

Ahira Webster Diary transcript

Note: Page numbers were not given in the diary. The numbers correspond to the page number of the digital PDF file of the diary.

The text was transcribed exactly as it was written. Misspellings or questionable spellings are noted with [sic] after the word.

Pages 1, 2 and 4 were blank.

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AH Webster

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Monday March 5th 1849 This was the first day of Mr Gallaudet's week of supervision but Mr Lewis Peet executed the office this week. Today Mr. Gallaudet could not officiate in the chapel, and he had to ask Mr L. Peet to exchange weeks with him. He had been sick and now was better. He came here and taught this class.

We heard that General Taylor began to order upon the duties of the office to succeed Mr Polk the E President of the United States. Mr Fillmore who is the new vice president, was inaugurated at Washington. I like Gen Taylor better than poor Mr Polk. We rejoiced with great joy on account of the new presidency. I thought that most of the people in America kicked the poor President away from this office.

Tuesday March 6th In the morning when school began, my teacher told us the news about the president contained in the newspapers. Yesterday the city of Washington was full of people. It is said that their number consisted of about ten thousand person. At twelve o'clock the old Vice President accompanies Mr [page 6] Fillmore in the senate Chamber, in the presence of a multitude of spectators. Then Mr. Fillmore was inducted into office and made an eloquent speech. The senators were waiting for Gen Taylor to come till half past twelve o'clock. He entered with the old president into the Senate Chamber. Chief Justice Taney told him that he would become President and sware [sic] him in office and he will continued in office for four years. He said when he took the oath to support the constitution, that he would try to administer the government of the United States like Gen Washington.

Wednesday March 7th In the evening the president was invited to a party by Mrs. Walter in the city. Some of the girls went to a party in Mr Cary's schoolroom. They staid [sic] there till nine o'clock. A few minutes after they felt afraid, they thought that the president should reprieve them but the next day they met him and confessed to him that they did so in the evening. He told them, they did

wrong, but he forgave them. He informed them that if they would have [page 7] a party again, they must ask him.

Thursday March 8th, In the morning in the this school, two gentleman were conducted in it by the president to see the manner in which the deaf and dumb were taught. They were Dr Morse and Dr Blatohford [*sic*]. While they were there with Mr. H.P. Peet, my teacher asked us some questions in the History of the United States about Gen Jackson and we wrote it on the states to show to the gentlemen. Dr Morse was a very handsome gentleman. After a few minutes Dr Morse informed us about Lowell. There are eight thousand female four thousand male operatives in the factories at Massachusetts. Two of the working women, Misses Harrington and Feleints [*sic*] are deaf and dumb ladies from this Institution. We knew who Miss Harrington was, but do not the other and said that there are three kinds of manufacturing establishments in which cotton and woolen cloth and coohets [*sic*] are made. It was said that the manufacturing are very useful because their fabrics are given to almost the United [page 8] States. We were pleased with the gentlemen because one of them had given us these news.

In the afternoon while in the chapel, the president told us that some of the boys who stole some potatoes in the cellar of the shop. He called us the Pat and Prishment [*sic*]. He commanded us that we should not steal them.

After supper we went out of the diningroom [*sic*] and saw the eclipse of the moon. Mr Lewis Peet who took care of the boys, let them look up at the moon a long time but it was slowly eclipsed. The eclipse was only a partial one. After some time, he called the boys to assemble in the sitting room to study their lessons.

Friday March 9th. We learned that the Steamer, America conveyed much news from Europe to Halifax. As soon as the news was got, the telegraph sent it to New York.

We learned that the Pope had been deposed and then a republic established at Rome.

The city of Moulton in India was fought [page 9] between the English and natives because the natives had rebelled against England.

Sunday March 11th. The President lectured to use in the chapel all day.

Monday March 12th was the first day of Mr. Edward Peets week of supervision. In the morning the weather began to grow pleasant. The lawn was dry and the boys went to play there with an elastic football at noon. They rejoiced to play with it again, for they had not done so all winter.

In the afternoon my teacher informed us that an aerial locomotive had been invented and that a large was being made. It was said that the aerial locomotive in New York will be finished next May. If the weather is still and fair it is thought, it can go through the air to California in two days.

Tuesday March 31st While we ate breakfast, the bell was rung and a servant came and opened the door and invited two gentlemen in the parlor who said "They wished to see the President Mr

Peet". On meeting them, he invited them to take breakfast. [page 10] The gentleman were an indian by the name of Copway from Canada who formerly was chief over one of the Indian tribes in the States and Mr. Potter from New York. In a few minutes they were conducted to see the shops and the Institution for the deaf and dumb.

The Board of Directors met here with Mr H.P. Peet at about four o clock. When supper was ready, they took tea with us in the dining room. In the evening the boys played for some time because its way before six o clock and light.

Wednesday March 14th The Mississippi River overflows it banks every spring. We learned that the Mississippi River had nearly overflowed the banks, but the water had not rush over the land. The people felt very much afraid and tried to bailer leaves along the river.

Monday March 19th was the first day of Conklin's week of supervisions, but the president, Mr Peet officiated in the chapel. That day however Mr Conklin did not take care of the pupils, because he was unwell [page 11] and had to ask one of the deaf and dumb teachers to do so. He did not feel able to perform the duties of supervision.

In the morning after we had attended prayers, the president came in Lewis's Schoolroom bringing the reports of the Institution and gave one of them to each us. We felt exceedingly glad to get them.

Tuesday March 20th In the morning while we were copying in our copybooks the lecture which one of the speaking teachers of this Institution had explained to the pupils and our teacher was correcting our journals, two young girls came with Mrs Stoner to see Miss Easton. They were her cousins. In the afternoon while our teacher explained the lessons in the History of the United States, two old ladies were conducted in this room by Mrs. Stoner. I deemed that one of them was the mother of the young girls who were Miss Eastons relations. They dwelt in New Jersey.

At twilight the wind began to blew and the dust to fly about. It was supposed that it would rain.

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Wednesday March 21st. On awakening in the morning we saw that it was raining and the walking was covered with mud. We had not much news in the papers one this day and no events worth mentioning took place at the Institution

Thursday March 22nd We learned that a colored barber of the steamboat called the Whashington [*sic*] met with an accident and had a singular escape from death as she was starting to go to sea, the barber fell into the water from the steamer. As soon as she was stopped, some men looked for the barber for a long time, but he could not be found. They thought that perhaps he was in the paddle box and on opening the door of it, the barber was perceived in one of the paddles. He seemed to have died and one his legs was broken. Immediately the body was conveyed to a room where it was rubbed often sometime, he re revived. The steam boat turned back for New York

bringing the barber to the city. Then she returned to the sea. It was said that when she comes back to the city, [page 13] Perhaps, the barber will begin to work in her again.

In the morning our teacher informed us about a slave market in Memphis Tennessee. Several slaves who were from Virginia which is hundreds of miles from Memphis and were verry [sic] poor in flesh because they were tired out by walking, were exposed in the slave market to be sold. A negro woman who had five children, was sold and all her children were also sold. They were to be taken away to work, but on their working, they would not be together. It was said that they would never see each other again. They felt very sorry and wept.

Our teacher told us that there would an exhibition of boys who had learned Phonographic Writing in the city. If any gentleman spoke first the boys could write his words as fast as he spoke them.

It was said that the steamboats had commenced running between Albany and New York. The first which went to Albany, way the [page 14] Columbia, the next the Oregon, then the Isaac Newton and last the Alida.

A writer in the newspaper stated that these was as much gold in the northern parts of Texas as in California but it could hardly be believed

Friday March 23rd We learned that at St. Johns in New Brunswick took a great fire had occurred. The number of the houses which were destroyed was one hundred. The people who lived in the buildings, consisted of from two to three thousand persons. They said that some incendiary had caused the fire, because one of the houses in which no persons lived, was that which first took fire

We learned that Gen John Maison who was formerly the friend of Mr Jefferons, Mr Madisons, and Mr Monroe, while they were in the office of presidency of the United States, had expired.

My teacher told us story strong about a strange

[pages 15 – 24 are out of order

[page 15]

Colonization Society is on of great usefulness. My teacher attended the meeting of the Historical Society where a curious old manuscript was read by the New Dr. Hawke.

Wednesday May 8. The Institution was thronged with company. Nothing of particular interest occurred however. The Abolitionists had a great meeting. They are violently opposed to Slavery and make use of a great many unkind and imprudent expressions. They were much disturbed and of last obliged to leave the house by a band of rowdies called the Empire Club.

Thursday May 9. This was a day to which we had all been looking with great interest for our exhibition was to be held in the afternoon. In the morning when [page 16] we awaked it was raining hard and we feared that we should be prevented from going to the city. Much to our gratification, however the sun shone out bright and glorious. We were conveyed to the City Hall in three spacious and elegant cars.

Thence we walked in procession through the park and up Broadway till we reached the Tabernacle. Though it was nearly an hour before the exercises would begin, we found this immense building almost crowded with spectators

The pupils were seated on each side of the organ, behind the pulpit the boys on the right and the girls on the left and presented a very interesting appearance. The young ladies were all clad in white dresses [page 17] ornamented with blue ribbons. At 4 o'clock, at the request of Dr Peet, the exercises were opened with prayer by Rev Dr Loudlow.

Little Master Brewer and Miss Fanny Freeman, the youngest pupils in the institution were then placed before the large slates of the organ. The spectators seemed much interested in the their appearance, especially when Dr Peet told them that the little was the daughter of a missionary and was born in India and that the little boy was an entire orphan having neither father nor mother. They wrote several words and told their names, residences and ages. Six members of Mr Edwards Peet's [page 18] class were then called to the slates.

They had been under instruction only since last Sept and gave qualifying evidence of what intelligent deaf-mates can learn in that short period Mr Cary's class consisting of twenty pupils were next exhibited. Six of them wrote on the large slates which the others made use of small ones. Their performances were very creditable and awkened [sic] much interest. They answered questions on a variety of subjects both by signs and in writing. I have no doubt that it appeared very wonderful to the assembly that deaf-mutes should learn so much and become able to write so well, in the period of six years. AT intervals which the [page 19] pupils were engaged in writing exhibitions of the languages of signs which were use in the Institution were given. John Thomas Bell gave several delineations of parts of animal bodies such as the fins of fish, the bills of birds, ie. The inimitable Master Driscall represented the Table of the Lion and the mouse much to the amusement of the audience. The dialogue contained in [pages 109. 110 and 111 of Dr Peet's cause of Institution

Part II, was given by Master Bell and Miss Langlois. Little Miss Barnes translated into signs a beautiful piece [sic] of poetry written by Moore which was read to the audience by Rev Dr Adams a member of the [page 20] Board of Directors of the Institution. It was really a beautiful sight and a affected the ladies so much that many of them were in tears. Toward the close of the exercises which Mr Cary's class were engaged in writing Rev Dr Adams made an address which was said to be very eloquent. Two of my classmates Misses Hills and Casler then appeared in a dialogue prepared by my teacher. Their signs were clean and graceful and I felt quite proud of them.

