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Jan. 3: I received letter from Matilda Sillers, she writes like she was in great trouble, says she misses her dear husband more every day. She sent me my dear brother's photograph. She writes that Mary Miles' youngest daughter was dead. Laura & Irene called at Coz Margaret's; she is not well at all. Julia Newcomb was there.

Jan. 4: Killed 15 hogs, that is 39 hogs we have killed at home and 10 wild hogs in pasture, in all 48 hogs. Dr. Tate came at 12 oc. Olivia was coming but it was so cold she gave it out. Old Mr. Dick Harrison was killed Tuesday by his horse throwing him.

Jan. 5: Miss Abbie & her brother Sam came here after 10 oc., went back this eve. Irene went to the party at Mr. Hicks' went with Sue & Tom Darden. Laura could not go, -did not have time to get ready after Miss Abbie left. It will be a year tomorrow since Horace Bullen died.

Jan. 6: Irene got home from the party at Mr. Hicks half after 5 oc this morning; all the young ladies & gentlemen around Fayette were there. Miss Mag & Ella Torrey, Miss Mary Lou & Emma Haper, Miss Nannie Stuart, Capt. Bartlett, Capt. Steele Drake dined with us today. The Company did not get here till after 10 oc. I expected Julia, Lena & Tully Stuart also Clara, Jennie & Ellen Montgomery. They did not come. I had such a nice dinner; stack & two jellycakes, apples, oranges, figs, almonds, pecans, raisins, candy & kisses, strawberries, whipt cream, transparent pudding, cocoanut, cucumber & mustart pickles, turkey, two baked chickens, two chicken pies, ham, Irish & sweet potatoes, baked ribs bones, onions, sausages & rice. Capt. Wchwing & Mr. Jones stayed all night, also Ella Torrey went in carriage to the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Darden says the negor troops are moved from Fayette. Mr. Montgomery says all his negores stayed. He gives them a sixth of the corn & a fifth of the cotton crop; his have all signed the agreement. Blount Stuart called, eat dinner. Had been to Natchez, received notice that they held his note for \$3,700 with mortgage on his place, that he must settle it. Bob came again tonight, said he was going to live with Ambrose Geoghegan.

Jan. 8: Laura went to the Academy to teach. Irene went back to school. Mr. Darden went to Dr. Wade's, all well. Dr. Wade had gone to Rodney. All Dr. Wade's hands stayed for part the crop. Miss Little's girl Lizzie left; she is at Mr. Ross'. Mr. Darden rode out of town with Mag Torrey; she said Ella would leave for New Orleans tomorrow to go to school. Mr. Torrey will move his family to Sunflower Co. Jeff Montgomery's wife & children left Mr. Montgomery's last Wed. for her home on Beuff River. All of Capt. Sam Montgomery's negroes left. Only two of Gabe Fowler's

stayed. Jack went to Franklin Co. to hire hands; Henry went to Washington Co. to hire.

Jan. 9: Rosa Stewart was at Mrs. Kinnison's: Mary Jane Chamberlain lives with Mrs. K Sam Chamberlain has only been able to hire four negroes. Jack will have ten hands.

Jan. 10: Dr. Wade sent for me after ten oc. Wrote that Martha was in labor; had been sick all night. I got to Dr. Wade's after 2 oc. Martha's babe was born after 8 oc. It is a daughter; named it Mattie Dunbar after Mattie Wade (that was). Dr. Wade hired Jordan & Fannie from Dr. Walter Wade's estate. Mattie & Dunbar Wade have been there more than a week. Mattie's brother James is staying there.

Jan. 11: Mr. Cozzins & Judge Wade eat dinner at Dr. Wade's.

Jan. 15: Mr. Darden called at Jack's, Cate told him Ned Miller was murdered by a man he had gone in partnership with. They had a fist fight, Ned whipped him. The man got his gun and shot Ned Miller. Mrs. Miller had a baby the day he was shot. Miss Fannie Carpenter of Natchez was burned by her clothes catching on fire, that she only lived 2 nights and a day. Mr. Darden went to Jack's to witness the contract between him & the freed-men he hired.

Jan. 17: Cicero Stampley and Alex Compton started to N. O. today. Cicero is building a store on the road where his gate goes to his house; he is going to buy goods in New Orleans. I am sorry he has started the store.

Jan. 20: Irene writes that Mr. Herman and Miss Stevens of Fayette are married. There was a party at Sol Stampley's last night. Mr. James Harrington died last week. His wife died 10 Nov. He has been afflicted a number of years. He was an old friend of mother & father.

Jan. 22: Dr. Tate came after his horses; Olivia writes she will go to New Orleans next week; she will leave Johnny with me until she came back from New Orleans; she is going there to see if she can be cured. She has not been well since the birth of her first child.

