

Introduction, August and September 1893

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These two months offer a picture of Martha McMillan's daily life in the 19th century. As the wife of a prominent farmer in Cedarville, Ohio, her summer days were full of family, hard work, and social visits. They were also full of major life changes, loneliness, and financial struggles on the homestead. Through them all, Martha found joy and pleasant beauty in all the moments and struggles, constantly relying on God for her daily strength, leaving a lasting legacy for her children and grandchildren. August and September of 1893 offer a slice of her active life and how she dealt with all the activity and changes that came her way.

The largest source of Martha's joy and encouragement in the following months came from the presence of her children. Most of her eight children (who lived to adulthood) make an appearance in the two following months, as the majority of her children were living at home or visiting for the summer. Her oldest daughter Fannie, Frances McMillan MacKenzie, is visiting from New York with Donald, a one year old baby and Martha's first grandchild. Fannie, 25, remains until September 13th and is a large part of Martha's active life before she returns home to her husband. Fred, her oldest son at 23, is attending Monmouth College and does not visit home in these two months, though he is briefly mentioned. Her next son, Harlan, 21, lives and works at Carson's Wholesale Grocery in Springfield, though he visits several times during the summer. Homer, 20, works at the farm the whole summer before returning to Monmouth College in September. Clara, 17, lived in Springfield to attend high school until she goes to stay with Fannie and her family to attend school in New York at the end of the summer. Clayton, 13, and Jason, 11, live at home and help around the farm until starting school in September. Her

youngest, Paul, 3, often plays with Donald and goes on pleasant carriage rides with the rest of the family. The summer was full of joyful reunions and cheerful days with her family.

Though her daily life was full of happy moments, this summer was also full of tedious struggles. She endured funerals of beloved family friends, rainy and gloomy days and the 1893 depression that hit her family's farm hard. The family was going through harsh economic troubles during the summer of 1893. There was a minor depression that year, an event that hit farmers hard. For the McMillans, according to their son Jason, "Prices dropped to the lowest in the history of the nation. The only thing left of what was once a large estate was the original homestead, and that heavily mortgaged. These were the years that tried men's souls." Despite this harsh climate, Martha and her family do not dwell on the struggles. While they appear to have less hired help and her son Homer works at their farm for the summer, the family works hard on the farm, sewing and canning fruit to support themselves. Despite the strain on the family, the hospitable McMillans had daily visitors who sometimes stayed for several days. Her son Jason, in *The MacMillan Homestead*, records that the McMillans never stopped being the hospitable and gracious people they were, even when they lacked much. Even the pleasant happy days hard and busy, some of the entries taking on a hectic and hurried tone as she tried to keep up with her busy life.

Though August is full of activity, in September Martha's life goes from constant busyness to lonely solitude and she must deal with her changing family dynamics and understand her own pain. Fannie's return to New York in September, taking Clara and Donald with her, is a bittersweet moment for Martha. As the rest of her children gradually return to school and college, she is left feeling more and more alone. In midst of her loneliness and sorrow, she refuses to wallow in the moment long, turning towards activities in her church and in her

community to block out the unhappy thoughts. Despite her busy and sometimes sad moments, she never failed to set about time for church and Sabbath school; her faith was a significant part of her life and she never failed to focus on God as the source of her daily strength.

Martha's story presents a relatable exploration of faith and turning to God in times of struggle. Her struggles echo human concerns that are still prominent in our own everyday lives. How she deals with the mundane by finding little joys and deals with struggles by turning to God, offer real life examples of a life well lived. Through the years she writes about what it means to be a good wife and social advocate, what it means to stand by principles in the face of oppressive trials, including heavy financial stress, the deaths of friends and family, and loneliness. A mother, wife, writer, and Christian, Martha maintains her distinct, sensible personality and identity through all the great changes in her life. She is simply Martha and as her writing shows, *she matters*. Her daily patience and hope, as well as finding beauty in the mundane, are lessons modern readers can learn from her quiet strength.

Transcribed by Sharon Tapia 2017

August 1893

1 Aug. Tuesday. Homer cutting patches of grass. Shingledollar, Isaac H- and Fred L- and Frank Erwin and Frank O- & Gideon finishing up the remnant left of the hay. At five O'clock Clayton & Jason left in the Surrie [*sic* possibly "surey"] for Wilmington - they drove Maud and the pony. Aunt Matt would go with them from C- Frank and On around without our boys & Fred L- they seem pretty lonely today. This afternoon Mr Jonas came for Fannie & Fred Laimont to tell them their grandmother was dead - they went home with him. Homer at C- at the shop. Frank On went home with him & did not come back - this Eve Gideon Shingledollar Isaac and Frank Erwin & Mr Mc & Paul here to supper. Fannie done a little washing to day. Donald around - This Eve Frank Erwin and I at Clifton. Daisy Wealy, aged fifteen, came home with us to help while Aunt Mary E- is here and until Frank L- comes back. Our boys - Clayton & Jason did not get back until nine O clock. Aunt Mary Eliza stopped at Aunt JaneS with Aunt Matt - Clayton and Jason throughly [*sic*] tired but both were delighted with their trip and their sumptuous dinner and evening lunch - Aunt Mary E- provided company for them to show them over the city. (93-94)

2" Aug. Wed. A beautiful day again. The Hay Harvest ended at noon. Mr Mc & Fannie & Donald and Paul at C- and brought Aunt Mary E- out - they reached here just as Homer, Isaac Clayton Jason & Frank E- finished their dinner. We soon had the table in readings [*sic*] for them. Mr Mc not feeling well today. This afternoon - The men working in the oat Only Isaac who has been cutting weeds- he had Gidieon & Shingledollar in for supper - Clayton Frank Erwin Jason at C- with wood for Aunt JaneS. Daisy helping along nicely with the work. Homer at C- this eve. (94)

