter one I have been about home trying to keep warm
14th went to Jas McPowells Sale to day everything sold brought fair prices I thought I did not make any purchases as I could see no Margin for a profit this was another cold day
15th I started for Henderson this morning but did no go any farther than Mitchells came home and helped to burry Kate Catts in the evening this was another sudden death in our midst
16th went to Henderson to day I gave Mitchell a Check on Farmers Bank for $123 $90 of this Amt was to pay for Horse Bought by (M) we also gave a note to a Mr Way for $125 due March 1st 1866 for a Bay Horse we Bought Two Horses on the Street for $124 I Paid $50 (M) Paid $15 and we Borrowed from J Rouse $60 which I am to pay on Wednesday next Expenses $2 I paid Taxes Amt to $29 40/100
17th Sunday I was at Church to day Elder Hall preached this has been the most pleasant days since Wednesday as it has thawed a little in sunny places

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Dec 18th 1865

We Drove to Henderson to day to Posey & Sheffer 24 Head of Cattle they weighed 21775 lbs which at 4cts per pound amounted to $871 we deducted $15 from this amount on account of some small Cattle this left $856 — the cost of this lot of " was $589.50 leaving a net profit of $266.50 in this sale I am entitled to $609.75 Mitchell to $248.25 that is one half the profits and $75 for two steers bot of J B Rankin & $40 one Half of cattle bot of R M Allin and one half of Cow bot of T S Knight Expenses &c $6 —

19th This has been a wet disagreeable day I have been about home all day

20th This has certainly been one of the worst days I have ever seen as it has rained hailed and snowed all day it has rained enough in the last 48 hours to flood the whole country

21st This has been a verry cold day and I have been endeavoring to keep warm in the best way possible

22nd We drove to C Sixty 3 Cows that weighed 2250 lbs which at 4cts per lb Gross amounted to $90 we sold Posey & Sheffer 1 Steer that weighed 1375 lbs Amt to $55 This Amt is to be paid by February 1st 66 We received from Posey & Sheffer $600 on the lot of Cattle delivered Dec 18th and their Note for The Ballance Feb 1st 1866 of the cash Amts received to day (that is $98 from Sixty and $600 from Posey & Sheffer) Mitchell Received ~~$200~~ $198 I received $508 Out of the ~~Two Hundred & Two dollars~~ $198 received by Mitchell he Paid $70 on Horses bought in Henderson December 16th which Horses I sold to Negroes John & Jeff for $180 which will entitle Mitchell to $28 profits on this sale The Profits on the cows sold Sixty was $32 on Steer sold Posey & Sheffer $15 of this sale Mitchell is entitled to $41 that is one Half profits & $17.50 Ballance due on cattle bought of B F Martin ~~that is 3 head at $115~~ I Paid to day for Shoeing Hors $2.50 other Items & Expenses $5 —

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December 23d 1865

This has been rather a gloomy day I have been about home doing nothing in particular 24th I was at church this morning Elder Crow preached this has been a cloudy but pleasant day

25th Christmas day I was awakened this morning by the firing of guns Crackers &c and as a general thing everybody seemed to enjoy themselves during the day I have been too unwell myself to enjoy anything much I attended a meeting at the Church called for the purpose of endeavoring to regulate our changed system of labor &c but there was nothing accomplished Doct Martin Lan Cooper Thos Smith & Myself met and settled up an old Business which grew out of the sale of the Mill place and I am owing W L Cooper $19.20/100 Less 3 lbs of Rolls which we forgot in settlement

26th I have been very unwell all day and have remained about the House we had another heavy rain this evening and it is raining steadily to night I would not be surprised if there was a tremendous overflow in the river Bottoms

27th I settled with J Mitchell this morning and we settled up all of the cattle trades during the year up to date also the profits on Mule sold Phill Horses sold Jeff & Cohn that is $4.92 in money $98= Due on Horses sold M Hancock and $36.00/100 one half of Profits on Horses named above and I am entitled to all the money now on hand and the Ballance due from Posey & Shelton on Cattle also $80= due from John R Wilson on Horse the rest of the Horse trades remain to be settled hereafter with the Exception of the Mule bought of Hughes (which got Killed) Mitchell owes me $33 on this mule There remains on hand 2 of the Canadian Ponies an old Horse got of Thos Quinn and another Horse Bought of Way that is due March 1st 1866 and five Hand notes on Wm Hopkins for $92= J D Smith for $70= J Vail & J Green $160 due March 1st 1867 and several other small notes too numerous to mention and besides these there

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Dec 27th

is a note on S D Williams for $90 on sheep and one for $125 loaned money Also a note on Buckman for sheep for $157 = this includes all the trading in Horses Sheep & Cattle up to this date
28th I was at a dining at Mr McKinneys to day, but was too unwell to enjoy myself as I could have done under other circumstances
29th I have been sick all day and have remained about the House
30th Sick again to day and have been about the this has been one dismal Christmas week to me as I have been sick all the time and this evening I feel so much worse that I sent for a Doctor doing last what I suppose I ought to have done at first This has been a pleasant day and oh I have so longed to be able to be out walking around attending to my business &c
31st Sunday This is a beautiful morning for the last one of the year 66 and as this is the last day of the year I will take a retrospective view of its eventful course for this has been the most eventfull year in the History of the American Republic the year opened Under the Dark Cloud of war every where from Maine to the ~~Gulf of~~ Mexico could be seen traces of this great Scourg according to the recent reports of the Secretary of war and Lt General Grant there was at the Beginning of the year nearly a Million and a half of men in the Union Army while opposed to this mighty array of men there was about Two Hundred thousand Confederates this great disparity of men left the results so long Doubtfull now certain and on the 9th of April General Lee surrendered the Army of Virginia to General Grant which was soon followed by the Surrender of all the remaining Confederate Forces thus ended one of the greatest struggles of History and the South though compelled to accept a humiliating Peace can ever look back over the last four years struggle with Pride as the record will show deeds of Heroism and Bravery in

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December 31st 1865

The cause of freedom against a superior foe unequalled in the annals of the worlds history with the end of the Rebellion virtually terminated the institution of Slavery Lincolns Proclamation freeing the Slaves in the Insurrectionary States was forced upon the Southern States in the surrender and they were forced in the formation of their state Governments to accept the Constitutional Amendment thus not only abolishing slavery in the south but forcing the Amendment upon this State

I had the greatest respect for the Southern People but when I find they are ready apparently to do anything they are told to do by their Northern Masters I have almost lost Confidence in them

Recently Lord Stewards Proclimation has announced that the requisite number of States have ratified the Constitutional Amendment and it is now a part and Parcel of that Famous Instrument known as the Constitution of the United States

All the Negroes in this State I suppose are now enjoying the great Social and moral benefits known only to freemen

But enough of this Subject as all these changes will either be beneficial or else will ruin the prospects of the Farmer for years to come and I am of the Opinion that the Latter will be the case for I do not think we will be able to control the Free negroes for years if ever but we have to meet it and do the best we can under circumstances

The Tobacco Market at the begining of the year opened verry high and those who sold early realized fine prices but with the close of the war and the Fall of Exchange tobacco went down to low figures I was lucky enough though to sell early and I got more for my tobacco than I ever sold for before

This has been a verry wet year throughout especially in the Spring & Summer and a great quantity of Tobacco was drowned out entirely while the whole crop was materially injured this with the loss of labor in the Country I think will make tobacco

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Dec 31st 1865

high that is the present crop I did not raise much of a crop this year and unless I get a good price will not make enough to pay expenses

I received from all sources during the past year about $4000 — of this Amount my Tobacco crop of Last year Brought me $3000 and the ballance is received for Cattle Horses &c that I sold during the year and Cash Cadeo made in the Partnership business with Garett Mitchell Besides the above I have outstanding debts &c due now and by the 1st day of March Amounting to about $1500 to meet an outstanding Liability of about $2000 so notwithstanding I have received more money during this year than any previous one since I have been farming I have found more places to put it and I Believe if I wind up now I will be in debt everything has been unusually high and I have paid the most of my hire in advance this year which has added considerably to my expenses and will lessen them correspondingly next

as I said in the commencement of this Piece this year has been an eventfull one in our History our changes have been radical ones and the future alone can show how they will affect us as a people and a nation one thing I fear we have been too neglectful of our Christian duties and we are at this time allmost a nation of Idolaters religion is at a low ebb and Fanaticism rules the land God alone can make us what we once were and if we continue to worship Idols it will never be done

I will now bring my writings for the year to a close and I feel thankfull that all is as well with me as it is as I have Plenty of everything around me and myself & Family have been blessed with a reasonable share of Health and I can say this evening that I am at Peace with all Mankind and I trust to god that I will allways remain so and that I can ever say the Lord is mine and I am his Blessed be the name of the Lord

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January 1st 1866

New Years day has been rather a gloomy one and this evening looks verry much like snow I have been too unwell to leave the House therefore I know but little of what is passing in the Outside world

2nd I have been sick again to day and have been forced to stay about the House

3d I Finished Killing my Hogs to day this has been a pleasant day but I have been too unwell to enjoy it

4th The wind got around to the north last night and this morning it is Bitter cold I have been trying to thaw my Hogs by the fire &c but it has been a slow Business we managed though to get them cut out after a hard days work

5th Sick again to day I have allmost concluded to remain in the House in the future

6th I Have been too unwell to get about again to day this has been a beautifull day

7th Sunday I have been verry unwell to day this Makes two weeks that I have been sick and although I am not disposed to murmur at the ways of Providence I would be glad to be well so that I could attend to my business again

8th I have been verry unwell all day and consequently have done nothing but lie in bed and set by the fire

9th 10th 11th 12th 13th I have been too sick to be about much as I have been suffering with Chronic Diarrhea although I have not been Confined to my bed much of the time but have too unwell to attend to my Business or venture from home

14th Sunday I was at Church to day Elder Gallan preached &c

15th I was Shuping tobacco to day but it turned off verry windy this evening and Blowed the season out this was the last work I have done since before Christmas

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Jan 16th 1866

Last night was a Stormy night indeed but this morning is clear and Beautiful Jan so far looks more like March than the Middle of winter

17th Doing nothing in Particular as I am still on the Sick List

18 I Helped Phil Kirk work on the Fence around the Grave Yard at the Methodist Church this Morning but was too unwell to do anything in the Evening

19th I have been sick again to day

20th Last night when we went to bed it was too warm to have a fire in the room but before day it was cold enough to Freeze I have been about the House as I was too unwell to get out much

21st Sunday This was a cool raw day I have been too unwell to leave home

22nd Doing Nothing in Particular

23d I went to a Sale at Robert Dixons to day Everything sold unusually high and I think the Seller got all the Bargains

24th I Have been Striping Tobacco to day

25 Striping Tobacco

26th Mother sold off her little effects to day Everything sold brought high prices I bought 10 Sheep at $4.75 1 Stack of hay $20 and some other Little things and in all to about $75

27th Went to W Nunns Sale to day again everything sold verry high I bought 100 Bushels of Corn at 46cts per Bushel and 20 Bushels of Potatoes at $1.37 per Bushel

28th I was at Church this morning but did but did not stay to preaching

29th Went to Henderson in company with G Mitchell this was the first time I have been well enough to go to the city since before Christmas Expenses $8

30th Aboud home to day as yesterdays trip was rather too much for an invalid

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Jan 31st 1866

To day brings us to the close of the Month I have been too unwell during the whole of this month to attend to my business on the farm and with these exceptions I was not able to leave the place but I begin to feel like a well man once more and I hope will soon be able to attend to my business affairs again this has been a very good month for work on the farm and my Freedmen have done verry well considering

I helped to Bury Mrs G P Lilly this evening she died on yesterday after a short Illness thus another old neighbor passes away since my Earliest recolection I have known Mrs Lilly and allways believed her to be an humble devoted Christian and while writing this I have no doubt her happy spirit is rejoicing with its Maker and god Oh what a consolation when we loose our friends and neighbors to know that they passed away relying on an all sufficient Savior and whilst to day I could but say farewell old Friend & Neighbor forever on earth it is my greatest wish to meet you in heaven

Thus with the close of the month we take a last leave of our Friend and to morrow begin another Month not knowing but before it closes we too may have gone the way of all the earth for whilst we look around us our friends are falling upon the right and upon the left disease is abroad in the land and we should all heed the warning prepare to meet thy god

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February 1st 1866

This is a pleasant day for the beginning of the Month I have been at work in a plant Bed to day

2nd At work on plant bed again to day

3d Went to Henderson in company with Mitchell & McKinney I paid of a note in Farmers Bank that I gave Hope Insurance Co for that is Myself & Mitchell borrowed from National Bank $300 due in Sixty days I've Paid Green & Marshy Bankers $300 and renewed a note for $200 for 30 days I've Received from Posey & Shepherd $312 Ballance in full of Cattle sold them I Paid Dixon $8.87 for two pair of Boots Expenses do $1.50 Gave Mitchell $30

4th Sunday I went to Isarrett Mitchells this morning and spent the ballance of the day at Home

5th I was getting Ice to day but it turned warm so fast that I could not work at it all day

6th Getting Ice again to day but did not get my House full

7th Doing nothing in particular

8 At Work about the farm &c

9th do do do

10th I was at church meeting this morning Elder Lacy Preached I sowed a plant bed this evening

11th Sunday at Church again this morning Elder Lacy preached

12th Went to Henderson to day this was a cold raw day Let Mitchell have $25 Expenses $3 Loaned McKinney $2=

13th I Drove my Cattle to J McHancocks this morning to his stock field &c

14th Went to Henderson this morning when I started from home the wind was blowing cold but when we were coming Home it turned extremely cold and I came very near freezing I think it turned cold faster this evening than at any time before in my recollection Expenses do $5

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 Feb 15th 1866

Last night was extremely cold and to day has been a verry cold day I have been trying to keep warm by the fire

16th I Filled my Ice House to day the Ice formed in some places from 3 to 4 inches thick since Wednesday night I sold S Latta a mare to day for $120

17th I was at a sale of some Horses & Cattle at the point this morning there was not much sold but what did sell brought fair price

18th Sunday Old Mother Earth is carpeted over with Snow this morning this is the second snow this winter and neither of them have been deep enough for a tracking snow

19th Doing nothing in particular

20th From this date untill the last day of the month I neglected to keep a memorandum of evry days transactions but there was nothing of Interest that occured during that time. I made no trades of importance received no money consequently I had no opportunity of Paying out or spending anything

the Month has been a fine one for work on the farm as it has been dry and pleasant

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March 1st 1866

The month made a pleasant begining this morning and if the begining is a type of the month we will have a pleasant March

2nd At work about home in the morning went to Mr Marshalls to a Log rolling dinner and Loaded my Ox wagon with tobacco in the evening

3d Went to Henderson to day my load of Tobacco weighed Good 850 Lugs 740 Trash 140 I let Thos Smith have this load Myself & Mitchell Borrowed from National Bank $1000 from M L Hicks $500 we intend to buy Horses with this money

4th Sunday I went to Henderson this morning in company with Garett Mitchell we took dinner at the Hancock House and in the evening we took a Boat for Evansville (The Argosy) we stoped all night in Evansville with R B Cabell at The Kentucky Hotel we went to (St Peters Episcopal Church) ~~at night~~ and I was truly gratified to hear a plain gospel sermon from a Fashionable Pulpit surrounded by all the the gew gaws of Fashion

5th Left Evansville this morning on the Evansville & Crawfordsville Rail Road at 40 minuets Past nine we got our dinner at the Junction of the Ohio & Mississippi Road at Half Past Twelve and took The Last named road for Cincinatti at Half Past one we got our Suppers at Seymour and arrived in Cincinatti at 11 o clock at night and put up at the Spencer House this was my first trip on a railroad and this might be called a flying one the country through which we passed was a poor looking country but one cannot judge the country verry well on such a trip as this

6th I have been rambling arround over Cincinatti to day watching and studying the tricks of trade Mitchell bought 8 Horses to day at what I thought pretty High figures we went to Woods Theatre at night where we spent

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March 6th 1866

our money as Fools usually do for nothing as the piece performed was a poor one and soon over acted

7th Spent the day about 5th Street Horse Market and looking around generally we settled up our Bill at Spencer House in the morning and I got my Dinner at the Merchants Hotel where I was waited on by Americans of African descent the first time since I left Home as notwithstanding their loud cry for the Freedom and Elevation of the Poor negro I find white men and women generally take the precedence We finished buying this evening and went aboard the fine Steamer Rebecca with our Horses at 5 PM but we did not leave Cincinatti until late at night

One on leaving home may expect to meet with sights and scenes which a vivid imonagination often colors too highly but everyone must feel a curiosity to know what this busy moving mass of Humanity allways Hurrying by Eager and all seem to have a fixed purpose and doing Cincinatti presents at all times a hurrying moving mass of men an women all seem employed about something and all seem in a hurry

This was the largest city I have ever been in and I saw many things new novel and interesting There seems to be as much life and enjoyment in this place as in any city I have ever been in and if I had money enough I would like to live there

