

GEORGE ALBERT GREGORY

PIONEER EDUCATOR

BY ANNADORA FOSS GREGORY

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## PREFACE

The brief biography of George Albert Gregory has been written in appreciation of the important role played by the Nebraska pioneer educators as they shaped the youthful minds of their day. It is hoped that it may inspire those seeking mastery of twentieth century educational frontiers.

It is assumed that excerpts from his diary will aid in reconstructing Saline County pioneer times and lead to an understanding of the many humble efforts that for over a century have structured the foundations of present day Nebraska. The original diary is in the archives of the Nebraska State Historical Society.

The Scotch geneology, although not entirely complete, may aid others searching along those lines. The writer will appreciate additions or corrections of geneological material.

Acknowledgement is gratefully made of help received from Mrs. Marie Preston, Livingston County Historian, Geneseo, New York; from Dr. W. D. Aeschbacher and Dr. Donald F. Danker of The Nebraska State Historical Society and from Mrs. Vern Teare, Flint, Michigan.

Annadora F. Gregory    Crete, Nebraska    June 1, 1961

Grand Rapids, Michigan  
Crete, Neb.

## GEORGE ALBERT GREGORY

During the decade before the Civil War, southern Michigan became a permanently settled area as propertied farmers cleared the forests, piled the rocks, built homes and enclosed their small farms with rail fences. There, northeast of Hillsdale, in Hillsdale County, George Albert Gregory was born, November 19, 1851, the third in a family of thirteen children. His father George Gregory (1822-1910) was of Scotch ancestry, stemming from the Highland Macgregor Clan, while his mother, Jane Ann Bross (1828-1881) came of Huguenot and Dutch descent. They had grown to maturity in western New York but by 1845 were located in Adams Township, Hillsdale County, Michigan. Their modest farm home, although offering few conveniences, afforded a wholesome environment for their growing family.

George Albert's grandfather, James Gregory (c. 1795-c. 1850), had followed the Michigan road from western New York, by way of Detroit, into Moscow Township, Hillsdale County where he purchased land in 1836. His father George, discouraged from following maritime pursuits, after a shipwreck on Lake Erie, located in Adams Township but acquired land in 1857, southeast of Hillsdale, in the Steamburg area. In 1865 he moved his family to a farm he purchased in Thornapple Township, Barry County, twenty-five miles southwest of Grand Rapids, bordering on the Scales Prairie, not far from Middleville.

These farms comprised no more than sixty to eighty acres, not all of them arable. With little machinery available, it required much time and effort to obtain a mere living. Most of the food came from the farm, including grains, vegetables, fruits and meat; while land clearings ensured a wood supply and sheep provided wool, spun and loomed at home.

George Albert's father cut out and made much of the family clothing, a skill acquired earlier from a brief ap-

prentice to a tailor. He enjoyed singing and encouraged it in his home. So George Albert became a good vocalist and acquired enough skill in directing group singing to organize and lead a small singing class in a neighboring community. Also he learned to play the violin sufficiently well so that later he met part of his college expenses through giving violin lessons.

His mother planned well for her children, governing them with a kind though firm hand. She was a good speller and gave her son drill at home that soon enabled him to win neighborhood spelling contests.

Long hours of necessary toil had compensations in Grange meetings, lyceums, Sunday religious services, Fourth of July celebrations, summer camp meetings, county fairs, election campaigns and picnics. Many enjoyed neighborhood singing groups, spelling contests, debates and district school programs. Cooperative activities such as corn husking bees and the seasonal apple and peach paring bees gave the young folk opportunity for pleasant association intermingled with occasional games. Nearby lakes afforded opportunities for boating, fishing and swimming.

Amid such an environment, George Albert Gregory acquired an extensive knowledge of farm ways; plowing, rolling and "plastering" the soil then later helping sow, thresh and market the crops from his father's acres. Fruit trees were planted, vegetables grown, harness mended, hogs butchered and chores done. As he neared twenty-one, more remunerative ways of earning a living were sought.

He learned telegraphy at the Swensburg and Robbin's Business College at Grand Rapids during the winter of 1872-1873. Failing to find employment as a telegrapher during the panic of 1873, he worked in a lumber camp at Sand Lake, north of Grand Rapids for ten weeks. That summer he worked for wages on his father's farm and at times for the neighbors. The following winter he taught his first rural school of four months in a nearby district.

It was during the financial crisis of 1873 that he turned to the Nebraska frontier where his father, while on a western trip, and his maternal uncle, Rev. Harmon Bross, had each purchased eighty acres of Burlington and Missouri River Railroad Company land near Harvard. So he contracted for eighty acres of that Company's land in the same neighborhood.

And it is here that we find him locating on March 25, 1874. Rev. Bross had been serving as pastor of the First Congregational Church, since 1873, at Crete, Nebraska, a young town around sixty miles east of Harvard. Consequently the nephew frequently visited at the parsonage, seeking encouragement and help. Friendships formed there proved to be life-long and of a deeply Christian nature that provided motivation for a life devoted to service rather than material gain.

Arriving on the Nebraska frontier, with all his material possessions in a small trunk and only a few dollars in his pocket, he envisioned a bright future, when, with his land under cultivation, improvements would materialize. Little did he realize difficulties that would arise from weather conditions, fire and grasshoppers nor the tedious toil in breaking the firmly rooted sod. Fortunately he soon found employment at twenty dollars per month, plus room and board, on a large farm near his land. There he worked during the summer and fall, breaking sod, sowing, rolling and harvesting crops besides planting trees and assisting with chores.

It was on July 21, that year, that migratory grasshoppers swarmed down over the land, devouring nearly every green thing, within a three day period. Then they left in a cloudlike formation, creating a sound similar to that of the wind sighing through pine trees. A shack he built on his land often leaked, making the floor so muddy that he would have to stay a few nights with the neighbors. A serious illness followed one of these episodes.

That fall he purchased an ox team for seventy dollars, which proved very useful in breaking sod on his farm and

on the Doane campus the following spring. Just north of the campus, an improvised shack he had built for himself was twice blown down and as often reassembled. The oxen he sold for one-hundred twenty-five dollars in October, 1875. For although his partially broken acres had proved remunerative, he found more opportunities and satisfaction in teaching.

During the preceding winter of 1874-1875, he had taught a four months term in the Artist District [Number 29 in Saline County] around two miles north of DeWitt. Classroom activities filled the days and frequently the pupils reassembled for evening debating, singing or spelling schools. The following winter he contracted again for the Artist school.

It was on March 18, 1876, at the close of his second year of teaching that he decided to enter the Doane Academy, for the spring term. He then contracted to teach a summer term of two months in the Artist District; worked for E. F. Stephens, his brother-in-law, during August, on the old nursery farm southeast of Crete; then attended the Academy during the fall term. His fourth and last term in the Artist District was taught during the winter of 1876-1877. In March, the final school exhibition, or program, given in a DeWitt church building, proved to be a great success since the scholars performed "extremely well" before an audience of around four hundred. While teaching in the district he frequently spent week ends at Crete, sometimes walking the seventeen miles, so kept closely in touch with relatives in the Bross and Stephens homes and abreast of Doane College developments. After completing the Doane Academy in 1878, he made the decision, with the encouragement of friends, to undertake a college course. He felt the need of becoming better equipped for teaching and this Doane could offer.

Expenses of college attendance were met in different ways. With no funds nor financial assistance, it was necessary to rely wholly upon his own efforts. Income from work while attending college about met expenses. As jan-



itor, he cared for the Academy, the First Congregational Church and the Code Hotel at various times. For several years he taught his own singing school in the evenings and for a term or two gave violin lessons besides taking odd jobs. Some summers he worked in the harvest fields or on the old nursery farm where his sister, Mary, presided over the Stephens home. He also canvassed, selling nursery stock for E. F. Stephens. He planted and pruned trees on the Academy grounds and on the future Doane campus. One term when he and his roommate found it necessary to economize, they boarded themselves at a cost of only twenty cents a day and felt no ill effects.

Little time remained for social activities, besides those incidental to his work. In Michigan, he had joined the Grange and continued his affiliation while on his land near Harvard and when teaching near DeWitt. On August 21, 1875 he joined the I.O.G.T. (International Order of Good Templars) at Harvard and remained active for a number of years.

On May 7, 1876 he became a member of the First Congregational Church of Crete. Upon the dedication of the new church building, June 3, 1877, he was chosen janitor and usher and acted as fourth clerk of the church in 1877-1878. While a student at Doane he regularly attended the Congregational Sunday School and church services, also college and church mid-week prayer meetings. He introduced the first blackboard illustrations used in a Crete Sunday School into his own class in the Congregational Sunday School. He also taught a class in the Methodist Sunday School and one year was chosen its superintendent.

In 1877, during the John B. Finch temperance lectures and campaign, he joined the Red Ribbon Club and became very active in the work. With the help of Mrs. Harmon Bross, he organized, among the children, a Band of Hope that at one time numbered over three hundred. These children he organized into a class where he taught them to read music and sing, so that they appeared in concerts widely supported by the Crete citizens. Many children

signed the pledge of abstinence from intoxicating beverages.

While attending college, he was active in music circles. In addition to his private singing and violin classes, he participated in many local Sunday School concerts and in the Centennial Concerts of 1876 at Crete and DeWitt. He arranged musical numbers for Commencement programs, for the Ladies' Society and for other groups. He also assisted in singing in the ward schools. In 1878, at the close of the spring term, the pupils of the East School gave him a gold pen and holder in appreciation of his efforts. When leaving Crete after graduation, 1882, the citizens of Crete presented him with a purse of \$31.00 in recognition of his work among the children. Possessing versatility along musical lines, he would write music for various occasions such as a farewell song by his Junior Class to the Senior Class of 1881, and the graduation song for his class of 1882.

Since he liked to study, he enjoyed college work but being practical preferred science and mathematics. Latin never was easy, so he enrolled for extra classes in that subject. During spare moments he took pleasure in rigging up a short line for telegraphic communication, or in helping Prof. Fairchild construct the first magnetic telephone in Crete. Then one evening they looked through the new Doane microscope, at that time, the "largest in Nebraska." He learned surveying and was chosen Crete City Engineer in 1881.

Always eager to acquire skills beyond the class room, he learned mezzotint from a travelling teacher who stopped at Crete in 1877. He completed thirty lessons in the Lincoln School of Elocution and Oratory at Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1882. The following summer he completed a course in Bible Study and Methods of Sunday School Work as offered at the Summer Sunday School Institute held at Crete.

During his academy and college days, he joined the Hesperian Society, an active student literary group, where he might read an essay, deliver an oration, play a violin

solo or lead in organizing student musical groups that appeared on various college programs. One year he was chosen president. Time still remained for an occasional church or college social. Especially did he enjoy entertainments given by Pres. Perry at the close of each term where he appreciated the cultural refinements of the home so charmingly presided over by Mrs. Helen Doane Perry. Amid such surroundings he came to realize the spiritual strength of Christian leadership so exemplified by the college faculty. From here, too, came motivation for devoting his life to educational pursuits.

It was a proud moment when he received his Baccalaureate degree (B.S.) from Doane, in June, 1882. Only eight years before he had arrived on the Nebraska frontier with scarcely more than a rural education and now he was prepared for a career in teaching. Forgotten were the years of hard study and work as plans for the future materialized.

He chose to cast his lot with the newly organized Gates Academy at Neligh, Nebraska, where he accepted the position of Assistant Principal. Some of the best years of his life were spent there building up the Academy from an attendance of 91 in 1882 to a student body of over 200 in academy and college classes in 1892. Although he disapproved of Gates Academy ever becoming a college, he remained as Principal because of interest in the students and the challenges offered.

On December 16, 1884, he married Mary M. Foss of Crete, a Doane graduate of 1881. Soon established in their Neligh home, they made it a hospitable center for students and community friends. They led in the work necessary for building a new Congregational Church.

Establishing the framework for the new Gates school became time consuming. Beside regular class work and administrative duties as principal, extra-curricular activities and community responsibilities multiplied with the passing years. He organized and led a glee club in 1882

and a Dulsonian Woman's Glee Club in 1883. Various instrumental groups were encouraged. By 1890, a Conservatory of Music had been established with able instructors. Then there were declamation contests, an Oratorical Association and a Docendian Literary Society. Field days in the spring and the varied programs at Commencement, each required sponsorship.

As Principal of Gates Academy, he took an active part in temperance activities. Since a saloonless town was considered an advantage to citizens and students alike, leaders combined to make it impossible for anyone to obtain signatures enough for a license.

A "social family" type of living developed among faculty and students that proved very helpful to the rural frontier youth eager for an education. With a faculty dedicated to the ideals of Christian living and generously devoting time to counselling students, a fine spirit dominated the school. Prof. Gregory organized the first Christian Endeavor Society west of the Missouri River, after the Francis E. Clark model, among Gates students in 1883. Most students became members, and a beautiful Christian fellowship prevailed.

In spite of difficulties encountered by Pres. Holt in obtaining funds for Gates in the East, the Gates Trustees voted to start college classes in 1885. That increased the faculty load, consequently much of the strain fell upon the Principal who also acted as college treasurer. It became increasingly hard to retain a large enough faculty, so, facing an inevitable breakdown, he resigned and left Neligh in 1894, after being granted a year's leave of absence.

The days of the frontier academy were fast drawing to a close. As population increased, communities could well afford to maintain their own high schools. However, Gates College as a frontier school had well fulfilled its mission of providing a center of learning and inspiration for the youth of that area.

George Albert Gregory, with his pioneer heritage, had come well equipped to assume leadership of Gates. With his optimistic enthusiasm, boundless energy and versatile activities he left "vivid" impressions upon the minds of youth. The editor of the *Antelope Tribune*, at the time of his resignation, commented: "He has won the reputation in Neligh of having remarkable executive ability and indefatigable perseverance, and of being a most thorough and exacting instructor."

Years later it was a happy occasion for around thirty former Gates students and their friends when they gathered on the Doane College Campus during the June Commencement, 1925. They rejoiced as alumni of Gates were recognized as Doane alumni and so could claim an "Alma Mater" of their own. Although the Gates College charter had been resigned in 1899 and the Academy closed in 1914, they rendered their old Gates yell and song with a spirit proclaiming to the world, continued gratitude for their first Alma Mater. Carl D. Thompson, a Gates graduate of 1895, gave the address on the occasion, entitled "The Place of Education in the Struggle for Democracy." He paid tribute to his former teachers and in commenting about Prof. Gregory said:

"Some one has said that a real college consists of a log with an eager student on one end and a teacher like Mark Hopkins on the other. I believe that G. A. Gregory comes nearer to being the whole thing so far as a college is concerned than any other man I have ever known.

How much he did for us—how he helped us through all those years! When our work was too hard—some of us, you know, must 'work our way through college'—he was the first to notice it—and help us shift the burden. When we got behind, he helped us catch up again. When we grew discouraged, he buoyed us up. When we fell sick—it was he who came to our relief. And when the problems of life perplexed us he was ever ready to help.

We called him 'Professor', but he was infinitely more to us—the truest friend and safest guide, whose unfailing faith led us through all those years.

And today I thank God for Professor Gregory."

After leaving Neligh, while located with his family in the S. R. Foss home at Crete, he decided to continue teaching but to enter the public education field. Again he chose

a western location at Medford, Oregon where former Gates friends were instrumental in securing for him the position of Principal of the public schools.

He moved his family to Medford, in August, 1895, in preparation for the opening of school. Upon arrival he found the school house had been burned down and the school board planning to close the school for a year while building a new one. So he told the board that the teachers could collect their wages, since they had contracts and were ready to teach at any time. At his suggestion, rooms were found in churches and empty store buildings, so, the climate being mild, the facilities proved adequate and classes were taught.