3 Aug. Thurs. Warm & dry - Homer steering the mower through the out-field. Gidieon with him see of the men gone but him. Frank Erwin around with the boyS - This morning Mr Mc took the carriage with M and [one word blotted out] and took Aunt Mary E- Fannie and Donald and Paul with him to the warmer pasture - came home near noon - Clara & Daisy W - and I busy. Mr Mc around home all afternoon - not feeling well with a cold. After Supper Aunt Mary E- & Fannie Donald and Paul went with him to the pasture near or beyond Selma for the ride. Clara ironing her white dress - Daisy and I ironing this afternoon - This eve - Homer at C at the hall - the 10" Ohio Battery meets in C- today - & this eve -

Walter called this eve. Will Mc & our express in Springfield to day - We have had a pleasant happy day. Donnie Kyle called this morning. (94-95)

4" Aug. Friday. A beautiful day. This morning Aunt Mary E- and Clark and Clayton and I took a drive to C- Clara got Dr Oglesber take out a tooth - Aunt Roseanna going very slowly - Aunt Mary E- and I spoke to her - She seemed very peaceful She asked one to call again Aunt Jane came home with us. This morning Uncle Dan & Annie called ["this morning" is crossed out] while we were away. This afternoon - Mr Mc and Homer called at Oscar Masons took tea there - they also called at Edd Lamont. This Eve Fannie & Donald & Aunt Mary E- and Clayton took Aunt Jane home in the Surrie and called to see Aunt Rachel and Josie On. (95)

5" Aug. Sat. Another Beautiful day. Fannie and Aunt Mary E- & Donald at Town Fannie got her teeth filled at Dr HomanS office - They got back in time for dinner. Homer & father out at the pasture [de starring?] sheep most of the day - home in time for tea. This afternoon I called to see Mrs Kyle - and Francis S Peters, who is very low with consumption. After supper Mr Mc and Aunt Mary E- and Fannie and Donald & Paul at C- for a ride - Homer at Selma to meet Harlan. He came on the one O clock train from Springfield. (95-96)

6" Aug. Sabb. A beautiful day. Harlan, Homer, Clara and Jason out at Sabbath School and church - Mr and Fannie at church. Clayton & Daisy and Paul and Aunt Mary E. and I at home. Mr Morton preached to day as usual. This Eve Harlan and Clara at the young folks meeting Harlan stopped to speak at Aunt JaneS & grand mother Murdocks. This afternoon spent with boys and with Daisy. (96)

7" Aug Monday. A beautiful day, At an early hour Mr Mc and Clara and Fannie and & Donald left with Harlan for Springfield - This afternoon Homer & crowd busy. This [blotted out, illegible] Homer at work. Aunt Mary E. and Jason at C- home in time for dinner. This afternoon Alvic On & Homer at the SpringS- to hear the Hon St John - I have been quite busy all day. Family busy. The folks reached home at nine. Fannie & Clara took dinner at [illegible] Stuarts & tea there too. Homer home after the folks came - He took supper with Alvic On. St John spoke fine - but only a small crowd to see him. Isaac away. Gideon off duty this p.m. Aunt Mary E- still with us. (96-97)

8" Aug. Tuesday. A lovely day. Homer and Isaac in the oats. Gideon off duty. Lee Shingledollar moved out from GideonS this

morning and went to Aunt Rachels. After an early dinner - Mr Mc and Clara Clayton and Jason and I attended the the [sic] temperance Mass meeting at two O clock at the old fair grounds - Hon St John spoke - his address powerful - quite a larger audience - we were home again before dark. Fannie and Donald and Aunt Mary E- at C- they took tea at Aunt JaneS. Paul stayed here, like a little soldier, with Daisy - & seemed content and happy after they came back from town they walked up to Will Mcs. Homer out at Uncle Silas's this eve - and Walter came home with him - they expect to attend the Springfield fair tomorrow. (97)

9" Aug. Wed. Dry & dusty. At an early hour Homer and Walter left for the fair. Fannie Aunt Mary E- & Clara Clayton Jason and Paul and Donald spending the day at Aunt Jennette & Uncle Bighams. Near noon Mr Mc left for Xenia to be ready for the St John meeting this afternoon - No one here but Isaac & Daisy and me [crossed out word]- we are not having a holiday but have been very busy. Gidieon off duty this p.m. - Isaac taking weeds out of the pasture - Annie Mc called here to see Aunt Mary E. this morning. None of the folks ventured from any of the three river points until long after dark - Father hoome [sic] for a late supper - Daisy and I finished ironing & Mr Mc took dinner at Uncle Silas's and went with him to Xenia. (97-98)

10" Aug. Thurs. Dry & dusty. The folks had a mishap as they returned from Uncle Bighams yesterday - and came home in Uncle Ervins Carriage. When Homer took the Carriage home this morning Fannie and Aunt Mary E- and Donald and Jason went to spend the day around town. Jason expected to white wash for Aunt Mary. Mr Mc took Paul with him to the warmer pasture this p.m. Isaac around cutting weeds, Clara and Daisy and I busy.

Homer found grandmothers lost cow & took her home and took tea with grandmotherS - This Eve Mr Mc at Michael Collins to see the machine men - This Eve Fannie and Paul and I at town for the folks. Aunt Mary E- spent the day at [blotted out two words]. Fannie at Mr Mortons and at Aunt Bells. This afternoon She & Donald went with Aunt Bell and the children and called at Aunt Matties. I called with grandmother Murdock a few minutes. Aunt Mary E. here as usual. (98-99)

11" Aunt. Friday. Dry & dusty - Fannie and Donald and Paul around with Mr Mc in the buggy this morning. They stopped to see Sarah Haggard D- as they past. This p.m. Homer at C- on an errand for Ba[g or s]el - Homer & Mr Mc around - Clayton at Bagels at the machine to day, did not get home until after dark. Mr Mc and Aunt Mary E- and Fannie at Selma - they called to see Miss R- but she was not at home. Homer at C- at Uncle Silas's.