8th I awoke this morning and found our Boat moving down the Ohio at a very respectable rate of speed as when we landed about breakfast time we were 75 miles from Cincinatti we got down to Louisville at 3 PM and only stoped long enough to get a Pilot to take us over the Falls this was the first time I ever went over the Falls and although I was

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March 8th

I was a little scared I could but admire the grandeur and Beauty of the scene a Frail vessel Plunging amid this awfull cataract of waters the waves breaking over her decks then receding back with a deafning roar I stood on the Bow of the boat holding a spirited Horse and had a fair oportunity of seeing the Falls I have seen them several times before from a distance but one can only see the falls rightly by going over them when the water has fallen enough to make the trip dangerous

It was so cold on the guards of the boat that it was too much for me to notice anything while coming down except when the boat landed and that was not often

9th We travelled along pretty fast during the night for when I got up this morning we were in sight of Cloverport we landed at Evansville at half past Eleven and Laid there about an hour and left the boat at Henderson at 2 PM I came home in the evening thus accomplishing the whole trip in 5 days from home

10th I was hunting some Cattle that had strayed off from home while I was gone in the morning and when I came home I found my little boy verry sick and I remained with him the ballance of the day

11th Went to Church this morning Elder Lacy preached and was riding arround looking out some cattle with a Mr Robertson in the evening this was a wrong way to spend the sabbath evening but this man was a long way from home and expenses heavy and I went with him to show him the way

12th I have been about home all day as it has been raining nearly all the time

13th Striping Tobacco until Dinner time Went to Henderson in the evening I sold to Messers Robertson & Conner C Head of Cattle that weighed 3455 lbs which at

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March 13th 1866

which at 3½ and 4cts per lb amt to $134 50/100
This was a wet disagreeable day
14th I remained all night in Henderson Last night and Stoped at the Hancock House in company with W H McKinney it rained all night again last night and it is raining this morning I sold a small load of my worst Tobacco this morning to Keer & Co at $10 for Good and $8 for Lugs the Load weighed Good 340 Lugs 725 Trash 215 lbs amt to $96 40/100 low figures considering what it cost to raise it I paid Rouse Cty Marshall $40 50/100 amt of a debt I replevied for R M Allin W H Sheffer $40 Borrowed Money Rudy & Smith $29 for Groceries other Items Expenses &c $6=
15th I went to a sale at Berry Gibsons to day Everything seemed to sell for Good prices I sold two Horses to day 1 at $125 and the other at $135 this was a cold disagreeable day
16th I Have been about the farm to day it turned verry cold this evening
17th Went to Henderson to day we sold 3 Horses 1 at $162 50 1 at $150 and the other at $100 This was a cold disagreeable day and the ground was froze Hard enough to bear the weight of a Horse this morning I bought of B B Williams 18 Bushels of Oats at 60cts per Bushel and Two bushels of Potatoes at $1 75 per Bushel Expenses &c $3
18th Sunday I was at Church in the morning and went to Col Coopers in the evening this was a pleasant day
19th I started this morning to a sale in Webster County ~~to day~~ took dinner at Garett Mitchells and staid all night at a man by the name of Cateins an Uncle of John H Jacobs with whom I was traveling
20th Left Cateins this morning and rode over a verry poor Country for about

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March 20th 1866

15 Miles to the Former residence of Irving Price the place for which we started there was a large crowd of People at the sale and everything sold for good prices I managed to day to sell one Horse for $5 less than my price at Home Webster I think would be a good place to sell on a credit but I could not find many who wished to pay the money I staid all night with Tesco Catein a son of my host of last night they were a clever family of People and treated me with true Ky Hospitality

21st Left Cateins this morning and after a cool ride of three Hours we arrived at Morganfield where we remained untill after dinner I left my overcoat at Home and I came verry near Freezeing this morning as after the Hail storm of last night it turned verry cold but thanks be to a good Horse and a Kind providence I arrived at Home this evening satisfied that the profits of my Webster trip were rather small for so much hard riding

22nd I was sowing oats to day I sold G P Tilly a Horse this evening for $120 this was a pleasant day I paid J Lame $25 for Lumber

23rd This was a wet morning I sowed oats untill dinner but the ground was verry wet

24th I Finished sowing my oats and clover to day &c

25th Sunday this has been a pleasant day I was at Church in the morning, Elder Crow preached

26th Went to Henderson to day paid Ben Williams $30 for Pasturing Cattle last summer Paid Martin &co $7 for Dry Goods Expenses &c $2 this was a cold disagreeable day

27th At work about the farm &c to day

28th do do do

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March 29th 1866

I went to Mitchells this morning and spent the remainder of the day at Home this was a disagreeable March day

30th At work on Fence to day

31st I was at work on my Fence again to day this was a pleasant day for the close off the month

April 1st 1866

Easter Sunday this has been a beautifull Sabbath ~~morning~~ Day I was at Church in the morning Elder Fallan preached &c I went in Company with S L Cooper to see Mr McKinney in the evening

2nd This was a Holiday and my Americans of the African Persuasion left in a body to seek for amusement in some other place so I have been left alone to manage this mighty farm by myself for a day at least I Ploughed the garden planted some Irish Potatoes &c in the morning and went to the Funeral and Burrial of Henry Crowder in the evening Elder Fallan preached the Funeral sermon

3d Went to Henderson to day in company with J R & J D Smith I Paid Thos S Knight $43.70 on notes due Apr 12th 1866 I ~~bought~~ went to the Circus (Thayer & Noyes) the Performance was a verry good one this was a pleasant Spring day

4th I was at P T Crenshaws sale to day everything sold for fair prices I bought 3 bushels Buckwheat 1 Pair of Check reins and a Small Red steer Ant to 29.75

5th I rolled Logs to day but did not get more than half done

6th At work about home this morning went to Mitchells to a log rolling in the evening

7th Went to Henderson to day with Adelia Bill of Goods at Holloway & co 52.75/100 at Martin & $ Other places $ I sold Geo H Rankin a Horse for $140 and Mitchell sold my Grey mare to Furny Long for $150 this was a cold disagreeable day

8th Sunday I was at Church in the morning Elder Tracy preached took dinner at Tom Smiths &c

9th At work about the Farm in the morning and went to Geo Proctors in the evening with Mitchell

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Apl 10th 1866

Went to Henderson to day in company with Ben Williams I bought to day For Bill 12 yds domestic at 28 cts per Yard and 6 yds Cottonades at 65 cts per and for Sol Powell 8 yds Domestic at 28 cts Expenses $3

11th At work about the Farm to day

~~12th I was at work on Farm untill 12 o'clock and~~

12th I went to Corydon this Morning in company with B F Martin & S Mitchell

13th At work on Farm again to day

14th Went to Henderson in Company with B F Martin I Borrowed From the National Bank $600 Candidates in town now are as thick as Bees and Electioneering for the various Offices now in the gift of the people is all the go

15 Sunday Rides at Sabbath School and Church this Morning Elder Thurman preached

16th I went to Henderson to day I Paid S B Young $540 that is I gave him a note on S B Martin for $107 and the Ballance in money for 4 mares I traded I Payne a note on J D Smith for $70 and $7.50 in Money for Horses &c

Expenses $2

17th At work on the Farm this morning went to Mitchells in the evening

18th At work about the Place to day

19th Went to Eanes Mill this Morning &c

20th I was rolling Logs this Morning and went to Mitchells in the evening

21st To day was appointed for our district meeting to Elect Delegates to the Democratic Convention to be held in Henderson next Monday I attended the Meeting and spent the day Electioneering for Nobody in Particular and everybody generally Sold a Horse to J H Powell for $108 due March 1st 1867 also one to W M Hopkins for $160 due March 1st 1867

22nd Sunday Rides at Church this Morning Elder Crow preached and went to Mitchells in company with James McKinley in the evening we had a fine shower of rain this evening

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April 23d 1866

I Went to Henderson to day I attended the Conservative Convention to Nominate Candidates for the various Offices to be filled by the Election in August I sold James McKinney 2 Horses for $323 due Jan 1st 1867 Expenses $3 — There was a large crowd of People in to day and everything passed of pleasantly

24th At work About the Farm to day I sold a Mare this morning to B W Smith for $175 due Jan 1st one to L H Hancock for $165 Cash this was the 1st Cash sale for a long time

25 Planting Corn &c to day

26th do do do

27th I was asking hands this morning and Finished rolling My Logs in the evening

28th Went to Henderson to day in company with Sam Hopkins This was a very warm day and I get very much like exchangeing my Winter garments for Spring ones I bought of B Williams 2 Bushels Potatoes (Irish) for $3 — At Auction 1 Grey Shirt $2 I Paid Dr Wm Cooper for H F Coopers, Dam $66.30 Amt of note I gave for the Hire of a Little negro last year Expenses &c $2 —

29th Sunday I have been walking around over my little place this morning and while my Prospects are by no means flattering they are sufficient to warrant an abundance for every creature comfort that we may absolutely need for the present the dry weather this spring has caused the Farmers to look with anxiety at their Plant Beds and many begin to shake their heads and look as though they could see starvation ahead but my motto is Sufficient to the Day is the evil thereof and I consider that it is an ill wind that Blows nobody no good and hope to profit even by the dry weather as my last years crop remains as yet unsold

30th To day ends the month of April and I will say for it in conclusion that it has been an unusually good month for the Farm

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May 1st 1866

I striped Tobacco a while this morning but it soon got too dry went to J H Jacob in the evening &c

2nd It has been verry cool for the season to day went to Henderson in company with B F Martin & L L Hancock I Received from D R Burbank &c $12.80 Ballance due me on staves Paid J C Stapp $14 on an order from Elder D S Colgan Bought for Amy (F W C) 8 yds striped Cotton 37½ $3 - 6 yds Domestic (23 cts) $1.38 For Ed (F B C) 4 yds Domestic 23 cts, $0.92 cts 4 yds Flax Linen 37½ cts $1.50 1 Pair of sheep shears $1.75 Expenses &c $1.50

3d Doing nothing in Particular

4th Helped Fielding Jones Prize up a Barn this morning and raise a shed &c

5th I was rooling some logs this morning and went to the Point in the evening to attend a trial about a cow between John Green Adm of W to Munn and Myself the Cow in dispute was one that I bought from (Myrick) we were compelled to postpone the trial on act of the absence of Mr Haffey &c

6th Sunday This is a verry cool morning I have been looking arround my little place but find nothing verry encourageing in my prospects it has now been over a month since we have had rain enough to wet the ground I was at Sunday school and Church this morning Elder Fallan Preached and this evening I went in company with G B & Dock Martin to see Mr M Kendrick who has been for months confined to his room with a riseing in his head he seemed to be in a verry bad condition and I fear the sands of his life are allmost run out but oh how cheering the Hope of the christian when afflicted and life seems to ebb slowly out he can place all as this dying man said in the hands of a just god I felt cheered and comforted in talking with this Christian man and thought as I came home that I would try to be more faithfull in the future

May 7th 1866

I went to Henderson to day in company with B F Martin to day was the city election and there was considerable excitement among the friends of the rival candidates for Mayor I received from W H McKinney $150 for a Horse sold him also $25 for fifty Bushels of corn I paid to Mitchell $32 this part of the money in this trade Expenses do $2

8th This was wet morning I was planting corn after dinner

9th Striping tobacco to day I finished my shed Barn in Flat and loaded one wagon this has been another wet day and the prospect begins to brighten for the farmer allthough there has not enough rain fallen to wet the ground much as yet

10th Went to Henderson to day in company with Thos Smith my tobacco weighed verry light as the Load only weighed a little over 1600 Bought to day of Holloway & co Bill $3.00 A J Leslie 1 coat $3.50 Expenses do $1.50

11th Striping tobacco to day I loaded my wagon this evening

12th Went to Henderson in co with S Hopkins My tobacco weighed much better to day as this load weighed 2030 which at $15 brought me $304.50 Paid Rudy & Smith $2 for Whiskey Expenses do $2

13th Sunday this has been a beautiful Sabbath day allthough a little too cool for the season I was at Sabbath school and church in the morning Elder Tracy preached

14th At work about the farm to day

15th Went to Lamb & co Mill this morning and a fishing in the evening

16 Shearing Sheep until Twelve o'clock and went a hunting in the evening

17th Doing nothing in Particular

18th Went a fishing to day to Alves Pond with B F Martin & Eskins and several others

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May 19th 1866

Went to Henderson to day in company with G. B. Martin the weather for this month has been verry dry and the roads are now with the exception of the Flats dry and dusty we have had scarcely any rain for the past two months Expenses &c $3 Paid Holloway &c $5 for two pair of shoes ~~Bought~~.

20th I was compelled this morning to break the sabbath by hunting an old cow and when I came home the Bees Swarmed but I could not Induce them to stay with me went to Hear Elder Plattenburg a Campellite Preacher from Henderson but I thought him rather too much impressed with the Idea of his own greatness which I fear his congregation could not see as well as he immagined I love to sit and hear an humble devoted child of god preach no matter to what persuasion of christians he may belong But when a man sets himself in judgment (upon) others and holds himself an Oracle from which no one has a right to differ I can but feel contempt for him

I hear men say he is a great preacher but I do not consider a mere flash of Oratory great Preaching for I would sooner hear an humble christian who with tears in his eyes and and pure religion in his heart tells his hearers the familliar but truthfull story of the cross tells them of the love of a saviour and the inestimables blessings confered by the gift of our saviour purchased for us on calvarys summit

Away with a theory that there is nothing conferred upon man only that which he obtains by his own Individual works and the hearing from the lips of another a theory of forms &c

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May 21st 1866

Doing Nothing in particular

22nd At work about the Farm in the morning Went to G Mitchells in the evening

23d Went to Henderson to day Expenses &c $3 —

24th At work about the farm this morning went a fishing in the evening

25th Doing nothing in particular

26th Went to Henderson in company with B G Marshall Expenses &c $1.50

27th Sunday I was awakened last night by the loud roar of heavens artillery and the Pattering of rain on the roof truly a welcome sound as the rain is verry much needed at this time this was the first rain we have had of any consequence since April I was at Church this morning Elder Crow preached it turned verry cool in the evening and to night a fire is verry comfortable

28th I set out about four acres of tobacco this morning but the season was a verry light one

29th I went down to Sam Coopers this morning to see his sick Child Ella and without a great change I do not think she can live long I came home from that house of mourning only to go to the Burrial of an esteemed friend and neighbor Mr Mc Hendrick his Funeral was preached by Elder Fallan I felt as I stood above his open grave and saw his body consigned to its Mother earth that his happy spirit was with its maker and god for Blessed are they who die in the lord and he said to me not long since that he had committed all into the hands of a just god

Oh what a cheering consolation to the Christian to die with the assurance of poor old Job Though after death skin worms destroy this flesh yet with these eyes will I see god Let the body go back to its

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May 29th 1866

May again though the world in its unceasing rounds forget us yet when Christ comes at his second Appearing he will bring us with him & claim from the dust our long lost bodies for they who die in Christ will Arise at the first resurrection and meet him in the skies and be forever with him

Oh what an incentive to be a christian to live a life devoted to the Saviour here and be with him forever in that heaven where there will be no more death no more anxious faces to watch over us no more weeping widows or orphans there all sorrows Banished Joy unspeakable forever and forever

Of all things on this earth let me be a Christian let me die as I think my neighbor and friend died in the triumphs of a living faith

30th I staid all night at Sam Coopers last night and as I looked upon that little sufferer strugling as it were for breath I thought death would soon bring relief and while I could weep with the Father and Mother in their bereavment I could but think how much better off her sinless spirit would be in that heaven where Jesus said suffer little Children to come unto me for of such is the Kingdom of heaven though a void would be left in that house though Parents weep over bygone memories yet this cold callous and unfeeling world is a hard one to contend with and I regard it allmost a blessing to die in infancy

31st Settled with G Mitchell this morning and I owe $7.24 40/100 on debt due National Bank and he owes the Ballance we settled up all other trades with the Exception of Profit on mare sold L D Hancock and some few small trades which are to be settled hereafter went to Sam Coopers and found Ella much better and I hope now she will get well to day ends the month of May it has been a cool dry month one of the best months for us that I ever remember in my life

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June 1st 1866

This has been a pleasant day I have been about the Farm doing wrything in general and nothing in Particular this being the 1st summer month we may expect some warm weather now as we have had a cold dry spring so far

2nd Striping Tobacco untill Dinner and setting out tobacco in the evening we had a fine rain this morning which will be of immense benefit to the farmers I Paid Phil $50 on his hire for this year Paid Sol Powell $40 ~~which~~ which with what I had Paid him before makes $57 75/100 on his hire for the present year

3d Sunday this is a beautifull sabbath morning yesterdays rain has greatly revived wrything and ~~the~~ feels this morning gratefull to the giver of evry good and perfect gift for his manifold blessings

4th I was setting out tobacco to day I set out all that I expect to plant but about four acres went to Sam Coopers where I set up all night with Little Ella she was dying all night

5th I was at Sam Coopers this morning Ella died about 9 oclock poor little sufferer it was allmost a relief to me to see her calmly fall asleep and know that her sufferings were over that that Blessed Saviour who said suffer little Children to come unto me had taken her to himself to that heaven where where sickness and death come no more

