

THE FIRST DIARY

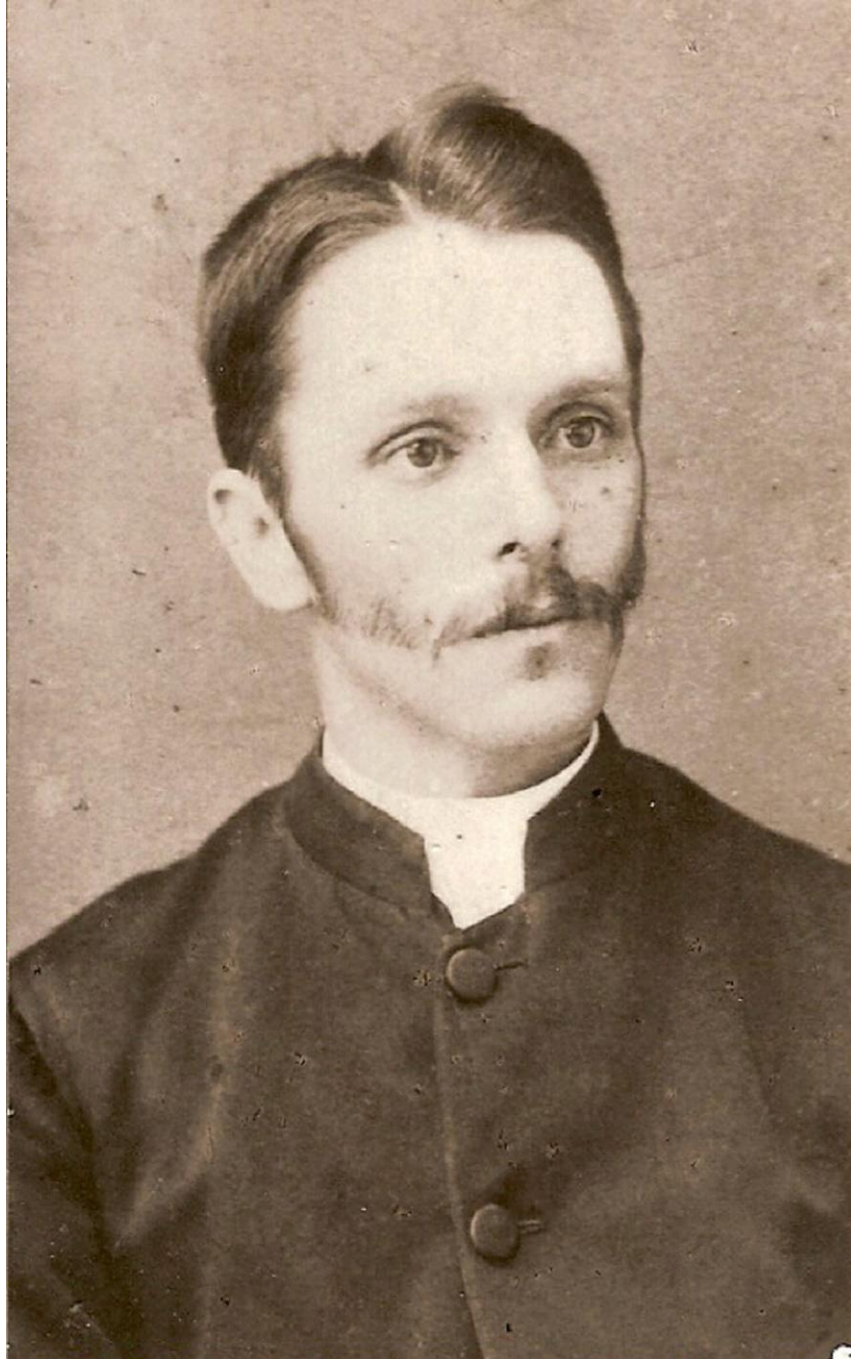
of

GEORGE McKAY

Glasgow. December 1850 to September 1851.

Edited by

Graham Burnet



George Gilbert McKay, 1828 – 1896

The photo shows George in his 20s or 30s, much as he would have looked at the time when he was writing the first Diary

To George's descendants

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PREFACE

Maxwell Burnet (known as Max) began transcribing the diaries of George Gilbert McKay in the Australian summer of 1958-9. He writes: "When I was 17 at the end of first year Uni I could not get a vacation job, so I decided to teach myself to touch-type. Meant using a manual typewriter, and I decided to transcribe the diaries. Facing the apparent enormity of the project, I typed what I saw and have to admit I didn't ponder the context too much." The project took over 30 years to complete, partly because rapidly changing computer technology meant that the work already done had to be reconfigured several times. In 1993 Max presented copies of his transcription to family members, enabling a lot of people to enjoy the diaries of their ancestor (and that of his daughter Hadassah).

There were numerous mistakes in the transcription (words misread, omissions, incorrect punctuation, typing errors), and in 2014 Max suggested to me that I do a recension of the text, using photocopies of the diaries supplied by him. To this I readily agreed. It seemed appropriate for two of George's great-grandsons to be collaborating on an accurate version of the diaries.

While working on the first diary, I did some research on George's family and relatives, and found 18 documents, which have greatly increased our knowledge. The new information underpins the first section of the introduction.

I.G.B.
Aldeburgh
January 2015

MAPS AND PLANS



MAP 1. The country west of Glasgow

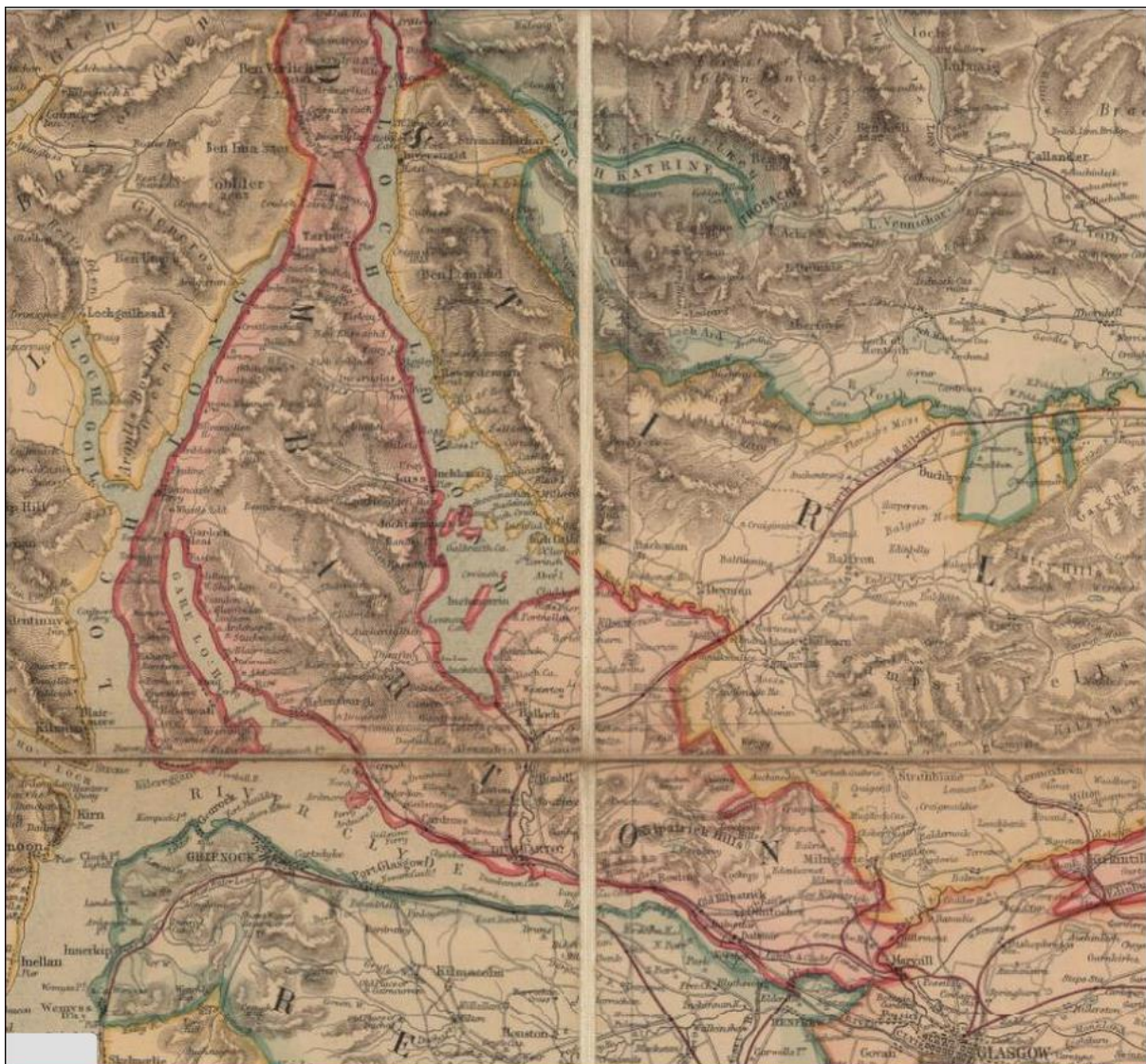


MAP 2. The railways south of Glasgow (Edward Weller, 1863)

Maps and plans



MAP 3. The areas north and west of Glasgow (Adam Black, 1862)



MAP 4. The region north of Glasgow, including Loch Lomond (Adam Black, 1862)

Maps and plans



PLAN 1. Street plan of Glasgow (J. Rapkin, 1854)

Maps and plans



PLAN 2. Street plan of northern Glasgow, showing the Cathedral, here called "High Church" (J. Rapkin, 1854)

INTRODUCTION

1. George and his relatives

a) George

George Gilbert McKay was born in Glasgow on 28/07/1828. His parents were John McKay, a bootmaker, and Isabella Sayers. George began his first diary on 01/12/1850, 4 months and a few days after his 22nd birthday.

He later emigrated to Australia, arriving in Melbourne on the clipper *White Eagle* in March 1857. He settled in Koroit, about 150 miles west of Melbourne, and in December 1858 began teaching in a National school newly established in nearby Yangery (now Illowa). The school was a small primary school, and George was the only teacher. He remained at the school until 1890, when he moved to Melbourne. He died in Malvern on 04/11/1896.

On 12/06/1862, George married Esther Hadassah Pollock. Hadassah was born in Londonderry in northern Ireland, between 23/05/1834 and 12/06/1836, and she emigrated to Australia with her parents and siblings in 1854. George and Hadassah had 3 children who survived infancy: Isabella Sayers (born 29/08/1864, died 11/10/1888), John Gilbert (born 10/12/1867, died 30/12/1938), and Hadassah Pollock (born 24/02/1871, died 07/11/1943). Their daughter Hadassah married Frank Burnet, and is the paternal grandmother of Max and myself.

b) George's parents and brothers

George's father John McKay was born between 07/06/1791 and 01/02/1792, outside Lanarkshire. John's father was George McKay, a tailor, and his mother was Isobel McDonald. On 08/08/1826, John married Isabella Sayers. He is described on the marriage certificate as a Glasgow merchant. By the time of the first diary, he was a master bootmaker with a shop in George Street, in the centre of Glasgow. His census return for 06/06/1841 was filled in for him by his 12-year-old son George (see diary entry for 31/03/1851). The family was then living in North Portland Street, with 4 sons aged 12, 11, 7, and 4, and a female servant.

John drank heavily, which greatly alarmed his son George, and in May 1851 he was declared bankrupt. He died in Glasgow on 01/02/1870, of "bronchitis and senility". He was then 78, and living at 121 George Street.

George's mother Isabella Sayers was the daughter of Gilbert Sayers, a mason, and Elizabeth Orr. She was born on 02/04/1795, in Greenock. She predeceased her husband, and died between 10/06/1864 and 31/01/1870. Isabella is seldom mentioned in the diary. On September 15, she went to Hamilton with George to help find him somewhere to stay, and she visited him while he was staying there (on the 20th).

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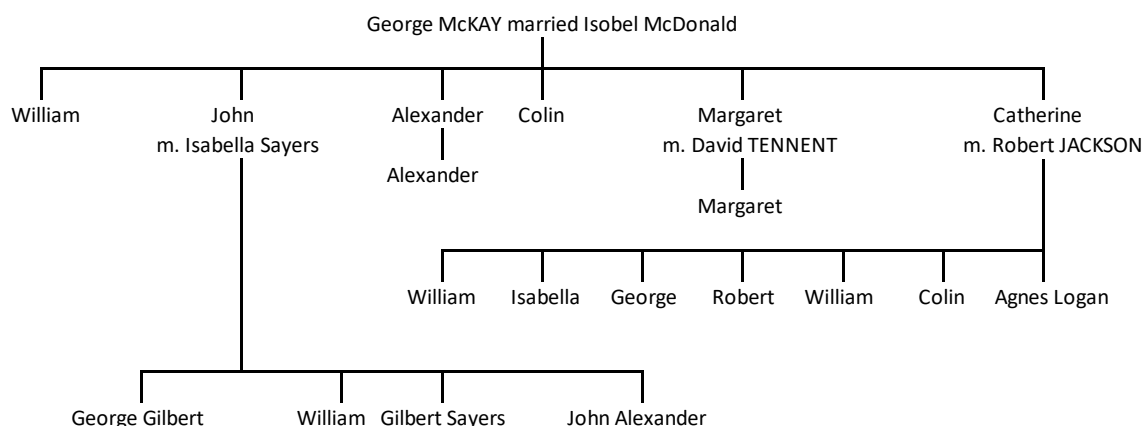
George had 3 younger brothers: William (“Bill”), Gilbert Sayers (“Gil”), and John Alexander. In December 1850, when the diary begins, William was 20, Gilbert 17, and John 14.

William was born on 08/05/1830, and died after 01/02/1870. At the time of the first diary, he was working with George in the family boot shop.

Gilbert was born on 03/09/1833. In 1851 he was working in the bookshop of his uncle Mr Jackson. He later emigrated to Australia, probably a year or two after George. He was living in Melbourne in March 1861, and became a pawnbroker there. He married Jane Smith on Christmas day in 1871, and died on 23/03/1879.

The youngest brother John was born on 10/10/1836. He liked reading (“a bookworm”, 19/03/1851), and was keen to enter the printing trade. On 17/03/1851, Aunt Jackson told George that she would see if her bookseller husband could help. On 10/07/1851, John got a job at the Constitutional Office. One of the things done there was the printing of books, and we are told that on the 26th “John had to pay off to the ‘prentices”, so it seems likely that he became an apprentice printer. Sadly, he died of inflammation of the lungs on 26/11/1853, when he was just 17. George describes the death at the start of his second diary.

c) Father’s siblings



Alexander (“uncle Alex”) was a tailor, like his father George, and probably took over his father’s business. At the time of the first diary, there was bad blood between him and his brother John. In spite of that, Alexander’s son Alexander was working in the boot shop of his uncle John.

Margaret was born on 21/05/1799, and died on 11/06/1844. At the time of the diary, her daughter Margaret Tennent (“cousin Margaret”) was living with her aunt Catherine. On 30/03/1851 (census day), cousin Margaret was 22 and working as a governess.

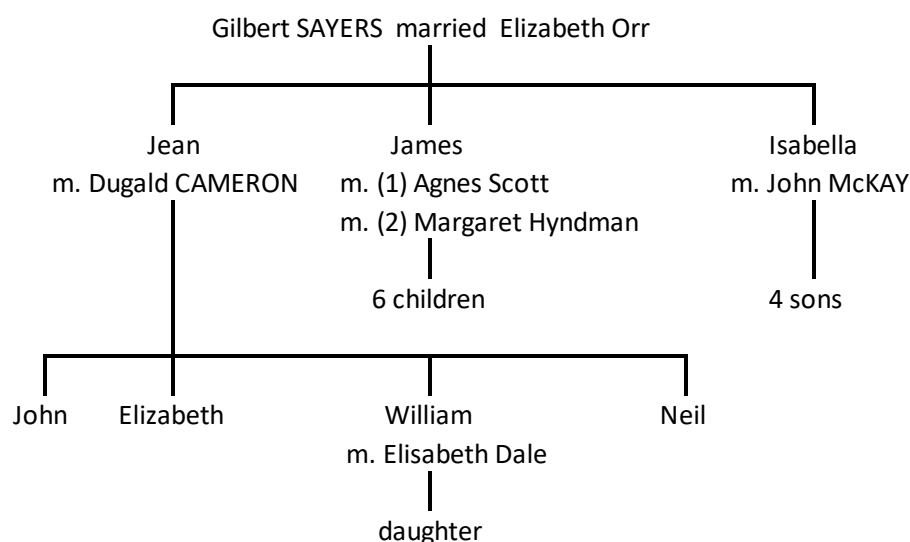
I have omitted from the table 4 siblings who are not mentioned in the diary (Hugh, born 02/05/1797, Elizabeth, born 17/04/1801, James, born 11/03/1805, and Christian, born 05/02/1807).

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Catherine (“Aunt Jackson”) was born in Glasgow on 03/04/1810, almost 20 years after her brother John, and she died in Glasgow on 15/01/1861, of typhoid fever. On 16/12/1835, she married Robert Jackson, a bookseller some 15 years her senior. (He was born 22/11/1795, and died 21/04/1856.) Their children were: William (born 02/10/1836, died before 06/06/1841), Isabella (born 26/06/1838), George (born 15/07/1840), Robert (born 05/07/1842), William (born 16/04/1844), Colin (born 08/09/1846, died before 30/03/1851), and Agnes Logan (born 12/08/1851). Agnes is mentioned in the diary entry for August 13 (“this is her 7th child”).

The Jackson family lived in Partick, in the parish of Govan. The diary makes this clear, and the family’s census returns for 1841 and 1851 confirm that they were then resident in the parish of Govan. In June 1841 they were living in a house called Hay Barn Cottage, with 2 female servants and a lodger. In March 1851 they were living in Clydeview (apparently a street), with one female servant, and Catherine’s niece Margaret.

d) Mother’s siblings



Gilbert Sayers and Elizabeth Orr married on 28/06/1778. Their daughter Jean was born 17/10/1786, and died 01/11/1865, “full of years”, as George wrote (third diary, 20/03/1866). She married Dugald Cameron, a shoemaker, and they had 7 children. Of these, William and Neil are mentioned in both first and second diaries, and John and Elizabeth are mentioned in the second. William, a painter, was born on 18/10/1826. On January 3, 1851, George writes: “W. Cameron and his lass Miss Dale up at house tonight.” On 08/09/1853 William Cameron and Elisabeth Dale were married, and they had a daughter, born on 26/07/1854. Neil was born in the range 07/06/1830 – 06/06/1831. He emigrated to Australia (see second diary, 04/04/1854).

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James, Isabella's elder brother, was born on 12/06/1789. He married twice and had 6 children. His son William, born 16/02/1821, is mentioned quite a lot in the second diary. He married Elizabeth Conway (Betsy) and had children by her, then abandoned v

The Sayers family was firmly based in Greenock, and lived there from generation to generation. The Camerons also lived there, as the diary shows. Gilbert Sayers was married there, his children Jean, James and Isabella were born there, James and Isabella were married there, James' son William was born there.

2. The diary

a) History of the diaries

Three of George's diaries survive. The first two were written in Glasgow, and go from 01/12/1850 to 30/09/1851, and from 24/11/1853 to 26/10/1854. There is a gap of almost 26 months, which was probably covered by 3 diaries now lost. At the end of the first diary George talks about what he intends to do "in my next", and the second diary starts in mid-sentence.

The third diary was written in Yangery in Australia, and goes from 20/03/1861 to 07/04/1868. The record is fairly complete until the end of July 1862, with a number of longer entries. The gap between the second and third diary is almost 6½ years, so if George kept writing during that time there may be 6 or more diaries missing. After July 1862, entries in the third diary become shorter and gaps more frequent.

When George died, in 1896, the 3 surviving diaries passed to his daughter Hadassah, and when she died, in 1943, they passed to her daughter Marion (known as Marzie). Marzie and her friend Isabelle Skeels lived on a farm at Nar Nar Goon, near Traralgon, until 1956. Shortly before they left the farm, they were visited by Marzie's brother Gordon and his son Max. Gordon and Max found a tea chest full of books which was about to be sent to the rubbish tip. Max writes: "I remember the books appeared to be just thrown into the tea chest, not stacked. Dad was casually browsing the books and fortunately one of the diaries was near the top. . . . We must have then looked for the other diaries." And so the diaries were saved, along with the diary of George's daughter Hadassah. When Gordon died in 1968, the diaries passed to Max.

b) Content of the diary

The first diary gives an intimate picture of George himself. He emerges as an intelligent and thoughtful man, who had a fairly basic education, but was eager for self-improvement.

Earnestly religious, he regularly attends 2 services on a Sunday (usually at St Paul's, close to where he lives), and he often comments on the sermons. St Paul's is Presbyterian (Free Church), and George is quite hostile to Catholics, or papists as he

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calls them. On Sunday evening he often visits a Sabbath School (i.e. Sunday School) and takes a class. At times he is self-critical, and doubts his own worthiness and commitment.

He enjoys reading. He subscribes to *The Scottish Christian Journal* and to *Hogg's Weekly Instructor*, and he reads *Blackwood's Magazine*, Oliver Goldsmith, and numerous books. He owned a copy of Milton's *Paradise lost*, inscribed with his name, and the date 1854. (The book is now in Max's possession.) On his day trip to Ayr he is very conscious of the Burns connection, and quotes from one of Burns' poems.

He is almost paranoid about his health. Six times, when he says he intends to do something, he adds "if spared". For the sake of his health he likes to get out of Glasgow when he can – eloquent comment on the air pollution in the city, and the prevalence of disease there. He belongs to the North Britons Society, a friendly society which provided financial support to members when they were sick. George applies, and is indignant when refused.

George likes to air his views on subjects that interest him: the importance of prayer, God's grace and power, death, hope, drunkenness, the joys of winter, the beauty of the winter countryside, the liberating effect of cheap train journeys . . .

We hear of day trips to Loch Lomond (19 July), Ayr (23 August), Lanark (10 September), Bothwell (13 September) and Hamilton (15 September). He also has holidays in Largs, from 30 April to 19 May, and in Hamilton, from 17 September until (probably) 1 October.

We meet George's social circle: family, relatives and friends. He works in the family boot shop, cutting leather and serving customers. He worries about his father's erratic behaviour and addiction to drink, and on 19/05/1851, while staying in Largs, he learns from a newspaper that his father has been declared bankrupt. He spends two nights in Partick with Aunt Jackson and her family, and expresses his admiration of her and them. He is critical, on the other hand, of his uncle Alex. His closest friend is Robert Kirkwood ("R.K."), a medical student at Glasgow University. George likes to visit R.K. of an evening, and often stays late. R.K. goes to Largs with him and stays for almost 2 weeks; and he accompanies him on the day trip to Loch Lomond. We hear of a number of girl friends, Robert's sister Helen among them.

The diary gives a multifaceted picture of mid-19th-century Glasgow. George likes to walk along Broomielaw, where the boats come in; he watches a procession through the city to Victoria Bridge, on the day the foundation stone was laid; he goes to the installation of the Lord Rector at the University; he goes to a talk given by Father Gavazzi in City Hall; he describes a devastating fire in Wellington Street. He decries the summer shows, "patronized by the dregs of Society", but keeps going back to them. Money is mentioned quite a lot, and there is a cash book at the end of the diary, so we get a good idea of money values.

Occasionally there are comments on local news (shipwrecks, drownings, deaths, an eclipse) and national news (Westminster politics, the Great Exhibition, riots in Birkenhead, Liverpool and Greenock).

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c) George's writing

George writes fluently and well. His style is for the most part conversational, but can also be rather orotund, no doubt influenced by the many sermons he listened to. Occasionally he uses a Scottish word or phrase (e.g. *a hurl*, *howdieing*, *aliment*, *mortal* 'very drunk', *some many*, *ruffed him down*).