Daisy and I busy to day. Clara helping Aunt Mary E- appraising Harlan's wardrobe and my mitts. Mr Calvin of S- called on his weekly rounds and I sent Harlan's goods direct to Carson Forbes. Paul and I are going to retire early. (99)

12" Aug. Sat. A little rain fell this morning - One kept dry the rest of the day. Near noon [blank space] machine came - we had thirty here to dinner and supper - They finished their work and came into a five O clock Supper - They thrashed the oats to day. Fannie & Donald at C- for meat this morning - after she came home She and Aunt Mary E- helped us along all they could and Donald went with them to Aunt Rachels to take dinner there. Uncle Silas and Walter and Ralph have to dinner & supper - Mrs Hanshanans children here all day - She gave good satisfaction. I have been in bed nearly all day - scarcely able to keep up - Francis Peters is dead. Her funeral at two Oclock to day - but we were too pressed for any of the children to go - On last Thursday morning Clara and Jason called to see her and took her some nice things - but now she is gone - and what we had purposed to bestow on her we can give to some other needy one. Fannie Aunt Mary E at Rachels for Supper. (99-100)

13" Aug. Sabb. Very dry - no Sign of rain. Clara and Aunt Mary E- & Paul and Daisy at home with Donald. Homer & Clayton and Jason at Sabbath School & church - Mr Mc and Fannie and I at church - Mr Mortons text, "I am the good Shepherd and know my Sheep, and am Known of mine".

Christ our Shepherd is the Subject of this text - Christ knows every want of his children and supplies their every need. This afternoon after the Sermon Mr Mc and I called in to Speak to Uncle Joe - he has been sick for several days - This p.m. I heard Clayton & Jasons [?] Had Psalms and Bible reading [*sic*]. (100-101)

14" Aug. Monday. A beautiful day. Our house in nice order. Jason took Daisy Wealy home - and brought Frannie Lamont back with him. Frannie and Aunt Mary E- & Donald went after Miss Roadasmer but she will not come before next week. Mrs Robt Lindal Called just at noon and came out and took dinner with us and spent most of the afternoon with Mr Mc & Homer at Mr Isaac Charms for corn. Clayton and Jason and Donald and Paul around. Isaac and Gidieon Stacking the remainder of the oats. This afternoon Aunt Mary E. went with me to C- we took the clothes to Mrs P- Aunt Mary E. Stopped at Aunt JaneS- I attended a Church meeting at the church. I took tea with grandmother Murdock & Aunt MaryS. This Eve at five O clock Fannie went Ida Crosswells to spend the evening with ten or twelve of the girls - They had a delightful

Supper and an enjoyable evening. Aunt Roseanna gradually slipping away. I [?] to see Uncle Joe he is still in bed. James P. Mc has taken his place in the post office about a week or more ago - Aunt Mary E- Stayed at Aunt Jane's to night - Alvic On called and Homer went with him to Selma to spend the evening. Clayton and Jason at Selma with Sacks. (101)

15" Aug. Tues. A beautiful day. Clara and Paul went to the eight O clock train and met Mr J.C. McMillan and brought him out along with Aunt Jane & Aunt Mary Eliza - Mr J.C. is getting very frail - after dinner Mr Mc and Mr J.C. and I attended the meeting of the Bible society at the M.P. church - no Regular address to day - Mrs Lizzie K Rainy there. It has been a long time since I meet [sic] her before - This after Aunt Roseanna McMillan died. We were all in there after she was gone. Mr J.C. went back to K- on the six O clock train. This afternoon while we were away - Aunt Mary E. and Fannie and Donald and Paul drove up to see Mrs Eva Roadasmer - This's Paul. Late Homer at Some pasture -[illegible symbol]. Frank busy all day. Clayton at Crites's up there to See the new thrasher work. There's another busy day has come to an end. (101-102)

16" Aug. Wed. Gideon at the gravel pit opening yesterday and hauling out gravel to day. Homer at C this afternoon at the mill [illegible symbol]. Aunt Mary E getting my cloth ready for a cape - Fannie and Clara put out quite - a little washing - She and I and we [illegible] - Will Mc called. Clayton at Crites at the machine. This p.m. - at half past four Mr Mc and Aunt Mary E. and Fannie and I at Roseannas funeral - Mr Morton & Rev Sprawl and Warmock conducted the exercises. Mr Mortons text "Now I am ready to be offered up." After the funeral Aunt Mary E went to stay at Aunt Jane to night. We had quite a nice Summer shower this Eve - Clara and Frank have with Donald and Paul. This Eve Homer at C- (102)

17" Thurs. Aug. A beautiful day. This morning on the early train the friends left with Aunt Roseannas remains for Preble Co- to be layed [sic] away in their old family burrying grounds - besides Uncle Gavins old church. Mr Mc and Clayton and Jason at the Xenia fair. Fannie and Donald stopped off at Miss Blanch Collins's to spend that day and Mr Mc rode with me from their [sic] to Xenia's - and went out from there with the boys to the fair - I put Maud in the stable for safe keeping and spent most of the day around town - for something new I called to see Sallie Buck - and called at Mr J.C. McMillans & got a dictionary he promised me - I also called to see old ms Charters -- and

reached Collins near five - when we came to C- we only stopped a very few minutes - I called in to see Uncle Joe he is sick.

