Mormon Midwife

Smart, Donna

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The years 1851 to 1852 were a time of settling in. Patty, always involved in taking care of those around her, provided more than obstetrical services; she also plunged into general health care. The women began a health council of their own, perhaps because of Brigham Young's diatribe against male doctors given in December 1851. He said, "A doctor, if He had good sense would not wish to visit women in child birth. And if a woman had good sense she would not wish a man to doctor them on such an occasion."

Patty herself was sick more often than usual during this period. She tended to dramatize her illnesses but placed great faith in the power of the priesthood and the support of friends to heal her. And she took little or no time off from work to be sick. She continued to plant and expand her garden. She had her portrait painted and her "likeness" taken. For her, life became more normal, though for the reader, it still seems frantic and too busy. Being busy made up her life and her diary.

Gertrude Stein wrote, "A diary should be instantly in recording a telegram. Also in recording embroidery also in recording having wished to buy a basket. That is it."

Impulsively, subconsciously, the diaries of Patty Sessions follow Stein's dictates.

I feel to thank the Lord that I have some one to cut my wood for me

JANUARY 1851

Jan 1 1851 new year Wed 1 Martha Ann and I went down to Br Drowns [Charles Madison Drown?] had a good visit spent the day much more pleasant than I did a year ago Thurs 2 sewed Friday 3 sewed again Sat 4 sewed again Charles and Bunty came down Bunty staid all night cut me some wood Sund 5 David came down I went home with him he brought me down some pork Mond 6 I went in the evening with Lucina to see sister Collins Tues 7 Bucland brought me home Wed 8 Mclennel cut wood half day for me he moved in to my house last Sat 4 is to pay four dollars per month rent to me for it Bickman Briant Charles Hamman staid here last night Thur 9 Mcellen cut more wood charged one dollar 25 cents for it we have had quite a snow Fri 10^ the sleighs were running in every direction last night and again to day Martha [Ann] has gone to night to writing school I am here alone Sat 11 Br [John] Taylor and wife here to get medicine for their babes sore head I paid eleven dollars $11.20 and 20 cts to [left blank] Eldrige it being the amount of my tax on the school house $11.20 Martha Ann present it has stormed the most of the day rained and thawed me it leaks round my stove pipe bad Sund 12 David came down staid all night John Barnard here in the evening Mon 13 I let David have cloth for a pair of fine shirts he went home I visited at Br Gibses with sisters Jackman Banke Fouts sister Buel came home with me Tues 14 I had a party sisters Jackman Buel &. Clark all here we had a good time Wed 15 sister Buel went home I put in a quilt for Mary Thurs 16 quilted

3. Probably George Bundy, listed in the 1850 census as a laborer.
4. This may be William Carol McClellan (1829–1916), who had been a member of the Mormon Battalion.
5. These men may have been members of the Mormon Battalion. Patty lodged many of the battalion men. The men were possibly Gilbert Bickmore (1823 or 1827–1896), a wheelwright; John Strange Bryant; and Ebenezer, Lorenzo, or Oliver Harmon, all of whom had been battalion members. The identity of Charles is unknown.
6. John Porter Barnard (1804–1874) was a blacksmith and farmer, and, according to Susan Ward Easton Black, a leader of the squatter government of 1851 (Membership of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints 1830–1848, 50 vols. [Provo, Utah: Brigham Young University Religious Studies Center, 1984]).
7. Lucinda Harmon (1822–1894) was the wife of Levi Jackman (1797–1876). Euphamia E. Dibble (1799–1847) was married to John Adams Bouck (b. 1796/7).
all day it is cold Fri 17 got the quilt out Martha has been sick all the time since Mond has set up but little she is better to day the weather is more moderate Saturday ^18^ conference of the seventies P G Lucinia & Mary came down I did not go Sunday 19 I went Brigham preached told a temple must be built I was taken sick at the forenoon meeting they brought me home in great distress Mon 20 I got eiseir the children went home in the night I grew worse it was thought I could not live they sent for the children but by the faith of the saints and the power of the priesthood I have recovered it is now Feb= 2

February 1851

Sunday I have not been out doors yet but can set up and work some Lucinia staid with me 9 days and I do thank the Lord for good children and that I live amo^n^g the saints and that the saints are my friends I wrote a letter to Sylvia yesterday David is here came down yesterday many of the sisters has been to see me since I was sick Sister Smoot Whitney Buel Zina Young she was here when I was at the worst s[i]ster Pulzipher Clark & Francis [Jessie Swan] Kimbal & c Monday 3d Martha Ann is taken sick and I have to work and take care of her David has gone home after doing all the chores he could Tuesd 4 my birthday she is better sisters Drown Lorette Zina & Persis Richards were here on a visit^8^ Lorette got the supper Zina & Persis staid all night we had a good visit we prayed & blesed and was blesed spoke in toungues &c wed 5 Zina and Persis went home. Francis and sister Gibbs was here Thursd 6 sister Abot was here P G and Br [John] Stoker [1817–1881] came and got dinner Friday 7 Bunty came staid all night I have been peiceing up a quilt finish it to day 8 of Feb Sun, David came down took Martha and me in the buggy to see Naomi he took Sarah Lawrence [Kimball] home with him Mon 10 snowed a little last night clear this morning Martha has gone to school^9^ Tues 11 Brs C. [Charles] Foster & [Shadrach] Roundy here wed 12 it snowed hard all day Thursd 13 Br Leonard & wife here on a visit Frid 14 Martha & I went to Br Leonards Br Kimbal and wife there we had a good sleigh ride and a good visit Sat 15 David & Mary & Susan Duncan [1829–1921] here to Dinner I rode in the sleigh with them to Dr Hotchcase^10^ herd

8. Persis Goodall (1801/6–1894) was married in 1826 to Lorenzo Dow Young (1807–1895), Brigham’s youngest brother. According to genealogical records, they were the parents of eleven offspring.

9. Martha Ann probably attended a ward school, since several wards began building schools in the fall of 1850. Such buildings were used for day school, church meetings, and social events. The first school in the valley was conducted by Mary Jane Dilworth in the Old Fort in a military tent (see note 307 in Diary 1).

10. Sternes Hoskiss was listed in the census of 1850 as a physician who was thirty-four years old.
there of the death of Dr Vaughn he was shot last Sunday by Hamlinton\textsuperscript{11} David & M & S has gone home Peck here wishes to have me board him a while\textsuperscript{12} Sun 16 I do go to meeting sister Nobles [Mary Adeline Beman] buried her funeral sermon preached Mond 17 I washed Tues 18 ironed P G came down to mill brought me a meal chest Wed 19 it snowed last night P G has returned from mill left flour here to sell has gone home Memervy Empy [Empey] & Jane R & linzy here Mary has gone to day to see about the Indians steeling cattle & horses Thurs 20 more gone today Naomi came here with P G yesterday & has gone home to day Frid 21 a party to the Bath house to night Martha A was a going but her Partner has gone to hunt the Indians Sat 22 P G & Mary Susan D[uncan] came down Sat I went with them to see Harriet Sat 22 very cold and snowy sunday 23 more moderate they go home Peck goes away Paid me six dolars for his board Mond 24 Tues 25 I worked on a hearth rug Wed 26 put Lois wife of B T Mitchel to bed with a daughter born 3 2h P M the boys came back from hunting the Indians Thurs 27 finished my hearth rug bought me a bedsted gave ten Dollars Frid 28 set it up put up my curtains the rest of the boys came in

MARCH 1851

Sat March 1 more gone out Sund 2 do not go to meeting Mond 3 David has come down been to the store I sent by him got me 9 2h yards of linen gave $1=25 per yard Tues 4 he went home I cut my linen up wed 5 Martha went to a picnic party to Packs Thursd 6 I went to the Counsel house to see & hear them give their endowment Fri 7 I went down to see sister Drown Harriet came here staid all night satd 8 P G & Mary came down and went home she

\textsuperscript{11} Juanita Brooks writes, “Thurs Oct 3–1850. Instituted a suit for Foot vs Vaughan in damage $10000 in the County Court & had him arrested and held in custody for adultery with his wife which occupied most of the day. . . . Monday Oct 7th 1850 The case of Dr Vaughan had been stopped by the Gov” (\textit{Diary of Hosea Stout}, 2 vols. [Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1964], 2:381). Vaughan must have moved to San Pete County, where the killing took place, because Stout records later, “Saturday 15th February 1851. Last evening Charles Shumway and M. D. Hambleton came in from San Pete They bring news that M. D. Hambleton on last Sunday killed Dr. J. M. Vaughan for similar conduct with Mrs. H. as took place with Dr. & Foots wife last summer” (p. 393). And “Monday, 17th March 1851 Hambleton did deliberately shot Vaughan on one Sabbath at meeting or just as the meeting was dismissed. His seduction & illicit conversation with Mrs Hambleton was sufficiently proven insomuch that I was well satisfied of his justification. . . . He was acquitted by the Court and also by the Voice of the people present. The court was not a trial but a Court of Inquiry” (p. 396).