Jan. 27: Mr. Darden went to Presbyterian Church in Fayette today. Ellen Montgomery joined the Presbyterian Church today. Mr. Darden went to Jack's they told him there that Jack Burch had sent Mrs. Dixon some money. Leila Burch is married; Eugenia is boarding in Carrolton. Jack Burch has broken up housekeeping & is speculating in cotton. (Daughters of John David Burch and Zenebia Stampley)

Jan. 28: Jesse & his Pa went to the Presbyterian Church. Mr. David Harrison & wife joined the Church; it was unexpected to most of persons. I pray they may be good Christians. Mr. Darden went to Dr. Wade's, Martha is sitting up; Mattie & Dunbar Wade are still there. Sallie has come there, too. James Taylor is there also. Martha has a time of it, two babies & company all the time. I do pity her. Anna Darden called here,

she had been to Jack's; Cortez Chambliss insisted on her going there with him from Fayette; his mind is very much disturbed on account of the state of affairs; he has no one but his cook. Can't get hands, is in debt, has very little cotton. He says he can't stand much more, he will go distracted. Anna says he is the picture of despair. Cicero had his store open all day yesterday crowded with negroes. Mr. Darden got a letter from Mr. Spiers living in Carroll Parish, inquiring about the business between him and James Rundell. He says he finds that record in Court unchanged, that he had sent to Texas for the papers but had not received them. He had paid the taxes on the Rundell land. The taxes were \$\_\_\_\_. He said he would have paid Buckner's but did not have the money. He wrote that unless the taxes were paid by 22 Jan. the land would be sold. Poor Buckner, everything he had was mortgaged to Henry Shepart of New Orleans. How sad it makes me feel when I think of him & his home in Madison Parish, all a desolation now. So much hard work & sleepless nights spent for naught for our enemies to ravage & destroy. Oh! this cruel, cruel war, what ruin it has brought upon us! My dear child is happy, I hope there is no trouble or trials for him to endure.

Jan. 30: Miss Sallie Grafton and Capt. McClusky were married Thurs.

Jan. 31: Jack sent for Mr. Darden to go & see Cortez Chambliss; he is in great trouble, thinks his family will starve; is worse since he came back from Natchez. Mr. Darden says he cries when he talks about his family.

Feb. 1: Mr. Montgomery called half hour; went to Jack's to see Ma. His son Frank was there too. Mary Bondurant moved back to her home on the river in Louisiana. Frank's wife (Teresa Kinnison) is at her father's, Mr. Kinnison's; says she will go home, but the swamp is so bad she can't get home now. Tip Montgomery is going to live on the Bueff River in Franklin Parish where Frank lives. Jeff Montgomery's widow lives there too. Jack went to Judge Whitney's gate with Cortez Chambliss; says he went off crying. Cicero came over this evening, said he heard Mr. Darden was talking about his having whiskey & selling to the negroes. He gave him his word he would not sell it to them without an order from Mr. Darden.

Feb. 3: Wat Burch was at Cicero's store this evening, told Maryanne his wife died two weeks ago.

Feb. 8: Joe Davenport eat dinner here; he is assessing this County. We are taxed for every hog, sheep, beef we kill for all the butter, eggs & chickens we sell and for everything else we sell. It will take all we make to pay taxes. Mrs. Davenport has another son born Tues; they have seven children, a large family & nothing left to support them on. Pros Whitney got home this morning, says he did not see Dr. Tate, but Dr. Guice saw him.

Feb. 10: Mr. Darden went to Fayette, he met Isaac Burch as he came home with a letter from Olivia, she writes that Dr. Richardson had performed the operation on her; he was afraid that he would not be successful the first time but that she must be patient, had never known a case incurable. Olivia took chloroform, was under the influence two hours. It made her very sick at her stomach. She had been lying on her back from Wed. till Tues. when she wrote. Dr. Richardson received a dispatch that his wife & three children were lost on the boat Carter, not far above Vicksburg. It was a heavy blow to him, rendered him incapable of attending to Olivia. She writes she is so lonely & wants to see her precious babe so much. Mr. Darden took Johnnie (T) & George to Cicero's store.

Feb. 11: We heard this evening that Bro. Buckner's wagon driver had tried to cross the creek at Folkes Ford & was drowned. Mr. Darden & the negro men went down but saw nothing of the wagon, saw where some wagon had gone on. Came by Steph Stampley's, a negro woman told him that Mr. Stewart came there, said the wagon was loaded with furniture & supplies for him.

Feb. 13: Coz. Sarah Stowers called at the gate, had been to Mrs. Dixon's. Olivia got home from New Orleans today. Wrote for me to carry her baby home; she is not benefited any by the trip.

Feb. 14: I started to Dr. Tate's, it rained hard before I got to Elie Compton's; I stopped there an hour & went on; the roads are very bad. It turned cold before I got to Dr. Tate's. Johnnie did not know his Ma at first, but soon found her out. Olivia was delighted to see him. Dr. Tate says he never wants to see anyone suffer as Olivia did when the operation was performed on her. Poor child has suffered so much & has not been benefited any at all. The Dr. thinks she will go back the middle of March and let them try again. Mr. Darden came back from Dr. Tate's, Mr. Wright & family have gone to Copiah Co. I started from Dr. Tate's at 11 oc., had a very cold ride home; George got so cold he cried; I got home at 2 oc.

Feb. 16: Ben drove the carriage for Laura & Irene this evening. Miss Maggie Torrey was to come home with them, but she will go to Bolivar Pond. with Sarah Darden & could not come.