Homer & Gidieon & Clayton hauling on the rode. Frank & Clara kept Donald this afternoon - This Eve Homer at C- the rest of the folks did not get home until dark. (102-103)

18" Aug. Friday. Another bright day. Mr Mc and Clara at Springfield - Clara and I kept Donald -- Homer out with Gidieon on the roads. Clayton took Homers place until Homer went to Selma to see Mr Lindal. Frank and Clara and I busy with Donald and with a large ironing. We put up our corn to day. Excuse bad writing but I wrote most of the above while asleep. I am very tired to night. I meant to say that yesterday Clara and Frank had the large ironing and we put up the corn to day. Father & Fannie took dinner with Harlan - Fannie called at Stuarts - Charlie S- left Springfield last week. We had Supper when the folks came -- Jason at the office this eve - Homer up the pike a little while Lester sleeping here to night. (103-104)

19" Aug. Sat. Another nice day. I called to see Uncle Joe and brought Grandmother Murdock and Aunt Mary out with one - Aunt Mary made eighteen glasses of Crabb Jelly and 4 [?] marmalade - At an early hour Mr Mc and Homer and Clayton and Jason took 32 hays to C- to Mr Lindal. Paul went along too - and stopped at Aunt Bells awhile - he came out in our carriage -- Mr Mc and co came home in time for dinner -- A little past noon Mr Mellanger called and took dinner with us. Gidieon & co over at his folks to day. This Eve Clara and Donald took Aunt Mary & grandmother home - Aunt Mary E. came back home with Clara - and is with us to night - Homer at C- and at Selma too -- No he concluded not to go to S-- (Clayton at mill) (104)

[In the margin]: Gid & co off at Emva[?] to day.

20" Aug. Sabbath. A beautiful day - but cool. This morning Homer Clayton and Jason at Sabbath School and church - Clara went part of the way and came back on acct [account] of her dress. She and Aunt Mary E- & Fannie and Donald at home - Paul and Frank here too, Mr Mc and I at church. Mr Mortons text "But now they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly; wherfore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for he hath prepared for them a city." We all feel that - we have here no abiding peace - permanently - but are looking for one yonder There is no other [?]that should interest us as our eternal home. "[?]" The Better Country." There is an Other country - another life - another home. Jesus great design in coming into this world was to help

fear down trodden men and women to find that home - There is no loss like the loss of the soul.

After preaching Mr Mc and I called to see Uncle Joe - This [one word blotted out] afternoon Spent with the children - This Eve Homer and Clara at the Young Folks Meeting. (104-105)

21" Aug. Monday. A beautiful day - A little cool - and very dry. Clara and Aunt Mary E- went up after Miss Roadasmer this morning. The boys room and poarch ready for the Sewing. Homer at C- This morning. Near noon Prof McMillan called and took dinner and spent most of the afternoon. Aunt Mary E. & Fannie assisting Mrs R- with the Sewing. Most of her time & Mr Mcs & Homers, as well as my own, spent with the Proff - while here - Frank went over to Clifton yesterday P.M. - and back at her place to day faithful all the way through

Mr Ervin Kyle called this P.M. All of us very busy. This Eve Clara and Aunt Mary E. took the clothes to Mrs P- Homer spending the evening at Selma - Fannie feeling very anxious about her "fine pin.") She lost it to day. No traces of it can be found. (105-106)

22" Aug. Tues. A beautiful day. Mr Carry here and "purchased" some cattle. Miss Roadasmer assisted by Aunt Mary E. and Fannie are busy in the Sewing department -- Isaac & Gid hauling gravel - Mr Mc and Homer away with the stock - Fannie made very happy to day by finding her pin. This after noon Aunt Jennette and Aunt Matt called. Aunt Bell & Fern called - They remained for tea. This Eve Homer at C- (106)

23" Aug. Wed. A beautiful day. Miss Roadasmer busy all day long. Clara and Paul took Aunt Mary E. and Fannie & Donald to Uncle Dan to spend the day. Peace & Harry & Wills folks there Clara came back near noon bringing Grandmother Murdock and Aunt Mary with her to visit with the Pidgeon family here Mr & Mrs P- & their three children here- Mary Ervin came out with Clara all here until after tea when Fannie and Donald and Paul and I took the folks home and brought Aunt Mary E. back with us. Mary Ervin rode down with Homer - by the way Uncle Dan brought Fannie home this p.m. - to meet Mr and Mrs Pidgeon - This Eve Homer at C- again and out at Uncle Silas's. (106-107)

24" Aug. A beautiful day. Near noon Mr Mc left for Hale Collins Pale. Fannie and Aunt Mary E. and Miss Roadasmer busy on the upper poarch [sic] at the Sewing. Homer looking after the Sheep. Gidieon & Isaac working on the roads. Sarah Haggard D[?] and children here to see Fannie this afternoon. This eve Fannie & Aunt Mary E. & Clara & Miss R- and Jason and, Donald & Paul took

a little ride - I have been working with grapes to day Frank finished the ironing we have been busy all day long. Mr Mc home for tea at dark. Homer at Minnie Turnbuls at an ice Cream Supper, and will stay with Walter at Uncle Silas's to night. (107)

25" Aug. Friday, A beautiful day - Jason at C- and brought Aunt Jane and Matt and Aunt Mary out - grandmother did not wish to come - Aunt Mary made 14 glasses of Grape Jelly to day - she kept busy - and so did Aunt Matt assisting Miss Roadasmer and Aunt Mary E. and taking care of Donald - Frank & Clara and all busy. One of Gidieons little ones sick - I was there this morning.

