

Kansas Memory



Martha Farnsworth diary

Section 2, Pages 31 - 60

Martha Van Orsdol Shaw Farnsworth kept a personal diary from 1882 through 1922 with only a few gaps. The diary starts when she is a teenager. The entries in this volume describe her daily activities as she is growing up in Winfield and later Silver Lake and Topeka. She marries John W. Shaw on September 4, 1889. She refers to him as Johnny or Winnie in the diary. He works for the post office. Many of Martha's diary entries are very emotional about the boys she dates and her marriage to Johnny. From the beginning of her marriage, Martha expresses her unhappiness in her marriage. It seems to stem from Johnny's drinking and his anger when he was intoxicated. Johnny dies in October 1893 and Martha soon marries another post man Fred Farnsworth in 1894. It is possible that this diary was rewritten from an earlier version because some entries are underlined in red.

Creator: Farnsworth, Martha 1867-1924

Date: Between 1882 and 1889

Callnumber: Martha Farnsworth Collection #28 Box 1

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Martha Farnsworth diary

1882. NOVEMBER 1882, 29

Tues. 21. At school all day; at home all night. Pa started to the Indian Territory on a hunt. Wind blew from the south. Mr. Blunkett was here in the evening.

Wed. 22. At school all day, wind blew from the east, at home all night.

Thurs. 23. At home all night; at school all day. Lottie Pontious ^{from the south.} were here. Wind blew

Fri. 24. At school all day, went to Literary at night. Minnie + Elmer Weber, Elfy White ^{and} Henry Anderson were here. Wind blew from south-east. Bert Blunkett came home with me, after Literary.

Sat. 25.

Sat. 25. At home all day and night. Wind blew from the south; rained most all day. Lottie Pontious and Will Daff were here.

Sun. 26. Elfy White was here. North wind. At home all forenoon and night. At Sunday-School in the afternoon. Min. Pontious ^{and} Lottie Ella Weber and Will Daff were here.

Mon. 27. At school all day; at home all night. Wind blew from the north.

Tues. 28. At school all day; went to singing school at night; cold north wind. Anna Boomershine came home with me and stayed all night.

Wed. 29. At home all night; at school all day. Anna Boomershine, Elfy White ^{and} Harris, and Minnie Weber were here. Cold north wind.

Thurs. 30. At home all night; at school all day. Wind blew from the north. Elfy and Harris White ^{and} Mrs. Pontious was here.

Fri. 1 DECEMBER.

At school all day, went to Literary at night. Caleb Schrock came home with me after Literary. Lottie Pontious was here in the morning. Alfred Savage, Elfy White, Jane Wimer, Manly ^{and} Henry Anderson, Bert ^{and} Henry Blunket stopped here as they were going home from Literary. North wind.

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30	1882.	December.	1882.
Sat. 2.	At home all day & night. wind blew from the north well. <i>(Sapp was here.)</i>		
Sun. 3.	At home all forenoon. Went to Prairie Grove to Sunday School in the afternoon. Uncle Joe, aunt Mat, Manly, Sady, Dady & Willie Anderson, was here. North wind.		
Mon. 4.	At school all day; at home all night. Uncle Joe Anderson was here. wind blew from the north.		
Tues. 5.	At school all day. Went to singing school at night, at Prairie Grove. Carrie Plunket came home with me, after singing and stayed all night. North wind.		
Wed. 6.	At school all day; at home all night. Pa come home from his Hunt from the Indian Territory. George Rogers, Arthur Swan, Carrie & Henry Plunket and uncle Bill Weber was here. very cold north wind.		
Thurs. 7.	At school all day; at home all night. very cold north wind.		
Fri. 8.	At school all day. wind blew from the south. George Rogers was here. Went to Literary at night.		
Sat. 9.	At home all day & night. wind blew from the north. Cottie and Hattie Pontious, and George Rogers was here.		
Sun. 10.	Was at Mrs. Gubbins's awhile in the afternoon. At uncle Bill Weber's all forenoon, at Sunday School in the afternoon, at home all night. Miss Annie, Elmo & Ella Weber were here. North wind. At Mrs. White awhile in the evening.		
Mon. 11.	At school all day, at home all night. Roy Carr, George Rogers, Will Sapp, Willie, Sady, Dady, aunt Mat & uncle Joe Anderson, Herty, uncle Gehee & aunt Mary Rogers, Mary, Hettie, Carrie & Mr. & Mrs. Plunket. Mr. & Mrs. White, Cottie & Mr. & Mrs. Pontious, & Perry & uncle Bill & aunt Till Weber were here. Pa & Ma's "fir wedding" day. North wind at home all night.		

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	1882	December 1882	31
Tues. 12.	At school all day, at home all night. wind blew from the south. Mrs. Pontious and Will Sapp were here.		
Wed. 13	At school all day, at home all night. wind blew from the south. Will Sapp and Henry Anderson were here.		
Thurs. 14.	At home all night, at school all day, wind blew from the north. Snowed. Manly Anderson was here.		
Fri. 15.	Very cold north wind. At school all day. Went to Mr. Pontious' & Cottier's, I went from there to Literary. Elly and Harris White Arthur & Willie Swan and Manly Anderson were here.		
Sat. 16.	At home all day & night: cold south wind.		
Sun. 17	South wind. At home all forenoon, At home all night. Went to Sunday School in the afternoon. Charlie Pontious, Elly White and Uncle Bill Weber were here.		
Mon. 18.	At school all day; at home all night. wind blew from the south Uncle Neal Anderson was here.		
Tues. 19.	At school all day. Went home from school with Eliza Johnson, came to Singing-school with her. Came home after Singing school <small>wind blew from the south</small>		
Wed. 20.	At school all day, at home all night. wind blew from the south Rained. Uncle George Rogers was here.		
Thurs. 21.	At school all day; at home all night. wind blew from the north. Uncle George Rogers and Will Sapp & Henry Anderson were here		
Fri. 22.	At school all day. Went to Literary at night. wind blew from the north. Bert Blunket walked home with me after Literary		
Sat. 23.	At home all day. Went to singing school at night. Will Sapp, Henry Anderson & Manly and Cattie Pontious was here north wind.		