Feb. 17: Ben drove the carriage to Fayette for Mrs. Byrne & Mrs. Seymour; Mrs. Montgomery, and Clara came in the carriage with Mrs. Byrne, Dr. Richardson, Judge John Duncan & Capt. Schwing spent the day with us, Ben drove the carriage back to Fayette with Mrs. Byrne & Clara. Mr. Montgomery (Prosper King Montgomery) took Mrs. Seymour back in his buggy. He seems to be very much pleased with Mrs. S. It is strange to see how lively persons get after they lose their companions. Capt. Schwing stayed all night.

Feb. 19: Mr. Darden went to Fayette gave Dougal McCormick money \$25 to carry to Jackson to pay his land tax. Sallie Wade is going to Kentucky to spend a short time. Pauline Chamberlain is going also. Mrs. Judge Shackelford has twins.

Feb. 20: Blount Stuart started to New Orleans with Julia; her health is bad generally.

Feb. 24: Mr. Darden went to Fayette, got the Natchez Courier. Mr. Montgomery was at the Academy this morning. Mrs. Seymour, Mrs. Hattie Kell & Laura spent the day at Mr. Montgomery's. It makes me think so much of poor Sister Maria when I hear of Mr. Montgomery paying Mrs. Seymour so much attention, how strange to think of it.

Feb. 26: Mr. Darden went to Fayette with Jack. Eisman left Mr. Hicks to settle with Jack about the cotton; he wants 15 bales. He said sometime ago he would take 10 bales. Eisman has moved to Natchez; will keep Victor Meyer store. The trustees met at the Academy; Mr. Tenney sent in his resignation as President of the Academy.

Feb. 26: Jack eat dinner here, Anna Darden got here at dark; she says Rev. Mr. Hall told her that Mrs. Seymour & Mr. Montgomery were engaged.

Feb. 27: Mr. Darden wrote to Fleming & Baldwin not to pay the draft to Hyman. Jalone Stampley came & borrowed a load of corn till the roads get better where he can haul from Natchez. Jalone (S) told me he heard the testimony in the case of Sam Owen. Jim Torrey told a little negro boy to take his bed clothes out of the house, Owen told him if he did, he would shoot him. Torrey took a chair was going to strike Owen when Owen fired & killed him. They are half brothers what an awful thing.

Feb. 28: Anna got here tonight at 8 oc, she was in a mud hole a good while in Middletown's field; her carriage turned over going to Natchez. Mr. Montgomery & Clara were in Natchez.

Mar. 1: Anna went on home; she gave Jesse & George books.

Mar. 3: Mr. Darden went to Fayette. Mr. Montgomery took Mrs. Seymour in the buggy to Judge Whitney's. Laura writes that Uncle Prosper gave Mrs. S. a diamond ring & beautiful photographic album; that Clara was having four dresses made in Natchez. Blount got back from New Orleans, he left Julia there enjoying herself. I suppose her health has improved.

Mar. 6: Mr. Darden went to Dr. Wade's; they have the measels in the yard. Martha is expecting the children to take them. Mattie & Dunbar Wade are there yet.

Mar. 9: Ben drove the buggy for Laura & Irene; Laura was ready to go to Mrs. Torrey's, did not come home. Irene came, she has been sick with headache. Mr. Montgomery is perfectly devoted to Mrs. Seymour, is at the Academy nearly every day. John Stowers is sitting to Miss Kirts. It is an example for the girls, the teachers having beaus so often. Julia Stuart has returned from New Orleans. Got her a set of China, gave \$150 for it. Buckner & Sarah Darden got home from Bolivar Tues. Mag Torrey stayed with Ginnie Torrey. Mr. Bridges is married; he was Ginnie's beau for long time. Ginnie & Mag Torrey had gone to Memphis.

Mar. 10: Irene went with her Pa to Jack's to see her Grandma.

Mar. 11: Mr. Darden, Jesse, George & I went to Church. Irene went back to school. Lewy Stowers called at the gate, Mrs. Hicks wanted me to save her 10 lbs butter for Court week.

Mar. 14: They sent us a ticket to Abram Guice's funeral.

Mar. 15: Mr. Darden went to Mr. Guice's funeral. He was working the road, went to the branch to get a drink of water, was paralyzed, fell in the water. There was a little boy with him got his head out of the water. He did not speak after he was struck. I expected Mrs. Harrison & Julia Stuart today; they did not come. The city hotel in Natchez was burnt Mon. night. I saw the light.

Mar. 18: Mr. Darden went to Ebenezer to Church, very few there; went to Bro. Sam's to dinner, Anna is quite unwell with some breaking out; her face is very much swelled. It is four years today since our son Buckner wrote to us from New Orleans that he had joined the Army. How sad to think of his dying so far away among strangers; everything he possessed is gone.

Mar. 25: We all went to the Presbyterian Church, Captain Harper had his two youngest children baptized. Miss Lu Percy was with Clara & Ginnie Montgomery. Ginnie & Ellen went to Natchez this week. Miss Percy came home with them. Sarah Darden was at Church, she says Rosa's babe was a boy, born last Tues. (20) She was very sick indeed, her babe had to be taken from her with instruments. Poor Rosa, I do hope she will not be like Olivia. Dr. Tate & Olivia started to New Orleans yesterday. She went to Natchez on horseback. Wallace brought her sweet babe to me to keep; she dreaded the trip so much.

