

MONTCALM COUNTY



The diaries of Mr. & Mrs. Silas Kent was copied in 1977 by Betty Spooner Greenville, MI, W.M.G.S. member, with the kind permission of Kent Scott of 10933 Podunk Avenue, Greenville, MI. Mr. Scott has granted us the same privelege. We have chosen to copy the diaries exactly as they were copied by Mrs. Spooner. Mr. & Mrs. Silas Kent will take us back 103 years and through their writings have attempted to share with us today the lives and times of another era gone by. Editor.

EXCERPTS FROM THE DIARIES OF MRS. SILAS KENT AND MR. SILAS KENT

PART I

1878

- Jan. 11 Went to town to buy furnitur for the parlor
Silas saw his uncle from York State.
17 went down to Henry Kents' & quilted for Jennie B _____
20 Leias and his wife Silas Uncle from York state and Jerome
Kent was here today Went down to Uncle Jhons Kents
26 We Went to Greenville and from there home with Father and staid
over night.
27 Went from Fathers down to Sylvester Kents to see Silas Uncle.
- Feb. 6 Went to Mount Pleasant
7 We took breakfast at Mr. Harrass went over to Jhons
8 stopped at Elam Hall. ate our lunch at Crystal lake.
10 took care of Mrs. Walkington baby. Then in the afternoon We
drove over to Orvile Fullers and staid a little while. Old Mrs.
& Mr. Green was their
12 We went to Greenville to make out the deed to Orvil Fuller
- Mar. 3 I wrote a letter to Ann Burns
26 Silas & Andrew started for Stebbinsville
30 I wrote a letter to Leila
- Apr. 6 We went to town. maid out the papers with Will Gay & Orivill
Fuller. & called on Mrs Hail to see the boy.
14 We went over to Edwin Rowly and see on ower way Fathers' Uncle
barton's Churchill & Kents' and see Susie & Elias
22 Silas made me a table helped Henry put the sills of the church
on the foundation
- May 6 Henry Kents has got a boy
28 we went to George Wheelers funerel
29 Jake Desplde raised his barn
- July 29 Today there was an aclips on the Sun Mrs. Walkington and
myself saw it.
- Aug. 11 Mr and Mrs Rassmusen baby dide today
- Sept. 23 Silas and myself signed Mr Rasmuson will
28 Silas went down and helped henry raise his windmill Henry come
home last night from Nebraska

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- Nov. 3 They dedicated the church here on the plains
11 Mr Notts Grist Mill burned at night
13 Aunt Peggy and Aunt Betsy from York state was here
14 Silas and Andrew ar building a shed
28 We went home to spend thansgiving Uncle Bartons folks was thare
and Mrs Edwards Bart. had his boy with him.
- Dec. 9 We went to _____ Willson daughter funrel
10 Mr Taylor Rock was berried today
20 Elias and got the girls they had another girl today
- 1879 Mrs. Silas Kent Fairplains Mich.
- Jan. 1 We had company. Mr & Mrs. Barton Baker. Mr & Mrs. Charles
Baker. Mr & Mrs Chester Baker & Katie & Lenie, Mr & Mrs. John
Kent Mr & Mrs. Henry Kent, Emma & Loid. Mrs. Man and James.
Mr. and Mrs. Jeanes Kent. Mrs Teater
16 funrel prossesion of Mr McGroff went past here today.
20 Mr. Walkington baby is sick also Mr Rasmusson
- Feb. 4 Charley woke us up this morning a bout two oclock and said Mrs.
Parker was dieing
12 Mrs Parker dide this morning
14 Mrs. Parker was burried today.
19 Jowel Clark was berried today
22 Mrs. Square fuller wife is dede
- Mar. 13 went down to Aunt Pheby Man's
23 We see the Brid and Groom. Wesley Kent and Fany.
- Apr. 28 James Smith made out the morgage of his farm to Silas
- June 6 Silas went to a barn raising to Chester Miller.
- July 4 Dater Monagal was married to day.
- Aug. 24 Charleys folks had another son born today
- Sept. 7 Elder Hellenback preached for the last time. Mr Mores was thare.
15 Father was to start for Detroit this morning.
- Nov. 19 Uncle Levi Aunt Clarie and Johny father mother and Katie
Uncle Squair and Mirtie took dinner with us. Uncle Levi folks
staid all night
20 We went and carried Uncle Levis up to Mr Holdens
- Dec. 25 We went down to Mr. Moons to spend Christmas
31 went to the funrel the young man at Mr. Bradesh
- 1880
- Jan. 19 Old Mr Clarke took supper with us
25 We went to church saw Jennie Fisher and the bride and groom
Mr & Mrs Carter She is Mrs Mires sister
- Feb. 2 Willie Ferris was killed this morning
3 Silas started this morning for Mount Pleasent. Hattie Williams
staid all night with me.
5 John Lynch started for home this morning to _____ Peneslvany
19 We went a visiting over to George Homdlin.