He makes frequent use of abbreviations, and nearly always uses the ampersand for *and*. He sometimes underlines a word to emphasise it. There is surprising confusion of homophones, e.g. *to* for *too* and vice versa, *hear* for *here*, *e'er* for *ere*, even *when* for *went*. Spelling generally is a weakness. No doubt some mistakes are due to carelessness, but some words are mis-spelt more than once, and never spelt correctly (e.g. *acquiantance* and *villiage*). George liked to fill his lines, so frequently divides a word between lines. The point of division is sometimes illogical.

Punctuation is perverse. He seems not to like full stops, using instead a comma, a dash, or nothing. Apostrophes are missing more often than not. Capital and lower case letters are used in unexpected places. Lower case is normal at the start of a sentence, and is sometimes used for place names (e.g. *partick*, *paisley*). Capitals are used inside a sentence for many words which are not proper nouns. They are particularly common in words denoting time (e.g. *Today*, *Tonight*, *Tomorrow*).

George's education seems to have been fairly basic, and he appears to have had little formal training in English spelling and punctuation. He did not learn a second language. In the third diary (18/07/1861) he says ruefully "I wish that I had paid more attention to education in youth."

d) Abbreviations used in the diary

& and

&^c etc.

A. After. Aftern. Afterⁿ. Afternoon

C.J. Christian Journal

Dr J. Dr Jamieson

Edin. Edinburgh

Eveng. Evg. Evⁿ. Evng. Evn^g. Evening

F. Father; Friday

F. Fore. Foreⁿ. Forenoon

G. Gil. Gilbert

H. Helen H.K. Helen Kirkwood

K. Kirkwood

L.S. Latter-day Saint

M. Monday

M.D. Middle District

Morng. Mor^{ng}. Morning

N.B.S. North Britons Society

p^r per

R. Robt. Robert

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R.K. Robert Kirkwood
S. Saturday; Sunday
S.S. Sabbath School
S.S.A. Sabbath School Association
S.S.S. Sabbath School Society
St P. St P^l. St Paul's
T. Tuesday; Thursday
U.P. United Presbyterian
W. Wednesday
W. Wm. W^m. William

3. This edition

a) Aim and method

The aim of the edition is to provide as accurate a text of the diary as possible. That means keeping original spelling, even when it is wrong, and original capital and lower case letters. Hyphens inserted by George, nearly always when dividing a word between lines, are preserved. (In this edition, of course, the hyphen will rarely appear in its original position at the end of a line.) Abbreviations, underlinings, and original punctuation are also kept. Very occasionally, when sense demands it, I have replaced a comma with a full stop, or inserted a full stop. Sometimes George wrote something, then altered it or crossed it out. Such first versions are recorded between brace brackets, before any altered version.

b) Symbols used

- (inside a word) hyphen used by George, usually to divide a word between lines
- { } first version, later altered or crossed out
- < > inadvertently omitted by George, added by editor
- [] editorial comment
- [sic] preceding word is mis-spelt
- [?] preceding word is an uncertain reading

Illustrations



Glasgow, looking east over Broomielaw towards New Bridge, 1865



Shipping on the Clyde (painting by J.A. Grimshaw, 1881)

Illustrations

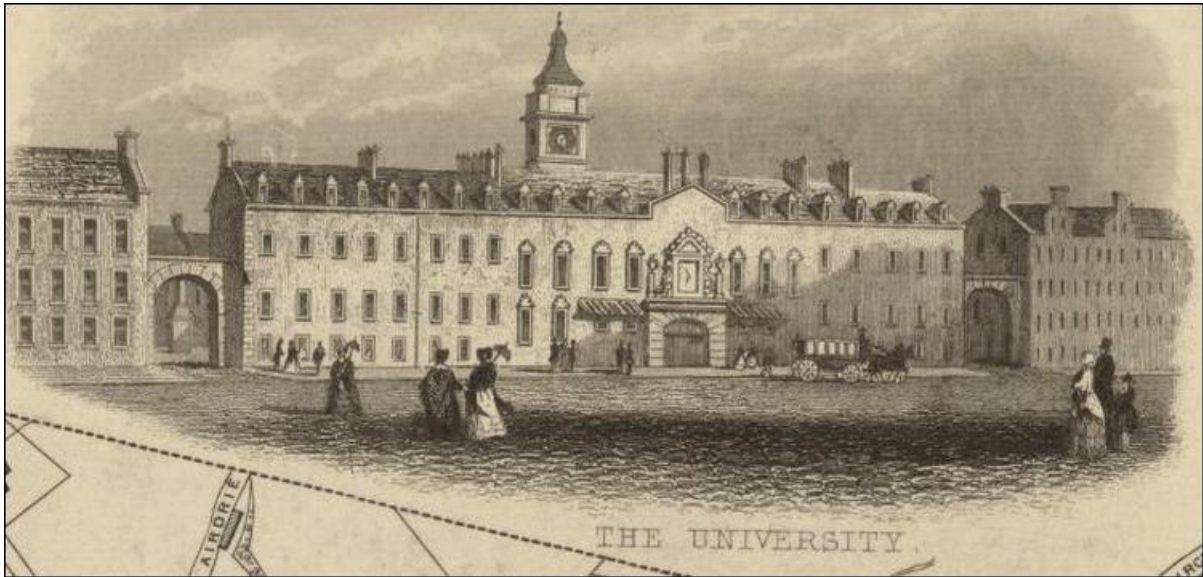


Trongate, from Tron Steeple, c.1868

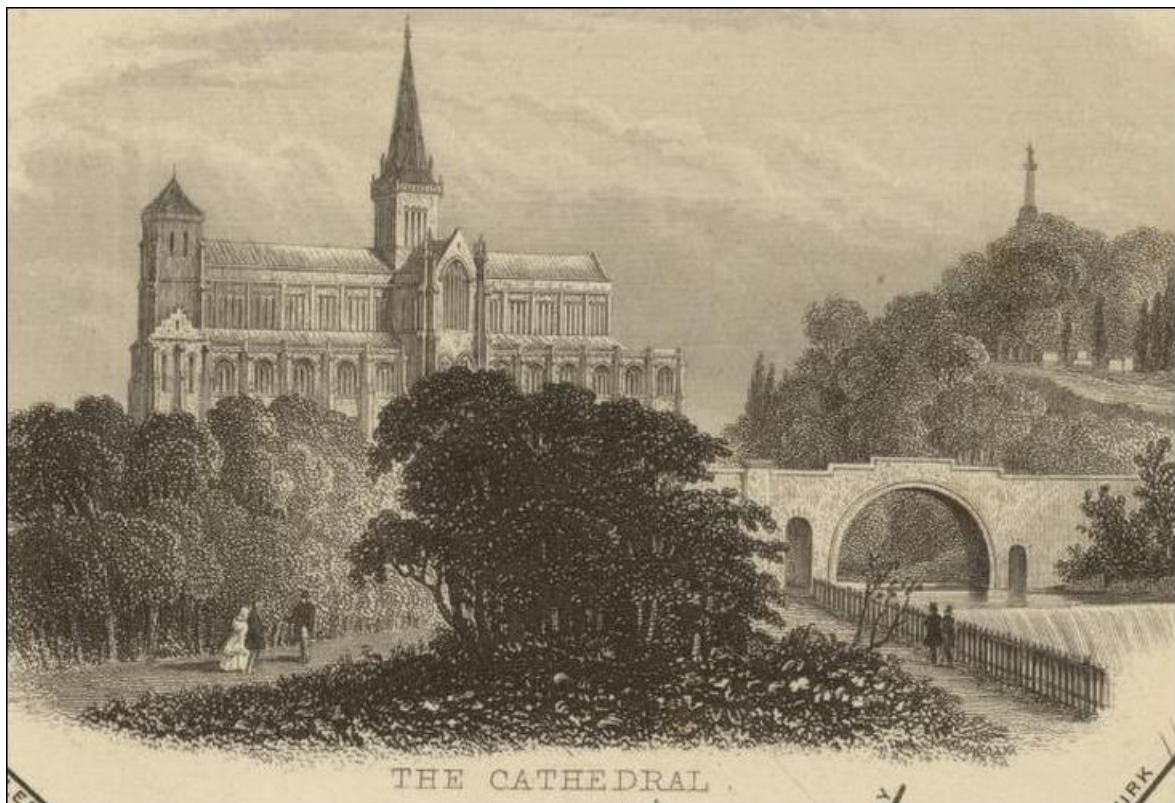


Sauchiehall Street, late 19th century

Illustrations



Glasgow University (engraving, 1854)



Glasgow Cathedral and Necropolis (engraving, 1854)

Illustrations



Train leaving Bridge Street station and crossing over King Street (engraving, 1847)

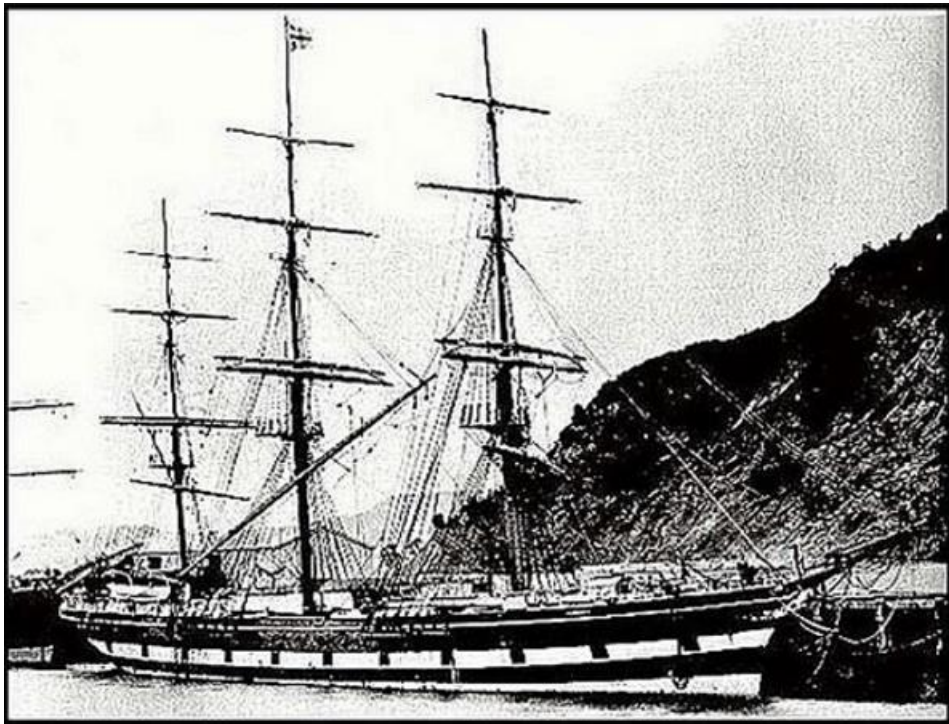


A Glasgow bus, drawn by two horses

Illustrations

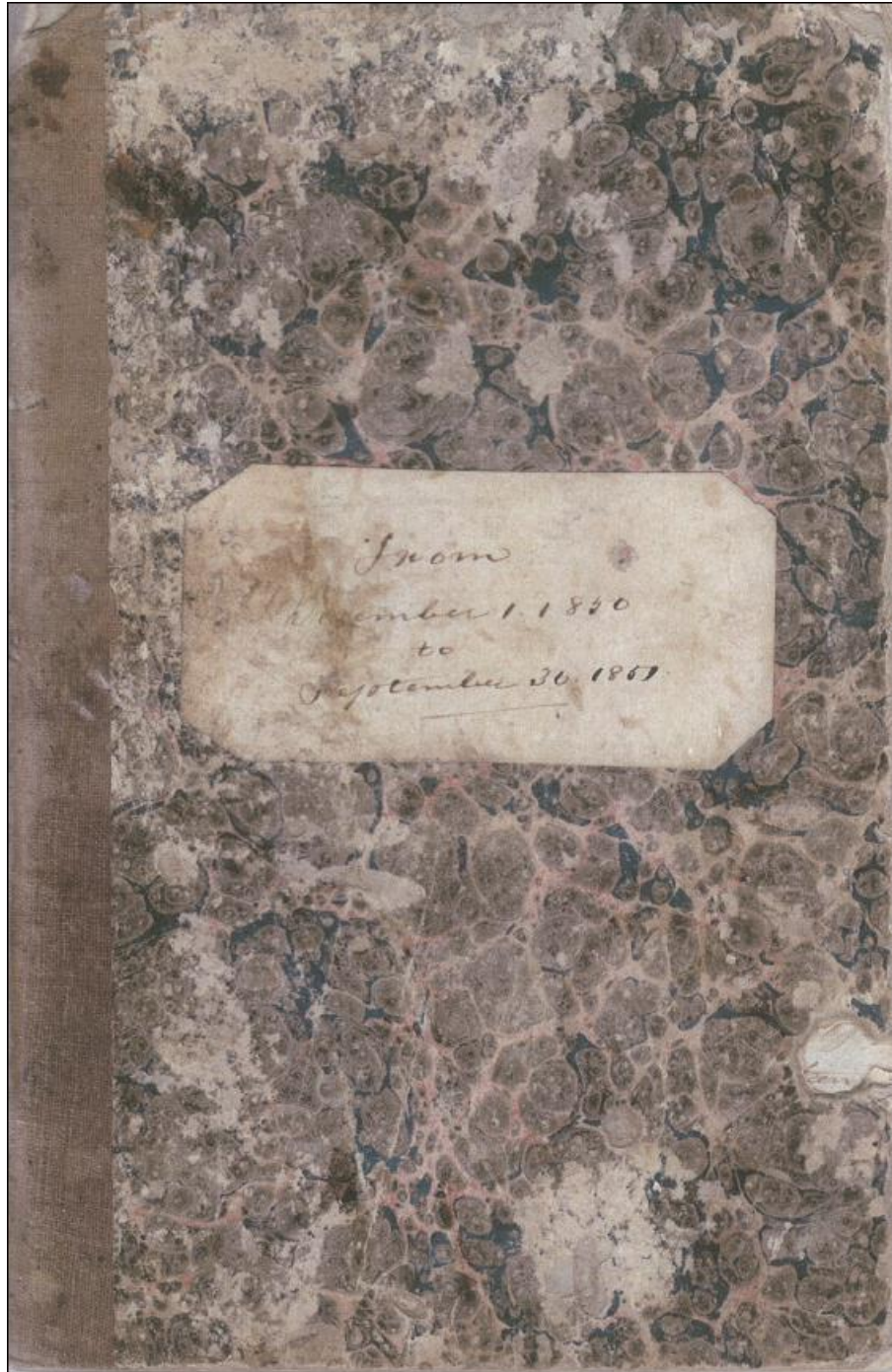


The west Ayrshire coast, looking north from the hills south of Largs. Largs is centre right, the island of Great Cumbrae is centre left.



The clipper *White Eagle*, on which George sailed to Australia

THE DIARY



Front cover of the diary. On the label George has written "From December 1 1850 to September 30 1851".

Diary commencing 1st. Dec. 1850.

S.1 F St Pauls Dr. J. Broomielaw between Sermons. A St Pauls Dr. J. on popery, pretty good exposure of some parts of it, but nothing like a complete one. Evening in House. Finished the reading of Vol. 1st. of Dr. Chalmers Memoirs, very well pleased with them, may hereafter more fully write down my opinion of them.

M 2. Bought this Book for Diary today & have commenced writing in it, nothing particular occurred Today. still continuing to im-prove in health, & hope to be soon altogether well – altogether well? When will that be? observe in papers Today of a riot that took place in Birkenhead, between the Catholics or papists rather & the police – at a public meeting – in which several policemen were severely in-jured & some property destroyed & the Meeting was adjourned – this is coming it with a vengeance – this is to convince the people of their error in supposing that the sting was taken away from them, this was to convince heretics of the fallacy of their former experience of their doings, to cause them to change their mind! pretty manner truly, moral force is to [sic] low to be em-ployed by them, therefore they must resort to physical – perhaps they may raise a storm about their ears which will not be easily quelled.

T 3. out seeking Money Today, got some. its an awful thing this siller. we can't do without it & when we get it we can't keep it. but this is as it should be, use it, use it, is the plan. Father out at night & when he came in gave Gilbert a row for not going to the School & because I explained the reason why he was waiting in the Shop, he turned and gave me a little too. I suppose he thinks that he is to be our mouthpiece for ever & that one tongue & one mind is to serve the whole 6 of us – he might now understand that we would like to be heard speaking a little as well as he –

W 4. understand that McGilvary did not read to the Teachers on Sabbath the Letter from Mr Sorley which I gave to him on that day, tis to [sic] bad – shall I say that he did not want to do it? or that it was an omission? I will take the latter, for although he does not entertain such a regard for him as some, yet I would not like to say that he would show it in this way.

T 5. John Morris Topp^r. Boots home at last after as many disappointments, equivocations, lies as might sink a ship – after being 10 days at the closing, running after them, 2 or 3 dozen of lines got at last. I never was so vexed about anything in the way of business in life – out some Today –

F 6. R.K. called & said that he found he could not go to Largs at the New Year (so that trip is at an end) owing to his requiring to be present at Dr Thompsons popular Lectures during the holidays – but hopes to go away for a night to paisley to see our friends there. I hope I will get likewise – Father had a payment Today. he has got it over. sent away a Newspaper to Sorley Today. intend to write him immediately after the Soiree to let him know our state, if spared.

S 7 very foggy Today – have not seen it so dark this some years – got shut at half decent time tonight.

S 8 St P. F. & A. Two young men. Dr J. unwell. with the one in the Afternoon I was particularly well pleased. in house all the evening reading – still continues as foggy as

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before – fear there may be some accidents occasioned by it.

M. 9 – in Shop all day & had the Gas lighted all day, a thing I never remember of before. Fog still continues. The Thetis Belfast Steamer went ashore at Kilcreggan & ran into a Brig off arran on her trip yesterday from Belfast & I likewise observe that there were 2 persons drowned in the Canal on Saturday

T 10. the Fog has greatly cleared away Today – & it is drawing to rain – Father rather unwell

W 11 – David Kennedy the Wright died this morning – poor wretch! – from the consequences of drink – he fell on a barrow & hurt himself this day 8 days – drink, drink, thou hast been & still art the ruin of many a one, Soul & body, oh tis horrible to think on it, dragging poor wretches down step by step to perdition – I wish & long for the time when all men shall be teetotallers, when spirits of all kinds will be found only on druggists shelves to be dispensed under medical advice. Teetotalism is alone the cure for this pres-ent state of matters I do not nor will not set this above the Bible, no, the two go hand in hand, religion taking Teetotalism by the hand & supporting her amidst temptations. I rejoice that I am one & hope to be enabled still to continue firm to the principles which I have adopted. I see cause more & more every day for it. I see so many sinking into the grave by it, so many going into the ways that lead to hell, so many sinking into drunkenness [sic] that these principles instead of being weakened by time are only growing stronger & stronger. drunkenness [sic] may be called one of the gates of hell for there victims immeasurable enter into that place. Father not much better Today. Down to Uncle Colins tonight home about 10.

T 12. nothing particular

F 13. over at Robert Kirkwoods Tonight home about 11.

S 14 working away all day. D. Kennedy buried Today. Father at it, & it pains me excessively to say that he came home from it, the worse of drink. to see him in that state is I am sorry to say, no new thing now. he has been getting daily worse & worse & if providence does not in some signal man-ner interpose, I am afraid he will soon sink into – but even in this privacy I cannot write it – a shudder creeps over me at the very thought of it. ordinary providences seem to have no effect, slightly afflicting ones, none. When he fell & injured his hand – that was a call – & when recently un-well – was that not another call – Yes it was – but to see him come home in such a state from the grave of one who was himself a victim to it – tis horrible – what shall I do? tis a question of great importance because it is one in which I am greatly concerned, not only for my own sake but for others – I am quite at a loss how to act – To see anyone sinking into such a state is deplorable, but when such a one is a Friend & that Friend a parent, 'tis enough to rend one's very heart, that is, if we have any heart at all. – if he only thought on the suf-fering that he is occasioning to Mother, myself, Bill & others, he would surely stop & consider his doings – I am at present in a state of mental depression – I feel my own inability to do anything. where is help to be found? in God, something replies within me – this thing will I do. I will remember him in my prayers to God for even until I see some change wrought upon him for the better, and oh it may be that He will hear & give grace & strength for the future. up at Committee

December 1850

meeting to night regard-ing our Soiree apportioning out the Hall to different ones to superintend. hope it will go off well.

S 15 St. Pl F. Dr J. I visited along with Mr More a poor old man who is unwell, confined mostly to Bed save a short time each day – Mr More, read & prayed with & for him – by what his wife said in conversation I took him & I hope he is one of those who have made their peace with God, through the Saviour – oh tis in such circumstances as these that religion is peculiarly fitted to afford consolation, when the world is without in which we cannot mingle, cannot taste its fleeting pleasures, nor lift to our lips the intoxicating cups of the Worlds approbation, praise or happiness – tis when confined to a sick Bed that then we taste the superlative sweets of religion, that then we find what men consider our Cross is our glory, our consolation, aye & shall be our Crown, if we embrace the Saviour in health, he will not forsake us in sickness – Afternoon St Pauls Rev Mr Weir had a good Sermon, & saw a baptism or rather 2, twins, the first time ever I saw such a thing, it was most interesting to behold. Ewing Grant up a<t> dinner Today – visited Balfours School this Evening – went to bed about 10.

M. 16. in Shop all day Today – cutting – Father at Greenock. Aunt Jackson called, all well, with the exception of my poor Cousin Margaret, who I am sorry to hear is ill again with the Rose in her Face, I must go down soon & see her if possible – She & I seem both to have our troubles –

T 17. A McKay in shop Today proposes to leave the Shop & work at home, thinks it will be an advantage. I think so too, that is if he continues to work – continues to work steadily I said but rather should he begin to work steadily. Father at Dumbarton today. found that old Hugh Shaw is dead & that Seymour had paid his account to A McKay, I thought so. Our Soiree tonight (Sabbath School) in the City Hall. nearly 700 children present & about 4 or 500 of the Congregation. the report was very gratifying – we have 58 Teachers, 33 Male & 25 Female. the Dr. January made a most happy speech, he took advantage of the approaching family parties about the New Year the reunion of families on that occasion & represented this meeting as his family – Mr Har-ness likewise gave a very humorous [sic] speech & the whole went off very well, with the ex-ception that we had a great quantity of half rotten apples. broke up about 1/4 p 10. went home with Miss McKerrow & Helen Kirkwood.

W 18 writing to Sorley Tonight to send away on Friday, got a note from Jas Burr to enclose to him.

T 19 – went home studying Astronomy (humph!)

F 20 wrote Sorleys letter & sent it off. prepaid it – Missionary Lecture in City hall. not there, but understand it went off pretty well.

S 21. review of week. have been very busy with work & play, business & pleasure, writing & calling, Soireeing & gallanting, but this week with all is gone – disappointments there have been, but on the whole pretty well, we have got on. If I retain the management of the Shop longer as I have done this week, I will endeavour that there shall be no disappoint-ments – it causes me great pain disappointing so much & then the stories that have to be fabricated to satisfy customers. Father spoke

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tonight of R.K. & I going to Largs at New Year & disapproves of it. he says that he will let me go if my mind is made up – but as his wish is law to me – not perhaps so much that I think he is right – as because if anything went wrong, that I would catch it – told him that I had not made up my mind to go, as RK was not sure if he would go. got no money from him tonight, but got the promise of something handsome on Hogmanay. "we'll live in hope". Shut about 1/2 p 10. intending to go to partick Tomorrow – but as William's boots were not sent will defer my visit –

S 22. St Pauls Dr J. he had a splendid Lecture this Fore-noon & likewise an excellent Sermon in the After-noon. at School tonight. got 12 large Tickets from John Campbell for which I intend to give him a Testament, as a reward for his attendance & good conduct. went down to Mr. More's School, staid until close & went home with Miss Crawford

M 23 cutting Today. R.K. showed me a Letter he had got from W. Baird, in which, I am sorry to hear, he says that his Sister is no better, that her Lungs are affect-ed, & that she is to drink cod oil. I hope it will do her good

T 24 over at RK's tonight, & spoke of our intended visit. he proposes going to Largs on Monday & returning to Paisley on Wednesday, where I am to meet him.