\textsuperscript{12} Four men named Peck had been with the Mormon Battalion: Edwin M. Peck (1828–1903), Isaac Peck (1828–1904), Thomas Peck (only on muster-in rolls), and Thorit Peck (1826–1858).
Diary Three: 1851–1852

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got her teeth fixed Sund 9 I went to see Naomi she is sick Harriet went home to night Peck came here Mond 10 he and I went down to the fort got some vegatables Carlos came down last Frid is here yet Br Smoot moves away to day Br Andrews went last Frid we have washed to day Tues 11 Peck went home & Carlos with him wed 12 David came down Thurs 13 he and I went and took out the Potatoes Charles foster helped Rodney & wife started away Frid 14 Drown went David went home Sat 15 got some letters from Sylvia David and the gibs Girls Davids datet Nov= Sat 15 I doubled yarn for Eliza Fox Sund 16 I went to meeting Mond 17 P G came down I went to see Naomi Tues 18 paid Major for taking my Portrait sisters Smith and Knights here on a visit sister Knights staid all night wed 19 she is here Thurs 20 she is here yet yesterday we visited at Br Risers [George Christian Reiser, 1818–1892] I have been and put Lucinda wife of Levi Jackman to bed with a daughter born 10 - 2h A M Friday 21 finished Doubling Elizas yarn carried it home she paid me one dollar and half for it Satd 22 I went to the medical meeting I have staid alone night and day the most of the time this week Sund 23 I am alone yet I expect Martha home to day she does not come Mond 24 the mail has come in Br Major is here painting my Portrait Tues 25 I go over to Br Pulziphers [Zerah Pulipher, 1789–1872] come home sister Higbee here on a visit Wed 26 Martha Ann has not got home yet Br Pulzipher came in this morning to see if I had any wood it snowed and rained last night a bad storm but very pleasant this morning Thursd 27 Martha Ann came home David with her P G came last night we sold the potatoes and beets David brought me some boards to put up my fence they then went home ^Frid 28^ I got a Bro to put up the pole fence inside Peck was here ^ & B S^ Sat 29 he went home Sun 30 David came down brought the school teacher [Phebe, later his wife] I did not get to meeting the wind blew hard ^B S^ Mond 31 snowed last night B S here staid all night Horace put up the rest of the inside fence

APRIL 1851

Tuesd April 1 finished Major came here painting my portrait Martha and I went over to Br Roundys wed 2 I have pick up the vines and burnt them off of my lot then Martha and I went see Zina had a good visit I then went and put sister [left blank] Barnum to bed with a daughter Born 11 PM13 Thurs 3 Charles Foster staid here last night Martha Ann is sick had some rose bushes set out the wind blows hard Friday 4 P G & David came down to plow and fence my lot Satd 5 they go home the fence not done all of it Sun 6 it rains

13. Probably Polly Beach (1831–1894), who was married to Charles Davis Barnum (b. 1800). Barnum had accompanied the Pioneer Company, after having used his skills at carpentry to prepare the wagons for the trip. He returned to Winter Quarters that same year for his family. They all came west in 1850.
and snows a bad time for conference I do not know as I shall go to day 9 o'clock clear's off but it was so damp and cold the conference was aajourned till Mond P G Sessions & Mary came down Bonna [Barney?] Ward here Mond 7 we all went to conference it was a good time the church 21 years old yestarday much buisnes done\textsuperscript{14} Brigham was so unwell he did not go onto the stand Heber presided conference aajourned untiill Sept Graham & wife staed here all night Tuesd 8 I worked in the garden \(^\text{put in ionions} \& \text{beets}\) Wash= Jones came here staed all night helped some in the garden wed 9 he went away I worked very hard \(^\text{sowed ionions}\) Thursd 10 P G and a man came down brought Naomi here we went to the fort got Peach trees and roots \& vines set them out Frid 11 got some more set them out they went home I have sowed my peas letice redishes sold Lemos widow 10 Dollars worth of Peach trees Satd 12 watered the peach trees and planted my potatoes Sund 13 P G David came down I went to meeting with them They all went home B S here Mond 14 worked in the darden [garden] Tuesd 15 I visited Barna Ward he was very sick I let Esq Wells have 4 doz Peach trees I then visited sister Buel she anointed me and sister Jackman and blessed us both. Wed 16 sewed posy seeds Br Major came finished my Portrait McBride took my sensus Thursd 17 I have been to look at a feather abed at Br Jerimis Frid P-G David & Charles came down brought lumber to finish my fence Sat 19 finished it David went home Br Ward came here sick yestarday is here yet Charles stays I go to a medical meeting the wind blew hard got me a dress patern of sister Smith Sund 20 it has rained the most of the night rains untill near noon cl[e]ars of Br Ward goes away Mond 21 Charles finished the fence went home \(^\text{I plant}^\text{22}\) after seting 12 locus trees I gave $1.50 for them I then commenced making soap Tuesday \(^\text{22}\) I went down to my old place sold 28 peach trees to Br Major \(^\text{\$700}\) and four to sister Smith \$100 both due then finished making soap filed my trough full wed 23 cut me a dress Thurs 24 worked on it planted corn cucumbers \&c Frid 25 Sat 26 finished my dress Sund 27 went to meeting P G Mary David here Mond 28 caled to Mary Robison cut me a dress Tues 29 put Mary Robison [wife of Caleb Baldwin] to bed with a girl born 1 -2h P M Wed 30 cut Martha a dress Brs Roundy \& Jackman with their wives here on a visit

**May 1851**

Thursd May 1 worked on my dress Frid 2 watered my garden Sat 3 went washed and anointed br Coltrins babe then went paid my tithing then to a medical meeting I have a sore throat Sund 4 do not go to meeting \(^\text{go give sister Brunson Emitic}\) David Lucinia down Mon 5 wash \(^\text{bought a looking}

\textsuperscript{14} At this conference it was voted to build a temple, and Edward Hunter was appointed presiding bishop of the church, succeeding the deceased Newel K. Whitney.
glass^ Tuesday 6 P G and Lucinia down the wind blew very hard a part of sister Buterfields [Caroline Sprout, b. 1800] house blew down Wednesday 7 put Caroline Mitchel [Caroline Conrad, wife of Benjamin Trotter Mitchell] to bed with a son born 6 2h A M as they were bring me home one of the horses dropped down died in a minute I came home a foot then went and see sister Brunson again staid and nursed her all the afternoon Thursday 8 visited her again Friday 9 rained all day and night and night again the house leaked I have to go to bed to keep warm as I have no wood cut and I can not cut it I am so unwell Saturday 10 fair weather I cut my wood and then set out cabbage plants Sunday 11 do not go to meeting Monday 12 P G came down I went home with him Tuesday 13 I came home again with David Monday 14 Thursday 15 visited Br Roundys Friday 16 went I visited at Br Roundys Thursday 15 visited at Zinas with sisters Branch and Atwood 15 Friday 16 went to sister Jackmans found Precinda and Lora K [Laura Pitkin (Kimball)] there Precinda came here staid all night Saturday 17 we all went to medical meeting Penneno carried us Sunday 18 put Samuel Mores wife [Eunice Sibley Bliss, b. 1807] to bed with a son born 10 - 1h A M Monday 19 I was taken very violent sick for 3 hours I was not thought to live doubts remained for 24 hours Monday 25 until to day I have not had my clothes on the children have been down to see me often I am getting well I hope but I feel bad still 2 oclock P M I was taken worse again had a very sick night Tuesday 26 still worse send for a doctor and for the children Wednesday 27 a little easier but did not get so as to set up until

June 1851

Tuesday June 3 I set up a little Saturday 7 I feel much better have walked out Harriet is here this is the first I have wrote since the 25 of May and only a little then when I was taken sick on the 19 of May I was sewing as well as ever as far as any thing that I knew when I took the last stich I tried to take another stich but could not I was instantly siesed with trembling cold and pain and vomiting very soon followed & cramping. but by the faith and prayers and good nursing and medical assistance by the hands of the saints and the power of the priesthood I have so far recovered as to walk out I thank the Lord for a place among the saints Sunday 8 P G & Mary & David down to meeting Monday 9 I still feel better Tuesday 10 I walk down to Br [Levi] Jackmans Wednesday 11 have my potatoes plowed I visited at sisters Bouks Thursday 12 have my potatoes hoed Friday 13 I work in the garden a little Saturday 14 Charles Lucinia & Carlos came down we went to medical meeting Carlos watered my garden Sunday 15 David came