6th We Burried Little Ella this morning and when we had laid her in her last resting place on earth and I saw the Farther and Mother turn away allmost heart Broken I could but pray to god to give them strength to bear this the severest trial of their lives for tis hard to lay ones Children in the earth to loose their society here but if we will live aright we will all meet again in that heaven where parting will be no more

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June 7th 1866

Went to Henderson to day in company with Adelia I Paid Green Marshall &co $100 A J Leslie $50 on act Paid a dentist $2 for Extracting Adelia's Teeth Other Items & Expenses $3

8th About the farm to day doing nothing in particular

9th We had a verry fine rain this morning and set out tobacco in the evening

10th Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Lacy preached and went to Uncle Steve Martins in the evening

11th At work about the farm &c

12th ~~Doing nothing in particular~~ Helped to Bury C McTaylor to day he died on yesterday

13th Went to Henderson to day and like many other fools went to the Circus it was a poor affair and it was hot enough to melt under the canvass Expenses &c $5 Loaned W H McKinney $10

14th about the Farm &c

15th I Bought of A W Haskins Fifty acres of land at $40 per acre to be paid in three Payments and I paid him $515 75/100 on the first Payment

16th Went to Henderson in company with G Mitchell I Borrowed of J Pernett a note on A W Haskins for $169 53/100 this amt makes $685 28/100 that I have paid A W Haskins on land to this date I Bought to day of F Fey 2 pair of shoes for $7 75 Other Items &c $3 let G Mitchell have $2

17th Sunday I was at Sabbath School and Church this morning Elder Thurman preached the Funeral sermon of Mrs G P Lilly we had a fine shower of rain last night

18th I was planting & Replanting tobacco to day but I expect I have thrown my work away as it has been most too dry

19th Went to Henderson to day in company with L L Hancock I bought a buggy of G Mitchell Expenses &c $8

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June 20th 1866

At work about the farm to day,

21st Do Do do

22nd We had a fine rain last night and we have been replanting tobacco all day, I finished planting and replanting my crop but the sun is verry hot and I fear the most of it will die

23d I helped to Burry at Little child of Mr Askews this morning its funeral sermon was preached by Mr Fallan this was the fourth time during one short month that I have been called upon to assist in burrying the dead two of these were little children and two were ~~old~~ men one in the prime of life and usefullness the other had allmost reached his three score and ten and this evening as I think of the many deaths that have occured during the present year I can but feel the importance of the warning prepare to meet thy god

24th Sunday I was at sunday school and chuch to day Elder Crow preached went to Henry Finleys in the evening &c

25th Went to Henderson to day in company with G Mitchell this was a verry warm day Expenses &c $3

26th About home doing nothing in particular this has been another warm day

27th Went to Henderson to day in company with Garett Mitchell I Borrowed from Mrs McDrury $1000 Paid G Mitchell $600 which with $100 Paid before makes 700 I have paid him on what was due from me on note in National Bank the Amt I had to pay on this note was $724 I also let Mitchell have $20 in money and Paid $13 50/100 Interest &c on note renewed by M in the Bank I also Paid Livers & Baily $39 50 Rudy & Smith $100 George Delker on Buggy 85 75/100 Expenses &c $3

28th About home doing nothing particular this has been a verry cool day for the season

June 29th 1866

I finished cutting wheat to day I will make about a half crop this has been another cool day

30th I went to Henderson to day in company with A W Haskins he made me a deed to the land I bought of him a few days ago and I executed two notes due June 1st 1867 and June 1st 1868 for $660 each this with the Amt I have allready paid him makes the $2000 which is the cost of the land Let G Mitchell have $10 Paid Holloway & co $1.75 Paid Ross for web on Buggy lines $1.50 Paid J W Crockett $25 for Lawyers fees in a suit in the Court of Appeals Higgins vs Crenshaw, this is one half due by us Paid Benj Williams $36 for 200 lbs Bacon for Ben Expenses &c $2 Paid For vest for Sam $5.00

The past month has been unusually cool and dry and I do not think there has been rain enough to wet the ground since the 1st day of April

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July 1st 1866

Sunday I was at Sabbath school this morning and went down to Sam Coopers in the evening this was a pleasant day but most too cool for the crops

2nd At work about the farm &c

3d do do I helped to Kill 4 sheep for the Barbacue to morrow then evening

4th I attended the Barbacue given by Mr Thornberry near Thos Smiths the day he had Plenty to eat and everything seemed to pass off well and I expect he made enough the Day him for his trouble there was a very good attendance considering the morning was so unlikely

5 At work in tobacco this morning &c a went to Mrs Dances in the evening

6th Doing nothing in Particular

7th I was sheep Hunting with G B Martin this morning and at Church meeting in the evening Elder Lacy Preached

8th Sunday I was at Sabbath School and Church this morning Elder Lacy preached we had a fine rain to day the first good rain for a long time and this evening it looks verry much like we will have more

9th went to Henderson to day to attend to a suit before Esquire Tackett which was brought by Randolph Wallbridge for $7.50 for a debt that I did not owe Expenses &c $2

10th I was Loading my wagon with tobacco in the morning went to S Carters in the evening borrowed from him 8 Bushels of wheat

10th went to Henderson I delivered to Thos S Knight a load of trash which weighed 1620 lbs I will have it Steamed I also delivered to Wm Payne one Load of Corn 23 Bushels and 2 lbs at 60 cts per Bush Expenses &c $3 this was a verry warm day and the effects of the recent fine rain begin to disappear

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July 12th 1866

I was Striping tobacco this morning and went to a Supper &c at the Walnut Bottom Church this evening there was plenty to eat and drink that is Ice Water and Lemonade and a verry good turn out of the People Especially those living in the Bottom I remained to the Concert an Tableaux at night which for which for Amateur performers done verry well Expenses $3 we came home after the performance over a verry dark road

13th About the farm to day doing nothing in Particular

14th Went to John Crawfords Sale this morning Evrything sold brought I think a verry fair price this was one of the warmest days of the season

15th Sunday this is a verry warm morning I have been walking around looking at my prospects which are not verry flattering the weather is so extremely dry and hot that what rain falls does not seem to wet the ground I was at Church this morning Elder Dimmit preached the Funeral Sermon of P T Crenshaw

16th At work about the Farm to day

17th Striping Tobacco we had a light shower of rain this morning

18th I finished striping my tobacco to day my crop though a verry small one has taken me a long time to get through with it

19th I loaded my wagons with tobacco this morning we had a fine rain in the evening

20th Went to Henderson to day I sold my good tobacco and Lugs to Keer & Clark at $10 for Good and $8.75 for Lugs the Load weighed 1790 and Amt to $166.75 I Let Alves & Knight have my trash at $2.50 for the first load and $2 for the last one the two loads weighed 2640 Amt to $61 I Paid Thos S Knight of $90.80 one half

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July 20th 1866

of note given by Mitchell and myself for Cattle Bought at his Sale Paid Rudy & Smith $34.75 Bill of groceries bought this day Paid James Binigan $10 for Ditching Paid, Phil, ob $5 in money and 1 gallon Whishey & Jug $3.20 Sol Powell $1 Other Items and Expenses $2 — we had another fine rain this evening

21st Toping tobacco this morning we were again Blessed with a fine shower of rain this morning and the ground is now in better condition for work than it has been before this ~~spring~~ Summer

22nd Sunday this is a verry warm morning but the recent fine showers have given everything a fresh start to growing and there is quite a contrast between this and last Sunday morning I was at Church to day Elder Crow preached

23d I was toping tobacco in my new ground to day

24th Toping tobacco again to day

25th do do do

26th do do do

27th I was toping tobacco again to day &c

28th Went to Henderson to day in company with B. F. Martin there is not much doing in the city at this time as the weather is too hot and dry for Business of any kind

29th Sunday I helped to burry a little child of A W Haskins this morning this was a verry warm day

30th At work about the farm to day &c

31st To day ends the month of July and it is warm enough to melt in the sun

This month has been verry dry throughout as we have not had rain enough to wet the ground during the month and at its close the prospect is anything but flattering to the farmer the corn is commencing to burn up and the tobacco will not unless there is a favorable change make a half crop

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August 1st 1866

This is a warm dry day for the Begining of the month I was loping tobacco to day
2nd At work in tobacco to day
3d ~~Doing nothing in particular~~ helped Gabe Lilly raise a shed ~~to Haywening~~ &c
4th Went to Henderson to day I Bought of James E Bentley 3 Head of Cattle for $25 Expenses &c $2
5th Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Smith of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church preached
6th Went to the Election to day I acted as clerk the vote Polled was not as large as it was four years ago there was 170 votes polled and nearly all for the Democratic ticket
7th Went to Henderson to day in company with W H McKinney Expenses &c $3
8th At work in tobacco to day
9th Doing nothing in particular
10th Went to the Diamond Island Bend with Bennett Hopkins and from there to Henderson I purchased from him one half of the Tobacco and corn raised by Nunn & himself and other things amt to $400
11th Went with Bennett Hopkins to the bend after some Meat &c that I purchased from him in our trade of yesterday went to Church Meeting in the evening the weather still continues very dry
12th Sunday went to Church to day in the Walnut Bottom Elder Lacy preached the Funeral of two of W Vickers Children I went from the church to Sol Neslers Farm as he had been shot this morning by a man named Duger the ball entered in the region of the heart and it was thought to be a mortal wound it looked hard to see a healthy robust man dying from such a cause and though Nesler was acting badly I could but pity him though he seemed to have but little sympathy from any one

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August 13th

I went down to the Sherwood Place this morning the prospect for awhile this morning was good for rain but the clouds scattered again leaving us disappointed

14th I was riding around to day doing nothing to day

15th Looking about the farm

16th Doing nothing in particular

17th Went with Mitchell to the Sherwood place let him have 202 Bushels of corn at 50c per Bushel

18th I was hunting this morning and at the point in the evening The weather still continues dry it has been 4 weeks to day since we have had any rain and then not enough to wet the ground everything looks dead and the corn crop is now so far gone that rain will not make half a crop and the tobacco looks worse than I ever saw it

19th Sunday I was at church to day but there was no preaching we had a light shower of rain to day but not enough to wet the ground to do much good

20th Went to Henderson to day in company with W H McKinney there seems to be a general dulness and gloom hanging over everything the long continued drouth affects everything

21st Went to Henderson this morning in company with B F Martin we went over before we started to see old aunt Sally Martin she would see from her appearance that she was fast nearing her long sought home but did not think when I took her by the hand and she remarked that she could not see me but knew my voice that in two short hours she would hear the voice of Angels instead of men but so it was and as I stood and gazed upon her so calmly sleeping in death in the evening I smiled but say with one of old Let me die the death of the righteous and let my

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Aug 21st
last end be like hers Oh how pleasant the
the thought after Spending a long life of
suffering and toil to rest forever with those
who had gone before her in that world where
sorrows sickness and death never come
Aunt Sally was one of the few old land marks
left that carried us back to the days of our
Childhood for with our earliest recollection
I can remember her ~~as an old grey headed woman~~
She was the only surviving sister of my Father
and in her death the last one of the Family
has passed away all of them died trusting
in a merciful Saviour and I trust Mother Children
and Grand Children have met upon the shore
of sweet deliverance and while we mourn her
loss they are singing the songs of triumph around
the throne of god Oh what a consolation has
the Christian for when friends die and pass
away if they die in the Lord we look forward
to the time when we shall meet them never
more to be parted never more to toil and
suffer but to live forever with the Lord
22nd This was my Birth day to day I am thirty
four years old truly time Speeds away away away
I was at the Burial of Aunt Sally Martin this
morning this was the last act of friendship we
could do for her and it was truly gratifying to
to see the large concourse of Neighbors & friends
who came to pay this last token of respect to
her memory
23d About the farm to day doing nothing
in particular
24th I have been at work on my pond to day
25th ~~Sunday~~ Helping to clean off the Grave
Yard this Morning &c the weather still
continues dry and the prospect is anything
but flattering
26th Sunday I was at church to day
Elder Crow Preached

Aug 27th 1866

Went to Henderson to day in company with Garett Mitchell I Paid C T Sandefur $102 — for one Yoke of Oxen and 1 Cow and a small white steer Other Expenses $5

28th went to see Sol Vesler and found him dieing he had exposed himself so much lately that the wound he received two weeks ago had become inflamed and he had taken Pneumonia with it at the time I saw him he had been speechless about 12 hours it looked hard to see a great strong man dieing without a friend perhaps in this wide world and no hope in the future for as the tree falls so it must lie and if he died without repentance he must be lost yet in our charity we allways hope for the best I could but feel sad as I looked upon this dieing man and notwithstanding his many faults I could have shed tears over his untimely fate his fate should be a warning to evil doers and should cause us all to heed the memorable warning Prepare to meet thy god

28th I went with G Mitchell to the Walnut Bottom in search of Henry Dugger the man that shot Vesler but found out he had taken his departure for other climes leaving his Bail to settle with the Circuit Court

29th About home in the morning went to the Diamond Island Bend with Thos Smith in the evening

30th Doing Nothing in particular

31st to Day end the month of Aug and it has been truly a long dry month as it has not rained during the whole of the month and in fact not since the 1st of July our crops are allmost Parched up and our stock Famishing for water the latter part of the month has been verry Cool but to day has been unusually warm and it looks verry much like rain this evening but promising prospects of late have been verry deceptive but I will still hope for the best

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September 1st 1876

The heart is cheered this morning with the prospect as we had a fine rain last night the first for nearly two months and though it has come too late to save the crops it will do much good

I went in company with Mitchell to Resler's Farm on the Walnut Bottom this morning to Levy an Attachment on the growing crop of Henry Dugger

2nd Sunday I was at Church to day Elder Crow preached

3rd We had another fine rain last night which will be of immense benefit to the Farmer

Went to Henderson to day in company with W H McKinnie I have Bond and Qualified as Administrator of Sol Resler dec Expenses &c $3

4th Went to Henderson again to day on Business connected with Resler's estate

5th Stayed home in the Morning went to the Diamond Island Bend in the Evening &c

6th Went to Mt Vernon and to day in company with Sol Resler Jr went to try to recover some Hogs Belonging to Resler's estate which had been sold by the man Dugger who shot him I Paid Ito day For Ferriage Dinner &c

7th I Have been about the Farm to day doing Nothing in particular

8th Went to Henderson to day I had the Personal property of Sol Resler Dec'd Appraised by Thos J Knight W S Elam & John Klapp Expenses &c $3

9th Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Lacy preached this has been a wet day and during the week that has passed we have had four rains which will be of great benefit to the crop of tobacco but it came most too late for the corn as the most of the corn was too far gone for rain to do it much good

September 10th 1866

Went to Henderson to day I went on business connected with Neslers Estate Expenses &c $3
11th Went to Mt Vernon I brought suit over there to recover a lot of Hogs sold by Henry Dugger belonging to Neslers Estate
12th Helped Mitchell drive cattle to Henderson to day we sold to Thomas Posey at 3 3/4 cts per Pound we drove up 11 head which weighed 10425 lbs Amt to $390 90/100 the Profits on this lot was $98 90/100 expenses &c $3 Paid Rudy &c $6 25 for one sack of Flour Holloway &c $2 50 for a Pair of shoes for Bow other Items $2
13th I have been too unwell to do much but Lay around the House to day
14th Went to the Bend this Morning and to J J Allins in the evening I bought two cows of him for $30
15th Myself & Mitchell drove to Henderson 6 Head of Cattle that we bought of C T Sandefur the Cattle weighed 5375 lbs this lot cost $157 and brought us $201 50 Expenses &c $3 Paid Jeff Young on an Order from John Lyle $10
16th Sunday I was at Church this Morning Elder Thurman preached I Helped to burry old Dan to night as he was burried by Moonlight he died this morning Dan was a faithfull servant to My Farther and he gave him to me when he died but Dan had imbibed the Notion that he ought to have been set free and consequently he was but of little service to me and when they were all set free he left me and now he has found freedom indeed he was truly an honest Man and I do not believe he would knowingly have defrauded any one this is all I can say for the Poor old Negro as he is in the Hands of a Just god and I Hope he repented of his sins and has gone to Heaven

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Sept 17th 1866

About the farm in the morning went to Mrs Dances in the evening &c

18th The Sale of Sol Neslers Property in Henderson took place to day there were but few people present and I did not sell but little Adelias Bill of Goods &c Amt to $32 — Expenses $3

19th I have been at work about the Farm &c to day

20th Went to Mt Vernon Ind and to Neslers farm to day a wet disagreeable day we had the heaviest rain last night that has fallen in this section for a long time and I fear it will greatly damage the crops the river is riseing very fast and I expect it will cover the low bottoms yet

21st I Had a sale of Nesler effects on his farm to day things generally sold low I bought 1 Ox Wagon $75 — 1 yoke of Oxen $110 one Rifle Gun $9.75 — 2 Pair of Gear $2.65 and a lot of sundries 50 cts

22nd I attended Squire Turners Court this morning and went to S Lattas and James Berrys in the evening I Bought of Latta 6 Hogs for $120 and 4 of Berry for $32

23d Sunday I was at church to day Elder Crow preached

24th Went to Henderson in company with Abe Rankins Expenses &c $4.