W 25 Christmas Day, just the same as any other day to me.

T 26. in Shop all day. went straight home

F 27 wrote a Letter full of nonsense Today to John McLean. have got an invitation to go & visit a Glass work tomorrow which I have accepted with Father's liberty. Father out at paisley Tonight after Geo Barr.

S 28. up early this mornng . . went, about 10 oClock to see the Glass Work at port dundas, saw the process of Bottle Making – tis very simple, first, that Mixture of which <it> is made is put into a furnace then heated to a white heat, one person takes out a small quantity on the End of a blowpipe then another works it a little on a Smooth stone, blowing a little in, then he puts it in a Mould, blowing until it fills the Mould, then a boy takes it from him, puts the bottom of it into a Mould to give it a concave shape, then cuts it off from the blowpipe – another person puts it again in the furnace & on being taken out he makes round the neck of it at the top – a Boy then carries it away to what is Called the Kennell, a place which has a strong heat, there to cool gradually after which it is finished. did not see them making glass owing to something being wrong with the furnace, which prevented them from beginning in time for to show our worthy selves the process. The heat was most intense, in fact I never felt the like. when I entered & felt the Heat, the idea that sprung up in my mind was Hell – but how weak the contrast. visited other parts of the Work – & saw the different materials & the different articles manufactured. some of the fires I cannot understand how men are able to stay at them. after coming out had a most severe attack of Headache, partly owing to the intense heat I presume – but otherwise was very much gratified & I hope instructed by my visit. The Apostle John in the Apocalypse, describes some part of Heaven as paved with a Sea of Molt-en glass, before, I must say that I could not appreciate the beauty of the image, but seeing it Today I can now form a better idea of. Beautiful as a Mirror, question if

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ever Mirror was like it, the – but words fail me to describe it. Today laid out a stock of shoes, which we two days ago received, some very pretty workmanship displayed upon them, never I think was our shop so gay. RK had a Letter Tonight from W Baird in which he says that he will not be able to meet us on Wednesday, as he goes to Ireland on Tuesday night, his sister being worse, both of which things I am sorry to hear, as it is depriving us of the best part of the pleasure – his company – but we must make the best of it.

S. 2{8}9 In Bed mostly all day, with Sore throat & headach<e> – read W. Anderson's Lecture in the C.J. was very well pleased with it.

M. {29} 30 Mistaken a day, how? rather better Today. RK to Largs today.

T. 31. not much better Today, am afraid will not be able to go to paisley Tomorrow. I suppose I must write & let RK know. Dr Rendall informed me Today that he had recently received a Letter from W Sorley in which he told him that he got an advance, being raised to principal bookkeeper in the establishment. am very glad to hear it, a piece of good news to close the old Year with. somehow or other this New Year has caused me much less excitement than any which I have ever yet seen, it appears just the same as another day (to view it in the future). what can be the reason. Am I turning any wiser? or Am I not reflecting on it? I am afraid it is the latter. Another Year is now drawing to a close, & will soon be numbered with the things that were. soon will its account be closed, soon will it have to render {up its account} it up & fall into the past, leaving men to think on what once was but is now gone for ever, leaving them to think on the pleasures – the pains the griefs & the toils, which it brought to them on its bosom. many a lesson does it teach, if we only could (or would perhaps) look into it – as a nation have we not suffered? many a strange thing has taken place in our land – Death among its great ones. Peel – the uprising of the Son of Perdition, & his again attempting to bring our land into its former servility to his power. May the time never come when such an end shall be gained. now let me look at concerns personal, what changes since this year began, what old acquaintances [sic] broken off or severed, what new ones formed & what friends or acquaintances [sic] we had then who are now numbered with the silent dead, whose faces we shall never more see on earth . . . I cannot recollect all the circumstances, or cases; but painful ones there were. Harkness affair, a case which tended as much as any circumstance in life to alienate me from an individual – Sorleys departure – a cause of great grief to me, Burrs case, no remarks. these in our society are changes & great ones – Graham steward of the Orion, poor Daniel Grant & that poor victim to intemperance D. Kennedy. more there are I doubt not, but who have at present escaped my memory. these have gone on that journey from whence there is no returning & on which we one day too, shall be called upon to set out, & it is a call which we cannot disobey. oh that we were making ready, improving our time, numbering our days & applying our hearts unto wisdom! & new acquaintances [sic] have been made, so it is with men, one goeth & another cometh, one tie is severed & a new one is formed, it must be so in this our present state of exist-ence, else one would find himself alone, if he did not make new friends. besides the new members of our S.S.S. society, with many of whom I am not intimate I must mention my paisley friends. what I may think of them Years hence is nothing, what do I think of them now! is the question. I have been very well pleased with them, what I have seen of them. at Largs where we first met, we enjoyed ourselves one with another. at

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paisley where I spent Halloween, I was kindly treated, & in Glasgow when visiting the Hunterian Museum, they behaved themselves well & their conduct did not in the least cause me to lessen my opinion of them. we will keep them in our minds though new friend-ships have been formed, & though desirous [sic] to preserve them, yet I wish to retain & strengthen old ones likewise, but apart from the S.S.S. I may say that I have only one intimate acquian-tance [sic], & that one is Robert Kirkwood. I do not intend here to expatiate on his merits they are at present strong on my mind & I feel almost as if I could never forget him but alas for Humanity! We may forget! we will not anticipate this.

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Glasgow Jany 1. 1851. Wednesday

In Shop this Mornng – left about 1/2 p 10 for the day & at ½ p 11 went out to paisley. Met Kirkwood at Miss Cathcart's who I was sorry to see was unwell. staid there for some time, then went down to Mr Baird's, & found his sister Eliza of whom I thought a good (nay a great) deal, & mark her down as a sober intelligent & discreet girl. staid there some time having some conversation with her – her sister is rather improving. then went away to Miss Fultons, where I found out that K. had sent a letter in my name stating that I would not be out, this is a thing for which I was quite unprepared. I will allow him to have his joke, but this is carrying it too far, & must for the future be prevented. then as Miss Fulton had to go to a Soiree, we sent & got Tickets likewise, but previous to which we went down again to Miss Cath-carts & got Tea & a little fun. afterwards went to the Soiree, where I had the pleasure of seeing James Craig a young man I met at Largs. K & I had lots of fun, but again he carried his jokes too far, & made them too practical to be pleasant. we agreed to leave at 5 M before 10 to be in time for the Train. I was coming away but my Topcoat was hid. I got it & left. he followed, of course, forgetting his umbrella – away he went back for it. I went for his portmanteau to Fultons & in returning down the High St. met him on the road leisurely going away up. I went to the train waited until it was ready to start in hopes of seeing him but not doing so I came away with it & "left him alone in his glory". arrived home about 11 – drenched in Sweat, bathing my feet in warm water & went to bed.

T 2. got up this mornng & went to work, but with little spirit, not in working trim would rather have went & played – had a visit of W. Morris from Largs & of C. Cameron from Lochgilthead. Today, over at R.K. he came in while I was there. he told me that in consequence of being up yesterday Miss Cathcart is worse today which I regret much to hear. I suppose I'll have to write & enquire after her health.

F 3. W. Cameron & his lass, Miss Dale up at house Tonight.

S 4. R.K. called Today & gave me some account of his paisley adventures.

S 5 St P. Dr J Fore & after. in house all Eveng. W Alexander up at dinner & as I thought there would be a drinking bout, I staid in & think that I did in some manner prevent it.

M 6. Jas. Burr called Today & showed me a Letter he had got from W. Sorley, he likewise told me that he was going to open Milton Church Sabbath School on Sabbath first, this I am glad to hear off [sic] & hope he will succeed in it. under date S 21 Decr. I say that I had the pro-mise of some money from Father on Hogmonay [sic]. the fulfilment of this promise I forgot to state in its proper place & do it here instead. got 10/- from him on New Years day, bought Walkers Dictionary (between Bill & I).

T. 7. received Today a Letter from Wm. Sorley by which I am glad to hear of his welfare. Yonge St. is 34 Miles long, a pretty good walk on a frosty morning before breakfast & cal-culated I should think to give one an ap-petite. he says in his Letter that the "people here are either very religious or the reverse". how {is} this is to be accounted for I cannot at present {account for it} say. there is nothing very particular in it, save some remarks on the Country, which as I preserve the Letter I will not

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transcribe here. the anecdote he relates of his (bigoted) young Gentleman is like one whose religion or enthusiasm rather has gone beyond his reason. going to destruction? pretty indeed! & why going there? because a number of Teachers met at a Tea & Cookie shine & had some enjoyment. oh no! friend, I don't think that you are quite right there. enough at pre-sent. I hope to see him some day, yet to come

W 8. nothing particular Today.

T 9. Bill in house all day, confined with sore throat, pretty severe, a trouble to which he has been subject this 3 winters now. got the "Plea" for drunkards & against drunkenness" by Dr. Guthrie of Edinburgh, part of which I have read, & which contains some beautiful passages but as it would be premature to state my opinion of it at present, until more thoroughly read & studied I refrain. up at Mr. Gray's Tonight & saw a strange sort of a thing, which is called a Vine-gar plant, but it is the strangest-like plant (if it is a plant) that ever I saw. if there are two things in nature like each other, 'tis a Sea bubble & that so called plant, hid in the Shade, from Sun & Air – "cribbed cabined & confined" in places where no light enters. it is said to produce good Vinegar too. I tasted a little of it, but it was not very strong, but was told that this was owing to it not being old enough. Many a strange thing there is I doubt not in nature, if we only knew where to find them & when found to what purposes to apply them. science has done much for benefiting Mankind, but much remains to be done. Home about 1/2 p. 10.

F 10. Bill still confined to the House, but considerably better. got 2 lots of Leather in today, one from Mr Girle – the one of our Leather Merchants for whom I have the greatest respect & the other from John Legat & Co. which kept me busy all day putting past. Father out at Paisley Tonight after Geo. Barr, who, daft sinner! is going again to be married. "Nae fule's [sic] like auld fule's [sic]"

S 11 Father sent away Today 2 Bales Leather to Paisley to sell, such conduct is strange & inexplicable to me. what his motives are I cannot devise, unless it is to obtain some money for present necessities. busy all day – Bill better today & in Shop. bought a Testament to give to John Campbell, home about 11

S 12. cleared up this Morn'g, St Pauls Dr J Forenoon, between Sermons walked down to partick. heard Mr Macoll, afterwards went down to dinner & spent the evening very pleasantly & very happily with the Children, Aunt, Uncle, & Cousin Margaret who by the way is (without prejudice or egotism) one of the finest young women I have seen, there may be prettier – though she too possesses a share of beauty – but in the whole circle of my acquaintance [sic] I have not seen one more tender affectionate & kind. I say this merely as a Cousin & not as a sweetheart, for I have always thought it wrong that cousins should stand in that light toward each other. had a very pleasant walk up, beautiful Moonlight, home about 9 – it was a most beautiful day. in fact, one to have felt the heat only, would have said it was a Summer day, but on looking around, bare fields – leaf-less branches – flowerless gardens! all proclaimed that the reign of dreary winter still continues. why say dreary winter? surely it has pleasures as well as its more cheerful gay & pleasant brothers, though it may be a little more dour than they. don't let us shut our hearts against it & turn it out of doors, the clear frosty nights when we see the heavens bespangled with so many of the works of our

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Maker – & then when tis snow to see the little flakes dancing around fill-ing our minds with wonder at their countless numbers, & when in the country to see for Miles the Hills Fields & roads around us covered with their Mantle of White, it sends an indescribable emotion of grandeur & awe through the heart, & then winter is the time for Book study, when in some measure the Volume of Nature with its flowers fruits & Trees is closed to us then we resume the reading of the Works of the mind, & the cheerful fireside towards which we draw & as it were keep each other warm, by our personal intercourse. oh Yes Winter has its pleasures as well as other Seasons!

M 13 Father had a bill Today. got the 2^o Vol of Chalmer's [sic] Memoirs Today.

T 14 over at RK's Tonight. Wills. was in & we had a right ragging at R about his paisley sweetheart.

W. 15. poor W Alexander going to the dogs with drink, {tis} this 3 Months he has been on the fuddle con-stantly almost, his brothers have turned against him & threaten that unless he reforms they will close his business. of what avail will these threats be? None I would venture to say, drink has to [sic] strong a hold over its victims, entreaties or threats, from friends or foes are all alike – friends are disregarded & when advice is given by them, it is looked upon by the object of it, as meddling offic-iousness. tis a pity to see it hurling so many victims to destruction. I believe it is only since he got married that he has turned so bad – an ill tempered wife sent him in her lifetime to drown his cares in the enjoyment (?) of the public house & after her death the habit was found too powerful to be resisted – so sailing swiftly along the Stream of destruction he has come to what we see. that he may reform is my most earnest wish. went straight home sat for about 2 hours reading some stories & when going to read my Bible previous to going to bed, Consience [sic] said 2 hours for idle Stories & only 5 Minutes to Bible & prayer, oh Shame! tis indeed a shame & a sin.

T 16 Aunt Jackson in Shop today did not see her – Father away out to paisley Today – I wish he would send me some day – tis strange that W. Baird has not sent any word how his sister is keeping. mistaken! Father not at paisley Today, at meeting To-night.

F 17 see in Today's paper, the death of Mr. John Sharpe & of Alex Campbell of Peters-hill, the former an old & valued customer, the latter a son of old Campbell's of Peters-hill. W Alexander, poor wretch, has been in a state of drunkenness [sic] since Tuesday lying on a Sofa – lamentable!

S 18. having to take the Lesson on Thursday, studying . 2 good subjects – Christ as a prophet & the Angels appearing to the Shepherds. another week ended in which we have been very busy & that too with only a few disappointments, & all of us have enjoyed good health to go through our duties. oh that we were thankful to our Maker for all his temporal blessings. home about ½ p10.

S 19 St P. Dr J. Fore & After. down at Mr More's school Tonight & taught or rather attempted to teach a Class, they were about the most unmanageable that ever I tried. when [sic] to the School up stairs, in which I had not been for 6 or 8 Months & found there a great improvement, in the forming of the School. went home with miss Gallie, home about 8 & made up my Question Lesson for Thurs-day. D. Nicol & his wife up in house Today

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M 20. in an entry made on Friday, I have stated that John Sharpe was dead, this is a mistake, at least as far as our John Sharpe is concerned for I am glad to hear that he is getting better. a very stormy day this is, we have had 5 Weeks of continuous wet Weather, {without} with only 2 or 3 dry days – & the Weather is very mild & warm! in fact, tis {almost} like April weather.

T 21. in Shop mostly all day – busy cutting, sent C.J. to the binding Today. heard Today that Mrs. <&> Dr Jamieson had a son yesterday morning –

W 22. closing all day Today. Father at Greenock – only at paisley.

T 23. Father at Paisley & Greenock Today. This was my night of giving the lesson which I did, it was rather short. bought a ticket for the Middle district Union Soiree, to which either Bill or self will go – over to R.K's. staid there until about 11

F 24 with feelings of regret I saw in the papers today, the death of the Rev Dr Black of the Barony – at Florence on the {9} 15th Jany at 9 p.m. I never spoke to the Dr save once or twice, but have heard him preach & by his general appearance, had formed the opinion of him that he was a good man. death! death! all are subjects of thine, all must feel at some time or other thy sceptre, all must be obedient to thee, none can tell thee to go & when they have a more convenient season they will go with thee, no! no! when thy Summons is issued it must be obeyed, ready or no it must be, & how strangely thou workest, thou art no<t> particular in thy choice, old & Young, rich & poor, men ennobled by the world & men ennobled by nature, one here another there. thou appearest to men like a capricious child, who as soon as it has got one thing, wishes for another, but such is not the case, thou art but the Servant of our & thy Master, thou obeyest his commands & fulfillest his pleasure, calling whom he willest, to reap the rewards of their faith or {evil} there [sic] evil works, thou uncertain is thy coming, & to whom. in the present instance, when last I saw him, he was like a man who had the prospect of living for many Years & of much usefulness but alas! he is cut down. "cease ye from Man" is a precept of Scripture & one which we ought to practice, for we see it verified every day in our life. Principal McFarlane called today & paid his account, I made the remark to him of his death, he said not a word, but shook his head, apparently much affected. it will be a cause of lamentation to his congregation, to his brothers in the ministry & to the City at large, but he has been taken away from the evil to come & is now we fondly hope reaping his reward in hea-ven – amid the spirits of just men made per-fect – may it teach me the important lesson of the shortness & uncertainty of our {length} time.

S 25. pretty busy Today but still a number of disappointments, is it not possible that these can be avoided? I think that in some measure they may. bought Doddridge "rise & progress" Tonight, shut about ½ p 10

S 26 St P. Dr J Fore {& After} between Sermons went down to the Broomielaw – After St P. Dr J. his text was "Should it be to thy mind" in Job, in the course of which he brought out some views of Gods providence toward us & showed that it was well for us that things were not to our mind & that he brought good out of see-ming evil. referred very feelingly to the death of Dr. Black, & stated that he had on his death bed enjoyed

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the comforts of that gospel which it was his duty to teach others, & concluded by passing a high eulogium on the deceased. in house all afternoon, read part of Doddridge, but will not as yet make any remarks on {him} it. am afraid that I will have another attack of my old complaint, I feel it a little. I wonder if my being out 2 or 3 nights last week is the cause? very likely, must take more care.

M. 27. busy all day cutting & giving out stuff. I wonder where Father goes to every day, he is out 5 or 6 hours every day. tis strange, what can be the cause. I can't fathom it. I will try to do my duty, if he does not. shortness of breath-ing still continues. no worse I think however.

T 28 in Shop all day. trouble still lingers about me – Peter Morris up from Largs Today

W 29. writing Today. Father had a bill Today. F. out at Snodgrass the Farmer this evening. he is going away to Australia

T 30 Father confined to house Today with severe cold & sore throat, hope he will soon be better & that he will be the better of it.

F 31 Father better Today. out some Today. I see Dr Hill & Mr Stevenson of Edinburgh are to preach Dr Blacks funeral sermons, I must endeavour to hear one of them. have commenced to read in the Christian Journal some articles on original Sin –

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S. February 1st. – Father better Today – busy Tonight – I paid them all their wages, shut 1/4 past 10. intend to go to Barony Tomorrow – I don't think there were many disappointments this week & next week I will try to have none

S 2°. about ½ p 10. went up to Barony Church: not Dr Hill as I expected but Mr Stevenson of Edinburgh. his text was Titus 2. 5 - 6.7. a most splendid dis-course – 1st. on the way of salvation & how it may be attained – & concluded with a eulogium on {the} Dr Black, which I do not by any means think was too high. out for about ½ an hour & when the doors opened what a crush, never felt anything like it, & after all the crush got the privilege [sic] of standing, being unable to obtain a seat. Dr. Hill, Revelation 14.13. had an excellent discourse, but did not hear it distinctly owing to being too far from him but I preferred Mr Stevensons. in the house all the evening – reading – Father in bed all day Today – this is the worst turn ever he has had that I remember of. to bed about 10.

M 3°. RK called & showed me a Letter he had got from W Baird, by which I am happy to hear that Miss Baird is rather better & that the rest of our paisley friends is well. Father better.

T 4 Father a little better Today. Bill at monthly meeting of our S.S.S. I am again appointed one of the representatives to the M.D. Union – no other business of any importance transacted

W 5. Father not getting much, if any, better. he is very weak & can take no food, & is really looking very ill – this is about the most severe shock ever I saw him have, but I hope that he will soon recover. an accident hap-pened – of rather a serious nature – at the Broom-ielaw this morning, between 7 & 8 the boiler of the Plover steamer blew up, particulars are not known yet, but I will jot them down when I learn them.

T 6. Father rather worse today, he has been in house all day. see by the papers today that the "Thistle" 'Derry steamer ran down a vessell [sic] all lost, & the "Vanguard" Dublin steamer ran down a Brig off Corsewell Light, 3 men perished. both steamers put back to Greenock to repair damages. the engineer of the "Plover" is dead & the 2 firemen are in a very critical position. – Aitken "better known as paddy girl" Linder, died on Monday of Consumption. tis not long since she was married, but death severs all ties, whether newly formed or long established. have been endeavouring as far as possible to keep the work in the shop forward & have in part {succeeded} succeeded & hope still further to {succeede} succeed. Gilbert has been lately telling me, that in a short time he hopes to be advanced in consequence of both the Clerk & the Journeyman leaving & from some conversation he had with Jackson, himself. hope he will behave him-self. he is clever but at the same time possesses no small share of conceit & pride.

F 7. Father out all day Today, better. at RK's tonight he was in bed. saw Helen. she showed me a Valentine she had got. I'll send her a mock one . . some day.

S 8 in shop all day. Father thinks he is a little better, he has been in shop all day. been busy getting up the work, but have the prospect of being very slack next week. got the

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work over about 10 & shut shortly afterwards.

S 9 St Pauls Revd Mr Gray of Edinburgh Forenoon. had a splendid sermon, thoroughly practical – on the non-enduring nature of all pleasures save those which are centred in God. Aftern Dr J, had a very good discourse on Noah's Faith. In the evening at Balfours School, & owing to Mr Walker's absence taught his Class. home before 8. owing to Father being out late & long yesterday he is greatly worse Today, has got a fresh dose of cold & is confined all day.

M 10 Father rather better Today. not out of house, what I consider a wise procedure on his part. see that there have been very coarse wea-ther at sea & it is feared that there may have been a great many wrecks on the coast. after shutting went to the post office with 2 letters, one, at [sic] Valentine to H.K. a regular stunner of a mock, one which cost ½ d. took a walk afterwards along Argyll St. & about the foot of Mitchell I found a parcel, which upon examining I found (O Lucky dog!) contained about 3 doz of Valentine Envelopes & several other things in that line – I went up to RK's who proposed that we should each send half of them to our respective friends (?) in Paisley. this after some consideration I agreed too [sic] & on Thursday night we'll fill them with lots of nonsense & despatch them on Friday

T 11 at Meeting of N.B.S. tonight election of president & office bearers, after election went home with the box to a Mr Jas. Lock in Charlotte St afterwards went to Mr Smiths in Trongate where were congregated nearly a dozen of the party [?]. staid there for a short time listening to their con-versation, but really I cannot say that I was much edified by it. far too much of the blue in, for my moral faculties, home about 12

W 12 this mornng awakened by the horrible gnawings of Toothache, kept me awake half the night with pain, but better toward the afternoon. W^m. at M.D. Union Soiree in the Trades Hall, acting as one of the Stewards. the Body is as full as though he was to be paid for, or rather although he was paying for it. Mrs Duncanson is very bad with inflamation [sic] of the Chest, so much so that she is not expected to live.

T 13 Mrs Duncanson died Today at 12 o'Clock. death is busy around us – crying aloud, prepare but alas! how little do we heed its warning voice. its [sic] oftentimes [sic] repeated, makes us call-ous & careless & engenders in us a feeling of security, we are all apt to turn away from think-ing of it as of an unpleasant subject, better would it be for us if we were less so. Father still continuing a little better, though not greatly. hope this will in some measure turn him from the practice of drinking. over at RK's tonight writing out our valentines there till about 1/4 p 11

F 14 St Valentines day. sent of [sic] RK's & mine to Paisley in a parcel, lots of nonsense in them & lots of old pamphlets, to carry out the lark – got a mock one Today. troubled with Toothache again, it seems to have taken up its abode permanently in my Teeth. To Whisky I must give the credit of being my best curative.