15. Probably Relief Cram (1820–1909) wife of Millen Atwood (1817–1890), who was a member of the Pioneer Company. Emily Cornelia Atwood (1819–1869) was a sister to Millen Atwood. She was married to William Henry Branch (1820–1890).
down I do not go to meeting but rode up to the warm hot spring with Br Brunson and wife Mond 16 Tuesd 17 I visited sister Cook she is sick wed 18 Thurs 19 sister Violate [Murray (Kimball)] Sarah L[kawrence (Kimball)] Mary Elen [Harris (Kimball)] here on a visit Br Kimbal & Wm [Kimball] here to Dinner & Supper Frid 20 I have watered my garden all over except the oats this week Sattd ^21^ got Davids watch fixed then was caled to sister Eldridge she is sick with Erisipless & baby is sick Sund 22 I have visited them again P G & David down Frid last to get the wagon & carriage fixed Mon 23 put sister Riser [Sophia Christiana Kull, 1821–1871, wife of George Christian Riser] to bed with a son [Richard] born 9 · 2h A M Dimic and wife here stay all night Tuesd 24 we all went on a visit to Br Jackmans Wed 25 made me a cap Thursd ^26^ work in the garden Frid 27 David gone to mill the boys come home from the indians fuss Sat 28 David gone home I g[o] t[o] the tithing office for the tabernacle Sund 29 finished a letter to Sylvia ^Br Parry here for it^ Mond sent it worked in the garden

JULY 1851

Tuesd ^July 1^ Martha fixed her white dress Wed 2 visited at Br Foxes Thursd 3 put sister Cannon to bed with a son born 3 2h A M Martha went up to her Fathers Frid 4 I went to a picnic party at Br Cannons in the grove [Memory Grove] Sat 5 Saw them come home from the Salt lake Sund 6 did not go to meeting David came down with Martha he staid all night Mond 7 I worked in the garden Tuesd 8 I went to a sisters medical meeting ^17^ wed 9 finished Davids pants Thursd 10 went to a prayer meeting Frid 11 had a quilting Sat 12 took sister Clary through a course of medicine I am not well have a bowel complaint sister Cob here Sund 13 ^took a child through a course in] medicine ^do not go to meeting Mond sister Fany K here I was caled to Caroline [Conrad] Mitchel Tuesd 15 took her through a course of medicine wed 16 she is better Thursd 17 put on a quilt went and took sister Clary

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16. This is probably Ruth Baker, a plural wife of Elnathan Eldridge (b. 1811). The child would be William Nelson, born on 21 December 1850.

17. Significantly, Patty uses the phrase, “sisters medical meeting.” By this time, the Council of Health, as established by Willard Richards in 1849, had given birth to a Female Council of Health. The auxiliary council was introduced and expanded to include women interested in health care. Phoebe Angell was appointed president, with Patty Sessions and Susannah Lippincott Richards as counselors. They heard lectures by local physicians, “discussed faith and herbs in healing, attempted to design more healthful female fashions, spoke and sang in tongues, and enjoyed a social and spiritual interchange” (see Richard L. Jensen, “Forgotten Relief Societies, 1844–67,” Dialogue 16, no. 1 [Spring 1983]: 107). Patty mentions Angell’s appointment and her own on 17 September 1851.
through a course of medicine then went and put sister Houtz to bed with a son [Frederick Mease] born 11 P M\(^{18}\) Frid 18 got my quilt out Sat 19 Sund 20 went to meeting Mond 21 Martha went to a Party to the bath house Tues 22 Wed 23 went to the concert Thurs 24 went to the aniversary of our coming into the valley had a great and good time Frid 25 watered my garden Sat 26 Br P[arry] visited me Sund 27 went to meeting A M got a letter from my Br Jon= wrote one to him P G & I Mod 28 took sister Clary through a course of steeming Tues 29 washed wed 30 went to the store got Martha & I a new dress cut them out Thurs 31 worked on them

**AUGUST 1851**

Frid August 1 went and took sister Houts through a course of medicine Sat 2 went to sister Branches then to the medical meeting Br P[arry] here Sund 3 went to meeting P G L & David down David staid all night with Ph[cbe] Mond 4 put sister Kite to bed with a daughter born 11 -3h A M\(^{19}\) Tuesd cleaned garden seeds Wed 6 finished my dress Thursd 7 sewed carpet rags very warm Frid 8 put sophrona [Moore] wife of Jesse Martin to bed with a daughter [Isabell] born 4 - 3h A M then took sister Riser through a course of medicine Dr Bernhisel here to see me Satd 9 I gave sister Nortons child Emetic & Caroline Mitchel one Sund 10 went to meeting then visited sister Martin gave her Emetic Mond 11 visited the sick Tues 12 washed my bed commenced a fine shirt for Br Parry wed 13 visited the sick Thursd 14 visited the sick again found Caroline [blotted word] worse Frid 15 found her dying she died 11 A M the rest better finished the shirt washed it out he came here brought a water mellon the first ripe one I have have had Jackman here Saturday 16 had co S[arah] Lawrence [Kimball] L[aura] Gibs P G has been to Tooelee to get lumber got none Sund 17 watered my garden it soon began to rain and I did not go to meeting Mond 18 I went up to P G with David Tuesd 19 had a pic nic party there wed 20 came home with P G Thursd 21 put sister Lewis to bed with a daughter born 6 P M Frid 22 Martha and I went to Dimics Sat 23 put sister Branch to bed with a son [William Henry] born 11 A M Sund 24 went to meeting Mond 25 Tues 26 wed 27 Thursd 28 Frid 29 got stone halled for my well Satd 30 Bought 5 lb coffee 25 sugar 1 tea 1 pitcher a pair candle sticks Sund 31 went to meeting

**SEPTEMBER 1851**

Mond Sept 1 put sister Butterfield [Caroline Sprout, wife of Abel Butterfield, 1812–1886] to bed with a daughter [Caroline] born 8 P M Tues 2 visited at sister Butterfield with sister Snider Br & sister Cluff staid here all night Wed 3

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18. Lydia Mease (1817–1888) was the wife of Jacob Miller Houtz (1814–1896).
19. Julia Ann Carr (1809–1881) was the wife of Joseph W. Kyte (b. 1809).
I went to the medical meeting Thursd 4 got my well dug Frid 5 Satd 6 made a flannel shirt for Br Parry Sund 7 went to conference mond 8 go again Tuesd 9 go again Wed 10 again it ajarred till the 6 of Oct P G has stoned my well almost out Thursd 11 Frid 12 C Foster hauled me some stone Satd 13 he finished my well Sund 14 I went to meeting mon 15 sewed on skirt for Lucinia Tuesd 16 took sister Blair through a course of medicine20 wed 17 cut up my corn & shocked it went to medical meeting was chose second first counselor to sister Angel Thursd 18 sewed on shirts Frid 19 Sat 20 put sister Grant to bed with a daughter born 10 2h A M Sund 21 went to meeting Mond 22 took sister Grant through a course of medicine Tuesd 23 took sister Fulmer through a course of medicine wed 24 went to a female meeting Thursd 25 put sister Foresight to bed with a daughter [Savilla Delira] born 9 A M21 Frid 26 commenced my hen house Sat 27 Sun 28 took sister Norton through a course of medicine then went and took sister Higbee through a course of medicine Mond 29 visited the sick Tuesd 30 took sister Simson through a course of medicine

October 1851

wed Oct 1 went to a medical meeting Thursd 2 sister Foresyth worse have a hard time to save her life she took cold Frid 3 took sister Boyd through a course of medicine Satd 4 caled to sister Fulmer22 Sund 5 put her to bed with a son [Don Peter Marvin] born 5 A M then went to meeting Lucinia & Francis walton staid here all night Mond 6 conference we all went Tuesd 7 training rained Wed 8 rained they dismissed training David lost his horse staid here all night with Jo[seph] Henry [1829–1907] Thursd 9 he went home came back again hunting for his horse the california boys came in brought news Moses Lenards being shot by the indians23 I put Br [Albert] Pettys daughter to bed with a daughter born 10 · 2h P M24 Frid 10 I picked up 32 bushels of potatoes Simson dug them out Sat 11 I went to Br Lenards they feel bad about their son they brought me home visited Br Foresyths boy he is very sick Sund 12 visited him again then went to meeting was introduced to Br Tomson then came home Br [Parley P.] Pratts wives came here to supper Belinda [Marden]