The exercises were closed with the Lord's prayer which was offered in signs by Miss Silence Taker. Dr Peet translated it to the audience so that the hearing and the Deaf could united together in

the worship [page 21] of God. The assembly then dispersed and we returned in the cards to the Institution.

Monday May 20th. This was the first day of Mr Gallaudet's week of supervision, during which it would be his duty, to officiate in the chapel, be with the boys while at their sports and take charge of them which at their studies in evening, preside at the dinner table if Dr Peet should be absent and attend to all the company who should desire to visit they Institution. While in school in the afternoon my teacher gave us the information that between fifteen and sixteen thousand emigrants [sic] had arrived in the city during the past week. At this rate the population of this country will increase very rapidly. I fear however that if too [page 22] many foreigners make their home in this country, they will do injury to our republican Institution for a large number of them have received wrong ideas in the countries from which they came. Many however are intelligent and virtuous and these will do good rather than harm. They will probably become useful and patriotic citizens.

Tuesday May 21. A curious incident occurred in the chapel at morning prayers one of the girls putting her hand into her pocket, discovered a mouse. She was very much frightened and went out in great haste. Then turning her pocket inside out, she let the poor little animal escape. One of the girls had probably put the mouse in her [page 23] pocket to play a trick upon her how foolish!

In the course of the morning Mr Walloe and Mr Dray two gentlemen from St Thomas, one of the West India islands visited my teacher's class. They had brought a letter of introduction to Dr Peet from Mr Wm Rose a merchant in the city. As Dr Peet was not here, the letter was read by Mr Gallaudet who showed them every attention. My teacher inquired of them if they were acquainted with Mr. Mourray Krause an old friend of his to which they replied that they had seen him often, and that he was very well. They seemed deeply interested in our exercises and [page 24] Expressed surprise that Deafmutes should improve so much in the short period four years and a half.

At half past three o clock fifteen minutes before the bell rang for the evening prayers, we were honored with a visit from Hon C.S. Wood hull, the mayor of the City. He was accompanied by Judge Duer and Hon Judge Campbell a member of the Board of Directors of the Institution. We wrote on our slate for them in order to show how well we could use language. Before we had finished however, school was dismissed and we were obliged to go into the chapel where the distinguished guests also went. After prayers we returned to the schoolroom and finished writing what we [page 25] animal which had been caught by Col. Fremont in the woods of California. When he saw it he chased it for three days. At langht [sic], he caught the strange animal by a rope. The animal looked like a horse but had no mane. He was covered with covered with wool which was curly like a negro's hair, and his tail was like an elephants. This was a very curious animal. Perhaps it would be exhibited to the people. We hope that it would come to be showed to us.

Monday April 2nd was the first day of Mr Gamage's week of supervision, but the president explained a text from the Bible to us in the chapel and offered prayers.

In the morning my teacher came in his schoolroom bringing two pictures, and informed us that last vacation Mr Gallaudet and himself went to see the falls of the passaie[sic] in New Jersey. Then

they perceived a sign with the name of Miss Honewell who could sew, cut, write, and draw, though she had no hands. Our teacher showed the profile of his head [page 34] and the Lord's prayer written in a very small which she had executed. We wondered how she was a very curious woman.

In the morning before breakfast one of the window panes of the south end of the girls sitting room was broken by one of the boys who kicked the football up on it by mistake.

At noon Mr Starr with his daughter by the name of Edmenissa came here probably to visit the Institution. In the afternoon while in school, two gentlemen were conducted in this room by one of the teachers. They were Mr Potter from this city and Mr Graham who was a surgeon in the British Army. He was well stricken in years. He was let go away to an other [sic] nation to travel for pleasure.

Tuesday April 3rd Today the weather was very balmy. We were much pleased with it

Wednesday April 4th In the morning my teacher came in this school and told us much news He told us that George Washington attempted to kill Henry Harrison. We though he could not [page 35] do so. In a few minutes out teacher said to us that they who were negroes, we called after the great distinguished men of these names.

We learned that an Ericson prop towed a sloop through the canal from Chesapeake [sic] Bay to Delaware river. This canal is six miles long. While she went through it, she struck a rock and her bill was broken by the rock. Then she sunk with the machinery. It was supposed that it could be gotten again.

It stated that there was a race at New Orleans between two horses who had the names of Venifier and Chanier. Venifier beat Chanier.

My teacher told us that he attend the meeting of the Historical Society yesterday evening. Mr Long read a long paper on the subject of architecture.

In the afternoon a gentleman by the name of Mr Ralston and some of his pupils in the city, came here to see the manner in which these deaf and dumb were taught. The party consisted of fifteen young boys. He said he had lived in Canada, but now in [page 36] the city of New York. He informed us that he formerly dwelt in Ireland for twenty three years.

Before four o clock. P. M. the pupils were called to go up in the chapel where they attended a lecture on chermisting [sic] which Mr Houlton gave to them. He performed some experiments in our presence. He said that he would lecture again on Wednesday because he had not had time to finish all his experiments.

Thursday April 5th In the morning Mr Clay who was a friend of Mr Weeks the treasurer of the Institution and Mr and Mrs Nisbet from Georgia came here to visit the school.

A letter from Dan Franciscs [sic] stated that there were \$5000000 worth of gold dust in California. It was waiting for any ship would come to it and export it from California. It announced that one man took gold dust from the mine and got \$12000 dollars in six days.

We learned that Mr Woodhull was the whig candidate for Mayor of the city and [page 37] Mr Van Shouick the democratic candidate

It was announced that last Jan the ship Christoval Colon left New York and went to California to get gold. While she went through sea, she met with a violent gale of wind. The Packet ship New York arrived at New York from Havre after a voyage of twenty four days. We learned the news which she brought that the black representative from Gualaloupe [sic] spoke a speech. The French national assembly passed the hill which he advocated.

Friday April 6th was supposed by the Roman Catholica [sic] and Episcopoliions [sic] to be this the anniversary of our savior enucifixion [sic]. This is called Good Friday.

In the afternoon my teacher told us a story about Mr Mike Finch who was a boatman in the Mississippi River and slew an indian shooting a deer. We wrote it on the slates ourselves.

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Saturday April 7th In the morning a party of the pupils of the Institution for the blind came here to see us. In the afternoon one of my friends Mr J. H. Hall came here to see me. He drove a herd of cattle to New York. There were them in the Bull, head.

Sunday April 8th The Roman Catholic and Epis copoliions [sic] believed that Christ rose from the dead in the morning and observed the anniversary of his resurrection. They call it Easter Sunday.

Mr Cary lectured in the chapel today.

Monday April 9th the first day of Mr Bartlett's week of supervision. I thought that the boys liked to have him perform the duties of supervision That day there was very charming weather.

In the morning our teacher same in this school bringing something wrapped in some paper and told us about it for sometime. That this was called a banana from Cuba in which there a plenty of bananas shooting up, but they could not be planted in America because the cold would cause [page 39] them to die. It is hot weather in Cuba all the year. He took up a banana which he brought on Saturday and leaned it of the peel. Then he ate a piece of it himself and gave a piece to each of us to eat. Some of his pupils said that they had never eaten it before We were delighted to taste it. He informed us that the banana tree is from fifteen to twenty feet high. Its leaf is six feet long and one wide. As soon as we had finished our dinner, Mr Chesebro and I asked Mr Edmund B. Peet if we might go to bulls head to see one of my friends. He was willing to let us When we had gone there, we saw my friend standing near the Auctionier's [sic] stand. I talked with him about his business for some time. He told me that he had sold fifteen of his cattle that morning but two others had not been sold. He said to me that he thought that the oxen would be sold at four o clock P.M. Last

Saturday he sold one hundred and twelve of the cattle. He told me that when his oxen had been sold, he would go to visit the Institution but the next day morning he started for home. At [page 40] Half past one o clock in the afternoon the bell of the Hotel rang to call the people to eat dinner. When he left us and went away, we returned to school in the afternoon I hoped that he would come here but I was disappointed and did not know what he did. At noon there was a fire at the 6th the Avenue some firemen drove their fire engines to the fire to put it [sic] several of the boys left playing in the lawn and ran to the fire to see or help put it out. After some time the fire was put out but the house was destroyed.

Tuesday April 10th Though it rained today and was very wet weather, the election was held for Mayor of the city. The two candidates Mr Woodhull and Van Shoick [sic]. It was stated that Gen Taylor's inangural [sic] address had been published in England. When the English read it, they praised the Americans verry [sic] much and liked them.

Wednesday April 11th In the morning we heard that Mr. Woodhull had been elected by a large majority Whig aldermen and assistants in thirteen wards had [page 41] also been elected and locofoco in only five. In the afternoon the pupils were called to go up in the chapel where they attended a second lecture on the subject of chemistry which Mr Houlton gave them some of his experiments were beautiful

In the evening one of the boys Mr James M Camp received a letter from one of his friends stating that one of his classmate Mr Wilbur Smith died on the 31st of last March. He was sick of the consumption at home.

Thursday April 19th In the morning old Charley the sorrel cart horse belonging to the Institution was sold for twenty dollars. He was almost twenty years old and had remained here for about ten years

We learned that it was Hon. Henry. Clay's birthday. He was seventy two years old and also that of Goo Briggs of Massachusetts who was fifty three years old.

Friday April 13th My teacher told us a short story about a sailor. In the afternoon when my teacher had explained the lesson, his pupils took their [page 42] stools up and entered Mr Van Nostrand's school to attend a lecture on Natural Philosophy given by Mr Morris and Mr Van Nostrand. Some very interesting experiments were performed with the air pump

Saturday April 14th It was stated that the steamer Hermann had arrived here from South Hampt. In the evening the boys sat together and looked at an exhibition of the magic cantion [sic] which was given by Mr Morris. Some of the mictures [sic] were very beautiful. A few others were very curious pictures. I thought that these were better than those which Mr Morris showed in the chapel some months ago.