Homer home from Walters this [erased] forenoon - This afternoon Mr Mc Mc [sic] and Homer at the pike looking after a buyer for Daisy - did not get home until after dark - When Homer went to town to see Alvic O. -- This Eve [crossed out, two words] Donald and Clara [scratched out, three words] and Aunt Mary E. took Aunt Jane and Matt and Aunt Mary home It was beautiful riding in the moonlight. (107-108)

26" Aug. Sat. We have been busy all day long. Clayton took Frank away this morning to go to a picnic today. Fannie and Aunt Mary E. helping Miss R with the sewing. Gidieon & Isaac hauling gravel. This p.m. Homer helped gather a few peaches - Mr Mc around home all day. This p.m. - very heavy wind and a shower. This Eve Homer at Selma he took Miss Roadasmer home - Aunt Mary E. and Fannie and Donald and Clayton at C- Jason cleaning his church suit - Homer has a pain in his breast to night. (108)

27" Aug Sabb. A beautiful day after the rain. Homer, Clayton Clara and Jason at Sabbath School and church. Mr Mc and Fannie at church - Aunt Mary E. and Paul & Donald and I at home Homer Clayton & Jason recited the catechism and read the Sabbath School lesson for next Sabbath. This Eve Homer and Clara at the young folks meeting. (108)

28 Aug. Monday. At an early hour Clayton left for Selma for Miss Roadasmer and Clara went to C- and brought Aunt Jane & Matt and Aunt Mary out - Aunt Mary working with the peaches. Aunt Matt helping with the sewing & Fannie & Aunt Mary E- with Miss R- all day sewing. Isaac taking the tops of the trees that were blown off Saturday out of the yard. Homer and Gid at the sheep until noon - This afternoon Homer and Alvic our went past Selma for there [sic] company to attend a picnic - Mr Harris called and chatted awhile this afternoon - Old [illegible] Miller came on his yearly rounds to day and chopped in the wood house all day.

Frank came back this morning and is home to day. This Eve Clara and Aunt Mary E. took the folks home. Gideon out at the pasture with Sheep - Mr Mc went out at a later hour.

The Ervin family called here this eve - Uncle Ervin and all - we are having quite a little shower - Fannie [illegible, perhaps received?] word This Eve from Mr Mckenzie - quite a gloom thrown over the congregation at the sudden death of one of the children - Theodore W Cline was suddenly killed at the Station he was eight or nine years old. Mr Harris called this p.m. (109)

29" Aug. Tuesday. Gideon & Isaac hauling gravel - "Old George" left us this morning. Homer working on sheep. Mr Mc around home most of the day.

Fannie and Aunt Mary E. on the upper poarch [*sic*] sewing all day long. Aunt Mary E. made four blouse waists for Paul - This afternoon I went to town I called to see Uncle Joe and S. This Eve Homer and Clara and Clayton at J.R. Orrs at a Social. Fannie & Aunt Mary E. and Miss R- and Donald & Jason at the pike riding. (109-110)

30" Aug Wed. A beautiful day. The State fair in Session in Columbus. This morning Homer and Fannie took Aunt Mary E. to C- to stay until Saturday Eve. They attended to a little business and were soon home - Donald seems to be happy here now and gets along nicely. Clara [illegible, perhaps received?] a letter from Helen W- Vesta Stuart is away - Therefore they can not come tomorrow. Homer and Gideon working on Sheep - Fannie and Miss R- Sewing all day - Frank and Clara and I busy. Mr T. Spauser called this Eve. Home took Miss Roadasmer home near dark - her stay with us has been very pleasant. Homer spent the eve in Selma. (110)

31" Aug. Thurs. A lovely day. Mr Mc left near noon some where up the Pike - At an early hour Gideon and Homer left for Uncle Silas's. The machine there to day - This Eve Homer at C- Mr Mc home at four this p.m.

This afternoon I expected to have attended the missionary meeting but did not get there. Fannie & Donald at C- took peaches for Aunt Mary E- & Aunt Matt took them out to Aunt Jennetts in Fannie's conveyance and remained for tea - Fannie took tea with grandmother & Aunt Mary. Fannie did not get home until near dark. Mr & Mrs Morton will be here tomorrow - I have been canning peaches this P.M. fruit very scarce - Clayton and Jason and Paul here - Isaac hauling out manure -- (110-111)

September 1893

1: Sept. Friday. Most a lovely day - Early this A.M. - Mr Mc and Homer & Clara left for Springfield. They had the time set and was obliged to go - although Mr & Mrs Morton were here and spent the day. We tryed to make things as pleasant as we could in Mr Mcs absence - Isaac at his hauling One of the colt of the thirty hogs died to day - very suddenly.

This Eve Aunt Bell and the children here - Mary Bell and Blanch remained to visit here until tomorrow eve - Fannie and Donald here all day helping us to make the most of things. Homer came back from S- with Basel and left early by way of L- to attend a party at Miss Carrie Haines - Mr Mc & Clara came at a later hour bringing Maggie Stuart with them Blanch & Mary here with Clara -

Mr Howard Bratton & his friend called to see Homer - Can it be true that this is the 2" day of Autumn - that the Summer has really gone. Slipped away almost before we were aware. This is only a sample of the way our lives pass -- Here only for a day - Although we all bid so high for this world -- yet after all how unsatisfactory. (111-112)

2" Sept. Sat. Another Bright day. Miss Maggie S- and Blanch and Mary here - This morning I made a quick visit to C- called at the School house to see Proff Sairs. We would like to send Clayton to School in C- this year. After dinner Fannie & Clara & Donald and Paul & Maggie S- and Blanch & Mary put up a little lunch and went over in the vicinity of Clifton to spend the afternoon - Homer left at the same time for Springfield to bring Harlan down this Eve - Mr Mc here all day looking after things - Isaac hauling out fertilizer. The folks come home up [word crossed out] Cedarville and Blanch and Fern stopped off at home and Aunt Mary E- come out with them and she and Maggie S- with us night -- Harlan and Homer home about nine O clock. [112]