20. Probably Cornelia Jane Empy (b. 1820), married in 1837 to Seth Millington Blair. She died on 2 September 1852.
21. Isabella Donald (1819–1852) was married to Thomas R. Forsyth (1813–1898).
22. Rhoda Ann Marvin (1813–1892) was the wife of David Fullmer (1803–1879).
23. Moses Calkin Leonard was born on 26 July 1827 and was the son of Lyman Leonard and Abigail Calkins.
& Mary [Wood] I then went and gave Foresiyths boy emetic **Mond 13** caled to Pettys **Tuesd 14** went to george Boids [George Washington Boyd, 1825–1903] **wed 15** went to the medical meeting cut Dr Clinton off**25** **Thursd 16** been Boids again **Frid 17** there again **Satsd 18** put her [Julia Murdock Baldwin, 1831–1851] to bed with a daughter [Julia Ann] born 5 A M dug potatoes 11 bushels **Sunday 19** went to meeting Mr Tomson Stephen Hale and wife here to supper **Mond 20** dug potatoes Mr Tomson helped me **Tuesd 21** he worked for me again dug potatoes and beets and buried them **wed 22** had a female meeting I was caled to Br Stowels put her to bed with a daughter born 7 P M **Thursd 23** Julia Boyd sick staid there and to Br Wms all day took Br Wms through a course of medicine **Frid 24** there again staid all day with Julia had the Dr there **Satsd 25** there again all day **Sund 26** she died I went to meeting sisters Smoot & Bernhisel staid here last night Mary came here last Tuesday is here yet will stay here longer **Mond 27** I went to Julia Boids funeral **Tuesd 28** wrote a letter to Sylvia and one to Sister Pratt **Wed 29** put them in the Office then went to the medical meeting trial of sister Cob David and Mary staid here last night P G brought me two load of wood **Thursd 30** I am spining Davids rolls **Frid 31** and

**November 1851**

**Satsd Nov 1** spining **Sund 2** I went to meeting **Mond 3** spun again in the forenoon ^P G & Lucinia here^ in the afternoon cut Davids bucskin pants he is here **Tuesd** sewed on them cut 2 shirts for Wm Bears**26** Martha sewed on one **Wed 5** went to the female meeting had a good time sister Angel sung a song in toungues I interpreted have wrote it off **Thursd 6** worked on the pants finished Wms shirt **frid 7** Marry sick I send for P G & Lucinia they came I cut Charles pants then put Marry to bed with a son [Byron] born 11 2h P M **Sat 8** P G & Lucinia went home I finished both pair of pants Br Leonard & wife here **Sun 9** all comfortable I went to meeting ^P G Lucinia^ came home found her not so well **Mond 10** she is better **Tuesd 11** remains so **Wed 12** I went to the counsel of health cut sister Cob off from the counsel came home found Mary worse Br Pary and I administered to her **Thursd 19** she is better **Frid 14** I spun **Satsd 15** spun **sund 16** I went to meeting P G & Lucinia & Carlos down in the night she was taken worse **mond 17** remains worse **Tuesd ^18^** no beter **Wed 19** worse I gave her Emetic **Thursd 20** she is better the Dr

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25. Dr. Jeter Clinton (b. 1813) came to Utah in 1850 and was listed as a physician in the 1850 census. He became a member of the first city council, and according to Juanita Brooks, was always prominent in public affairs (*Hosea Stout, 2:437*). During the 1860s, he was listed as a coroner.

26. William Beere or Beers (1827–1859) had been a member of the Mormon Battalion.
came said her fever was gone Frid 21 she is better Satd 22 gave her another emetic brought the flegm off of her stomac I then went and put Eliza Shurtlief [Elizabeth Topham, 1833–1919, wife of Vincent Shurtliff] to bed with a daughter [Sarah Jane] born 10 1h P M Sund 23 Mary is still better David is down Br P[arry] saw Brigham last Mond Mond 24 spun, finished Tuesd 25 sent it up to be coloured wed 26 went to the counsel of health P G and Lucinia down Ruth Carter staid here all night Thursd 27 commenced charles Harts mittens26 Frid 28 nitting Satd 29 Finished them P G & David down Wash Jones here Sund ^30^ got a letter from Syvia wrote one to her P G & David staid all night gone home Marys breast has broke she is better Jones has buried up my potatoes

DECEMBER 1851

Mond Dec 1 he made a bridge across the diek ditch he then went up north Tuesd 2 I have to cut wood for two fires wed 3 niting Davids fringed mittens Thursd 4 finished them Mary is worse taken lame Frid 5 [illegible words scratched out] up with her good part of the night covered up my pink roots Sat 9 [illegible word] she is no better I have been to a female meeting it snowed very hard when I came home Br P had his indowment to day I have cut all my wood since Monday Sund 7 David and Lucinia down Mond 8 Mary is better Tuesd 9 I have to cut my wood it is very hard Wed 10 I went to the counsel of health Br Brigham us a lecture in the counsel house Thursd 11 I am niting David another pair of fringed mittins Frid ^12^ feel almost wore out cutting wood Satd 13 they dedicate the school house up north Sund 14 I was married to John Parry28 and I feel to thank the Lord that I have some one to cut my wood for me Mond 15 P G is down here Tues 1529 mended clothes Wed 17 [written over 16] nit on Davids mittens. Thursd 18 [written over 17] I feel first rate Fri 19 [written over 18] finished David mittens Satd 20 [written over 19] went to the counsel of health Dr [Priddy] Meeks there it was caled a female meeting Sund 21 snowed so we did not go to meeting Br Clarks moved away gave Mary Emetic she sets up but little Mond 22 went to the 2d Lecture of Orson Pratt on astronomy Tues 23 Wed 24 David down here Martha went home with him and Phebe to a party Thursd 25 Christmas she came home Mr

27. Charles Hart, born in 1836 in Quebec, Canada, was in the Abraham O. Smoot Company of 1847.

28. John Parry (1789–1868) was born in Wales. He emigrated with one wagon in 1849 with the George A. Smith Company. His wife, Mary Williams, died en route. Parry was a master mason and a musician/composer. He introduced lucerne, a type of alfalfa, to the Great Salt Lake Valley.

29. Some degree of stress, unhappiness, or confusion arises here since Patty writes the wrong date from Tuesday, 16 December, through Saturday, 20 December, and corrects herself by writing the correct dates on top of the wrong date.
Parry and I went to a party to the Cabinet shop picnic for those that worked on the public works we had a good time it lasted two days we were there both days it was the best party I ever was to Sat 27 Sund 28 David here staid all night Mond 29 he was very sick but went home after he got better Tuesd 30 wrote a letter to Sylvia and another to Br Jon= Wed 31 cooked for thanksgiving prayed and thanked the Lord for the preservation of our lives

1852

the heavens gave me light over bad places . . . as my candle went out when I first started

JANUARY 1852

Jan 1 1852 Thursday I got up this morning washed us attend to our prayers feasted on the best we had which was fresh pork vegetables mince pye and custard sweet cake &c. for supper we had a variety of good things Friday 2 Sat 3 Sund 4 we went to meeting P G came for Mary he come to meeting brought us home took dinner carried Mary home David was here went home in the evening we went to meeting Wm Smoot here staid all night Mond 5 Martha Ann went up to her fathers I cut out some quilt linens for her Tuesd 6 I cleaned took up the carpet in the kitchen put it down again wed 7 scoured some Thurd 8 made soap Frid 9 finished Sat 10 stewed squash mended &c David & Jo Henry here stay all night Mr Pary took sick very sick all night Sund 11 he is no better David & Joe went home David came down with his ox again staid all night Mond 12 went and see Brigham took Mr Parrys ox home to keep Mr Parry is sick yet Tuesd 13 he is a little better Wed 14 he is so he goes out Thursd 15 I wash Frid 16 go up in town to settle up my tithing

30. Governor Brigham Young proclaimed a day of thanksgiving and prayer to be observed on 1 January 1852. Wilford Woodruff records part of the proclamation in his journal: "I recommend to all good citizens of Utah that they abstain from every thing that is calculated to mar or grieve the spirit of their Heavenly Father . . . rise Early . . . and wash . . . with pure water . . . see that no creature . . . is Hungry thirsty or Cold while the women are preparing the best of food for their Households & their Children ready to receive it in Cleanliness & with cheerfulness . . . let the Head of each family with his family bow down . . . and acknowledge all his sins & the sins of his household call upon the Father in the name of Jesus for every blessing . . . for himself his kindred the Israel of God the Univers of man praying with full purpose & heart & united faith that the union of the United States may be preserved inviolate against all the devises of wicked men . . . in the name of Jesus ask the Father to Bless your food . . . if you feel to make merry . . . sing a song of thanksgiving and lift up your hearts continually in praise & acknowledgement of the unbounded mercies you are momentarily receiving" (Woodruff's Journal, 4:89, 92).
did not quite buy some cloth 30 yards 2-3h ginam Sat went to council of health David Wm= & Martha came down Sund 18 they went home I went to meeting afternoon & evening Mond 19 washed in the evening went to the Lectures Tuesd 20 snowed last night wed 21 sister Smoot here wm= David here P G & David stay all night P G gave me 89 lb flour Thursd 22 I have made two bed ticks Frid 23 put the feathers in to them ironed Satd 34 Sunday we went to female meeting Sund 25 we went to meeting Mond 26 I washed then went up to P Gs Tuesd gave Mary Emetic wed 28 she is better Thursd 29 Martha Ann married to William Smoot [1828–1920], Joseph Henry & Susan Duncan [1829–1921] married the same time a good weding Frid 30 we all went to Williams Mothers had a great infaire Sat 31 came home got a letter from Mother written by E S Bartlett I wrote one to Sylvy