Sunday April 15th In the morning Mr Barlett lectured to us in the chapel and in the afternoon Mr Morris did. When Mr Bartlett had lectured as they went out of the chapel, Miss Hogenkamp died. She was sick of the measles for about only one week.

Monday April 16th It was the first day of Mr Cary's week of supervision. The weather was very cold that day. Our teacher told us that there was [page 43] much news in the newspapers which were published in the country but my teacher did not tell us the news because he did not know where his newspaper was.

Tuesday April 17th In the morning while our teacher was correcting our journals and we were enjoying the lecture which one of the teachers had preached to us on the Sabbath, one of the boys Southervick entered our school with his brother and an other gentleman.

In the afternoon Miss Mary visited our class for sometime near two years ago she graduated from the Institution for the deaf and dumb.

Wednesday April 18th One of the boys Sinclair expired at 1 o'clock A.M. He had been sick of the consumption for several months and was about eighteen years old. Though he was of the age he was a very small boy. It rained hard all day and the weather was very unpleasant. At 3 o'clock P.M. the pupils and some other persons of the Institution entered the chapel from the schoolrooms. While they were sitting there, two coffins, one of them Miss Hogenkamp [sic] were carried in the chapel and there [page 44] the president preached a funeral sermon at three o'clock P.M. When he had finished it and we had some and passed the coffins opened to give last look, the coffins were conveyed to a graveyard near the third Avenue [sic] and put a grave.

Thursday April 19th In the morning my teacher Lewis with a party consisting of the president his wife and my teacher's older brother Edward went to New Rochelle to attend the wedding of Miss Smith and Mr [sic] Miss Smith was one of Mr Peet's nices [sic]

Friday April 20th In the morning our teacher gave us an account of his visit New Rochelle. That day he took much pleasure in attending the wedding there. He spent all day with the poorly [sic]

The news was brought from Europe of Germany

We learned that in Italy a dreadful battle had been fought between the Piedmontese [sic] and Austrians [sic], but the Austrians [sic] were victorious. The king of Casduia [sic] by the name of Charles Albert abdicated [page 45] in favor of his son Victor Emanuel [sic]. In the afternoon while my teacher was explaining the lesson on the slate to us, one of Mr Cary's class Sweetman entered this school bringing a hat to be shown to us. This was brought from Germany. The German peasant girls commonly wear such a hat on their heads. While a doctor was traveling in Germany he saw one of the girls wearing their hats and bought a hat and brought it to home in the city of N.Y.

Sunday April 22nd Mr Van Nastrand left his wife and comfortable [sic] house in the city to lecture in the chapel of the Institution all day. He preached a long sermon which he himself wrote.

Monday April 23rd was the first day of Mr Spofford's week of supervisions, but the president of the Institution. H.P. Peet L.L. D officiated in the chapel in the morning and afternoon. I was much interested in him, when he made signs to the pupils because his signs were very beautiful. I could [page 46] easily understand texts of the bible. Soon after we had some in our school in the morning, one of Mr Van Nostrand's shortest male class O' Hara with his mother came into this school to visit us, while my teacher was asking us several questions on the lesson from the bible which we committed to memory one the Sabbath. She was an Irishwoman. I was happy to see her and her son. Some time after, a gentleman by the name of Mr Mc Plvaine [*sic*] from a place called Wyoming Country was conducted in the schoolroom by the president and while visiting us, Miss Dudley entered it with a little boy Rhodes from New Bedford in Massachusetts. As the door was opened, Dr. H. Peet saw him standing at the door and called him to come to him. When he went to him, he asked him if he was his boy. He answered that he was. He then asked him to make signed for several things the pictures of which he showed to him in the elementary seasons. We were astonished that he could make signs so well. He was about eight years old and a very smart boy. I liked him very much. It was said that [page 47] he was about to be a pupil here. We heard that Mr Cooke had arrived at the Institution from Hartford before noon. He was one of the teachers of the Asyoom [*sic*] over there. Our teacher informed us that a few months after we had first come to school to learn, he visited our teacher and us in the schoolroom for two or three days, because he like us very much. So some of the knew [*sic*] who he was but the others and myself did not and had forgotten his looks. In the afternoon we learned that many plants in the South had been spoiled by frozen cold. It was said that that part of that country was covered in snow which was a little deep. Some other covered with ice in the rivers. A planter in the South had lost the cotton of thirty acres. Though the warm weather began to come here, the winter went to the South because perhaps it wanted to visit there with the warm weather, but the hot weather did not take care of the plants which had apbild [*sic*]

Tuesday April 24th In the morning while my [page 48] teacher was correcting our journals, we copied the lecture in the copy books. In the evening Mr Edward P and William Peet who were the cousins of my teacher came here and passed the night. It was very dull today.

Wednesday April 25th In the morning the president conducted one of my friends Mr Frazine from Fredonia in the school to see me. When I met him, I felt very glad because I wanted to see him and hear from my parents. I was delighted to talk with him for a long time. We then entered the class of Mr Gallaudet to see the manner in which the deaf and dumb were taught and I led him about the Institution to see the chapel and some others and the shop in which I showed the performances to him. When school was done at noon, Mr Burnwell came to us and was introduced to him and he talked with him. He said to me that he wished to go to the city. Then he with me went to the Third Avenue he to get in the stage. At noon Mr Arnold came from his home [page 49] in Troy to visit the Institution. He was a curious young gentleman. In the afternoon one of Miss Bower's friends Mr Beardbly entered this school to see others

Thursday April 26th In the morning three ladies, Mrs Woodley, Mrs Stavens, and Mrs Charles went in this schoolroom to see the manner of teaching the deaf and dumb. In the afternoon my

teacher was pleased to tell us a story about a cat in France and lecturer wished to show that animals could not live without air. So he got a fine large cat and put her on an air pump under the glass receiver. The air began to go out of it and she felt a difficulty in breathing and then looked to see how the air escaped. She found a hole in the air pump through which the air went out. As soon as she saw it she put one of her paws on the hole. The air did not all go off. The lecturer tried to make her take her paw off the hole. She refused and kept her paw on. Then the lecturer let the air in again. As the air entered the receiver, the cat took her paw up herself. The air [page 50] pump immediately shut and the air began to go out again but she put her paw on the hole and kept the air in. The lecturer had to let her go. It was said that the cat was a sagacious animal. Then a dull cat was caught and put in the receiver and when the air had gone out of it, she expired. She was pitied very much but the sagacious cat seemed to be very proud. This was a true story.

Friday April 27th In the afternoon Miss Grace Calvin was found to have the varioloid [sic] by some doctors who were called to see her. A few days ago it was believed that she got sick of the measles [sic], but now it was discovered to be the varioloid [sic]. She was conveyed [sic] to one of the upper stories of the bath house. It was said that the ship Canlria [sic] arrived at Halifax bringing much news from Europe. As soon as the news was received in Halifax, it was sent to the city of New York by the telegraph to be published in this country. In the morning my teacher informed us about the news that a war had begun between Denmark and Germany in Europe, [page 51] but it was a pity that some Danes were taken pensioners [sic]. There were several other wars in Europe and dreadful battles had been fought and several thousands soldiers captains and other officers were killed. It was stated that the cholera was in Paris of France. In the afternoon at three o'clock my teachers class was called to come with their stools in Mr Van Nostrand's school to attend the lecture on the subject of electricity [sic] and to see experiments with the electrical machine. These performances were very beautiful and pleasant.

Saturday April 8th It rained and was very unpleasant weather. In the afternoon several of the boys did not go to the city but a few did so because they had business in the city.

Sunday April 29th In the morning Mr and Mrs Gallaudet who live in the city, came to the Institution the former to take care of the boys in the sitting room and lecture in the chapel all day. I liked him very much because [page 52] his signs were very beautiful and easily.

Monday May 7th It was the first day of Mr Van Nostrand's week of supervision. It rained all day. In the evening we did not write out journals for the sake of learning the History of the United States and lone [sic] lessons conceiv [sic] verbs which we reviewed. Our teacher told us that we must commite [sic] them to memory. In the evening we learned that there was a disturbance at the opera house at Aston Place. While Mr McReady was acting, many young men hissed at him and threw rotten eggs at him.

Thursday May 10th It was very beautiful and pleasant weather. That day there was an exhibition of the deaf and dumb of the Institution in the Tabernacle of the city. As soon as we had eaten dinner, we exchanged our clothes. We were soon ready. At two o'clock we went out to the steps of

the rail road and entering some cars rode to the city in the afternoon. When the cars had reached the City Hall we went out and walked to the Tabernacle. We took [page 53] seats and saw many people before us in the Tabernacle which was filled with people. It seemed to be very warm because many people were using their fans. Mr Peet called Mr Burnwell to make an address to the people by signs. Then some of Mr E Peets class and some of Mr Spofford's wrote some words. They had never been exhibited because they entered the Inst last fall. After some minutes some of us were called to write on the slates. We wrote sentences on the Transitive verbs and Intransitive verb. Our teacher asked us several questions about the history of the U.S. and we could answer them. Our teacher told us to write something about the history of the U.S. Then Mr Gallaudet asked some of his class to be exhibited. Miss Boughton, Miss Chandler and Miss Langlois went to the platform and took a part in a dialogue with Mr Bell, Mr Sweetman and Mr Chapple little Master Witschief. Afterward Miss Taber was called to say that Lord's prayer. We returned here at 7 o'clock in the evening.

Friday May 17th There was no school in the Inst [*sic*] all day. The weather was very pleasant. In the morning Dr Peet told the pupils that they might go away, if they wished.

[page 54]

Monday May 21st was the first day of Mr Gallaudet's week of supervision. In the evening we wrote the letters.

Tuesday May 22nd In the morning we learned that Gen Worth of the United States army had been taken sick of the cholera and died at Texas This was a very sad event for the United States The people of the country lost their hope of Gen Worth.

Thursday May 24th In the morning the weather began to grow warm but at noon the wind began to blow a little and in the afternoon it rained a little. At two o'clock P.M. the pupils of the Institution with their teachers went in the cars to the city to visit the Chinese Museum and some other places. When we entered a building, we saw the city of New York which was built after the city. Every building was very small and beautiful. The model looked very much like the New York. Many ships and shoofes [*sic*] and other vessels.