S 15. not very busy, but still kept late, shut about ¼ p 10

S 16 St P Fore Dr J. a very good Lecture. Afternoon Mr Edmonds with whom I was exceedingly well pleased, so plain & {yet} so very practical & splendid matter he had.

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went down to Mr More's School taught 1 Lesson & closed for him. {when} went home with Miss Crawford & on the road met W. Roberson, with whom afterwards I had a walk & some conversation.

M 17. Father still continuing to improve in health, speaking Today of sending John to a trade & Father has made up his mind that he should be a Tailor. 'tis a very good trade, no doubt, but it is one I think that John's mind does not lie too [sic], something where more manual labour is required would suit him better, but we will see in a short time.

T 18 very stormy day. Father being out, got damp & is considerably worse this afternoon.

W 19 I am glad to hear that Jas. McDonald is again likely to be put upon his feet, he having become a partner & manager of a work about to be established at Paisley. I hope he will have better success than on previous occasions.

T 20. made up Alex^r McKay's account to-day & find that he is owing us {26/} 36/ which is less than I expected, hope he will soon pay it off & try to get clean heels again. at S.S. Union meeting tonight in City Hall. Rev Mr Watson, St Mathews [sic] Dr Fletcher of London Rev Messrs McGilvary & Edmond were the principal speakers – & (especially Mr Watson) made very apposite speeches in-deed. I will not notice anything of the cause itself here – as I may do it on a future occasion. out about ½ p 10 – met messrs More & Roberson & Miss Crawford & other 2 Ladies whom we escorted home.

F 21. got 3 nos of Hogg today. I have made up my mind to cease taking it out, intend to take out the "History of the Church of Scotland". over at Helen K's tonight, met Miss McKerrow there. staid till 11, after which Robt & self went home with her.

S 22. in Shop all day. Father went out about 8 o'Clock & as usual to be "in in a minute". got work done & sent home. put on the shutters about 10, but no word of him. & poor me had not money to pay wages – fortunately, Mr Duff called & paid his Boots, which was quite unexpected. with this after keeping them waiting until 11 o'Clock I was enabled parti-ally to pay them. this conduct of his is most strange, but almost nothing that he does need astonish me now. he came home about ½ p. 12, but did not speak to me.

S 23 this mornng Father explained to me why he did not come in last night, but the reason was not the most satisfactory. St P. Fore & After. Dr J. at Mr Mores School at night & taught Miss Stevensons Class which was indeed a pleasure compar-ed with those which I have taught before in his School. home about ½ p 8.

M 24. at S.S.A. in Connection with the Church of Scotland Soiree in the City Hall. Some very good speeches. I see that Mr Harknes is one of the Vice presidents for the next year. broke up about 11, went home with Miss Gallie. I got 2 newspapers Today from W. Sorley, which I suppose is to let me know that he received my Letter; I observe by the newspapers of Today that her Majesty's Ministers have resigned, so well they may, for they were a poor imbecile useless set which there [sic] budget fully proves, a budget which gave satisfaction to no one & doubtful if even it gave satisfaction to themselves. I hope they may get another {government} government formed soon, one "that has the

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head to plan & the hands to execute" measures for the good of the Country. Gilbert down at partick Tonight.

T 25. over at RK's tonight, had some fine sport fighting & laughing to our Hearts content, home about 11

W 26 Father at Greenock & Paisley Today for the benefit of his health & purse. bought 2 rabbits to-day for R.K. on which he is going to experiment with Chloroform, to study for his essay to his professor on that anasthetic [sic] agent. I sincerely hope he may gain the prize, though he is not sanguine in the expectation himself. Jas Burr had a letter from W. Sorley Today {in} from which I am happy to hear that he is well. got a Ticket of admission to the installation of Lord Rector of the University, Tomorrow, from RK. intend to go. all hands at City Hall Tonight hearing Dr Fletchers lecture (all the young ones I mean) – Father got a Letter Today relative to John Campbells Bill, which has now been lying over nearly 12 months, is now in the Court of Session & {dear} no one knows when it may come out of it. Law's delays are proverbial, it is likely to be May before it is heard before them.

T 27. at Installation of Lord Rector in the College Hall at 2 o'Clock, & as it was something new I may hear [sic] describe it. on entering 1/4 before the hour ushered into the Hall, lots of Students, Togati & non Togati, & Citizens all in one grand mass of confusion, thro<w>ing peas at each other, some braying like asses others crowing like cocks, all making the most of their short lived liberty. at 2 in came the professor & the Rector elect who took the Chair, when silence was restor-ed. The principal {gave} offered up a prayer in Latin, then what seemed to me to be a minute of his Election was read & the oath administered, both in Latin, next the Rector gave his speech {accompanied} interrupted occasionally by the Hisses & Groans of his oppo-nents & the cheers of his supporters. after a speech of about an hours duration he concluded, & we dismissed. a Latin benediction by the principal. so end-ed my first visit to the Lord Rector. the speech on the whole was very good, but he gave too many quotations from Authors & was occasionally a little dry. {F 28.} after shutting over at R.K. & was just in time to be to [sic] late too [sic] see him administering Chloroform to a Rabbit. I saw it open & the pulsation of the heart still going on, it may appear a little cruel, but I think that it is quite defensible, such conduct to the lower animals; because it further<s> science, & judging by analogy tends to show the effect of these agents on the human system & thus make out an almost positive truth of what was before a mere supposition.

F 28. Father had a Bill Today of Legat's (John & Co). I don't think he paid it. it is {an} a renewed one I think. he seems always to be in difficulties, he has got into the meshes of these fellows & finds it difficult to get out. he conceals these things from me & the others of his family (perhaps it would be better for him, if he treated his children more like {children} his children than as Strangers) but I contrive to find them out. the longer I stop, the poorer prospect is there of getting on. no hope of fur-thering one's self here. I must see, if spared in life & health to find some situation, where I would have a better prospect. Mrs Camp-bell above us is going away & we I suppose are staying. Mother wants to go to her house, as it will be less noisy. they may do as they please I'll not object nor approve. strange! Why is it that we are stopping? the question is easily solved, he owes McMichael, the Factor, so that he sacrifices respectability to money. lest what {appears} I have said appears to be unfeeling, I

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believe that things might be bettered if he only would cease drinking. oh! tis a horrible curse, is there no power by which he can give it up? is there no one strong enough to rescue the victim from the grasp of the tyrant? is there no way by which he can be rescued from his downward course of sin? Oh! No, the chains are too strong which bind him, the hand is too heavy which grasps him, & the path is too difficult to tread, for mortal hand or power to rescue him. we must look higher, Yea, even to our only Support & help. it is a blessed privilege [sic] that we can in hours & times of trials, tempt-ations & of despondency, look up to him who is our rock & support, granting grace to resist temptations & faith & hope in the times of weakness & despair

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S March 1. in shop. got no money from Father this 2 weeks but he promises to give me some on Tuesday late before we shut

S. 2 St P Dr J. Forenoon, on Noahs drunkenness [sic] & then he gave us his views on Teetotalism views {to} with which I cannot concur. he would allow the moderate use of wine &^c but they must be governed by Christian principle &^c but this of all other sins creeps so in-sidiously on one overpowering & making the person its slave, e'er [sic] even he is aware. he would allow them to drink first & then when they had become drunk-ards, he would say to them "Touch not" &^c pretty way truly. why not rather not allow him to touch it? To me there appears less danger in the latter than the former. down at Mr Mores school Tonight & taught a Class.

M 3. Father had a Bill of Mr Giles Today which was paid. up at Mr Grays I see that a Goverment [sic] has not yet been formed. there [sic] taking a pretty time to it I pity her Majesty she must be in a sorrow-ful state of mind – got Today the first number of the 'History of the Church of Scotland'

T 4 I am beginning to suspect that there is something wrong about Father's affairs he makes no confidant of me concerning them, but just as a physician knows a disease, by symptoms which would never strike another, so, I have seen, several little incidents have occured [sic] which lead to the conclusion. I hope I may be wrong but fear that I am right. I {am} should be exeedingly [sic] sorry if any such a thing should happen as I fear, both for his own sake & ours. it will materially damage both himself & our prospects. I can confidently affirm that it does not result from extravagance on the part of his family for we all are very economical. trials there are upon earth & we must submit to them, as they are sent to us by a kind & merciful pro-vidence, who strikes with the rod, not to pun-ish us merely, but for our Souls good. Oh that we saw that providence as a kind & merciful Father! Oh that we trusted in him more & more, looked up to him with faith & love, & trusting in him. time will un-ravel this to me – at monthly meeting of St Paul's S.S.S. –

W 5. nothing further Today. am glad to see that Father was not nearly so bad with whisky Today as he usually is. shall I ascribe doing this to God? look upon it as an answer to prayer? {we} I would fain hope it may be permanent, but I shall not give over praying for him yet, & more earnestly than before. straight home, & studied the Question Effective Calling.

T 6. The thought struck me Today that I ought to keep a Sabbath day Journal, in thinking on it I more & more see the propriety of it. {so I} straight home, got a bad dose of cold.

F 7. have resolved to keep a Journal as proposed yesterday. writing an introduction to it Tonight. Father quite right these 2 days. cold no better today. a warm bath before going to bed.

S 8 cold not much better Today. breathing a little affected, I hope it may not be a recurrence of my old complaint. this is as pleasant a Saturday as I have had this long time Father all right & work sooner over than usual. Father in a good humour having got a good may account Today. intend to take a dose of medicine tonight, my bowels

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being costive. Father spoke to me Today of flitting the House. he wants to stop where we are for this year & that next year he will flit both House & Shop – (?). got £1 Today from him which I lent to A McKinley to be paid on Tuesday

S 9. St P. F a young man. Afternoon Dr Napier preached & baptized the Dr Jamieson Child. got a Mr Roberson who sits in our seat to become one of our S.S. Teachers. went over to Helen Kirkwoods to see her, as she is rather unwell at present. met R & had a long walk with him –

M 10 nothing particular.

T 11 over at R.K's tonight. he is quite worn out, with hard study. Jas. Kean our message Boy left Today on account of his health – Asthma, being very subject to it Father at paisley.

W 12. had a walk after shutting tonight.

T 13. Father sent & paid his account to Uncle Alex today, & because he did not pay some clothes he got for that piece of proud ungrateful mortality {they} Alex McKay they Sent back a saucy answer. no doubt F is bound for it, but <let> them first try to get it from him, & if that fails, then come to us. I hope that I may never be obliged to be obliged to any of these my friends they will talk a great deal very sym-pathetically, but {having} little fear of them drawing their purse strings to do one a favour, & as long as I possibly can I'll try not to be obliged to them. – the above was written in anger – but now that reason has again regained her throne, I must with-draw these expressions.

F 14. Aunt Jackson in Shop today & invited me to go down to partick Tomorrow afternoon & stay till Monday an invitation which I have accepted. I see by Todays papers that Goverment [sic] is again in a minority (which by the way is just the old stuff returned.) what will they do now? dont know – there has been a collision on the Clyde below {the} a lock between the Screw steamer "European" & a Schooner laden with lime by which the latter sunk & one man drown-ed.

S 15 at 5 o'Clock went away to Partick. had a walk there, some conversation & retired about 11.

S 16 at Relief Church Fore & After. Mr Macoll, he was rather lame in his lecturing, but he had a most ex-cellent sermon on Justification by faith. in the Evening Aunt & I went to the Free Church to hear Dr Roxburgh give a Lecture on popery. there was nothing new as to the matter, I having heard the most of the arguments & ideas, before, but I must say that I was ex-ceedingly well pleased with his manner. Tall, & earnest & very animated. I purpose going some day to hear him in his own Church some day. Went down & had some conversation, to bed about 10

M 17 came up this morn^g. Visited Uncles New house, & am pretty well pleased with them. on the whole have been well pleased & hope benefitted by the visit. I think his is a model family: he seems to place his delight in the happiness of his Children & she (Aunt) is as kind & loving a Mother Woman & Friend as ever I saw – spoke to her of John & she said that we were to make up our mind & if John wanted to go to the

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printing she would see & get Mr Jackson to speak to Bell & Bain & see if they would take him as an apprentice. I see by the papers that there has been a most lamentable colliery explosion out near Barrhead by which upwards of 50 lives are supposed to be lost. what an awful thought it is, 50 or 60 souls sent perhaps quite unprepared into the presence of their Maker. verily, God is crying unto us in his judgments "be ye also ready". Oh, that we would lay these things to heart – I think we will be pretty busy this week. very tired.

T {17} 18. nothing particular Today. over at RK. no word from W. Baird regarding his sister. am afraid Kirkwoods last letter has been lost. I am to write & enquire. got from him Michelets priests women & family which I intend to read in connection with the "Jesuits".

W 19. spoke to Father concerning John going to the printing. I see what were his objections, he mistook it for the engraving for which they get no wages for 2 years. but I put him right as regards that & he consented. John seems eager to go to it him-self. he is a bookworm at any rate.

T 20 wrote to W. Baird today enquiring for his sister – wrote to Aunt Jackson today about John & requesting her to speak to Uncle of it. will see what will come out of it, I hope it may be successful, both for his own sake & for others. Father had a Bill of Girle's today – this is the week appointed by the Sabbath S.U. for holding a concert of prayer to God for the prosperity of Sabbath Schools. oh how much need is there for this? how much need of an awakening among all? teachers & Scholars – how many teachers are there who are not themselves converted? who do not know the Lord or serve him fully: how can we expect any great good from these blind leaders of the blind. it is a great & important work & we ought to keep in mind that we can do nought of ourselves but that it is God alone who worketh. may he pour down his spirit upon this great & good cause & may he in answer to prayer, grant strength to the weak – comfort to the despairing & life to them who are near at death! it is a humiliating thought to proud man that he Lord & master of the lower world, he who has done such great things in science & art – who is such a noble creature compared with the Lower animals, he who can turn almost everything to his own purposes – earth, air, fire & water, who can make machinery perform the work of men & who can make art supply the place of nature, & who, partially at least, can make the lightning subservient to his purposes, is still totally powerless to bring one soul to God, is unable to redeem his soul from death or to secure from himself never fading treasure. it wounds our pride, but if we are abused here, we shall be exalted hereafter. Father went out to paisley & came home

F 21 at ½ p 6 A.M. Where was he? it seems that while coming along George St about 11 last night a police officer spoke to him asking him questions as to where he was going, what was he doing there at such an hour & Fathers pride got up & he returned a merry answer. for this they took him to the police office where he was till the time stated. there is something in this so ludicrous & yet at the same time to me very painful, pride getting the better of sense & bringing with it its own reward. but the police "vested with a little brief authority" are enough to raise anyones indignation & scorn by their conduct, tyrants forsooth. never was slave driver more fond of showing or making others feel his power. tis indeed hard that people should be subjected to their authority & that they under a show of regard for the welfare & protection of the

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city should molest individuals, but at the same time tis a difficult matter to lay down any stringent rule which would prove serviceable in all cases; he has never spoken of it to me Today. reading Dr Chalmers Memoirs tonight & am well pleased with what I have read especially his correspondence with Mr Smith. he has some most beautiful letters to him.

S 22 nothing particular. gave the Loan of 20/ that I got from Father to A. McKinley this day fortnight. was to have got it on the Tuesday following, but have not got it yet. 'tis too bad. shut about 11.

S 23 Dr J forenoon. had a most excellent Lecture on the call of Abraham. between sermons went down to the Broomielaw for a walk. Afternoon Dr. J, & he ordained 4 Elders - passing upon them, what appeared to me to be a most fulsome panegyric. twas very interesting. Messrs R. Jamieson, D. Forbes, Johnston & our old customer Sam^l Easton. they are some moderate Elders for us – visited Mr Jas. Burr's School in Milton St School, & was both delighted & surprized to see it. a good attendance, & in good working order. this has in a little changed my own opinion of him, for the better, & will stop the mouths of those who ful-minated the late calumnies against him. there was one circumstance which I regreted [sic] viz the harsh usage some of the wilder boys in the upper school (for it consists of 2 flats) received at the hands of Mr Walkinshaw the minister of the Church (this I may state was not under Mr Burr). they were misbehaving most indecently, in fact, worse than ever I saw any boys in a Sabbath School, & he came in & struck some of them & kicked another. this I saw, but afterwards he kicked one boy on the Floor & cut his eye. he said (inside) [?] that it was on the Floor he got <his eye cut> & not when kicked by him. on the whole was very well pleased with my visit, home about ½ p 8.

M 24 don't know what to think of Fathers affairs. am quite in a maze of uncertainty fearing, doubting {but can hardly say} that my former suspicions were cor-rect, but hoping that they were wrong – over at RK. there till p 11. Strange, that though I go there with the determination to leave soon, yet the conversation is so attractive that I am spell bound as it were

T 25 nothing particular

W 26. got a Letter from W. Baird this mornng. in which he says & I am happy to hear it, that his Sister is better & is now returned to paisley, so that when we go we'll have a prospect of seeing her. but when that will be "let time & chance determine". our other friends there are well. Father better these 2 or 3 days – reading "Chalmer's Memoirs"

T 27. nothing particular – straight home

F 28 I see the Ecclestial [sic] Titles bill has passed the 2^d reading in the Commons by a majority of about 340. this is as it should be. I think this will give his holiness (?) a fright & learn him to be a little more cautious in future with his movements at least as far as Britain is concerned. down at Uncle Colins tonight & had some conversation with him. got the loan of "paleys works" for RK. – home about 11. I see a great number of accidents (in the newspaper) throughout the country. you will never look into a paper but there are numbers of them tis most distressing & murders & robbery [sic]

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innumerable. it seems as if the {reign} power of Satan upon earth had received additional strength & that he was using that power to the ut-most extent –

S 29 working all day. I see in the papers an account of a medical Student named More who has been gulling the natives & jewing them ourselves among the rest, playing – whoring – gett-ing money & good under false pretences. have never got my 20/ from A McKinley yet. home about 11.

S 30 St P Fore & After Dr J. Dr Reid of the College died on Thursday last of an affection of the Brain. Dr J noticed it in his sermon Today. had a walk this mornng the first this season. at Balfour's school taught, no not taught, Miss Kirkwoods Class, she being unwell. am glad to hear that it is proposed to continue the Sabbath morning meetings in connection with our Society. I think it will be for material benefit. home about 8

M 31. This is the morning of taking the census. I remember writing out the Schedule this time 10 years ago. how short it appears, almost like yesterday. “tempus fugit” “oh that we were wise - redeeming the time” – over at RK's, home about 11 – was gratified yesterday, by the earnest manner in which some of my old SS Scholars were asking me to come back again & teach; it shows that if they have not formed an attachment to what I have endeavoured to teach them that they have formed one to myself but I would far rather, that it was an attach-ment to the former, than the latter.

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Tuesday April 1, have the prospect of being busy this week. nothing particular.

W 2 busy, out some Today. Father going to Rothesay Tomorrow Bill & Gilbert going to Largs (intentions). shut about 11

T 3. up about 6. Gilbert & W to Largs at ½ p 7. Father left at 8, the Boats were very crowded. St P. F. Mr Keith of Hamilton – at 2 went down to Greenock – saw friends there, & the ship going. left at ½ p 7. by the Train, got into a first class Carriage for a 3^d Class Ticket. arrived safely about ¼ to 9 – waited on Gilbert & home before 10. W Cameron is coming up to Glasgow on Monday for a month to work

F 4 got my 20/ from A McKinley Today. have heard of no accidents resulting from yesterday's jaunting, save that of the driver of one of Menzies omnibus's, who while drunk fell off [sic] the top of the Coach & broke his neck, dying immediately – paid Bill 10/ I got the loan of from him.

S 5 busy – kept late till near 11 – this must be put a stop too [sic], the evil has increased to such a degree.

S. 6. St P. Dr J. "Christ the brightness of his glory & the express image of his person" a very good sermon. there were 5 Tables. did not communicate at this time owing to thinking myself eminently disqualified from joining in such an ordinance at this time. I am a mere bar-ren professor. I have not yet embraced that Saviour who is so freely offered. I feel at times, as it were, hatred to God & love to the world, in an inordinate degree, I feel as if I could never be a Christian, that its duties are too irksome, too severe, for me to perform, I cannot look & embrace the saviour, as I should, in fact, I cannot express what I feel. I see {all} the depravity of my heart & hate it, but cannot flee to him who is light & life. I have judged of him by myself.

Evng. Free St Andrews Dr Hethrington of Edin. who is said to be the first preacher in the Free Church but to my taste assuredly he is not the prince of preachers, he had however an excellent gos-pel sermon. D. Nicol & his wife up at Dinner Today. glad to see them, but on an occasion like this twas scarcely meet to have them. it disturbs the equanimity of the mind, & when we ought to be meditating on things that we have heard we are according to the custom of the world obliged to talk of things which pertain not to them. oh for grace to have a more religious & moral walk & conversation.

M 7 St. John's (Free) a Mr McFarlane. was struck while waiting on the preachers that since the last time I was within its walls, which was on the opening evening, that the 3 Ministers who officiated that day have since gone to their rest. Drs Chalmers Brown & McFarlane of Greenock, all I believe great & good men. of all the Free Church Ministers that ever I knew or heard of Dr Brown I think exemplified most the spirit of love which so Characterized our Saviour, full of love he was.

T 8. nothing particular. at RK's forming plans for our Summer excursion. have laid out as much as would take us a fortnights hard work. we have not finished it yet.

W 9. oh dear me! what a day! all fun & play, no work, work no I wouldn't! did a little in the mornng. put on Shutters about 2 in honour of the procession at the laying of

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the foundation stone of the Stockwell alias the Victoria Bridge, so called in honour of her Majesty. now for the pro-gramme. The Provost Magistrates Merchants & Trades House & the Masons met in the Cathedral at 12 oClock where sermon was preached by our friend Mr Leckie of Shettleston (& a most excellent sermon it was) then they marched in order down High along George St down Buchanan St & along Argyle St, thence down Stockwell to the Bridge. I saw his Grace of Athole but certainly did not form a very high opinion of him, a smallish man about 30 I think, wears {moustaches} a pair of moustaches which on a man of larger dimensions would look formidable, but on him gave him the appearance of a fop. left shop about 5 oClock & though I had neither an in-vitation to dine with his Grace & my Lord provost in the City Hall, nor to join in the Masonic festival in the Trades Hall, yet I spent the evening quite as pleasantly I think as if I had been in either of them – by taking a walk along Clyde down to Govan. came home about 8. Am sorry to hear that Jas Stevenson is unwell with Gastric Fever.

T 10. straight home

F 11. nothing.