**FEBRUARY 1852**

Sund Feb 1 we went to meeting Mond 2 went to the Lecture Tuesd 3 I went put sister Murry to bed with a son born 1 - 3h P M Wed 4 David staid here last night P G and Lucinia came down I went down to Taylors to get some tallow it is my birthday 57 years old to day Feb= 4 1852 Thursd 5 Frid 6 Sat 7 went to the Female meeting Sun 8 went to meeting David down here Mond 9 I washed Tuesd ^10^ cut out my dress Mr Perry bought marino one wed 11 went to the counsel of health Thursd 12 Wm= & Martha & Harriet Ses= here staid all night Frid 13 P G & Lucinia came down all went home Sat <16> [14] Sisters Pearce & Bringherst here on a visit Sund 15 went to meeting caled out went and put sister Wade [Belinda Hickenlooper] to bed with a son [James Monroe] born 10 m before <4> P M Mond 16 put sister Pettit to bed with a son born 10 minutes before 7 A M Tuesd 17 David P G down staid all night Wed 18 been to see sist wade Thurs 19 Mr Perry ^paved^ round the door Frid 20 we went up to P Gs with Wm= & Mother & Martha Ann Sat 21 Martha Baptised had a meeting to P Gs her Father gave her a fathers blessing we had a good meeting Sund 22 we came home Harriet was married David staid here Mond 23 he went home Tuesd 24 P G came down staid here all night I got a letter from Sylvia Wed 25 I have settled up my tithing in full & got receipts then went to the counsel of health at Br Thomases we have got 14 quarts of beet molasses for Mr Parrys beets & carrots Thursd 26 made soap Frid 27 got a letter from Mother writen commenced a letter to mother direct it to E S Bartlett Satd 26 Mr Parry gone to the counsel Sund 29 did not go to meeting

32. Early in Perrigrine’s journal, as he lists his ancestors, he mentions that his grandmother Bartlett is living with Patty’s brother Elisha (b. 1796).
MARCH 1852

**Mond March** 1 put Caleb Parry's wife to bed with a son [Bernard Evans] born 16^m^ before 10 P M^33^ **Tuesd** 2 carried my beets to get them made into molasses **wed** 3 washed went to see Caleb's wife found her comfortable **Thursd** 4 baked pies **Frid** 5 ironed Mr Parry set out some choak cherry trees **Satd** 6 he went to the High Counsel it did not set Wm & Martha came here staid all night **Sund** 7 they went home We went to the counsel house in the forenoon I went to the school house in the afternoon **Mond** 8 David staid here last night went home today PG came down & went home we went to the fort got some peach trees I cut my alapacka dress bought 3 lbs butter of Tomas wife **Tuesd** 9 fine weather ^set the trees out^ D[avid] Fulmer paid 4 dollars for me yesterday at the tithing office **Wed** 10 I went to the counsel of health Heber gave us a lecture Dr Sprague spoke in tongues I interpreted it was great^34^ **Thursday** 11 it snowed last night I gathered snow washed and have snow water to wash with again **Frid** 12 Mr Parry fixed the hen coop **Satd** 13 he went to the high counsel I got John Edwards to cut some wood **Sund** 14 we went to meeting had a good preach from Heber John Edwards & wife here in the evening **Mond** 15 I went to see old sister Pack^35^ caled to see many more it

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33. Caleb Parry (b. 1824) was a son of John Parry, Patty's husband. His wife was Catherine Vaughn Evans (b. 1826). They came to Utah in 1849 in the George A. Smith Company.

34. In 1852 Benjamin G. Ferris, secretary of the Territory of Utah, and his wife visited Utah. Each wrote a book. In *Mormons at Home*, Mrs. Ferris scornfully describes a meeting "... This Council of Health ... is a sort of female society ... whose members have meetings to talk over their occasional various aches and pains. ... The meeting was in one of the ward school-houses. There were from forty to fifty present, old and young, and, judging from physiognomical indications, they all, with two or three exceptions, belonged to the lowest class of ignorance. ..." Chronicling some of the proceedings and people in deprecating terms, Mrs. Ferris describes Dr. Sprague as having a “look of vulgar dissipation” and says he was “moved by the spirit to bless the patient in an unknown tongue, pronouncing, in a blatant tone, words something like these: ‘Vavi, vava, vacum—seri, seri, sera, serum.'” She continues: “They proved to be the invocation of great blessings, both temporal and spiritual; she was to have everything that heart could desire; her seed was to outnumber the hosts of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Poor thing, she looked as though she needed some better guaranty for temporal comforts than these empty sounds. She could not have been over eighteen; had a large baby in her lap and another child at home; was poorly clad, and undoubtedly half fed” (B. G. Ferris, *Mormons at Home* [New York: AMS Press, n.d.], 199–204; also quoted in William Mulder and A. Russell Mortensen, eds., *Among the Mormons: Historic Accounts by Contemporary Observers* [New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1958], 262–65).

35. Probably Phylotte Green Pack (1774/6–1866), mother of John Pack (1809–1885), member of the Pioneer Company. John returned to Winter Quarters and moved his family to the Salt Lake Valley in 1848.
is very cold and snows this afternoon **Tues 16** warm again **Wed 17** **Thursd 18**
sister Edwards sewed for me on my black dress **Frid 1** I washed ironed **Sat 19** I
grew to the female meeting it was good **Sund 20** went to meeting in the
forenoon then P G and Mary came from Smoots they ^smoots^ came with
them Martha was sick brought on a bed she had 3 spasms after she got here I
gave her lobelia till she vomited she had no more of them but got better **Mond 22** she [Martha] went through the ordinances in the counsel house for her
indowment then went home David staid here last night went to the counsel
house with her Martha Ann saw her go through**Tuesd 23** I have cleaned
parsnips for molasses Mr Parry has now been in the high counsel 3 days
**Tues 2 Wed 24** I went to the female meeting 53 gave in thier names to join
the counsel we had a good meeting spoke much on the subject of taking care
of our health to avoid tight lacing cold or wet feet to take care of our infants
and how to train up our children that they may be prepared to be saints and
fill the measure of thier creation in ritcheousness **Thursd 25** I am boiling away
my parsnip juice for molasses **Frid 26** sister Higbee here spoke in toungues
said she should have a child finished my black dress **Sadt 27 of March
^1852^** I was sealed to Mr John Parry. I was married to him the 14th of
Dec= 1851 **Sadt 27** I have been in ^to see^ the indowments again to day
**Sund 28** did not go to meeting went to see sister Jackman ^wrote to Sylvia^ **Mond 29** worked in the garden **Tuesday 30** sewed **Wed 31** washed & finished
my letter to Sylvia

**APRIL 1852**

**Thursd April 1** went to Ed Wades got a pound of butter had a load of wood
paid in seeds and potatoes had 4 lb butter of sister Tomas went to Br [Ira V.]
Ameses daughter she had a child**37** **Frid 2** put Mary Shurtlief to bed with a

36. The upper floor of the Counsel House, the first public building in Salt Lake
City, was serving as a temporary endowment house. In 1855 an endowment
house was built on the northwest corner of Temple Square, where it stood until
1899, when it was torn down to make way for the Salt Lake Temple. An endow-
ment consists of ceremonial cleansing and clothing; instruction beginning with
the Garden of Eden through mortality and an eventual reunion with God;
covenant making, including promises to obey moral, charitable, and consecra-
tion laws; and being in communion with God as a presence in his holy house
(see Daniel H. Ludlow, ed., *Encyclopedia of Mormonism*, 5 vols. [New York:

37. Ira Ames (1804–1869) and Charity Carter (1807–1839) had two daughters,
Clarissa, born in 1827, and Rebecca, born in 1830. Clarissa married Thomas
Munjar on 16 July 1843; she was rebaptized on 14 July 1852 and married again
on 1 August to John Williams. Ira’s second wife was Sarah Johnston; they were
married in August 1849.
daughter [Martha Maria] born 20 mi before 9 A M Satd 3 went to the female meeting got a letter from Sylvia She has lost Byron Sund 4 David Wm Smoot and Martha came here gone to P Gs Mond 5 I have cooked for conference Tuesd 6 it commenced it lasted Sund 11 we have had the best conference I ever went to the new tabernacle was dedicated and the Lord poured out his spirit on the people they spoke in tongues and praised the Lord and prophesied Mr Parry and I have been all the time he has gone now this evening to a meeting I am here alone I am happy and feel thankful for what I enjoy it is said there was 2-500 people at this conference Mond 12 I work in the garden Tuesd 13 Wed 14 I went to the counsel of health Thursd 15 David came down Frid 16 he went to Smoots Sat 17 we met at the school house to devise a fashion for female clothing for health and beauty went to Isaac Hills wife Sund 18 she got to bed this morning 5 A M a daughter we went to meeting Brigham & Heber preached yesterday I had my likeness taken with a deguaratipe by [Marsena] Cannon Heber told us to go the exploring route with him Mond 19 I have worked in the garden some every day set ionions & sowed other seeds Tuesd 20 still work there Wed 21 went to sister Smiths to see about the fashion sister Smoot Wm= & Martha staid here last night Thursd 22 David here staid all night Frid 23 he has gone to Smoots the ground covered with snow cleared off warm Satd 24 I went to sister Smiths to help form a fashion for the females that will be more conducive to health than the long ^tight^ waisted dress filed with whale bone & hickery that they ware now Sund 25 we went to meeting went to see M[illen] Atwoods child it was burnt bad by its clothes taking fire mond 26 Cate here & P G & David staid all night Tuesd 27 P G & Lucinia here wed 28 to the councel of health 1:73 have joined the two last meetings Thursd 29 rains & snows I wash Frid 30 still storms

38. Byron Windsor Lyon was born in 1847 in Iowa. He died on 13 December 1851 in Iowa City.

39. On 21 May 1851 construction of a tabernacle had begun on the southwest corner of Temple Square. Truman O. Angell was the architect. Audiences had overflowed the capacity of the bowery, and the weather often hindered religious meetings. But the Tabernacle, too, was outgrown before it was completed, and by 1854 seating space for seven thousand had to be found outside the building (Stewart L. Grow, A Tabernacle in the Desert [Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co., 1958], 20–26.

40. Isaac Hill (1806–1879) had five wives and numerous children. The LDS Family History Library has no listing for a child born on this date.

41. Juanita Brooks records, “Marsena Cannon, the first photographer in Utah, was born August 3, 1812, in Rochester, New York, and came to Utah in 1849. The first issue of the Deseret News (June 15, 1850) carried his advertisement for taking pictures . . . ” (Hosea Stout, 2:410).
Sat May 1 storms snow & rains Sund 2 I do not go to meeting Mond 3 Tuesd 4 work on his lot I drop corn wed 5 we work on my lot plant potatoes Thursd 6 I bake and go to fast meeting ^I planted mellons and cucumbers^ Frid 7 David came down ^& brought some batting^ Satd 8 he went to smoots I went & put Harriet [Sanders] Kimball to bed with a daughter born 4 P M ^babe died^ Sund 9 went & see her then went to meeting in the fore noon got counsel of Willard Richards & went back gave her an Emetic came home David Wm & Marthann here Mond 10 they stay go to P Gs I buy some gimp of Needom^42 sell him some garden seeds cut Davids pants Tuesd 11 wash P G & Lucinia Wm= & Martha here to dinner I go with P G up to see Harriet ^Kimball^ up to the bath house wed 12 go to the counsel of health set in counsel with sisters [Phoebe Ann Morton, 1786–1853] Angel & Susannah [Lippincott] R[ichards] before & after meeting Thursd 13 go and see Harriet again found her still on the gain it rained Frid 14 a rainy day Sat. 15 still rains I fix me some dresses Sund go to meeting in the forenoon in the afternoon go to Br Tomases wash and anoint his wife Mond 17 sow beet seed Tuesd 18 go and see Br Mason he has a bad burn had a fit fell in the fire sister Higbee came home with me made me a sack Wed 19 went to sister Armstrongs to get a bonnet made^43 Thursd 20 visit Br Mason again his leg looks better took away large peices of dead flesh Friday 21 finished my skirt and sack Sat 22 went to see about my bonnet then visited sister Purkins gave her counsel & told her I thought she opporated upon Harriet Kimbal to soon & gave black pepper to her hurt I then went to see susannah found her sick on bed told her to quit going among the sick or she would never get well I then went to the female counsel had a good meeting Sund 28 went to meeting Brigham has got back from the exploring expedition he preached visited Br Mason again he is getting better Mond 24 David staid here last night P G has come down to hunt for Davids colt I have cut me a sack, last Friday Mr Parry and myself visited at old sister Taylors with Br Rich wife and Chase & wife sister E R Snow &c &c had a good visit Sat Tuesd 25 I worked in the garden Wed 26 I went to the counsel of health had a good meeting Thursd 27 I washed sister mason helped me we took ^up^ the carpet cleaned put it down again Frid 28 visited Br Mason he gets better Satd 29 sister Carter sewed for me I have got me a new hat wore it to the course last wed Sund 30 wrote a letter to Sylvia went to meeting got a letter from her Mond finished my letter send it David Lucinia Carlos down to meeting yestarday

42. Gimp is narrow braid or cord for trimming.
43. Probably Mary Kirkbride (1815–1895), a pioneer of 1847 with the Big Company. Her husband was John Christopher Armstrong (1813–1857).
Diary Three: 1851-1852

JUNE 1852

**Tuesd May [June] 1 wed 2 Thursd 3** I have worked in the garden to day is fast[ay] We go to meeting **Frid 4** work in the garden **Satd 5** go to the female meeting had ^one of^ the best meetings I ever had sister granger spoke toungeus beautiful **Sund 6** we went to meeting **Mond 7** put sister Walton to bed with a son born 25 minutes past eight AM **Tuesd 8** Sister Mason helped me wash Br Sprague & wife here on a visit **wed 9** I went to the counsel of health **Thursd 10** worked in the garden **Frid 11** the same ^gave sister Moss emetic^ **Satd 12** put sister Lund to bed with a son [Wilson William] born ten minutes after nine came home worked in the garden **P G Lucinia David Carlos here to dinner Br Leonard & wife here on a visit **Sund 13** we went to meeting **Mond** gave Br Brunson emetic **tuesd 15** cooked to carry to the picnic on Ensign peak to morrow **Wed 16** went on to the Peak three or four hundred had a good time President John Young President J[ames Willard] Cummings Judge E[rastus] Snow Judge [William Wines] Phelps gave lectures it truly was an interstenering day **thursd 17** worked in the garden **Frid 18** the same **Satd 19** went to a female meeting **Sund 20** went to meeting **Mond** worked in the garden **Tuesd 22** went to the church farm **^gave the same^ Wed 23** went to the counsel of health **Thursd 24 & Frid 25** worked in the garden **Satd 26** did the same **Sund 27** went to meeting **Mond 28** commenced a letter to Sylvia **Tuesd 29** washed sister Mason helped me **Wed 30** finished my letter put it in the oficemail not come in then went to the counsel house to see about the 24 of July 48 Fathers & 48 Mothers are requested to walk in prosesion on that day with their little boys and girls boys follow the aged fathers the girls follow the aged mothers

JULY 1852

**Thursd July 1** Ann Mason is weeding my garden **Frid 2** water the garden a little I go up to P Gs Julya is sick with the hooping cough came home worked in the garden **P G Lucinia David Carlos here to dinner Br Leonard & wife here on a visit **Sund 3** I gave her emetic came home she is better Harriet Dunn [Harriet