25th Rain Rain Rain it rained all night last night and has rained all day and it is raining to night

26th It Cleared away this morning and the sun came out brightly which is a pleasing sight after so much rain I went to James Berrys and Scarlet Lattas after Hogs this morning and to the Diamond Island bend after in the evening there was more water in the creeks and Ponds than I ever saw before at this time of the year

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Sept 27th 1866

Went to Vernon to day to attend to a Law Suit I Brought to recover some Hogs Belonging to the Estate of Solomon Hosler I withdrew the suit and Paid the cost as I did not have my witnesses present I saw to day floating down the River Green corn Pumpkins &c showing that some farmers were loosing their Crops by the floods the Ohio is higher than it was ever known to be at this season of the year and still rising and a few feet more will put it over all the low Bottoms

28th I Have been Housing tobacco to day in my Barn next to Mr Marshalls

29th We Managed after a hard days work to fill the Barn to day My tobacco is unusually good considering everything

30th Sunday to day ends the month of September as this was the fifth sunday there was no preaching I went in company with Mitchell to Wm Berrys this morning and have been idleing the day away at home since this month has been quite a contrast to the Summers as the same amount of rain was never known to fall at this time of the year before while the Spring and Summer was unusually dry I have cut but one barn of tobacco as yet and if we should have an early frost there will be a large proportion of the crop spoiled this month will long be remembered by many who have lost their whole years labor from the floods and Prospect prices will be pretty high for corn Tobacco &c as the whole crop was almost a failure what is higher now than I have ever known it to be before

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Oct 1st 1866

I was cutting and Houseing tobacco to day this was a pleasant day for the begining of the month allthough it looks like rain again this evening

2nd Went to Henderson to day I was also at the Fair there was a verry good lot of Horses on exhibition but I thought there nugt have been more good cattle Sheep Hogs &c the crowd to day was a small one in fact the smallest I have ever seen at a Fair

3d I was cutting and Houseing tobacco to day this has been a Foggy gloomy looking day and it was allmost impossible to do any thing with Tobacco

4th Went to the Fair there was a large crowd in attendance to day and the Horses shown were verry good we went to town at night and staid with Mrs Nesler

5th At the Fair again to day the crowd was an unusually large one there was not much shown in the ring to day and I expect the stock had pretty well played out in looking over this vast throng to day I could see but few of the Familiar faces of six years ago when the last fair was held at this place

allthough this large crowd seem to enjoy themselves and everything so far as external looks seems like the war with its devastation had left no traces behind but as the eye wanders over this vast throng I see many who have had cause to remember the war I see some near me whose most cherished friend sleeps his last sleep on a Southern Battlefield I see others who were gay young girls 6 years ago now wearing widows weeds

all around me is written in indellibly words that time wreathes many changes

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Oct 6th 1866

Housing tobacco to day this has been a fine day for work

7th Sunday I was at church this morning Elder Dibrit preached I was also at the Baptizing of Miss Fannie Utley in the evening

8th Cutting and Housing tobacco again to day

9th do do do

10th Went to Henderson in company with Garrett Mebane we Borrowed from the National Bank $200 for two months to pay for some cattle of this amount I recieved $96.25/100 Mitchel the Ballance. Paid Cheany $3.85 for rolls Paid Leslie & Fearn $2 for cutting suit of clothes Other Items and expenses $1.30

11th I was threshing my wheat to day

12th I finished my wheat to day I only raised 52 bushels on six acres

13th Aboard Home in the morning went to Church meeting in the evening

14th Sunday This is a lovely Fall morning every thing looks bright and cheerfull we have had lately the most beautifull fall weather such weather as a poet loves to dream of and write about neither too hot or too cold

and as we look around us we may read a lesson from the book of nature the sere and yellow leaf tells us that Summer is gone the Fall months are passing away and soon Winter will be upon us thus it is in life Spring time has passed away with some of us the Fall of life is upon us and soon the winter of death will cut us down we should ever draw a lesson from the seasons and be ready for that event which must come to us all sooner or later

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Oct 15 1866

I have been sowing wheat to day in the Field next the Methodist church &c
16th Went to Henderson in company with Garett Mitchell I carried up 15½ Bushels of wheat to Mill but I got a poor yield of Flour I sold Rudy & Lev 65 lbs of Mutton tallow at 10cts per lb I sold Geibel 6 sheep skins at 30cts each Expenses $1.50 Paid Sol Powell $15
17th At work about home to day sowing wheat &c
18th Doing nothing in particular went to Mitchell in the evening &c
19th Went to Thos McKendricks this morning Bought of her 3 steers for $81
20th Went to Henderson in company with Bennett Hopkins I bought of F. Frey 1 pair of Boots for $11.50 of Martin & co 2¾ yds domestic 25cts per yard Expenses $2
21st Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Thurman preached to day seems like it will wind up the late beautifull spell of weather we have been enjoying as it is raining this evening and I think it will turn cold
22nd At work about the Farm &c to day
23d I went with Mitchell to the Nesler Farm to day this was a cold windy disagreeable day and the river was so rough that we could not cross to Mt Vernon
24th Went to Henderson to day I paid Dilker $4 for repairing buggy spring Expenses &c $1.50
25th Went to Mt Vernon And this morning this was a pleasant day Expenses &c $3
26th About home to day doing nothing in particular
27 Went to the Sherwood place to day with Ben Hopkins &c
28th Sunday I was at church this morning the new Circuit Rider Elder Fisk preached it is raining this evening and it looks verry much like it will continue to do so through the night

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Oct 29th 1866

This was a gloomy looking morning but it cleared away and the day has been Pleasant I went down to Mr Haskins this morning He is very sick and I fear we will loose another old neighbor but hope for the best as he is a man whose loss the community will feel I rode down on Highland Creek with Squire Lilly a Hog Hunting took dinner at Hosea Smiths &c

30th Doing nothing in particular

31st Went to Henderson we drove up 3 cows to sixty this was a pleasant day for the close of the month

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Nov 1st 1866

I went to the sherwood place this morning I came home and a short time after I took my Mare from the buggy she died with the Colic this was a severe loss to me as I prized this Mare very highly this was a pleasant day for the Beginning of the Month

2nd About the farm to day doing nothing in particular

3d Went to Henderson we drove some cattle Home from Mrs Reeders expenses $2 Paid W Vickers $20 to be credited on my note Paid Fleming $10 for fixing Monument Paid James Finigan $5 Weller Park, $2 this was a pleasant day

4th Sunday I was at church this morning Elder Dimmit preached I went to Mr Haskins in the evening and remained untile 12 oclock at night I left him dying gasping as it were for breath while the cold clammy death sweat was beading upon his forehead and the Pulseless wrist told but too plainly that Nature was fast yielding to the destroyer Death all earthly help had now failed and while I stood and looked upon his dying face I could but breathe an inward prayer for one to sustain him in this dying hour for that Saviour who died to redeem him to be with him in this last struggle

she professed to have long since found this Saviour and though he may have been an erring man in some things I have no doubt she was a christian and so I turned away knowing full well that this was the last time I should see him alive I felt that he was in the hands of a just god

Farewell forever on earth my old neighbor and friend the heart grows sad as I write these lines no more will we meet in the changing scenes of this life no more will I see as in days gone by no more will I clasp

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Nov 4th 1866

your friendly hand on earth but oh I trust to meet you where there is no more parting no more death to meet you round the throne of god to hear the welcome applaud it well done good and faithfull servant enter thou into the joys of thy lord

5th I went down to Mr Haskins this morning and found him as I expected when I left him last night dead he died about 3 o'clock this morning he will be a great loss to our neighborhood and I could have wished it diferent but the lords will be done and he has removed him from our midst I trust to a better world

I went with Mitchell to Mr Balls and we bought of him 25 head of cattle at 4 cts p Pound Gross weight

6th Went to Henderson to day with Mitchell we sold the cattle that we bought of Ball yesterday to M L Hicks expenses &c $3

7th I went to Mt Vernon Ind in company with Thomas Smith to day to attend the law suit about the Hogs sold by Dugger again we agreed to try the case tomorrow at 1 o'clock

8th I went to Mt Vernon this morning The Hog trial came off at the time it was set for and I lost the case by the decision of the jury this was the first instance I have ever seen of a jury give a verdict contrary to the ruleing of the court and the evidence expenses to day heavy

9th that is Thos Smith and myself remained all night with W S Cooper last night and I came home fully satisfied that this thing called Law was a very tedious and expensive business

10th This has been a wet disagreeable day as it has rained all day and it is still raining with a fair prospect to rain all night I have been trying as I best could to pass away the day in the House

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Nov 11th /

Sunday The sun came out brightly this morning and the day has been beautiful I was at church this was the time set to preach the funeral of old Aunt Sally Martin but Brother Lacy did not come Elder Fallan preached I was also at church at night Elder Fallan preached

12th I went to the Foster Farm to day to commence gathering corn got the wagons started in the evening and came home in time for church

13th I was at church this morning Elder McClain preached also at night

14th I started to drive some cattle to the Sherwood place this morning but could not find a part of them so I came back to church Elder McClain preached again also at night

15th I've managed to get our cattle to the Sherwood place this morning and I got back in time for church there seems to be considerable interest manifested and I am in hopes the meeting will result in much good

16th I was at church again to day Elder McClain so far has been the only minister present to night there were a number of mourners and the prospect is good for a good meeting at present

17th I went to Henderson to day in company with Sam Hopkins I was at church again at night Elder McClain preached

18th Sunday I was at church this morning Elder Thurman preached also at night Elder Lacy preached

19th I was at church to day Elder Lacy preached also at night

20th I went with Mitchell to Ben Gibsons in the Missippi Bend after some cattle we got one but not succeed in getting them to day I was at church at night Elder Lacy preached

Nov 21st 1866
I went to Henderson to day I carried up three Hogs to Sixty that weighed 1000 lbs gross, which at 8 ℔ Brot me $80
22nd I went to the Diamond Island Bend with John Baker and Bennet Hopkins
23d About home to day doing, nothing in particular
24th Went to Henderson I paid the Internal revenue tax $10.23 Expenses $2
25th Sunday I was at church to day Elder Fisk preached also at night
26th I went to Henderson in company with James Green there was an unusually large number of Sheriff and other sales to day which should be a warning to persons to steer clear of debt I bought a tract of 47 acres of land for $3 the taxes due on it it lays somewhere on the Ohio river and belonged to Mrs Sarah Robards Expenses $2
27th I went to Keith Mitchell to Ben Gibsons after some Cattle we drove them through the rain as far as the Nesler place where we left them I staid all night in Mt Vernon Expenses $3
28th Crossed the river this morning and came home in the evening this was my second days ride through the rain and to night I feel pretty well done out
29th I have felt so bad all day from the two days ride through the rain and cold that I have been about the house all day
30th To day brings me to the close of the month and this morning the ground is white with snow but it will not last long I went to the Nesler Farm two day we have been trying to gather corn this week but have made but slow progress to day has been cool but not verry disagreeable this month has been a blustery changeable month

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December 1st 1866

This was a cool morning for the begining of old winter I went to Henderson with some cattle that we bought from E D Powell we drove up 7 Head that weighed 7025 and Cost us $276 25/100 we also Bot of Harbert Powell on the 27th ult 8 Head of Cattle that weighed 6100 lbs at 5 3/4 cts per pound Amt to $228 75/100 and 3 steers of G B Martin for $120 one cow of J Quinn for $30 Expenses &c $3

2nd Sunday I was at Church to day Elder Dimit preached this was a pleasant day but cloudy

3d This was a wet disagreeable day I was about home striping tobacco &c

4th About home to day as our little Girl Minnie has been verry sick

5th At home again to day the whole community was startled and thrown into a state of unusual excitement by the Explosion of the Boiler of Lame & Moores Portable Saw Mill instantly Killing John H Davis and a young man by the name of Morris and injuring Squire Lame so Badly that he died in a few hours

When I arrived at the place I witnessed the most Shocking and Heart rending scene it has ever been my lot to see

Where once stood the Mill was now a complete wreck pieces of Boiler Iron tubes pipes Bolts &c Thrown promiscuously around and I noticed one piece of the Boiler several hundred yards from the Mill lodged in the top of a tree and it is a wonder to me that any of the Mill hands escaped instant death

This scene I can never forget as I stood and looked around me there lay one of my neighbors who a few minuets before was enjoying health laughing and talking with his friends cold and still in death Poor Dick I could (have) wished you a better fate I could have wished you a peacefull hour in which to die surrounded by Family and friends

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but it has been ordered otherwise and we must bow in submission to the will of god and though from the heart I felt for that poor disfigured and mangled form and for his bereaved and distressed Family I felt that he was in the hands of a just god and I trust his happy spirit had found rest in the bosom of a crucified Saviour

When I arrived on the ground they had removed all of the wounded except George Finley I helped to carry him to his Fathers house but I do not think he will survive his injuries again at Finleys House (was) a scene of suffering Young Morris Corpse lay in the Hall and a young man by the Name of Wagoner was in the house suffering as I have never before seen any one suffer completely shocked with his skull Mashed down and the brain and the physicians thought he too would soon succumb to the grim monster death I went from Finleys to W H Grigsbys where they had carried Squire Lane and a man by the Name of Sadler Lane was unconscious and died shortly after I left the house but it is thought Sadlers wounds are not dangerous John Rankin Dan Munn and a young man named Cooper escaped with slight injuries

This awfull calamity should sink deep into every heart for truly in the midst of life we are in the midst of death and oh what a warning to prepare to meet thy god for no man knoweth the hour when he may be called upon to lie down in the cold embrace of death all who were killed were members of the Church and professed to be Christians and I trust while writing this that they are enjoying the delights of heaven if so their change though sudden and unexpected is their eternal gain

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Dec 6th 1866

I went to the Nesler Farm in company with Mitchell this morning we sold our Corn in the Pens to Levi Ellis at 50ct per Bushel we guessed off the pens at 2625 bushels Amt to $1312.50/100 This makes a very good profit we are to take the whole amount in cattle at 4cts gross

7th I rode at the Funeral of John H Davis and Jesse Lane to day the Funeral Sermon was preached by Elder Dimit at the Methodist Church I never witnessed a more Solemn Occasion Two neighbors in the prime of life and usefullness cut down without a moments wagning Side by Side they lay in the Church and over that large congregation their seemed to be but one feeling awe and and Pity awed by the awfull Calamity Pity for the bereaved Widows & Children They were both usefull and respected citizens Deacons in the same church both Kind hearted and Benevolent men I have known Davis from Childhood and though he had his faults he was a good neighbor and I trust a christian

Squire Lane was a usefull Man in society a man of fine Moral qualities a gentleman by Birth and Education one who sought to elevate his fellow man one whose heart was ever open to the cry of the widow & the orphan his benevolence was open and his charities will follow him to the grave he was a Zealous advocate of the Doctrines of the Church of which he was a member and by his advocacy of its doctrines rendered himself unpopular with some of his neighbors but all were bound to respect the Man his life was a living Example of the Christian and no man will be more missed in this community Than he I respected and admired him here and oh I trust to meet him on Yon Dick Davis in that heaven where all the past

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Dec 7th 1866

be forgotten in the presence of a crucified Saviour we laid them close together in the old church yard where I leave them till the trump of the resurrection shall summon the sleeping dead

8th went to Henderson to day again I stood in the presence of the dyeing It seems we go from one scene of suffering and death to another I went to see Jacob Rouse he was dieing with consumption and looked like a few hours would be his all of earth 9th This was a cool winter morning I went with B F Martin to Heman Finleys George Finley was dead when we got there as he died about 2 oclock another victim of that awfull calamity I learned with inexpressible joy that he died a christian died as it were a shouting oh how sweet to leave the world in such a state I had hoped and prayed for this and I felt as I looked at his cold and inanimate corpse that his happy spirit was in heaven enjoying that rest prepared for the people of god for the same wages were Paid to those who came in at the 11th hour as those who came in at the first and though he found the saviour on his death Bed he found an all sufficient Saviour one who would go with him through the chill waters of death and take him like the thief on the cross home to paradise I came home and went to church Elder Lacy Preached the Funeral sermon of old Aunt Sally Martin and from the church we repaired to L F Hancocks Pond where a Miss Thomas followed the example of her saviour and was buried in christ by Baptism by Elder Lacy I love to see the christian go down into the water and though the December winds blow colder and chill it was not too cold to do a christians duty

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December 10th 1864

I went to Henderson to day we received from Levi Ellis 31775 lbs of Beef Cattle that is 33 head of all Kinds for which we paid him 4 cts Gross in corn at 30 cts per Bushel this lot of Cattle with two left in the Diamond Island Bend Amt to $1368 — our corn Amt to $1312.80 which left us owing Ellis $55.20 we sold to Levi a Butcher from Evansville 13 head that weighed 13925 which at 4½ ct per pound brought us $591.81 of this amt we received $500 which we divided equally I paid a note of $100 at Green & Marshal Mitchell is to pay me back this note I also Paid the National Bank $50 and renewed a note for $400 for sixty days I paid Rudy & Co $7.50 and the National Bank $8 for Other Items and Expenses $2

17th I Killed my Hogs to day they weighed from 123 lbs to 413 lbs Net the 21 head weighed 4047 lbs.