Mar. 28: Brother Buckner came this evening.

Mar. 29: Mr. Darden went with Bro. Buckner to Natchez.

Mar. 30: Mr. Darden came back from Natchez. Bro. Buckner sold 23 bales cotton got \$31.50 a hundred. The river is falling. Capt. Richard Inge was buried in Natchez yesterday. It was the largest procession that was ever in Natchez. Rev. Dr. Stratton & Rev. Dr. Watkins both preached.

Mar. 31: Miss Annie Byrnes has come back to the Academy. Mrs. Seymour & Mr. Montgomery took a ride in the buggy to Mr. Harrison's yesterday. Oh! what young times for an old man to be riding with the widow. It is a week today since Olivia left for New Orleans. We have not heard from her; Johnnie is very good; no trouble at night.

Apr. 1: Mr. Darden went to the Communion meeting at Ebenezer. Anna Darden is sick yet. Rosa Stewart is better. Annette McMillan (Darden that was) has joined the Presbyterian Church. She writes that a great friend of hers Mrs. Otis died in child birth.

Apr. 3: Mr. Darden went to Fayette, was on jury. They got several judgments against Jack Burch. Judge Ellis got judgment against John Fleming for \$200. Young Mr. Rohelia ? (Rojhelia) was murdered by negroes last week.

Apr. 4: Mr. Montgomery sent us an invitation to his wedding. He will be married in the Presbyterian Church in Fayette. They will leave for Port Gibson as soon as the ceremony is over. Will come home Monday, and wishes us to dine with them on Tues. Judge Whitney's & Blount Stuart's & our family are the only families invited. He says he wishes as little parade & show as possible at his wedding. How sad it makes me feel when I think of the girls having a stepmother. Who can fill a mother's place, a name so dear? Bell Sillers & Emmett came to dinner. Bell brought me my dear Brother Joseph's photograph. Burch Campbell stayed here all night.

Apr. 5: We went to the Presbyterian Church to see Mr. Montgomery & Mrs. Seymour married. The girls from the Academy were there & good many gentlemen. Mr. Hall performed the ceremony. Clara & Ginnie both wept when the ceremony was performed. Miss Sue Percy was with the girls. Mr. Montgomery stayed at the Academy last night, could not cross the creek. They went home to dinner, did not go to Port Gibson on account of the rain. Mr. Montgomery & bride rode in the carriage with Clara & Ellen. Ginnie & Miss Percy went out in Mr. Tenney's Brett with Mrs. Seymour's little girls. There was all sorts of kissing at the wedding. Mollie O'Quinn died yesterday. Dr. Richardson tended on her.

Apr. 6: I got a letter from Olivia; she says that she was sick & Dr. Richardson would not attempt to operate on her. He had examined her, said she was not benefited the least by the first operation.

Apr. 9: Mr. Darden & I went to dine at Mr. Montgomery's. Rev. Mr. Hall & wife, Mr. & Mrs. Tenney & Laura Tenney, Judge Whitney, Pros, Miss Cate & Lucy Whitney; Dr. Richardson & Blount Stuart & Mrs. Byrne all were at the dining. Clara is keeping house. The young company will come tonight. It looked strange to see Mrs. Seymour there to fill poor sister Maria's place. Mr. Darden wrote to Olivia, took the letter to Fayette; received a letter from Dr. Tate; he was very much encouraged about Olivia. Dr. Richardson had performed the operation again; she was not suffering so much sick stomach as she did before. Sam Stampley & Alice Drungool was married last week. Her parents were so opposed to it.

Apr. 12: Mr. Darden wrote to Mr. Spires in Delhi, Louisiana; he has charge of Mr. Jim Rundell's business. Went to Fayette; put it in the office.

Apr. 15: Laura was to come home to meet Annette McMillan (Darden that was) here. Annette & her mother are coming to stay all night on their way to Natchez.

Apr. 16: Ginnie Montgomery called a short time to see her Grandma. She was going home with Miss Sue Percy. Old Mr. Nat Kinnison died this morning; he is 70 years old. (Age 73 yrs., 2 mos., 13 days. His wife, Lydia Stotts, b. in La. d. 22 March 1867/ Age 66 years, 5 mos., 7 days - Grand parents of Lillian Ester (Burke) Herring)

Apr. 19: Cate sent for my pans to bake a stack cake for Mary Fletcher Johnson's wedding. Blount & Julia Stuart, Mrs. Harrison, Mr. & Mrs. Montgomery, Clara, Ellen, & two Seymour girls, Jack Darden, Capt. Schwing, Mrs. Byrne & her daughter, Miss Annie. I had turkey, pig, beef, ham, oysters and squab. My first mess peas & etc., had an excellent dinner. Had for desert, cake, milk & peaches, grated cocoanut, transparent pudding, peach pie. There was a very hard rain just after Mr. Montgomery & family left. We had for supper Mr. & Mrs. Byrne, Julia & Tully Stuart, Ellen Montgomery, Capt. Schwing, Eli Jones, Mr. Silas Chamberlain, Mr. Drake, Jack & Henry Darden. They danced 3 or 4 set; stayed all night. The Miss Harper's, Sue & Tom Darden were expected. It rained so they could not come.