In 1898, when offered the position of County Superintendent of Jackson County, in which Medford was located, he accepted. In supervising the area, he urged and secured the establishment of rural libraries, better school entertainments, improved school buildings and school grounds more attractively landscaped. He enjoyed the outdoor life as he drove his horse and buggy travelling on inspection tours from one school to another.

Always a great admirer of nature, he took much interest in the little known Crater Lake, located 85 miles northeast of Medford, in the cone of an extinct volcano around a mile above sea level. He assisted in organizing a scientific excursion sponsored by the Mazamas to the lake where, sitting around a bonfire within the walls of the crater, noted scientists explained the natural phenomena found there to the group numbering around four hundred.

Near the close of his two years as County Superintendent, following the death of Mrs. Gregory's mother, her father urged them to return to Crete and make a home for him as long as he lived. At the same time he was elected Superintendent of the Crete Public Schools. So he moved his family again to Crete where he was destined to spend most of his remaining days.

While living in Medford, he had been active in the following groups:

Organizer and conductor of the Presbyterian Young People's Choir—two years

Conductor of the Medford Musical Association—two years

President of the Jackson County Sunday School Association—two years

Member of the Executive Committee of the South Oregon Chautauqua Association—two years

Member of the Board of Regents of the Southern Oregon State Normal School.

President of the local Crater Lake Club, affiliated with the Mazamas, an organization of Mountain Climbers, with headquarters at Portland, Oregon.

Back in Crete, his family that then included two daughters, was soon settled in the S. R. Foss home and he turned his attention to new duties. The Crete schools were well organized, largely due to the influence of Mrs. Manville, the Principal, and so they presented a real challenge. Since the Superintendent would need to teach German, he spent part of that summer at the University of Chicago where subject matter and methods of teaching were closely observed. As the years passed he effectively harmonized town and college interests and succeeded in obtaining community support for the public schools.

The inevitable problems connected with school administration brought a satisfactory sense of achievement, as ingenious methods were evolved for their solution. Through clever devices, many boys were led to discontinue tobacco use, even town merchants cooperating by refusing to sell to minors. Truancy, obscene disfiguring of buildings, the yearly flag scrap, a skunk episode; all seemed to be occasions, almost enjoyed as opportunities to match wits with bright students, yet win.

Twentieth century needs for new courses were met. As Superintendent, he opposed football playing unless a trained coach and a doctor were in charge. Since these conditions were not met in 1903, the parents refused to let their boys play. So a Military Company was organized for two or three years and by 1904 the boys played basketball

for the first time. The girls had played as early as 1901. At that time basketball had been introduced into only a few of the schools west of the Missouri River. A Crete High School Band, organized in 1901, gave concerts to meet expenses. Manual training, introduced in 1905 and the Crete Plan of Domestic Science in 1906, modernized the curriculum. A girls glee club organized in 1902 and a boys glee club organized about the same time sang on various occasions. Classes were taught in agriculture and home and community gardening encouraged so that for some years fall garden and pet exhibits were held at the high school building. Concerts, art exhibits and gifts of graduating classes provided funds whereby over five hundred dollars worth of pictures, and statuary were placed in the schools from 1900-1910, also a flag pole and an assembly stage provided.

During summer vacations, as an instructor in county teachers institutes, he had opportunity to go into various parts of the state and meet other educators. For six summers he taught in Junior Normals; two at McCook and four at Valentine where he was Principal in 1909.

When need arose for an Inspector of Normal Training at the State Superintendent's office in 1910, Prof. Gregory was appointed to that position. From 1910-1916, he supervised Normal Training over the entire state, visiting every school where it was taught, observing and counseling them. He then worked out a course of study for normal training classes, practical and easily adjusted to a regular school curriculum. It was considered an honor to have normal training in a school and since some state funds were allotted to schools the Inspector approved, considerable pressure could be brought to bear on school systems where poor teaching prevailed. Many helpful suggestions could be given and standards raised.

While inspecting schools he frequently observed how poorly pupils added. So he developed a system for teaching quick addition. It came into use in many grade schools where pupils using it won contests for accuracy and speed.



As an educator, the school year was filled with activity but summer vacations gave opportunity for much needed recreation or study. There were summer sessions at Amherst College, 1889, Chicago University, 1900, and the Yale University Forestry School, 1906. A trip with his family to the West coast during the summer of 1915, included visits to the San Diego and San Francisco fairs, a few days spent with friends in Medford, Oregon, with a trip to Crater Lake; and returning, time was spent in Seattle and with relatives at Nampa, Idaho.

After the close of his term as Normal Training Inspector, 1916, he was elected Superintendent of the Crete Public Schools and accepted only on condition that a new high school be immediately built. So in 1918 a new high school came into use. The year following, handicapped by a gradually increasing deafness, he terminated his educational career after over forty years spent in either study or teaching. From singing school leader, rural teacher, academy instructor and principal, public school superintendent, county superintendent and Nebraska State Normal Training Inspector, they had all been busy years filled with continual efforts to promote educational advantages for youth.

After returning to Crete, he found time for church activities. In 1900, he reunited with the First Congregational Church, served as Trustee for a year and soon was teaching a Sunday School class as well as one in the Methodist Church, thus continuing a pattern of Doane student days.

He served as Superintendent of the Congregational Sunday School, 1908-1916. There he organized his class of boys into a K.O.K.A. [Knights of King Arthur] October 8, 1909 and in 1911 organized some of the same group into the Crete Boy Scout Troop 1, which later expanded to include boys outside the church. For several summers he organized and led camping trips for them. Upon retirement he passed leadership over to those younger. He served on the building committee of the new church, 1909-1910,

and on committees preparing for the fiftieth and for the sixtieth anniversaries.

During the early years of his Crete superintendency, he became a member of the Nebraska Schoolmasters' Club in which he took a life-long interest. He appeared on their programs and enjoyed the good fellowship of the outstanding educators of the state. After retirement he became an honorary member. He took an active part in the Nebraska State Teachers Association and the Nebraska Superintendents and Principals Association. Although joining few organizations not connected with education, he held membership for some years in The Knights and Ladies of Security and The Knights of Pythias.

In politics he rather consistently affiliated with the Republican Party, although he sometimes voted for candidates regardless of party.

Before retirement, he had purchased a three acre tract adjoining Crete on the southeast which he registered under the name of "Bonivu," December 11, 1914, and there built a home, completed during the fall of 1916. Here he and his wife enjoyed twenty happy years with more leisure time than during the more active years crowded with educational activities.

For Mary Foss Gregory had led a busy life, too. While attending Doane, she took her turn at playing the church organ, and also taught in the Sunday School. The year after graduation, she attended the New England Conservatory of Music at Boston and returning to Crete in 1883, studied art at Doane College.

After her marriage to George Albert Gregory, they immediately established their home at Neligh where they became leaders, for ten years, in Gates College circles and in the Congregational Church. She taught art at Gates for a few years. Later when the Crete Plan of Domestic Science was introduced into the Crete schools, she instructed some of the classes.

While they were located at Medford, her activities were largely expended upon a growing family that included two daughters. Returning to Crete in 1900, her efforts were centered around home making for her own family and an aging father.

She became active in the Crete Congregational Church where she taught a Sunday School class for a number of years and served as president of the Woman's Association for two years. She assisted in raising funds necessary for the new church building dedicated in 1910. Many were the banquets planned and served for college students or other groups. She held membership in the Wednesday Club, D.A.R., the Woman's Club, the Association of University Women and the P.E.O.

After closing his superintendency, Prof. Gregory immediately started to develop his acres. During the following decade, he managed a poultry establishment known as "The Crete Mills Poultry Farm," also maintained a small nursery business called "The Bonivu Gardens," and for a few years kept hives of bees. Having grown up on a farm, it was easy for him to turn his abilities in that direction.

He first acquired a knowledge of the poultry business. In November 1921, he received a certificate of achievement for progress in the accredited flock project organized over the state by the Agricultural Extension Division of the University of Nebraska. In 1922 he was awarded a diploma for a correspondence course in Practical Poultry Raising and Judging from the American Poultry School, Leavenworth, Kansas.

During the next few years, he headed a county-wide project to alert farmers to the opportunities, through upgrading of their flocks, of making substantial profits during unprofitable years. Commencing in 1923, he served as President of the Saline County Poultry Association that at one time numbered one hundred twenty-five. He edited a "Poultry Department" column in the *Crete Vidette* for two years and actively promoted annual poultry shows where

several hundred entries appeared and many prizes were won. The Crete Mills at this time began to develop a sideline in chick feeds and when they needed a center for testing their products, chose the Bonivu poultry establishment. It became known as the "Crete Mills Poultry Farm" until around 1928 when it was discontinued.

He succeeded in making Saline County "poultry conscious." Many were the trips taken over the county observing flocks and encouraging poultry raisers. Progress reports and useful suggestions appearing in the *Vidette*, helped motivate individual poultry raisers as well as promote interest in the Saline County Poultry Association.

Having acquired considerable horticultural skill while working on the old nursery farm during student days, he derived much satisfaction in making the Bonivu Gardens an attractive center for the growing and sale of hardy shrubs, flowers and trees that included many pin oaks and Chinese elms. Large strawberry beds, in the spring, and a rather extensive grape arbor in the fall were readied for customers to come and pick for themselves. A large amount of asparagus was marketed each spring. The intensive drought of 1934 ruined much of the garden and nursery stock, so time was spent in reorganizing and replanting.

His retirement days, in spite of increasing deafness, brought satisfying activities. As a leader in organizing The Crete Pioneer Historical Society, 1929, he promoted membership campaigns, summer picnics, county-wide automobile tours and publicity, featuring accounts of some of the older settlers. Many a winter evening found him seated with Mrs. Gregory before the cheerful fireplace at Bonivu, where, as she busied herself with some handwork, he read aloud from his favorite *Geographic Magazine* or from some prized book as *The Americanization of Edward Bok*.

As a Trustee of Doane College (1912-1933) he took a keen interest in beautifying the campus, especially through the care and planting of trees. He actively opposed the removal of Doane from Crete in 1925. In 1935, working with

former Gates students, he had the rock of the Gates College Class of 1890 brought and placed on the Doane campus and appropriately marked. In 1932, during the Washington Bi-Centennial year, he planted a grove of one hundred of his own small pin oak trees on the campus and cared for them during succeeding drought years. A large boulder with bronze tablet within the grove, designated it as a gift from George Albert Gregory, Doane, 1882 and Mary Foss Gregory, Doane, 1881.

Always retaining a youthful enthusiasm for travel; upon returning from a trip, he generally wrote a column for the local paper telling of new places or old friends he had met. During retirement days he enjoyed several trips including: Yellowstone Park, 1926; a Michigan school reunion, 1928; a winter in California in the home of his daughter, 1929-1930; a winter in Florida, 1933-1934 and another winter in Virginia, 1936-1937, in the home of his daughter.

On December 16, 1934, Prof. Gregory and his wife celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary with an open house at Bonivu. The loss of his wife in 1936, saddened the remainder of his days which were spent at Bonivu where the ravages of the drought were somewhat overcome and even new trees planted. Here he enjoyed the companionship of friendly neighbors and a wide correspondence with former students and friends, then scattered over the nation and in foreign lands. At the age of ninety-three he passed away at Bonivu, in the home he had built and enjoyed since 1916.

Those prophetic words from his diary for 1874, "I have found a good country in Nebraska and true friends in my Uncle, aunt and cousins," seemed to have followed down the years. Yes, Nebraska had been a good place to envision splendid possibilities for youth and to inspire and guide them into a realization of those dreams.

Additional information is to be found in "The Gregory Trail," a short autobiography written, 1938; and in the

original Gregory Diaries, 1872-1879, in the archives of the Nebraska State Historical Society.

For an account of the career of a brother, Dr. Herbert E. Gregory, 1869-1952, see, Chester R. Longwell, "Memorial To Herbert Ernest Gregory", *Proceedings Volume of the Geological Society of America, Annual Report, 1953*.

## EXCERPTS FROM THE GREGORY DIARIES

The original diaries were generally written with pencil in small leather or paper bound, pocket sized books, averaging three inches wide and six inches long, one for each year. That accounts for some of the abbreviations, lack of punctuation and short statements. Some of the writing is scarcely legible.

It is interesting to note the gradual improvements in grammar and composition from the days when, with only a grade school education, he commenced his diaries, to the time when he was attending the Crete Academy and Doane College.

Brackets [ ] are used for editorial explanations and . . . for omission of parts of the original diaries.

## EXCERPTS FORM THE GREGORY DIARIES

1872

Thornapple Township, Barry County, Michigan

Thursday August 15 Plowed all day. I plowed up 3 Bumble Bees nests and got a bite. plowed up a "Yellow jacket's" nest and got a smashing big bite. C. [Charley] Williams came along and I went to Meeting on the prairie at night.

Monday August 19 Made the last of the brick. I have made 1,900 brick. Plowed in the afternoon. . .

Tuesday August 20 Dug early shaw potatoes in the forenoon. Cultivated Summer fallow a while in the afternoon and dug potatoes rest of the day. Adelia, Maria, Marian & G.Coman were here at night to Sing. George staid all night.

Friday August 23 Plowed oat stubble all day. At night went to Shindig at A.J.Kinney's [his uncle] with Will and Geo. Coman.

Monday August 26 Rained in the morning. It was the first good rain we have had this year. I put brick in the lower well in the forenoon. It rained at noon I finished bricking the well and went to a mass meeting at Middleville at night [2½ miles north-east of the Gregory farm].

Thursday August 29 Plowed half the time finished plowing oat stubble Pa sowed wheat after supper.

Saturday August 31 Finished dragging in 5 acres of wheat and then Cultivated fallow until 4 o'clock and then went to town [Middleville]. I went to William's at night.

Wednesday September 4 Dragged in wheat, went to Lewis's to sing at night. We have sowed 16 acres.

Friday September 6 Cultivated all day, went to Williams at night.

- Tuesday September 10 Cored apples and wrote a letter to Azrow French in the forenoon. Dragged Wheat in the afternoon.
- Sunday September 15 Went to church in the morning Went home with Chas. Coman Went to the S.S. [Sunday School] on the prairie afternoon.
- Friday September 20 Went to the fair at Grand Rapids [about 25 miles north of Middleville] Mr. Replogle came home with me.
- Saturday September 21 Mr. [Valentine] Replogle agreed to go with me to the G.R. [Grand Rapids] Business College. We are going to the Rapids in about two weeks and make arrangements for a room. . . I had a boil on my ankle and I boiled around all day and did nothing.
- Monday September 30 Cored apples forenoon Picked a few in the afternoon and pa took them to the cider mill. Went to Williams at night.
- Sunday October 6 Uncle Wesley [Bross, his mother's brother] and I went to Meeting at town forenoon Afternoon went to S.S. on the prairie.
- Tuesday October 8 Husked corn till middle of the afternoon and then picked some apples. Went to a surprise party at night at Mrs. Helen Talbot's.
- Thursday October 10 Cut some wood in the forenoon. Drawed it in the afternoon Azrow came along and I went home with him and stayed till dark and then went to Schoolhouse to sing.
- Friday October 11 Went to the Rapids to hire a room. I met Valentine about 11 o'clock. We went around hunting a room. . . We engaged it for four months at 5 dollars per month.
- Saturday October 12 I husked corn for Geo. Cisler, Pa dug and drawed 16 bush [bushels] potts [potatoes].
- Monday October 28 We dug 39 bush potatoes and finished. We had 410 bush potatoes from 2½ acres of ground.
- Thursday October 31 Grand Rapids Pa came and brought me out here with the team. . . I went down to Plaster quarry on the east side of the river in the afternoon and got some specimens.
- Friday November 1 . . . Entered Telegraphic Institute afternoon.
- Monday November 4 Went to School. Went to Grant Meeting at night.
- Thursday November 14 Went to school. . . I bought a ticket for Dr. Everetts Course of Lectures. . .
- Tuesday November 19 Snowed Went to Lecture Today I am 21 years old.
- Wednesday November 27 Went to school. Valentine came home and brought some venison.
- Monday December 2 Went to school. Cleaned Batteries most of the day.
- Saturday December 7 Went to school forenoon. Snowed. Went to plaster beds afternoon.
- Saturday December 14 Went to School. There was a gentleman came to the College after an operator to take his place for a few days. I agreed to go and try.
- Monday December 23 Went to School forenoon. Went home afternoon.
- Tuesday December 24 Visited the Prairie School.