12th Stayed home in the morning went to the Mill in the evening &c

13th I went to Jonkin & Fowlers Sale to day everything I thought sold high I bought two Calves for $35

14th I went with Mitchell to the Diamond Island Bend after some cattle to day &c

15th This has been a winter day sure as it has rained and sleeted all day and to night it is still raining and Sleeting

16th Sunday Old Mother earth is carpeted all over with Snow this morning and the prospect is good for more if one could judge by indications this morning I remained at home all day this day would pass well for winter

17th Went to Henderson to day to take depositions in the Mt Vernon Hog case I paid P H Cockrell $3 for taking depositions Paid Holloway & Co $3.70 Myers & Son $3.50 S & Cooper $10.62½ for hire of Pleasant Clay Other Items & Expenses $3

18th Went to the Diamond Island Bend this morning with Ben Hopkins Came home

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December 18th 1866

and went to a wedding at Scarlett Latta at night a Mr Bothel and Miss Sarah Utley were united in the Holy Bands of Matrimony by Elder Fallan this was the first wedding I have attended for a long time and my best wishes will follow this young couple through life and I trust they may be happy and prosperous through life's uneven journey

19th I was one of the appraisers of the Property of A W Haskins to day we got through about Dinner time

20th I was at Haskins Sale to day I Clerked the sale for Squire Lilly and I had a hard days work of it and to night I am as tired as if I had mauled rails all day Everything sold to day for good prices I bought a number of small articles Amounting to about $10.00

21st Went in company with Mitchell to Diamond Island to receive a lot of Cattle Bought by Levi Ellis of Geo M Priest I did not like the Cattle and refused to sign the contract that had been entered into between Ellis & Mitchell we weighed 88 head of Cattle that weighed and left the Island with out coming to any definite settlement

22nd Went to the sale of Thos H Crowder to day I Bought the crop of Tobacco for $135 = Also 6 Hogs from the widow for $64 Cash took Dinner at Dr McLaughlans and came home in the evening very well satisfied with my days work

23rd Sunday this is another gloomy Sabbath morning as it is raining very hard and has rained the most of the night and from present indications will rain all day

The winter so far has been a warm wet winter and I would not be surprised to see a mild wet winter throughout as of late years the commencement has been a type of the winter throughout

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Dec 24th 1866

I went to Mt Vernon Ind and the Nesler Place to day this evening it turned very cold and blustery

25th Christmas day I have spent the day at home as I had enough company to make a pleasant day of it This has been a very quiet day and I have not seen any drinking or Carousing at all and everybody that I have seen seemed to be about their own business

26th Myself & R F Martin drove our cattle to the Nesler Place to day I carried down 32 Head in all it turned verry cold this evening again

27th I was at the Point this morning and had to serve on a Jury the trial was Between E D Powell and Thos L Jacobs about Powell Dogging Jacobs Hogs the Jury though the evidence went to show that Powell had dogged the Hogs they could not tell how much therefore we came to the conclusion that all we could do was to find for the Defendant I went to Mrs J H Davis in the evening and was one of the Appraisers of the Personal effects of J H Davis Dec'd

28th I was at the sale of J H Davis Property to day everything sold low I bought 1 Saddle for $8 and some other little things And all together to 8 or 10 the Boys of the neighborhood had a regular hoe down at my house at night the house was full the yard full and the Kitchen also and if the crowd enjoyed themselves I Dident

29th I have been about home all day with the old woman and the Babies it Snowed nearly all day and has been an excellent day for staying in the House

30th Sunday This has been a cold Sabbath I have been at home all day as there was no Church this was the last Sunday in the year 66 and I would rather have gone to Church but was denied that privilege as there was no church in the neighborhood

31st I was at the sale of J Lames property to day I Bought a lot of Lumber &c

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December 31st 1866

This is the last day of the Year 1866 and to night I will take a short retrospective view of the Past year and my own Operations I sold my crop of tobacco during the Winter and Spring at different Prices But it did not Bring me nearly the price I expected My crop Only Brought $1227 45 not enough to pay expenses I was trading in Horses Cattle &c with L Wilcher during the year My Portion of the profits on Horse trades Amt to $400 on Cattle we have not done so well as the buying price through the country was so high that we could not make much by buying and selling we sold 2 lots of Cattle to Thos Posey on which I received Profits Amt to $72 & one cow sold of my own which brought me $20 I sold to Robertson & Connor Cattle Amt to $134 50 We Bought the Corn on the Nesler Farm for $400 the Expenses of Gathering &c cost us about $150 and we sold the Corn to Levi Ellis for $1312 50 in cattle which will leave us a clear profit of $762 95 one Half of this my Portion $381 47 we sold 18 Head of the Cattle we got in this trade to an Evansville Butcher on which we made a profit of $17 — Apiece We have on hand at Present $276 worth of Cattle Bought of E D Powell and $353 worth Bought of Harbert Powell and $120 do of G B Martin and a few others the cost of I do not recollect I Bought 6 Hogs of J Latta for which I made a profit by feeding of $60 ~~Bought 6 of Berry~~ I sold Pork to the Amt of $204 — I Bought a crop in the Diamond Island bend of Tobacco of B H Hopkins for $400 But have not as yet wound up this trade & also bought the crop of Tobacco Raised by Thos Crowder in the bottom which will come into my next years Operations I raised a very poor crop again this year and I fear my tobacco will not yield me near what it did last year and I cannot see much prospect for the farmer to save

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December 31st 1866

themselves in their last years operations I have Paid the most of my last years hand hire and I will have my crop and all other Claims to meet my debts with which I am sorry to say are heavy as I Owe about $3000 to Pay this large debt I have my crop also the Crop in the Diamond Island Bend $1000 dollars in notes and ½ the Cattle over and above what remain to be paid for if my Tobacco crop this year was worth what it has been for several years back I would have no dificulty in paying off my debt but I cannot meet my Liabilities at present rates unless some change takes place with this short review of my years operations which I will confess have not been as satisfactory as I could have wished but as the past cannot be remedied I feel that where there is a will there is a way and I will yet overcome my Indebtedness if I have life and health This year has been a sad one to our neighborhood often have we been called upon to Follow our neighbors to the tomb and by one terrible accident 2 of our neighbors were ushered without warning into the presence of their maker when we look over the congregations at Church it makes one feel sad to see so many dressed in mourning and as we look around us we miss the familliar faces of many of our friends they have passed on like the year into Boundless eternity I feel thankfull to an all wise creator that all has been as well with me as it has that I have enjoyed good health Myself as well as my little Family with this I will take my leave of the old year and to Morrow begin the new determined to do my duty in the short struggle of life and I trust to lead a better life during the coming year than I have in the past

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January 1st 1867

This is a very cold day for the Begining of the year I went to Henderson to day There was a large number of People in town as usual on New Years day the larger proportion being Negroes who seem to be if anything in a worse condition than they were while Slaves I noticed many of them were thinly clad especially women and as I saw but few who seemed willing to Hire I think a warmer clemate would suit them better everything seems to have a downward tendency and the sales of everything to day ruled low in fact much lower than for several years I bought nothing to day and did not try to Hire any Negroes as I have more than I want Expenses to day $3—

2nd Myself and Mitchell drove to Henderson 13 Head of Beef Cattle to day that weighed 13875 lb the river was so full of Floating Ice that Navigation is suspended for the present and the man that was to receive the Cattle did not get there we left the Cattle with W H Shelfer but am afraid that the river will compell us to bring them home again Expenses to day $2—

3d I Killed 8 Hogs this morning let Bill Hopkins have 2 which with 2 that he got before weighed 499 lbs Col Ike Cooper have 3 that weighed 508 lbs Charles Lambert 3 that weighed 484 lbs all at 8cts per lb Amt to $120—

4th Getting Ice to day I only liked a few loads of filling my Ice house I was at Funeral & Burial of W F Thornberry the Funeral Sermon was preached by Elder Falls he was a King neighbor and a good citizen he died with Consumption he thus we Begin the New year by Following our friends to the tomb he was buried by the Odd Fellows This was the first time I have ever witnessed their Burial ceremonies

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January 5th 1867

Went to Henderson to day the river is full of Ice yet and our Cattle in Henderson on expenses

~~6th about the Farm doing nothing in Particular~~

6th Sunday Myself & B F Martin went to Vesler Farm ave Stoped at W S Coopers and got our dinners this was not a proper way of Spending the Sabbath and it would be better if everybody would make their business arrangements so as to avoid making an improper use of the sabbath day

7th I was hauling Lumber from Lames Old Mill to day to finish off some Negro Cabins with

8th Myself & John Baker drove a lot of Cattle to the Vesler Farm I took down to day 8 head which with 30 head that we drove there before makes 38 Head

9th Went to Henderson in company with R M Hopkins I sold My Crop of Tobacco to Joe Adams for $8 for good and Lugs & $2 for the trash low figures considering the Prices of everything else Bought to day of Mayer & Sons 3 axes $5.40 other Items & Expenses $2

10 I was at J N Taylors Sale to day I bought 2 Small 1 Horse Harrows for $3.25 and Myself & Mitchel Bought a yoke of Oxen for $105

11th At work on Negro cabins to day &

12th I managed by Hard work with the assistance of John W Rankin to get two cabins so that a Negro can live in them

13th Went to Church this Morning Elder Lacy preached

14th I went to Henderson to day this was a cool disagreeable day Expenses $1.50

15th Went to the Sherwood Place to load a wagon with tobacco this Morning I found my Bay Filly down near the the Dr Alves Farm

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Jan 15th 1867

I think she had Fallen on the Ice and Broke herself down in the Loins we managed by the assistance of Mr Maloney and his Hands to get her up and left her in his care 16th I was in the Bend Horse hunting this morning I managed after a hard Mornings ride to find my Mare & colt

17 This has been a Bitter cold day I have Been trying to Keep warm by the fire

18th Went to Henderson to day This was another cold day Expens &c $3

19th I went to the Steam Mill after a load of Lumber this Morning it has snowed verry hard all day and to night the snow is Several inches deep

20th Sunday This is a gloomy looking Sunday Morning The snow is from 8 to 10 inches deep and it is snowing as if it intended to snow all day This is the first snow of the season and from appearances it will be one long to be remembered

21st I went in company with Mr Mitchell & Bro Martin to the Nesler Farm I rented the Farm to Garrett Mitchell at $3 per Acre this was a disagreeable day for traveling as the snow is verry deep

22nd I have been Stripping Tobacco to day

23d I went a sheep Hunting in the Morning and Loaded my wagon with tobacco in the evening

24th Went to Henderson to day in a sleigh in company with B H Hopkins I delivered my tobacco to J Adams the Load weighed good 1245 Lugs 1053 I was docked 320 lb on this Load a heavy Dock and I dont think I can stand another such this load Brought me $184 Received $300 on tobacco Paid National Bank for E D Powell $100 Green & Marshall on Note of Horace Smith $40 Eayes & Lea $3.75 Ed Starling $1.50 A J Anderson $2 Vance & Fissell $4 Wakefield $1 Expenses &c $2

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Jan 27th 1867

Sunday I was at church this morning Elder Fisk Preached Went to Henderson this evening in company with Dr Norman the road this evening was allmost one solid sheet of ice and the ride was a verry disagreeable one indeed

28th I remained all night at J E Fegans I Had Business in town this morning and I have been as busy as a bee all day and accomplished but Little at that I Received from B Faulkner $110 in full of a note of Mothers that was given for a Mare sold at her sale I paid National Bank $125 for E D Powell this with what I Paid him a few days ago makes $225 which with $50 Paid before makes the full Amt I ow him for Cattle of this Amt I paid $126 Mitchell $150 Paid C A Rudy & Co on Apt $50 Other Items & Expenses $3 Let G Mitchell have $10

29th this has been a cold disagreeable day I have been about home the most of the day Paid Wakefield store apt to date $27.70 $6.60 of this amt was for Amy $6.50 for Phil $6.50 for Sam $5 for Lilburn and the Ballance $4.20 I spent for Coffee Mill Knives forks Tin cups & Pans to go to the Nesler Place Paid B F Martin $30 on Pork sold to W Vickers

30th About Home the most of the Hunting &

31st Went in company with Mitchell to the Nesler Place after Cattle we Succeeded after a Hard Days work in getting 32 head home this was a disagreeable days work the roads were verry slipperry and we had considerable dificulty in finding the Cattle

to day ends the month and I am not sorry as it has been a cold hard month throughout I do not believe there has been a pleasant day during the month and lately we have had a deep snow which wound up with a rain and a freeze which left the roads allmost impasible the weather has been too bad for work on the Farm and my Freedmen have done allmost nothing

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February 1st 1867

This has been a gloomy looking day for the beginning of the month we drove our Cattle to Henderson and Let Jerome Watson have 30 head that weighed 35020 Pounds which at 4½ Gross Amt to 1575.20 Let Sixt have 8 head that weighed 5075 Pounds at 4½ which is $223 Let Charley Gish have 2 that weighed 2200 Pounds Amt to $88 and shipped with Mr Watson 10 head we bought of Posey & Bailey $1063 worth of cattle that is 20 head the Ballance were different lots of Cattle that we had bought on which I had Paid E D Powell $126 G B Martin $92 Thos McKendrick $96 J E Bentley $25 Amt to $339 Mitchell Paid Harbert Powell $230 E D Powell $130 Jack Quinn $30 Amt to $410 the Remainder of Cattle with what we have on hand are Cattle that we got from Ellis in the Nesler Corn trade Dud Shiping Tobacco to day loaded one wagon in the evening with Bens Tobacco

3rd Sunday This has been the first pleasant day of the winter went to Church this morning Elder Dimmitt preached

4th Went to Henderson to day delivered to Adams One load of Bens Tobacco that weighed good 1300 Lugs 730 at $7 for the good and $5 for the lugs Amt to $128 ~~I remained in Henderson at Thos & Knights~~

5th Remained in Henderson last night at Thos & Knights and went to the Theatre I paid National Bank $57.80 note I gave C A Ruby & Co Also $300 on my own note and renewed one note for sixty days of $300 Paid E L Starling & Co $28 — for Groceries Other Items expenses $10 I Recived from Mitchell $800 on the Cattle sold Watson

6th Went to the Nesler Farm to day in company with Mitchell I traded the Yoke of Cattle I Bought at Nesler Sale to I P Whitman for 10 Head of Beef Cattle Bough 2 Steers from Chas Bell for $96 —

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Feb 7th
I Have been about the Farm to day raising a Negro Cabin & this has been a pleasant day
8th About the Farm again to day it turned cold about night and commenced Snowing again I bought a small crop of Tobacco for $2.25 from a negro off This is a cold Morning and if it continues to snow a fast as it has been doing for some time it will be a deep one sure I started in company with B F Martin to go to the Bend but we concluded the storm was so severe that we had better wait awhile we went down to Longs Landing in the evening and from what we could learn we concluded our cattle were safe at least for a short time yet So we came back home This has been a very disagreeable day and I have never seen it snow harder than it did this Morning
10th Sunday This has been a Beautiful day over head though it has been very cold I was at Church this morning Elder Lacy Preached &c
11th went to Henderson to day and remained in town all night at the Hancock House &
12th went to John Cheathams Sale in company with Mitchell and several others Everything sold verry high I bought 3 head of Cattle for $66 — the roads to day were in a miserable condition and I had a long disagreable day ride for I fear a very small profit
13th Went to Henderson again to day we drove up a Blind ox and sold him to Mr Rice he weighed 1700 which at 4½ is Amt to $76.50
My load of Tobacco delivered yesterday weighed good 880 Trash 445 and 250 lbs of Damaged Lugs at $4 Amt in all to $88.50 this was a portion of Bens crop I also sold the crop I bought from Dick at $7 for good $4.25 for Lugs and $1 for trash it weighed good 270 Lugs 170 Trash 135
Amt to $28.50

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Feb 14th

St Valentines day this is the day on which it is said the Birds choose their mates Geese Pair off &c but they have had a wet time if they done their courting out of doors it rained all night last night and is raining to night again I was striping tobacco to day

15th Rain Rain Rain it rained all night again last night and is raining this morning with a good prospect for another wet day I went with B F Martin to the Bottom after our stock and we were none too soon in getting down there as the river was riseing unusually fast with a good prospect to cover all the low grounds we managed after a hard days work to get the most of our Cattle as far as Dr McLaughlans where we camped for the night I got a Ducking by getting in a deep slough at the wrong place

16th We managed to get our Cattle home to day and I feel like I will try to live and keep my stock in the hills in the future Paid Mrs Cynthia Rapp $69.45 cts Amt of note I gave her in 1867

17th Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Thurman preached this was a pleasant day

18th I drove to Henderson 9 head of Cattle to day we sold to C Kriel & Son at 4 and 4½ cts Gross that is 4 head at 4½ cts and 5 at 4 cts they weighed 8810 lbs Amt to $376.10 of this Amt I received $216 — and a due Bill for the Ballance of this Amt I was entitled to $307.30/100 I started Home this evening but met my wagon and went back to town I got my supper at the Hancock House and went to hear the Rev Mr Mayes at the Baptist Church I thought he told a good many plain truths which if listened to might would do his congregation much good