3" Sept. Sabb. Light cool last night - & this morning. Aunt Mary E. and Clara and Jason and Frank here with Donald. Harlan Homer and Jason at Sabbath School and Church- Mr Mc and Fannie and Maggie and Paul and I at church - This is the first that Paul has been at Church for a long time. He had his new suit on - Rev John Kendal preached - Text "Whose I am and whom I serve." We are all servants and our life motto should be "I serve" God has a work for each one of us - This afternoon we had our Sabbath lesson Harlan and Homer with us. This Eve Harlan Homer Clara & Clayton & Maggie St- at the Young Folks meeting. Frank went over home - in our conveyance - and took advantage of the favor -- & tarryed late. (113)

4" Sept. Monday. At an early hour - Claytons first day at Cedarville school- he was very anxious to go - He will stay at grandmother Murdocks. Homer took Maggie Stuart to the eleven Oclock train - home again at noon - Aunt Mary E- with us. Harlan around. After dinner Homer at C- and around to tell the folks good bye - Harlan went with him and went on the five Oclock train to Springfield. Mr Mc around home all day. After an early supper Aunt Mary E. told us good bye and Fannie took her to town to be ready to go back to Wilmington in the morning. They called at Aunt Rachels & Clara kept Donald - All of us busy. Jason at C- at the shop. Clayton came back this eve - (113-114)

5" Sept. Tues. A beautiful day. At an early hour Mr Mc and Clara left for Wilmington to take Aunt Mary E. back - at a later hour Homer told us good bye and Jason took him to the nine O clock train to go back to Monmouth to attend College there this year. This is his second year - Fannie and Donald rode down with them to spend the day around town - How busy these days have been - how much has been crowded into them and quickly they have past - Aunt Mary E- has been here since the 1" of Aug. and Homer has been with us since the 9" of June - And now the "Harvest is past and the Summer ended - All past - & gone O how swiftly - I have had a lonely day - no one here but Frank and Paul and me - Isaac out at his work. This eve I called at C- and brought Fannie and Donald home at a later hour Mr Mc and Clara came - Aunt Jane went with them to day and stood the trip bravely. (114)

6" Sept. Wed. A beautiful day. For a change of scene - I went with Fannie Donald and Paul out to Uncle Silas's - we stopped and took grandmother with - Aunt Mary went out early in the morning - they were having the clover haulers there to day. We remained until after tea Aunt Mary rode home with us. Just as we come in to town this morning the express ran into Mr McElvains team - injuring him and killing his little boy. Clara here with Frank and Jason - Mr Mc around here and there all day- (115)

7" Sept Thurs. Another bright day - but warm - & dusty. I came home from Uncle Silas's sick last night - with a severe pain in my stomach which lasted all night - I have been in bed all day. Mr Mc around looking after things - Mr John Thomas called at an early hour for Mr Mc to go with him to the London fair - but he concluded not to go - This eve Fannie and Jason & Donald at the office - a letter from Homer - he reached Monmouth yesterday p.m. at six O clock - took break fast with Fred. Clara sewed to day. Frank ironed. - I am sitting up awhile this eve - (115)

8" Sept. Friday. A beautiful day. Fannie and Jason at C- this morning at the office - Aunt Jane came out with them and spent the day. Mr Mc up at Selma pasture - came home to a late dinner - Mr Heentington[?] here to dinner and waited until Mr Mc came This eve he and Mr Mc at John Thomas's. - home again in time for tea - This eve we were surprised to see our old friend Louis Floid the old painter, stopping in - he was there to tea and with us to night - This eve Fannie, Clara Jason Donald & Paul took Aunt Jane home - Frank busy making Crabb apple jelly to day. Clayton came home this eve. This is His first week in Cedarville school Miss Blais is his teacher. (116)

9" Sept. Sat. Very Busy all day. Frank put in a full day washing and ironing. Fannie and busy [sic]. Paul and Donald and Clayton and Jason around. This afternoon Clayton at C- Louis cleaned the yard and helped all he could - This p.m. Aunt Bell and daughters called - Isaac finished his 2" term - This A.M. Mr Mc & Clara left in the Surrie for Springfield. Fannie and Frank and I busy all day. We expected Mrs Stuart home with the folks - but she did not come - but were delighted with Harlan putting in his appearance - We had supper for the folks after they came. I have been scarcely able to keep up to day. The painter here. (117)

10" Sept Sabb. A beautiful day. Harlan Clara and Jason at Sabbath School - Mr Mc and Fannie at Church - Mr Morton preached. Clayton and Paul here with Donald and me - Frank and the painter here. This afternoon we had our Bible reading on the upper poarch [sic]- Harlan & the Painter read with us - and Clara - we had the Catechisms - This Eve Harlan went with Clara & Clayton for the young folks meeting. Walter came home with Uncle Silas to be ready for an early trip with H- in the morning. (117)

11" Sept. Monday. At an early hour Walter left with Harlan for Springfield to be at his place in time at Carsons. Clayton rode down with Will Mc to C- to school this morning. Miss Haines for School in our school house this morning. Mr Mc at Clifton mill this A.M. After an early dinner Fannie and Donald I left for Mr John Collins and for Xenia - but when we reached there Miss Blanch and her sister were in Xenia - we met them there We attended to a little business and came direct to C- Father Fannie & Donald and I were invited to Mr Mortons to tea - but Mr Mc was at the Selma pasture and Jason brought Clara down and left her to come home with Fannie and me - we were sorry Mr Mc did not get back in time to come. We did not reach home until nine - We had a very pleasant meeting at Mr Mortons - [?] & wife and Gracie there - The old painter around - he cleaned the wool

house [illegible symbol]. We saw Clayton - he is busy at his lessons at Grandmothers. (117-118)