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32	1882	December 1882
Sun. 24	Fannie Portious was here in the evening: north-west wind. At Uncle Jake Rogers allday. Snowed all day. Rode home on behind George Rogers on his black pony. Will Sapp & George Rogers was here.	
Mon. 25.	At home all night. Northwest wind. At home all forenoon Went to Uncle Joe Anderson's, on "horseback" in the after- noon. Met "hunters" on my way. Emma, Minnie & Uncle Bill Weber, George Rogers & Will Sapp were here.	
Tues 26.	At home all day. Went to Singing school at night. Jake Kistler came home with me; Uncle Joe & Neal, Aunt Mat, Willie, Sadie, Dady, Henry Anderson, George Rogers & Will Sapp were here. Also Getta Mrs. Limerick <small>north wind.</small>	
Wed 27.	At home all day & night. South-east wind. <u>Vacations week.</u>	
Thurs. 28.	At home all day. Fannie Portious here all day: south wind Went to Singing school at night. Frank Schrock wanted to come home with me, but I had to give the poor fellow the "mittens."	
Fri. 29.	Went to Mrs. Limerick's, to practice "pieces" for the concert. At home all day. Ella & Elvira Weber were here. South-east wind. Went to the schoolhouse at night & went from there to Mrs. Limerick's with Frank Schrock. Bert Blancket brought me home.	
Sat. 30.	Went to the Concert at the School house at night, very cold, north wind. At home all day. Fanny Portious was here.	
Sun. 31.	At home all day and night. Fannie Portious here all day. North-east wind. Snowed all day.	

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Martha Farnsworth diary

1883. January 1883.

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Mon. 1. At school all day. Mrs. Alice G. Guinerick is our teacher ^{and} she is so good.

Tues. 2. At school all day: sisters, May & Belle & I went to Singing-school in the evening at the school house. Mr. Gittle teaches. Bert Plunket walked home with me. Here are our descriptions. I am ~~fourteen~~ years old, black hair, + big, black eyes, my hair curly. Bert is 15, just my height, has blue eyes ^{and} light hair. We are both heavy for our ages, and everyone says, we are "an awful cute little couple". Bert is 6 months the oldest.

Wed. 3. At school. We all love our teacher very much.

Thurs. 4. At school. This is Maggie Portious, birthday.

Fri. 5. At school. Went to Literary in the evening with Pa, + sisters. Bert Plunket walked home with me. We have just the jolliest, best, times at Literary

Sat. 6. At home. The Portious girls here; they live just over the hill, about a quarter of a mile.

Sun. 7. At home. We live on our farm, 12 miles north of Winfield, our nearest Railroad point. We call our farm "Sunny Slope" for our house is built on the south slope of a hill and is so sunny in winter.

Mon. 8. At school. We all have such good times at school

Tues. 9. At school. Went to "Singing" in the eve. Bert walked home with me. I've Schlofield ~~and~~ Emery Savage, want to go with me ^{and} some others too, but I'll stick to Bert, I think.

Wed. 10. At school.

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Martha Farnsworth diary

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1883. January 1883,

Prairie Grove,

Thurs. 11. At school all day. My teacher says I'm a very bright scholar and such a good, kind little girl. I'm pleased, for I like so much, to have my teachers all like me. I try to get my lessons well.

Fri. 12. At school. Went to Literary in the evening with Pat + sisters May + Belle. Bert Plunket walked home with me.

Sat. 13. At home. Sister + I went to "Singing" in the evening. Bert walked home with me.

Sun. 14. At home. Uncle Joe's all here today.

Mon. 15. At school. Manly + Henry Anderson, Elly + Harris White, Arthur + Willie Green all pass our house on way home. Carrie, Charlie, Bert, Henry, George, Hettie + Mary Plunket, & Maggie Parsons go most of way home with us, from school, & we have such good times. We have $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile to go.

Tues. 16. At school. May, Belle + I went to "Singing" in the eve & my little "bean," Bert, walked home with me as usual.

Wed. 17. At school. My teacher calls me one of her "pets."

Thurs. 18. At school. I think sometimes, I'm naughty, for when some of the boys write me "notes" in school, & answer them, the teacher don't allow it, but the other girls do it too, and it's so much fun.

Fri. 19. At school. Went to Literary in the evening, with Pat + May + Belle. Bert walked home with me.

Sat. 20. At home. This is sister Belle's birthday: she is a sweet, pretty, little, black-eyed, sister & I love her, very much.

Sun. 21. at home.

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1883. January 1883.

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Mon. 22. At school. I love to go to school very much.

Tues. 23 At school. Went to "Singing" in the evening with Pa, May & Belle and Bert Plunket walked home with me. My step-mother says, if I don't quit letting the boys walk home with me, she will put us all to bed, for we are only children: she can't put me to bed anyhow.

Wed. 24. At school. We have such nice times at school. I love to go.

Thurs. 25. At school. We play Baseball at school, at noon, everyday. We have such good times; the Boys have their "9" and we girls our "9" and when we play against the Boys we beat them every time. We all play together a good deal.

Fri. 26. At school. In the evening, the school gave a "neck-tie festival" at the school-house and cleared \$38.22: I went with my sisters, but Bert came home with me. I ate supper with Lorraine Phelps. Sister May was voted a "cake," for being the handsomest girl present.

Sat. 27. At home, I made some new "masher" last night; wonder if my step-mother, would put me to bed if she knew it.

Sun. 28. At home: the Portious girls here.

Mon. 29. At school till noon, when Charlie Plunket took all in one big wagon, Carrie, Henry and Bert Plunket, Minnie Elnor Sieber, Marly + Henry Anderson, George Johnson, Alex Boomershine, Minnie, Agetta, Mr. + Mrs. Limerick May, Belle + 9, to Floral, four miles away, to visit Mrs. Garrison's school, it being, "Kansas Day." We had such a nice afternoon, with the Floral Scholars.