- Wednesday December 25 Staid at home and visited. Chas. and Will Coman were here at night.
- Thursday December 26 Went to Middleville and got the horses shod and got ready to go to the Rapids.
- Friday December 27 Pa went to the Rapids with a load of Oats and Potatoes and I went with him. . .
- Sunday December 29 Went to Second St. M.E.Church forenoon. To Reading Rooms Afternoon.

## 1873

- Wednesday January 1 Grand Rapids I went to College. The Kent Woolen Mills burned this evening.
- Sunday January 5 Went to Church and Sabbath School at the West side M.E. Church. Went to Reading Rooms at night.
- Saturday January 11 Went to Three Spiritualist Meetings. . .
- Monday January 13 Went to school. Cleaned batteries forenoon. . .
- Sunday January 19 Went to Baptist Church and Sunday School forenoon and went to M.E. Church at night.
- Tuesday January 21 Went to School. Went down to Wonderley's Mill and to the Plaster bed.
- Sunday January 26 Went to the Congregational Church and Sabbath School. Went over to Reading Rooms, afternoon. Attended lecture at night.
- Monday January 27 Went to School. Went to Temperance Lecture. . . .
- Friday January 31 . . .Went to School I went to Foster's Hardware and weighed myself. I weighed 147 lbs.
- Sunday February 2 Went to Spiritual Lecture. . .I didn't like it very well. Went to Reading Room at night.
- Friday February 7 Went to School in the forenoon. Pa came out with a load of Potatoes and oats. He went back in the afternoon and Valentine and I sold our furniture and went home with him. We started home at 4 o'clock and got there at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 9 [distance around 25 miles] Valentine staid with me all night.
- Saturday February 8 Valentine went home this morning. . .
- Monday February 10 Helped Pa. Sawed wood. We sawed with a cross Cut Lightning Saw It commenced snowing and raining about sunset.
- Wednesday February 12 Helped Pa saw wood in the forenoon.
- Friday February 14 Went to Mr. Lewis's at 11 o'clock and worked the rest of the day for 75c. I came home at night.
- Saturday February 15 Worked for Mr. Lewis all day cleaning wheat.
- Thursday February 20 Went to Sand Lake [around 25 miles north of Grand Rapids] to work for Mr. Avery. . . .pays me one dollar a day and board.
- Friday February 21 Working . . . in woods forenoon, in mill afternoon. . .
- Monday February 24 Worked all day in the woods.
- Wednesday February 26 Worked in woods in forenoon. In mill afternoon running slabs. . .
- Monday March 3 Run slabs all day.

- Monday March 10 Worked in woods all day.
- Tuesday March 11 Run the slab car all day.
- Friday March 14 Run the Drag saw all day. . .The saw mill stopped running tonight and will not run any more until the ice breaks. the shingle mill will run.
- Friday March 21 Run drag saw all day. . .The shingle mill cut 25,000 today. I sawed one log that scaled nearly 800 feet.
- Monday March 24 Run the drag saw all day.
- Tuesday March 25 Mr. Avery paid me 26½ dollars and I went home. I started from Sand Lake at 9 o'clock and got home at 3 o'clock.
- Thursday March 27 Pa went to town and I split wood. . .
- Friday March 28 Went out to Eugene's [his older brother]. started on the morning train and got to Robinson [about 15 miles west of Grand Rapids] at 9 o'clock.
- Monday March 31 Went to Nuncia and took the train home. . . Signed a contract with Eugene to the effect that he should have one half the benefit arising from a lock which I have invented by paying one half the cost of patenting.
- Tuesday April 1 Commenced work for Pa. . .Azrow and Hiram French were here at night.
- Wednesday April 9 Chopped and split wood Hiram French and Charles Gordon were here at night and each brought a fiddle.
- Friday April 11 I sowed grass seed forenoon split wood afternoon. . .
- Saturday April 19 . . .Pa got 20 apple trees all of them Wagners except two Early Harvest. . .
- Monday April 21 Sowed plaster part of forenoon, Pa and I sowed it out of the wagon. I set out apple trees rest of forenoon. I set out apple trees and cherry trees part of afternoon and then dragged in grass seed rest of day.
- Friday April 25 . . .Pa and I sowed plaster on the meadow. I rolled on the meadow part of the afternoon and went to town to get Pa some medicine.
- Monday April 28 Finished dragging wheat and then dragged in millet and clover seed in the orchard.
- Wednesday April 30 Sowed some onion and other seeds in the garden and then grafted apple trees until middle of afternoon and then plowed corn ground.
- Sunday May 4 Sunday School was organized at the School House at 4 o'clock P.M. I took Florence [his sister] down to Mr. Bass' at night. She commences school tomorrow.
- Wednesday May 7 Plowed forenoon. It rained afternoon and I greased part of the Harness.
- Monday May 12 Went to town and then to Irving [a station about ten miles southeast] to see about getting the Railroad Agency at that place. Dragged afternoon.
- Friday May 16 . . .Went down in the white [White] district and organized a singing class.
- Sunday May 18 Went down to meeting but came home before it was out and went down to Singing School and gave my first lesson.
- Wednesday May 21 . . .Pa went to town and bought a buggy He paid 150 dollars for it, it is a single one.
- Friday May 23 I worked for Mr. Lewis all day.

- Saturday May 24 . . . Mr. Lewis drew up 1000 lbs. of plaster for Pa.
- Monday May 26 Sowed Plaster on orchards. . .
- Wednesday May 28 Split wood, cleaned out the cellar and burnt apple and peach Brush The peach trees were all killed last winter and I am cutting them down.
- Monday June 2 Washed our sheep forenoon. Cultivated corn afternoon.
- Tuesday June 10 . . . I plowed part of the time and sheared sheep part of the time. Hiram French was here at night.
- Saturday June 14 Hoed potatoes forenoon and put some Paris green on them. Plowed part of afternoon. Went to Singing School at night.
- Monday June 16 Pa took Lillie, Ellen, Ida [his sisters] and myself down to the train and we started for Eugene's We went to the rapids and then went down the river on the boat. we got there at 3 o'clock P.M. 120 bu. S.Berries [strawberries] shipped today. Eugene shipped 18 bush.
- Wednesday June 18 Picked strawberries. Eugene shipped 24 bush today. There was 160 Bush shipp from this wharf today. Eugene had 25 or 30 pickers today.
- Thursday June 26 . . . Lillie, Ellen, Ida and myself went home today. We got home at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past twelve at night. . . Eugene had 7 bush to ship today. He will pick about 175 Or 200 bu. this year.
- Friday June 27 . . . There was a curious display of Northern Lights last night. It resembled a streak of white clouds extending east and west directly overhead it moved west and disappeared.
- Friday July 4 Spread manure forenoon. went to town afternoon. saw the foot races and then went out to the race grounds and saw horse races. Went back to town and saw fireworks at night. Rec'd a letter from Eugene. . . Rec'd Contract for 80 acres of land from the R.R. [Rail Road] Co. in Nebr.
- Friday July 11 I bound wheat all day. Pa cut with the reaper. he broke it just at night.
- Saturday July 12 I set up wheat forenoon and bound wheat in the afternoon. Pa went to town and got the Reaper mended and then cut in the afternoon. Florence and I went to Singing School.
- Monday July 14 . . . I bound after a cradle all day.
- Saturday July 19 Pa and I drew wheat all day. I went to town and then to Singing School. I sent 50 cts to the rapids for a violin string.
- Monday July 21 I run the reaper part of the day and part of the time I raked bundles out of the way. Charley Coman is threshing today and we have not finished harvest.
- Saturday July 26 Finished drawing the last of our wheat forenoon. Went down town after supper and from there to singing school.
- Tuesday July 29 Went huckelberrying. . . Cultivated corn afternoon.
- Tuesday August 5 Finished hoeing Rutabagas. Plowed rest of day.
- Monday August 11 Cultivated fallow. . . helped Mr. Lewis thresh afternoon.
- Wednesday August 13 We all went blackberrying and got about one bushel. I picked 10 quarts. One year ago I commenced a Diary.
- Thursday August 14 plowed forenoon. Mr. Devin came up and ar-

rested me for helping break a well rope. There are three others arrested for the same thing none of us are guilty. We were all at the suit at 4 o'clock. Smith Sanford withdrew the suit and judgment was rendered against him for 6 dollars.

Saturday August 16 Pa and I went down to Mr. Lewis' and Pa bought 28 of his sheep.

Wednesday August 28 Went to the picnic. There was three schools there. The Middleville Band was there. There was 3 - 6 horse teams and 6 - 4 horse teams. The picnic was in Mr. White's grove. The little folk had a party here tonight.

Monday September 1 Dug potatoes forenoon. Went up to Mr. Lewis' afternoon and helped him thresh  $1\frac{1}{4}$  hours. . .

Saturday September 6 Cut corn part of forenoon. Dragged wheat in rest of day dragged in about 6 acres. Went down to Singing School It was my last night I have kept 15 nights 2 more then I intended.

Tuesday September 9 Killed a sheep before breakfast. Cut corn. . .

Wednesday September 10 Sowed about 12 acres of wheat and dragged part part of the afternoon. it is the first wheat I ever sowed. . .

Saturday September 13 Pa and [I] cut corn. . . I went down town at night and joined the grangers.

Thursday September 18 Pa and Ma went to the state fair at the Rapids. I drewed manure forenoon and finished sowing grass seed. I went off in search of a school afternoon. . .

Monday September 22 There was a frost last night. I husked corn most of the day. Went down north to see about a school. . .

Monday September 29 Went down at night to take my 3rd deg. [in the Grange] but was so sick that I did not. I came home and was sick, all night. I drewed straw into the orchard forenoon. Husked corn part of afternoon and helped build hog yard. . .

Saturday October 4 Built a hog yard and killed and dressed two pigs forenoon. cut up pigs after dinner, and then went in search of a school. I can have the Kinner school 4 mo., at 20 doll. pr mo. . .

Sunday October 5 . . . Went to S.S. and meeting. Went down north to a concert at night. Saw Mr. Lent and agreed to teach school 4 mo. at 25 dol. per mo. [This was in the Parmlee District No. 6, Thornapple Township, Barry County.]

Monday October 6 . . . I commenced going to school at town. I want to review my studies before examination. Went down to Mr. Kinners and refused the school.

Thursday October 9 . . . Staid at town after school and went to the grange and took my 3rd and 4th degrees. . .

Sunday October 12 . . . I went to S.S. saw Hattie Collins, she has just returned from Nebraska.

Saturday October 25 Went down town forenoon and finished my examination. I rec'd a third grade certificate. . .

Monday October 27 . . . Pa settled up with me today. He said he should not want me any more [From memoranda at close of diary: Pa said he would charge me for board if I staid at home, at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  dollars pr. week. I expected he had given me the first payment on my land but today he took that out of my wages which makes me \$43.00 less than I expected.]

- Monday November 3 . . . Husked corn for Mr. C. Williams forenoon. . . I am husking for 4 cts per bu.
- Friday November 7 I husked nearly all day. . . I have husked about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  days,  $44\frac{1}{3}$  bu. per day.
- Saturday November 8 Pa gave me cloth for a pair of pants and I commenced making them. . .
- Monday November 10 Went north and commenced my school. I went to Mr. Gilberts to board. I had 11 scholars today.
- Thursday November 13 It has snowed a little today. Kept school. Went down to the Grange tonight, rode with Brother Lent.
- Friday November 14 Taught school. Came home after school. I like teaching very much so far.
- Wednesday November 19 I am 22 years old today. . . I went down to the school house and helped organize a Lyceum. I was elected Secretary.
- Monday November 24 Taught school. Went to Mr. Lents to board this week.
- Thursday November 27 . . . Taught school. Went down to the Grange with Mr. Lent. . .
- Saturday November 29 Helped Pa kill three hogs. . .
- Monday December 1 Went down to my school. Pa and Ma went to the rapids.
- Thursday December 11 . . . I jerked a couple of scholars today for fighting. Went down in the Proctor district to start a Singing School. I staid all night at Mr. Proctors.
- Sunday December 14 Went up to Uncle Abs [Abner Kinney]
- Tuesday December 16 . . . Went to Lyceum at night. . . Went down to the school house at night and taught my first school. Singing School.
- Monday December 22 Went down to my school. Taught my 2nd Singing School at night.
- Wednesday December 24 Went home after school.
- Thursday December 25 Christmas. It snowed a little last night but the sun is shining brightly and the snow will melt off today. I am at home today. I helped Pa clean up wheat forenoon.
- Monday December 29 Went down to my school. . . I kept Singing School at night.

## 1874

- Thursday January 1 I taught school all day, had 8 scholars. . .
- Friday January 2 . . . I went home after school.
- Monday January 5 Went down to my school. . .
- Tuesday January 6 . . . Went down to the Lyceum at night there was a crowd out
- Friday January 9 . . . Taught singing school at night.
- Thursday January 15 . . . I jerked one of my scholars a little today.
- Friday January 16 . . . Taught Singing School at night.
- Friday January 23 . . . Taught Singing School at night. It is the 7th lesson in this place this winter.
- Wednesday January 28 . . . Went down to the Grange at night. . .
- Friday January 30 . . . Taught school. Taught Singing School. . .

- Tuesday February 3 Taught school all day Went to the Lyceum at night.
- Tuesday February 10 Went down to the Lyceum at night. There was a good many visitors out tonight.
- Friday February 13 . . . Taught school. Went down town to hear Mr. King Dept. of State Grange Lecture. . .
- Tuesday February 17 . . . Kept school. Went down to the Lyceum.
- Thursday February 19 . . . Cousin Emma Kinney was married today to Frank Hayes. . .
- Tuesday February 24 Taught school all day. Went down to Lyceum at night. The Lyceum adjourned sine die.
- Wednesday February 25 . . . Went to the Grange at night. . .
- Friday February 27 . . . Taught my last Singing School No.1 tonight Rec'd \$4.25 for 11 lessons at school No. 1 Pretty small pay I think.
- Saturday February 28 .. .Went down to my Singing School No.2 Florence, Lillie and Ellen [sisters] went too. . .
- Tuesday March 3 Taught my last day of school. . .I rec'd \$23.59 and two orders on town treasurer for balance of my wages for teaching. . .
- Wednesday March 4 Went down town and got the rest of my pay for teaching school four months at \$25.00 per mo. Went down to the Grange at night and paid up my dues and got a demit from the Sec. and Master.
- Thursday March 5 Staid at home and did a little sewing. . .
- Wednesday March 11 . . .Went down to the Grange with Mr. Lewis at night.
- Saturday March 14 . . .Packed part of my things for Neb. afternoon. . .I went down to my Singing School No.2 at night. It was my 7th and last lesson at this place. . .
- Monday March 16 Started for Neb. . .I had 38 dollars when I started. . .
- Tuesday March 17 Crossed the great Mississippi River at Burlington this morning at 8 o'clock and 10 min. Went to Pacific Junction Iowa. 6 miles from the Mo River and stopped over night. . .
- Wednesday March 18 . . . Arrived at Crete at 4:35 PM Went up to Uncle Harmons [Bross]. He did not know me nor did Mary [a sister] either. . .
- Thursday March 19 . . .I went down within sight of the big blue this morning it is a dirty stream. . .
- Sunday March 22 Went to Cong. church and S.S. forenoon and to the Methodist church and S.S. afternoon, and Cong. Church at night. . .
- Wednesday March 25 . . . Got to Harvard [Neb.] at 7:10 P.M. . . .
- Thursday March 26 Went out and saw my land and took dinner with Mr. Ormsbee, looked around afternoon to find a place to work by the month but did not succeed. . .
- Monday March 30 Went to work for Mr. Walbanks at \$20 per mo. . .
- Wednesday April 1 . . .I shelled about 3 bushels of seed corn and fiddled the rest of the time.
- Monday April 6 Helped stake out some rows for apple trees, and then staked some lines for forest trees afternoon. Run seeder afternoon.