[page 55]

When we went out, we entered an other building to see the siamise twins. The men looked very much alike. While we were looking at them we saw two of their children with them. The twins had married two women. In a few minutes we went in again to visit the Dusseldorf paintings which were brought from Germany to be shown to the people. The Dusseldorf paintings were very beautiful. I saw one of these pictures which represented Christopher Columbus, when first discovered America. When we had finished seeing the pictures, we repaired to the Chinese Museum to see the things

which were brought from Asia. I saw very curious thing and figures of the Emperor of China and of some of the people. I was interested to look for them. Before I entered the building, I had never seen any such things. They were very beautiful. I thought that the Americans could not make some things like them There these things were very skillful. I did not believe that they were to be pitied as the heathen.

[page 56]

After supper, the boys did not learn their lessons in the sitting room in the evening, but Mr Gallaudet while taking care of them, was so kind as to tell them some stories

Saturday May 26th In dinner Dr Peet was not here for he had gone away to the city. After dinner Mr Gallaudet told the boys if they wished to go to the city, he would give them permission instead of the president but he told them, they must return here before supper.

Sunday May 27th Mr Cary lectured to the pupils in the chapel all day. It gave me much pleasure to attend his preaching. I liked him very much.

Monday May 28th It was the first day of Mr Edward Peet's week of supervision. Mr Denton, Wilkin's grandmother came here to learn how to make signs. The weather was very warm and pleasant.

Tuesday May 29th In the morning it began to rain. In the afternoon there was an exhibition [page 57] of the deaf and dumb in the chapel of the Institution A company of gentleman and ladies consisting of about two hundred persons whom the president had invited to visit the exhibition, came in the cars from the city to the Institution and then were conducted up into the chapel. As soon as the people had entered there, the pupils were called to go in from the school. Dr Peet spoke to the people about the deaf and dumb a short time. Then Mr Morris called his class to come to the slates to write some things which were shown to them This class had been here almost two years. The next class exhibited was that of Mr Van Nostrand that hind [sic] that of Mr Barlett, the fourth that of Rev. Mr Cary and the last that of Mr Gallaudet. While some of these classes were writing on the slates, one of the boys named George Driscall was called to come on the platform to make signs for several words, Mr George Burwell told the people by signs about shoing [sic] a horse and Mr Gamage who was one of the deaf and dumb teachers of [page 58] this Institution, made signs to them about Christ stilling the tempest and some other scenes. His signs were very beautiful indeed. At length Dr Peet called Miss Mary Caster to repeat the Lord's prayer by signs. When the exhibition in the chapel was finished, they people were called to go out and to take refreshments in the good sitting room. After they had seen the shop and other things, they returned in the cards to the city During their visit to the Institution, the weather was very unpleasant it rained and the sidewalk was very wet.

Wednesday May 30th My teacher was not in school during the afternoon. He had gone away to the city to learn

So Dr Peet had to teach us instead of him. While teaching us, he told us a story about an alligator in the Mississippi River to write on the slates. When we had finished writing it, he corrected it to teach us how to use language correctly. I felt very glad that he had told us the story.

[page 59]

Thursday May 31st In the morning while in this school, we learned the news which had been brought from Europe that there had been a battle at Rome. That Hungary had been declared Republic and that an insurrection had taken place at Dresden in Germany.

Friday June 1st It was the first day of summer. We heard that a part of the city of New Orleans was covered with water which rushed through the crevasse in the Levee. The crevasse could not be repaired to prevent the water because the rush of water was strong. There were many water snakes in the street which was filled with the water. While a little girl was wading in the water, a angoe [*sic*] snake came to her and bit her feet and in a few hours her leg swelled and she died.

The Camanckes [*sic*] Indians had killed many people at Brownsville in Texas and California. In the morning my teacher told us a story about Mr Parot from California, who on his arriving at New York, told the people about it. Precious stones had been found [page 60] in the maine [*sic*] such as the diamond emerald and ruby one diamond as large as a hen's egg was worth of \$180,000. A silver mine had also been discovered Mr Parot declared that one person was given land without paying which was about eight yard long and eight wide. It was about nine feet deep and filled with gold dust. He said that the people in the California were at peach with each other.

Saturday June 2nd In the morning the weather was very unpleasant with much fog but in the afternoon it began to become pleasant, when the sun shone. At noon I heard that a cow was killed and bay on the rail road just north of the bridge In the afternoon the cow was taken away by a cart

Sunday June 3rd In the morning Mr Bartlett took care of the boys and delivered a lecture to all the pupils in the chapel. In the afternoon Mr P.L. Peet lectured instead of Ms Morris because the latter lectured for him a few weeks ago. He told them a interesting long story about [page 61] Monday June 4th It was the first day of Mr Conklin's week of supervision but Dr Peet the president of the institution affociated [*sic*] in the chapel in the morning and afternoon. My teacher informed us that in the afternoon on his going to the city, he saw the odd fellows walking in procession through the city. Many poor negro children were following them because some negromen [*sic*] were carrying the banners of the odd fellows and perhaps the children liked them. My teacher was not in school during the afternoon. He had gone to the city and was called to read a paper concerning the religious state of the deaf and dumb before the "society of Inquire" which he had preferred. After he had read it his classmates felt very much interested in it. I thought that my teacher was some what proud. In the afternoon on his going away the president had to teach us instead of him.

Tuesday June 5th In the morning which my teacher was correcting our journals which we curate.

Each evening, we copied in our copybook the [page 62] lecture which one of the teachers had preached in the chapel on Sabbath. In the afternoon my teacher went to the city where he and his classmate at the Theological [sic] Seminary [sic] assembled in a group and had a daguerreotype of themselves taken.

Wednesday June 6th In the morning we learned the news which brought from Europe by the steamer Europa that there had been a battle in Hungary between the Pussians [sic] and Hungarians and a revaluation[sic] in Germany that the French army was stationed a short distance from Rome and that the city of Palermo in Seily [sic] had been taken. He also informed us that an Preshman [sic] levelled a pistol at Queen Victoria while riding in her carriage, but he was immediately caught and cast into prison

In the morning a gentleman named Mr Phillips from syracuse [sic] came into this school to visit the deaf and dumb. He said that before he visited here he had never seen the pupils of the Institution but some years ago when the president of the Inst- [page 63] made a tarn [sic] through the state with a party of the pupils to exhibit to the people, he had attended the performance of the deaf and dumb at the exhibition in Syracuse. My teacher told us that yesterday when he attended the Historical Society Mr Beekman showed a Roman coin like a shilling which was found in Syracuse. How the Roman coins had been got from Rome was not known. It was supposed one bought it to exhibit it but it had been lost. We learned that there was a several hail storm mean Troy which injured the vegetables very much.

Thursday June 7th At noon while we were in school. Mr Dr Wilkins conducted two gentleman in it who were his relations from Goschen [sic] in the cars and steam boat. They were Mr Jackson and his son. Mr Jackson informed my teacher that a few days ago there were two cases of the cholera in Goshen [sic]. One of them was that of a man about seventy three years old who died, but [page 64] the other, his son was saved from the death by the medicenies [sic]. At noon many young children of the Sabbath school connected with Rev Mr Brett's church went in the car to the city to enters the Tabernacle where addresses were made to them and soon as we had entered the school, the president with Mr Tyle, the principal of the Institution for the instruction of the deaf and dumb at Stanton in Virginia and his two children came to this school to visit a few minutes. He could not stay here because he had a busy time and in a few minutes they went away to the city. We felt much pleased with them.

Friday June 8th In the morning Miss Caroline Smith visited Mr L. Peet's class with Mrs S Peet. Miss Smith was the daughter of her father and brother. In the morning while was in school, we learned the news from New Orleans that Captain Grant had abandoned the nousse [sic] because he found it impossible to stop it but the water still rushed through the levee. It was [page 65] said that the water of the Mississippi River began its absence. The water however which had gone across the banks into the land, rose up and over flow this country and some of the city. I learned that it was the anniversary of the death of Gen Andrews Jackson. He died in the year 1845 and was seventy eight years old.

Saturday June 9th It was very pleasant. It was the birthday of Miss Catharine Blauvelt she was sixteen years old. In the morning we learned that Gen Edmund P Gaines had died at New Orleans in Louisiana of the cholera after three hours illness. He was born in Virginia in the year 1777 and seventy two years old.

Sunday June 10th In the morning it rained hardly till noon. In the morning Mr Morris lectured to us in the chapel and in the afternoon Mr L. Peet also lectured instead of Mr Bartlett because the former was very unwell. He told us a story [page 66] Monday June 11th was the first day of Mr Gamage's week of supervision instead of my teacher Isaac Lewis Peet but Dr H. P. Peet officiated at prayers in the chapel. In the morning we wrote in the slates the Bible lesson contained in Luke I 5-27 which we committed to memory last Sabbath. While we were writing it, my teacher corrected our questions which we had written about the bible lesson.

Tuesday June 12th In the morning my teacher corrected our journals as usual, while we were copying the lectures of Mr Morris and Mr Isaac Lewis Peet best that day did not finish correcting all the journals because he had to go to the city in the afternoon. In the afternoon after school was closed and the boys had gone out and began to work in the shops the regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the Institution. Mr Beckman and Rev Dr Adams who had been elected new members of the Board at the meeting [page 67] of the Directors held last month were present They spent some hours in consulting with the president about the business of the Institution They took tea with the pupils

Wednesday June 13th The pupils of this Institution made an excursion to Greenport Dr H. P. Peet received a letter from the Directors of the Long Island Rail Road about the deaf and dumb to go to Greenport Mr Peet very willingly accepted [*sic*] this inviting. We ate an early breakfast. After we had eaten, we started from the Institution with their teachers about six o'clock in the morning and entered three Harlem cars to ride to the city. When the cars had arrived at the end of the rail road near the City Hall, we went out and walked to the South Ferry. The Ferry had taken the pupils across the Bay of New York free of charge. As soon as we had reached there, we walked through the street to the cars of the Long Island Rail Road. We went in them and took their seats. In a few [page 68] minutes the locomotive towing several cars, started for Greenport. The moment they went into the tunnels, it was so dark that we could not see any thing [*sic*]. The distance through it was half a mile. While we were riding in the cars, the weather was very beautiful and pleasant but the sun did not shine because the clouds prevented it. This made it cool. Before we started, we expected that it would soon rain. Ongoing to Greenport, fortunately there was no rain. We thought that our kind God showed us kindness in taking care of us and preventing the sun from oppressing us because the Lord made the clouds come over the world. God seemed to wish to give pleasure to us for he made it pleasant to travel. God was so kind to us that we must thank him very much. While going in the cars to Greenport, we saw the country which was very beautiful. There not many hills or rocks. Part of it was also prairie, some of the land seemed to be [*sic*] wilderness and the rest was very productive. We also saw [page 69] some cornfields covered with the white fish for manure. The face of that country was very beautiful to the sights. The locomotive went through some forests. We were much pleased to see all this scenery. The locomotive stopped at the town of Yapharh [*sic*] that the lady and friends of the president of the Rail Road named Mr James H. Weeks might enter the cars.