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Feb. 19th 1866

I remained all night at Thos S Knights and unloaded my tobacco this morning the Load weighed good 1200 Lugs 700 and 105 lbs off for Order Amt to $152 I received from Adams on Tobacco $100 From Sixty on Cattle $100 Paid Crockett $129.40 this with $65 Paid by Mitchell Made $194.40 Amt of an Execution against me in favor of H G Cooper's Adm I also Paid J N Lyle $100 A J Leslie $38 — Ed Starling $13.80 other Items Expenses &c $5

20th I was striping tobacco this morning and went to J N Taylors in the evening Received from J T Hoskins $28.50 Amt of Note on Keeper place in His hands for collection of B H Rankin $5 — Paid Dr C C Norman $11.75

21st I was striping tobacco again this morning but it got so cold that we had to quit I traded Phil Smith a cow for a mule I gave $40 to Boot and paid him $25 — in money Loaned Sam $5 —

22nd Striping tobacco again to day &c

23d This has been a windy but pleasant I have been at work on a negro cabin

24 Sunday I was at Church this morning but did not stay to preaching this was a pleasant day

25th I loaded my wagon with tobacco and went to Henderson in the evening and

~~26~~ Remained all night at ~~with~~ Thos S Knights this load weighed Good 535 Lugs 375 Trash 590 this was a load of Bens Tobacco and they Docke the Good 12½ and Lugs 25 per cent just taking 300 lbs of the load

26th Received from D W Williams $100 on note I remained in town untill after dinner and came home in the evening Expenses &c $5 I bought for Tilburn 9 yds Domestic $2.25 1 pair of shoes $2 — for Sam 1 Pair of Boots $6 — for self 20 yds domestic 28 cts $5.60 8 yds Calico $1.60 2 Pair shoes $2 — 1 hat $5.75 ~~this~~ was a pleasant day for this bad month

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Feb 27th 1867

I went to James Coopers this morning and was surveying a piece of land I bought of A Haskins in the evening Easton the surveyor made the diference in the two tracts 7/8 of an acre which leaves me owing Haskins Estate $35—

28th I have been stripping Tobacco to day Feb could not leave us without another rainy bad spell of weather as it has rained nearly all day

This was properly the last of winter but March is generally a winter month and as the winter has been unusually severe this month will long be remembered by the occupants of low grounds as the river has been higher here perhaps than it has ever been known to be before and I expect the destruction of property has been greater than ever known as the rise in the river was so rapid that it was impossible to save their stock rails &c

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March 1st 1867

This is a pleasant day for the begining of March allthough a little wet and windy I went down to Faulkners Mill this morning in company with G B Martin the Back water at the Mill is higher than I have ever seen it before as it was about 4 feet deep in the Barn next Mrs McKendricks House I loaded a wagon with tobacco this evening and by hard work managed to get it on the road a far as Mr Eakins

2nd Went to Henderson this morning my tobacco weighed 2273 lbs and I got a receipt for 1180 lbs good 560 lbs Lugs and 345 trash the tobacco was very high and they docked it 10 per cent

3d Sunday this was a wet disagreeable day I spent the day at Home

4th It Has snowed nearly all day and to night the snow is several inches deep

5th Went to Henderson this morning to get a Boat for Mt Vernon I waited untill after Supper when the Phantom came along and for the Sum of $1.50 apiece took myself and A G Crutchfield to that Classic City after a few hours ride we Managed after Several efforts to secure a place to sleep at the Flower House I was considered Lucky to have a shuck Matrass and a Coarse Negro Blanket with everything else in Keeping to sleep on

6th Through the Kindness & Foresight of Mr C we got an excellent breakfast at a restaurant this morning when soon after Breakfast I sought out the Lawyer who has the control of the suit on my side and learned from him that it was postponed once more as the Defendants had come to the conclusion that could get more equall justice in another Court so the case had been transfered to the Circuit Court so I Had nothing to do but come Home again I got aboard the Mineola about 12 o clock in time for

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March 6th 1867

Dinner the Bottoms From Mt Vernon up Present a gloomy appearance for as far as the eye can reach it is one endless sea of water in many localities up to the 2nd story of the Houses this has been the highest rise in the river since 1832 and the Farmers in the Bottoms have suffered immense Losses some of them loosing their Stock Houses Rails Corn &c and many who were in good circumstances a few weeks ago have lost their all by this More than Flood We landed at Henderson at 4 PM and I staid all night at the Hancock House

7th I got back home this evening well satisfied that those who go to Law to get Justice had better (not go to Indiana)

8th About Home doing nothing in particular as it is too wet and Bad to do anything on a farm

9th Sowing Clover seed to day I rented from James Tilly a portion of the Haskins farm to day at $2.50 per acre The sun came out and showed its face for a little while this evening but soon disappeared again as if it were determined not to smile upon the dreary waste of waters and mud which covers the Bosom of old mother earth at the present time

10th Sunday This has been a gloomy miserable day I went to church (but) there was no preaching the prospect to night looks indeed gloomy for the Denizens of low lands as it is raining with a fair prospect to rain all night

11th I was striping tobacco that Myself and G B Martin bought of J C Bentley at Eames Mill to day this was a wet disagreeable day

12th Striping tobacco until dinner we loaded our wagons and got them out on the road beyond Mrs Floyds this evening

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March 13th 1867

Of all the Bad days during this worst of months this one has capped the climax it was verry cold when I started from home and by the time I got to Henderson the ground was frozen almost hard enough to bear a horse I came verry near freezing the two loads of Tobacco weighed Good 1195 Lugs 1495 trash 75 lb which at 8¼ for Good & Lugs & 2 for Trash amounted to $221.70 and we only had on the two Loads $48.10 I stayed all night at Thos Knights

14th The Thermometer stood 10° above Zero this morning I Received from Beverly $21 = Paid Charles Rudy & co $31 = for Groceries sent the Hope Insurance Co $15 Holloway & co $2.50 Joe Dixon $3 = Sam Smith $3 Loaned J H Jacobs $10 = Expenses &c $3. I Had a Miserable trip Home this morning as I was about 3 Hours on the road

15th this has been another disagreeable day I have been about the House too unwell to do much but feed

16th Old Mother Earth is again covered with snow this morning I have been hauling saw Logs to day we Dragged up close about where the Mill ought to be this was a good days work as it snowed nearly all day

17th Sunday I went down to Col Cooper this Morning where I spent the most of the day we walked down on the Branch where they had hauled their logs it looked like a hard prospect for a Mill as the water was about ten Foot deep where they expected to set the Mill at

The unusual rise in the river and its remaining high so long I fear will cause all of those who live in the Bottom to loose their stock as where the water gets up around them they will chill to death

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March 17th 1867

I do not remember to have ever seen a more disagreeable or harder winter than this has been and up to the present time March has been if anything worse than the winter the River Bottoms have been covered with water over a month now and is still riseing the water is now very near as high as it has ever been known and if it would commence falling now it will be a long time before the Farmers can do any work
we who live in the hills are but little better off as it has been so wet and bad that we could do but little on the farm and there are but few inland beds Burnt as yet but the good Lord doeth all for the best and while we are sometimes disposed to murmer we should reflect that all is for good to them that love the lord
18th Have been hauling Logs again to day the ground is still covered with snow
19th Getting Saw Logs again to day the snow Rapidly disappeared this morning and this evening if it was not for the Mud one could see old Brother earths verdant Surface again (J E)
20th At work getting Logs again to day
21st This has been another wet day Striping tobacco at Bens Barn
22nd Doing every thing in general and nothing in particular this was another disagreeable day
23d I went to Henderson the roads are almost impassable and the weather gloomy indeed Paid Bank & Blackwell $6.00 Expenses $5 —
24th Sunday the Sun came out Brightly this morning but after a short look it disappeared behind a cloud but finally struggled through the gloom and this has been one of the most pleasant days of this disagreeable month I was at Church this morning Elder Fisk Preached also in the evening

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March 25th 1869

This was a wet disagreable day I was stripping tobacco to day

26th Hauling Logs to day to the Mill

27th At work at the Mill stacking Lumber &c

28 At work about the Mill again to day I have got to be a lumberman at last

29th Went to Henderson this morning in Company with Sam Hopkins we got aboard the Steamer Darling a few minuets after we got to Henderson and went down to Hot Vernon I went there to attend the Old Hog Suit which has been on trial so long we got our Dinners aboard the boat and we stayed all night at the Nelson House

30th I waited in vain for a trial all day but the Court was engaged in a Divorce case which took all day the Parties to this suit were both young the Husband was a dissipated looking Fellow while the woman was a Beautiful young lady just in the first Bloom of womanhood I could not from the evidence feel much sympathy for either of the Parties as it was rather of a scandalous nature we got aboard the Steamer Phantom at 10 oclock at night and we were landed in Heyderson at 2 oclock AM we got a bed at the Hancock House and Breakfast this morning after which we came Home through the rain in time for church Elder Fallan preached to day ends the month of March and it has been truly a long dismal month and I am not sorry that its 31 days are past and gone they month has been so disagreable that it has been impossible to do anything on the farm

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April 1st 1867

This has been a pleasant day for the beginning of the month I went Back to Mt Vernon to attend the Hog trial again this morning I went as far as Longs Landing on Horse Back and from there down I went a portion of the way on a small trading Boat and the remainder of the trip in a Skiff accomplishing the whole distance of 12 miles in 6 Hours The great Hog suit came off this evening and the Jury could not agree so the whole thing will have to be done over again

2nd I staid all night at the Nelson House and hired a Man to take me to Long Landing in a skiff this morning and got home to dinner so ends my Fourth effort to get Justice in Indiana my expenses during this trip Amt to $35.

3d I have been busy taking away and stacking Lumber at the Mill to day

4th At work at Mill again to day

5th do do do

6th went to Henderson to day this was a pleasant day and the roads will soon be Passable again Expenses $3—

7th Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Dimmit preached

8th five that is James Green Gabe Lilly and myself Moved the Mill to Mr Tattas to day we succeeded in moving the whole concern without much dificulty

9th went to the Sherwood place to day Sold one Pen of corn to Mr Clay at 65 & 75 cts per Bushell that is 200 Bushels at 65 & 124 at 75 cts Amt to $220

10th A portion of my Freedmen were rolling Logs to day and I have been acting Boss in a small way Sold G W Bruce a Yoke of Oxen for $75— and Bought a Horse from Geo H Rankin for $130.

11th I went to the Sherwood place and from there to Henry Eynes Sale I bought a Horse for $137—

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April 12th
Went to Mt Vernon and over the Walnut Bottom in search of the Almighty dollar to day but did not succeed in getting a single dollar Expenses $1
13th Went to Henderson & delivered to Adams a load of tobacco which weighed Good 1050 Lugs 320 they docked off the 70 lbs and gave me a receipt for 1300 lbs which Amt to $120 received of Adams on tobacco $100 D W Williams $30 on Note of J W Jacobs $10 = Paid Ben Williams $30 J W Tolle on Corn $10 = Expenses De $3
14th Sunday I was at Sabbath School and Church this morning Elder Isaac preached and this evening we are having a regular April shower
15th At work about the Farm & I sold W Haskins 762 ft of Lumber at $2 per Hundred Amt $15.24cts
I started my Plows at the Haskins Place to day
16th Went to Henderson with a load of Beans Tobacco the Load weighed Good 850 Lugs 650 Trash 375 = Paid B W Williams $22 = Ballance on Apt of Sol Powell for 2 Bushels Potatoes
17th At work about the Farm & Paid C Fisher $50
18th The Freedmen Boys & Isaac had a Log Rolling to day and I have been endeavoring to Boss the Job
19th I Helped J W Lilly survey the Land I rented from him on the Haskins place this morning and we made 25 acres in all for which I am to pay $4.25 Per acre
20th At work in Garden & to day
21st Sunday I was at Church to day Elder Thurman Preached
22nd I was Hunting Cattle &c to day
23d Went to Henderson Expenses &c $3
24th Commenced Planting Corn at the Haskins Place to day
25th Went to Mt Vernon Ind in company with J W Lilly Received from D W Douglass $156 in full of Note he gave me for a Horse expense &c $2.

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April 26th

About the Farm &c to day
27th went to Mt Vernon 2nd in company with
Adelia & Miss Jennie Hancock Paid Bills to
the Amt of $40 Expenses &c $3 — this was a
very cool day for the season
28th Sunday at church in the morning Elder
Fisk Preached also in the evening
29th Went to Henderson to day in company
with Miss Jennie Hancock & was at the
Speaking At the Court House Mr Ritter spoke
first he failed to get the nomination for
congress in the Democratic convention and
concluded to Bolt and by his chance before
the People he made a Verry good Speech but
I expect he was wasting his breath for nothing
John Young Brown followed Mr Ritter he is
one of the finest Speakers in the Country
and he handled Mr Ritter without gloves
I Only heard a portion of Mr Smiths Speech
and from what I heard I think him a man
of Talent but unfortunately on the wrong
Side Expenses &c $3
30th to day ends the month of April the
month has been very cool ~~and backward~~
although pleasant and altogether a good
month for the Farmer to get work done
but not warm enough for anything to grow
and now at its close everything looks
as Backward as it should be by the 1st
I have not done much on the farm
and if my Freedmen do not do better
I will make a failure sure
The prospect for fruit and Grain was never
better than at the present time and I
think now too late for frost to do any
serious damage
the Tobacco plants look like we might
have a failure in that important crop
as now you can scarcely see them
I have planted about 25 Acres of Corn
So far More anon

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May 1st 1867

This has been a cool day for the Begining of May as a fire has been verry pleasant I went down to Faulkners Mill and Loded my wagon with James E Bentleys tobacco and the ballance of the day I spent cow Hunting

2nd Went to Henderson to day the Load of Bently tobacco weighed Good 230lb Trash 1315 we made on this Load about $14 which with $48 on the first Loads Amt to $62 on the whole crop received from Stratman & co $9.45 for two cow Hides Expenses &c $5

3d At work on fence &c to day

4th I was clerk of the election at Longs Landing to day the vote Polled was a verry small one as only 65 votes were polled John Young Brown received 64 H Turner and A V Oliver were elected Magistrates & J T Hoskins constable

5th Sunday This has been a wet disagreeable day and Last night we had a verry hard rain I was at church this evening Elder Dimmit preached

6th Cattle Hunting &c to day

7th I sold to a Mr Hudson 10 head of yearlings at $18 Per head Amt to $180 went to Henderson to day I Paid Green Marshall & co $100 Borrowed money of Anderson Vantrice for work $15 other Items & expenses $10

8 Went to the Sherwood Place after a load of tobacco this morning I managed to get on a small load but it was most too dry to handle went to Henderson in the evening and remained all night at Mrs Nesler

9th My Tobacco weighed Good 610 Lugs 300 trash 205lb Amt to $76.90 this was a partnership load of mine and Ben Hopkins

10th At work about the Farm &c to day

11th do do do

12th Went to Sunday school and church to day Elder Lacy preached and in the evening lectured on temperance

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May 13th 1867

About the Farm &c this month so far has been verry cool and to day has been cold enough to make one set over the fire

14th Doing Nothing in particular

15th At work about the farm

16th do do do

17th About home in the morning went a fishing in the evening

18th Went to Henderson in company with Thos Smith Paid Martin & Co for Goods bought to day $9.65 Paid Ben Hopkins on Cow $10 Rouse & Quinn $5 Expenses &c $3

19th Sunday this morning was too wet for church I went to Col Coopers in company with Thos Smith in the evening

20th At work about the Farm &c

21st do do do

22nd There was a trial of three of our neighborhood Boys for disturbing a congregation at worship before Esquire Turner at the Point to day and I was summoned as a witness for the Commonwealth the Jury returned a verdict clearing them of the charge &c

23d Went to Henderson to day in company with Miss Jennie Hancock expenses &c $2

24th Replanting Corn on the Haskins place to day

25th Striping tobacco at the Sherwood place this has been a wet day

26th I was at church this morning Elder Fisk Preached we had a Bridal Party at church that attracted considerable attention Mr Peters of Union Co Married a Mrs Freels of this Neighborhood they looked the verry personification of Happiness and I hope their Brightest dreams may be realized

27th I went to the Sherwood place and Loaded my wagon to day this would pass for a wet day as it has rained the most of the time

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May 26th

Went to Henderson with my Wagon the load of tobacco weighed good 700 Lugs 125 Trash 140 lbs they docked off 45 cts from the Good and 75 from the Lugs the load Amt to $147.30 This was the last of the Hopkins Crop with the exception of 3 or 400 lbs of trash the Crop Amt to $361.70

29th I went to Henderson to day with a load of my own tobacco the Load weighed good 1130 Lugs 540 Trash 450 Amt to $142.60

~~30th I Have been at work putting up fence to day &c~~

30th I went to the Sherwood place after some Tobacco and Corn that I had left there this wound up my Interest in the crop raised upon that place I paid $400 for my half of the corn & Tobacco and I lost over $100 in the trade and I think I will be more carefull in the future how I deal in growing crops

31st I was assisting the hand to put up fence to day &c

31st the day Brings me to the close of the month of May &

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June 1st 1867

At work about the farm &c to day this was a pleasant day for the beginning of the month

2nd I was at Sabbath School & Church this morning Elder Dimmitt Preached

3rd went with a Mr Powers to the Alves Farm to look at wagon belonging to C H Priest this morning &c

4th Setting out tobacco to day this was my first Setting

5th went to Henderson to day after some Tobacco Hogsheads

6th I unloaded C B Martins wagon a Longs Landing and Put the Tobacco in Hogsheads to ship to Henderson

7th went to Henderson this Morning I Delivered to Beverly for Figtman &co 1720 lbs Good Tobacco 600 lbs Lugs the Good at $8 35 and $6 for the Lugs Amt to $179 20 I Bought this tobacco at J H Crowders Sale I went to the Fair in the evening the crowd was small and but little stock on exhibition

8th I went to the Fair to day in company with Dr Mc Laughlan there was a larger crowd to day but I fear the spring Fair is a failure so far as making Money was concerned I remained in town all night at J S Knights Expenses $7

9th Sunday Came Home this morning and went to Church &c

10th Setting out tobacco &c to day

11th Went with James C Tilley to Search for a thief who had Broken open his house and stolen some Clothing Money &c we arrested a young Man that he had in his employ and found the stolen goods in the wheat field after we found the goods the young man confessed Everything and showed where the money was hid we took him to Henderson and after a preliminary trial before Judge Thorpe he was Committed to Jail

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June 12th 1867

I remained in town all night and came home this morning and have been setting out tobacco all day

~~13th About the Farm &c to day~~

~~14th Doing Nothing in particular~~

~~16th of June to the 30th Nothing of particular interest has occured in the 15 days past I have~~

13th Went to the Nesler Farm with Hector Green to Survey the Cleared Land we got through and I came back as far as T P Whitmans where I staid all night

14th Came Home to dinner to day Paid Hector Green $5 for surveying

15 About the Farm &c to day

16th Sunday Elder Fallan preached the Funeral Sermon of Miss Franscina Cheatham to day

17th 18th 19th 20th 21st Doing Nothing in particular

22nd I commenced Cutting my wheat to day my May wheat I think will make an average yield

23d Sunday there was no preaching in the neighborhood to day and I have spent a Lazy day at home

24th Went to Evansville to day after some Small Wheels for a thasher I left home at daylight and got to Evansvill by 8 oclock I remained in evansvill untill 1 oclock PM when I came back to Henderson on the ~~Morning Star~~ News Boy and got back home before Sun down Expense &c $12.