- Wednesday April 8 . . .Went down town [Harvard] at night and sent \$43.20 to Lincoln, Pay'mt on Land. . .
- Thursday April 16 Run the seeder all day, sowed 12 acres.
- Friday April 17 Helped stake some apple tree holes and then set cuttings till noon. Set some osage afternoon and then dug holes for apple trees.
- Saturday April 18 . . .I saw six movers wagons in a string today. . .
- Monday April 20 Went to town forenoon and got Mr. W. [Walbanks] 15 bushels potatoes, they cost \$1.25 per bu. Rolled wheat afternoon.
- Saturday April 25 Planted potatoes forenoon and part of afternoon and then hoed around some larch trees.
- Saturday May 2 Finished sowing oats and then helped run some lines for breaking. Run the roller most of afternoon. . .
- Sunday May 10 Went down to S.S. I went around by my land. Mr. Carr has got flax sown on the 20 that is broken.
- Friday May 15 Finished planting corn forenoon. . .
- Sunday May 17 I staid at home all day and played on the violin. . .
- Monday May 25 Rolled corn all day
- Thursday May 28 Finished up rolling this forenoon. I have rolled about 200 acres in 11 $\frac{3}{4}$  days. Struck some lines for breaking and then hoed strawberry vines rest of afternoon. . .
- Sunday May 31 Staid at home all day and done some fiddling.
- Tuesday June 9 . . .I went to breaking about 10 o'clock and broke rest of day. It has been cold all day.
- Wednesday June 10 Broke all day. . .
- Tuesday June 16 Cultivated all day. It has been very warm.
- Thursday June 18 Cultivated forenoon Went to town afternoon and helped put a harvester together when I came home I went around by my land.
- Monday June 22 Cultivated all day. cultivated apple trees. . .
- Monday June 29 Hoed maple trees all day.
- Saturday July 4 Went down to the celebration. Had a picnic dinner and about 4 o'clock went home with Mr. Chadwick and took supper and then came back to the fireworks.
- Sunday July 5 Staid home all day Fiddled most of the time.
- Wednesday July 8 . . .He [Walbanks] bought a load of corn and some oats. corn is worth \$.80,oats \$.70.
- Thursday July 9 . . .Commenced working by the day today in the Harvest. . .I set up wheat all day. Mr.W. is running two Harvesters.
- Friday July 17 I have taken care of the horses every morning through harvest till this. . .
- Tuesday July 21 Commenced binding at 4:30 A.M.stopped for breakfast at 6. . .went to work at 9 A.M. quit at 11:30. Commenced 1:30 supper at 6:00 Commenced at 7 quit qt 9:20 Bound all day. Grasshoppers have been extremcly thick today. they are eating corn.
- Wednesday July 22 . . .Grasshoppers are very thick. Corn is nearly destroyed.
- Thursday July 23 . . .The grasshoppers have been flying south most

of the P.M. they were as thick as a swarm of bees sounds like wind in pine trees.

Friday July 24 . . . Corn is probably ruined by grasshoppers.

Tuesday July 28 . . . I have loaded wheat all day. . .

Saturday August 1 Loaded wheat part of forenoon and then loaded oats rest of day. The grasshoppers have gone but have left no corn, potatoes or any green growing crops. . .

Wednesday August 5 It rained some last night. . . Drawed wheat all day.

Tuesday August 11 Drawed one load of wheat and then helped tear oat stack down it was so wet. I stacked afternoon.

Thursday August 13 Went over to Mr. Jenkins and took dinner and heard some music. I have worked by the month 87 days By the day 29 days 6½ hours.

Thursday August 20 Mowed all day Azrow French came along here this forenoon and stopped here was very much surprised to see him He will stay a few days.

Monday August 24 Rigged the stalk cutter and then cut stalks till middle of afternoon. Plowed rest of day. Azrow started for home today. . .

Friday August 28 Plowed all day. Mr. Orwin paid me today for my harvest work \$60.67. I earned it in 29½ days from July 5th to Aug. 17th.

Sunday August 30 Went to church A.M. Went over to Mr. Kellogg's about six O'clock and heard some music.

Thursday September 17 Mr. W. said I might work by the day Commencing today. Drew wheat all day. . .

Friday September 25 Plowed part of A.M. and then raked weeds rest of A.M. Raked till middle of P.M. and then plowed till night.

Tuesday September 29 Plowed A.M. Mowed and raked hay P.M.

Monday October 5 Burned weeds A.M. drew a load of hay P.M. and then put a top on a wheat stack got through at 5:30 P.M.

Friday October 9 Gathered squashes A.M. Drew hay P.M. Mr. W. had a dance in his new granary at night and I went and played some.

Tuesday October 13 Counted trees A.M. Mr. W. has lost about 350 trees out of 600 apple trees 75 died a natural death, and the rest were killed by Grasshoppers Plowed P M

Wednesday October 14 Tinkered around A.M. Dug potatoes P.M. Uncle Harmon came out to see me this afternoon He staid all night. . .

Thursday October 15 Uncle Harmon and I looked around for an ox team all day but found none to suit. He staid at Mr. Lodds at night and will go home in the morning. . .

Sunday October 25 Staid at home all day. Ernest Bross came in the P.M. and brought an ox team that Uncle Harmon had bought for me. I saw an eclipse of the moon last night.

Monday October 26 . . . Quit work for Mr. W. I have worked for Mr. W. since Aug. 16 By the month, 24½ days. By the day 30½ days lost 5 days. Took my team and went over to Mr. Ormsbee's P.M.

Thursday October 29 . . . Mr. Ormsbee brought my trunk from Mr. Wallbanks.





1 GEORGE ALBERT GREGORY, 1883



*Ruby Hastings*

7 TREMONT STREET,  
BOSTON MASS.



3 GEORGE ALBERT GREGORY, 1902

Superintendent of the Crete Public Schools

From a Photograph by Smith Studio,  
Crete, Nebraska



4 GEORGE ALBERT GREGORY

During Retirement Days

From a Photograph by Smith Studio,  
Crete, Nebraska



5 GATES COLLEGE BUILDINGS

The College (Center)

Gaylord Hall

Laboratory

From Photograph by A. E. Holt,  
Council Bluffs, Iowa



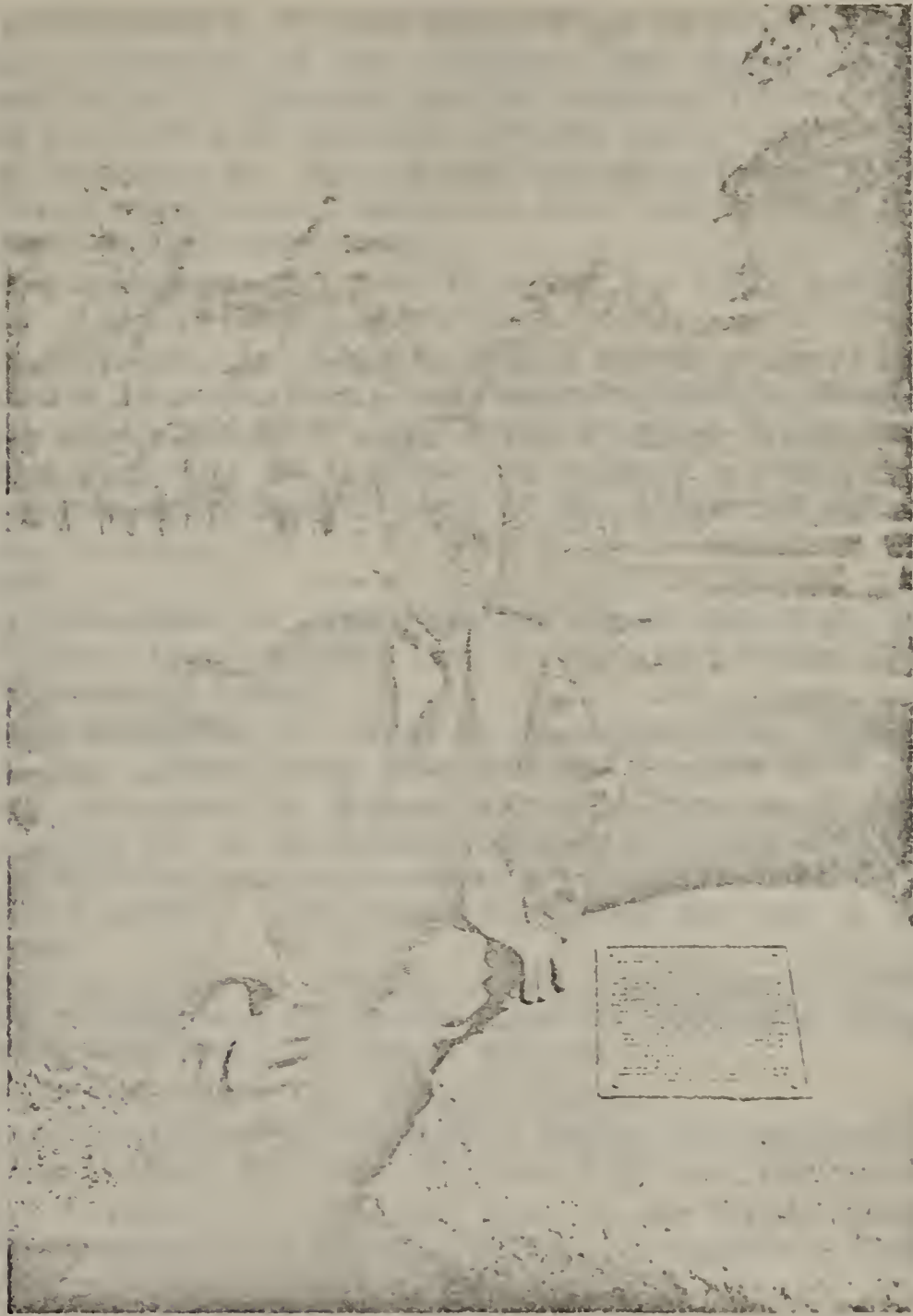
6 ROOM WHERE PROF. GREGORY TAUGHT  
AT GATES COLLEGE

From Photograph by A. E. Holt,  
Council Bluffs, Iowa



7 CHRISTMAS AT BONIVUE, 1934

From Photographs by Wagner, Crete



## 8 ON THE GATES BOULDER, DOANE COLLEGE

By permission, from photograph in possession  
of Doane College

### INSCRIPTION ON THE TABLET

This boulder was placed on the campus of Gates College, Neligh, Nebraska, by the Class of 1890.

In 1935 it was removed by the alumni of Gates College to the campus of Doane College as a memorial to Gates College and to G. A. Gregory, Doane alumnus, Class of 1882; for twelve years beloved teacher and administrator of Gates College; a trustee of Doane College.

In 1925 upon the approval of Gates Alumni and by vote of the Trustees of Doane College; Gates College was adopted and is perpetuated in Doane College.

First graduating class of Gates College; Anna Clegg; Darley R. Collings; Herbert E. Gregory; Orvilla Smith; Robin L. Warner.



- Friday November 6 Worked my land tax on the road today. . .
- Tuesday November 10 Mr. Ormsbee and myself worked Uncle's land tax A.M. Ormsbee used his team and I held scraper Plowed till 4 o'clock P.M. and then took my lay to town to sharpen. . .
- Friday November 13 Started with my cattle [oxen] for Crete early this morning, got to Sutton at noon and to Fairmont at night. Traveled 30½ miles today.
- Saturday November 14 Left Fairmont for Crete early this morning. . . got to Uncle's at 8 o'clock.
- Sunday November 15 Went to church and S.S. Heard Uncle preach for the first time that I can remember Went to meeting at night.
- Monday November 16 . . . Took the 4 o'clock train to Wilber and then walked to Mr. Artists and engaged a school @ \$35.00 per mo. and board myself. Staid at Mr. Artists all night.
- Tuesday November 17 . . . I went down to Wilber to attend Institute. . .
- Friday November 20 The Institute closed this P.M. Part of the teachers were examined this evening and I among them. . . I am 23 years old today.
- Saturday November 21 Went to Crete this m'ng. Staid at Uncle's all day. . . Went down town and got me two violin strings.
- Monday November 23 Started for my school at 5 o'clock in the morning got to the school house at 9 o'clock distance 16 miles. I commenced teaching a school near DeWitt at \$35.00 per mo. and board myself. I get board for \$10.00 per mo. I am to teach 3 mo.
- Tuesday November 24 Taught school Went down to DeWitt at night Rec'd certificate 2nd grade from Mr. McCreedy [County Superintendent] and some school reports. . .
- Wednesday November 25 Taught school. . .
- Saturday November 28 Walked to Wilber and then took the cars to Crete. Went out to Mr. Steven's P.M. and then went skating.
- Monday November 30 Walked down to my school Taught all day. Had a meeting at the schoolhouse to organize a singing school. We succeeded in starting one.
- Wednesday December 2 . . . Went over to Mr. Foremans at night to hear him play on his violin.
- Thursday December 3 . . . Taught my first Singing [school] at night. . .
- Tuesday December 22 Taught school all day Taught 4th Singing School at night.
- Thursday December 24 Taught school till 3 o'clock and then started for Crete. Ernie met me with a buggy 6½ miles from Crete. Went to Christmas tree and rec'd a nice Bible from Uncle and a picture from Cousin Inez of her own painting.
- Friday December 25 Helped Ernie cut some wood A.M. . . . Went to Prayer meeting at night It has been warmest today of any Christmas I ever knew.
- Monday December 28 Went down to my school. . .
- Thursday December 31 Taught school Started from the school house and went to Crete. got there about 8 o'clock. . . I have received many blessings during the past year for which I am truly thankful. I have found a good country in Nebraska and true friends in my Uncle Aunt and cousins.