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44. Eliza Ann Brace (1821–1907) was the wife of Wilson Lund (1815–1889).
45. Ensign Peak, north of the Temple block, in the earliest days of the settlement was used as an outdoor endowment house and must have continued to be a gathering place. John Young became first counselor to Charles C. Rich when the first stake was organized in the Salt Lake Valley. Erastus Snow was also a counselor. W. W. Phelps served as justice of the peace.
46. The Church Farm was proposed at the October conference in 1848. Eight hundred acres were to be cleared and planted to produce food for the poor. It was located south of the city (Leonard Arrington, Great Basin Kingdom [Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1958], 54).
47. Julia was the oldest child of Perrigrine Sessions and Mary Call.
Atwood Silver, plural wife of Simeon Adams Dunn] here Sund 4 go to meeting Mond 5 the forth celebrated I sold beets carrots beans lettuce for the dinner Mr Parry went I staid at home baked and sewed Tuesd 6 I went up to P Gs Julia worse rained wed 7 she is better Thursd 8 I came home David came after me that night again I rode horseback she laid in a fit 5 hours I gave her lobelia injections she came out of the fit Frid 9 she is better Sat 10 I came home Sund 11 went to meeting David down Mond 12 I was over to see sister Elmira Burgess she is sick Tuesd 13 caled to sister Tomson she had a bad breast wed 14 went to the counsel of health Thursd 15 met for the 24th to organise Frid 16 sister Higbee here sewed for me Satd 17 she is here again Sund 18 went to meeting Wm & Martha gone up to P Gs mond 19 worked in the garden Tuesd 20 in the [On the back of the page, she has finished the sentence: garden again. Then she added new pages and continued on them. She also repeated a few entries, adding the words in italics]

AUGUST 1852

August 1 David came after me to go and see a Mrs Winn I staid all night Mond 2 gave her Emetic come home Tuesd 3 went down to see Cate again she is worse staid all day left her better Wed 4 went to see her again then went to the counsel of health Thursday 5 I washed Frid 6 ironed baked worked in the garden Mr Parry went to Brighams Mill yestarday again to day Satd 7 Sund 8 went to meeting Brigham preached on the spirits going to prison Mond 9 I went to the counsel house did not stay Wm. & Martha here Tuesd 10 Dr Sprague Br Nebecar & wife here performed a painful opporation Wed 11 Mr Parry got up the oats stacked them Thursd 12 he work for walker Frid 13 I picked my onions Sat 14 went to the female meeting Sund 15 went to meeting Mond 16 had Go Dr Pearson here told me about Sylvia his wife had a babe two weeks old Tuesd 17 went to the counsel of health Wed 18 visited sister Duncan she was sick took her through a course of medicine Thurs 19 I visited her again she was better P G & Winn here Winn paid

48. Iona Almira Pulsipher (1817–1868) was the wife of Horace Burgess (1816–1849).
me three Dollars Frid 20 scalded my pickels paid Ann Tomas all for the
wood sister Carter making my bonnet Sat 21 went to see Sister Duncan she
is not so well I then went and put sister Mcentire to bed with a son [Brigham
Patterson] born 9 & 10 minutes P M49 Sund took sister Duncan through a
course on medicine Br Taylor has got home & Benson Snow & Richard Mr
Parry had a friend come from Wales Mond 23 Tues 24 worked on my bonet
Wed 25 bought medicine and other things of Dr Pearson they left for the
gold mines I went to Father Gibs to see Duncan Susannah there with me
Thursd 26 Mr More & wife came here to board I went to Br Hunters gave
his son Emetic washed Frid 27 ironed Sister Foss [Sarah Brackett Carter
Foss, 1800–1894] & 3 of her daughters here E [Sarah Elizabeth] -Ph= [oebe]
R[h]o[d]a Satd 28 special confrence P G caled to go to England to preach
Sund 29 Orson Pratt preached on the plurality of wives the first that it has
been made public50 Mond 30 William & Martha staid here last night & David
he got a letter from Sylvia P G and sister Duncan here to dinner he went in
where they were giving endowments Br Smoot has got home51 Wm= & his
mother has gone back with him to meet the company Martha is here Tues 31
she & I are going to ^the^ counsel of health we went wed Sept [Albert] Carlington delivered a lecture52 we went to the store Martha got her a new
dress

SEPTEMBER 1852

wed Sept 1 she cut it out thursd 2 got it almost done P G and his woman
down Martha went home with them Frid 3 Br Smoot wife and Wm= came
back with the company here to supper Wm staid all night Satd 4 they went
home ^we^ went to see the camp carried some mellons Sund 5 went to
meeting Mond 6 P G and all his folks down went in to the counsel house
wm= came carried Mr Parry and me up to PGs staid all night Tuesd 7 had
a blessing meeting P G blessed all his family he blessed me I blessed him he
and I blessed David. Mary spoke in toungues I interpreted it rained but we
had a good time it cleared off in the afternoon and we came home wm= and
Martha went home [Mo]re and wife left here yestarday Wed 8 I washed sis­
ter Knight here Thursd I ironed & schilded my bed stead53 Friday 10 P G
and Mary here ^we went.^ ^Fosses^ staid ^here^ all night sister Pratt got
in came here54 Sat 11 P G and Mary went home Sund 12 we all went to
meeting Mond 13 P G and family came down we all had our likenesses taken
P G went home got Emorett came back Wm= & Martha came got their like­
nesses taken then we all went in to the counsel house saw Emorett sealed to
P G55 they all went home Wm and Marth stay all night David staid here last
night Tuesd 14 Wm= & Martha went home I rode up to the tabernacle with

wandered away, never to be seen again. Captain Smoot arrived in the valley on
30 August, but at the time noted, he returned to lead the company’s descent
from the mountains. Unknown to members of the company, the bodies of two
missionaries who had died in England were brought with them (see C. Elliott
Berlin, “Abraham Owen Smoot, Pioneer Mormon Leader” [master’s thesis,
Brigham Young University, 1955]).

52. On 10 April 1852 Hosea Stout noted “... Conference ... Carrington spoke on
the subject of Doctors & their practices” (Brooks, *Hosea Stout*, 2:435).

53. Patty may have had a brass bed that she “schilled” with a protective coat or pol­
ished to bring out the luster; the word “schill” is used with shiny metal.

54. Elizabeth Brotherton (1817–1897), the first plural wife of Parley Parker Pratt, and
Phoebe Sopher (1823–1887), his sixth plural wife, had accompanied him on his
mission to the Pacific. Phoebe had recently lost a one-month-old child but was
pregnant again. Elizabeth was left in San Francisco in poor health as Pratt went
on to Chile. According to Reva Stanley, he returned on 18 October 1852, a
month later than Patty’s entry. Perhaps either Elizabeth or Phoebe traveled ahead
(see *The Archer of Paradise* [Caldwell, Idaho: Caxton Printers, 1937], 244, 278).

55. Fanny Emorett Loveland (1838–1917) would have been Perrigrine’s third living
wife.
them went to the counsel of health wed 15 P G and all his family came down
he and Emorett had their likenesses taken came here to dinner then I rode
out with them through town P G left to go to Europe and we came back they
went home it rained & wind blew hard Thursd 16 sister Pratt moved in to a
house Frid 17 I have cut my sage gathered seeds I feel to pray for P G by
night and day and all those that are with him I often think when shall we all
meet again but all is well whether in this or the next world if we do the will of
our master keep his commands and obey counsel Satd 18 Butterfield
brought a quarter of bearmeat here last night I have sold and took care of it
got a part of the cellar dug to day Sund 19 went to meeting Mond sick I took
emetic sold one bushel 2h onions for three dollars Tuesd 21 not well sister
Brunson here wed 22 I am better Thursd 23 coloured David here Frid 24
sister Brunson sewed for me Sat 25 went to the female meeting Sund 26
went to meeting David Lucinia down Mr Parry went to meet Joseph Parry
[1825–1911, his younger brother] he came home with him Mond 27 I went
with sister Angel Susanah and sister Bradock to wash anoint sister
Hickenlooper and fox then I went and see sister Hyde sister Parry [probably
Eliza Tunks, 1824–1866?] got in came here Tuesd 28 she & Joseph both here
went to the counsel of health wed 29 Thursd 30

**OCTOBER 1852**

**Frid Oct 1** sister Parry altered my dresses I wrote a letter to P G yestarday sis­
ter Huff here with two children came day before yestarday Sat 2 I keep them
all yet another child came to day Sund 3 they go away to day I go to meeting
Mond 4 sister Hutchins came here to stay awhile Tuesd 5 I bake and prepare
for confrence Wensd 6 confrence commenced lasted till Sund eve 10 Mond
11 I have been to all the conference had a good meeting I wash Tuesd 12 iron
and go to the counsel of health Br Benson spoke to us wed 13 went with sis­
ters Mumford [Hannah Cann Crosby, b. 1808] &c Angel to carry some things
to Sister Abbot that had donated by the counsel of health for her releif found
her helpless but neat and cl[e]an possessing a good spirit Thursd 14 Frid 15
Sat 16 met with the females Joseph Parry & wife moved away from here Sund
17 went to meeting David down staid all night Mond 18 Mr Parry worked on
the cellar Tuesd 19 he is very sick Wed 20 I have been up the most of the
night Thursd ^21^ very sick yet gave him emetic Frid 22 he is better we
have a man here diging potatoes Sat Satd ^23^ he has dug 50 bushels
^wm= Martha here staid all night^ sun 24 go to meeting Br Parley got home
preached Mond 25 washed Tuesd 26 went to the counsel of health sister
Angel gone to Utah some things given for the good of the poor some money
$260 Wed 27 Susannah and I visited the sick Thursd 28 got two letters from
Sylvia Friday 29 wrote a letter to P G and one to Sylvia Satd 30 went to the
female meeting received many things for the poor I gave them all to sister
Angel she is Treasureer I and Susannah counselor Sun 31 went to meeting
David here sister Hutchins went home with wm= her son the two Marys came here just got in two Marys husband and Roberts56