While we were in them, Mr Weeks was very kind to us and talked with some of the deaf and dumb He seemed to like us very much. When we arrived at Greenport, it was nearly one o'clock P. M. and we went out of the cars. We perceived that there was a tent on a hill west of the rail road and north of water. In a few minutes we went and entered the tent and saw the table which was very long, made in

it. We took seats near the table. For a very short time and went out to the walk about the land some pupils walked on the beach along the Peconice [sic] bay to look for shells and tibbles. The [page 70] river was very beautiful and seemed to be blue and nice. In a few minutes we returned in the tent to eat dinner consisting of rolls and butter, boiled beef meat, ginger snaps and water and ice. These provisions had been brought from the Institution for the deaf and dumb. Dr H. P. Peet stood up on the table to ask the Lord's blessing. After we had eaten, we went out and played in the plain which was covered with grass. After some time we were called to go to a Hotel and enter the observatory of it. We took much pleasure in looking at the view from it. As soon as we had seen it sufficiently we came in the cars to return home at five o'clock P.M. On returning, we were not much pleased to see the country again because we were very tired and preferred[sic] to talk with each other. When the locomotive had arrived at Brooklyn, it was nine o'clock P.M. the distance was ninety-five miles and the Inst was about five [page 71] miles from Brooklyn. Then we repaired in this South Ferry to New York and came again in the cars.

Monday October 1st 1849 I was at home. In the morning it rained hard and was very unpleasant. Though it was still raining, my brother and I went away in the afternoon to visit our dear relations. The distance is from seven to nine miles from home to our relations. As we started it fortunately stopped raining. When we had reached our relations' houses, we were much pleased to see them and took tea. We visited them because I was going away to school the next day. While we were returning home, the moon shone. It was therefore very pleasant and beautiful. On our arrival at home, we packed my clothes in the trunk. We went to sleep at midnight.

Tuesday Oct 2nd We got up from [page 72] bed at three o'clock A.M. After some time my father and I took his carriage to ride to Buffalo. When we arrived there, it was about four o'clock in the afternoon and very cold. Mr Webster got into the cars with me, and we took our seats. The cars started for Albany at seven o'clock in the evening while we were going away, we got very cold in the cars and it was raining.

Wednesday Oct 3rd The cars arrived at Albany in the afternoon. When we left there, we entered the steamboat, Hendrik. Hudson for the city of New York.

Thursday Oct 4th In the morning we arrived at the city. While it was still raining hard, we got a carriage and rode to a Hotel. We were in it sometime and waited for the cars which would take us to the Institution for the deaf and dumb. When we entered them, they went away and the locomotive stopped at the [page 73] stops of the bridge near the Inst. Then we came in the Inst. And met Dr H. P. Peet. We talked with him for some time. We entered the shops to see the thing, In a few minutes the locomotive came here, we waved our handkerchief to stop it because Mr Webster wanted to ride to the city where he had much business.

Friday Oct 5th Some ladies came in this school in the afternoon to visit the deaf and dumb who wrote some sentence on their slates. Our teacher told us much news which had been brought from Europe by the steamship Canada her voyage was only ten days.

Saturday Oct 6th It rained in the morning and continued raining hard all day and it was very stormy in the evening and all night. In the afternoon I wrote a letter to my parents.

[page 74]

Sabbath Oct 7th Van Nostrand and lectured in the chapel all day. It was still raining.

Monday Oct 8th Early in the morning the violence of the storm was abated, but all day the weather was very unpleasant and wet. It was the first day of Mr P. Lewis Peet's week of supervision. In the morning he officiated for all the pupils who had come up in the chapel to attend his prayers. After we went into this schoolroom. Prof P. L. Peet corrected our answers to the bible questions to teach us how to write the sentences correctly.

These answers we ourselves wrote last Sunday. While he was correcting, we wrote some events in the life of Jesus Christ on our small slates. In the afternoon P. L. Peet esq corrected our accounts of Christ's life. Mr Benedict took care of the boys in the sittingroom in the evening instead of our teacher. We wrote journals relating [page 75] the events of a week.

Tuesday Oct 9th Our teacher spent all the morning and part of the afternoon out of the schoolroom. When he return he had only time to explain a new lesson on "Part-Second". During our teacher's absence we were occupied in copying in our copy books the sermons which our teachers had perached[sic] to to us. In the afternoon one of the pupils of Lewis' class named [unreadable] Breg was called to teach his brother Edward's class instead of him, because he was obliged to leave it. A meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the Institution at about four o clock P.M. They took tea here. Rev J. Cary took care of us in the evening instead of Prof L. Peet

Wednesday Oct 10th In the morning Rev. J. Cary officiated in the chapel. It was raining all day. In the morning while Mr P. L. Peet was correcting our journals, we wrote on our large [page 76] slates a lesson from the history of ~~States~~-United, States which we had committed to memory. Before noon Mr and Mrs Potts and Dr Hmickenbacker[sic] from Columbia County and Mr Rowan and his son from Canada came into the Institution. Mr Rowan's son is a deaf and dumb boy whom he brought to be taught. Mr Potts' son who is also a deaf mute, was here but he was not left to be taught because he was not old enough.

We hope that he will be brought to be taught, when he is of sufficient age. We wrote some things on the large slates to show the gentlemen and ladies our ability to use language. In the afternoon Mr Wilson and Mr Shepherd came to visit the deaf and dumb. The former lives in 43rd st but the latter was from country. In the evening two gentlemen who were Dr H.P. Peet's friends, entered the boy's sitting room to visit the deaf and dumb and spent some hours there. [page 77]

Thursday Oct 11th It was still raining. Our teacher had corrected our journals before noon.

Friday Oct 12th In the morning two quaker [sic] ladies came in this school and spent some time in visiting. Then they said that they were very much interested in us

Saturday Oct 13th A deaf and dumb gentleman named Rodman and two ladies from the city came here to visit us in the morning. In the evening Mr P. L. Peet told the boys in the sittingroom some news which was brought from Europe and some interesting and funny stories.

Sabbath Oct 14th Mr. Gallaudet lectured in the chapel in the morning and again in the afternoon. The weather was very charming all day.

Monday Oct 15th Was the first day of Mr. Conklin's week of supervision but today he was not in the Inst. He had gone away [page 78] to visit Mr Hicks in Long Island. It was supposed that he would come here to teach his class in the afternoon. Mr Benedict had to take care of the pupils instead of Mr Conklin. Dr H.P. Peet officiated in the chapel and continued to do so every morning and afternoon during the week. Dr H.P. Peet went to Greenwood cemetery to select a burial place for the Institution.

Tuesday Oct 16th It was very pleasant weather and not cold. In the afternoon a company consisting of from ten to fifteen ladies came in the Inst to visit the deaf and dumb. One of the ladies was the mother of one of the pupils of Mr Bartlett's class named Miss Lucy. Boughton. The other Ladies were some of her relations and friends.

Wednesday Oct 17th The weather was still very delightful. We were much pleased with it

Thursday Oct 18th In the morning a gentleman named Fraser came here bringing Miss McKinney to the Inst to be taught again. [page 79] They entered this school to see us. Before noon Dr Rogers from the city and Mrs Robinson from Canada came to the Institution to see the deaf and dumb. Dr Rogers is a member of the Board of Directors of this Inst. Mrs Robinson is the lady of the chief of justice of Canada. It was said that they had much honor. We were pleased to see the gentleman and the lady.

Saturday Oct 20th In the morning we found that it was very pleasant and beautiful weather. The boys did not work in the shops and there was no school in the Inst because all the pupils went to the city to visit the Fair at Castle Garden by invitation of the managers. In the morning after we had got ready, we waited for the cars to come here to convey us to the city. When we got in the cars, it was nearly ten o'clock in the morning. Where we had left the cars in the vicinity of the City Hall [page 80] we walked to the Fair and entered it. There were very many varieties of articles in the building. They were very beautiful and nice. At about one o'clock P.M. when we had finished looking at them, we were called to go out and rode home again in the cars.

We had much pleasure in seeing the fair. After a little time, we went down into the dining room to take dinner. In the afternoon I asked my teacher Lewis instead of the President who had gone away, if Zachariah and I might take a walk about. Then he let me do so. We took a pleasant walk about and went to the Hudson Railroad to see it while walking, we saw a horse running away in the ninth Avenue. While

a gentleman was riding from a hotel, as he passed a barn, a carman [sic] came in a cart and one of its wheels ran against the light carriage.

The gentleman fell from it to the road and [page 81] his harness was broken, as the horse ran away. The gentleman was much hurt and could hardly walk. Then he was helped but in a few minutes, he could walk himself. A police man came and caught the carman [sic] and took him to judge. We returned home before supper. In the evening the boys entered the girl's sitting room to talk with the girls. Before they left the girls they heard the sad news that one boy of the pupils of my teacher's class named O.L. Wallace had died at White hall. They were surprised.

Sunday Oct 21st Mr I.L. Peet lectured in the chapel in the morning and afternoon. He informed us about the death of Mr Wallace.

Monday Nov 19th In the morning we found that it had rained. It continued raining that day. The weather therefore was very unpleasant and wet. It was the [page 82] first day of Mr Spufford's week of supervision, but Dr H.P. Peet officiated in the chapel. While the pupils were there he said to them that he commanded them not to play on the lawn that day and the next day because the lawn was very muddy and their clothes and boots would be dirty. He then said "Remember what I have told you". After his prayer they went out to school. In the evening we did not write journals, for we had to learn a new lesson.