1875

- Friday January 1 Went skating with Ernest part of P.M. . .
- Monday January 4 Went down to school. . .
- Wednesday January 6 . . .Went to Swan City [a small hamlet about 5 miles west] with 9 of my scholars. I spelled them down once.
- Saturday January 9 Staid at Mr. Artists all day and worked problems in algebra.
- Monday January 11 Taught school. . .Went over to Mr. Foremans and had some music.
- Saturday January 16 Started for Crete 8:30 A.M. got there about noon Rec'd 2 mo's wages for teaching. Went down town P.M. and got my hair cut and paid my debts. . .
- Monday, January 18 Went down to my school. . .The star was extremely bright this m'n'g
- Saturday January 23 Staid at Mr. Artist's A.M. . . .Went to the Grange at DeWitt P.M. Have had a toothache all day.
- Friday January 29 Taught school. Had a spelling school at night. My school spelled the Blue Island and Dewitt school down.
- Tuesday February 9 . . .Geo. Artist got angry because I laid the blame on him of hiding Willie Cherrie's hat, and he went home. Went down town at night and got some medicine for my cough. . .
- Friday February 12 . . .One of my scholars got his leg broken today. . .
- Monday February 15 Went to my school and taught. Had a spelling school at night. My school spelled down the other three schools.
- Saturday February 20 . . .I was made a member of the DeWitt Grange today. . .
- Saturday February 27 Went to Crete . . .Smallpox is in Crete.
- Monday March 1 . . .Went down to Mr. Donnelly's and he said I could have all the College land I wanted to break at \$2.50 per acre. . .
- Tuesday March 2 Went down to my school. . .Had my last spelling School tonight. There was a crowd out to it.
- Monday March 8 My school was out this A.M. I have taught 73 days, and was allowed 3 holidays. Built stage and practiced for exhibition P.M. . .
- Tuesday March 9 Went to the schoolhouse and practiced pieces and rigged up the stage all day. Had our exhibition at night there was a large crowd out we got through at 11:30 P.M. . .
- Wednesday March 10 Went to Crete on the m'ng train. Went out to Mr. Stevens to see my oxen. . .
- Saturday March 13 . . .Went down town A.M. and bought a harrow at auction for \$5.15. . .Bought some lumber P.M. and made a box to put on the hind wheels of a wagon to go to Harvard with. . .
- Monday March 15 Stayed at home and sewed. A. M. Went downtown P.M. and bought the Hind part of a wagon . . .to drive my oxen on to Harvard. Helped make and eat some molasses candy at night.
- Sunday March 21 Went to church and SS. and church at night.
- Monday March 22 Started with my ox team for Harvard. Went 22 miles. . .

- Wednesday March 24 Got to Mr. Ormsbees, about 8 o'clock. . .
- Thursday March 25 . . .Went down town m'n'g and got some lumber to build me a shanty . . . [478 ft. of lumber cost \$12.50]
- Friday March 26 Went down town and got lumber for my shanty P.M. . . My shanty is 7 by 12 inside. 8ft 9 in high in front, 7 ft 3 inches back. . .
- Monday March 29 . . .work on my shanty Part of P.M. and then sowed and dragged in wheat.
- Friday April 2 . . .Sowed and dragged P.M. I have got 8 acres sowed and about 6 dragged I lap the drag half.
- Saturday April 3 . . .Commenced boarding in my shanty. Mrs. Ormsby is going to bake my bread @ 5c per loaf and I furnish flour.
- Wednesday April 7 . . .Helped Ormsby cover his stable with flax straw took dinner and supper at Ormsbees. . .
- Thursday April 8 . . .Staid at Ormsbees all night. My shanty floor is too muddy to sleep in.
- Friday April 9 . . .The ground is still very wet . . .Staid at Ormsbees all night.
- Sunday April 11 Was at Mr. Ormsbees most of the day reading Rob Roy. . .
- Tuesday April 13 . . .Sowed and dragged some wheat on my ground P.M. . .
- Sunday April 18 Went to Church and S.S. . .
- Tuesday April 20 . . .I have sowed and cultivated 10 acres in two days, with my oxen. . .
- Wednesday April 21 . . .sent \$43.20. This years paynt of Int. on my land to Lincoln. . .
- Saturday April 24 Finished dragging Uncle's wheat. I have put in 40 acres. Mr. Ormsbee helped me 1 day.
- Saturday May 1 . . .Went to the Grange P.M. I belong to the Harvard group now. . .
- Monday May 3 Finished dragging my 10 acres of corn ground middle of P.M. and then plowed some furrows for potatoes and drilled corn. My ground is ready.
- Wednesday May 5 . . .Mr. Ormsbee and team helped me plant We planted about 9 acres in 2/3 of a day which is all mine. . .
- Friday May 7 Finished planting my potatoes and then drilled in some corn for feed. Mr. Ormsby and I plowed a furrow so I can commence breaking tomorrow burnt some prairie too. Have not felt well today.
- Sunday May 9 . . .My lungs are out of order . . .Went down town and got some medicine and went home with Mr. Kellogg. Staid all day and night. Had the Dr. come and see me and he gave me some medicine. Mr. Kellogg and wife are very kind to me.
- Thursday May 13 Broke most of the day. . .Went over to Mr. Hurds and staid all night. Mrs. Hurd doctored me up so I felt much better in the morning
- Saturday May 15 . . .I started for Crete and went about 2½ miles east of Sutton and stayed all night.
- Tuesday May 18 Travelled all day and got to Crete at 5 o'clock P.M.
- Thursday May 20 Went out to my land I am going to break. Helped

- saw up some lumber for a shanty for myself while I am breaking. . .
- Monday May 24 Went down town and got some things and then went up to the college ground and started breaking. It is very hard breaking. . .
- Tuesday May 25 Broke all day. . .
- Saturday May 29 Broke all day. . .
- Sunday June 6 Went to Church and S.S. and to S.S. concert in the evening. . . It has been so cold that a fire was needed P.M.
- Monday June 7 . . . Broke about an acre and a half the best I have done since commencing. . .
- Tuesday June 8 . . . It rained so hard that the water on the upper side of my shanty would not run around and so ran through the shanty and made the floor wet and muddy.
- Friday June 11 Broke two rounds and went down town to get something to put on the ox's foot, he is too lame to work. . .
- Thursday June 17 . . . Wind blew very hard at dusk with rain it blew my shanty down.
- Saturday June 19 Put up my shanty A.M. and part of P.M. Went to a S. S. picnic for a couple of hours. . .
- Wednesday June 30 Finished breaking on the college ground and got ready to go west. . . [Total received for breaking was \$59.75].
- Saturday July 3 . . . Got to Harvard 2:30 P.M. Staid in town a while then went home My shanty was wet and so did not go to housekeeping. . . Took supper at Ormsbees and staid there all night.
- Monday July 5 . . . Went down town to the celebration, had a Grange dinner and a nice time. . .
- Friday July 9 It rained extremely hard last night and blew hard too. . . I was afraid my shanty would blow down and so went over to Mr. Ormsbees. . .
- Wednesday July 14 My ox's neck was so sore that I could not work it. Pulled a few weeds A.M. and worked problems in Algebra. . .
- Thursday July 15 Hoed a little corn and staid in my shanty and read and studied most of the time.
- Wednesday July 21 Commenced cutting wheat for Mr. Ormsby. . .
- Friday July 30 Dave Ormsbee and I bound all day on my wheat. . .
- Saturday August 7 . . . Contracted to furnish Mr. Birdsall with 100 bush wheat @ 82c. . .
- Sunday August 15 Went to Sabbath School. . .
- Monday August 16 Threshed two hours A.M. and all of P.M. I had 174½ bush of wheat on 20 acres. . . Sold Birdsall 101 bush @ 75c.
- Saturday August 21 Dave and I stacked wheat and finished Uncle's. I built the stacks it was the first stacking I ever did. Went down town at night and joined the Good Templars
- Wednesday August 25 . . . I plowed all the time it did not rain, and fiddled when it did rain.
- Wednesday September 1 Helped Dave stack all day.
- Monday September 6 . . . Took the last of my wheat to town and sold it at 75c [bushel]
- Tuesday September 7 Plowed A.M. Dug Early rose potatoes P.M. they will yield very well.

- Saturday September 11 Helped Ormsby draw hay A.M. Went down town to the Grange Harvest feast P.M. . . Staid to the lodge at night. . .
- Tuesday September 28 Helped Dave build a sod stable all day.
- Saturday October 2 Plowed A.M. Went to the Grange P.M. and lodge at night. Let my place to David Ormsby for 1 year. He breaks up all the rest of the 80 for use of what is broken.
- Monday October 11 Threshed for Dave A.M. with my oxen. Threshed for myself P.M.
- Friday October 15 Helped Dave on his sod stable all day.
- Saturday October 16 Plowed A.M. Went down to attend the Grange P.M. but there was none. I staid to the Lodge. . .
- Saturday October 23 Finished plowing my twenty acres of stubble before breakfast. Dug potatoes till noon and then went to G.F. Warren's and sold him my oxen for \$125.00: \$25 cash and \$100 one years time @10%. Went to Lodge at night.
- Wednesday October 27 Went down town and then went home with Winnie Birdsall to work for a few days for him.
- Saturday November 6 . . .Went to town P.M. to Grange. . .I staid to Lodge at night. . .
- Tuesday November 9 Husked corn all day.
- Saturday November 13 Helped Mr. Hurd thresh all day. Went to the Lodge at night and Took the two last degrees. . .Rec'd certificates from Saline County Supt.
- Friday November 19 Dave and I finished picking his and my corn. He went to town at night and took my trunk and things down. . .
- Saturday November 20 Went to Crete
- Monday November 22 Went down to Artist's to commence school. . .
- Tuesday November 23 Commenced school with 12 scholars, 7 boys and 5 girls. . .
- Wednesday November 24 Taught school. Went to Crete after school.
- Thursday November 25 Staid at home and helped eat turkey. . .Had a nice time. Went to service and Prayer Meeting.
- Saturday November 27 Helped Uncle draw some wood A.M. I intended to go on the train to DeWitt but it left me and so I started on foot but rode most of the way. Stopped at Wilber to meeting and rode home with Artists.
- Sunday November 28 Went to two Sabbath Schools and a meeting at DeWitt.
- Monday December 6 Taught School. Went to Church at night. There is a protracted meeting being held at DeWitt this week.
- Thursday December 16 Taught school. Mr. McCreedy, the Co. Supt. visited my school today. Went to town to meeting at night.
- Friday December 17 Taught school. . .Went to the school house and started a singing school.
- Friday December 24 Went to DeWitt and took the train to Crete. . .Went to Christmas entertainment at night.
- Saturday December 25 Staid at Uncle's A.M. Went down town with Mary [a sister] P.M. and had some of our pictures taken. Went to choir meeting at night.
- Sunday December 26 Went to Church and S.S., A.M. and Church at night.

- Monday December 27 Walked down to my school, and taught.
- Wednesday December 29 Taught School. . . Had Singing School at night. My scholars came very near having a row with the town boys because the town boys said they were coming up to whip our school.
- Friday December 31 Went to Wilber and then took the train to Crete. . .

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- Saturday January 1 Staid at Uncle's till 3 o'clock P.M. then came to DeWitt on the train. Mary [a sister] and Ina [a cousin] were married today Mary to Mr. Stephens, Inez to Mr. Wilson.
- Friday January 14 Taught school. . .
- Saturday January 15 Staid at home A.M. Went to town P.M. Had Singing School at night.
- Sunday January 16 Went to church and S.S. Went to see some Indians P.M. Went to Church at night.
- Monday January 17 Taught school. Went to Lyceum at night. . .
- Monday January 24 Taught school. Went to Lyceum.
- Tuesday January 25 Taught school. Went to DeWitt and started a Singing Class They agree to pay me \$25.00 for 15 lessons. March 13, They paid me the full amount. [The last sentence was added later.]
- Tuesday February 1 . . . Cold day. Only twenty scholars.
- Saturday February 5 Went to Crete. . .
- Sunday February 6 Went to church and S.S. Went out to Mary's [Mrs. E. F. Stephens] and staid all night.
- Monday February 7 Walked down to my school and got there before any of my scholars.
- Tuesday February 8 Taught school . . . Went to meeting at night.
- Thursday February 10 . . . Went to meeting and decided to serve the Lord the rest of my life.
- Tuesday February 15 Taught school. Went to town to a political lecture by Judge Warren of the Independent party. I joined the party.
- Sunday February 20 [At DeWitt] Went to Church and S.S. Went home with Dr. Pelton. . . Mr. Perry of Crete Preached A.M. and evening.
- Friday February 25 Taught school, it is so warm that flies are out. Compositions and speaking P.M. Singing school at night.
- Thursday March 2 Taught school. . . Had Spelling School at night.
- Saturday March 4 Went to meeting P.M. Taught my 12th Singing School at town.
- Friday March 10 Taught School. Spoke pieces and read compositions P.M. Singing at night.
- Monday March 13 Taught school. Taught 15th and last Singing School at DeWitt. This is the first singing class that has paid me the full amount.
- Friday March 17 Taught my last day of school. Was sorry to leave my scholars. Went to town at night and took my trunk, and came back and taught my last singing school. This ends my 2nd term of school in this Dist.

- Saturday March 18 Went to Crete. Have decided to go to the Crete college, am going to stay at Uncle's. Uncle and Aunt are very kind to me. Went to Young folks Prayer Meeting.
- Monday March 20 Started to Crete College. Started the study of Latin and Geometry.
- Thursday March 23 Went to school. Stayed after school and sang a while. Went to prayer meeting at night.
- Wednesday March 29 Went to school. I have got a bad cold. . .
- Friday March 31 Went to school. Went to the Literary and played on violin and sung. I was admitted to the club by unanimous vote. . .
- Sunday April 9 Went to church and S.S., A.M. Went to Academy P.M. to practice singing for concert this evening. Went to concert in the evening.
- Friday April 14 I read an essay P.M. Went to Literary at night.
- Monday April 17 Went to school. Rec'd...contract from District No. 29, [Artist District where he had been teaching] my old school, to teach 2 mo. @ \$40.00 per mo. [a summer term].
- Friday April 21 . . . Signed contract and sent it to Mr. Artist. . .
- Saturday April 22 Worked in the garden A.M. Helped Uncle dig some trees P.M. to set on his timber claim south of Kearney. . .
- Tuesday April 25 Went out to Ezra's [E.F. Stephens] in M'n'g and got cotton wood cuttings. Went to school. Uncle went to Kearney. . .
- Wednesday April 26 Went to school. Sent a barrel of cottonwoods and ash trees to Uncle at Kearney. Helped Mr. Perry P.M. on college ground. . .
- Sunday April 30 Went to church and S.S. and church at night.
- Monday May 1 . . . Went into a geometry class today for the first time. . .
- Sunday May 7 . . . I joined the Crete Cong. Church today. I pray God that I may be the means in his hands of doing some good. . . Went to a temperance lecture at night.
- Friday May 12 . . . Read a piece P.M. at school. . . Went to the literary in the evening and played on my violin.
- Friday May 19 . . . This is my last day this term. Practiced singing for the last day. . .
- Monday May 22 Went down to Artists' and commenced another term of school. My third term here. 27 scholars, the most I ever commenced school with. . .
- Sunday May 28 Went to town to 2 S.S. and meeting. A S.S. was organized in the School house where I am teaching. I was elected leader in singing.
- Tuesday May 30 . . . Mr. Grantham has got a globe, Dictionary and maps for the school.
- Friday June 2 Taught school. . . Went to Crete to help in the Centennial concert. . . The concert was a success. Uncle let me have 35 books for the Artist S.S.
- Friday June 9 Taught school. . . Went to DeWitt and helped sing in the concert to a crowded house.
- Friday June 16 . . . I had an examination of the school today. I had 9 visitors.