S 12. in Shop all day. Mr More called in the Ev^g & wished me to take part in the exercises Tomorrow morn^g., consented. & as he did not feel very well, if he was not able to take the superintendence of his own School Tomorrow night, he wished I would take it. shut about ½ p 10

S 13 rose about 8. went to prayer meeting. 8 present, 6 male & 2 Female. I led the singing! took the first part of the exercises – Mr Wark concluded – I think that these meetings should be continued, as thereby we may derive much good – & no doubt it awakens in us a more kindly feeling toward each other. for who would go there with hearts burning with hatred & envy one toward another? none I think, & besides it is a commanded duty, to make our wants {known,} known to God, not only as individuals, but also as a society, as a Church as a Nation. tis a thing which I have thought often over, but never had the moral courage to speak off [sic] to any one. it was for Mr More to begin it – Foreⁿ St P Dr. J – up & saw D. M. between Sermons & got my instructions with reference to this evening's work as he will not be out. then went to Mr Gray's & got him to con-sent to come down & sing. if not able to sing himself he is to bring a person along with him, who will. thus far all goes well – went down to hear the Rev^d Mr Ker in East Campbell St. Luke 16 – last verse – I am not prepared by once hearing to express an opinion fully but my half formed opinion is favour-able – at School, Mr Henderson open-ed & seemed inclined to take the super-intendence, which as Mr More had not told him I need not feel surprized [sic] at. but however when I told him he at once yielded, & all passed off well, much better than I expected. said a few words relative to the Missionary Collection then closed – went to prayer meeting up Stairs 35 present – went & took a short turn along with misses Gallie & Kirkwood – then went up to Mr More & told him how I had got on – & spoke about the morn^g meetings. home about ½ p .9 –

M 14. went down to singing Tonight had some practising. Concert to be on Monday fortnight in Dr Taylor's Church. home about 10

T 15. in shop all day. spoke to Bill of his look-ing after a situation. if anything, he would like to go to a shipping office. shut about ½ p 8 & as I had a headache & it being

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such a beautiful even I went & got a walk – solitary & alone. had some meditations on the 3^d Chapter of Doddridge – home about 10, to bed about 11

W 16 in shop all day. troubled with a pain at the back of my right ear this 2 or 3 days. if not better soon I must go to the doctor. was told {today} by a person today that I was going to open a Shop in Sauchiehall St. but as I never heard of it before, I don't think that its likely to be true – at least at pre-sent – but I hope that soon if we are spared, that we may remove west & that we may yet prosper. O Hope, what would this world be without thee? every one would be depressed & dispirited looking only with blank despair on the dark & frowning things of the pre<-sent> without one cheering ray to enliven the future. thou art a blessing to all rich & poor, high & low, healthy & diseased. all look up to thee & esteem thee a friend, and though the prospects thou holdest out are not always realized, yet who would for this ban-ish thee out of the world, oh no, Hope stay thou hear [sic] on earth cheer-ing our hearts by thy promises – stay thou hear [sic] & dwell with us still & we will esteem thee our friend! if hope holds out such prospects of earthly happiness – Oh how much greater happiness is {that which} it that hope holds out to us in realms unseen, a life beyond the grave, a heaven of joy & happiness, dwelling for ever with our God & our Saviour, happiness unalloyed with care is there to be met, free from trouble we can there realize, nay far more than realize those scenes & pleasures which hope held up to our view, for “eye hath not seen nor ear heard neither hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive, what happiness God hath pre-pared for his people”, & when we think that it is on us – yes us! miserable wretched sinners – how the Fathers love shines forth, in this –

T 17. in shop all day. a little troubled with my cough & breathing Today. straight home & took a warm Bath then to bed

F 18 rather better Today – out some – wrote to W. Baird Tonight. Father out at Paisley.

S 19. busy cutting Today. Father out of course & nearly all day, wonder when he'll stop? got word that Aunt Jackson wants to see me some evening next week, presume that it is about Johns place, who is proposing to go & be a printer – hope he may succeed as he seems to have a taste for reading. have been slack this week on the whole, but no worse than others, but have the prospect of being busy in the men's department next week. spoke 2 days ago to Father of my going down to Largs when the Classes rise, with R.K. to spend a few days for the benefit of my health. he agreed to my proposal & gave me the promise of getting away. shut about 10 – straight home.

S 20. was late of rising this morn'g – did not get my private exercises gone through. went to prayer meeting, took the pet at something, went to Church with a minded [sic] soured – as a matter of course made little or nothing of the Dr's forenoon Lecture. to hide & to work off my spleen went down to Glasgow Green for a walk & there I saw a sight such as might make one angry at oneself, for being in such a state of mind – every passion fled except pity. saw on the green I'm sure thousands of Children play-ing – dancing about & fighting – twas a scene that one could not contemplate unmoved & {what an} I thought on Lot grieved at the wickedness of Sodom, I thought on Christ weeping over Jerusalem. here was a scene which in any of these places

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could hardly be sur-passed. what will <be> the end of these things. trace these young ones up-ward & onward into futurity, what do we see them. godly young men alas we fear not. as the twig is bent so does the tree incline – or Solomon "Train up a Child in the way he should go & when he is old he will not depart from it" & {alas} it holds generally true either in good or evil. these yet may be the inmates of our prison, the public nui-sances of our streets, the pests & outcasts of society or the victims of the just pun-ishment of our Laws – tis fearful to look upon in consideration, even, of time, how much more awful as regards eternity. 'tis too much for my weak mind even to attempt a sketch of it – there was a meeting of the Committee regarding the taking of the Children to Church, Today. some I believe were for giving it up. I thought to myself, "here is an argument in favour of it, a powerful, an irresistibile [sic] argument – went to St Lukes (Free) Church – heard an excellent discourse from Mr Mitchell & saw the ordination of 3 Elders. Mr Mitchell went through the service with much greater reverence & was much more impressive than was Dr Jamieson when he made his. after dinner went up to Sight Hill, & was coming home when I met W. Roberson & had a turn with him. spoke of Henderson, who, as I anticipated, had found fault with me for taking the superintendentship in Mr More's absence. he told Roberson some falsehoods concerning it but I am quite indifferent about it. home about ½ p 8.

M 21. cutting mostly all day. busy. am to go down to Partick some eveng this week, to speak to Aunt, I presume it will be about John. at singing To-night. home about ½ p 10.

T 22 RK called & left me a note he had got from W. Baird, paisley, intimating the death of his Sister on Sabbath Afternoon ½ p 4. there were no particulars. – oh how Solemn ought this dispensation to come to me. twas only last Summer our acquaintanceship [sic] commenced – & tis fin-ished already. tis the first of my per-sonal friendships which has been severed by the hand of death. {for} though parting with a friend, we have hopes that we may see each other again, but here "we will see her face no more". so young! so fair! life was but begun, she had only tasted its first fruits, she had only burst into the blossom of womanhood, but – as Burns expresses it, "Fell deaths untimely frost has nipt the Bud right early" – death came (the scenes which we visited during our stay at Largs, when thinking on them, they have acquired a melancholy Interest in my eyes, the Knock Hill, – the Minsters Grove, – the Cumbray – the other places –) & he came not suddenly, his seeds had long been sown, for they were constitutional, & each successive year was bringing them to maturity, till at last now, like Corn fully ripe – he came & with his Sickle cut it down – I will not write more now of her, until on my intended visit to paisley I learn something of her state of body & mind. I sincerely [sic] hope that she had embraced the Saviour, he who is our all in all – so that death may not have been a terror to her, but merely the opening of the gates of Heaven to let the disembodied spirit enter into those realms of peace & Holiness & Happiness which God hath prepared for his people. may the Saviour himself be the Good Samaritan & pour into the wounded spirits of the survivors the oil & wine of the Consolations of His Gospel – may this dispensation be sanctified unto all & especially to my-self – may it teach {not} me not to depend on Youth & seeming Health – for these in a moment may give way – & then, considering my own precarious state of Health, it ought to make me more careful, more earnest, more desirous [sic], than ever to make my calling & Election sure, that I may work while it is called Today – ere the night cometh when no man can work. Let me be up & doing for I know not when the

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day or the Hour may come. – up at W Roberson – at Tea – staid until 12 – had some conversation but sorry there was but little of the Conve<r>sation that apper-tains to Heavenly things – I am very diffident – in talking of these subjects in company – tis a fault & a failing of mine.

W 23. Robert Kirkwood has again come off succesful [sic] – he has got the First prize for the essay on Chloroform – carried it over the Heads of Elder students – he told me some time ago that he expected he would have stood second in Merit, but this has exceeded my expectations – though certainly not my desires – & the Students have awarded him the 3^d prize in the {Class} Materia Medica Class – this he does not set so much value on – as he considers that it is Interest & not Merit, that has placed the others above him. went to Partick, about 7. oClock. saw Aunt & Uncle, had some conversation regarding Gilbert & John. they wish that G. may again be sent to School – to learn Book-keeping & likewise to improve his writing & arithmetic, as it is probable that, if he continues there, he may in a Short time be advanced, & of John that Father is to go down & speak about him – {home} left at 10 & went up to RK. he has got another prize in Dr Buchanan's Class – he & another being adjudged equal - I am very glad to hear it. he is indeed a pro-mising student assiduous & careful in his Studies. {(May} that he may live to reap the reward of his Labours is my earnest desire – home about 12.

T 24 – in Shop – at Singing Tonight in Dr Taylors Church – preparatory to our Con-cert. the meeting tolerably well attended & the different pieces sung very well –

F 25. nothing particular. shut about ½ p 8.

S 26. had a long walk this morn^g & observed that there has been a considerable fall of snow – RK called & showed me a Letter he had written to W Baird sym-pathising with him on his sisters death. it was very appropriate & in its sentiments I cordially agreed. intend to go to Largs (if spared) on Wednesday Afternⁿ. going to Pais-ley first stay there for an hour or so – then take Rail to Greenock & meet the Boat there. shut about 10½. got no money, am to get some when I go to Largs –

S 27. rose about ½ p 7 rather unwell, did not go to prayer meeting F St. Pauls Mr Dewar our Missionary, who I liked very well. Afternoon, went down to hear Mr Edmond but he was not at home, & instead heard a young man, who was very clever & had a most excellent discourse. went to Balfours School taught one Lesson, straight home. spent the evening reading prayer &^c. must be {a little} much more personal in my prayers, too abstract & general, must try to see & feel my wants, so when I do that, then Ill be better able to express them. to bed about ½ p 9.

M 28. Father at Hewarton [?], Greenock & Paisley Today, after Money – tis an awful affair this money still continuing Cold hope it may be mild & dry on Wednesday – will be pretty busy this week I think – must get the work forward before I go – shut about 8. then went to our Singing Class Con-cert in Dr Taylor's U.P. Church. we sung very well indeed, this without the least vanity, as I do not consider that I helped them in the least. Mr. Ker {of} late of Alnwick gave a short address, which was very appropriate & very beautiful, & Mr. Brown of Free St. James spoke likewise, but he seemed to lack sense as to when he should stop. spoke so long that they were fairly tired of him & ruffed him down. {thus clos} separated about 10. & thus closed my first

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seasons sing-ing – during which I attended only 5 or 6 nights – but the advancement of the class does the greatest credit to Mr. Thompson the leader. If I am spared until next winter & all circumstances favourable, I'll attend it then better I hope than during the past

T 29 – nothing particular. asked Father as to getting away Tomorrow – he assented [sic]. straight home

W. 30 making preparation for going to Largs. went to the distribution of Prizes at the University. RK got 3 – immediately afterwards left, came to shop, & got 10/ from Father. left by the ½ p 1 Train for Paisley. called first at Mrs. Fulton (Miss F not at home), then went to W^m Bairds, he was away to Glasgow. I regret this much as I would like to have heard about his sis-ter. then called on Miss Cathcart where we got dinner, then went back to Mrs F where we got Tea. left p^r ¼ p 4 Train for Greenock. made several calls there, got the Boat at ½ p 6, and as it was a most beautiful evening enjoyed the Sail. arrived in Largs about 8, {some} saw some friends, located myself snugly, in my old quarters (John McLean's) & went to Bed at 11

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Thursday May 1 1851.

This has opened a most beautiful day. I hope it will be but a beginning to good weather. about ½ p 10 met Robt & off we started in search of the source of the Greeto Water & to the Hill of Stake – over Moss & Moor we went crossing burns in numbers. we traced the Burn until we came to a place where it divided into 3 Branches, further than which we did not go, but began the ascent of the Hill mostly over Mossy ground – 4 hours walking from leaving Largs brought us to the top & the view got from it amply compensated us for all the toil & trouble which we had. the view was the most extended ever I had – the whole Ayrshire coast extending away South, the Hills of Jura to the West, Glasgow to the East, & the Mountain range to the North, the tops of some of which were covered with Snow & presented a beautiful appearance when the Sun shone on them. without the least exaggeration we had a view of a circuit of 200 Miles. we saw Ailsa, Jura, Kintyre, Bute, Arran, Dalry, Paisley, &c after viewing the scenery some we began our descent, but we were enabled through the guidance of a Shepherd, who by the way was the only person we met, to take a Shorter Road home & arrived at the "Hollows" Farm in about 2 hours where we took shelter from the Shower & got some Milk, for which they charged nothing. a most beautiful sunset from which I would augur a good day Tomorrow. it must be one of ease for we are both tired. when on the Hill we were thinking & speaking of the great exhibition. we, were not envying them in the least, they, were admiring art, we, nature, they, surveying the works of men, we, of God, they, things that shall soon pass away, we, what shall endure until the end of time. I dont in the least mean to disparage the exhibition for it is a great & noble work one worthy of such a nation as us to have planned & executed. I should much enjoy the sight but as there is no prospect of such being my lot, I'll admire what is here instead. in scenes like those we saw, we could imagine that the persecuted fled in days of old, & in solitude & secrecy, far from the habitations & the eyes of men, worshipped the God of their fathers, watchmen set on every hill to give notice of the approach of an enemy and each man armed with a sword or other weapon to defend his religion which he held dearer than life.

F 2 rose about 7 a little fatigued. about 10 met R & M Ross, who had kindly offered us the loan of a boat for the day, of course we accepted the offer. rowed over to the Ferry house, left the Boat there. ordered some Curds to be ready by our return, & walked to Millport, a delightful walk it is. went up to the new College (Episcopal) & Church which have been built at Millport, was fortunate enough in obtaining admittance to view it. we were conducted through it by a little fellow, who from the veneration he paid to the building & to the "founder" we concluded he must be a parasite of the Court – everything has been got up in first-rate style, very gaudy, I think. it is an imitation of some of our ancient Ecclesiastical [sic] edifices, but it is but a poor attempt, it fails too [sic] inspire one with that feeling of awe & reverence which is awakened in our breast, when we enter a place like our own Cathedral – first we went through the College. saw the professor's [sic] Halls, with their Crucifixes. Plain they were, but comfortable. then went into the Church which is not finished yet & of course was seen rather at a disadvantage, it is however a handsome Place. then visited the Oratory, I think 'tis called, a small chapel to the right of the building. saw some of their vestments. saw some Iron gates in it, which the man told us cost a large sum, but which we <thought> was a whale. then went up to the Students {rooms} abode, where we

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found one consisted of a small room, some of which had two beds others only one, but in which invariably we found a crucifix. very comfortable places they are & they intend that if they adopt a monastic life that they will have as few of its austerities as possible & as many comforts. Hot Cold & Shower Baths, & heated I think with Steam. afterwards went down to the small chapel which is {at} presently used – will only hold about 50 or 60. at the one end there is a fine paint-ing of the Saviour dispensing the Last Sup-per, very fine indeed, below it the Altar which has a beautiful altar Cloth on it. on the Altar is a crucifix of (as we were informed) of Solid Gold & two very large Candlesticks. saw some of their banners for festivals (? & Holydays?) at the other end a baptismal font of stone, very heavy – & an organ – so ended our visit, can't say that I was al-together pleased. there seems to be a great deal of hypocrisy, & cant. the fellow be-fore beginning to show it, crossed him-self, muttered a prayer, uncovered his head. came back to the Ferry, got our curds, supped them on a knoll at the back of the house. crossed down to Fairlie but could not land owing to it being low Water. then up to Largs, home about 6. after Tea had a walk along the Shore until about 10, to bed about 11

S 3 rose about ½ p 7. after breakfast, went to trace the Stream of Gogo. visited the falls of Greete [sic], some of them very fine, one about 30 feet high, then ascended the Gogo which is far wilder than the other. huge masses of Rock piled one on another. saw one fall about 40 feet high. there was not a great quantity of water in it. the rock<s> at the sides of it were quite precipitious [sic] & would I think be about 110 feet high. I felt giddy when I stood on the edge, & drew back. the rock looks like as if it had been joined at some time but been rent asunder, by some convulsion of nature. after passing this fall the Stream ran through nearly a level plain, no {found} falls of any consequence being found above it. we trudged on over Mosses & Moors, sometimes sinking a little but but [sic] always getting over, until we came to a place where the streams seemed to issue forth from ditches, where we gave up further search & took credit to ourselves, for having discovered it. then we went away to the Top of several hills & had some very fine views. saw from one of them a Road to which we descended & found ourselves at the Farm of Knock-side about 3½ miles from Largs, where we arrived at about 7 after 8 hours of walk-ing. after Tea took a turn. Bed about 11

S 4 Forenoon Mr Kinross, with whom I was much pleased Afternoon Mr Donie [?] with whom I was not so well pleased. after Tea went up to Knock Hill, rested there & enjoyed the stillness of the Sab-bath evening – perfect stillness reigned.

M 5 from this date to T13. I have not much to say, having been unwell most of the time, with my old complaint, though it has not been nearly as severe as it was formerly. I can not state positively what was the cause of it though I think it may in part be attributed to my discontinuance of the Cod oil which I did when I came down here. my walks during this period ex-tended from Noddle on the one side to Bowling Craigs on the other. Robt went up to Glasgow Yesterday as he has to resume his studies, practising midwifery during summer. I am now nearly quite better & hope to be able to go home soon. went up the Glen to Twirl & had a good view from the top of the Hill. there is little of grandeur in it, but a calm peaceful scene, mostly all cultivated fields, which in Autumn must be a fine sight. saw a fine stream just a little before coming to it & a little farther down a fine fall of about 25 or 30 feet. it was by far the finest of any I have seen, clothed with verdure to the very edge, Trees, Shrubs, &

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Herbs, which gave it a fine appearance. then wandered among the fields & woods for a time.

W 14 had hoped to have got a hurl to Kilbirnie Today, for Peter Morris's wife, but was disappointed. went away up to St Fillians

T 15 went away with P. Morris to Kelly along the Shore Road. in coming home went into Meigle School, which is taught by an old Soldier with whom Peter is acquainted [sic], an intelligent old man. he was quite pleased to see us, & after his usual lessons he asked us to give them a few questions to try them which we did. I was pleased with there [sic] proficiency in Arithmetic – we all came into Largs together & on our road called at a Farm where we got Bread & milk. home about ½ p 6. when I came home found a Letter for me tell-ing me to come up per first Boat, which I would have done had I received it in time but in-tend to go up Tomorrow mornng. went out to see & bid farewell to a few friends, when about ½ p 8. I got word that Father was down. paid Mrs McLean 7/6 which was 1/6 more that she sought, but which I do not consider sufficient [sic] remuneration for her kindness trouble & expense

F 16 got up this mornng & made ready to start home, but Father told me I had better wait until Monday – went to Hunterston Toll about 6 miles below Largs – a beautiful day, the Country better of Last night's Rain, everything proclaiming that summer has come, the trees with their green foliage & various coloured blossoms, the grass like a carpet of velvet covering the earth, the grain sprouting up, the flowers in their beauty, the cry of the cuckoo, the harsh voice of the corn crake, the fleet sailing through the air of the swallow, the melodious notes of the Blackbird & Lark & the cooing plaintive sound of the Wild dove & the general voice of the feathered tribes – proclaim that summer is now come. enjoyed the walk for tis really a fine one after passing Fairlie. home about ½ p 6.

S 17 wandered about the shore all day

S 18 Mr Kinross Forenoon. between Sermons went to the Quay head & there saw a discussion between a Latterday Saint & one who had left their ranks. the L. S. was put to flight at once, if it had not been the Sabbath I could have indulged in a hearty laugh. on making inquiries about the L. S. I find that in Kilbirnie from where he comes he is known as an inveterate liar. Aftern. went to U.P., a probationer. Evng. Free, a person from Ireland –

M 19 intending to go away Today. on passing down Main St. saw the Herald of Today & on looking over the list of Sequestrations saw Fathers name. this is what I have expected this some time, I was a little surprized [sic] at seeing it so soon however. I can most solemnly declare that I am in no measure to be blamed for this. I am perfectly satisfied in my own conscience [sic] of this. went home got myself ready & came up per 3 oClock Boat – we had rather a boisterous sea, & had 2 races with different Boats –

T 20 Father has said nothing to me as yet regarding his failure. over at RK's tonight.

W 21 had some conversation with Father Today, but it was more regarding the future than the past – I hope he will get a settlement.

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T 22 Queens birthday. shut about 6 o'Clock. had a delightful walk along the Clyde past the 3 mile post. saw what I con-sidered to be the Hill of Stake at the back of Largs – in fact I am perfectly convinced of this. how I should like if I could get enjoying these walks oftener. if I had Saturday Afternoons to myself, I would think myself a happy man. will see when we go to the West End! if this can be got. home about 10

F 23 have heard nothing further relative to Fathers affairs. I had fondly hoped that this would have caused him to give up drinking – for 2 days it did & it was a com-parative pleasure to see him so, but Today he has been drinking again. this has been, & still is, his curse.

S 24 got our names written on all our books, so that they may not laid [sic] hold on anything of ours. pretty busy today. got a pound from Father Tonight for to keep, to myself as it were he said. what does this mean? that he will ask it back some day soon. we'll see. shut about 11 –

S 25. St P's Dr J F. had a walk with W Roberson between Sermons. After. St P Dr. J. visited Balfours School this Evng. it is not in a very healthy condition at present – read some, to bed about 10.

M 26. busy cutting Today to get work forward, {so that if} lest they proceed to shut the Shop, as I believe they can do – I wish I knew the result. I am in a state of suspense – but must wait patiently un-til Tomorrow, preparing our mind for the worst but hoping for the best.

T 27. this the day of meeting of Creditors in the "Globe" to elect Interim Factor as he is called. Father a little put about, a little anxious as to the issue – a little after 1 a Mr Guild called who has been elected & spoke to me very discreetly – the stock is to be taken Tomorrow – he remarked on its smallness – F came in shortly after that & seemed to me to have lost or steeped his senses in the Gill stoup. quite foul. oh tis a shame & a Sin. if this was over & all things set in order again, I must come to some arrangement with him regarding wages &^c & must try to get him to give up that cursed drinking which is ruining both body & soul of him. well may it be called "double distilled" "damnation" for it is indeed such to him. he went away to Hamilton this Afternoon to see Mrs Jeffery – he came home about 10. over at RK's & got an invitation from Helen to a Tea & Cookie shine in their house some night next week – night not fixed, which of course I'll accept. they are removing down below where {there} they are. home about ½ p 10

W 28. nothing particular Today – valuator were to have been here to take stock Today but did not come until 8 oClock which was too late, to be up Tomorrow at 10. went down to Broomielaw for a walk, home about ½ p 10. took some medicine

T 29. 12 noon. The Valuator is just now gone, having taken stock, which was fully given him with the exeption [sic] of a few trivial articles. he has gone up to the house now. Father seems terribly put about concerning it, I don't see why he should be so much so. taken house inventory off, {one or} a few things were put out of the way. The Interim Factor was here Today & the Books are to be taken away on Monday next. I wish it was settled some way or other, tis horrible the suspense in which one is kept, I hate it. I'd rather know the worst than this, but I must wait with patience.