Tues. 30. At school. To "Singing," in eve with my sisters, Bert walked home with me.

Wed. 31. At school. I'll be sorry when it closes for we have such good times.

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36	1883. February 1883.
Thurs. 1.	At school. Elfy White is my seat-mate.
Fri. 2.	At school. To literary in eve with Pa & sisters, but Bert walked home with me .
Sat. 3.	At home. Hattie Portious was here.
Sun. 4.	At home. My <u>"chum"</u> , cousin Minnie Weber was here.
Mon. 5.	At school. Elfy White, Minnie Weber, Anna Boomerashine ^{and} I, "run together", but Minnie is my " <u>chum</u> " of <u>chums</u> ".
Thurs. 6.	At school. Went to "singing" in eve with sisters, but Bert walked home with me. Sometimes the boys <u>quarrel</u> about which one shall go with me, but I stand by Bert.
Wed. 7.	At school: it is the happiest school for we have so good ^{a teacher}
Thurs. 8.	At school. Mrs. Limerick is an awful good teacher.
Fri. 9.	At school. We <u>"spell"</u> every Friday afternoon ^{and} I most always, <u>"spell the school down!"</u>
Sat. 10.	At home. Hattie & Fannie Portious were here.
Sun. 11.	At home. Uncle Joe Anderson's were here.
Mon. 12.	At school. I wish I could always go to school.
Fri. 18.	At school. Went to "singing" in eve with sisters, Bert home with ^{me}
Wed. 14.	At school. My two sisters, always go with me.
Thurs. 15.	At school.
Fri. 16.	" " " To literary in evening with Pa & sisters but my usual, little, <u>sweetheart</u> walked home with me. The girls are all <u>jealous</u> .

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1888, February 1888,

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Sat. 17. At home. To "Singing" in eve with sister and Bert home with me.

Sun. 18. At home Uncle George Rogers were here today.

Mon. 19. At school. We do have the best times at school.

Tues. 20. At school. To Singing as usual, Ed home same way. The other girls would like to take my little fellow away from me, but they can't. He is very handsome.

Wed. 21. At school.

Thurs. 22. " "

Fri. 23. " " To Literary in the evening with Pa & sisters. Bert Plunket walked home with me.

Sat 24. At home.

Sun. 25. " "

Mon. 26. At school.

Tues. 27. " " Had a little party at our house tonight. There were 27 present beside our family. We just had a splendid time. Alfred Savage & I danced for the first time in our lives, & danced together.

Wed. 28. At school. Everyone say they had such a good time last night.

MARCH

Thurs. 1. At school.

Fri. 2. " " To Literary in the evening with Pa & sisters, and handsome, Bert Plunket walked home with me.

Sat. 3. At home.

Sun. 4. " "

Mon. 5. At school

Tues. 6. " "

Wed. 7. " "

Thurs. 8. " "

Fri. 9. " " To Literary in the eve, with Pa & sisters. Bert Plunket walked home with me.

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38	1883. March. 1883.
Sat. 10.	At home.
Sun. 11.	" " In the eve, went with Bert + Carrie Plunket, about six miles, to the Walnut Valley Presbyterian Church, to meeting nd to see a wedding. Elmira Kistler and Tom Valorcamp + Jesse Kistler + Lizzie Heffner were married before meeting, in church. ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥
Mon. 12.	At school.
Tues. 13.	" " In evening went to "Spelling-school" with sisters; had just the jolliest time. Frank Schrock, took a pretty little ring, from me this eve nd , wouldn't let me have it again, bad boy. Bert walked home with me.
Wed 14.	Went to school in the morning nd and came home at the forenoon "recess", sick with the "measles". Hated, Oh! so much to have to leave school.
Thurs. 15.	At home with the <u>measles</u> .
Fri. 16.	" " The hateful things won't <u>break out</u> nd they are soaking me full of tea.
Sat 17.	At home.
Sun 18.	" "
Mon 19.	" "
Tues 20.	" " 11 20 10 11
Wed 21.	" "
Thurs. 22.	" "
Fri. 23.	" "
Sat 24.	" " getting better. Measles "broke out" on me last Sunday.
Sun. 25.	" " "
Mon. 26	" " "
Tues 27.	" " Up and around, but school has closed.
Wed 28.	" " "
Thurs. 29.	" " "
Fri. 30.	" " "
Sat 31.	" "

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1883. April 1883.

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Sun. 1. Went to Mrs. Wm. Plunkett's in the morning and staid until after dinner, when Kirk Thompson came there for me to go to their house and stay this summer and I went home with him.

Mon. 2. At Mrs. John R. Thompson's, one of our neighbors, about 4 or 5 miles from home. They have three boys, Jennie, older than ⁹ and Kirk & Sammie, younger than 9.

Tues. 3. At Mrs. Thompson's.

Wed. 4. " " "

Thurs. 5. " " "

Fri. 6. " " "

Sat. 7. " " "

Sun. 8. " " " Went to Sunday school in the morning with Mrs. Thompson's folks, at Summit, school house.

Mon. 9. At Mrs. Thompson's.

Tues. 10. " " "

Wed. 11. " " "

Thurs. 12. " " "

Fri. 13. " " "

Sat. 14. " " "

Sun. 15. " " " Went to S.S. at Summit in the morning with Thompson's, Jennie Baker, doors to see me in afternoon.

Mon. 16. At Mrs. Thompson's. I have such nice times here, but would like to be with my old "sweethearts" at Prairie Grove a little often.

Tues. 17. At Mrs. Thompson's.

Wed. 18. " " "

Thurs. 19. " " "

Fri. 20. " " "

Sat. 21. " " "

Sun. 22. " " " Went to S.S. in A.M. at Summit with the family. Jennie Baker & I went for a walk in afternoon down thro' the woods.