- Tuesday June 27 Taught school Mr. Grantham the Supt. visited my school. . .
- Saturday July 1 Went to Crete on the train. Staid at Uncles all day.
- Sunday July 2 Went to S.S. and meeting A.M. Went with Uncle out west of Crete where he preaches every two weeks. Went to meeting at night. Uncle spoke about progress in the U.S.
- Tuesday July 4 Celebrated the centennial Fourth at Crete, had a good time. Rode down to Artists. . .
- Wednesday July 5 Taught school. Went to town with Wilbur Grantham.
- Thursday July 6 Taught school. Went to town to prayer meeting at night.
- Sunday July 9 Went to S.S. and meeting at town Had a concert at Artist School house P.M. The house was crowded. . .
- Friday July 14 Last day of school. . . All the people of the Dist. were out and gave the scholars a picnic dinner. . .
- Saturday July 15 Went with Mr. Grantham to Crete via Pleasant Hill. Went home with Ezra [E. F. Stephens].
- Tuesday July 18 Run a Kirby reaper for E.F.Stephens all day. . .
- Thursday July 27 I bound wheat all day. We have cut and bound  $15\frac{1}{4}$  acres in  $1\frac{1}{4}$  days.
- Thursday August 3 I have been sick all day with bloody dysentery. I used warm and then cool water injections and drank raw flour and water and took Jamaica ginger.
- Monday August 7 Hoed a little and helped some about threshing. . .
- Wednesday August 9 Made a canvassing sack A.M. and then went to DeWitt P.M. to canvass for Ezra. . .
- Friday August 11 Traveled all day. I rec'd 2 orders for trees. . .
- Monday August 14 Traveled all day and took two orders. . .
- Saturday August 19 I went to Crete. . . Engaged room for Ed. Grantham and myself and bought a table and some dishes. . .
- Tuesday August 22 I took 5 orders today. . .
- Thursday August 24 Started for Crete. The Hoppers commenced falling about  $\frac{1}{4}$  past nine o'clock A.M. Got home 15 min. past 12. Helped fight hoppers all of P.M. They are thick.
- Saturday August 26 Helped drive hoppers all day. They have done but little damage yet to the trees.
- Monday August 28 Fought "Hoppers" all day. . . little damage yet to the trees.
- Wednesday August 30 I helped fight "Hopers" all day. . .
- Saturday September 2 . . . I drove "Hopers" all day.
- Monday September 4 Went to Harvard on the Morning freight. Went out to Mr. Ormsbees. . .
- Tuesday September 5 . . . Saw G.Warren he paid me \$20.00 on his note. . . Let Uncle's and my land to Ormsbee and Gates. . . they will fall plow Uncle's land and put in 20 acres on mine this fall and work all of ours next year. they are to have it rent free.
- Wednesday September 6 Went down to the train and went to Crete. . . went out to Ezra's and staid all night. . .
- Thursday September 7 Went to school A.M. Studied a little P.M.



- and then went out to Ezras. Ed. Grantham went with me, he will stay with me till we get to house keeping.
- Monday September 11 . . .The school has fairly got to running and there are about 50 students.
- Wednesday September 13 Went to school A.M. . .to DeWitt P.M. to attend a church festival and concert. It was a success, about \$50.00 was cleared.
- Saturday September 16 Went to town with a load of hay. Came back and went down again with Ezra. I took my trunk down and went to caucus and voted Republican ticket.
- Monday September 18 Went to school. I have now got into my room in town.
- Saturday September 23 Studied in my room most of the day. . .
- Sunday September 24 I went to church and S.S. and Meeting in the evening.
- Friday October 6 Went to School. I read a piece at school P.M. Went to Literary at night and played on violin. Rec'd my first lesson on the organ from Mr. Allen.
- Thursday October 12 Went to School. . .Went to Uncle's to practice on the organ. Went to Prayer meeting.
- Friday October 20 . . .I read a composition in school this P.M.
- Saturday October 21 Studied part of the day and then took my second music lesson and went to Uncle's to practice. . .
- Friday October 27 Went to School. A couple of men came into Crete today with two trained bears they were from Switzerland.
- Tuesday October 31 . . .Some of us staid after school and practiced some for the literary.
- Saturday November 4 Studied part of the day and went to the Ogden house to practice anthems for church.
- Monday November 6 Went to school. Uncle Harmon was sick today so I did his chores and staid there at night.
- Friday November 10 I went to school. . .I went to Oyster supper in the eve, at the Academy and had a good time.
- Saturday November 11 I worked my Poll tax in Crete today. I went to Prayer meeting and choir meeting at night.
- Sunday November 12 I went to church and S.S. and church at night.
- Sunday November 19 Went to church and S.S. and then went out to Stephens and staid all night I am 25 years old today.
- Friday November 24 Went to school. All of us boys went down to Deans's drug store to take some electricity from a battery. . .
- Saturday November 25 I worked on the new Cong. church all day. Went to Young Folks Meeting and Choir meeting. . .
- Wednesday November 29 Went down to my school and taught the first day of my 4th term. [In the Artist Dist.]
- Thursday November 30 Thanksgiving day. I went down to meeting and them back home [at Grantham's] to a splendid thanksgiving dinner. . .
- Friday December 8 Taught School. I went to Mr. Foremans to play a piece with Dan.
- Tuesday December 12 I taught school. Jacob Artist left school today to go and teach. He makes No. 6 of my scholars who have gone to teach. I went down town at night.

- Thursday December 21 I taught school. Dan Foreman stopped at Grantham's and played with me on violin. We then went to Ernie's spelling school. A large meteor was seen by many at recess.
- Friday December 22 . . . had general exercises P.M. I dismissed at 3 o'clock and walked to Crete and attended the Literary, and then went to Uncles. . .
- Monday December 25 Staid at Mary's till after dinner and then went to Crete and took the train to DeWitt. . . a pleasant day with Mary.
- Saturday December 30 I went over to Mr. Artists' and bought 20 ewe sheep for \$50.00 and leased them to him for two yrs. from 1st Jan. 1877. I give him  $\frac{1}{2}$  of wool and  $\frac{1}{2}$  of increase. . .
- Sunday December 31 . . . Today is the last day of the year. . . One more year toward eternity. Is it one year nearer Heaven. Good By old Diary. I have been with you every day for a year.

## 1877

- Monday January 1 I staid at home all day. . . I went over to Mr. Foss' in the eve, and spent a pleasant evening Singing and chatting with Misses Dean and Foss [Mary M. Foss whom he later married]. . .
- Wednesday January 3 . . . I had a talk with Dan. Foreman this evening and he says he is going to commence a diary and use the same signs for the wind and weather I do.
- Friday January 5 . . . Commenced singing school in my school house this eve. We are to sing part of the time and debate part of the time. I practiced with Dan this eve on the fiddle.
- Wednesday January 10 I taught school. I went down town to a church oyster supper at DeWitt in the evening. I enjoyed myself very much, but there were not many. they made \$14.00.
- Friday January 12 . . . I had singing and debate at the school house at night. There were several out and 6 or 7 spoke on the question of war and intemperance.
- Monday January 15 . . . I went to the school house but it was so very stormy that no one came. . . this is the first day I have been at the school house without a scholar in the four terms I have taught here.
- Friday January 19 . . . We had our society meeting this evening. A number of boys spoke who never spoke before. . .
- Monday January 22 . . . I went to Mr. Foreman's at night and Dan and I played together on the violin till 11 o'clock. . .
- Friday January 26 Taught school. . . We had a very good debate this evening, the house was full.
- Friday February 2 I taught school. . . We had a good society meeting this evening. The house was full.
- Friday February 9 . . . We had our society at night and it was good. . .
- Saturday February 10 . . . I staid at home all day studying algebra. Went to town to meeting at night. The revival at DeWitt carried on for 3 or 4 weeks had resulted in but 1 or 2 conversions.
- Monday February 12 . . . Jake Artist has finished his school and commenced coming to mine again.

- Friday February 16 I taught school. We spoke pieces P.M. . . We had our debate and singing and a good time too. There was a house full.
- Thursday February 22 . . . I promised to give Wilbur Grantham \$1.00 if he would do without tobacco 18 months.
- Friday February 23 I taught school. We had our debate, it was a warm one on the subject: Resolved that the use of intoxicating drinks is more injurious than the use of tobacco. . .
- Friday March 2 . . . We had our debate at night. There were a good many out.
- Tuesday March 6 Taught school. . . I had a tough time to get the scholars to agree to go to DeWitt to have our exhibition. But I guess I have succeeded. I went down town to a temperance meeting at night.
- Wednesday March 7 Taught school. . . I went to town from the schoolhouse. Mr. McGullock said he would see that a stage was built for us in the church if we will give the church  $\frac{1}{2}$  the proceeds of our exhibition. I expect he will do it. . .
- Monday March 12 I taught school. My school met at the school house at night to practice for the exhibition. Mr. Grantham was at my school all day.
- Tuesday March 13 . . . Dan and Hannah Foreman were at Granthams at night to practice, also Jacob Artist.
- Wednesday March 14 . . . My school met to practice for the exhibition at night at the school house.
- Thursday March 15 I taught the last day of my fourth term today. . . We practiced some this P.M. for the exhibition. It is the first time I have spent any time from school hours.
- Friday March 16 My school went down town P.M. and practiced some on the stage for the exhibition. The exhibition was a grand success. There were about 400 present. The house was full. Some came 16 and 20 miles. My scholars did extremely well and received compliments from every body. It was the best entertainment ever gotten up in the country.
- Saturday March 17 Mr. Grantham took me and some of my things to Crete. . .
- Wednesday March 21 . . . Dan, Hannah and James came up this A.M. and we spent the P.M. rigging up our rooms.
- Thursday March 22 I went to school A.M. and spent P.M. rigging up our rooms. I went to prayer meeting in the evening.
- Tuesday March 27 I went to school. I organized a small singing class in the evening. I charge but \$1.25 per scholar and I furnish light, house and fuel.
- Monday April 2 I went to school. I finished painting my singing school blackboard today.
- Tuesday April 3 I went to school. I gave my 1st lesson to my singing class this evening.
- Saturday April 7 . . . I set up my telegraphic instruments this A.M. Jas. was able by night to send so that I could read it. I went to the Bethel this P.M. to practice with the little ones.
- Monday April 9 I went to school. I went to a temperance meeting at night. . .
- Tuesday April 17 I went to school. I went to the Academy P.M. to practice some music for literary.

- Thursday April 19 I passed examination in Latin today.
- Saturday April 21 I helped get some trees for the college grounds this A.M. I met the little folks at the Bethel to sing P.M. I went to choir meeting this evening.
- Tuesday April 24 I went to school. I worked on the college grounds from 3 till sundown. I went to hear the Andrews family Bell Ringers. It was well worth going.
- Tuesday May 1 . . . I joined the Good Templars tonight.
- Thursday May 2 . . . I worked on the college grounds part of P.M. I went to prayer meeting at night.
- Friday May 4 I went to school. I went to the Literary at night. Dan and I played a duet on our violins. Dan, Hannah, Show and I sang "She Sleeps in the Valley." I was appointed as one of the music committee to furnish music for commencement exercises, and I have also to prepare a declamation for the last day.
- Friday May 18 . . . I went to Literary. We had a good time.
- Wednesday May 23 I went to school I taught my class their 8 singing lesson at the Academy Hall. . .
- Thursday May 24 . . . Dan Foreman and I learned Mezzotint from a travelling Teacher, it cost each of us 75c.
- Saturday May 26 . . . I went to Young Folks and Choir meeting in the evening.
- Tuesday May 29 I went to school I went to the Academy to practice music for the commencement exercises and then I met my little class at the Bethel to sing for dedication. I went to the Lodge at night. I was elected Marshall.
- Sunday June 3 . . . The New Cong. Church was dedicated today, the house was jammed full. I was elected janitor and usher of the new church last Prayer meeting. There was a good number out at evening service. I commenced duty as janitor.
- Monday June 4 I went to school. I practiced singing P M for commencement. I taught my 10th singing lesson this evening.
- Wednesday June 6 I went to school. I went to the Academy P.M. and rehearsed my declamation to Prof. Perry. . .
- Thursday June 14 I went to school. I went to prayer meeting at night. Geo. Mitchell resigned the clerkship of the Cong. Church and I was elected.
- Sunday June 17 I went to church twice and S.S. twice. It has been a warm day. Mr. Perry preached the Baccalaureate sermon today.
- Monday June 18 . . . I taught my last and 13th singing lesson this evening.
- Tuesday June 19 I passed examination in German this A.M.
- Thursday June 21 The graduation exercises were this A.M. Also Mr. Sherrill's lecture before the trustees. The exercises were good. It is the first graduating class from Doane College. There were 3 graduates. The literary exercises were first rate this eve. . .
- Saturday June 23 I swept the church today and got ready for tomorrow. . . Miss Merrill, Mr. Rice and myself, who are the music committee of the Cong. Church had a hard time to get some one to play in Allen's place. Jas. Prochaska will do it.
- Sunday June 24 I went to church mn'g and eve and S.S. twice. I teach a class in the Cong. and M.E.,S.S.

- Monday June 25 . . . took my things out to Ezra's.
- Tuesday June 26 I studied. I went down to the lodge in the evening.
- Friday June 29 I staid home and studied.
- Saturday June 30 I went down and swept the church. . .
- Sunday July 1 I went to church twice and to two S.S. I staid with Carroll Pearse tonight.
- Tuesday July 3 I staid home and studied. I went to Lodge at night. I went home with Carroll Pearse and staid all night.
- Wednesday July 4 I went out home early this m'n'g and took breakfast and got ready to go down to the celebration. It was very good for the city of Crete.
- Friday July 13 I staid at home. tinkered some and studied.
- Saturday July 14 I went over the river to look after some harvest work but failed. . .
- Tuesday July 17 I worked for Ezra. . . I went down to Good Templars lodge in the evening.
- Saturday July 21 . . . I went down town P.M. to take care of the church.
- Sunday July 22 . . . I was unanimously elected Supt. of the M.E., S.S.
- Monday July 23 I worked binding for Patterson all day.
- Tuesday July 24 I worked half a day for Patterson. I went to the lodge at night. . .
- Sunday July 29 I went to church twice and S S twice. Today is the first time I ever filled a S.S.Supt. position.
- Tuesday August 7 . . . I sewed harness so as to get ready for canvassing. I went to lodge at night. I was elected financial secretary.
- Thursday August 9 I . . . got the canvassing rig and started out. . .
- Tuesday August 14 I got ready and started on another trip canvassing. I am now working for Ezra for \$2.00 per day.
- Saturday August 18 . . . I got to Crete at noon. I have put in 4½ days this week for Ezra at \$2.00 per day and expenses paid. When I got out to Ezra's I found Florence and Lillie [his sisters] had come from Mich. . .
- Sunday August 19 I went to church m'n'g and eve and S.S. twice.
- Tuesday August 21 I started out on another canvassing trip. . .
- Saturday August 25 I got home at noon. I went to town and looked after the church.
- Tuesday August 28 I started out on another canvassing expedition. . .
- Friday August 31 I tinkered around A M and went to Crete P M I went into the Teachers Institute a little while. I got Mr. Veitz' buggy to take Florence to Lincoln to Teachers examination.
- Thursday September 6 I went to the commencement of school at the Academy. It started with 59 pupils. I staid to prayer meeting and then went out to Ezra's.
- Friday September 7 I went to school. I staid to the Literary at night and then went home.
- Monday September 10 I went to school. I am rooming with a young man from Omaha by the nome of Ed. Cook.
- Sunday September 16 I went to church and two S.S. We had our