12" Sept. Tuesday. We had a nice shower yesterday eve - This morning Jason at C- and brought Aunt Jane and Matt and Aunt Mary and Uncle Joe out. They made a nice cloak for Donald. This afternoon Uncle Bigham and Aunt Jennette came - They were here and all the above [?] for tea. Mr Mc at town this afternoon - at Williams S-s - & s - home with the folks for tea - It has been raining this afternoon a little off & on. Fannie and Donald and Clara took the folks home and told the friends good bye - they were detained on acct of the rain - and did not get home until nine. This is the first day Uncle Joe attempted riding and Clayton came with them. (118-119)

13" Sept. Wed. A dreary day after the rain - Sprinkling a little now and then. Clayton told the folks good bye and went back to his school - and Uncle Joe brought the buggy back and Aunt Bell came along and helped pack Clara and Fannie's trunks - Gideon and Jason took the trunks in the express to Springfield - After an early dinner Mr Mc and Paul and I took Fannie and Donald and Clara to the train to Springfield - we stopped at the firm of "Carson & [?]" to see Harlan and then drove to the [?] depot - which is all of three miles out of the city - The train was behind time - Donald was full of life and showed off a good many of his pranks. It was a sad moment when the train came sweeping in and carried Fannie and Donald and Clara away - "Far over the hills and far away: to that far off home at Pine Bush N.Y. I can not tell why - but never at any time have I felt so sad as I have done to night when I came back to our deserted home - all gone - only Jason and Paul with us.

This afternoon after we went away Uncle Joe took Aunt Bell back to town. When we came back - Poor Frank was so tired that she had retired long ago - Uncle Joe and the old painter by the sitting room lamp when we came home it was nine O clock. Paul was a [sic] white as if he had been in his coffin when the train came in - the tears were on his cheeks - he would say I do not want Clara to go away - Will Fannie be back tomorrow - (119-120)

14" Sept. Thurs. Our place still seems deserted -- I left Frank in care of the home and Uncle Joe and I went to C- I took dinner with grandmother Murdock and Aunt Mary - and in the afternoon attended a meeting of the W.C.T.U. At Mrs Shrodes - Let me write those words which came in our lesson to day - "Looking up above earth's throng and stir," Mat. Jesus the beginner and finisher of our faith". And along the vista of life's crowded thorough

focus across the the River to "the land of far distances" which his calm in the Sunlight on the Farther Shore."

"O Lord, my God, 'tis early dawn
And I would walk with thee to day;
Clothe me in garments pure and white,
All bright and beautiful, I pray
Grant I may walk with greatest care,
That I may keep their luster bright,
To day, my Father, hear my prayer,
And let me walk with Thee in white.
No thought, no word, no deed, to day
That may displease my blessed Lord;
No idle loitering by the way,
But Sweetly trusting in Thy word,
What'er my hands may find to do -
That may I do with all my might,
To day my Father, pure and true
Grant I may walk with Thee in white.
The failures of the yesterday
The cares that may tomorrow come,
Each tear, each fear, no chase away
And guide me on my journey home.
And when the evening Shadows face
And I came bending in Thy sight
Then may I feel my Lord, my All,
That I have walked with Thee in white"

After the meeting Uncle Joe and I came direct home - Mr Mc & Jason and Paul were at Mr Thomas Spanders for Wal[illegible]. - home in time for tea. The old painter putting bee hives in order - Gidieon at work.

15" Sept. Friday. Uncle Joe at C- and busy but Aunt Jane out to take account of the peaches - This afternoon he took her back to C- Frank went down with them. Wednesday night Mr Lee Barbus new house was burned down - Last night Mr Gordons barn near Salem was burned down -- The Painter at the hives again to day. Clayton came home with Uncle Joe Mr Mc at C- This afternoon - This Eve Clayton took me up to Selma for Miss Roadasmer She came down with us - to be ready for the Serving in the morning. (122)

16" Sept Sat. Rather cool to day. Miss R- finished off my black cloth cape and looked over all of my dresses putting them in shape - busy all day long until late this Eve when Mr Mc took her home - This afternoon Mr Mc took Uncle Joe home -- Clayton and Jason at C- a few minutes Gidieon there with wood for Aunt Jane -- This is Gidieons birthday They are having a meeting for him at his home to night - "a surprise"- (123)

17" Sept. Sabb. A nice day. Clayton & Jason at Sabbath School and church. Mr Mc and Paul and I at church. The Old Painter keeping house. Frank absent. Mr Morton's text -- "I will Seek that which was last, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick." This afternoon Lewis read with Clayton and Jason and me. (123)

18" Sept Monday. A nice day. Clayton went down to School - and Uncle Joe brought the buggy back. He also brought a letter from Clara and Dannie They got home all right - but both were very tired - I do not know how about Donald whether he was very tired or not- but he surely would be. Roy Branigan[?] came up this morning - has been around all day - and took the buggy to go to see his girl to night.

Uncle Joe took clothes to Mrs P- home against in time to tea - Jason at C- for He started to School to day - & needed books. Excuse blots- I have written this over while asleep. (124)

19" Sept. Tuesday. A nice day. Jason at School. Mr Mc around home all day. Uncle Joe and Ray around. The old painter at the bee hives to day again. This afternoon Frank called at Will Mcs. I called to see Mrs Jonas and Mrs Kyle was K- does not seem to improve very fast. This eve Mr Mc and Roy at the pasture. Paul cried himself asleep with the tooth ache. Roy at C- on an errand. (124)

20" Sept. Wed. Uncle Joe at C- this morning the Old Painter at his work. Gidieon began cutting corn - Roy still here. Jason at School. This afternoon I was at C- I took Paul with me - we were home in time for tea - Mr Mc around at the pastures - Roy at C- again. (125)

21" Sept. Thurs. A Pleasant day. Mr Mc around looking after things The Painter at the Bee Hives - Roy with us - Uncle Joe here Jason at School -- Frank and I busy - This afternoon I went to C- alone - Mrs. Cawley grandson burried to day - he was one of the Twins. I took tea with Clayton at grandmothers- David [?] & Aunt Mary -- Mr Mc at pasture. (125)