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40	1883.	April 1883	
		Wilmet P.O. Address.	Summit school district
Mon. 23	At Mrs. Thompson's.		
Tues. 24	" " "		
Wed. 25	" " "		
Thurs. 26	" " " I am "sweet-sixteen" today and Mrs. Thompson tried to give me a <u>birthday</u> whipping, but I kept out of everyone's way all day.		
Fri. 27	At Mrs. Thompson's.		
Sat. 28	" " "		
Sun. 29	" " " Went with the family to S.D. in the morning to Summit. I went up to see Jennie Baker in the afternoon.		
Mon. 30	At Mrs. Thompson's. We have jolly times here		
		MAY	
Tues. 1	At Mrs. Thompson's.		
Wed. 2	" " "		
Thurs. 3	" " "		
Fri. 4	" " "		
Sat. 5	" " "		
Sun. 6	" " " Went with the family to S.D. in the morning to Summit schoolhouse. Jennie & I went walking <small>in P.M.</small>		
Mon. 7	At Mrs. Thompson's.		
Tues. 8	" " "		
Wed. 9.	Went over horse today, on horseback & staid all day.		
Thurs. 10	At Thompson's.		
Fri. 11	" " "		
Sat. 12	" " "		
Sun. 13	" " " Went to S.D. in A.M. with the family, went up to Mr. Sam Phoenix's in afternoon to see Jennie Baker, Emma Taligero was there too.		
Mon. 14	At F.		
Tues. 15	" " "		
Wed. 16	" " "		
Thurs. 17	" " "		

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1883. May 29 1883

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- Fri. 18 At Mr. Thompson's.
 Sat. 19 "
 Sun. 20 " " " Pa's all came over today and staid all day
 May & Belle looked very pretty in their new hats & new dresses.
- Mon. 21 At Mr. Thompson's.
 Tues. 22 "
 Wed. 23 " " " Mrs. T. & I called on Mrs. Woolry in afternoon.
 Thurs. 24 "
 Fri. 25 "
 Sat. 26 "
 Sun. 27 " " " Went to S.S. with the family in A.M. at Summit.
 Mon. 28 "
 Tues. 29 "
 Wed. 30 "
 Thurs. 31 "
 Fri. 1 "
 Sat. 2 "
 Sun. 3 " " " Went to S.S. in A.M. with the family. After dinner, Lennie Thompson took me over home for the P.M.
- Mon. 4. At Mr. Thompson's; they want to adopt me; the very idea; I would not be anyone's girl but Pa's and I wish my step mother was good to me, so I could stay home more.
- Tues. 5 At Mr. T's.
 Wed. 6 "
 Thurs. 7 "
 Fri. 8 "
 Sat. 9. "
 Sun. 10 " " " Went to S.S.'s home again in A.M. with Mr. Phoenix's;
 Mon. 11 "
 Tues. 12 "
 Wed. 13 "
 Thurs. 14 "
 Fri. 15 "
 Sat. 16 "

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42	1883.	July, 1883
		Wilmot P. Q. address
Sun. 17		Went to S.D. in A.M. with Mr. Thompson's; in afternoon Jennie Baker came down ^{ed} and we went for a walk.
Mon. 18.	At Mr. Thompson's	
Tues. 19	" " "	
Wed. 20	" " "	
Thurs. 21	" " "	
Fri. 22	" " "	
Sat. 23	" " "	
Sun. 24	" " "	"Went to S.D. in A.M. with the family. I don't get to see Bert anymore he is away from home I didn't want to come up here ^{ed} & not see my school-mates as often as I'd like, but I'm making some new <u>Conquests</u> here ^{ed} & am better satisfied now.
Mon. 25	At Mr. G.	
Tues. 26	" " "	
Wed. 27	" " "	
Thurs. 28	" " "	
Fri. 29	" " "	
Sat. 30	" " "	Went home this evening to stay all night. Rode home on horse-back, rode Kirk's 3 year old colt, "Queen", wild as a deer ^{ed} & never had the saddle on her before. Pa said I <u>should</u> not come home again, until I could have a more gentle horse to ride. But I <u>dearly love daring</u> , am a good rider, for I've rode, all my life, and inherit some of my good horsemanship from my father ^{ed} have rode nearly every kind of animal from a "Gussack" Jack, Burro, Cows, Hogs, Young Steers, Stallions and all, but for <u>solid fun</u> give me a colt to <u>break</u> .
JULY.		
Sun. 1.	At home all day; had a good time with sisters and rode "Queen" back to Thompson's in the evening. She "cut up" a good many "capers" but she can't "down" me.	

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	1883	July 1883	43
Mon. 2.	At Mr. Thompson's		
Tues. 3	" "		
Wed. 4	Ment with Mr. Thompson's folks to Winfield to the "Fourth of July" Celebration. Had a <u>fully</u> good time, with all my old friends. Bert was there, but I was with Emily Savage during the day, a little more than I was, with Bert. We got home after dark.		
Thurs. 5	At Mr. Thompson's		
Fri. 6	" "		
Sat. 7	" "		
Sun. 8	" " " Went to S.S. in A.M. with the family. Jennie Baker & I went for a walk in afternoon.		
Mon. 9	At Mr. T's.		
Tues. 10	" "		
Wed. 11	" "		
Thurs. 12	" "		
Fri. 13	" "		
Sat. 14	" "		
Sun. 15	" " " Went to S.S. in A.M. with the family at Summit. Jennie Baker, came down in the afternoon.		
Mon. 16	At Mr. Thompson's		
Tues. 17	" " " Mrs. T. & I went down to the Creek, in the afternoon, swimming. Of course we can't swim, but we could "splash" and have a good time. The water was warm and so nice.		
Wed. 18	At Mr. T's.		
Thurs. 19	" " "		
Fri. 20	" " "		
Sat. 21	" " "		
Sun. 22.	" " " Went to S.S. in A.M. at Summit, with the family.		
Mon. 23.	" " "		
Tues. 24.	" " "		
Wed. 25	" " "		
Thurs. 26	" " "		