- concert at the M.E. church this evening. There was a large attendance and the concert was a success.
- Thursday September 20 I went to school. I went to prayer meeting at night, there was a very large attendance this eve.
- Friday September 21 There is no school today on ac't of the fair. I staid at home and studied and painted singing school blackboard. Literary at night.
- Monday September 24 . . . I gave my 4th singing lesson at night and then went out to Ezra's.
- Thursday September 27 . . . I helped survey on the college ground P.M.
- Friday October 5 I went to school part of the A.M. and then got excused and went to the District Lodge which was held at Crete today. Tonight was literary night.
- Monday October 8 I went to school. I gave my 8th lesson in singing this evening. I went to the East school house this P.M. after school to sing with the little ones.
- Wednesday October 17 . . . I rec'd a draft for \$50.00 from Hurd on the Warren note, [part payment for oxen].
- Tuesday October 23 . . . Miss Westerhaven, a student at the college, died of diphtheria yesterday. . .
- Saturday October 27 I studied some and attended association. I gave my 11th singing lesson. . .
- Friday November 9 I went to school A.M. I worked at putting in windows over the doors in the Academy P.M. I went to the social at Uncle's this evening and then went out to Mary's.
- Saturday November 10 I went to town and worked A M. putting in windows. P.M. I worked at the church. I taught my 15th singing lesson this evening.
- Sunday November 11 I went to church twice and S S twice. I introduced the S.S. "pocket savings box" into the M.E., S.S. today. It was well received. At the meeting of the Saline County Bible Society this evening I was elected one of the directors for the ensuing year.
- Wednesday November 14 . . . I went to the M.E. Church to hear Miss Susan B. Anthony speak on the subject of "Woman wants bread not the ballot". It was good. She showed how woman needs the ballot to procure her bread.
- Friday November 16 I went to school. Our last literary was held this evening. At the election this evening I was elected president for the next term of the Literary, Miss Foss secretary. . .
- Sunday November 18 . . . The S.S. savings Boxes which I introduced last Sabbath was a grand success. The collection from over 17 boxes being over \$2.00
- Friday November 23 The scholars and teachers of Doane met at Prof. Perry's this evening and had a nice social. . .
- Thursday November 29 Lang and I set a couple of telegraph poles, and then I built a fire in the church for the service today. I went out to Mary's to Thanksgiving dinner. My cousin Anna Bross died about 4 o'clock this P.M. but she fell asleep in Jesus. She died of diphtheria.
- Friday November 30 I attended Cousin Anna's funeral at 1 o'clock. Lucius Drake died at 3 o'clock P.M. of diphtheria, two hours

- before he died he sat at the window and watched the funeral of Anna Bross.
- Saturday December 1 . . . I attended Lutie Drake's funeral as one of the pall bearers. Lutie Drake and Anna Bross were playmates attending the same school. . .
- Thursday December 6 . . . I went to prayer meeting at night, after prayer meeting I went over to Code's hotel and made a bargain with him to build three fires, Kitchen 5:30 A.M., Diningroom 5:45, Office 6:00 and clean all the lamps, seat strangers at table, and build fire in office at night, for board and lodging.
- Saturday December 8 . . . I took up my abode at the Cosmopolitan this eve.
- Friday December 14 . . . I joined the Red Ribbon society of Crete this morning. I organized a singing class this evening.
- Tuesday December 18 I went to school. I went to the lodge at night. The red ribbon movement is doing finely here in Crete. I have taken 16 names.
- Monday December 24 I went to school A M. Staid out P M to rig up the Christmas tree at the Methodist Church. My singing class did not meet tonight because of the Christmas entertainment at the West school house.
- Tuesday December 25 I worked hard most of the day, getting the Christmas tree ready for this evening which every one says was a grand success.
- Wednesday December 26 I went to school. I commenced giving violin lessons to my violin class this eve. . .
- Monday December 31 I went to school. I gave my 2nd lesson to singing class.

## 1878

- Tuesday January 1 I went out to Mary's and spent part of the day pleasantly. I believe the past year has been the happiest of my life and God helping me, I mean to make this year still happier. I gave my second lesson to my violin class.
- Thursday January 3 I went to school. this evening was the Annual Church meeting of the Cong. Church. I was reelected unani- mously as Clerk.
- Wednesday January 9 . . . [A student] was expelled from school today for going to saloons. I went to Union meeting at M.E. church at night.
- Saturday January 19 . . . John B. Finch gave his first lecture this evening at the Cong. Church. Although it was muddy there were a good many out. Finch is a good earnest speaker. About 40 singed the pledge.
- Sunday January 20 . . . Finch lectured tonight at Cong. Church and 95 signed the pledge.
- Monday January 21 . . . About 75 signed the Red Ribbon Pledge tonight.
- Tuesday January 22 . . . About 80 signed the pledge tonight.
- Wednesday January 23 . . . About 50 signed the pledge tonight.
- Thursday January 24 . . . 54 signed tonight.
- Friday January 25 . . . 91 signed the pledge tonight.

- Sunday January 27 . . . 88 signed the pledge tonight. There was about \$200. raised tonight.
- Monday January 28 . . . Only a few signed tonight because there were but few left who had not signed. 27 were all that signed. Over \$200 was raised tonight to run a library and reading room.
- Tuesday January 29 . . . John B. Finch closed his lectures tonight. May God bless him and prosper him in his work wherever he goes.
- Sunday February 3 . . . in the evening went to hear Chancellor Fairfield [of the State University] lecture at the Opera Hall on the subject of Temperance. It was a good lecture. He also preached a splendid sermon today at the Cong. Church.
- Monday February 4 I went to school I gave my 8th singing lesson this evening and then went to a phrenological lecture at the Bethel Church.
- Friday February 8 . . . I went to an extra lodge meeting this evening. Bro. and Sister Finch and the Grand Worthy Chief Templar were present.
- Saturday February 16 I canvassed some for the Red Ribbon Library and studied some. Went to Red Ribbon meeting at night.
- Saturday February 23 I worked some through the day and studied. . . . I then rode 11 miles S W to the Center district talked temperance and put the Red Ribbon on 51 there being present 52, . . . Bro. J. K. Lane then organized I.O.G.T. with 42 charter members.
- Friday March 8 . . . The students went to Prof. Perry's in the evening to spend a few hours. We had a nice time.
- Saturday March 9 . . . I moved my things to the Academy. Mr. Code does not need me any longer.
- Wednesday March 13 This was the last day of school, I had no examinations so I got ready for the entertainment this evening given by the students. It was a success. I gave a declamation in character called "The Swell."
- Saturday March 16 I worked at the Academy A.M. Went out to Stephens P.M. I went to the Red Ribbon Club in the evening.
- Tuesday March 19 I set grafts till after 5 o'clock and then went to town to I.O.G.T.
- Thursday March 21 I commenced school. I am to take care of the Academy building this term at \$2.50 per week. I taught my 12th violin lesson this evening. I helped set trees around church P.M. . .
- Thursday March 28 I went to school. I went to prayer meeting at night.
- Saturday March 30 I worked around the academy and wrote an autobiography for the next literary. I met the little folks at the church 2 P.M. to practice singing for the S.S. concert.
- Friday April 5 . . . I went to the Literary in the evening and read my autobiography.
- Saturday April 6 I did work at the Academy and church A.M. and trimmed trees on the college ground part of P.M.
- Sunday April 7 I went to church and 2 sabbath schools. I went to concert at Cong. church in the evening.
- Thursday April 11 . . . Mr. Fairchild was at my room after meeting and we tried some experiments with the acoustic telephone.



- Friday April 12 I went to school. I went to Mr Farwell's in the evening to a reception for the Academy students.
- Sunday April 14 I went to S S twice and meeting twice. I have enjoyed teaching my classes very much today.
- Tuesday April 16 . . . one of my Sunday School scholars aged about 16 died today of Diphtheria. . .
- Saturday April 20 I went with the rest of the surveying class A M to do some practical surveying. I taught my 16th violin lesson this evening.
- Sunday April 21 I went to church twice and S S twice and to the Reading Room Bible Class. . .
- Saturday May 4 I went surveying a little in the morning and then trimmed trees till 5 o'clock P.M. and then swept the church
- Sunday May 5 I went to church and S.S. Twice and then to Bible class at the Reading rooms, and to temperance meeting at the Cong. Church in the evening. Eleven joined the Cong. church today.
- Friday May 10 . . . I went over to Prof. Fairchild's in the evening and we used the new microscope of the college, the largest one in Neb.
- Monday May 13 I went to school I attended the first of a course of Pysiological lectures to be given by Mrs. Dr. Potts at the Cong. Church this week. Mrs. Potts is a splendid speaker.
- Saturday May 18 I trimmed some trees A M, looked after the Church and Academy P.M. I attended the last lecture of Mrs. Dr. Potts in the evening; Subject, Love, courtship and marriage. It was splendid and practical.
- Thursday May 30 I went to school A.M. and to Wilber P M to record a mortgage for Ezra F. Stephens given by him to Pa for \$675.00 I walked back and went to prayer meeting in the evening. Pa furnished money to Ezra to buy up Mr. Bridges mortgage and then took one himself.
- Sunday June 2 I went to church and S.S. twice and to Red Ribbon meeting at the M.E. Church in the evening and the Reading Room Bible Class P.M.
- Saturday June 8 I surveyed some A M and experimented with Mr. Fairchild on a telephone I had made. . .
- Sunday June 16 . . . Mr. Perry preached the Baccadaureate sermon this morning.
- Wednesday June 19 . . . The scholars of the East School presented me today with a beautiful gold pen and holder, as a token of regard for me. I have been singing with them for the past 8 months in their day school.
- Thursday June 20 I attended the graduating exercises A.M. and the Hesperian entertainment in the evening. It was very good indeed. . .
- Sunday June 23 I went to the Cong. Church and S.S. I will be away from Crete most of the summer and so have given up both of my S.S. classes.
- Monday June 24 . . . got ready to canvass. I started N.W., P.M. and sold my first bill . . . amt., \$64.95. . .
- Saturday June 29 I went to Crete. . .
- Thursday July 4 I sold some trees and spent part of the day . . . at a celebration; there were about 300 present. . .

- Saturday July 6 . . . I have done well this week.
- Friday July 12 I did a little work but men were too busy in harvest to do much talking. I went home and arrived there about sundown.
- Tuesday July 16 . . . Farmers were too busy harvesting to talk about trees.
- Thursday July 18 I mended the hog fence A M and made a beehive P M
- Tuesday July 23 I worked at beehives A M and got wood, hoed and dug potatoes P. M.
- Friday July 26 I began to cut Ezra's wheat. . .
- Wednesday July 31 We commenced stacking wheat. . .
- Thursday August 1 We drewed wheat all day.
- Saturday August 3 We worked all day stacking loose wheat.
- Saturday August 10 . . . I rented 2 rooms and bed priveleges in another room... at a price not to exceed \$5.00 per mo. [Four of the students planned to board themselves and attend the Academy.]
- Saturday August 17 I stacked wheat A M, I went to town P M, Ezra sold \$500.00 of Nursery stock this week in 4½ days.
- Monday August 19 . . . I started about 2 o'clock on another canvassing trip. . .
- Monday August 26 I went home today. . . This is the best canvassing trip I ever made as I have sold \$430.00 and most of it done in three days.
- Saturday August 31 . . . I am getting ready to go to school this winter. . .
- Sunday September 1 I went to the rededication of the M E Church today. There was \$400. raised today to pay up old church debt so the M.E. Church is now paid for.
- Thursday September 5 I went down to the commencement of school. . .
- Thursday September 12 I went to school. I went to prayer meeting at night.
- Friday September 13 . . . I went to the sociable at Mr. Andrews.
- Saturday September 14 I worked all day at various things. I gave the first lesson of a Singing School to my class this evening.
- Thursday September 19 . . . I helped put up a telegraph line between Bross' house and Rice's where I am staying, this P.M.
- Friday September 20 . . . I wrote the Owl for this evening. . . Went to Literary in the evening.
- Thursday October 3 . . . Diphtheria is claiming its victims again this fall in Crete. Mr. J. Dawes was beaten today in the nomination for governor. . .
- Sunday October 13 . . . I went to church and S S and to Union Temperance meeting in the evening.
- Saturday October 19 . . . Cleaned up the church P M
- Sunday October 20 Went to church twice, S.S. once.
- Sunday November 3 . . . Went to the Union temperance meeting in the Bethel, there was a house full.
- Monday November 4 I went to school. I taught my 9th singing

- class this evening. I went to Mr. Wilson's and sat up all night with him.
- Friday November 15 . . . Went to Literary in the evening. This was our last meeting and officers were elected for next term.
- Sunday November 24 Went to church and S.S. at the Cong. and church and S.S. at the German and then staid till dark practicing pieces for Thanksgiving. In the evening went to Cong. Church to Anniversary of Bible Society.
- Tuesday November 26 Passed examination in Algebra A. M. Practiced singing P M for this evening's entertainment. I went to the entertainment given by the school at the Cong. Church. The Trio Sung by H. Allen, Bonekemper and myself "A little farm well tilled" was received with great applause.
- Thursday November 28 After the union service at the Bethel I went out to Mary's to eat turkey. I staid there all night. The Thanksgiving services at the Bethel were good and well attended.
- Friday November 29 Did a little work fixing some of my things for school next term. . .
- Thursday December 5 Began another term of school. I am taking 4 studies to begin this term with, Bookkeeping, German, Latin and Algebra.
- Friday December 20 Went to school A M. Got excused from exercises P.M. and visited the East school as it was their last day before holidays The exercises were No.1 24 visitors were present. Went to Literary in the evening.
- Tuesday December 24 Went to school. I went out to the school district in which Mr. Stephens lives to help the folks on a Christmas tree. They are nearly all Bohemians but seemed to enjoy the occasion very much. Jas. Prochaska and I gave them instrumental music.
- Wednesday December 25 I spent my Christmas writing up my Bookkeeping. Went to Christmas entertainment at U.B. Church. As soon as I got home there was a fire back of the Ogden House and I went to it. After the fire I went up to the Opera House to the first theatre I ever attended. It was good and Moral.
- Thursday December 26 . . . Went to prayer meeting and Annual Church meeting. I was relected Church Clerk.
- Saturday December 28 Studied and did my work at the church. Went to the Walters Theatre in the evening and saw Rob Roy Played. It was well rendered. . .
- Tuesday December 31 Went to school. I went to the church in the evening to an entertainment given to the children of the S.S. a general good time was enjoyed by all.

## 1879

- Wednesday January 1 . . . I spent part of A.M. with Prof. Fairchild trying experiments in philosophy. . .
- Friday January 3 Colder than yesterday morning. Mercury 27 degrees below zero. . . Swept church P.M. Went to literary in the evening.
- Wednesday January 8 . . . Went to meeting in the evening. Prof. Perry gave a short talk on Christian education which was good.