**November 1852**

**Mond Nov= 1** the men went back to the waggons the woman staid here **Tuesd 2** they have gone to Caleb's come back to night I am molding candles Mr Parry has sold his ox had 8 d out of it. Cold the wind blows hard **Wed 3** they go to Ann Parrys [1818–1882, sister to John and Joseph] **Thursd 4** I was caled to see Forsith's boy very sick last night57 been again to day then went to Br Taylors he gave me an order on Livingsteans store $5 he owes me $5 more **Frid 5** I went took up the order got me a new dress rode with Br Leonard left my glasses went back **Sat 6** the waggons came in Marys both gone to Caleb's to the waggons Mr Parry had some things & seeds sent him I took care of them then workd diging carrots & very hard all day visited the sick boy last night again to night all alone the heavens gave me light over bad places where the road was good it was very dark as my candle went out when I first started home **Sund 7** rains hard I stay at home sister Hutchins came back **Mond 8** I wash Tuesd 9 rains dig the beets two men diging beats sister Hutchins moves away I do not go to the counsel of health **wed 10** the ground covered with snow sewed fixed my clothes **Thursd 11** very cold beet not all dug froze very hard last night **Frid 12** mended my carpet **Satd 13** went to the female meeting voted in one in each ward except 1st & 5th to look after the poor after the meeting was dismised those presant that had been voted in tarried we gave them some instructions how to procede blessed them and came home **Sunday 14** do not go to meeting visited sister Forsith and children gave one emetic last night made canker medicine to day for them Mr Parry gone to meeting **Mond 15** mendid Mr Parry's coat **Tuesd** baked visited sister Forsith she is sick **wed 17** snowed David & Br Lasley [John Welton Lasley, 1812–1858] came down to bury Lasleys daughter **Thursd 18** Phebe here making my dress **Frid 19** we work on the same rains **Satd 20** she went home & snows I went to Joseph Parrys to put his wife to bed sister there put her to bed child [a boy, Edward, born] a few minutes after I got there

56. One Mary was undoubtedly Mary Parry (1813–1893), daughter of John Parry, Patty's husband. Mary Parry was married to John Williams in 1836. John also had a sister Mary, born in 1804 in Wales. An older sister, also named Mary, had died in 1802.

57. Thomas R. Forsyth and Isabella Donald (1819–1852) had seven children, ranging in age from twelve to one: Thomas Robert (b. 1840), Jennett Agnes (b. 1842), George James (b. 1844), Isabella Jane (b. 1846), Marianne (Minnie) (b. 1848), Neil Donald (b. 1849), and Savilla Delina (b. 1851).
has been moved. Saturday 20 to and including Thursday 25 have been transferred here to November where they seem to belong. She repeated a few words from the preceding entry.

in a few minutes after I got there Sat 20 Phebe went home Sund 21. I went to Forsiths staid all day took care of them left them better Mr Parry went to meeting David here Mond 22 he went to Tooelee after lumber Tuesd 23 snows & blows very hard Mr Parry had to work very hard to keep the cow calf & mare from perishing wed 24 more moderate I went to Forsith they are very sick five of them Thursd 25 I went again found them some better David has come back from Tooelee Mr Parry has paid him $45 cash for a mare he is to get her shod & in the spring if we choose he will take her back and give us $50 for her.

[She next attempts to describe an event that she wrote both in her diary and an inserted page as follows:]

Dr P Richards came after me to go and [see them] Thursd 25 I went again found them some better Forsith came home with me I told him I thought his babe would die wished him to have a doctor least I should be blamed the road was so bad snow and mud that I could not go again unless he came after me with a horse he said he would Friday 26 very muddy Satd 27 no better rains Sat 27 put Mrs Akans to bed with a [space left] born 5 10 minutes A M [large space left] Sund ^28^ rains Mond 29 Forsith sent for me I went the babe was dead she was worse & Genette very sick I left them more comfortable Tuesd 30 I went again they thought they were better.

December 1852

wed Dec 1 I went again found them about the same I wished them to send for some Dr that belonged to the counsel she said no she did not want any body else to know what a fix they were in four sick then all lying on one bed I told her they were badly situated but I did not know how it could be helped then Thursd 2 I went again found them some better but the weather being very unfavorable I was afraid they would take cold again and get wors again I wished them to have somebody else and liberate me told them the next day I would go and see Dr Richards or Sprague Friday 3d as I was preparing to go Dr P Richards came after me to go with him and see a woman he had been attening we caled as we went along and sister Forsith and girl found them better he thought they would get well if they took no cold: said I had give them all he could think of then.

[This is the end of the information. She must have thought it important that her involvement be clear. In the second version, she repeated the same explanation.]

^Dec^ Frid ^3^ Dr P Richards came after me to go and [see] a woman he has been tending upon I got him to go and see Forsiths wife and children before I went to see the woman we found them better setting up we then went and see the woman found her very low I told him I thought she was dying and told her husband the same she died that night her name was Clemons I then
went and saw Susannah was gone all day Satd [number scratched out] Satd 4 Lorenzo Snow sent for me to go and see one of his wives Harriet [Amelia Squires, b. 1819] a miscarriage as I came home went and see Forsiths folks found them better gone all day I was sent for yesterday & to day to to go up north ten miles to see a sick woman Martha & Wm has gone up to P Gs Sund 28 5 I went to meeting Mond 6 I went to Forsiths again still better sent for again to go up North I went found the woman sister Walton very sick staid with her all night took her through a course of medicine left her better came home on Tuesd 7 went to Forsiths again still better Wed Dec 8 Wm and Martha came here got dinner went home I rode in a carriage with Ann Barranto Forsiths found them much better but it was a very stormy snowy day the floor very wet I told them I was afraid they would take cold for I was very cold could not keep my feet warm I soon began to feel sick and wished for the carriage to bring me home but it did not come I got so bad that Br Forsith got an ox waggon brought me home I was very sick I was administered to took cayanne & lobelia got easier Thursd 9 I am better very weak & sore all over Ann came soon after I got home is here still Frid 10 very weak Satd 11 Sund 12 some better Br Forsith came here to know what to do for his wife she is worse says Genette is much better I sent her some compasition & lobelia told him to get sister Judd to to make an injection and put that in and give it his wife as he said she had nothing passed her since Thursd and her cough was worse and she had a good deal of fever I told him she had taken cold & to give her the tincture of lobelia for her cough and to pay strict attention to her for if she had taken cold I was afraid he would loose her for she was consumptive anyhow David & Carlos came here staid all night Mond 13 they went home I got into the kitchen Tuesd 14 Ann washed for herself and some for me Mr Parry went to Forsiths said they were very bad Wed 15 he went again they told him she was worse Thursd 16 he went again she was dead Ann left here I do my work alone have got quite well Frid 17 thaws little it has been very cold for a long time Satd 18 still thawing the wind blows hard and has for some time Sund 19 I do not go to meeting the south wind has blown for some days hard turned and blew from the north and snowed fast [The following entries for the 18th and 19th have been moved here. She mixed up her dates and added the November 25–December 3 entries on loose pages, as well as the following:] Mr Parry heard a very remarkable noise last night do not know what it was Dec 18 1852 Dec 19 I dreamed of seeing P G & A Barot swimming last night 20 Dreamed last night of P G wishing me to sow some root abago seed for him I sowed it saw wheat coming up Sat Tuesd 21 I go to see susannah sister Angel was there snowed again Satd 25 christmas day it has snowed the most of the past week very cold to day David down yestarday and Lovlin wished me to go up there next Mond he is going to get Married Sund 26 I do not go to meeting David down Mond he staid all night carried me home with him we met Jack Reding & Naomi from california Tued 28 I baked pies Wed 29 I baked
more David came down **Thursd 30** he was married brought his wife [Phebe Carter Foss, b. 1832] home with him had a splended party or infair **Frid 31** rained I do not get home

**JANUARY 1853**

**Sat Jan 1–1853** I came home

*[On the front outside page is written]*

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*[upside down:]*

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May 15

Oct 22
Samples of Patty Sessions's midwife records. Courtesy of LDS Church Archives; photograph by J M Heslop.