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44	1883	July 1883
Fri. 27	At Mr. Thompson's	
Sat. 28	"	"
Sun. 29	"	" Went to S.S. in A.M. at Summit with the family & went up to see Jennie B. in afternoon.
Mon. 30	At Mr. T's.	
Tues. 31	"	" "
August.		
Wed. 1	At Mr. Thompson's. I am having a happy summer.	
Thurs. 2	"	" "
Fri. 3	"	" "
Sat. 4	"	" "
Sun. 5	"	" Went to S.S. in A.M. with the family at Summit. In afternoon Jennie & walked up on the bluff to see the Bee girls (Anna, Hannah + Nan) who were (watching their cows.)
Mon. 6.	At Mr. T's.	
Tues. 7.	"	"
Wed. 8	"	"
Thurs. 9	"	"
Fri. 10	"	"
Sat. 11	"	"
Sun. 12	"	" Went to S.S. with the family at Summit in A.M.
Mon. 13	"	"
Tues. 14	"	" Went to a "Party" in the evening at Mr. Phillip Stuber's with Kirk Thompson & Jennie Baker. It rained so hard that we all staid all night. We first had a <u>splendid time</u> & I <u>made a wash</u> .
Wed. 15	At Mr. T's. Mrs. T. is trying to get me to make a <u>wash</u> as one of her boys (Jennie) but there is <u>others suit me better</u> ,	
Thurs. 16	At Mr. T's.	
Fri. 17	"	" "
Sat. 18	"	" "
Sun. 19.	"	" Went with the family to S.S. in the morning & from S.S. went home with Fressia Mattox & to meeting with her in afternoon at Richland, & back to "T's" in evening alone.

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Martha Farnsworth diary

1883 August 1883

45

Mon. 20 At Mrs. F. In the evening, I went to floral with Lennie Thompson, to an ice-cream supper. We had a very good time - Nate Rae wanted to take me but Lennie was so anxious for me to go with him that I did. Nate didn't like it either. ~~he asked first~~

Tues. 21 At Mr. Thompson's.

Wed. 22 " " "

Thurs. 23 " " "

Fri. 24 " " "

Sat. 25 " " "

Sun. 26 " " Went to S.S. in the morning with the family ^{and} in the afternoon Lennie & his mother brought me over home to stay, as my "step-mother" is sick ^{and} needs me. hope ^{she} will be a little better treated now I'm needed. Lennie took me to see Anna Bonnershire awhile in the afternoon. I hated, just a little - to come home, for I was having such a good time ^{and} my step-mother is more to kind to me.

Mon. 27 At home; glad to be with sisters May & Belle.

Tues. 28 " "

Wed. 29 " "

Thurs. 30 " "

Fri. 31 " "

Sat. 1 " "

Sun. 2 " " Lottie & Mrs. Pontius were here

Mon. 3 " "

Tues. 4 " "

Wed. 5 " "

Thurs. 6 " "

Fri. 7 " "

Sat. 8 " "

Sun. 9 " " Uncle Bill Weber & Uncle Joe Anderson's were here

Sept.

Lottie & Mrs. Pontius were here

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

46 Winfield P. O. address.	September 1888	Prairie Grove
Mon. 10.	At home. In the evening, I went to a "Magic Lantern" show, at Summit, with Sam Gent. Sam took me to his mother's on horseback, about 4 miles distant nd from there a crowd of us went together; his sister Rena & Jessie Galvin, his brother Billy & his mother & I. The show was good rd we had a good time.	
Tue. 11	At home	
Wed. 12	" " In the evening I went to a Party at Mrs. Baker's, with Sam Gent. We went on horse-back, had a <u>folly</u> good time rd got home at 8:30 A. M. Sam is a good boy, but I'm <u>not</u> <u>shy</u>	
Thurs. 13	At home	
Fri. 14	" "	
Sat. 15	" "	
Sun. 16	" " Kate Poe came to see me in the afternoon. He wanted to take me to an <u>entertainment</u> at Green Valley this week, but I didn't want to go.	
Mon. 17	At home	
Tues. 18	" "	
Wed. 19	" "	
Thurs. 20	" "	
Fri. 21	" "	
Sat. 22	" "	
Sun. 23	" " Minnie Weber & Jessie Portious were here.	
Mon. 24	" "	
Tues. 25	" "	
Wed. 26	" "	
Thurs. 27	Went to the "Fair" at Winfield with Sam Gent in a crowd with Jessie Galvin & Rena Gent Anna Galvin & Jim Rogers. We staid all day rd got home late in the evening. Had a real nice time.	
Fri. 28.	At home	
Sat. 29	" "	
Sun. 30	" " My "Chum" Minnie Weber was here.	

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

18. November 1883

47

Mon. 1. At school. School commenced this morning with John Lawrence Bradshaw as teacher; he is tall, with blue eyes, very light complexion, and not over 20 years old, and seemingly very bashful. Oh! what a time we girls will have, if he is; we will make life miserable for him.

Tues. 2. At school. Our teacher is awfully bashful.

Wed. 3. At school. Think we will like our teacher ~~very~~ much.

Thurs. 4. At school. Teacher blushes everytime I look at him and so do I. Wish he wouldn't look at me; the girls say he is "stuck" in my big, black, eyes; he needn't be. I never fall in love with my teachers.

Fri. 5. At school. We have jollytimes at school. Bert is still my little "sweet heart," but we are both 16 now.

Sat. 6. At home. One week of school gone. Think we will like our teacher very much; wish he wasn't so bashful, for he is quite a handsome boy.

Sun. 7. At home.

Mon. 8. At school. I sit with Elfrida White.

Tues. 9. At school. Sister May is 15 today.

Wed. 10. " " We do have the jolliest times.