- Tuesday January 14 Went to school. Went to the first meeting in the evening of Prof. Ballou's musical convention at the Cong. Church.
- Saturday January 18 Swept the church A M. Studied P.M. Went to convention in the evening.
- Sunday January 19 . . . Went to church and S.S. at Cong. Church then to German S S at Bethel then to church to practice some pieces for praise meeting this evening, then to young folks prayer meeting, then finished my day by going to praise meeting in the evening.
- Friday January 24 . . . Went to the concert in the evening given under Prof. Ballou. Not many were present but all seemed to enjoy the music.
- Friday January 31 . . . The prayer meeting this afternoon was splendid, some started on the New Life. Went to Literary in the evening.
- Saturday February 8 Studied part of day and swept the church.
- Sunday February 16 . . . I went to Church and S.S. then to German S S which is now held in the Cong. Church, then to M.E., S.S., then to Young Folks prayer meeting, then to Temperance meeting at M.E. Church.
- Friday February 21 . . . At the exercises this P M I read my first attempt at story writing. Attended the Ladies Fair at the Opera House in the evening and enjoyed myself very much. . .
- Thursday March 6 . . . Practiced music after school for the close of the term.
- Tuesday March 11 . . . Practiced music P M for tomorrow evening.
- Wednesday March 12 . . . Went to entertainment in the evening at the church and as usual with the students entertainments the house was full.
- Thursday March 13 . . . I am going to canvass in town. . .
- Monday March 17 . . . Canvassed for Stephens. . .
- Thursday March 20 . . . Started on spring term. . .
- Friday March 21 Went to school A.M. Went to Literary in the evening. Today I received \$9.90 from corn sold raised on what used to be my farm out in Clay Co. N.W. of Harvard. I let the land go back to the R.R. Co.
- Monday March 24 Went to school. Recited my first lesson to Mr. Stearns the new teacher in Latin and Greek. Although he is young he is full of vim and fire.
- Wednesday March 26 . . . Helped Mr. Fairchild in P.M. put up a magnetic telephone the first one in Crete.
- Thursday March 27 . . . Went to prayer meeting in the evening and then to town to caucus.
- Saturday March 29 Studied part of the day and read up some for the debate in Literary on, Resolved that honesty pays financially. I take the Aff. Swept the church in the evening.
- Friday April 4 . . . Mr. Stearns spoke for a little more than half an hour on the subject of Greece where he has been preaching for a few years. Went to Literary in the evening.
- Saturday April 12 Swept the church, did some studying, trimmed the trees around the church and some on the academy ground.

- Saturday April 19 Swept the church. Did some studying, trimmed trees on the college ground P.M.
- Friday April 25 . . . Went to Mrs. Laura Dainty's Recitations in the evening. It was well attended and a good entertainment.
- Tuesday April 29 . . . Staid after school P.M. to look over some music for the Hesperian entertainment at the close of this term.
- Friday May 9 Went to general exercises P.M. some very interesting experiments shown by the class in chemistry.
- Saturday May 10 Trimmed the rest of the trees on the college ground and around the Academy and swept the church.
- Monday May 19 . . . Went to the Hutchinson family Concert. It was excellent.
- Tuesday May 20 Went to school. Went to the first meeting of the State S.S. Convention this evening. The academy school closed today till Friday to give students a chance to attend the Convention.
- Wednesday May 28 . . . Took supper with Prof. Stearns and he helped me on my Horace lesson.
- Thursday June 5 . . . Practiced music at the church at 5 P.M., for commencement. Went to prayer meeting in the evening.
- Saturday June 7 Went to a picnic composed of some of the students of Doane. Had a nice time.
- Tuesday June 10 Went to school. Practised my oration with Fairchild. . .
- Saturday June 14 Went to the church and rehearsed my oration in the morning, then practiced singing. Went swimming and boat riding.
- Sunday June 15 . . . Prof. Perry preached the Baccalaureate sermon this morning, the house was crowded. Church was decorated in fine style. . .
- Wednesday June 18 Went to the Academy to practice my oration. Attended laying of corner stone of Merrill Hall A.M. Sung at church 1 P.M. . .
- Thursday June 19 Attended commencement exercises A.M. Hesperian entertainment in the evening. . . I delivered my first oration. . .
- Saturday June 21 Went out to Stephens and prepared to start canvassing, Monday.
- Friday July 4 Went over to Harvard this morning. This is the 3rd [Fourth of July] I've spent at Harvard. . . Harvard and vicinity has improved wonderfully within three years past.
- Thursday July 17 . . . Got out to Stephens a little after noon. On this canvassing trip I have billed over \$600. in 12 days work.
- Monday July 21 . . . [From memoranda for this day in back of diary.] I agreed with E.F. Stephens that if notes given for my fall and summer orders of 1878 are collected the amount due me is \$103.85 besides my interest already invested in nursery stock.
- Tuesday July 29 . . . Went after some wild grapes P.M.
- Wednesday July 30 Made a press to press out grape juice and made some jelly P.M.
- Sunday August 3 Went to church and S.S. Showed Prof. Stearns

and Fairchild the blackboard designs that I am to introduce into S.S. next Sabbath as illustrations of the lesson.

Sunday August 10 Went to Church and S.S. I introduced blackboard illustrations in the S.S. today, the first that has ever been used in Crete. . .

Monday August 11 Collated orders and wrote all day.

Sunday August 17 Went to church and S.S. Chancellor Fairfield of the State University preached today a splendid sermon. Also lectured on personal experiences in Palestine at the M.E. in the evening.

Tuesday August 19 Went to town after mail P.M. returned and went after grapes for jelly. Helped wash A.M.

After August 19 the diary is written in shorthand that has not been written in longhand, since it is an older type of shorthand not in use today. Diaries for 1880, 1881 and 1882 are also in the same shorthand.

#### FINANCIAL RECORDS FROM THE DIARIES

Yearly receipts and expenditures found in the closing pages of each diary

Year	Receipts	Expenditures
1873	\$200.35	\$196.52
1874	343.02	313.35
1875	484.49	534.65
1876	401.42	369.57
1877	274.25	215.99
1878	159.75	199.38
1879	192.63	221.37
1880	294.40	210.93
1881	293.78	250.88
1882*	312.55	174.42

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\* Totals for this year were obtained from unfinished records in the diary, that might not have been complete. The receipts include some income from Gates College. Amounts are itemized by months for each year, in the original diaries.

## A SCOTCH GREGORY GENEALOGY

This genealogy traces the ancestry of George Albert Gregory to the Scotch Macgregor Clan.

Gregory is a well known surname of Old Scotland, in addition to being popular as a personal name. Originally it was Gregor or Macgregor. Later the form "Gregorie" came to be used when the Highland Macgregors gradually settled on the lowland region of Aberdeenshire where the Saxon "ie" was used as the equivalent of the Gaelic "Mac", meaning son. Fortunately the change took place before 1603, so that the proscription falling so heavily upon all bearing the name of Macgregor (or M'Gregor) could not touch them. The form "Gregory" came to be used by some Gregorie families during the latter part of the seventeenth century.

From medieval legend and the scanty records of those days, come mention of the following early Gregors of Highland areas:

Gregor, son of Dougal and King of Scots and Picts, 878-890, the traditional ancestor of the clan bearing his name.

Gregor NA Bratic (of the Standard) was killed in action against the Danes around 961.

Gregor Garbh (the Stout) died in 1060. He married a daughter of Paul O'Dhune, Lord of Lowchow.

John Cham Macgregor (one-eyed John) died in Glenurquhay and was buried April 19, 1390.

Of more certain record are the facts concerning the following members of the Gregory family:

Gregor, Macgregor (called Aulin, meaning perfectly handsome) lived in the early part of the fifteenth century in northern Scotland. He had a son Duncan who was the father of one Gregor Macgregor,

founder of the House of Macgregor of Roro in Glenlyon who died in 1515, leaving a son, James.

James Macgregor, son of Gregor Macgregor who died in 1515, came down to the Boyne around 1500 and married a daughter of the Laird of Findlater (Ogilvie) and they had two sons.

One of the sons, James Gregory, became the chamberlain of the Laird of Findlater at Woodhill in the Parish of Udney. He married Agnes More of Ferryhill and died in December 1554, leaving two sons, James and Thomas and a daughter, Janet.

The first son, James, was a saddler in Aberdeen and several times Deacon Convenor. He married Margaret Barber, a merchant's daughter, by whom he had two sons. John, the elder was born in 1598.

John Gregory (1598-1652) was educated at the schools of Aberdeen and studied theology at St. Andrews. He was minister at Drumoak from the twenty-second year of his life. He married Janet Anderson, daughter of David Anderson of Finzeach and had three sons, Alexander, David and James.

David Gregory (1625-1719), son of John, known as David of Kinairdy, also as the "Herbalist" was trained as a merchant in Holland but returned to Scotland in 1655. He married, as his first wife, Jean Walker of Orchiston and they had fifteen children. By his second wife, Isabel Gordon, he had fourteen children. He lived to be ninety-three years old and had the satisfaction of seeing three of his sons become professors of mathematics in British universities. Galton, the geneticist, concluded that the mathematical ability came into the Gregory family through Janet Anderson. Her father was known as "Davie do a'thing" and one of her kinsmen was Professor of Mathematics at the University of Paris. Janet was also a great mathematician and taught her sons along that line.



The third son of David of Kinairdy, David Gregory, (1661-1708), became Professor of Mathematics at Edinburgh University (1683-1691) and Professor of Astronomy at Oxford University (1692-1708). He married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Oliphant of Langton in Scotland and they had four sons who lived to maturity. The eldest, David (1696-1767), became Professor of Modern History at Oxford and Dean of Christ Church there. The three younger sons; James, born April 15, 1701; Isaac, born 1706 and Philip, born 1708, left the rest of the family and became mariners, as many other sons in large Scotch Gregory families had done. They were Tories and Episcopalians.\*\*

James, born 1701, left the London area, probably around 1730 and lived in the north of England where he raised his family. It is uncertain whom he married. His children included:

Moses      born between 1725 and 1730

Jeremiah    born in 1741

James      born in 1742

Stephen     records lacking

John      "Master of the Brig Moncrief" who was lost with his ship off the coast of Holland, 1777. This ship had been in privateer service for the Crown. [Official Record] There may have been a son Thomas, born around 1731, also a daughter Sarah and a daughter Elizabeth.

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\*\* This statement and all of that concerning James, born 1701, which is in the paragraphs following, is based upon unpublished letters and correspondence (1935-1937) of Dr. M. S. Gregory (1870-1937) in the possession of his daughter, Mrs. Vern Teare, Flint, Michigan. The writer will welcome additional information or corrections of the facts as given.

Around twenty-five years before the Revolution, three or maybe five of the sons migrated, by way of Holland, to the North American English colonies., settled near Killingworth, Connecticut, and later some of them lived in New Fairfield, Connecticut. But in 1753, Moses Gregory was located in Dutchess County, New York. Some time later he moved into Ulster County, for on July 11, 1775, Moses Gregory of New Marlborough Precinct, Ulster County and James Gregory refused to sign the Articles of Association and so were proved to be Tories. Moses later sought safety within the British lines at New York City, 1777 or 1778, and by 1783 had been transferred to St. Johns, New Brunswick.

James Gregory who with Moses refused to sign the Articles of Association was probably his father, born in England. Sir Philip Spencer Gregory in his book, *Records of the Family of Gregory*, had a notation concerning James, born 1701, that he was with Moses in New York, 1775, and they were King's Tories.

In 1766 there was a James Gregory living on a farm in Dutchess County, New York. The landlord, Philip Phillips, however, granted that land to Timothy Shaw, a Tory, but recompensed Gregory with land elsewhere. It so happened that Gregory was able to regain possession of his former land and lived there until he "an old man" fled for protection behind the British lines during the Revolution. It is probable that James died there, since he was then around seventy-five years old.\*\*

Jeremiah Gregory (1741-1829) son of James Gregory, born 1701, and a brother of Moses, was living in New Fairfield, Connecticut, shortly before November, 1775. About that time, he moved west into New York, maybe into Ulster County where his brother Moses was located. He considered it wrong to revolt against the King, consequently, he joined the Tory forces and was enrolled in the Prince of Wales American Regiment, 1777, and was closely affiliated with Butler's Rangers [Tory]. In 1790, a Jeremiah Gregory appears in the Federal Census of Ontario County, New

York, where he purchased land. In 1795 he made the first permanent settlement at what is now Woodville in West Sparta, Livingston County, New York. He died in 1829 and is buried in a lot with his son Moses, in Greenmount Cemetery at Dansville, New York.

Jeremiah Gregory was the father of at least eleven children:

By his first wife (name unknown) there were:

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| Jeremiah   | born between 1774 and 1784, died 1812, a twin  |
| Samuel     | born between 1774 and 1784, died 1812, a twin  |
| Amorilla   | married Ebenezer Allen around 1790; they later moved to Canada, about 1795.                |
| Mepsy      | married a Geddis   |
| John       | born 1782, died 1828, married Elizabeth Doty, 1807.  |
| Elizabeth  | unknown  |
| Sarah      | married a Williams. Probably the Sarah Gregory, 1786-1859, who married David Frazer, 1814. |
| Experience | married an Everitt.  |

By his second wife, Mary Ann, 1756-1828, he had:

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| James   | born between 1795 and 1800, died about 1850. |
| Stephen | born 1800, died 1869, married Mary Stephens. |
| Moses   | born 1801, died 1881, married Nancy Whiting. |

James Gregory, born between 1795 and 1800, died around 1850, was married twice. His second wife was Margaret Brewer, 1785-1868, and they had six children:

- Jeremiah      born in 1818 and died in 1890,  
lived in Hillsdale, Michigan.
- George        born in 1822 and died at Council  
Bluffs, Iowa, 1910. He lived in  
Hillsdale County and Barry  
County Michigan, at Crete, Ne-  
braska and at Council Bluffs,  
Iowa.
- Edward        lived in Hillsdale County, Michi-  
gan.
- Mary          married Abner Kinney, lived in  
Barry County, Mich.
- Hannah      married Frank Kinney, lived in  
Barry County, Mich.
- Angeline      married Perkins Shay, lived in  
Barry County, Mich.

George Gregory [he sometimes used a middle name of Anthony or the initial A. for a middle name] was born August 20, 1822 and died on June 13, 1910 at Council Bluffs, Iowa. He married Jane Ann Bross, December 27, 1845, in Adams Township, Hillsdale County, Michigan. They had thirteen children, as follows:

Charles Eugene	Sept. 13, 1847-Jan. 8, 1920
Emily Theodosia	Apr. 5, 1850-Oct. 1, 1851
George Albert	Nov. 19, 1851-Apr. 20, 1945
Mary Emily	Nov. 20, 1853-Dec. 8, 1915
Florence Amelia	Aug. 7, 1855-June 17, 1944
Lillie Viola	July 2, 1857-Mar. 28, 1910
Ellen Georgianna	June 7, 1859-Jan. 16, 1947
Ida Bianca	Apr. 11, 1861-June 6, 1947
Clara Louise	Apr. 5, 1863-Mar. 16, 1954
Henry Harmon	May 8, 1865-Sept. 30, 1898
Herbert Ernest	Oct. 15, 1868-Jan. 23, 1952

Herman Edward     Jan. 26, 1871-

Mabel Elizabeth     Dec. 25, 1872-

George Albert Gregory (1851-1945) married Mary Matrassa Foss (1858-1936) on December 16, 1884 and they had the following children:

Annadora Foss     Apr. 15, 1893

Mary Alberta     Mar. 26, 1898, married E. Z. Stowell, Dec. 25, 1927.

\*\*Although little is known about this James, the evidence for the above conclusions, even though largely circumstantial, is of a highly probable nature and confirm family traditions. Dr. M. S. Gregory had contacted many sources of information in England, Scotland and Holland and his unpublished letters contain his final conclusions not appearing in the *Chronology of Moses and Jeremiah Gregory*. He very definitely concludes that the Jeremiah-Moses branch of the Gregory family as given above were not descendents of Henry Gregory of Boston.

Considerable information concerning this Scotch Gregory line may be found in the following:

Philip Spencer Gregory, *Records of the Family of Gregory*, 1886

Agnes Grainger Stewart, *The Academic Gregories*, Scribner, 1901

Myron Stephen Gregory and Kenyon Stephenson, *Chronology of Moses and Jeremiah Gregory of New York State*, 1933. Copies are in the Library of Congress also in the Livingston County Historical Library, Geneseo, New York, besides copies in possession of relatives and in other libraries.

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