

Student Life in 1856—A Diary

The Concluding Installment of a Series of Extracts from the Diary of Daniel Satterthwaite, '59, in Which the Freshman Author Becomes a Sophomore and Worries over the National Election

A PRESIDENTIAL election in the eyes of an eager young Sophomore in 1856 was a serious affair, particularly when his candidate was defeated. Continuing the study of Daniel Satterthwaite's Diary kept during his freshman year at the University of Michigan, two installments of which have appeared previously in the ALUMNUS, it is interesting to see how his attitude changes, and his certainly develops as he begins his sophomore year. A new consciousness of himself, of people in general, and the possibilities of Life come creeping into the notes. Even the language is more carefully selected and at times a certain mellow magnanimity toward human nature in general fills his pages. It is the "Sophomore" as we are inclined to caricature him, only less violent in those days than in the faster and more sophisticated era that we call our own.

On November 4, 1856, Daniel cast his vote "for Freedom and Fremont" and by November 6, he was still wondering who was elected. Finally on November 7, the news reached Ann Arbor that Buchanan was elected, and the youthful politician sighed into his notebook: "The White House will be filled, or occupied, for the first time by an old bachelor. In the language of another, 'I tremble for our country when I remember that God is just.' A cloud hangs over our country which mortal eyes cannot penetrate." And for several days the tragedy of the situation coloured his entries in the diary showing the grim seriousness of the mood into which the election cast him. The next day he wrote, "T is evening. Darkness has cast its gloomy shadows o'er this land." This was but a part of the "cloud" which was hanging over his country's future.

During this second year of school, the four boys who were living together, sawing their wood, cooking their own meals, and tramping back and forth to campus, held long discussions together, "about matters and things." At one of these conferences, they decided that the author of the diary, Satterthwaite, should be a lecturer, and his friend Jonathan, a newcomer who replaced Claudius Grant in the quartet, a teacher or a doctor. The daily entries are longer than they used to be—the discussions are bearing fruit, and the young students are starting out for themselves on paths of thinking which, in their cases, were to be long and fruitful.

The final entry for the year 1856, written while he is at home for his Christmas vacation, shows an attitude toward himself, an earnestness which is in itself explan-

atory of the pluck and ambition which those four boys had to put themselves through school in the homely way they were forced to do: "Dec. 31st. Spent the day at home with the exception of going to meeting. Had company in the afternoon. In the evening took a sleigh-ride. . . . Thus ended the year 1856, and I hope that it has not been wholly spent in vain by me."



DANIEL SATTERTHWAITE, '59
"A Senior Picture"

Sept. 20th.

Went to Adrian today. Met Wm. Beal, Jas. Beal and Elisha Jones. Had some talk with each of them. This evening expect to go to Tecumseh to attend a Fremont meeting, as I am quite zealous in the cause of Freedom and Fremont. Two weeks from today I expect to be at my room in Ann Arbor.

Sept. 30th.

Was up rather earlier than common this morning. Pretty soon after breakfast had all my things in readiness for a start to Ann Arbor. About eight o'clock Elisha came, and having bid my friends farewell, we started. Had quite a pleasant though rather cool ride. Arrived there about half-past two. Found everything right in our room just as we left it. Spent the evening fixing up a cupboard.

Oct. 1st.

Nothing done today in the line of college duties. Spent most of the day fixing up our cupboard and rigging up a shower-bath.

Oct. 2nd.

Having learned that there would be no recitations today, James, Elisha and myself started for Detroit to attend the State Fair and the Republican Convention, and see the city, etc.

Oct. 3rd.

Yesterday in the afternoon attended the Republican meeting and had the pleasure of listening to Governor Seward, who, I thought, made an excellent speech. In the evening attended the torch-light procession and listened to Bates, Howard and others. Staid all night there and took the first train this morning for this place. The lesions were given off today and we commenced studying.

Oct. 4th. (Seventh Day)

It has been very pleasant,— regular Indian summer weather. Sawed up most of our load of wood today. Found it pretty warm business. James and I each of us sawed an hour for the tailor down below us. Our shower baths go good; they wake us up effectually and I hope stir up our ideas a little.

Oct. 8th.

This evening there is a Democratic meeting over at the court house, and judging from the noise I guess they are having quite a time.

Oct. 9th.

We managed to get our Latin and Greek by a little after four o'clock. Went over to the Fair and amongst other things saw quite a display of horsemanship by the ladies of this place.

Oct. 14th.

Took a vote in our class today with the following glorious result: Fremont..30; Buchanan..2; Filmore..0; and one not voting.