25th About home in the morning went to a weding in company with Miss Virginia Hancock at E D Powells at night and Saw J W Eakins and Miss Sallie Powell united in the Holy Bands of Matrimony I sincerely wish this couple a long and prosperous voyage over times tempestous Ocean and hope they may find the pure Joys of weded bliss unalloyed and disturbed only by the advent

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June 25th 1867

of Little blessings to enliven lifes monotony
26th went to Henderson to day but as I did
not get the Irons I expected by the morning
Boat I went on to Evansville I got the Irons
and came back to Henderson in time for supper
and came home at night Expenses &c $3
27th I have been Thrashing Wheat to day
we managed after a hard days work to
Thrash out all of my May Wheat I think
it will make about 150 bushels
28th Farming Wheat we Farmed over 100
Bushels But did not finish
29th I deliver to J C Clapp one load of Wheat
to day 49 bushels I settled J Adams for
my last years tobacco and received a
Ballance of $160 10 Paid Martin & Co $43 =
on Act
30th Sunday about home all day as I
have been too unwell to stir around much
This was the last day of June this month
has been very favorable to the farmer the
beginning of the month was wet and favorable
for setting out tobacco and lately it has
been dry But if we have rain soon none
too dry for the farmer

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July 1st 1867

About the Farm &c to day this has been a very hot day and if July keeps on like she has commenced it Will be a hot month
2nd Went to Henderson to day with Wheat again I delivered to Staff 70½ Bushels making in all 120½ Bushels at $2 per Bushel Amt to $241
3d About the Farm &c to day
4th Our National Anniversary I spent the day at a Barbecue at L L Hancocks we had a fine rain this morning and I thought for awhile that the crowd would be a small one but it cleared away about 10 oclock and Hancock had a very respectable crowd
5th Doing nothing in Particular
6th I was Mill Boy to day for Smith & Co
7th Sunday I was at church to day Elder Dimit Preached &c
8th Went to Henderson to day in company with Miss Virginia Hancock and to a Ball at L L Hancocks At night Expenses &c $5
9th Went to Henderson again to day
10th Doing nothing in Parlicular
11th At work about the Farm &c to day
12 do do do
13th I was at church this morning Elder Whitington Preached and at speaking in the evening at L L Hancocks grove Messrs Anderson & Spalding Candidates for State Senate and Mr Bennett for Judge of the Court of Common Pleas Spoke
14th Sunday I was at church this morning Elder Whitinghill preached
15th This has been a very wet day Commenced cutting my Meadow this evening
16th Finished cutting my Meadows to day &c
17th I have been Raking hay with a Horse Rake &c to day
18th Went to Henderson in company with Allie Chester This morning Expenses &c $2
19th About the Farm in the forenoon we

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July 18th 1867

left home our quiet city of the Point was in an unusual state of excitement over the attempt of a young gent to carry off a young lady from under the protecting wing of her adopted parents the young man (Robert Sherwood) drove up boldly to the House but was informed that his Lady love was under lock and key and if he came in he would meet with a warm reception (but not from Miss Vallie) the young gent not liking the turn affairs were taking went to Henderson where by the aid of P. B. Peissell Esqr he obtained a writ of Habeas Corpus and R B Rouse City Marshall armed with this Formidable document came down and stormed the Fort and after a fierce Battle (Pen) of words relieved the fair Sallie from Durance vile and consigned her to the tender care of her despirate Lover they came on to Henderson where she chose a guardian &c and then returned back to J H Clays where Edder Fallan tied the knot for them about 10 oclock (A M) and I sincerely trust that though this young couple commenced their Married lives in clouds and troubles that their future may be bright Prosperous and Happy I Beame one of the wedding company through accident as I had started home and met them on the road and turned back to see the turn affairs would take in Henderson we got a good supper at Clays and I got home at 12 oclock

19th At work about the farm in the morning went to Meetings in the evening

20th At work on Farm in the Morning went to hear Bob Glass Speak in the evening but got there too late as he was done speaking

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July 21st 1867

Sunday I was at Church to day Dr Stinson of Evansville Preached I was also at singing in the evening

22nd Went to Henderson to day I delivered to Adams the last of my tobacco crop the load weighed 1940 this was all trash and only Brot me $38.80 Expenses &c to day $12—

23d Went to Garett Mitchells this morning and William Gittins in the evening to take his wifes Acknowledgement to a deed in the evening

24th At work about the Farm &c to day

25th Doing nothing in particular

26th Went to Charles Elliotts to day in company with Thos S Knight this was a hot sultry day and this evening we have had an unusually heavy rain which I greatly fear has done much damage to the Tobacco crops

27th I went to Charles Fallans this morning and have been restacking my lumber that had washed away by the floods yesterday evening the recent heavy rains I fear will greatly damage the tobacco crop as a great deal of mine was completely Flooded

28th Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Fisk preached went to singing in the evening

29th Went to Henderson to day in company with G B Martin we delivered the Last of our Crowder tobacco this Load Brought us $144.45 which with $177.90 the Amt delivered before makes $322.35 the expenses all told for Shiping delivering &c Amt to $44 Leaving a Net profit of $123.35 this done very well considering we lost so much by high water &c Expenses &c $5

30th About home to day doing nothing in particular

31st to day ends the month this has been a fine month for grass Corn &c but too wet for Tobacco there has perhaps more rain fallen during this month than was ever known in the month of July before I went to Charles Elliotts in the Bottom after some Cattle to day but did not succeed in getting them

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Aug 1st 1867

I have begn Threshing wheat to day we had a verry heavy rain about 12 o'clock a.m. I got my wheat considerably wet

Old Aunt Milly died this morning she had been gradually sinking under old age for a long time and at last her feeble frame had to yield to times relentless course she had lived to see generation after generation Pass away over 100 years she had lived through lifes Changeful vicisitudes My Earliest recollections are connected with the old negroes on my Fathers Place in infancy this Poor old negro watched over me and now as I look back over the past and remember the many acts of Kindness the many tokens of affection allways shown to me by this aged negress I can but shed a tear over her memory she was verry old when I was but a child in fact too old to be considered usefull on the farm and her and her husband Mingo lived in a cabin on my Fathers Farm and only worked when they saw proper to do so Mingo died about 20 years ago since which time Milly was supported by my Father up to his death and from that time until now by the Family and her Nephew Ben

She had been a Member of the Baptist church about 25 years and she often talked to me on the subject of religion she has often expressed herself of late years that she wanted to go and be with her saviour and I trust though ignorant and superstitious she was a christian an humble Follower of the meek and Lowly saviour and as it was gods will to let her live beyond the usual age of mortals to let her live until there was none of her old playmates and youthfull companions but had long since passed away I have no doubt he had a wise purpose in so doing and I trust he has now taken her to himself where the humblest servant is as happy as the noblest in the land Farewell old aunt Milly forever on earth and oh may I be permitted to meet you where age does not dim the eye and where you can see me once more with eyes that will never be clouded by death

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Aug 2nd 1867

that will never be dimmed by age or close in death may I meet you where angels vie arround the throne of glory and as I trust your spirit has allready done hear the welcome applaudit well done good and faithfull servant enter thou into the joys of the Lord

3d We burried old Aunt Milly this morning I was to day solemly impressed by the burrial services of the negroes there was a large crowd present at the Burrial and instead of standing arroun as is usuall the custom among the whites they sung hyms of praise as only the negro can sing while filling up the grave &c

3d Went to Henderson to day I carried up 3/4 bushel of peaches which Brought me $4 per Bushel amt to $13 I spent about this amt for Merchandise &c I came by the negro Barbecue at the Fair grounds there was an immense crowd of negroes gathered there and they seemd to be orderly and well behaved

4th Sunday I was at Church to day Elder Dimmit preached

5th Went to the Election in the Walnut Botton and acted as clerk the vote Polled was not a large one as there was only about 145 votes taken

6th Went to Henderson to day in company with J T Lilly I settled with him for his wifes Portion of a note due from me to Haskins Estate for Land amt to $157 10/100 I let him have two notes one on G B Martin the other on B F Martin amt to $79 and gave him my own note due 60 days after date for $78 Expenses &c $3

7th About home doing nothing in particular

8th At work fixing to build some plank fence

9th Went to Charles R Fallans and wrote a deed and took his & his wifes acknowledgments &c I fooled away nearly all this day and got nothing for it

10th Went to Corrydon this morning

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Aug 11th 1867

I was at church to day Elder Lacy Preached &c

12th Went to Henderson to day I carried up 3½ Bushels of Peaches that brought me $10.50 Expense $3

13th at work about the Farm &c to day

14th Went to Henderson to day I went by Mitchells and took Mrs Mitchells ackn to a deed to W F Ball this settles my connection with the James Green Place

15th At work about the Farm to do

16th do do do

17th Went to Henderson again to day &c

18th Sunday Went to Highland Church Elder Ezell preached took dinner at Robert Hollingsworths

~~19th At work restacking~~

19 Went to Henderson again to day on Business

20th I have been at work about my lumber yard to day

21st do do

22nd ~~Went to~~ a Pic Nic in the Walnut bottom There was a large crowd present and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves finely

23d I had a verry hard ague this morning and have been too unwell to be about all day

24th I have been sick all day and not able to do much but stay in the House

25 Sunday I was too unwell to leave the house ~~to day~~ this morning but went to church in the evening Elder Fisk preached

26th ~~About home to day~~ Went to Henderson to day &c

27th 28 29 30th I have been too unwell to do much allthough I have managed to sell considerable lumber during the week

31st to day ends the month of Aug it has truly been a long dry month allthough lately we have had some fine showers which will greatly benefit the growing crops I was in Henderson to day again &c

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Sept 1st 1867

Sunday we had company to day and as there was no church I remained about home all day

2nd Went to Mt Vernon Ind in company with G G Lilly came home in the evening and went to a one Horse show at Mr Lattas at night the old adage is still a true one a fool and his money is soon parted

3d Went in company with Mitchell to Dr Baileys after ~~about Cattle I Bought of C E Cooksey~~

4th At work on a tobacco barn to day

5th Went to Hosea Smiths to a Barn raising this morning I Bought of John Baker 8 head of Cattle for $100

6th Went to Henderson to day with Mrs Nesler there was a fine rain in the city but when I got home I found it had rained but very little ~~[illegible]~~ there the Farmers bright prospects are rapidly disappearing with the long continued drouth

7th Went to Henderson again to day with J R Smith the weather at this time is cool and Pleasant

8th Sunday I was at Church this morning Elder Taylor Preached I also went to Corrydon in the evening Elder Taylor Preached again

9th About home to day at work on Barn &c

10th Do Do

11th Went to Henderson to day &c

12th At work about the Farm

13th Some Thief who wanted Bacon made a raid on my hams last night and took all we had minus one I have been looking about a little with the Hope that I might discover some one eating ham

14th I have been looking around again to day and a good portion of the night but with no success

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Sept 15th 1867

Sunday there has been no church to day and I have been about home

16th I was raising my Barn to day but did not get more than half done

17th At work on Barn again to day

18th Went to Henderson in company with Adelia to day this was one of the warmest day I have ever felt in Sept

19th At work on Barn again to day

20th I went with J V Lilly to Dr Cooper's this morning to take acknowledgements to a deed also to Mrs Cabells in the evening we finished raising my Barn to day

21st Went to Henderson in company with Jennie Hancock I was at the Circus of Maginley Carroll & co somethings this company Performed very well but a mans money is about all they want at such places

22nd Sunday about home all day as there was no preaching a poor way of serving the lord

23d Commence Cutting Tobacco to day

24 Houseing Tobacco in the Barn in the Orchard

25th Went to Henderson I heard to day a Portion of the proceedings and the Speech of John Young Brown in the Murder Case of the Commonwealth Vs Brownlee and my impression was that he ought to be hung it seems strange that men will let their passions master them so far as to Bring so much trouble and distress not only upon themselves but upon others to see as I did to day a man guilty of the worst crime known to the law facing a Jury of twelve men who held his life in their hands and were sworn to do Justice his wife who looked like she had been well raised setting by him crying, I would sooner have taken my life into

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Sept 25th 1867

My life into my hands and have gone unbidden into the presence of my creator than to have been placed in this mans situation Oh god what a warning to evryone in that courthouse to avoid such an awfull fate as this man no doubt deserves

26th At work about the Farm &c

27th Went to Mt Vernon Ind to day to attend the Hog trial Against Beard & Deiterly My witnesses were not present so I had to Put off the Case

28th I was at Esquire Turners Court to day Our Magistrates Courts are becoming to be as large as were ever known in the worst days of the County

29th Sunday this was the fith Sunday and as there was no preaching I remained at home

30th Went to Henderson to day to day winds up the month of September it has been a ~~verry~~ dry month otherwise verry pleasant

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Oct 1st 1867

Went to the Fair to day this was the 1st day of the Fair the Crowd was a small one — and everything else in proportion I entered Apples in three different classes and Peaches in one and I think my chances good for one or two premiums

2nd Went to the Fair again to day there was a larger crowd of People on the grounds than yesterday but the fair itself is a Poor one with the exception of Floral Hall where everything looks really Fine and will favorably compare I think with any other Association through the Kindness of one of the directors I got the entry into the Hall and I noticed I had got two Blue & two Red Ribbons that is I took a premium on the best 20 varieties & on the best 5 and the certificate on the Best Eating apple and the Best plate of Peaches

3d Both of my children were sick to day and I remained at Home

4th Went to the fair again to day the crowd to day was a large one and the exhibition something better

5th Went to the fair again to day in company with Adelia to day Rosers this exhibition and I am not sorry

6th I was at church to day Elder Dimitt preached he was pretty hard on fairs and I dont know but he is about right

7th I went to James H Powells Sale to day Received from J H Powell $46.50 Amt of debt assigned to me by J R Smith

8th My little boy has been sick to day and I have been about the House the most of the day

9th Bob Lee has been worse to day and I have been endeavoring to keep him in the House and give him Medicine

10th I have passed through one of the most trying nights of of my existence my little

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Oct 10th 1867

Boy has been very bad with Membraneous croup and this morning is in a dieing condition I sent for Doctor Hodge from Henderson and he informed me there was but one chance for him and that was to put a tube in the windpipe to keep him from choking to death he and Dr Norman performed the operation and this evening I have some faint hopes as my little Boy seems to Breath easy and the Doctors say he is doing well

11th My hopes have been greatly revived this morning as my little Boy seems much better But oh how changed to night as now it seems that it will be impossible for him to live until morning and the Doctors have given him up to die

12th I have Passed through the most trying night of my existence through the long night my Poor little Boy has struggled for Breath and this morning at 5 oclock this little spirit took its flight home to his creator and god