Apr. 24: Peter Alexander died at Lake Providence, Louisiana, last week with pneumonia. How Cousin Matilda Chambliss's family have been afflicted in the last four years. Cousin John died suddenly, Norman Frisby was murdered, Hiram Chambliss died in December from dissipation & now Mr. Alexander. They are left without a gentleman in the family to superintend. Dr. James Rown was buried Sun., died of neuralgia of the brain. He leaves three little orphans & one child by his last wife.

Apr. 24: Brother Sam Darden sent for load cotton seed; sent word Anna was not much better. Her face was swelled this morn. Jimmie Stowers & Miss Mary Fletcher Johnson were married tonight. Jack, Cate, Henry & Mr. Drake went to the wedding.

Apr. 28: Coz. S. Stowers called at the gate; had been to take Sallie Dixon home.

Apr. 29: Mr. Darden, George & I went to the Presbyterian Church, there was Communion meeting. Dr. E. C. Richardson, Mr. Armistead & Miss Margaret Boyd joined the Church. I sent little Johnnie to stay with Cate till I came back from Church. Jesse come back from Martha's. Blount Stuart spent the day there yesterday. Julia Stuart & Clara Montgomery went there to dinner from George Darden's. Miss Lizzie Whitney married the preacher David Snodgrass; she was getting old. Mr. Darden went to Fayette put letter in office for Olivia. He received a letter from her dated 26th April. She writes the place is nearly closed, will have to be cauterized when she gets more strength. She says she has no appetite; and we know she is not well. Dr. Tate would leave the next Sat.,; she regreted his leaving, but his business required his presence. Dr. Richardson would take good care of her; he had been like a father. I pray that Olivia may be restored to health again. It is so hard for her to suffer so much and to be separated from her precious little darling.



May 4: Four years ago my dear son was suffering far away in the hospital without a friend near. One year ago my dear brother was in the hospital suffering from small pox from which he died May 6.

May 6: Irene Dunlop & Sam Montgomery are to be married Tues. night.

May 8: It is reported that Sol Stampley & Mrs. Fox are going to marry.

May 9: Alice Darden came here after 12 oc., she came from brother Samuel's this morning. Anna Darden is better, can walk about the house. Alice called at Mr. Montgomery's this morn. Clara & Ginnie will go to their sisters, Mary Bondurant, tomorrow.

May 11: Mr. Montgomery is going to give Ellen a birthday party tonight; she was 17 years old yesterday.

May 14: Blount & Julia Stuart went to the swamp today to visit Mrs. Isaac Harrison. Mr. Harrison & Jeff Briscoe had a hail storm that injured their crops very much.

May 17: Miss Kirts has left the Academy; her & John Stowers will marry in June.

May 19: Dr. Tate came at dark, he had a letter from Olivia; she had been able to walk on the streets, but had taken chloroform from Dr. Richardson to perform an operation on her; was in bed again.

May 20: Mr. Darden received a letter from Olivia, she was in bed, would have to lie in bed a week. Dr. Richardson had no doubt but he would make a final cure, but could not tell how long it would be.

May 23: Mr. Darden went to Fayette, received a letter from Mollie Green, Virginia's only daughter. She writes a very good letter. She will graduate this summer at the school in Lagrange, Tenn.

May 29: There was a real tornado in the pasture near the Springhill Gate. Mr. Darden counted 25 trees, large oak & pines blown in different directions. Mr. Darden turned 28 head of cattle out the Harden pasture into the Marble pasture.

May 31: Old Sol Stampley & Mrs. Sarah Fox are to be married next Tues. (5 of June) morning at 10 oc. It is strange to think of her marrying him, he is over 60 years & she is a young widow. This is his fourth wife. Cicero says Richard Compton & Miss Mary Ashford were engaged last week. Richard got out of the notion, wrote to her he wanted to be released from the engagement. She wrote to him in his presence was demanded. He went to see her about the matter. Clara Montgomery called this eve; had been to Jack's to see her Grandma. Had

Mary Bondurant's little girl Dellaise with her. Clara called to get me to make Ginnie a stack & fruit cake. Ginnie is to be married in Church on the 14th of June to Tom Percy. They have been engaged more than two years.

June 2: I received a letter from Olivia yesterday; she had been in bed with the fever from Wed. til the time she wrote which was Sat. She said Dr. Richardson still thought he would make a final cure; he would perform one more operation & that would cure. Mr. Darden went to Jack's, Ma is better today. Cate is so much surprised that Mrs. Fox would marry old Mr. Stampley.

June 4: Martha Wade sent Manuel after her Grandma's carriage; she gave it to her. Poor Ma is left so dependent in her old age. She has no one to wait on her. Mrs. Sarah Fox & old man Sol Stampley are to be married this morning at 10 oc. It is strange to see a young handsome lady marry an old man as he is. Richard Compton told Mr. Darden that there was enough at Mr. Stampley's party to make it agreeable; said Mrs. Fox did not look as pretty as usual.