- June 6 We went to the dedicatig of the Congranieal Church
July 15 Mifs Ida Cole is dead.
Aug. 8 Aunt Peggy & Aunt Rebreck called
13 Uncle Barton my great Uncle Father Mother & Katie. Henry &
Tibb. Aunt Rye & Lui took dinner
16 Mr Anderson little boy get killed today
17 went to the funrel
26 heard Mr. Belmas daughter was dead
27 Andrew went to the funeral
Sept. 15 Henry Kent started for Nebraska today
18 heard that Libbie Helmden is married
30 Henry folks got home from Nebraska
Oct. 16 Mrs. Pourter has a Birth day party to day.
Nov. 14 Mrs. Carpenter is very sick.
25 Mrs. Carpenter died this morning
27 went to Mrs Carpenter funrel
Dec. 12 Mifs Thresay Howel & Mr Howard Coal was married one day last week
23 Charles Kent arrived to Greenville to day from Nebraska.

Note: There is not a diary for the year 1881.

1882

- Jan. 30 Went to Mr Sanford funeral
Feb. 8 Ashel Hale baby was burried today
Apr. 17 Silas helped mr Smith Survey his land
June 6 Lorene ___ Kent & wife John Harris & wife staid all night sarterd
for home in the morning
11 Mr Rasmusen was burried today
July 2 Mr. Berry was burried
Oct. 1 we went home & Minnie went with us mother is sick
10 I saw mother She is better
Nov. 19 Lewis Fuller wife is to Be taken to Jackson to __morrow to be
Burried
22 Dell is very sick
28 Dell is better our folks are weell
30 we went to Mr Rosson to a thanks given dinner our folks was there
& Mr Hiram Bossman & wife
Ed Campbell comenced work July 7, 1883

1883

- Jan. 11 Henry Kent Silver wedding -
13 we went to Henry to a Surprise there was 110 people
Feb. 10 we went to the donation for Elder Lund
13 we went to Mr Frank Coles to a weading
Mar. 4 Elder Lund last Surmon
6 We & Henry Kent & Mrs Smith went over to Nelson Johnson to a
supprise for the Elder Lund

(NOTE) About March 22, it appears to be written by a man instead of a woman.

- Apr. 10 George Miller started for Decota today
- May 7 Father raised his Barn
9 I drawed lumber from Henry Seaman mill
12 We had a picture taken of the house
27 We went Down to Elias Aunt Betsa Metzgar & Laurence Lincoln & wife was there
30 Ida & I went to Greenville to see the Soldiers decorate the Graves
- June 14 we went to Greenville to the reunion
23 We went to Will L _____ to a Cristal Weding
- July 16 We went to John Rasmusens to a Birthday party
- Aug. 26 we went to a funeral a Mrs Tucus Miles.
- Sept. 12 Henry folks & our Selves Started for the west we got to Jackson in the forenoon & arved in Chicago about nine oclock this evening all tired
13 we went up to Lincoln Lincoln park in the forenoon & went to Exposition Building in the afternoon we saw every thing
14 we left Chicago this morning at nine o clock for dodge center got there at 12 oclock this evening Staid all night to dodge Center
15 we started for Edwins Kent this morning the Landlord took us down to Edwins Edwin Henry Lorenzo & my self went dow to center
16 Edwin & family Lorenzo & _____ & our selves went & Saw the Cyclone South of Edwins
17 we left dodge cent at 2 Oclock to day got to _____ at night
18 we arived at Council Bluff this morning we left there about nine Oclock & left Omahaw a bout 11 Oclock we got to haisting at nine Oclock Staid all night
19 we left haistings this morning for red cloud got there at Seven Henry went up to Charles & told him we had come Warney come after us we got Charles about 12.
20 Charles Frank Warney Henry & myself went a hunting we was in Nebraska
21 we hunted some went to Franks to dinner had Prairie chicken for dinner
22 Charles took over into Cansas Seven of us went
23 we went to Franks & took dinner
24 Chalres took Henry & wife to the train they went to Mr. Kniffen folks & Mason fisher folks Carlin & I went east in the afternoon
25 went to red cloud with willie
26 Nebraska we started for home this morning Charles brought us to red cloud Henry met us at Blue hill we rode all day & all night
27 we was in Iowa this morning about 11 eleven Oclock was in illinois got in Chicago aBout three Oclock we went to the theater to night
28 Henry & wife myself & wife was in Chicago to day went to the Catle yard & to the water works the women went to the exposition Building started for home at nine Oclock to night
29 we was in Jackson this morning Started for hom Seven Oclock got to Greenville at noon took dinner at Ashel Hales got home this afternoon from Nebraska

[To be continued]