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F 30. nothing further has transpired today

S 31. busy today. Father making out a state-ment of affairs, making a Copy for the Trustee. got home about 11

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Sabbath June 1 – at prayer meeting this morn'g. none there except W^m & myself. tis Sadly fallen off. St P Fore & Afternoon Revd Mr Leckie of shettleston a very acceptable change, he had most excellent discourses both fore & afternoon. in house all evening. to bed about 10

M 2 up at 6 writing out Fathers statement. the good debts amount to £224, subject however to some Contra Accounts. have as yet heard no word relative to this affair. over at RK's tonight had some fun

T 3. in shop all day cutting, as I did not do a great deal to it yesterday. went straight home & studied a Lesson –

W 4. nothing particular. went down to Broom-ielaw after shutting. on the Road home met R.K. & had a turn with him

T 5 late of getting up this morning – Father going to Greenock & paisley Today – telling me Today of John Boyd, who when he asked the loan of a few pounds from him ran away & left him. several things have made me think that the old man is a little Selfish & a little hard but perhaps we may get over it without his assistance. heard Today that W Alex-ander had failed, owing to the failure of a Mr Galloway who 'tis reported has cut his throat. a Suicide! tis awful to think on. he {was} (W.A.) was not involved with Father any though in some of his drunken speeches he said so. perhaps tis well, if this cause him to give up his drinking. We are very busy at present, in fact much more so than we have been this some time, our friends seem in the day of our calamity to have taken pity on us & gathered around us giv-ing us plenty of work. if they would only take into consideration the state of our finances & give us some Cash, but I hope this will come in good time. it ought to be a source of gratitude to God for his kindness toward us. in this res-pect, I will do all in my power to please & fit those who have remembered us. no news yet, a letter from Legat (T & D.C.) today, but have not as yet learned its contents. I am taking a note of the Expenditure of the Shop for my own satisfaction. & another thing which in any circumstances, but more par-ticularly at present calls for my sincere grat-itude to God, is, my present enjoyment of good health, more particularly as this is about the time, when my Summer's illness comes on. I hope it is past for the Season & that I may during the times of our difficulty enjoy that great blessing. straight home. am to take the Lesson next Thursday

F 6 Saw Messrs Legat's letter Today, in which they object to the appointment of a Stranger as Trustee, by which they wish it for themselves & likewise say that they consider that they have been shamefully used in this affair. they think so! do they? well they are perhaps the more {injurer} the injurer than the injured. Father does not want them to be appointed Trustees. they wanted a list of Creditors & he returned them an answer this evening, in which he said that Mr Guild was from home & would not be home until Monday when he would send him the information required. home about 10

S 7. had a heavy fall of rain & hail today & still continuing very cold. sent down Mrs McLean's Shoes to Largs today – got shut about ½ p 9 – had some words with Alex McKay with reference to his manner of using us in our work. he got up quite big & told

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us it was our own fault.

S 8. Foreⁿ. Dr. J. Broomielaw between Sermons. After Dr. Taylor Renfield St, with whom I was highly delighted. in house all evening which was very coarse – studying my lesson.

M 9 nothing particular

T 10 Mrs K called & told us that the tea meeting was to be Tomorrow night – – finished my lesson tonight – have taken on 2 or 3 more Men – who I hope will do the work of the shop to more satisfaction than hitherto. I should like to get a little forward in the world, & that our shop may become fashionable –

W 11 gave Father £2.10/ today, for which he gave me a Bill which he got from Jas Gray – for £6.15/6. cutting Today. Duke St. Gaelic Church is to be offered for Sale today for the 4th time. left about ½ p 7. went & got ready, & went over to Mrs. K at 8. about a dozen – half & half. had some very good fun – enjoyed ourselves – pretty well – broke up about 2 o'Clock, went home with Miss Gallie –

T 12 got up this mornng about ½ p 7 – I do not know what a drunkards Sensations are after a nights debauch, but mine now are certainly not very pleasant, my legs are very sore & stiff. I should not like to be out at these sort of things every evening – I could never stand it, I think, & am quite sleepy & worn out, worse, far, indeed than after a days hard work. gave the lesson at the Teachers Meeting this Eveng. but it was very dull. no spirit in me & gave it very badly. heard yesterday that an old young acquaintance [sic] of mine was dead, Ewing Gunn. he was a Soldier in the Queens Body Guards –

F 13 feel quite stiff Today yet. up at Mr Gray's tonight, getting all sorts of scandal & Small talk

S 14 better Today. about 12 oClock went away down to Govan to see a launch of a Screw Steamer called the "City of Manchester" intended as a Consort for the "City of Glasgow". she entered the water in gallant style as prettily as ever duck did. she is a most beautiful vessel, larger than the City of Glasgow & has 4 Masts. I hope she will keep up the reputation of her builders & of Clyde, & drive the Yankees to smash. afterwards went down to Partick for some measures, & came home very tired about ½ p 5. working in the Shop all evening – shut about ½ p 10.

S 15 St P. Fore & After Dr. J. Evening hearing a Teetotal Sermon in F Ferguson's Church. home about ½ 8.

M 16. Mr Girle called Today. I think he is in favour of Legat getting the Trusteeship. suspense until Friday & then we will know. over at R.K's tonight until near 12.

T 17 nothing particular. went home & wrote some. Alex^r McNeilage up from Largs today, by which I am glad to hear that all friends there are well

W 18. Jas Gray called Today & paid £3 of his Bill, which I had in part discounted. indulging hopes of going up to London in the course of time, shortly, not to {learn} see

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the Exhibition, but to be perfect in my business. what ideas have been passing through my mind, what plans have been formed, too many of which will never be practised or wrought out, but apart from nonsense, I expect & hope to derive benefit thereby – both mentally & physically, seeing men & manners, in the second Babylon & by adopting a little of its habits, hope to become a little more of the Gentle-man, & having learned my business come back here & practice [sic] it under more advantageous circumstances than I have yet done. I should like to do something to render my Father & Mother comfortable in their old days – as they are now getting up in the vale of Years – I think it is a Son<'s> duty, to consult his parents comfort – far be-fore his own selfish wishes, & tis his duty, in this respect, both by nature, for to whom shall a parent look for affection, respect & love & if need be for support, but too [sic] a Son, & the word of Gods [sic] commands it; with its threat-enings & its promises, & with its examples of punishment of those who disobeyed, & of the rewards of those even in this life who dis-honoured their parents. "Hope Sweet Hope" how thou cheerest my Heart & keepest up my spirit with thy bright dreams – tis good to hope, not impossibilities [sic], but possiblitys [sic]. went straight home & read a little.

T 19 John while out Today met with an accident, a bakers Board with Bread fall-ing on his Foot & severley [sic] bruizing [sic] it. Tomorrow is fathers Meeting day. I will try & keep myself calm as much as possible until I know the decision. down at Broomielaw tonight

F 20. day of meeting, but there was nothing decisive done, each party protesting. it must go before the Sherriff [sic] & there be decided. more suspense still, we must wait with patience. straight home.

S 21 had a visit of W Cameron from Gre<e>nock Today. expecting his brother Neil today but did not find him. left per 4 pm Train – Alex^r McKay's wife had a daughter last Saturday. tis strange how on that evening I should have been dreaming about it, though it was quite unknown to me, but it may be accounted for in this way. he was to have been in with a pr of Boots last Saturday & did not come, & as I observed that his wife the last time I saw her was pretty far advanced in pregnancy – put-ting both circumstances together, we may draw a rational conclusion. thinking on this in the evening, may have produced the effects spoken off [sic] on the mind during sleep, as I do not believe in anything supernatural in dreams – as I do not believe that God in our days reveals any of his doings to men. shut about 10.

S. 22 St P. Mr Calder of Partick Afternoon at Mr Bonar's evening at Mr More's School & took a Class, home about 8

M 23. not very busy this week I see we'll be

T 24. over at RK's tonight.

W 25. got several measures today, which will keep us a little busier than I anticipated, glad of it. after closing went down to the Shows & out of curiosity, went into one & such a scene, all the place one vast sea of human heads. Boys & Girls mostly & these not of the best order. Males greatly preponderated. for the acting I did not care much – tis the first time I have been at one of these penny theatricals & I did not relish it so highly as {to} will induce me to go back again in a hurry. it was not so bad as I had

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anticip-pated [sic], there was not much swearing & they behaved themselves pretty well. home about 11. the time might have been more pro-fitably spent

T 26. no word about Fathers affairs yet. they are before the Sheriff, with reference to the appointment of a trustee, Thos Legat & a Mr Guild are the 2 trying for it – if Guild gets it, then we may fear Legat's vengeance, if Legat gets it, then I expect a regular blowing up of the concern, so that we seem to be in for it, go whatever way it will. this is a skein that time will unravel. Mrs. McLaren is about to follow her hus-band to Australia. he sailed about 6 weeks ago, having departed hurriedly, he having got into difficulties & used & appropriated money that was not his own, tis a great pity – she sails on Saturday per "Indus". after shutting went and got a walk up by Port dundas – on the road down met Mr More & came down with him – home about ¼ p 10

F 27. wrote to Mr Girle today enclosing £5 for which he is to send Leather. I am sorry that he is so much in with Father, but can't help it. turning hard up for Leather, but be economical when we get in new stock. Father away down to Greenock Today. Jas. Gray called & paid other £2 of his Bill, which makes £5, which is sufficient [sic] to pay Bill's share & mine of the Cash lent. not very busy just now, so that the work is kept pretty well forward – This has been a most delightful day, very warm, sun shining bright-ly. a short time of this Weather will compen-sate for the colds & damp, {with} which have been so abundant with us this season, for until now Summer Weather, we have had not, but I sincerely [sic] hope that when it has begun, that it may continue with us –

S 28 another very hot day. Father came home last night about 10, but he had not much success yesterday. I had a walk today, but the Heat was most oppressive. Father away down this After-noon to Rothesay or Largs – dont know which, but think the Latter – for the good of his health, as owing to anxiety of mind & other causes tis not very good at present, but hope after this is over that he will recover it. got Mr Girle's in-voice to night, for the Goods ordered yesterday. Girle is as decent a man as ever Father dealt with, this is my opinion of him. as for the others, Legats, I could find in my heart to kick them out the door, horse leeches, forsooth, are nothing to what they were, charging ¼ more than the ac-tual value for everything they gave us – & then send such great quantities of it, at times when we did not need it, & pressing for Bills &c. was enough to seriously injure any man & Father having got into their Clutches found it impossible to get out, but I hope we have had our last transaction with them. got the work over by about 10.

S 29. Rose about 8. St P. Fore & after Dr J. at Mr Mores school in the evening & taught a Class. very hot Today 113° in the Sun & 80° in the Shade the Thermometer stands. went to bed about 10, but was soon roused from slumber, by the horrible gnawings of the tooth-ache which continued more or less until about 4 o'Clock when I got some relief –

M 30. rose about ½ p 8. not very busy this week, at least that the prospect at present. Father came home Today much sunburnt – very hot today again. visited Broomielaw tonight, then went to Jas McKay's for his Measure. home about ½ p 11 –

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Tuesday July 1 – This is the day that the Trusteeship case is to be decided. Father is terribly agitated about it, far too much so indeed. Mr Guild has been elected Trustee, the Sheriff having decided in his favour. I don't know whether there is cause of joy or of sorrow at this, will allow that question to lie on the Table to be discussed & disposed off [sic] after experience. 6 p.m. we have just got over a very heavy thunder Storm, there were about a dozen peals, very loud & deep & heavy rains, I hope this may do good to the country & that the Crops will thrive all the better of it. over at RK's tonight did not see him but learned from his mother that he is rather unwell & she is afraid that it is fever, brought on in part by overmuch work & anxiety about his classes. home about 10

W. 2 Girle here yesterday. F told him about Legats claiming £109 more than due, & he says that Girle was angry about it – Ewing Grant did it coolly [sic] yesterday, he rated Sword Legats agent, so that he forgot himself. he is a cool fellow & very clever he is & I think will be. RK is rather worse this forenoon presenting the symptoms of fever, but I hope, if it be so, that it may be a mild one

T 3. nothing particular today. R.K better. down at Broomielaw tonight.

F 4 D Nicol here this Morng. early, drunk. Father went down with him to Greenock & there saw a scene between him & his wife. poor fellow, he promises to be another victim to that hell conceived, but earthborn vice. when I think on it, the manifold evils it entails on all who are its victims & the heart woundings which it causes to those who are connected with them, I al-most gnash my teeth in anger at it. May God preserve & keep me from ever having a relish for it. RK. called Today, better but weak. Mr Turner, John Sr of Turner & Muter, I was told Today is dead, {having} it has been said that he put an end to his own life. it must be something awful heavy which presses on a man's mind when he dares to put a knife to his throat – when he dreads the face of man so much, but does not dread the face of God, pride must sore-ly overcome reason & Temporary Insanity must be the Verdict returned, an Insan-ity however which when a man is possessed with, does not render his accountability a whit less. Father says that word has been received from Legat (T & D.C) that they withdraw from the contest for Trusteeship, & their claim for the £109 – on each party paying their own expenses. so far, good. further patience is required – straight home

S. 5. John away at Edinbu<r>gh Today with a party of Juvenile Teetotalers, a grand turn out expected. What a precious story! about Turner. the man was in the Shop this evening & ordered a pair of Shoes – I did not ask him how he became recusitated [sic]. I rather think – nay am certain, that he has not been dead at all, & that he has not tried the edge of a razor across his throat except to perform that most necessary yet disagreeable task of shaving – by the way, why don't people in our Country let their Beards grow, it would give a young man a noble look & an old man with his long white Beard, a patriarchal – John came home about 9, having had a good day of it in Edinburgh & enjoyed themselves amazingly well – shut about 10.

S 6 St Pauls, a young man, of whom I did not think much. between Sermons went down to the Broomielaw along with W Roberson for a walk. Afternoon Union free Church, Mr Philip, his Induction Sermon – church crowded. he had a most excellent discourse, laying down the duties of pastor & people to perfection. if he

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acts according as he has laid down his duties he will do well. in house all even-ing, read "Goldsmith" – to bed about 10

M. 7. Father unwell today. palpitation of the Heart & bowel complaint – hope he'll soon get better. going to be very slack this week. at R.Ks.

T 8. got a newspaper from Sorley today. Father better. at RK's tonight, spoke to him of going a Trip on fair Saturday – acceded, but we did not fix where to go.

W 9 – going to be busier this week than I had anticipated, heartily glad of it for I hate to be slack. straight home

T 10. John has got a place Today in the Constitu<t>ional office, am very glad of it. this reduces the number at pres-sent [sic] in shop of us to 2. Nought is {ther} constant but change, I heave a sigh at the thought of it. not that I regret his leaving, but I cannot help feeling an indescribable something at the change. a dozen of Years ago, we were children, what now? two of us in manhood, all at business. what will the {twelve} next twelve Years bring round? 'Tis a question easier asked than answered, a question that lies hid in the womb of the future, past mortal ken, hid by a veil impenetrable to mortal eyes, but which shall yet be {unfol} seen by us as the mists of futurity {slo} roll slowly over us. down at Broomielaw

F 11. Father's examination is fixed for Friday fortnight, & the next Meeting a fortnight after that, so that it will be a Month ere any-thing can be definitely known. we must e'en wait with patience. got 2 of my teeth stuffed today, with "Brandes Enamel". we'll see how it will do. straight home

S 12. all fudge. I have swallowed my tooth, at least the stuffing of it. got away about 9. over at RK's staid there till about 12 –

S 13 Mr Edmonds {not} Foren. not himself however. Aftern. Dr Kings, an Englishman preaching for the Religious Tract society. Eveng at Mr More's School. this has been an awful wet day, just pouring. home about 8.

M 14 Wet day again, have been fearing lest the Fair Week should as far as the Weather is concerned prove a foul one. at Anniversary Meeting of Scottish Temperance League, heard some very excellent speeches, & some very encouraging statistics of the progress of the cause. out shortly after 10.

T 15. Weather has cleared up a little to-day & I observe that the Mercury is rising so that I hope we'll have a few fair days yet. tolerably busy this week bet-ter than I had anticipated – heard yes-terday that Jas. Welsh was burned to death at San Francisco at the great fire which occurred [sic] there a short time ago. poor fellow, all his mad freaks are past & gone. at Shows tonight. Yon the place to go for rational & moral employment for the Mind! that the place to go to, if you want your ears to be assailed with the most fearful oaths & imprecations! Yon's the place if your [sic] want your every feeling to be shocked at the behaviour of Mountebanks, females dressed up in tinsel dresses – a sight which raises envy in many a young breast – who I doubt if they have a petticoat besides to keep themselves comfortable, a boldness in their looks & behaviour, which is far from agreeing with my standard of female mo-desty. Yon's

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the place, where the masses of Glasgow are to be seen in their worst phases. there are not nearly so many "shows" in at this time as I have seen on former Years & these are almost of the very worst kind. the people seemed to have lost relish for them & are betaking themselves on an occasion like this to the green fields, & fresh air, which are to be found in the Country & at the Sea-side. Steam in this case may be said to be working a wonderful change, the many Cheap trips, both by Steamers & by Rail, which occur at this time, are taken advantage of by thousands, & leave the Shows {to be} in most instances, to be patronized by the dregs of Society. home about ½ p.10.

W 16 D Nicol in house this mornng. thats another victim to drunkenness [sic]. he has left the Greenock Railway, I have not heard the particulars. Poor Soul. he has been here this evening, mortal, he says he is going to America, but query what better will he be there. I am truly sorry for him. he was such a nice fellow, free, frank, & kind. I cannot charge myself with being in the least the cause of this, & of that I may be thankful. Teetotalism, not only keep<s> people in this particular from sinning themselves, but prevents them from being participators in other vices – Oh how many a noble vessel freighted [sic] with a more valuable cargo, than ere [sic] crossed ocean, has, when passing over the Voyage of life, Struck on the rock of drunkenness [sic] foundered & sank, & drawing down in its vortex the immortal soul to depths of woe. I sincerely hope that yet he may re-form & become what he once was – this has been a delightful day, for the folk enjoying themselves, as this is the first day of the Four. purpose to go to Loch Lomond on Saturday, with R.K. at RK's tonight

T 17. nothing particular, down at Shows again tonight, home about 11 –

F 18. a most beautiful day, hope Tomorrow may be its equal, if not its superior – over at RK's tonight, went up with him to Dr Thompson for leave of absence Tomorrow, which was accorded to him. home about ½ p. 11

S 19 up about ½ p 5. Gilbert off to Largs. got breakfast & went over to R.Ks, who had a very narrow escape from a midwifery Case – left Broomielaw at 7. a beautiful morning – got a hurl from Bow-ling to Balloch in the most comfortable 3^d Class carriages ever I was in. sailed up {the} Loch Lomond in the "Prince Albert", a most delightful sail. no-thing I think can surpass the beauty of the Scenery at the South end, studded with little islands, some wood to the Top, some under cultivation, others lying waste – & along the banks beauty there is too [sic] be seen likewise, its shores white & clean, {past} several pretty villiages [sic] along its banks, & the Water so clear, quite a contrast to our river freshwater. then proceeding North, we came opposite the "Ben" – where the Scenery changes & instead of beauty we have grandeur, piles & masses of bare rock – one piled on another, at other parts, covered with wood. saw the Cataract at Inversnaid where Wordsworth composed his poem on the Highland Girl. several very deep Glens to be seen, especially one to the South of Luss – saw one of the Islands – "Eilan Vhon", the remains of an ancient stronghold. after nearly 3 hours sailing ar-rived at head of Loch & Landed at Ard-leish – where we step from the Steamer on to the Sward. when ashore – as almost everyone took the way to the Inn, we took the contrary road, & having while sailing in the Steamer seen a waterfall we resolved to go & see it more closely. we scrambled up its rocky bed – {quite d} now high, now low according as we could obtain a footing – saw some very fine falls & linns, some under the shade of trees & under rocks, which perhaps from their birth never saw the Sun. after a whiles tramping came to a most majestic fall, I think about 80 or 100

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feet high – the fall of water was not very great, but greater than I had seen anywhere else, & surrounded as it were with rocks bare at the base, but about halfway up covered with trees, on one side, on the other a sloping bank all clothed with verdure – forming as it were a magnificent Amphitheatre. here we sat down & ate our dinner in the most spacious dining room ever I had the privilege to dine <in>. went a little farther up & saw another, it might perhaps be about 40 feet long, but was only at an {angel} angle of 45 degrees – with this view of waterfalls I was well pleased. they are totally different from those I saw at Largs – there is more of grandeur in those visited today. some of the Largs one<s> are fine, but here tis the romantic & the Wild. then it came on two [sic] rain, & we got our feet wet. adjourned to a Farm house, where we had milk for a quantity of which the woman very modestly (?) charged us 6^d. then about 3. it being still raining we reembarked on board the Steamer – visited the same places, & got to the Train at Balloch where as K & I had a compartment for a short time to ourselves we had some fun. I must mention that we were pleased to see such clean tidy villiages [sic] on the line of railway – came up in the Steamer where we had some fun, arrived about ¼ p 8. highly pleased with our days ex-cursion, & If I have an opportunity again I'll go the route to Ben Lomond & ascend it. went to the Shows, home about 10, very tired, to bed about 11 –

S 20 did not get up till about 20 to 11. St P. Young man – went in the After-noon to hear Mr Ker east Campbell St U.P. Hebrews 2. 6-9 – had a most excellent dis-course. Arch^d Morris from Rothsay [sic] up at dinner today – not out this evening. to bed about 8.

M 21 working away today. at Broom-ielaw tonight, boats crowded still

T 22 a note from Jas Gray today stating that he would pay the balance on Thursday or Friday. we'll see – straight home

W 23 – very warm Today; observe that the "Jews Bill" has been rejected by the House of Lords, by a majority of 36. this is to be regretted, because, I think that the Jews have a right to sit in Parliament as well as others. infidels are allowed, why not they. Unitarians are allowed, who deny the divinity of Christ, as well as the Jews. they are members of the community, they are Electors. why may they not be elected? if the voices of a constituency say yea who has a right to say nay? that their admission into Par-liament will unchristianize the Nation I have as much fear {off} of, as that, a butter-fly will knock down the house into which by chance it has entered. No! No! Christianity dwells not in the House of Commons alone, it has spread its roots & its branches, by many a stream & over many a fair field in this realm. give them their rights. there have been riots in Liverpool & Greenock between Catholics & those who call themselves Pro-testants, but who have little, very little of the spirit of Protestantism. some many has died in Liverpool in consequence of wounds received. the Greenock ones have not been so serious, a few wounds & bruises [sic] sum up the account. such con-duct is to be most strongly condemned, it may & does show spirit, but I deprecate physical force in matters of religion. true it may be that the opposite party have taken the lead in it, but that is no excuse for them, but at times when the feelings are excited & passions strong, pru-dence is thrown aside, & rage directs the actions – Gilbert has got a step of ad-vance in Mr Jacksons. am glad of it – hope he may behave himself & keep it

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{W} T 24 reading "Blackwood" at present, some capital stories in it

F 25. Fathers examination Today. he got it over pretty quickly, I believe. I hope the worst of it is now past, & that he may soon get a Settlement.

S 26. Gilbert down at Partick this Afternoon to his dinner. John had to pay off to the 'prentices in the office today, gave them a penny a piece [sic], not much certainly. have been ordinaryly [sic] busy this week do-ing a trifle; Bill is now practising the cutting – preparatory to my leaving for London as is my intention, if spared. shut about 10.

S 27. Barony Church, with John Sin-clair, to hear Mr McLeod the newly appoint-ed minister. he had an excellent plain practical discourse, but he did not realize the expectations that I had formed of him. there is a great deal, in his oratory, of the platform declaimer. Mr Caird is a far superior man to him, both in respect to mind & eloquence. between Sermons up at Sight hill, of [sic] which I had a splendid view of the peaks of Arran. After.: Cathedral, Principal McFarlane, he had an excellent moral discourse – but any thing further I cannot say; there was not the preaching of Christ & him crucified, there was a setting up of the practice of virtue, which is absolutely necess-ary, but the acceptance of the Saviour was not pressed upon us. Evening went down to Govan, home about 9. John Sinclair up at his dinner –

M 28 My 23^d birthday, the first I have spent in Glasgow, this some Years. I think this is about the best Summer's health I have had this some Years, at least as far as it has gone, hope that it may continue so. "bless the Lord O {our} my Lord" & All that is within me be stirred up to praise his name – who hath crowned me me with loving kindnesses & tender mercies! an eclipse of the Sun today, partial, about $\frac{3}{4}$. saw it quite plain like the moon $\frac{1}{4}$ old, it was beautiful. its light was obscured, so that it became like bright moonlight. the moon did not pass straight across the Sun's disc but obliquely. tis 15 Years since the last was seen here – very wet evening – .

T 29 up at Mr Gray's this evening.