June 10: We went to the Presbyterian Church; Lieut. Paddock joined. Mrs. Adeline Gibson was at Church.

June 12: Mr. Darden went to the Academy to meet the trustees; they elected Rev. Mr. Cleland in Mr. Tenny's place; he resigned.

June 14: I exchanged our buggy for Cicero's Brett. Our carriage is broken. I started to Mr. Montgomery's after 6 oc., took the cakes, they did not break. Mary Anne took the fruit, Sue the jelly & I took the brides cake. Mary Bondurant broke the stack cake badly going over the rough roads. I hope Ginnie has married well. She dressed at home, went to the Pres. Church, was married by Mr. Hall. Miss Sue Percy & Mrs. Eustis, Miss Teny Percy & Mr. Dalghren, Clara Montgomery and Mr. Conner, Ellen Montgomery and Mr. Eustis (this one had a black jacket) were the attendants. The company that came to supper were Charley Duncan & wife; Capt. Schwing, Eli Jones, Silas Chamberlain, Mr. Learn, Tully Stuart, Mrs. Percy, her little son & grand-daughter; Miss Lucy Whitney & our family, Dr. Richardson & Lieut. Paddock, Mary Bondurant & I did not go to church.

June 20: Mr. Darden went to Fayette to see about paying his United States tax; it was \$740.36.

June 22: It is four years today since our dear son died far away in the hospital.

June 25: Jack came & eat supper, he says he went with Johnnie Robertson to see Miss Caruthers yesterday.

July 1: Mr. Darden went to Ebenezer; there was a three days meeting there. Brown Stewart joined the Church. Rosa Stewart is improving; has to walk with a crutch. Mrs. Archer Baker died lately; she was a member of Ebenezer Church. Olivia wrote that she was improving. Johnny was not well, had fallen out of the bed & hurt himself so much; he was vomiting when she wrote.

July 6: Mr. Darden went to Dr. Tate's, Olivia was taken with bad bowels this morning, vomiting too.

July 7: Mr. Darden went to Fayette, got a letter from Mary Scott. She writes very discouraging, says Amelia Bass has a boy almost two months old. Sister Betsy wrote to Mr. Darden they are well. Jack & Cate had been to Mr. Carmel to Church.

July 8: Mr. Darden & Jesse went to Church; I did not go. George is still sick. Ginnie Torrey was at Church. She came down with Mag Torrey. Mag has been in Bolivar since March.

July 10: Brother Buckner called going to Jack's. Ginnie Torrey was to go there to see her Grandma. Martha Wade is 31 years old today. Our dear son would have been 33 years old last Saturday if he had lived.

July 12: I started to the examination after 8 oc. Carried a pig, three pieces of mutton, ham, four broiled chickens, squab, 8 pies & 2 cakes & peaches. Prosper Whitney made a speech. Rev. Mr. Wheeler was to have preached the sermon but did not get there till exercises closed. Irene had for her subject "Let us take the instant by the foretop, the noiseless foot of time comes of too soon."

July 13: Willie Darden eat dinner here.

July 14: Mr. Darden went to Fayette. Martha Wade & her children came half past 8 oc. Mr. Percy & Virginia (Ginnie), Miss Sue Percy & Clara came at 6 oc. Julia Stuart came at sundown.

July 16: Mr. Darden went to see Mr. Dan Smith buried; he was sick nearly 2 weeks. He died a penitent & said he was happy.

July 17: Olivia came, has improved very much.

July 18: Miss Lottie Wade came at 9 oc.

July 20: It was 34 year (Friday, July 20, 1866) ago yesterday since we were married.

July 23: There was a meeting of the citizens of the County to elect delegates to a National Convention to be held in Philadelphia to support the President in his policy. George Torrey & Capt. Coffey were elected to go. Dan Wade told Mr. Darden that Dr. Wade, Martha & Carrie were all sick. David Harrison is sick with flux.

July 24: Clara, Ginnie & Ellen Montgomery came late this evening. Lieut. Paddock & Ely Jones came at sundown.

July 25: Julia Stuart sent an invitation to a tea party. Capt. Tully (Who had a Company in Camp near Dr. Wade's) died in N. O. lately.

July 28: Laura & Irene got home at 9 oc. They danced till 3 oc. The Harper's, Harrison's, Montgomery's, Sue & Tom Darden, Caroline & William Sillers, the young gentlemen from Fayette were there. Anna & Samuel Darden eat supper here.

July 31: Ellen Montgomery came late this evening on horse back. Ginnie left this morning at two oc., for her home near Natchez. Clara went with her. Mrs. Montgomery has fever; Dr. Richardson has been out to see her. Miss Caroline came home with Cate; she is the young lady that Johnie Robertson is pleased with.

Aug. 2: Mr. Darden went to Church at Fayette. Dr. Brummal is to be emersed this evening; his wife joined the Methodist Church with him. Jeff Chamberlain & Henry Key joined also.

Aug. 3: Billy Phillips sent us a ticket to the burying of his brother, Richard Phillips; they removed his remains from Camp Mouton, Indiana, where he was shot trying to escape from prison. They will bury him at their place at the Nine Mile Bridge where their mother, brother & sister are buried.