Tuesday Nov 20th In the morning our teacher was very busy in teaching us the meaning of several words. At noon the clouds were gone and it began to grow bright and pleasant. After dinner Dr Peet came in the sitting room and told the boys that they should now change their clothes. When they were ready, the girls and they were called [page 83] to go to their respective schoolrooms.

While they were in school, many gentlemen and ladies went up to the chapel and took their seats. Then some of the pupils who would be exhibited, were called to go to it. The others did not enter the chapel, because the chapel was full of people. They had to remain in school. Dr Peet spoke to the people a short time. Two of the smallest pupils one a boy and the other a girl who entered the Inst last September, came to the slates. Dr Peet made signs to them for some words to write on the slates. An exhibition of four classes then took place.

The first was Mr Edward. Peet's class which were new pupils last ~~last~~ fall, the next, Mr Morris', the then, Mr L. Peet's, and the last, Rev Cary's. Those of Mr L. Peet's class who were exhibited, were [page 84] Misses Langlois, Easton, Hills, and Eggleston, and Messers Coffin, Myers, Breg and myself. A few of the pupils made signs to the people for words, & e. Gen Wetmore introduced Dr Raphall to Dr H.P. Peet. He is a Jew. Standing up on the platform, he spoke about the deaf mutes for some time. Miss Boughton was called to repeat the Lord's prayer by signs.

After the prayer, the people went out of the chapel and came to take tea in the girl's sitting room. As soon as the people had gone out, the boys went out to the shop to work. After tea, the people returned home to the city in the cars on the Harlem Rail, Road.

Wednesday Nov 21st In the morning our teacher told us about the speech which Dr Raphall made in the chapel yesterday. He said that he wondered [page 85] why the deaf mutes can improve fast in learning language and praised them very much. He said the Institutions for the deaf and dumb in America were better than those of Europe. Perhaps Dr Raphall is a native of London but I have heard that he now lives in Brooklyn.

Friday Nov 23 My teacher explained several adverbs of position to us and told us to write sentences on the slates. One of these words, which he showed to us was the word "Wrong side out". As he went out of this school, Mr Morris conducted some gentlemen and ladies here. When Mr L. Peet returned here and as he opened the door, he saw them there and shut immediately the door. In a few minutes he came here again. Some of us supposed that he had put on one [page 86] of his garments wrong side out.

Saturday Nov 24th In the morning Dr H.P. Peet went to Massachusetts for the purpose of consulting with his brother concerning some business Mr L. Peet took care of this Institution instead of him. When we went to this schoolroom, our teacher was out and in a few minutes he returned. So we saw him with his vest wrong side out. He then told us that his vest was on "Wrong side out". In this way he made us easily understand the meaning of the phrase. In the afternoon I went to the city with the leave of Mr. L Peet. In the evening Mr Spofford lectured in the chapel and told us about some interesting stories for about one hour.

Sunday Nov 25th Mr O.W. Morris lectured in the chapel all day and in the afternoon gave a tract to each of [page 87] the pupils. This tract was about the last son.

Monday Nov 26th It was the first day of Mr Morris' week of supervision. When he had officiated in the chapel and before the boys went out of it, he asked them if one of the boys on each bench would act as moitor[sic] to put the other boys in order. In the afternoon we in this schoolroom had time enough and our teacher was willing to relate to us some stories about the Greeks, the Carthaginians and the Romans and about Marius and Sylla. In the evening Mr Van Nostrand took care of the boys in the sitting room. The other pupils wrote journals as usual but I did a letter. He read the journals of one of my classmates named Mr E. McCoy.

~~Thursday~~ Tuesday Nov 27th In the morning our teacher corrected our journals and continued doing so all day but did not finish correcting them. In the afternoon two [page 88] gentlemen came in this schoolroom to visit the deaf and dumb. Our teacher offered Miss Langlois' journal to them to read. They said that they liked her very much before her writing was very beautiful. One of them said that he wanted a note himself to keep which she would write. Our teacher asked her if she was willing to write a note. She wrote one. The gentlemen seemed to like the deaf mutes very much. While the pupils were in the chapel to attend prayers, a large company came there. In the evening Dr H.P. Peet arrived at this Inst from Massachusetts.

Wednesday Nov 28th My teacher's younger brother named Dudley returned here from the college in Hartford in the evening. He came here because as I thought he wished to observe thanksgiving day the next day.

Thursday Nov 29th It was the thanksgiving day. The weather was very cold that day. The boys did not work in the shop and there was no school in the Institution. After break [page 89] fast, the pupils went up in the chapel to attend prayers at which Dr Peet officiated. When the boys were ready, they came in the sitting room between nine and ten o'clock A.M. to sit on their seats and to study their lessons in the Psalms. At twelve o'clock the pupils were called by Dr Peet to go in the chapel. Several deaf and dumb gentlemen and ladies came there. He lectured from Psalms clll. 8 to them. His signs were very beautiful. I was interested in his lecture.

The pupils were in the chapel for about two hours. After this time, the pupils went out and the boys remained in the sitting room till Dr Peet came and called them to go down to the dining room to take thanksgiving dinner. He invited his company consisting of the teachers and their ladies and several of his friends and many deaf and dumb gentlemen and ladies from the city to the thanksgiving dinner. One of them was Mr Burnet. When he had asked the Lord's [page 90] blessing, they ate it. They seemed to fond of this dinner. The thanksgiving dinner which was very excellent, consisted of turkey meat, potatoes, bread, pies, cranberries, &c. When they had finished eating, Mr Bartlett returned thanks the Lord for his bounties.

The people dispersed from the dinner. Some of the boys played with the football on the lawn. The weather grew cold and the wind blew. After supper, the boys were introduced to the girls to talk with them. They were there a few hours but I did not know what they did there because I had not entered the girl's sitting room.

Friday Nov 30th There was again no school in this Institution because the pupils were invited to visit the American Artunion and the Barnum's Museum and other places. About nine in the morning the pupils went out of the Institution to the cars which had just come from the city [page 91] to ride to the city. The pupils first entered the American Artunion containing a great variety of very beautiful and interesting pictures hanging on the walls. Then they went out to the Barnum's Museum to see the animals, birds, some persons and other many things showing. After visiting them, they were called to go to the City Hall to see several pictures till two P.M. when they cars would come here to return in them home. While they were there they saw Major Woodhull. When the pupils had been to the Inst, they took dinner nearby three o'clock in the afternoon.

Monday December 3rd Was the first day of Mr Van Nostrand's week of supervision, but in the morning he was not in the chapel to explain a text to us. Mr Gallaudet officiated instead of him. The weather was very rough and cold and continued to rain a little. In the afternoon our teacher spent some time in [page 92] relating to us news from the newspaper.

This news was very dreadful and was that a few days ago Dr Parkman who was a good doctor of Boston, was absent from home for some days. His wife did not know where he was because he had told her where he was going. Dr Parkman had to be sought but at last he was not found and it was said that if some person sought and found Dr Parkman, he should have a reward of \$3000. The people of Boston formed various conjectures of Dr Parkman but several persons said that they had found him. This news was not true. They told it because they were anxious to receive the reward of this money.

At length Mr Littlefield said that he had found the body which perhaps was that of Dr Parkman in the cellar of Dr Webster's laboratory. Before finding this body, Mr Littlefield broken down one side of the walls of the cellar and saw [page 93] the dead body. When he met some officers, he told them this news. Then they came to Dr Webster's dwelling house and saked [sic] Dr Webster if he was willing to help them in searching the medical college. Dr Webster then went with them. One of the officers riding with Dr Webster, told him that he had killed a man. He was not calm, but they treated him kindly. He remained disturbed in the mind all night. They took him to prison.

Tuesday Dec 4th In the morning Mr Burnet came in our teacher's schoolroom and said to us "I bid you goodbye and hope that you will be in good health and improve". We then gave much pleasure to him and hoped he would live as long as he could. In a few minutes he went home.

Thursday Dec 6th At half past two o'clock P.M. there was an exhibition of diss[page 94]olving views in the chapel. All the pupils were called to go to it and took their seats on the northern part of the chapel. There were many very beautiful pictures. I saw one of them like Napoleon Bonaparte. Some others of them were very odd of man was sleeping in bed, a rat came near and bit his face. He immediately opened his mouth, caught it and ate it up.

Saturday Dec 8th ~~In the m~~ The weather was very cold. In the morning we heard that Mr Bartlett's brother who was a doctor, had died in California. In the afternoon one of the wosest [sic] boys named Master Williston ran away to his home because as I was inclined to believe, he was often punished. In the evening the pupils went up to the chapel to attend the lectures of Mr Van Nostrand on the subject of atomsphic [sic] air. Having explained his lecture which had been [page 95] written on the slates, he performed number of experiments to show us the properties of the air. These things were very interesting. Alive mouse was put into the glass receiver of the pump. When the air was exhausted, the mouse soon expired.

Sunday Dec 9th Mr Van Nostrand and lectured in the chapel all day. It rained a little and it was very unpleasant.

Monday Dec 10th It was the first day of Mr Benedict's week of supervision. Dr H.P. Peet however officiated in the chapel. Mr Conklin took a few days of Mr Benedict's supervision instead of him, because he felt weak and sick. At day break when we awoke, we saw snow appearing on the ground. The snow was between two and three inches deep. In the morning the weather was very cold and the sky was clear and blue, but the sun, rising up, cause the snow to melt away [page 96] rapidly. In the afternoon our teacher informed us of some news from Europe and California and told us about Julius Caesar. In the afternoon my teacher came up to the chapel to officiate instead of Dr Peet who had gone away to the city.

Tuesday Dec 11th Early in the morning one of the ignorant boys named Master Starving ran away, but at noon he returned here. Then Dr Peet met him and punished him. After dinner Dr Peet ordered the boys not to play on the lawn for it was so muddy that it might make them sick. In the afternoon the Board of Directors met as usual at the Institution and took tea with the deaf mutes.

Wednesday Dec 12th At noon I received a letter from my father.

Thursday Dec 13th In the morning my teacher spent some time in resting in his bedroom because he felt too sick to [page 97] teach us. Before he went out, he told us to write some compositions on our small slates. In the morning one of my classmates Mr Wilkins went to Brooklyn to attend the wedding of his grandmother who had been married before, but her husband had died Now she made a second marriage.