W 30. nothing particular

F 31. John Sinclair off to Sea Today. hope he may succeed, for old friendship & acquiant-ance [sic] sake, as in my childish days he was my chieftest companion. many a travel, many a play we had together, getting our-selves into scrapes – just as soon to get out of them & into others. Bill down to see him away, but did not see him, Ship having sailed. down at Shows tonight & saw the Second sighted lady. she was put into a mesmeric sleep, & then she told circumstances that took place, the hours on watches, the dates & names of coins – even the very thoughts. twas indeed strange, utterly past my knowledge, but these never-theless {were} are facts. home about $\frac{1}{2}$ p 10.

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Friday August 1 – first day of harvest. the summer is now gone, & it has been rather a cold one – we have had no real genial heat, what we had of it was a fiery heat, which lasted for a short time, & then made its exit, followed by rain & cold; this has been a fine day, so that I hope the Crops may be none the {wores} worse of it.

S 2 another beautiful day. Father away to Paisley, not sure if he will be home Tonight. he is truly a strange man in every sense. he came home about 11

S 3. St P's Mr Johnston of Mary hill Fore & Afternoon, 2 excellent discourses – at Balfours School Tonight, which is much improved by the daub of paint it has got.

M 4 rather busier this week – straight home

T 5. had a dream this Morning of meeting W Sorley, fat & fair. I did not expect that anything would come out of it but I had an idea of telling him off, when lo, per evening post, comes a letter to me from him, tis rather strange this coincidence. {I'll} I am glad to hear that he is prospering & doing well. I'll write him soon –

W 6 got £1 from Jas Gray Today. straight home

T 7. nothing particular. up at Mr. Grays to night [sic]

F 8. straight home & made up my Lesson.

S 9. nothing particular – getting a little bus-ier than before – shut about 10.

S 10 St. P. Fore & Afterⁿ. Dr J. at Balfours School & taught a Class

M. 11. Fathers 2^d meeting Today. he made no offer, owing to Renisons claim, who he cons-iders had no right to apply at all, his claim having been previously settled. orders were given to the Trustee in 3 weeks to sell the es-tate, at its valuation, which {I suppose} will be bought. I suppose <it> will be done in my name or W^{ms}. this will not be pleasant to Father, in fact he told me that he was angry at them (Grant & Annan) for pro-posing it, but now he sees that t'will [sic] be the better & only plan. dear me! trials new & many, when one gets into difficulties, tis no easy matter to get out of them. many a time my spirits are depressed, but soon they rise again, & never yet have I sunk into des-pondency. straight home

T 12. this time last Year I was at Largs, but this Year I am at home in health – at N.B.S. meet-ing tonight. after that went down to the Shows & was in one of them & such a scene, it baffles my powers of description. they may talk of dramas teaching morals, but certainly in a penny theatre they don't do it, & those who congregate at such places do not get much advantage, because they dont go to learn. home about 11.

W 13. Aunt Jackson has got a daug-hter yesterday, glad to hear of it, hope she may soon become well again. this is her 7th child. over at RK's tonight

T 14. nothing particular – {down}

F 15 – down at Broomielaw tonight, a most beautiful evening – the Stars shin-ing

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brightly. they are beginning, now that the Sun is leaving us rather earlier, too [sic] show us their beautiful mellow light

S 16. not very busy this week, but still keeping us going – not getting much money this weather, but willingly put up with this in present circumstances, but hope soon after affairs are settled too [sic] get some-thing handsome. west at Anderston when it was raining dreadfully heavy. home about 11 –

S 17 St P. Dr J. Fore & After. at Broom-ielaw between Sermons. in the Evg. went down to Mr Edmonds School, to see Mr War-nock – did not see him but saw the school. home before 7.

M 18. The "Glasgow" S.S. to ply betwe^en this & {new} New York was launched on Sat-urday. she is a fine Vessell [sic] – not doing much Today. up at Mrs. Alex^r McKay (Aunt) for her Measure, & had a few mi-nutes conversation, & I must say that I have formed a different opinion of her from what I have been led to expect. she spoke freely & affably to me on different subjects, & I have formed quite a good opinion of her. let "Folk ford the Water as they find it" is an old saying & I think a true one. let every one form an opinion of people by their own experience, & if they find them {bad} good, let them tell it, if they find them bad let them keep it to themselves. over at RKs, had some nonsense with Helen. R hearing Father Gavazzi in the City Hall. I intend to go & hear him on Wednesday. home about 11 –

T 19. up at Mr Gray's Tonight. – 11.

W 20. a great Fire broke out this Morn^g in Well-ington St. belonging to Chas Tennent & Co., damage to the tune of £50,000. I saw it, and the goods were mostly all destroyed. in the evening at City Hall with H.K. R. could not get <away> owing to his having a Howdieing case to attend too [sic]. – & am highly gratified – let me try to describe him (Father Gavazzi). a man about 6 feet, stout make, long Black hair, no Whiskers, in the prime of life, he enters wearing a long Robe & which falls down to his feet. when beginning he throws the one of the Ends of it over his left Shoulder – displaying 2 crosses – one on his breast, other on the Shoulder – he then commences his oration, displaying in his features & his actions, his words almost. his postures & <gestures> [?] were beautiful & most graceful, like, in my mind, the Sculptures of the ancient Masters – The Rev^d Wm Anderson acted as Interpreter. Another followed a<nd> gave a short statement, advising the English not to give room for Cardinal Wisemans Chapel until the Pope granted leave to erect a Protestant church in Rome. The Father's subject was the Church of Rome commits Simony, & this he proved – by purgatory, mass, &^c & ably exposed it. spoke of Mortmain – Nunneries &^c done shortly before 10. giving him cheers which in fact were most enthusiastically showered on him during the Evening – went & got a short walk with H. & left her at home. home about 11.

T 21 – nothing particular

F 22 a very wet day Today, afraid that I'll not get to Ayr Tomorrow. has cleared up a fine evening, hope it may be dry.

S 23. The Sun shone beautifully this Morng. giving the promise of a fine day. got ready & was at the Train at ½ p 9, got into a 3^d Class Carriage & off we wheeled.

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stopped at Paisley about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour taking in passengers of which there were a great number as being Paisley Races. Then set off having a monster Train drawn by 2 Engines. kept fine until we came to Irvine – where it came on to rain heavily – which place I admire much – it is situated on a rising ground, having a number of neat Churches & Houses, with Gardens attached, forming upon the whole a pleasing scene. At Ayr when we arrived {it} which was about 1/2 p 12, it was raining heavily, however, undeterred [sic] by rain, off I set to see if not the "honest men" at least the "bonnie lasses" & the other sights for which Ayr & its neighbourhood are famous – took the Road, & found out Burns Cottage where I halted & had a Bottle of Lemonade. saw the Bed in which the Poet was born – a neat com-fortable house it is – on the walls of the room are the effusions of some poetic geniuses in praise of Burns – then set off for "Alloway's Auld Haunted Kirk, which of itself has nothing to recomend [sic] it – being of the same shape as others I have seen scattered throughout the Country – but which has been rendered a Classic building, by the genius of Burns. it bears the date of 1517 or 1519. walked round & my im-agination conjured up the scene so powerfully describ-ed by Burns. visited the Monument erected to his memory – in which is to be seen, the Bible, which Bu<r>ns presented to Mary – a lock of her hair – a bust of the poet by Park of London which to my idea is not like him but has far more of the likeness of Scott. from the Monument had a view of the Country round, it lies rather low but is surrounded by a beautiful garden. cross-ed the Brig of Doon, where Maggie lost her Tail. it is an old Bridge, very steep, went below it, then went to a farm House, & had some Milk & rested. I admired the Water of Doon much – retraced my Steps. met in with some Chaps, who thought I was a green un & wanted to do me by some Tricks of Cards, no go however. bought some Apples of a man on the Road, who advised me to go & see a farm house of which I had read an account before but to which at this time I was not aware that I was in such close proximity. went & saw it & was highly delighted with it. it is conducted on a new principle, that of cleanliness. the dairy is remarkably so, laid with oil cloth round the sides – pewter dishes & pails instead of wood, 2 troughs one of marble & other of Slate for holding the Butter in – kept heated when requ<i>red by Steam & which has double Windows one for the Sunshine, other for Shade. next saw the Byre, in which there are 48 cows, which are kept always confined & who lie on Carpets instead of straw, & are in a house, which for Cleanliness & comfort would cheer the heart of many an honest man in Glasgow, & which when necessary is heated by steam from a Boiler – there is a small Engine which is used for Churning & in spread-ing on the fields the liquid manure, which is received from the Byre into 2 large tanks, thence distri-buted over the fields & which answers the purpose well. the grass on one field which I saw has been cut for the 7th time this Season. saw the Stable which surpasses anything of the kind I ever saw before for neatness & cleanliness, no offensive smell in the least proceeding from either it or the Byre. wandered back again to Ayr along the Sea Shore then went through the town & saw several very pretty girls – crossed over the "Auld Brig", it is narrow & very steep. wandered through several of the Streets to see the Town, then went down to the Harbour, from which a fine view of the Sea is obtained & had some of the fine breeze which was blowing in my face, which I loved much. left per Train at $\frac{1}{2}$ p 6 & in the car-riage a mother with 2 Children, with one of which I was much interested & pleased, a little girl who sat on my knee the whole way up. very quickly arrived in Glasgow about $\frac{1}{2}$ p 8. Upon the whole was remarkably well pleased with my trip. tis a beautiful country between this and Ayr, rich & fertile land intersected with a great number of streams, which are finely wooded & give

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additional beauty to the land-scape – it is not grandeur, it is beauty – & all these beauties opened up to the eyes of of [sic] admiring thousands, by the liberality of the South Western Railway Comp^y. what was before a sealed book is now cast open, what {the rich were only} only the rich were privileged to see, is now open to almost the poorest. Steam has wrought won-ders & this is one of them. 80 miles on a Railway for 1/6! Prodigious! this Railway is well deserving of public patronage, for its liberality in this respect – Ayr is a very pretty place neat & clean, a country Town where in part Society is to be had, & which is surrounded by beautiful scenery, but tis questionable if even this, without the genius of Burns, would render it such a place of universal resort.

Thos. Legat called Today & saw F. F says that he is anxious that the thing should be settled, so am I. I hope a month will now finish it. to Bed shortly after 10.

S 24 St P. Fore & After Dr. J. Evening in Balfours School & taught a class

M 25. have got a little cold somehow. Geo Barr Paisley in Today & paid part of his balance. straight home.

T 26. thought before rising this Morn^g that I was going to have another attack of my old complaint, but am better after rising. I sincerely hope that it will keep away. straight home.

W 27 saw Miss Fulton of Paisley Today, but did not get speaking to her owing to not being sure as to her identity, at the time. better Today. straight home

T 28 at Cattle Market this Morn^g. straight home Tonight.

F 29 nothing particular

S 30. down at Glasgow Regatta Today. after shutting went down to see a boy who has lost the power of his hands & writes, eat<s>, shaves himself, sews, drinks &^c with his feet. home about 11.

S 31. St P. Fore & After Dr J. am not so well today. went down High St & Saltmarket in the Even^g & it was a scene! Christian City! Glasgow. no appearance of it yonder. Men & Women in Groups, Boys playing, Shops open, everything betokening carelessness. most of them seemed however to be Irish. intended to have gone to Partick to have seen Aunt but being wet & damp did not go, home before 7.

The first diary

Monday September 1st.

Visited the Necropolis this Morn^g making great Improvements in it. Father was unwell yesterday. he is better Today. over at RK's tonight. Cousin W Cameron was up & {Stays} is Staying with us all night.

T 2. wrote to Legat {last night} (For Father) last night concerning a meeting for an offer of Composition. I have not heard yet how much it is to be but do not think it will be large. I wish sincerely that it was settled & business go-ing on as before. we are at present, slack, but still as much as keeps us going which is all that is desired in the meantime, & yet I'm not content with this. I should like to be so busy that I could be kept constantly cutting & with this I would not envy one in town (of course I mean attended with all its con-comitants). up at Mr Grays Tonight.

W 3 – nothing particular Today. had a most delightful walk this evening, the Air balmy & mild, the Sky clear, & exposing to view the eyes of Heaven, the moon shining clearly & lending beauty to the scene, the only thing awanting was a mind willing to contemplate & meditate on the scene & looking from the Creature up to the Creator. home about 10.

T. 4. straight home tonight.

F 5. Mr Girle called Today & shook hands very heartily with & spoke quite pleasantly to me, this is more than I expected. Tonight had a very pleasant walk home about 10

S 6. Bill, Gil, & John are proposing to go to Largs next week to see the Regatta & to benefit their health. I dont intend to go, but will rather take an excursion into the Country. shut about 10

S 7. got up about 8. went out for a walk but landed in the Catholic Chapel in Stanhope St. staid about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour & saw plenty of it. the Church was full, composed almost of the lower orders – all kneeling in a most reverential manner, but what senseless mummeries I never saw, the priest stan-ding with his back to the people bowing & becking & reading prayers of which I did not hear one word. I cannot think how an educated man can be satisfied with such services. I would far rather have our own plain presbetyrianism [sic] than yon. the priest who was officiating, by the look I got of him was one of the worst look-ing men that ever I saw, the regular look of a knave. they must be great fools or arrant knaves. Fore & After St P Dr. J. Evening, not feeling so well. went down to partick, saw Aunt & the Young-ster. home about 9 –

M 8. my breathing a little short Today. Jackson offered to grant to Father a Bill for £20 to accomodate [sic] him, until he gets a settlement. this is very kind of him. Colin and Alex seem to have taken the huff about it as they have never called. Wrote to Girle about it, offering it to him. straight home.

M 8 rather worse Today. hope it may be nothing serious. got an answer from Girle Today in which he says that he accepts of the offer.

T 9. no better Today

W 10. Went off to Lanark Today at 11 oClock. not much better. a fine hurl. went

September 1851

to see the Falls of Clyde, visited Corra Linn & Bonnington Linn, grand sights both of them, well worth travelling to see. the height is not so great, but the immense body of Water which falls over them, gives it the appearance of grandeur. a little below Bonnington the river runs {between} in a narrow channell [sic] the sides of which are {formed by} Walls of natures own Building, perpendiculars of the height of about 200 feet, & the path on which we walk is overhanging this Chasm. at the falls the Water boils in the Basin into which it falls & spray is constantly hovering over it. {visited} saw New Lanark Mills but had not time to visit Cartland Craggs or Stonebyres. returned in the Evening, after getting a start by one of the Carriages running off the Rails at Lanark. found that Bill Gil & John were off to Largs. have an invitation from R.K. to go to Tea on Friday Even^g, depends how I am. find myself much better of the jaunt – home about 10

T 11 applied to N.B.S. for Aliment. went to the Dr. W.E.C. Clark, but he would not certify that I needed it. he said that there was not much the matter with me. I shall be truly glad if this is the Case, but I think that I merit it. down seeing the Screw Steamship "Glasgow" Today, was through the greater part of her. the Cabins are splendid, most gorgeously fitted up. I had not formed such ideas of splendour in connection with Steaming as what I saw on her. I have not been working any this week, we are not busy. {I cant} I can sit serving. very foolishly I went over to R.K's tonight, staid until about 1.

S 13. got up about 8. Father displeased, justly too, for my last nights nonsense. went up to Bothwell today, sought for Lodgings. would have got them if I had paid 6/ or 7/ per week, this I was not inclined to do. admired the Country much, saw Bothwell Bridge. home about 9.

S 14 St P. Fore & After. Dr. J. had an excellent Lecture & Discourse. not much better Today. up at Sight hill in the Evⁿ. home about 7.

M 15. up at Hamilton today with Mother & got a neat Room for 3/ per week. nothing par-ticular, a beautiful day. home about 7.

T 16 not a great deal better. the attack is not so severe as formerly, but is continuⁱⁿg long. A meeting of the NBS committee was held last night, at which my claim for Aliment was rejected, Clark having said on Soul and Consience [sic] that there was nothing wrong with me. I would bow to a Surgeons decision if I felt or knew that it was in accordance {but} with the truth but to this I refuse to accede as it is a manifest falsehood. I only wish it were true. I'm independent of them.

W 17. Went to Hamilton Today for the benefit of my health. a most delightful day, had a fine walk. got Lodgings in a very decent person's

T 18. up about 7. feel a little better Today. after breakfast went to Motherwell, it is a place of no note whatever. home about 8

F 19. up along Clyde Today, a very fine stream here – pure & clear. saw some Men Fishing.

S 20 Mother up Today. great numbers taking advantage of the Cheap Trains. some

The first diary

very fine walks here, but people are very much restricted. was in the Dukes grounds, saw the palace, a magnificent Structure.

S 21 Free Church Mr Buchan, did not think much of him. Afterⁿ Dr Keith who I liked much better. Visited the S. School in connection with the Parish Church with which I was pleased. it has only been in existence about 2 months & is progressing satisfactorily.

M 22. rather soft Today.

T 23. Today visited Chater herault. had a long walk through the policies which extend about 2 or 3 miles along the banks of the Avon. saw the Wild oxen, the Ancient breed of Scottish Cattle. there has been News received that Jas. Welsh is not dead, his Mother having received a Letter from himself, which is pretty conclusive proof.

W 24. expecting Father up Today but did not come. I am a great deal better now, having improved rapidly since I came here.

T 25. Father up Today. have had sev-eral showers & very dull.

F 26. kept dry this Forenoon. went down to a Hill above Cambuslang, from the Top of which I had a very fine & very extensive view. raining in the Even-ing.

S 27. a delightful Morn^g for Ducks & Umbrella Makers & cold enough to please an Esquimaux. William came up this Evⁿ. told him of St Paul S.S.S. Soiree which came off on Thursday

S. 28. U.P. Church, had a very good Sermon. Dr Memes (Parish) Afterⁿ of whose preach-ing & of himself thought very little, he is possessed of a Superabundant stock of Affectation. in the House in the Evening

M 29. W. left this Morn^g. turning tired of my stay here, the place pleases me well e-nough but having no Company ren-ders it tiresome. I wait my recall with impatience. went into the J.P. Court to pass 2 – 3 hours there. most uninterest-ing, saw some of the beauties of the dunce laws –

T 30. raining Today. had a Walk the length of Bothwell Bridge. it is the same bridge as was standing when the battle was fought, but has been modern-ized & made about as wide again as then. hope to get my recall To-morrow. have during my Stay here been pretty well pleased, without doubt it is a beautiful Country round about, mostly all under culture. there are no heights, there is no Sea, to change & enliven the scene, no Hill of Stake to ascend, no Firth of Clyde, on which to dance with our Boats – have fell into very comfortable lodgings, which in some measure keeps one<s> Mind at ease

I feel as it were that here I ought to make some remarks on concluding this book. the only thing that I could do would be to take a review, but as this more properly, belongs to the end of the Year, I will refrain at present. it however contains some eventful things. in my next, I purpose to take a review at the end of each Month to enter separately the Memorabilia [sic] which takes place & which claims my attention.

Farewell! the time that is past. All Hail the future!

September 1851

Sept. 30. 1851.

Glasgow

Geo. G. McKay.

The first diary

<i>Receipts</i>				<i>Expenditure</i>			
1850				1850			
Decr 2	By Cash on hand	£	" 11 "	Decr 2	Book 8 ^d C.J. 3 ^d	£	" " 11
" 7	" " 3/6	"	3 6	" 4	Sorting Trousers	"	" 9
" 14	" " 2/6	"	2 6	" 7	Lozenges 1½ C ½	"	" 2
" "	" " 2/3 R.K.	"	2 3	" 21	Postage 7 ^d Tickets 6 ^d (Lost)	"	1 1
" 30	" " 10d	"	" 10		(Missionary Lecture)	"	1 1
			<hr/>	" 25	Hogg 7 ^d Sundries 6½	"	1 4½
			1 " 1		C.J. 3 ^d	"	1 4½
				" 31	Sundries 2 ^d	"	" 2
							<hr/>
				Expenditure in December 1850		£	4 5½
							<hr/>
	Deduct Expenditure		<u>4 5½</u>				
1851				1850			
Jany 1	Cash on Hand	£	15 6½	Jany 1	Expenses to & at paisley	"	2 6
" "	" " 10/-	"	10	" "	" " " "	"	" 8
" 8	P. 3 ^d . P. 3 ^d . 11. 3/-	"	3 6	" "	Doorkeeper	"	" 6
" 13	4 ^d . 3 ^d . 17 th . 6 ^d .	"		" 7	Dictionary	"	2 "
	18 th . 4 ^d .	"	1 5	" 10	Guthries Plea 9 ^d Tract 2 ^d	"	" 11
" 18	3/ 21 st . 5 ^d . 1/4 ^d .	"	4 9	" 11	Testament 1/ Collection 6 ^d .	"	
" 25	3/. 6 ^d .	"	3 6		Lozenges 3 ^d .	"	1 9
			<hr/>	" 23	Soiree 1/- 26 Sundries 4½	"	1 4½
			1 18 8½	" 31	Binding C.J. 1/ C.J. 3 ^d .	"	1 3
							<hr/>
							10 11½
							<hr/>
Feby 1	3/6 2 ^d .	"	3 8	Feby 9	Collection 1/ Bible 5 ^d .	"	1 5
" 8	3/6	"	3 6	" 11	N.B.S.	"	3 6
" 11	For N.B.S.	"	3 6	" 14	Seal 2 ^d . Wax 2 ^d . Carriage 2 ^d .	"	" 6
" 15	3/6. 3 ^d .	"	3 9	" 17	2 Shirts 7/	"	7 "
				" "	Hogg 4½ 24 Collection 2 ^d .	"	" 6½
" 24	4 ^d . 26 th 1/- 6 ^d .		1 10	"	C.J. 3 ^d . Book 10 ^d .	"	1 1
	16/3½		<hr/>				<hr/>
			2 14 11½				14/-½
							<hr/>
							1 5 "
							<hr/>
March 1	6 ^d . 6 ^d . 2½ ^d .		1 2½	March 1	Gerard 9 ^d . 3. Collection 4 ^d .		
" 7	20/-	1	" "		10. Collection 6 ^d .	1	6
" 25	1/- 29. 3/6.		4 6	" 15	Expenses at Partick 11 ^d .		
	25/8½		<hr/>		Postage 1 ^d .	1	
			4 " 8	" 25	C.J. 3 ^d . Tooth Brush 2½		5½
					2/11½		<hr/>
						1	7 11½
							<hr/>
April 3	1/. 5 th 3/-	"	4	April 3	Expenses at Greenock.		6
" 12	6 ^d . 3/-	"	3 6	" 4	Paid W ^m . 10/- 8 th Book 10 ^d .	10	10
" 19	7 ^d . 3/	"	3 7	" 13	Collection 6 ^d		

Cash book

" 22 1/-	" 1	14. Newspaper 2½	8½
April 30 10/-	" 10	April 13 Lozenges 1 ^d .	
22/1	5 2 9	20. Collection 1/-.	1 1
		April 24 at Partick 7 ^d . Book 8 ^d .	
		C.J. 3 ^d .	1 6
		14/7½	
		2 1 9	
May 24 20/	1 " "	May 19 Expenses at Largs	" 18
20/	6 2 9	" " Cod oil 1/ 31 st C.J. 3 ^d .	1 3
		19/3	
		3 1 "	
June 18 Jas. Gray Barrhead 1 10	1 " "	June 5 Medicine 7 ^d .	" " 7
" 27 Jas. Gray	50/	" 11 to Father	2 10 "
	8 12 9	" " Covering Umbrella	3 6
		54/1	
		5 15 1	
July 8 3 ^d . 12 F 5/6	" 5 9	July 5 Collection	6
" 18 10/ from F.	10	" " Father	1 10
" 26 1/3. 4 ^d . 8 ^d .	2 3	" " RK	5 "
		" " Cherries 3 ^d . Collection 6 ^d .	" " 9
		" 14 Father	1 " "
		" 19 Expenses to & at Loch	
		Lomond	3
		" 26 4 ^d . 31. 5 ^d .	9
	18/-	£3	
	9 10 9	8 15 1	
Augt 6 Jas. Gray	1 " "	Augt 12 N.B.S.	" 7 2
" 16 F 1/- 1/- 23. 3/.	6 8	" 13 C.J. 6 ^d . Studs 1/-	" 1 6
31. 1/8	26/8	" 15 Shirts 11/-	" 11 6
	10 17 5	17 Collection 6 ^d .	" 11 6
		" 19 Gavazzi's Nation 6 ^d .	" 1 6
		Trousers sorting 1/	" 3 8
		" 23 Expenses to & at Ayr 3/	
		31. 8 ^d .	25/4
		10 " 5	
Sept 10 2/6 13. 1/- 15. 2/-	5 6	Sept 10 Expenses to & at Lanark	
" 17 6/- 24. 2/6	8 6	2/6	2 6
14/		" 13 " " Bothwell	1
11 11 5		1/	1 6
		" 15 " " Hamilton	8 6
		" 30 " " Hamilton	10 13 11
		To Balance 7/6	7 6
		£11 11 5	

NOTES

December 1850

01 F Forenoon.

01 St Pauls In 1843, many Evangelicals broke away from the established Church of Scotland and formed the Free Church of Scotland. St Paul's was built then for the Free Church, at the corner of Frederick Street and Cathedral Street.