Oct. 17th.

Very foggy this morning. I think I never saw it more so.



MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 1859 BACK FOR THE REUNION IN 1909

The picture was sent to Dr. John P. Stoddard, '59, to identify all of the faces. He was sure only of the following: UPPER ROW (from left to right): (1) Professor Daniel Satterthwaite; (2) Rev. W. J. Swift; (4) Rev. Fayette Hurd; (6) Edward P. Pitman; (7) Dr. Theodore A. McGraw; (8) Hon. Edward W. McGraw. LOWER ROW (from left to right): (3) Hon. Claudius B. Grant; (4) Hon. James A. Snoddy; (5) William J. Beal. Other members of the class who are in the picture are: Rodney J. Hathaway; Hon. Augustus H. Pettibone; Rev. Joseph Swift; Hon. Albert H. Wilkinson; Raymond C. Davis.

We could not see any signs of the Franklin House from our room.

Oct. 18th.

We are getting our names up as wood sawyers, whether we ever do for anything else or not.

Oct. 22nd.

Hard at it. There seems to be no rest for me. Every day brings with it its hard lessons which I must puzzle my brain over. So it is, the path of knowledge is not always strewn with flowers.

Oct. 26th.

Had our first trial at buckwheat cakes this morning. They went off well.

Oct. 27th.

Sawed wood one hour this afternoon. I am getting so I like it first rate, and am glad when the time comes to go at it. We are now at a pretty good job, for I think we can make pretty nearly 18 3/4 cts. per hour each. We have fine times here sometimes.

Oct. 29th.

This evening listened to a very interesting lecture delivered before the Students' Lecture Association by Theodore Parker. Subject: United States and its prospects. He came down on the South some, which seemed to go hard on our southern brethren, for they both left the room. Quite cool this evening and the wind is roaring around our dwelling.

Oct. 31st.

Had quite an interesting time this evening in Society (Adelphic Union.) The boys got home before I did (from Alpha Nu), and E. had his minutes copied when I returned.

Nov. 1st.

Walked two hours and a half this morning, after which I prepared for going home. We all left a little before one and arrived at Saline a little after three. Found Samuel (brother) there according to agreement. Started for home a little before four. Arrived in Tecumseh before the cars went down, so James had a chance to go right down to Adrian, and so home.

Nov. 4th.

Cast my vote for Freedom and Fremont (at Clinton) and then came on. Samuel brought us to Saline, and we walked the rest of the way.

Nov. 6th.

I suppose that old Buchanan is most likely elected. So it is freedom has been beaten in the field and slavery has triumphed.

Nov. 7th.

Election is over. Fremont is defeated and Buchanan is elected. The White House will be filled, or occupied, for the first time by an old bachelor. In the language of another, "I tremble for our country when I remember that God is just." A cloud hangs over the future which mortal eyes cannot penetrate.

Nov. 8th.

'Tis evening. Darkness has cast its gloomy shadows o'er this land. And we are now assembled in our room, save one. Elisha is missing, and I suppose is mingling with his brother D. K. E.'s, in some secluded place unknown to us. James is acting the part of tailor mending his coat. (Note. Jonathan Comfort, a Haverford graduate, and medical student, appears to have taken the place of the absent Grant, away teaching.) Jonathan is acting the part of cook, for our cook is absent as usual. Such is the fate of old bachelors.

Nov. 10th.

Great Democratic bonfire on the corners tonight.

Nov. 13th.

Here I am seated at the same table, surrounded with my chums. All here but Jones. He has gone to bed, as he did not feel very well.

Nov. 15th.

Elisha spoke today, and got criticised some by both professors. Had quite good dinner consisting of fried beef and buckwheat cakes. Worked two hours at my old trade sawing wood.

Nov. 20th.

Thanksgiving. Had a Shanghai for dinner and a good big mince pie.

Nov. 22nd.

Jonathan and I had some talk this evening about matters and things, while Jones and Beal were off on some business of a secret nature. Studied some this evening. Retired at the usual time. E. is out yet.

Nov. 23rd. (First Day.)

I hope I will not spend many days in the way I have this. We have had a regular time today eating Johnny cake, and we

are now so full that we can scarcely take any ease.

Nov. 27th

This afternoon received a letter from brother William, and a bundle of provisions from Mary Jane, both of which were very acceptable, and I was very glad to hear from them and to know that I was not forgotten by them. It is really a great privilege to have kind relations and friends.

Nov. 29th.

Attend our regular exercises this morning. I shall have to speak one week from today. I rather dread it, but then I suppose there is no use in it. The best way would be to just resolve not to care anyhow.