Thurs. 11. "

Fri. 12. "

Sat. 13. At home

Sun. 14. " "

Mon. 15. At school. Like our teacher very, very much

Tues. 16. " "

Wed. 17. " "

Thurs. 18. " "

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

48

October 1883. 1883 Grove school District.
No. 108
Winfield, Cowley Co.

P. O. address

- Fri. 19 At school. Mr. Bradshaw is a splendid teacher.
- Sat. 20 At home.
- Sun. 21 " "
- Mon. 22 At School
- Tues. 23 " " I wish teacher wasn't so backful, for he is awfully nice.
- Wed. 24 " "
- Thurs. 25 " "
- Fri. 26 " " Went to Literary in the evening with Pa & sisters

Sat. 27 At home. I wish there were no "Saturdays" for I have so much love, to go to school.

Sun. 28 At home

Mon. 29 At School

Tues. 30 " "

Wed. 31 " "

Thurs. 1 " " We are all getting better acquainted with our teacher and he is getting over a little of his backfulness; but there are so many big girls of us, in school no wonder he was so backful, for we are most, "young ladies". I am 16 and there is Anna Boonershine who is 17. Minnie Weber is 16. Olga Johnson & sister Mary are 15, Elly White almost 16, and a number of others nearly 15, while he is only 20, himself.

Fri. 2 At school, went to Literary in the evening with Pa & Mary & Belle. Bert Plunket walked home with me after Literary.

Sat. 3 At home.

Sun. 4 " "

Mon. 5 At school

Tues. 6 " "

Wed. 7 " "

Thurs. 8 " "

Fri. 9 " Went to Literary in eve with Pa & sisters & Bert. Walked home with me.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

1883. November 1883.

49

Sat. 10 At home. In the evening went to a "Neck-tie" Festival, at Richland, about 6 miles with Jozie Calvin. Had just a splendid time, but "Sam Lewis" got my tiend I had to eat supper with him and didn't want to, one bit.

Sun. 11 At home.

Mon. 12 At school. Our teacher is awfully jolly.

Tues. 13 " "

Wed. 14 " "

Thurs. 15 " "

Fri. 16 " " Went to Literary in the eve with Pa + sisters.

Sat. 17 At home

Sun. 18 " "

Mon. 19 At school

Tues. 20 " "

Wed. 21 " "

Thurs. 22 " "

Fri. 23 " " Went to Literary in evening with Pa + sisters; Bert Plunket, walked home with me. We have jolly times at Literary; there are so many young folks attend.

Sat. 24 At home.

Sun. 25 " "

Mon. 26 At school. In evening, I went to a Party at Mrs. Wm Johnson's, with May + Belle, and Belle Anderson; had a good time nd got home at 12 o'clock. Joe Cunningham wanted to walk home with me but I didn't want him to, and he didn't.

Tues. 27 At school

Wed. 28 " "

Thurs. 29 " "

Fri. 30 " " Went to Literary in the eve with Pa + sisters
December

Sat. 1 At home

Sun. 2 " "

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

50	1883	December 1883
Mon. 3.	At school. We got just the jolliest teacher "out."	
Tues. 4	" "	
Wed. 5	" "	Some of the girls are <u>dead in love</u> with teacher, but <u>not I</u> .
Thurs. 6	" "	
Fri. 7	"	Ment to Literary in the evening with Pa & sisters. Jozie Calvin walked home with me after Literary. Bert is " <u>not in it</u> " so much this winter; he is a jolly, handsome little fellow tho' but I've "got my eye" on a "new fellow" who came into the country, this Fall. He is a <u>giant</u> . Jozie is short with black eyes & the prettiest, black mustache. I'm the envy of all the girls, but they can have Jozie, for I'm going to catch this "new fellow" before the winter is over. I'm acquainted with him now, but only a little.
Sat. 8	At home	
Sun. 9	" "	
Mon. 10	At school.	
Tues. 11	" "	
Wed. 12	"	Ment to a "Party" in the evening, at uncle George Roger's, with Jozie Calvin and first had, the best time. The "new fellow," <u>his German</u> was there, & we had lots of games together. One of my cousins says he is very much taken with me: my Aunt Mary thinks I'd better "stick" to Jozie but I'm not going to, tho' he is an <u>awful nice boy</u> .
Thurs. 13	At school	
Fri. 14	" "	
Sat. 15	At home	
Sun. 16	" "	
Mon. 17	At school	
Tues. 18	" "	
Wed. 19	" "	
Thurs. 20	" "	
Fri. 21	"	Ment to Literary in eve with Pa & sisters.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

1888. December 1883

51

Sat. 22 At home

Sun. 23 " "

Mon. 24 " " This is "vacation" week ^{2d} in afternoon
sister May + I went over to Uncle Zeke Rogers' and
drove with them in the evening, about five
miles to Valley Centre School house, to a "Christmas
Tree" and entertainment. We staid all night at Uncle's.

Tues. 25 At Uncle Zeke's all day. Mr. Morris Garman, drove
by this morning ^{2d} and I called "Christmas gift" to
him; he answered back "alright;" he is very jolly.
In eve sister + I went to another Christmas Tree
with Uncle's folks, at Walnut Valley Church, had
a real nice time ^{2d} and staid all night again at Uncle's.

Wed. 26 At home. With there was it any "vacation" I'd rather
go to school all the time.

Thurs. 27 At home

Fri. 28 " " Went to Literary in the eve with Pa + sisters.

Sat. 29 " "

Sun. 30 " "

Mons. 31 At school. We just have the, "waddest, merriet"
times at school. This is the last day of the
"Old Year." I wonder what the "New Year" will
bring me. It is going to bring me a new
"beau" if I am a little girl and my
step-mother, says I'm too young to go
with the Boys. I'm 16 and not very
small either, 'cause I'm awful fat. My
legs, measure 14 inches around the "calf"
and I'm big all over. I'm big enough to
go, whether I'm old enough or not. I weigh
129. My hair is just as curly ^{2d} and one girl
told me the other day, that if I was only
white I'd be the "prettiest girl in the country."
She is a blond is why she said it. I'm Brunette
I've got the most beauty anyway, if I ain't white.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

52

1884. January 1884.

Tues. 1 At school. A very cold day. The coldest "New Year" I've ever seen in Kansas, and I came to Kansas, Dec. 10, 1872 from Mt. Pleasant Iowa.