Oh my god how can I bear this blow how can I give up my Darling boy it seems as I go out alone this morning that the world is all dark and dreary that life to me will indeed almost be a Burden he was our eldest and from infancy he has ever exhibited a childish devotion to me that was remarkable he was the constant little companion of all my walks or rides about the farm or neighborhood and the life of our little home but oh I thank my saviour that he said while on earth suffer little Children to come unto me for of such is the Kingdom of heaven and oh what a consolation it was to me when he twined his little arms around my neck for the last time on earth perfectly conscious of everything around him that though we were parted here by the cruel hand of death yet I could go to him and I felt to pledge him to meet in that Heaven where there will be no more sickness,

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Oct 12th 1867

to death with croup so parting there no heart breaking scenes like the one We have just past through Oh my god to see his little pleading look and witness his sufferings allmost bereft me of reason but now all is ov he lies calmly sleeping in death and as I look upon his lovely features I feel that he is happy yes happy with Jesus and though I shall miss you all along the journey of life though I often turn and look for your little smileing face and miss your laughing joyous voice I can give him up for it would be selfish in me to wish him back in this cold unfeeling world I have suffered during the last 24 hours it seems as much as mortal can endure but I feel mine has been a selfish sorrow for while I have mourned for him his happy spirit has been with the angels around the throne of god Bright winged messengers bore him home he met a joyous welcome as he neared that blissful Paradise from loved ones who had gone on before

Oh what a cheering thought to the Christian that this world with all its sorrows will soon pass away and soon I like my little Boy must taste the Bitter cup of death but if I live aright I can go to him I can meet him on the shores of Sweet deliverance and we will Part no more Forever god give me strength to keep the vow I made with his little arms twined around my neck in the last struggle with death that I would meet him in heaven

and Oh may I be allways able to adopt the language of the apostle yea though I walk throught the Valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil thy rod and thy staff do comfort me and again we have the Sweet assurance that if we are his People he will never forsake us that his watchfull eye will never be over us and that the afflictions of this life will work out for us a far exceeding and more eternal weight of glory

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Oct 13th 1867

This is a calm beautifull Sabbath morning Oh how bright and beautifull the earth looks this morning but oh how sad and lonely my little home looks in contrast to the bright scene without my little Boy lies cold in the embrace of death in the house from which we must soon Togar him to his long home in the old grave yard kind friends bore his little remains to the Metho dist church where Elder Tacy Preached his Funeral Sermon from 2nd Corinthians 9th verse My grace is Sufficient for the Oh what a cheering theme to a Poor stricken heart and I could but feel that were it not for the grace of God in this trying hour I would indeed have been of all men most Miserable after the sermon we bore him to the grave where surrounded by his Kindred dead I must leave his little Body

Farewell my Bright eyed Beautifull boy forever on earth Farwell till I meet you in heaven though I walk the earth desolate and dreary though the heart allmost breaks in the struggle yet it wont be long for though years may come and go though sometimes it will seem long yet time is hastening us all on the road and soon I may be sleeping by your side

14th I have been About my sad and dreary little home to day though the sun shines brightly yet oh how sad the world looks to me without my Boy

15th About the Farm &c

16th Went to Henderson

17th About the Farm again to day

18th do do do

19th I went to Henderson again to day this week has been warm and pleasant though verry dry I have spent a sad and lonely week Oh how dreary this world seems and were it not that I have other duties and other ties to bind me to earth I would gladly lie down in the grave by the side of my boy

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Oct 20th 1867

Sunday A calm beautifull fall day as warm as September I went to church this morning but the preacher did not come

21st About the Farm &c

22nd I went a fishing with Henry Finley we went to the river at the ~~Bob~~ Alves place but the day was most too windy for fishing we caught about 40 little fellows

23d About home doing nothing in particular

24 Doing nothing in particular

25 I Drove 4 head of Cattle to Henderson to C Sechtig they weighed 3500 lbs which at 3½ cts amounts to $122 50/100 this was a disagreeable morning though it did not rain enough to do much good

26th About home to day

27th Sunday this has been another Beautifull day I went to church Elder Fallan preached &c

28 About the Farm &c

29th Went to Henderson in company with Adele we went up to get Minnies Photograph &c

30th Doing nothing in particular

31st to day Ends the month of Oct it has been a verry dry but pleasant month I began the month like many others with pleasant anticipations I looked forward to a pleasant autum surrounded with my little Family but god saw fit to order it otherwise and before half of the beautifull month was gone my little Boy had passed away with it all my dreams for him were forever laid in the cold cold grave and I have been left to walk through this world sad and Lonely Oh how lonely god only knows for I often turn and look for a bright smiling little face that I will see no more on earth often I see some little token by the way side which tells me my lost one has been there often have I left the gay and the thoughtless crowd when memory would revert to his little smiling face to ask of my god strength to bear this great grief but I know it is wrong to mourn for my little one, for he is Happy in Heaven

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November 1st 1867

This has been another pleasant day I was again called upon to day to mourn with those who seemed to be suffering all that they could bear as instead of one in this case the Parents were called upon to give up two of their children within a few hours of each other they were Children of John Harrington ~~oboth~~ were burried in the same coffin

2nd Went to Henderson to day in company with Sam Hopkins

3d Sunday I went to church this morning but was too late for Preaching we had a fine rain this evening the first good rain for the last two months

4th Went to Henderson to day in company with G Mitchell I had business in the Quarterly Court for the Nesler Estate

5th Went to Henderson again to day with L L Hancock the case between myself & John Green was called and I was forced to continue on account of the absence of one of my witnesses

6th At work about the Farm &c to day

7th Doing nothing in particular

8th About the Farm &c to day

9th I was at Church meeting this morning Elder Lacy preached

10th Sunday I was at Church again this morning Elder Lacy preached &c I was also at a prayer meeting at night

11th I drove 4 head of Cattle to Henderson to day which I sold to C Sechtig the 4 weighed 3190 which at 3½ A gross amounted to $111 65/100

12th doing nothing in Particular

13th I was cow hunting to day in company with W H McKinnie we rode all day but found no cattle

14th About the Farm &c to day

15th do do

16th Went in Company with B F Martin & wife to Thos S Knights where we staid all night

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November 17th 1867

Sunday We went 8 miles above Henderson to James Hatchetts Pond to witness one of the most impressive scenes that ever falls to the lot of man that is Baptism by immersion Elder J S Coleman was the administrator he Baptised Fifty nine persons in 48 minuets this was the Largest number of persons I have ever seen Immersed at one time and to day as I stood around that large beautifull pond in the midst of a very large congregation the mind wandered back to a similar scene recorded in the bible when ~~all~~ John the Baptist was preaching in the wilderness of Judea I thought of the great Multitudes who came to johns Baptism and were baptised by him in Jordan I thought of the Blessed Saviour going down into the water thereby setting an example to be followed by all them forever afterwards and as I looked upon that large crowd of young converts Marching to the water Singing the sweet songs of Zion the heart was lifted up with rapture and delight at gods great goodness to man and I thought of the vision of John when he saw a mighty host whom no man could number who had washed their robes in the blood of the lamb around the throne of god this Band of converts professed to have washed their robes by repentance & Faith in Jesus Christ and now they were going to follow his example by going down into the water and being Buried with him in Baptism to arise hencefourth to walk with christ in newness of life and I trust though a stranger to nearly all of them that they may all be faithfull to the end and when that great day shall dawn for which all other days were made they may all be found marching with the Blood washed throng and with Jesus their saviour We came back to Henderson to dinner

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Nov 17th 1867

We that is Thos S Knight & Wife Alice Vanbuskirk Adelia & Myself went back to Zion Church at night we found the house very much crowded but through the Kindness of Bro Bennett we got seats near the pulpit Elder Coleman addressed the young members of the Church on Church History after he closed his lecture the Church gave the right Hand of Fellowship to the young members The invitation was given to those who wished to join the church when Six Person came forward after which Elder Peay Lectured on communion and the Lords Supper was administered to a Large Body of Christian Believers this was another Interesting occasion to me and I will long remember this meeting and I trust Profit by it

We got back to Henderson at 11 oclock &c

18th We remained in town until after dinner we took dinner at Jas E Fegans and came home in the evening

19th I went in company with S Mitchell to Charles Balls this morning after some cattle I managed to find my old Cow and drove her home I also bought a cow & calf from Marion Hancock for $27.50 cts

20th About the Farm &c to day

21st Went to Henderson to day &c

22nd About the Farm again to day

23d Went to Mt Vernon Ind in company with Sam Hopkins went to Prayer Meeting at the Cypress Church at night

24th Sunday the long Spell of dry weather seems about wound to a close this morning as it is raining with a good prospect for a wet day

25th I have been Cow hunting &c to day

26th Went to Henderson the recent rains have spoiled all of our good roads if they have done nothing more

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Nov 27th 1867

I have been Striping tobacco to day but the damp weather has made it so high that it is a poor business

28th Doing nothing in particular

29th When I awoke this morning it was raining and about 10 o'clock it commenced snowing and kept it up in true winter style all day

30th Last night was verry cold and to day would have passed well for winter in most any climate I have been about the house endeavoring to keep warm and by the aid of a good fire have partially succeeded November has I suppose concluded to give us a specimen of winter before leaving that we might have a foretaste of what was coming but we have no cause to grumble with the fall that has passed away with to day as it has been dry and pleasant throughout I have done but little this fall on the farm and from present indications will not do much this winter as the present system of labor is such that we cannot expect much to be done I have had but little heart to engage in anything myself for everywhere I go I can but bear with me a sad sad heart oft as I wander over the farm I find myself looking for a little loved form sometimes I fancy I hear a loved voice now forever hushed on earth and then again the sad reality comes to my heart that death has robbed me of my Boy Oh my god how I have suffered is alone known to thee but amid these heavy trials I have been enabled to look up to heaven and in the language of the Poet say Give joy or grief give ease or pain take life or friends away but let me meet them all again in that eternal day

and oh my little one I intend by the grace of god to meet you on the shores of sweet deliverance and though I cannot help weeping over the memory of your short life time I will not murmur for like Job to his will I must be still and know that he is god

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Dec 1st 1867

Old Mother Earth is carpeted over with snow this morning truly an unpromising begining of the month I was at church to day Elder Dimit preached

2nd Went to Henderson to day I was summoned there as a witness by H F Coopers Adm &c

3d Doing nothing in particular

4th 5th 6th nothing of Interest Occured

7th I was at Church to day Elder Lacy preached also at night

8th Sunday at church again to day Elder Lacy Preached also at night when Elder Brodie a young Methodist Preacher preached

9th Went to Henderson to day ~~&c~~ at Church at night

10th I killed my hogs to day we managed by hard work to kill 40 head that is 23 of my own and 17 of Mr Lattas

11th I was at Church to day there is now a good prospect for a revival as there are a number of mourners

12th 13th 14th 15th I have been attending Church all the week we have had an interesting meeting the Christian portion of the Community have been much revived and a number have made a public profession of religion Elder Lacy has been assisted a portion of the time by Elder Utley I have enjoyed myself unusually well during this meeting and feel this Sabbath evening that it is indeed good to wait upon the lord

16th Went to Henderson to day in company with Miss Jennie Haskins and to Church at night

17th I was at Church again to day also at night

18th At Church again to day there has been so far about 14 Professions and 11 addition to the Church

19th I went down to Longs Landing in company with B F Martin and Thos S Knight to the Baptizing Elder Lacy immersed

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Dec 19th 1867

10 Persons 5 young men 3 young Ladies 1 old Lady and a negro girl in the Ohio river Notwithstanding the cold and the Floating Ice they were desirous of following the example of their saviour by being Buried with him by Baptism and I trust they may all walk humbly before him and devote their lives to his service we got our dinners at James H Crenshaws and at night we met the young Members at the church & gave them the right hand of Fellowship and Partook of the Lords Supper this was a solem winding up of the Meeting to part arround the Lords table Perhaps some of us forever but Oh I trust to meet that little Band high up around the throne of god

20th I witnessed this morning another Solem scene and to me an interesting one we that is Thos S Knight and myself Stopped at Thos Smith Pond to Witness the Immersion of B F Martin by Elder Lacy in thus doing what he conceived it to be his duty I trust he may be blessed in the deed and that this noble example of self denial may be the dawn of Brighter days for him I went to Henderson and delivered to R G Beverly a load of tobacco it weighed good 1023 Tugs 539 Amt to $ Received from R G Beverly & Co I remained all night at T S Knights and went to see the Panorama of Miltons Paradise lost the Paintings were very good and some the scenes Dazlingly Beautiful whilst others were awfull to behold

21st This has been truly a rainy day I remained in the city until late after dinner then came home 360 539 1023

22nd I was at church to day Elder McCown Preached

23d About the farm to day &c

24 Went to Henderson delivered to R G Beverly 1 load of tobacco which weighed Tugs 360 Tugs 538 Good 909 Amt to

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December 25th 1867

Christmas Day I have spent the day about home as there is not much enjoyment for me in the way I see so many spending their Christmas in years gone by the customs of the country were such that it gave a free license to spend the day in drinking & Revelry but those times are past and long since among civilized Christian communities are remembered only as things of the past whilst the more enlightened portion of the community take this view of it there are those I am sorry to say who even disgrace the memory of the past drunkeness is a disgrace at any time but how much more so when we see a man professing to observe this day as the birth day of our Saviour reeling and staggering about under the influence of bad Whiskey I am glad for one that the people are beginning to see the error of such celebrations and I hope to see the time when this day will be appropriately observed when the People will meet at the house of God and humbly implore his divine aid and protection and return appropriate thanks for the gift of his only Son Jesus

This has been a sad day to me I have thought of the many friends who I have been with on this day who have passed away who are now in that world to us unknown I have thought of a kind old Father of a Brother and sisters who have been gone for many long years

But I have dwelt mostly on my own Buried hopes the hearts last great bereavement my own little Boy Oh God I can but say Thy will be done

But oh how I miss his little face how I miss his joyous laugh his Childish sports this morning there are but one little pair of stockings hung up on the Chimney but one little voice to claim Christmas gifts and as I walk out the contrast is so great between this and last Christmas that were it not for the loved ones who need me here I would gladly lie down beside my little ones in the cold grave and be forever with them and my Saviour

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Dec 26th 1867

I went to Henderson to day let Kiel have two cows that weighed 1780 lbs which at 3½ ct gross amounted to $62.47

27th I sold G B Martin 12 head of cattle to day for $155 – and one to B F Martin for $13.50 Myself and G B Martin drove the cattle I sold him and my own to the Bottom

28th This was Squire Turners Magistrate Court day and I was about the Point &c

29th Sunday This was the last sunday in the year and I spent the day by going to Church in the morning and also at night Rev Mr Dempsey the Methodist presiding Elder preached I liked his sermon at night very much

30th I was at church again to day also at night When Mr Ditzler Preached he was a good speaker but I thought his subject a little overdrawn

31st To day Ends the year 1867 and like the beginning she is closing with a snow storm I went to a sale to day of the property of one Major Carson Dec I did not buy enough to pay me for my ride through the snow and cold and I believe I will adopt the stay at home rule during the coming year.

To night I look back over the past 365 days with a feeling of sadness I now see many things that I might have done have been left undone and many things that I have done ought to have been left undone In my Business transactions I expect I have lost Mondy as Farming has not paid especially with such crops as I have been making my last years tobacco crop which was sold this year did not Pay the expense of raising and I am fearfull that the crop now on hand will not do much better as the season was a bad one for tobacco and Farming with free negroes is an uphill Business and as about all we raise to sell is tobacco my prospects for paying off my debts are rather bad and I expect it will be a close business to get through

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Dec 31st 1867

Without the aid of the Sheriff Constables &c Money Matters at present are very stringent more so than I have ever known it before and I fear the consequences upon the community at large. a great many of the Farmers have lost nearly all they had by the war and the times seem to lead many of the them to extravagance as the plentiful supply of Green Backs for the few years past lead people to believe they would soon be worthless and few were willing to hold on to what they had but now after 5 years trial Gold is lower than the most sanguine Green Back advocate thought it would be and many like myself find out that they had better have taken care of the Green Backs while they had them

During the year that is past I expect I received altogether not over $2000 and though my receipts during the coming year will be much larger yet my Indebtedness has increased so much that I will not be able to pay all of my debts I paid on my land both that fell due in June last $440 leaving a Ballance of about $260 unpaid which with $1000 due Mrs Drury $400 due Mr Vickers $300 due Mrs Eades and I suppose $600 in small Amt would very near cancel my Indebtedness

to meet this I have about 20000 lb Tobacco and debts due me to the Amt of about $700 which without making a calculation of the amount it will take me to live on would not meet my Indebtedness I have already made my arrangements for the coming year and if I can have my health and a good crop year I am not afraid of the issue

I will now take a last farewell of 1867 to me it has been a year of trials but not unmixed joys often have I imagined when surrounded by my little family that it was too much happiness for this life and oft now in sadness will I look back over the last five years with pleasing reflections marred by the one great sorrow of my life and trust that in the coming future I may ever be trying to lay up treasures in heaven and that the trials & Sorrows of this life will but work out for me a far exceeding and more eternal weight

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