Nov. 30th.

Grant has returned and was up to see us several times since. He is the same old Grant and I am glad he is with us again.

Dec. 3rd.

Our seats in the chapel are being numbered, so that I suppose after this we shall have to be on hand at the appointed time.

Dec. 6th.

It fell to my lot to speak this morning before the great Sophomore Class. I dreaded it a little, but not so much as I expected.

Dec. 8th.

Up and at it before five. Lessons went off well except Trigonometry which the Prof. seems to be trying to make difficult. Boys are skating on the crust all over town. Saw one going to school with his skates on.

Dec. 10th.

Had a treat of hickory nuts and molasses candy this evening.

Dec. 11th.

Sawed wood as usual. So it goes, study, work and sleep.

Dec. 15th.

Wendell Phillips lectured here this evening. Subject: The Lost Arts; and I call it a first rate lecture, I think the best I ever heard.

Dec. 18th.

All things went off well until evening, and we all seemed to

be taken with a perfect dread of study. It seemed useless to try; so I went to work and with some assistance from James made a shawl-pin out of a three cent piece and some wire. Elisha has been to work ever since trying to make one out of a cent; has not got it done. (Probably the pins were for their own shawls.)

Dec. 20th.

Very cold this afternoon, and I was glad when we got through sawing wood, for I was real cold. It did seem real nice to have a good warm room to come to, for which we ought to be thankful. Had a very pleasant time in the evening working out an example in Trigonometry. Jones is missing as usual.

Dec. 22nd.

Great excitement over Phrenology. James has been over and had his head examined and chart written out of his character. In the evening Jonathan and I went over and got the old gentleman, I mean O. S. Fowler, to feel our heads. He told us a great many things, some of which I think are true and some false. I must by all means be a lecturer and Jonathan a teacher or doctor.

Dec. 23rd.

Finished up our recitations today till after New Year's Day. Tomorrow we expect to start for home, leaving Jonathan here all alone. I hope we shall have a fine time. First rate sleighing and pretty cold.

Dec. 24th.

We were up in good time this morning. Spent most of time till eight getting ready for our trip home. Started about half-past eight, only five of us. Arrived at home about twelve o'clock after having had a very pleasant ride. James Beal staid here the remainder of the day and all night. Spent the time very pleasantly.

Dec. 31st.

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Tulsa Alumni Elect Officers

TWO ENTHUSIASTIC meetings have accomplished the election of a board of governors and the officers for the year for the University of Michigan Club of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The never-failing method of collecting a crowd, a banquet was held at the Hotel Mayo, March 30, following which the annual meeting was held.

H. L. Standeven, '99-'00, Helen M. Martin, '08, D. C. Nufer, '24, Brodie Atwater, '10-'11, '12-'13, '13-'15, James A. Veasey, '02, Dr. N. R. Smith, '12, and Robert H. Dott, '17 for. compose the new board of directors. The new board met on April 2, and immediately elected officers: H. L. Standeven, president; Helen M. Martin, vice-president; and Robert H. Dott, secretary-treasurer.

The Tulsa Club has been particularly interested in the section of its "objects of organization" dealing with the prospective students in the Tulsa High School, and as a result have done much to keep the University of Michigan before its eyes. They have placed the ALUMNUS in the school library, have presented an Honor Trophy to them, have shown the Campus Movie to the members of the Senior Class, and have ordered a *Michiganensian* for the school. Such activities will insure a strong Michigan Club in Tulsa for years to come.

Receive Rockefeller Awards

BRINGING signal honor to themselves and the University, two members of the faculty of the Mathematics Department, Dr. Cecil C. Craig, and Dr. Leon W. Cohen, have recently been awarded National Research Fellowships for a year's investigation into their specialized subjects in mathematics.

Allowed the opportunity of selecting any college or University in this country or Europe for their research work, both men have selected Princeton University.

The National Research Fellowships, numbering not more than twenty each year, are awarded by the National Research Council, which receives annually a sum of \$125,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation for the purpose of promoting fundamental research in the fields of physics, mathematics and chemistry.

Dr. Craig who has been an instructor in mathematics at the University since 1922 received his Ph. D. here in 1927. During the year 1924-25 he studied under Professor Wicksell at the University of Lund, Sweden, on an American-Scandinavian Foundation Fellowship. Craig will work with Professor Elinar Hillem on the analytic representation of frequency functions.

Dr. Cohen came to the University as an instructor in mathematics in 1926. He likewise received his Ph.D. degree here, being awarded it last June. His research next year will be under Professor J. W. Alexander.