Wed. 2 At school. An awful cold day.

Thurs. 3 At school. Went to Uncle Jake Rogers' after school in eve, and after supper went with their cousin Will Sapp, to a "dance" at Mrs. Boomerishire's. I danced everything that was danced, during the whole evening except two "Quadrilles" and everyone said I danced so nicely, this I was never on the floor, but once before, in my life, and this is the first dance I ever went to. But it was born in me to dance, for my parents before me were good dancers. "Mrs. Garrison" was my "Partner" more than anyone else, during the eve, and Uncle Neal Anderson who brought his sister Carrie, and my sisters brought us all home at 1:30 A.M., after a most happy evening.

Fri. 4 At school. A very cold day and night, snowed in the night. Mr. Longlass & Mr. Handyside visited school today.

Sat. 5 At home. A very cold day. Carrie Anderson was here in the afternoon.

Sun. 6 At home. Eliza Johnson & cousin Will Sapp were here.

Mon. 7 At school. Alfred Savage, Paris Hittle & Will Sapp visited the school today. We have a jolly school.

Tues. 8 At school. Sisters & I spent the eve at my step-Grandpa Anderson's. Will Hardy visited school today.

Wed. 9 At school. Josiah Calvin visited school today.

Jim Rogers, and Anna Calvin, of Richland, were married today.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

	1864	January 1864	53
Thurs. 10.	At school. Grandma, Carrie + uncle Will Anderson + uncle Bill Weber, were here today. We have an awful good teacher <u>so</u> jolly.		
Fri. 11	At school. Went to "Literary" at night with Pa + sisters and Mr. Morris Larmar walked home with me; the first time he ever went with me, but I knew I'd "catch him". We had an awfully, folly, good time at Literary.		
Sat. 12	At home all forenoon and at Grandpa Anderson's in afternoon.		
Sun. 13	At home all forenoon. Minnie Weber was here and she + I went over to cousin Nelson Sapp's in the afternoon. I took a ride on "Lady Belle" (sister Belle's colt) in the evening.		
Mon. 14	At school. "Nora May Sapp", cousin Nelson + Ruth Sapp's baby, was born last night.		
Tues. 15	At school. Minnie Weber, Anna Boomershine & I went to Mr. Longlass' at noon, to take some "writing" for the "Literary paper".		
Wed. 16	At school. Minnie Weber was here in the evening.		
Thurs. 17	At school. We all think the world of our teacher, Mr. Bradshaw.		
Fri. 18.	At school. Too cold for Literary. Rained, haled + snowed more. Very cold.		
Sat. 19	At home. Aunt Mary Rogers' 37 years old today.		
Sun. 20	At home. Uncle Fal, two Aunt Mat Anderson's, Sady, Laddie, Marily + Willie, Carrie + Belle Anderson, Uncle Zeke, Aunt Mary and Gerty Rogers, Uncle Bill Weber + Is. so. Shalter were here today.		
Mon. 21	At school. Mr. Bradshaw is a jolly "blue-eyed" boy, a splendid teacher.		
Tues. 22	At school, went with my sisters in evening, to a "Bible Panorama" given at school-house by Mr. Leand: it was good.		

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

54	1884 January 1884
Wed. 23	At school. Mr. + Mrs. Handypyle were at school today.
Thurs. 24	" "
Fri. 25	" " Went to Literary in eve, with Pat + sisters. Anna Boomershine + Minnie Weber + I, went to mule Pike Rogers 2nd cousin Nelson Sapp's few minutes at noon.
Sat. 26	At home. Mr. Carson, Belle Anderson, Mrs. Kates, Mrs. Edwards and cousin Jessie Rogers were here today.
Sun. 27	At home. In the evening I went on horse back and drove the cattle about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the "Spring" to water and met Jamie (Burris) Garrison and Clem Bradshaw (our teacher) at the "watering place." Jamie rode back home with me and on parting at the "Barnyard gate" gave me a <u>most beautiful</u> silk handkerchief, for a "Christmas present." This late, it was his first opportunity to see me alone.
Mon. 28	At school. Was at Grandma Anderson's awhile in the evening.
Tues. 29.	At school. Carrie Anderson, Will + John Johnson and Jack Schrubbehell were at school today. Jack was trying to make a "match" on me, but I'm not so easy matched, he is as ugly, as a <u>med fence staken rided</u> with <u>bully frogs</u> and I can "match" on <u>further faces</u> if I like.
Wed. 30	At school. Libbie Bradshaw (teacher's sister) visited school <small>(today)</small> .
Thurs. 31	At school. In the evening, I went to a "Dance" at Mrs. Boomershine's, with Jamie Garrison. We just had the <u>follicest best time</u> . I danced the Quadrille, Waltz, Schottische + Polka and hardly left the floor from time I got there until we left for home at 4 o'clock in the morning. Everyone says I'm such a pretty dancer. I dearly love to dance, and I get all I want of it too, for every young man wants me to dance with him.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