01 Dr. J. Dr Jamieson (minister of St Paul's).

01 Broomielaw Street beside the Clyde, where boats put in.

01 A Afternoon.

01 in House In 1841, the McKay family was living in North Portland Street, in the parish of St Paul's (information from the census of 6 June 1841). Portland Street runs north from George Street, where George's father had his boot shop.

01 Dr Chalmers Memoirs Dr Thomas Chalmers, 1780-1847, played a leading part in creating the Free Church. The book was W. Hanna, *Memoirs of the life and writings of Thomas Chalmers*, Edinburgh, 1849-52.

02 Bought this Book The diary cost 8^d, as the Cash Book at the end of the diary shows.

02 to low 'too low'. Other wrong spellings in this month's entries: 11 *drunkenness* (twice), 17 *humourous*, 31 *acquiantance(s)* (4 times), 31 (near end) *desirious*.

03 siller Scottish variant of *silver*.

04 Mr Sorley Friend who emigrated to Canada earlier in the year.

05 Topp^r Topper.

06 R.K. Robert Kirkwood, a medical student, and at this time George's closest friend.

08 St P. F. & A. St Paul's, Forenoon and Afternoon.

14 (line 7) prayers to God for even 'evening prayers to God'.

14 (line 14) Bill George's brother William.

15 visited along with 'went to visit'.

15 (line 5) without 'outside'.

15 up a<t> dinner 'at our house for dinner'.

15 Balfours School A Sabbath (or Sunday) School. These schools were flourishing. At the Sabbath School Society soir  e on the 17th, there were 700 children present, and the Society had 58 teachers (see entry for 17th).

16 cutting sc. leather.

16 Cousin Margaret Margaret Tennent.

16 the Rose in her Face Inflammation of facial skin, probably erysipelas.

17 (line 1) A. McKay George's cousin Alexander, the son of his uncle Alex.

17 (last line) Helen Kirkwood Robert's sister.

20 prepaid it Apparently pre-payment was still not universal. Before 1840 it was normal for postal charges to be paid by the recipient.

20 not there He had lost the tickets (see Cash Book, December 21).

21 disappointments Boots not ready when promised.

21 (last line) William's boots William is probably William Jackson, George's 6-year-old cousin, who lived in Partick.

22 large Tickets Puzzling. (Were there small tickets as well as large ones?)

22 Mr. More's School This Mr More is not to be confused with the bedridden Mr

Notes

More visited by George on the 15th.

27 liberty 'permission'.

28 (line 1) Work 'factory'.

29 the C.J. The Christian Journal, i.e. *The Scottish Christian Journal: conducted by Ministers and Members of the United Presbyterian Church*, Edinburgh, 1848-52. The Journal appeared monthly and cost 3^d. George bought it on December 2 and 25, January 31, February 17, March 25, April 24, and May 19. On August 13 he spent 6^d, presumably for 2 issues. On January 31 he paid an extra shilling for "Binding C.J." (See Cash Book.)

30 Mistaken a day, how? George had begun his Sunday entry "S.28", and he began his Monday entry "M.29". He then realised he had put the wrong dates.

31 (middle) Peel Sir Robert Peel, 1788-1850, twice Prime Minister.

31 (middle) Son of Perdition So called no doubt because of his support for Catholic emancipation.

31 (middle) Graham steward of the Orion Perhaps George had travelled on the *Orion*. A passenger would be likely to know only the first name of a steward. The *Orion* was a paddle steamer which sank off Portpatrick Lighthouse, Wigtownshire, in June 1850, on its way from Liverpool to Glasgow, with the loss of 50 lives.

31 (13 lines from end) S.S.S. Sabbath School Society. George's "S.S.S. society" is tautologous.

January 1851

01 (line 2) to paisley George got 10/- from his father today (see entry for 6th and Cash Book). He spent 3/8 at Paisley, of which 6^d was for the doorkeeper at the Soirée.

01 (line 6) her sister In Ireland (see entry for 28 December).

03 W. Cameron William Cameron, George's cousin. He married Elisabeth Dale on 08/09/1853.

06 Sabbath first One would expect this to mean 'on Sunday 1st', sc. of February, but February began on a Saturday. George visited the school on 23 March.

06 Walkers Dictionary The English dictionary by John Walker (1732-1807). A new edition was published in London in 1848. George's share of the cost was 2/- (Cash Book, January 7).

07 Yonge St. Perhaps the street of this name in Toronto.

07 shine Scottish, 'party'.

09 the "Plea" George paid 9^d for it (Cash Book, January 10).

09 Sea bubble Puzzling.

09 "cribbed cabined & confined" Slightly misquoted from *Macbeth* ("I am cabined, cribbed, confined").

10 (line 4) after 'seeking payment from'.

11 bought a Testament It cost 1/- (Cash Book, January 10).

12 (line 3) Aunt, Uncle Aunt Jackson and her husband Robert.

14 Wills. Probably Robert's brother.

19 (line 2) when Mistake for *went*.

23 a ticket It cost 1/- (Cash Book).

24 (line 2) the Barony A Glasgow parish.

24 (middle) thou uncertain George intended to write another clause starting with

Notes

thou, then changed his mind, and the construction. He should have crossed out *thou*.

24 (8 lines from end) “cease ye from Man” *Isaiah 2.22*.

25 Doddridge “rise and progress” Philip Doddridge, *The rise and progress of religion in the soul, illustrated by a course of serious and practical addresses*. The book was first published in the 1740s, and republished in London in 1850. George does not include the cost of it in his Cash Book.

26 “Should it be to thy mind” *Job 34.33* “Should it be according to thy mind?”

February

06 Corsewell Light Corsewall Lighthouse, Kirkcolm, Wigtownshire.

06 Jackson Robert Jackson, Gilbert’s uncle. Gilbert was working for him in his bookshop.

10 (line 4) at Mistake for *a*.

10 (line 4) H.K. Helen Kirkwood.

11 N.B.S. North Britons Society. Today George made a payment to the Society of 3/6, probably a quarterly subscription (see Cash Book).

11 Trongate See photo on p. 19.

11 party [?] A very uncertain reading.

12 M.D. Union Soiree See entry for January 23.

12 the Body is as full Implying that the soul is empty. William is happy to attend church functions and eat his fill, but his soul is not full with love of god.

14 a parcel It cost 6^d: 2^d for a seal, 2^d for wax, 2^d for carriage (see Cash Book).

19 work ‘factory’.

20 Alex^r McKay Probably George’s cousin.

20 cause ‘subject matter’.

21 Hogg *Hogg’s Weekly Instructor*, published by James Hogg, and costing 1½^d. The Cash Book entry for 17 February shows that George spent 4½^d on Hogg then, but the diary date is probably right.

24 S.S.A. Presumably, Sabbath School Association. It seems strange that there should be an S.S. Society, Union, and Association. Do the 3 names refer to the same body?

27 (line 3) Togati & non Togati The “togati” were students of the Faculty of Arts, so called because they wore a scarlet gown (toga). The “non togati” were students of other Faculties.

28 (middle) he owes McMichael This seems to mean that he owes rent, which he would have to pay if he left.

March

01 on Tuesday He received £1 on Saturday (so the diary, Friday according to the Cash Book).

02 (line 4) e’er Mistake for *ere*.

03 a Government has not yet been formed The Government of Lord John Russell resigned on 22 February (see diary entry for 24th), and returned on 3 March.

03 there Mistake for *they’re*.

03 her Majesty Queen Victoria, now aged 31.

Notes

- 05 Question Effective Calling** Probably 'the subject of how to win sure salvation'. Compare April 22 (6 lines from end) "to make my calling & Election sure".
- 08 on Tuesday** A. McKinley eventually repaid the loan on 4 April.
- 13 (line 1) Uncle Alex** Alexander McKay, a tailor.
- 13 (line 2) Alex McKay** Uncle Alex's son, who was working in the boot shop of George's father.
- 16 Relief Church** A Presbyterian denomination founded in 1761. In 1847 most of the Relief churches joined with the United Secession Church to form the United Presbyterian Church.
- 17 Michelets priests women & family** *Priests, women, and families*, the English edition of a book by French theologian Jules Michelet (1798-1874), was published in 1846.
- 23 (middle) flats** 'storeys'.
- 28 Ecclestical** Mistake for *ecclesiastical*. (Same mistake on May 2, line 9.)
- 28 "paleys works"** The works of the theologian and philosopher William Paley (1743-1805) were published in 5 volumes in 1845.
- 29 jewing** 'cheating'.
- 31 tempus fugit** Latin, 'time flies'.

April

- 01 Rothesay** See map 1 on page 7.
- 03 St P. F.** It was unusual for George to go to church on a Thursday. The day was evidently a holiday.
- 03 by the Train** A steam train. See engraving on page 21.
- 03 coming up** from Greenock.
- 04 one of Menzies omnibus's** Horse-drawn. See photo on page 21.
- 06 (line 4) professor** 'avowed Christian'.
- 06 (2nd last line) walk** 'way of life'.
- 09 down High Street** For the procession route, see plans on pages 9 and 10.
- 13 (middle) D.M.** Mr More.
- 15 after a situation** 'for a job'.
- 16 (line 3) Sauchiehall St.** See photo on page 19.
- 16 (end) "eye hath not seen . . ."** *1 Corinthians* 2.9.
- 20 (line 2) minded** Mistake for *mind*.
- 20 (middle) Solomon** *Proverbs* 22.6.
- 20 (end) Sight Hill** About a mile north of the Cathedral.
- 22 (line 8) Fell deaths untimely frost . . .** From the poem "Highland Mary", slightly misquoted. Burns wrote "But oh! fell Death's untimely frost, that nipt my Flower sae early!"
- 22 (line 11) the Knock Hill** About 1½ miles north of the town. It is the site of an old fort.
- 22 (line 11) the Cumbray** The island Great Cumbrae.
- 22 (6 lines from end) that I may work while it is called Today . . .** *John* 9.4 "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work."
- 23 (line 5) Materia Medica** Latin, 'study of the origins and properties of remedial

Notes

substances used in the practice of medicine’.

23 (line 7) Aunt & Uncle the Jacksons.

28 (line 4) U.P. United Presbyterian.

28 (line 9) ruffed him down Scottish, ‘silenced him by making a great noise with their feet’.

30 (line 5) we Robert Kirkwood and George.

30 (line 6) p^r per ‘by’.

May

01 (line 3) Robt Robert Kirkwood.

01 (line 4) Hill of Stake About 5 miles NE of Largs.

01 middle) Ailsa The island Ailsa Craig.

01 (12 lines from end) the great exhibition The “Great Exhibition of the works of all nations”, held in London from May to October 1851, in the Crystal Palace.

02 (line 1) R Robert.

02 line 2) the Ferry house On the island of Great Cumbrae, just over a mile from the mainland. See photo on p. 22.

02 (line 4) Episcopal The Episcopal Church had its origins in 1582, when the Church of Scotland replaced government by bishops with government by elders (presbyters).

02 (line 9) Ecclestical Mistake for *Ecclesiastical*.

02 (line 12) professor’s Mistake for *professors*’.

02 (middle) <thought> Max’s supplement.

02 (middle) a whale ‘a tall story’. The more usual expression is “very like a whale”, which goes back to *Hamlet* 3.2, where Polonius agrees with Hamlet that a certain cloud looks “very like a whale”.

02 (3 lines from end) Fairlie About 3 miles south of Largs.

03 (line 2) Greete Mistake for *Greeto*.

05 (line 5) Noddle on the one side to Bowling Craigs on the other I cannot find either place. There is however Noddsdale, about 1½ miles north of Largs, and Bowen Craigs, about one mile south.

14 a hurl Scottish, ‘a ride in a vehicle’.

14 St Fillians The site of St Fillian’s chapel is just north of Largs.

15 (line 1) Kelly . . . Meigle Kelly Mains is about 6 miles north of Largs, Meigle is about 4 miles north.

18 (last line) Free i.e. a Free Church church.

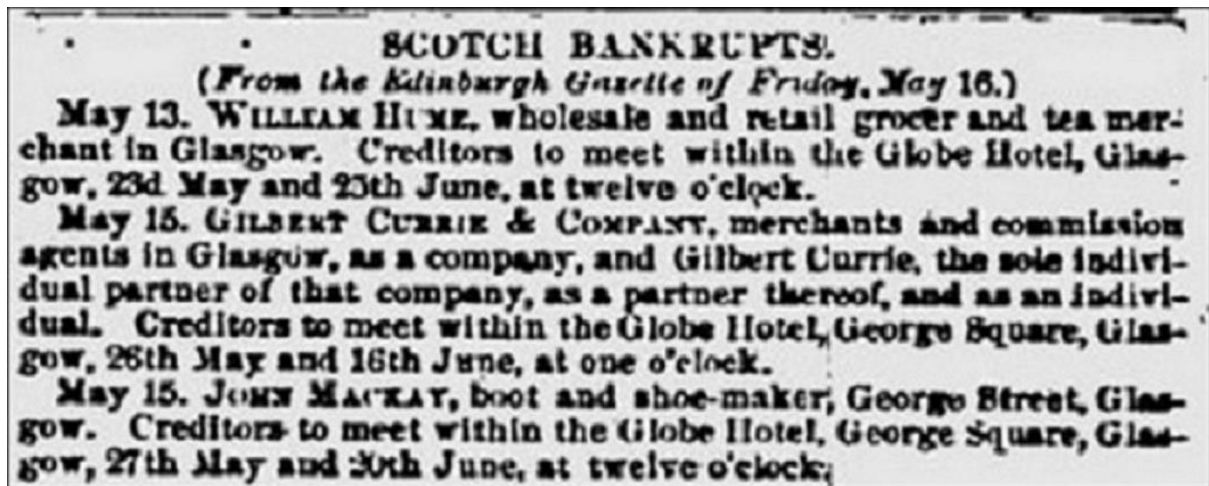
19 the Herald of Today *The Glasgow Herald*. The bankruptcy notice read as follows: “(From the *Edinburgh Gazette of Friday, May 16.*) May 15. JOHN MACKAY, boot and shoe-maker, George Street, Glasgow. Creditors to meet within the Globe Hotel, George Square, Glasgow, 27th May and 20th June, at twelve o’clock.” (See illustration on page 81.)

24 laid Mistake for *lay*.

27 (line 4) F Father.

27 (line 5) Gill stoup ‘half-pint tankard’.

27 (3 lines from end) shine ‘party’ (Scottish).



June

- 02 **Contra Accounts** Deductions required for the "good" debts that proved bad.
- 05 (8 lines from end) **fit** 'satisfy'.
- 08 **coarse** 'stormy'.
- 10 **Mrs K** Mrs Kirkwood, Robert's mother.
- 10 **the tea meeting** A euphemism, as George was drunk after it.
- 11 **gave Father £2.10/** The loan is recorded in the Cash Book. William also lent £2/10/- to his father.
- 11 **Jas Gray** A client, not to be confused with "Mr Gray", a friend.
- 14 **smash** 'a crushing defeat'.
- 18 (line 1) **paid £3** In his Cash Book, George records that he received £1/10/-. He gave the remaining 30/- to William.
- 18 (line 1) **discounted** He gave a discount of 15/6, leaving £6 payable.
- 18 (middle) **up in the vale of Years** *The vale of years* is a literary phrase for 'old age'. George's father was now 59 or 60, his mother 56.
- 18 (4 lines from end) **rewards** 'punishments'.
- 19 **Meeting day** See note on May 19.
- 21 **Alex^r McKay's wife** The wife of George's cousin.
- 27 **turning hard up for** 'running low on money in order to pay for'.
- 27 **which makes £5** James Gray paid £3 on 18th and £2 today. Each time, George kept half (see Cash Book) and gave William half.

July

- 02 **rated** 'berated'.
- 06 **"Goldsmith"** This probably means 'a work by Oliver Goldsmith' (1728-1774).
- 08 **fair Saturday** This year, the Glasgow summer fair ran from Wednesday 16 until Saturday 19 July.
- 10 **John** Still only 14.
- 10 **the Constitutional office** One of the things done here was the printing of books, and John probably became an apprentice printer. Note the entry for the 26th: "John had to pay off to the 'prentices in the office today."

Notes

- 10 all at business** George and William in the family boot shop, Gilbert in the bookshop of his uncle Mr Jackson, John in the Constitutional Office.
- 12 fudge** 'dreadful'.
- 15 (line 4) freaks** 'pranks'.
- 16 (line 3) mortal** Mainly Scottish and northern English, 'very drunk'.
- 16 (line 8) ere** Mistake for *e'er*.
- 16 (line 12) the Four** i.e. the four days of the Fair.
- 19 (line 2) left Broomielaw** By steamer, for Bowling. For the day's journey, see maps 3 and 4 on p. 8. Cost of the outing was 3/- (Cash Book).
- 19 (line 9) the "Ben"** Ben Lomond.
- 19 (middle) linns** 'waterfalls, cascades'.
- 23 (line 13) some many** Scottish, 'a large number'.
- 24 "Blackwood"** *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*. Content included fiction, poetry and essays.
- 27 Barony Church** Close to the Cathedral (or "High Church"). See plan 2 on p. 10.
- 27 Sight Hill** About a mile north of the Cathedral.
- 27 of which** 'from which'. The word *of* is a mistake for *off*.
- 28 an eclipse** As seen from Glasgow, the eclipse started at 10 minutes to 1 and finished at 4 o'clock. (Max's note.)

August

- 18 (2nd last line) Father Gavazzi** Alessandro Gavazzi, 1809-1889, Italian patriot, preacher and monk, who became head of the Free Church of Italy. George's Cash Book shows that on the 19th he spent 6^d on Gavazzi's "Nation", perhaps a speech, perhaps an essay.
- 20 (line 3) a Howdieing case** 'a midwifery case'. *Howdie* is a Scottish word meaning 'midwife'. George, probably following Robert's example, has made a verb of it ('to act as midwife').
- 20 (6 lines from end) Cardinal Wisemans Chapel** Nicholas Wiseman (1802-1865) had been appointed first Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster in 1850.
- 23 (line 2) the Train** For the route, see map 2 on p. 7.
- 23 (line 14) "Alloway's Auld Haunted Kirk"** Quoted from Burns' poem "Tam o' Shanter" (1791).
- 23 (line 19) Mary** Mary Campbell. Burns mourns her early death in the poem "Highland Mary".
- 23 (line 22) the Brig of Doon** The bridge over the Doon, where Tam o' Shanter's horse Maggie lost her tail to the witches.
- 23 (7 lines from end) 1/6** Total cost of the outing was 3/- (Cash Book).



Alessandro Gavazzi

September

- 01 the Necropolis** A cemetery on a low hill just to the east of the Cathedral (or High Church). See plan 2 on p. 10, and the engraving on p. 20.
- 07 (line 2) Stanhope St.** A short distance north-west of the Cathedral.
- 07 (line 5) becking** Chiefly Scottish, 'bowing, curtseying'.
- 07 (2nd last line) Aunt and the Youngster** Aunt Jackson and her daughter, born on August 12.
- 08 Colin and Alex** Colin McKay and Alex McKay, George's uncles.
- 10 Lanark** SE of Glasgow, close to the Clyde. See map 2 on p. 7.
- 10 Corra** Also spelt *Cora*.
- 10 New Lanark Mills** New Lanark was founded in 1786 by David Dale, who built cotton mills and houses for the mill workers.
- 10 Cartland Craggs** These rise to 400 feet, and form a chasm extending along Mouse Water for nearly a mile.
- 10 Stonebyres** Stonebyres Linn, another of the Falls of Clyde.
- 11 N.B.S.** North Britons Society, a friendly society which provided financial support for members when they were sick.
- 11 Aliment** Scottish, 'maintenance payment'.
- 11 down seeing . . .** Should this be the start of the entry for Friday 12, and has George forgotten to start a new day? Nowhere else in the diary is a day omitted. The remark "any this week" (below) would come better on Friday than Thursday. Furthermore, at the end of this "Thursday" entry, George says that he "very foolishly" went to R.K.'s place and stayed till 1 a.m. In his Saturday entry, he says that his father was displeased about "my last night's nonsense", which strongly suggests that the foolish visit to R.K. took place on Friday.
- 11 I can sit serving** He can sit because he doesn't have to stand and cut leather for new orders.
- 13 Bothwell** About 9 miles SE of Glasgow, on the north bank of the Clyde. See map 2 on p. 7.
- 15 Hamilton** Slightly further up the Clyde than Bothwell.
- 15 neat** 'nice'.
- 20 the Dukes** i.e. the Duke of Hamilton's.
- 21 S. School** Sabbath School.
- 22 soft** 'mild'.
- 23 Chater herault** Chaterherault, the hunting lodge of the Duke of Hamilton.
- 23 policies** Scottish, 'the park or gardens surrounding a country house'.
- 23 Jas. Welsh** See entry for July 15, where James Welsh is said to have died in a fire in San Francisco.
- 29 dunce** 'hair-splitting, stupid'.
- 30 the length of** Scottish, 'as far as'.
- 30 the battle** Fought in 1679, between Government troops and Presbyterian Covenanters.

Notes

Cash Book

Dec. 2 Book The notebook for the diary.

Dec. 4 Sorting trousers Presumably cleaning and pressing them.

Dec. 7 C Unclear. Carbolic soap?

Dec. 21 Tickets Presumably 2 at 3^d each. The lecture was on 20th, but George was not there, having lost the tickets.

Jan. 1 Cash on Hand Should be 15/7½.

Jan. 10 Guthries Plea See diary entry for 9th.

Jan 11 Collection 6^d No doubt refers to the 2 services he went to on 12th (3^d each?).

Jan. 23 Soiree See diary entry for 22nd.

Feb. 11 N.B.S. 3 6 This 3/6 is probably a quarterly subscription. Almost exactly 6 months later, on August 12, George makes a payment of 7/2, probably 2 more quarterly subscriptions, plus 2^d for something (a drink perhaps).

Feb. 17 Book 'notebook'.

Feb. Receipts total for the month should be 16/3.

March 1 Gerard Mentioned only here.

March 1, 3, 10 Expenses total should be 1/7.

April 24 at Partick See diary entry for 23rd.

April Running total of expenses at the end of the month should be £2/2/7 (10^d more than George's total).

June 18 Jas Gray Barrhead 1 10 " For this receipt and that of June 27, see notes on the diary entries.

July 5 Father £1 10 The earlier loan of £2/10/- had been repaid. George now makes another loan to his father, who repays 5/6 on 8th.

July 14 Father £1 Another loan, of which 10/- is repaid on 18th.

Aug. 19 Gavazzi's Nation See note on diary entry for August 18.

(2nd last line) To Balance 7/6 A mistake. 17/6 is needed to balance.

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