22" Sept. Friday. At an early hour I left for C- and took Aunt Jane - Aunt Mary and Aunt Bell with me to the "Annual W.C.T.U. Convention of Greene Co." We certainly had a nice meeting - Prof White gave us a Bible Reading -- Aunt Mary was selected President for this year. We has a nice dinner I met Nellie there

- Heavy rain this afternoon -- dark and dreary this eve - we did not reach C- until dark -- Clayton came home with me from C- Frank taking care of things to day. Mr Mc the Old Painter Uncle Joe and Roy and Paul around. Jason at School. (125-126)

23" Sept. Sat. A little cool after the rain. Gidieon around at the work. Clayton and Jason helping him get out corn -- The old Painter at the bee hives- Uncle Joe and Paul around. Frank busy. This afternoon Mr Mc at Mr Edd Carrys. Roy B- out last night - and in "his room" this afternoon -- Resting. Mr Isaac L- and Mr Lammont called to see Mr Mc this morning. Gidieon took Uncle Joe and Roy down home. Mr Mc here after dark - He came home past Uncle Bighams and had tea there. (126)

24" Sept. Sabbath. Rain last night and rain this evening again. Clayton and Jason at Sabbath School and church - Mr Mc & Paul and I at church too. Mr Mortons text "We will go with you for we have heard that God is with you."

This afternoon Louis Floyd, the old painter, read with Clayton and Jason and I in the Bible. Clayton and Jason read aloud in the Evangelist and in the book (Persecutions in Scotland - Frank away this eve -- Raining and quite cool. (127)

25" Sept Monday. Chilly after the rain - Robert McMillan, who is home from a six year stay in Washington Ty.) came this morning to spend the day. Clayton took the buggy down when he went back to school and Uncle Joe came back bringing Roy Branigan and Robbie Murdock of Bloomington Rd.

Robbie come from there to grandmothers Saturday morning - it is six years now since Robbie was here. The painter fixing the cistern top - All here for Supper but Bob Mc. Late this eve Uncle Joe and I at C- took the clothes to Mrs P- it is quite chilly.

Robbie M- & Roy B- here this eve - & with us to night. An irish "corn cutter" here. Jason at School to day. Paul around. Frank busy. Mrs Aaron [Willfurrow?] is dead. She died yesterday. (127-128)

26" Sept. Tues. A bright day - but cool in the Shade - frost last night. Our Irish Man past on this morning. Isaac H- & Lamonts left in field. Gidieon and Uncle Joe & Roy in the Sorgum. Robbie M- here until after dinner - Frank taking care of the house and Paul - Jason at School. Uncle Joe at C- this Eve - - Mr Mc and I left at an early hour this morning for the big Prohibition Basket meeting at the Fair grounds at Springfield. [?] (Prohibition Candidate for Gov,) and [?] were the speakers - we had a grand meeting -- And a happy meeting for me as Mr Mc

has made a clean sweep and came over soul and body into the Prohibition party. Maybe he ever go forward & upward - never back - never. In the evening at the City hall Our Candidate [large blank space] spoke on the "little red School house" - I stopped with Mrs Stuarts for tea - Mr Mc went with Harlan - It is just a year this evening since Harlan went to Springfield and began work for Carson and fire. Quite a change in the appearance of our boy since then - as well as a change in our boy for the better.

Mr Mc and Harlan called and went with Mrs. Stuart and I to the meeting - We had a grand speech -- It is cool to night - almost as bright as day. No one can ever know how lonely these days are since the children are gone -- some of them so far away. (129-130)

27" Sept. Wed. This A.M. Frank and I [?]. Lewis fixed up the cistern pump - Uncle Joe and Roy at work. Gidieon at the wheat sewing - Mr Mc at Dave Mcs this A.M. Quite a bright day. Jason at School. Frank and - have work. This Eve Gidieon across at Mr Thomas Stretcher. This Eve Mr Mc called at Williams in C-- (130)

28" Sept Thrs. A beautiful day. This morning the old Painter, Louis Floyd, bid us good bye after a three weeks stay -- and Mr Mc took him to Selma to the train Mr Mc at the Sheep pasture also.

This P.M. he was at the late [Jameson?] farm at Edd Smiths the Sale. Near noon Paul and I went to grandmothers - neither she nor Aunt Mary well. Clayton home to dinner with us at two Oclock Paul and I at the Woman's Missionary Soc. We did not make a long stay in C- afterwards but came home. Uncle Joe and Roy at Aunt Rachels for wheat this morning. Gidieon at the sowing. Jason at School to day. Frank busy. (130-131)

29" Sept. Friday. A bright day. Mr Mc left for Mr Arthur Forbes sale - Uncle Joe and Roy & Gidieon busy at the wheat sowing. Jason at School Paul around with Frank - Her folks finished their contract in the corn this Eve. This afternoon I called to see Mrs Etter McMillan - This Eve I made a hasty trip to C- for Clayton- Frank went with the folks home to be ready to go with them to Springfield tomorrow Mr Mc at home after dark - he took dinner and Supper at Mr Forbes's. Uncle Joe and Roy with Clayton and Jason around the camp - Gidieon and I looked over accts to day. (131-132)

Sat. 30" Sept. Misty - drizzling rain all day. Isaac H- here this morning - He was married on Thursday. Gidieon trying to

finish the wheat sowing. Uncle Joe and Roy around This A.M.-
Clayton & Jason at Forbes Mc at Edd [Linsoufs?] This Eve Gid and
Clayton took Uncle Joe & Roy home - Harlan came from Springfield
on the evening train and came out with them. Williams came at
the same time & brought house out he wanted to see Mr Mc.