Aug. 4: Mr. Darden went to see Mr. Phillips buried; he was buried at the family burying ground at Selma Plantation.

Aug. 8: Miss Mary Montgomery & her brother, Miss Florence Carothers, Johnie & Cate Robertson spent the day at Jack's.

Aug. 9: Laura & Irene started to see Mary Jane Chamberlain; when they got in Cicero's field, the road was so bad they could not get along; they turned back, went to Sue Darden's.

Aug. 11: Julia Stuart & I went to see Sue & Coz. Margaret Darden. Len Wilkison was there.

Aug. 14: Jack came here this morning going after Henry; he is sick at Ben Bullen's. Irene spent the evening at Cousin Margaret Darden's with Emma & Anna Harrison, Ella Torrey, Lena Stuart & Cordelia Garret. Tully Stuart, Joe McCormick, Sid Briscoe, Mr. Jones & Mr. Armistead were their gentlemen.

Aug. 16: Laura & Irene went to Mr. Montgomery's. Ellen took the fever after they got there. Clara & Mrs. M. are both well. Sue Darden & Mr. Armistead came this evening, stayed half hour. Tom Darden has fever.

Aug. 17: Brown Stewart eat dinner here; he says they deny the cholera being in Natchez. Mr. Baker got here from Natchez at 8 oc. He eat breakfast at McCullum's at Selsertown.

Aug. 20: Laura received a note from her Aunt Sarah Darden inviting her to go to Monticello to visit Annette McMilland the last of the week. Mr. Darden's mother is 80 years old today. She is very feeble.

Aug. 22: Laura & Irene went to Fayette, they got a letter out of the office from Mary Scott to her Ma. She is not pleased with Texas, very anxious to get back to her home in Madison Parish. Lieut. Paddock, Silas Chamberlain & Mr. Leaman came this evening stayed all night.

Aug. 23: Irene is 17 years old today. Laura went to her Uncle Buckner's. Jesse went with her.

Aug. 24: Mr. Darden went to Jack's to take Mary Scott's letter to his Ma. Mr. Darden saw John McCormick, he said Reub Key had died with cholera; his mother was dying with typhoid fever.

Aug. 25: Mr. Darden went to Fayette, got a letter from Dr. Bass stating he would be at Mr. John Robson's till the 24 of Aug., would like to see any of Amelia's relations. Mrs. Key was sick two weeks, was buried yesterday. Reub was sick three days.

Aug. 26: Jack called, had been to see Ira Robertson; he was sick in bed today.

Aug. 29: Laura went to her Uncle Buckner's to go to Monticello with her Aunt Sarah.

Aug. 30: Mrs. Newcomb is at Judge Whitney's very sick with consumption. Rob Dunbar (Bob Fat) died last week with cholera at the place on Bayou Lafouch.

Sept. 1: Frank Montgomery has been very sick; he came over to his Pa's, went to Mrs. Kinnison's today to see his wife. Teresa Kennison. She has been there all the summer. Dr. Tate & Olivia came this evening on horseback; left Johnie at home. Mrs. Jim Buckel's died when her babe was 3 days old with conjestive fever. Ed Smiley came at dark, he is a Candidate for Probate Clerk.

Sept. 2: Olivia went home after dinner. Irene & Jesse went with her.

Sept. 3: Sue Darden wrote that the Miss Harpers would spend tomorrow evening.

Sept. 4: It is a year today since Coz John Darden died. Rev. Mr. Green was buried. He was brother-in-law to Anna Darden.

Sept. 6: Frank Whitney died yesterday in Grand Gulf with cholera; was brought home to be buried. How unfortunate Judge Whitney is with his children; they have lost four sons and a daughter. All died from home. Joe Dunbar stayed here tonight; he is a Candidate for Assessor.

Sept. 7: Laura got home at 12 oc., her Aunt Sarah sent her home. They stayed with Annette 4 days; got there Fri. eve, left Monticello Wed., had a pleasant time. Annette is nicely situated. Sarah took Olive & left her to go to school in Monticello.

Sept. 8: Mr. Darden went to Church at the Presbyterian Church. Miss Mag & Ella Torrey joined the Presbyterian Church today. Frank Whitney died with bilious fever and not cholera as it was reported. Hinds Fleming died this week. He is a nephew of Coz Margaret Darden. Volney Ogle died in Natchez with pneumonia; he was a son of Mary King's that lived in County; his mother is buried at Old Salem Church.

Sept. 12: Wat Burch called this evening; he is living near Bolivar Co.; he saw Gen. Clark & family. Coz Ann Eliza had been so sick. Her daughter Emma had been very low with typhoid fever. Wat Burch looks older, is quite bald. He said they were all well at Matilda Sillers.

Sept. 17: Jesse started to school to Capt. Schwing at the Phoenix school house; a mile beyond Fayette.

Sept. 19: Cicero called at the gate; told Mr. Darden that Jacob Stampley had gone to Fayette to sue him for hauling rails from Henry Stampley's place.

Sept. 20: I am 50 years old today. Clara M. came on horseback. Ellen has been quite sick again. Anna Seymour has fever also.