Friday Dec 14th It was the birthday of Mr H. Rider (called Gen Putnam) who was one of Mr Bartlett's class. Early in the morning while he was sleeping in bed, a few of the boys and myself softly lifted his bed up but in a moment he awoke and as we who had brought some snow, were throwing it at him who had no clothes on except his shirt. Mr Rider said that it was not his birth day because he was anxious to escape from being teased by us. Notwithstanding however we struck him for some time. In the afternoon my teacher began to teach us long division. [page 98] While he was teaching us, Mr Weeks, a deaf and dumb gentleman came here to visit us. We knew who he was as he left the Inst about one year ago. In the morning Dr Peet went to the city spent all day in business with the Common Council and a Committee and other persons.

Saturday Dec 15th Some of the boys were permitted to go and skate. In the evening Mr Benedict told us in the chapel two long stories. One of these stories was about Luis Becoma Guisephe[sic], King of Spain Henry and the short other about a tub. In this tub a man sailed from an island to the shore of the mainland.

Sunday Dec 16th In the morning Mr Morris lectured to the pupils in the chapel instead of Mr Edward. Peet and in the afternoon Mr Edward Peet.

Monday Dec 17th It was the first [page 99] day of Mr Gallaudet's week of supervision. In the morning the weather was very pleasant for the sun shone ~~brightly~~ brightly. In the afternoon one of my classmates named Mr McCoy went into Mr Van Nostrand's schoolroom to take care of the class, because he soon went to the city to have his teeth attended to. In a few minutes Prof Siljetom[sic] from Sweden came here to see the manner in which the deaf mutes were taught. He wished to know whether they improve fast or slowly. The Swedish government sent him to America to experience the schools, because the swedes wanted to know whether the American school or those of Sweden were the best. In the evening my classmates wrote journals, but I myself a letter.

Tuesday Dec 18th My teacher spent all day in correcting our journals but did not finish doing it that time. In the after [page 100] noon one of Miss Easton's friends came here to see her.

Wednesday Dec 19th In the morning Mrs Anderson and Mrs Haight with her grandson who was a pupils her and his little cousin were conducted in this schoolroom. In the evening it rained a little.

Thursday Dec 20th At noon after dinner the scholars of the Institution were invited to visit Mr Burr's Panorama of the rivers from Lake Eric to the river at Lawrence and along the ~~river~~ St Lawrence to Quebec. In the afternoon we started for the city by the cars as usual.

On our way there, it commenced raining. When we had entered the building in which was the painting of the rivers, we took our seats and saw the Panorama moving. There were the Niagara Falls, the suspension bridge and many other things in Canada and America. I [page 101] wondered at the painting a great deal indeed and was delighted and interested in it. The scenes in the painting were very beautiful. I did not believe that it was painting, but I thought that Lake Erie must have been brought to the city to be exhibited. I wondered that a man could paint so accurately. When we had finished looking at the panorama, we spent about one hour in the building, because it was still raining and we had to wait for the cars to come to Canal Street. We then returned home, when we arrived at six in the afternoon.

Friday Dec 21st Mr Golden and his son John came in this schoolrooms to visit us in the morning. John was my classmate for four years last vacation he had been here five years but he is no longer a pupil. Dr Peet went to the city and spent all day. In the after[page 102]noon one of the pupils went home.

Saturday Dec 22nd In the morning Mr Conklin, one of the teachers with Mr Fainel went to his home to visit his folks. Dr Peet went to the city again because he had much business there. After sometime it rained hard. In the afternoon no boy went to the city, because it was still raining hard and it was stormy. In the evening Mr Gallaudet called us into the chapel and gave us an account of part of Gen George Washington's life (gave us an account of the life of Gen Washington from his birth to his marriage)

Sunday Dec 23rd Mr Bartlett lectured in the chapel all day. The weather was very cold.

Monday Dec 24th On awaking in the morning, we found the ground was covered with snow. It was the [page 103] first day of Mr Edward Peet's week of supervision. We learned that Mr Cobb had been elected the speaker of the House of Representatives by a plurality of two votes. Mr Cobb had one hundred and two votes, Mr Winthrope only one hundred and other candidates had still less. In the afternoon as soon as we came in school, we were each of us presented with a book by Ms Denton Wilkins because the next day was Christmas. My book is about Columbus and his times and is very interesting. I was delighted with it.

After some time our teacher told us to sit down and write on our small slates journals of events which and taken place the last week. He told us that he was going away and therefor one of us should be the monitor of this class. So we chose Mr McCoy [page 104] as a monitor. As soon as our teacher went out, Mr McCoy went to sit down in his armchair to take care of us. When school was closed, Mr McCoy and his sister went to the city to visit their friends. In the evening Mr Gamage took care of the boys. Some of the boys prepared to take parts in tableaux on Christmas evening in the chapel.

Tuesday Dec 25th It was Christmas, the anniversary of the birth of our Saviour [sic]. Luis Becoma Gusephe On that day we had a holiday. All day the weather was very cold. In the morning Mr E.B. Peet gave several of the boys new skates. In the afternoon I went to the city. In the evening we were called to go in the chapel which we attended an exhibition of some tableaux. Some of the performances [page 105] were very beautiful.

Wednesday Dec 26th In the morning while our teacher was correcting our journals, we copied the Sabbath lecture in our copy books.

Thursday Dec 27th Early in the morning we saw a great fire in the East near the east river. In the morning two gentlemen from Cuba named Domingo Losa and Manuel Manales came here to visit us. The former had been only two months in this country, but before he came from Cuba, he had learned the English Language. The latter had been here a year and a half. He however had not known our language. Here he had to study it and now spoke well. They seemed to be pleased with the deaf and dumb. They had never visited an institution [page 106] for the deaf and dumb before.

Friday Dec 28th In the afternoon our teacher told us some news concerning California from which \$500000 in gold dust had been brought to New York. An Irish boy got \$60000 in gold dust in California and had brought it to the city of N.Y. The boy left his parents and ran away to become a sailor in a whale ship. He then heard that there was much gold in California. He ran away from the ship to California and was employed to convey [sic] people from one place to another in a small boat. He earned much gold and he therefor returned to his home with great wealth.

Saturday Dec 29th Mr Edward Peet lectured on electricity in the chapel in the evening and performed several interesting experiments.

[page 107]

Sunday Dec 30 Dr H.P. Peet lectured on the closing year in the chapel all day.

Tuesday March 12th 1850. In the afternoon a company consisting of a gentleman named Rev Mr Faylor, a youth named Chun, and a lady named Miss Harreit Baker came into our schoolroom to visit the deaf mutes. Rev Mr Faylor was the corresponding Secretary of the Southern Board of Foreign Missions in Virginia. Chun was from China and had been in our country only nine months. He seemed to be a true Chinese and had a long braid of hair on his head but unlike other Chinese he let the hair grow on the forepart of his head. Miss Baker was formerly a teacher of a Female School in Virginia, but having left the [page 108] school, was to go to China to teach the female Chinese near Cantan.

It is the custom in China not to educate the females but they are suffered to remain in ignorant she had compassion upon them and so she herself had to go and teach them. The visitors had a letter of introduction from Mr Henry Bartlett in New Orleans who was the brother of Mr Bartlett, a teacher in this Institution, to Rev Brown in Rome of New York. The visitors wished to see him. Chun seemed to like the deaf and dumb and said that he wanted one of them to be sent to China to teach the deaf mutes by signs. He said that there were many deaf and dumb in China and their parents did not care to feed and teach them.

In [page 109] a few days Miss H. Baker with Chun were going to China. In every place where the bible is not known, the people are cruel to the unfortunate, but where the bible is read, there are many benevolent persons who try to assist the unfortunate. This is the reason why there are so many Institutions for the Deaf and the Dumb and Blind in this happy country.

Monday April 1st This day is usually called April Fool's day, because it has been the custom among children for many years to hoax each other on the first of April and then call the one hoaxed an april fool. This is a very foolish practice and I am happy to observe that the pupils of the Institute did not indulge in it so much this year as they did last. This practice is [page 110] not very dangerous provided children will confine themselves to innocent jokes, but it has happened occasionally that persons have been very much injured by those who have carried the joke too far.

On this day Mr Gamage commenced the duties of his week of supervision. He accompanied the boys to the shops immediately after breakfast called them to their sitting room at quarter to 9 and to the chapel at nine rang the bell at 12 o'clock to give notice to the other teachers that it was time for school to close was with the boys during their short at noon called them to school at half past one o'clock and rang the bell for demission [sic] at quarter to for when the pupils went to the chapel and attended prayer after which he [page 111] again saw the boys to the boys shop, was attentive to the company who visited the Institution and took charge of the boys while engaged in their studies in the evening. He was a faithful teacher and discharged his duties well.

While in school in the morning our teacher announced to us that the trial of Dr Webster for the murder of Dr Parkman was finished. The witnesses had all been examined, the lawyers had made their speeches. Dr Webster himself had made a short address, the Judge had given his charge to the Jury and they had retired to decide whether the prisoner was guilty or not guilty. It was 8 o'clock P.M. when they left the courtroom and at a few minutes [page 112] to eleven they returned. The clerk of the court asked the Jury if they had decided on their verdict to which they bowed assent. He then told the prisoners and the foreman of the jury to look each other in the face, and then asked the Foreman what was the verdict. Guilty he replied. The prisoners hand dropped and he seemed overwhelmed with anguish. In a short time he was removed to jail.

Our teacher also informed us of the death of Hon John Caldwell Calhoun which occurred on Sabbath morning at half past seven o'clock. Hee [sic] was a Senator from South Carolina and was very distinguished as a statesman. South Carolina has suffered a very [page 113] severe loss.

Tuesday April 2 On this day we learned that Congress had done ~~no~~ no business on Monday but that both houses had met and passed resolutions expressing sorrow at the death of Mr Calhoun. Mr Buther the other senator from South Carolina announced the sad event to the senate and gave a short account of the life of the deceased. Mr ~~Cal~~ Clay and Mr Webster followed and spoke in high praise of Mr Calhoun's virtues and talents.

We also learned that Dr Webster had been brought before the court and that the Judge had sentenced him to be hung by the neck until he was dead at such time as the governor should appoint. His [page 114] family are deeply afflicted at this unexpected calamity. Poor wife and daughters! With what anguish must their hearts be filled.

Wednesday April 3rd We had the information that Mr Calhoun's funeral was observed in the Senate chamber on Tuesday. The President of the United States the members of congress and many

other distinguished men were present. His remains were laid in a vault in the Congressional burying ground, but they will be removed to South Carolina before long.