1884 February 1884

55

- Fri. 1 At school. Awfully sleepy today. Anna Boomershine came home with me from school and went to "Literary" in the evening with Pa + sister May + Belle and I. Cassie Boomershine ^{is 20 years old today}
- Sat. 2 At home. Washed + scrubbed. In the eve, went with Pa, Ma May + Belle, Will Sapp, Will, Carrie + Mat Anderson up to Mr. Adam Weber's to spend the evening, it being Mrs. Adam Weber's birthday.
- Sun. 3 At home. Went to meeting in the eve, at Prairie Grove, with May + Belle + Neal, Carrie + Belle Anderson. Mr. Handyside preached; he is a kind of a crank. This is Jane Smith's 16th birthday + Eliza Weber's 13th.
- Mon. 4 At school. Sisters and I spent the evening at Grandpa Anderson's.
- Tues. 5 At school. Anna Boomershine came home with me from school + stayed all night. This is Carrie Anderson's 20th birthday + we had a "dance" for her this eve. We had a splendid good time. Of course Jamie Carnan (my new beau) was here, and he didn't let anyone else near me, more than he could help.
- Wed. 6 At school. Cassie Boomershine + Leo Holmes were married today.
- Thurs. 7 At school. Neal, Carrie + Belle Anderson spent the evening with us. Neal + Carrie are brother + sister to my stepmother + Belle is a niece.
- Fri. 8 At school. Anna Boomershine + I went from school to Uncle Jake Rogers, for supper + came back to Literary, but there wasn't any, for it was too cold and stormy. Anna stayed all night with me.
- Sat. 9 At home. Grandma + Carrie Anderson were here.
- Sun. 10 At home. Very stormy + sleeting all day. Grandma was here.
- Mon. 11 At school: so stormy only 15 scholars came. Grandma and Leo Holt were here at our house today.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

56

1884 February 1884

Tues. 12 At school, very stormy; only 10 scholars at school.
Lightened, thundered &雷电 all night, last night.

Wed. 13 At school. Only 11 scholars came thru' the storm today. Jamie Garman, visited the school all afternoon. The scholars try to tease me, by saying I was the "attraction" Morris is his name, Glen Bradshaw nicknamed him Jamie; he has blue eyes & is a great, big, fellow. We scholars call Glen "Blue-eyes."

Thurs. 14 At school. A lovely day. Mr. Parsons visited the school.

Fri. 15 At school. Glen Bradshaw (our teacher) took supper with us & went with us to Leiteray in the evening. Jamie was at Leiteray & had his cousin Nellie Adams, with him & he come home with me, of course bringing Nellie too. Glen come with sister May; her first bear & she had so many.

Sat. 16 At home. Anna Cunningham & Henry Anderson were here.

Sun. 17 At Grandpa Anderson's all day.

Mon. 18 At school; cousin Minnie Weber & I, named her new sister, "Jessie May," for my sister May & our teacher, Jessie being a "nickname" given him by the scholars.

Tues. 19 At school.

Wed. 20 " " This is my stepmother's 39 birthday & she let us have a "dance"; this it took awful hard coaxing. We danced until 1 o'clock A.M. and had an awfully jolly time. Of course Jamie Garman was here; I like him ever so much; he is so jolly. Some of the girls would like to "cut out" but they can't "make it." Anna Boomerline stayed all night with me.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

1884 February 1884

57

- Thur. 21 At school. Went to uncle Jake Rogers from school and stayed all night.
- Fri. 22 At school. Went to Literary in the evening with Pat & sisters, 2nd Jamie Garman came home with me.
- Sat. 23 At home. Will Sapp, Mrs. Rogers & Ella Weber were here.
- Sun. 24 Just afternoon, Jamie Garman & Glenn Bradshaw came and took sister May & I over to uncle Jake Rogers for dinner & to spend the afternoon & from there went to meeting at Prairie Grove. Mr. Handyryde preached.
- Mon. 25 At school. Uncle Joe & Grandpa Anderson & Willie Weber were here, Willie stayed all night.
- Tues. 26 At school. Our teacher is so jolly & good: we love him so much.
- Wed. 27 At school. Jessie Calvert & Carrie Plunket visited school in afternoon. Mattie Wilson & Jones Flint were married today.
- Thur. 28 At school. Went to uncle Jake Rogers & I staid from noon until Recess when went back to school.
- Fri. 29 At school. Went to Literary at night with Pat & sisters and Jamie Garman walked home with me.
- MARCH**
- Sat. 1 At school. The Least Day and we are all awfully sorry, for it has been a most jolly, happy school term. Glenn Bradshaw is such a good teacher. We had a "big dinner" and oh! such a jolly time. Minnie Weber came home with me after school and stayed all night. Charlie Rogers with Mumie, Jamie Garman with me & Glenn Bradshaw with Sister May, walked home with us, after school. After supper, Mumie, sisters and I went to "spelling school" at school house, after which we "best boys" walked home with us again.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Martha Farnsworth diary

58

1884 MARCH 1884.

Sun. 2

In the morning sister Belle & I hitched up old "Barney & Prince" to the wagon & hauled two barrels of water, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from a nice Spring. We have to be Pa's "boys" for we have no brothers and our wells are getting low so have to haul water, sometimes. After dinner cousin Minnie Weber came & we got on the two horses "bare-back" and rode to Mr. Cunningham's, Mrs. Sappho & Mrs. Boomershine's, we had a lovely ride of about 10 miles and all just for the "sport" there was in it, for we two "four boys."

Mon. 3

Pa & my step-mother, took Carrie Blunket, Minnie Weber, Eliza & Bella Johnson, Belle Anderson, Celly White, & sisters, May & Belle & I to Winfield in the morning, about 12 miles away; & it being quite cold, sister Belle, Minnie, Bella & I walked all the way, but about two miles & about 11 o'clock A.M., met Henry Anderson & Clem Bradshaw at Mr. Rockcker's Photo Gallery & the whole crowd, with exception of Pa, ma & Carrie Blunket, had our Pictures taken in a group. We had a jolly time all day today & got back home after dark, a very tired lot of girls after so much walking, tho' we are quite use to walking.

Tues. 4

Went to uncle Geke Rogers', in afternoon & stayed all night. Am going to Winfield next week to go to school. I dearly love to go to school but I hate awfully to leave my friends here at Prairie Grove.

Wed. 5

At uncle Geke Rogers'. Home in late afternoon.

Thurs. 6.

At Grandpa Anderson's a few minutes in the morning, on an errand. Am getting ready to go to school in Winfield. Doing my sewing, etc.