Sept. 21: Jeff Chamberlain; he is electioneering for the Sheriff's Office. Clara Montgomery wrote to Laura that Mr. Austin Smith had been there.

Oct. 1: Mr. Darden went to the election. Mr. Darden paid his revenue tax to Ely Jones today. It was \$740. How hard to be robbed of our property & then have to pay this heavy tax.

Oct. 2: Mr. Darden went to Fayette late this evening. Judge Smiley is elected for Circuit Court, Huff for District Attorney. Shackelford for Probate, Charley Carpenter for Clerk of Probate, Bob McGinty Clerk Circuit, Doug McCormick, Sheriff; Dan Fairly, Assessor, Put Darden, Representative in place Mr. Hicks resigned. Mrs. Cole (Dixon) sent for butter.

Oct. 7: Mr. Darden, Laura, Irene, Jesse & George went to the Methodist Church.

Oct. 13: Sarah Darden was in Fayette; Brother Buckner called this evening on his way from Natchez; he expects to go to Bolivar in two weeks. He went to Natchez in search of a stolen mule. Did not hear of it.

Oct. 15: Mr. P. K. Montgomery leaves home for the Legislature; his wife will not go with him. Ellen & Annie are not well enough for her to leave them.

Oct. 18: It is 27 years to day since my dear sister was married.

Oct. 20: Sarah Darden, her little Buckner, Rosa & Brown Stewart dined on their way from Natchez. They stayed at Mr. Brandon's last night.

Nov. 14: William Green & Miss Anna Griffin are to be married tonight. She is a sister of Put Darden's wife.

Nov. 20: Jack came & went with Mr. Darden to stay all night with Whitefield Bullen; he is raving mad now. Nathan Coffey stays with him all the time.

Nov. 21: Mr. Darden came from White Bullen's; he is raving, has been in bed since Thurs., has eaten nothing; drank little coffee. This morning he told his son Sam to bring his gun to shoot his wife. Sam did not bring it, he went for it himself. Mrs. Bullen left, has not been home since. Mr. Darden says it is distressing to see him.

Nov. 24: Bell Sillers has returned from Bolivar; she attended Coz Mary Miles' funeral while she was there. We did not hear what was the matter with her. William Clark died also with consumption. He was a brother of Bell Sillers. Mr. Darden received a letter from Gusta Ann that belonged to our dear son Buckner. She is living with Ed Johnson in Arkansas; she wants to come back to live with us, says she sits for hours at a time thinking what has become of all her young masters and mistresses.

Nov. 25: Mrs. Hicks has her first daughter born Wed. 21st.

Nov. 29: Mr. Torrey heard Jeff Briscoe & Miss Castleman were married last Sat. 24th.

Dec. 1: Mr. Darden went to Fayette; he got tickets for Laura & Irene to Molly January's wedding.

Dec. 2: Jeff Briscoe married Miss Mary Castleman; left immediately on the Robt. E. Lee for N. Orleans.

Dec. 4: Jesse says his sister Martha passed the school house goint to Put's wife fell from a chair, was taken immediately with spasms, had infant seven months, told him Cousin Put Darden's wife died yesterday evening. Only been married to her 13 months; she died with spasms. Put is only 30 years old, is a widower the second time. He was married only a year & seven months to his first wife. How sad to be so afflicted. Mr. Griffin lost his wife in the spring & now his daughter. Olivia is 29 years old today. How many sad, sad changes since that time.

Dec. 6: Mr. Darden went to Fayette this eve to see if Blount was going to the wedding. Laura & Irene started 15 min of 1 oc., to meet Blount Stuart & Julia, where our road intersects the Fayette road. They went to Capt. Bullen's wedding.

Dec. 7: Ben & Elie got home from Natchez after 10 oc; they had to swim St. Catherine's Creek. Elie's oxen all went under the water, but came out safe. Laura & Irene got home half past 3 oc. They had a pleasant time at the wedding. Miss Molly Harrison was dressed in India Swiss make with a yoke with Valencia inserting & transfer work, etc. Rev. Miller married them by the Episcopal Service. Miss Addie Richardson, Carrie January & Minnie Hunt were the brides maids. Dr. Snodgrass, Dr. Martin, Jimmie Archer were the groomsmen. Tom Darden would have been one but Put's wife dying, he did not serve. (Lt. Richardson groom - Molly Harrison bride.)

Dec. 9: Three years today since my dear sister died.

Dec. 14: I started to Rob. Sillers, got as far as Coz Margaret's, it was raining. Coz Margaret looks much better; she says Put's wife had such hard convulsions it shook the room all over. She suffered beyond anything they ever witnessed, was insensible to everything till Sun. She was conscious a short time.

Dec. 16: Mr. Darden received a letter from Mary Scott. She will move back from Texas; expects to get to Adams County by the 15 Dec. Mary writes she will visit Ma as soon as she gets back to Mississippi. Jeff Briscoe has offered to educate her son Tommie, a very kind offer. Anna Darden called going to Jack's on her way to Natchez.

Dec. 17: Johnnie Robertson says Coz Sarah Stowers made 14 bales cotton.