Nothing of importance occurred during the remainder of the week except that our teacher lectured on the life of Napoleon Bonaparte on Saturday evening. [page 15] Napoleon was truly a wonderful man.

Monday April 22 The weather began to be warm but the ground was wet. On this day Mr Morris commenced the duties of his week of supervision in place of Dr H. Peet In the evening Mr Bartlett took care of the boys in the sitting room

Tuesday April 23 In the afternoon a gentleman from Peru in South America whom we did not know, came into the Institution to see the manner in which the deaf mutes were taught. He visited my class and I thought that he seemed to be a polite gentleman. He had traveled some tour in America and said that he would cross the Atlantic Ocean in the steamship Atlantic [page 116] and travel about Europe. He did not know our language but he understood the French and Spanish language. My teacher therefore was obliged to talk with him in the French language because he had learned it. So I thought that my teacher was a very proud of his ability to do it. After prayers in the chapel in the afternoon the teacher accompanied the visitor to the shops to see the boys work at their trades.

Thursday April 25 Before school ~~a~~ closed at noon a gentleman named Mr Whitton a deaf and dumb teacher of the Institution in Hartford, was conducted by Mr Spofford to see our teacher and his class. [page 117] In the afternoon a gentleman named Mr Greenleaf who was distinguished as a good teacher, with a large company consisting of about thirty female scholars of Brooklyn came in this school room to visit us while writing [sic] on the slates

Friday April 26 In the afternoon my teacher informed us of the news that a treaty had been made by Sir Bulwer of England and Mr Clayton of the United States agreeing that a ship canal should be made through the Isthmus of Panama that all the ships on the seas might pass it. The canal will be built at the expense of a company.

[page 118] Saturday April 27 The weather was very pleasant. At twelve o'clock the steamship Atlantic started for Liverpool carrying one hundred and seventy passengers at one hundred and thirty dollars each and first sailed. It was said that this steamship was the best of any on the world.

Monday May 6, 1850 The Duties of supervision devolved on Mr Van Nostrand on this day. He is quite a strict teacher and those of the boys who are disorderly do not like him so much as they would if he let them do as they pleased. I was told that this was the commencement of the Anniversary week "during which many large religious meetings are held in different parts [page 119] of the city. In the evening the anniversary of the American Seamen's Friend Society was held. This noble association has done much for the improvement of Seamen. Some very interesting addresses were made.

Tuesday May 7 In the evening a meeting of the Colonization Society was held. This society has procured liberty for many poor negro slaves by purchasing them of their masters and sending them to

Africa. A few years ago a colony was founded by this society on the west coast of Africa. It was called Liberia or the land of freedom. This colony has now become a free and independent state. The President is a man of Color named Robert. A few years ago he visited this country where he was as once a slave. The [page 122] colonization Society is one of great usefulness. My teacher attended the meeting of the Historical Society where a curious old manuscript was read by the Rev Dr Hawks.

Wednesday May 8 The Institution was thronged with company. Nothing of particular interest occurred however. The Abolitionists had a great meeting. They are violently opposed to Slavery and make use of a great many unkind and imprudent expressions. They were much disturbed and at last obliged to leave the house by a band of Rowdies called the Empire club.

Thursday May 9 This was a day to which we had all been looking with great interest for our exhibition was to be held in the afternoon. In the morning when [page 123] we awaked it was raining hard and we feared that we should be prevented from going to the city. Much to our gratification, however the sun shone out bright and glorious. We were conveyed to the City Hall in three spacious and elegant cards. Thence we walked in procession through the Park and up Broadway till we reached the Tabernacle.

Though it was nearly an hour before the exercises would begin, we found this immense building almost crowded with spectators. The pupils were seated on each side of the ~~the~~ organ, behind the pulpit, the boys on the right and the girls on the left and presented a very interesting appearance. The young ladies were all clad in white dresses [page 124] ornamented with blue ribbons. At 4 o'clock, at the request of Dr Peet, the exercises were opened with prayer by Rev Dr Ludlow.

Little Master Brewer and Miss Fanny Freeman, the youngest pupils in the Institution were then placed before the large slates which were arranged in front of the organ. The spectators seemed much interested in their appearance, especially when Dr Peet told them that the little girl was the daughter of a missionary and was born in India and that the little boy was an entire orphan having neither father nor mother. They wrote several words and told their names, residences and ages.

Six members of Mr Edward Peet's [page 125] class were then called to the slates. They had been under instruction only since last Sept and gave gratifying evidence of what intelligent deaf mutes can learn in that short period Mr Cary's class consisting of twenty pupils were next exhibited. Six of them wrote on the large slates while the others made use of small ones. Their performances were very creditable and awkened [sic] much interest. They answered questions on a variety of subjects, both by signs and in writing.

I have no doubt that it appeared very wonderful to the assembly that deaf-mutes should learn so much and become able to write so well, in the period of six years. At intervals while the [page 126] pupils were engaged in writing exhibitions of the languages of signs which were use in the Institution were given. John Thomas Bell gave several delineations of parts of animal bodies such as the fins of fish, the bills of bird, & e. The inimitable Master Driscall represented the Fable of the Lion and the mouse much to the amusement of the audience. The dialogue contained in pages 109, 110 and 111 of Dr Peet's course of Instruction Part II, Was given by Master Bell and Miss Langlois.

Little Miss Barnes translated into signs a beautiful piece [sic] of poetry written by Moore which was read to the audience by Rev Dr Adams a member of the [page 127] Board of Directors of the Institution. It was really a beautiful sight and affected the ladies so much that many of them were in tears. Toward the close of the exercises while Mr Cary's class was engaged in writing Rev Dr Adams made an address which was said to be very eloquent.

Two of my classmates appeared in a dialogue prepared by my teacher. Their signs were clear and graceful and I felt quite proud of them. The exercises were closed with the Lord's prayers which was offered in signs by Miss Silence Taker [sic]. Dr Peet translated it to the audience so that the hearing and the Deaf could unite together in the worship [page 128] of God. The assembly then dispersed and we returned in the cars to the Institution.

Monday May 20th This was the first day of Mr Gallaudet's week of supervision, during which it would be his duty, to officiate in the chapel, be with the boys while at their sports and take charge of them which at their studies in the evening, preside at the dinner table if Dr Peet should be absent and attend to all the company who should desire to visit the Institution. While in school in the afternoon my teacher gave us the information that between fifteen and sixteen thousand emigrants [sic] had arrived in the city during the past week. At this rate the population of this country will increase very rapidly.

I fear however that if too [page 129] many foreigners [sic] make their home in this country, they will do injury to our republican Institution for a large number of them have received wrong ideas in the countries from which they came. Many however are intelligent and virtuous and these will do good rather than harm. If their children are educated, they will probably become useful and patriotic citizens.

Tuesday May 21 A curious incident [sic] occurred in the chapel at morning prayers, one of the girls putting her hand into her pocket, discovered a mouse. She was very much frightened and went out in a great haste. Then turning her pocket inside out, she let the poor little animal escape. One of the girls had probably put the mouse in her [page 130] pocket to play a trick upon her. How foolish!

In the course of the morning Mr Walloe and Mr Dray two gentlemen from St Thomas, one of the West India islands visited my teacher's class. They had brought a letter of introduction to Dr Peet from Mr Won Rose a merchant in the city. As Dr Peet was not here, the letter was read by Mr Gallaudet who showed them every attention. My teacher inquired of them if they were acquainted with Mr Murray Krause an old friend of his to which they replied that they had seen him often, and that he was very well. They seemed deeply interested in our exercises and [page 131] expressed surprise that Deaf-mutes should improve so much in the short period four years and a half.

At half past three o'clock fifteen minutes before the bell ran for evening prayers, we were honored with a visit from Hon C. S. Woodhull, the mayor of the City. He was accompanied by Judge Duer and Hon Judge Campbell a member of this Board of Directors of the Institution. We wrote on our slate for them in order to show how well we could use language. Before we had finished however, school was dismissed and we were obliged to go into the chapel where the distinguished guests also went. After prayers we returned to the schoolroom and finished writing what we had begun. [page 132] The Mayor then asked us several questions which we answered by writing on our slate. He was evidently

exceedingly interested and before he left the schoolroom to visit other parts of the Institution, he requested our teacher to tell us that he was very much gratified with our appearance, progress, and behavior, that he felt a deep interest in the Institution and that one object of his coming was to see if there was anything which the city could do to aid this noble establishment. He then said that if the Institution did need assistance he would do all in his power to aid it. We felt proud of this visit from the chief magistrate of our city and shall [page 133] cherish the memory of it for many years. He is a benevolent looking man. He shows in his countenance the kindness of his heart. I hope he will have the opportunity of being very useful to this Institution.

Wednesday May 22 We had a visit from Mr Watterson and Mr Ketcham two graduates of this Institution who are now employed as teachers in the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Raleigh N.C. It is a great pleasure to see Deaf mutes succeeding so well in life. Mr Ketcham spent nearly all the afternoon in our schoolroom and listened to our teacher ~~ss~~ as he explained our lesson. He seemed much interested and [page 134] said he was reminded of the happy days he formerly enjoyed at the Institution.

Thursday May 23rd We were favored in the morning with a quite long visit from Rev Mr Williams, the father of one of our pupils. He walked round the room and read each of our slates, encouraging us to try and improve fast as we could. He seemed particularly pleased with the penmanship of some of the pupils.

Friday May 24 On this morning we were presented with some beautifully painted books of questions on the History of the U.S. which had been prepared by our indefatigable [sic] president. We ought to feel very grateful to him for ~~go~~ doing so much to benefit the Deaf and Dumb. [page 135]

Saturday May 26th We had not in school long before we were called to go in the chapel to hold an exhibition before a large school of young ladies under the care of Miss Haines a well known and popular teacher. They all seemed much pleased. Miss Haines asked us several questions which we answered in writing. At intervals while we were writing on the slates, Master Driscall made signs and amused them very much. At the conclusion of our exercises Miss Haines requested our teacher to tell us that she had been very much gratified with what we had done.

In the afternoon a colored woman from Hayti [sic] named Mrs Gaines came here with her [page 136] little boy who can hear but cannot speak. He is the funniest little negro I ever saw in my life. Her husband keeps a hotel. In the evening Mr Gallaudet called us into the chapel and gave us a Geographical lecture on Gen Washington. The illustrious father of our beloved country.

[Here the diary ends.]