

Diary: partly in English, partly Portuguese, annotated "Maderia to Leith, Edinburgh & Hol'rood House", "To Ware, Bulstrode, London & Pentonville." Various pl.: October 1811 - May 1812.

92p 8vo(4.5"x2.5") MS (Bound in part).

Biographical details:

Mary Adams (nee Barker) was the wife of Thomas Price Adams (q.v.) and came to the Cape with him in 1820 in Bailie's party of Settlers. She died on 29 December 1863 at the residence of her son-in-law William McGlashan at Alice aged 76.

Notes on text:

This document was originally catalogued by the Cory Library as a copy by T.P. Adams of his wife's diary. It now appears more likely that it was wholly or partly written by him. A possible solution to the authorship problem is that the volume was used by both Thomas and Mary. It is part of a large collection of Adams papers. A large part of the diary is in Portuguese. The English text is more note book than diary and describes places visited in Scotland. There are also listings of trade figures.

Sample of text:

"Oct 3 - Agreed with Mrs Brown for an apartment, returned to Leith.
Oct 4 - Drank tea with Mrs Brown and Capt. Viviers introduced me to Mrs Quin - oysters at the side of the Theatre - soap /6/26. Oct 5 - went over the Castle ..."

Source:

Presented by Mrs Rose Innes, Dr Turton and Mrs v. d. Vyver

Cory reference number: MS 6 859

DIARY: included in a collection of his papers. .

[Grahamstown], 24.8.[1843] - 27.9.1843.

8p 4 to (20cmx13cm) MS In a vol. of misc. documents.

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SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Monday the 25th... The 7th Dragoons (officers) having brought out a pack of hounds - this may astonish the Kafirs and drive them as well as the wild Beast from the Bush... Hardly able to move or see but taught the Children and copying my Linqua Alberti the day fine warm in the sun cool in the shade - wind n.West."

NOTES ON TEST

This is only a fragment of a diary among a collection of his papers. It deals with his health, the weather, his "literary" activities and teaching.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

T.P. Adams was born in London. A soldier later wine-merchant he lived for a time in Lisbon and Madeira. Emigrated to the Cape in 1820 - Bailie's party - with his wife Mary (q.v.) and family. He was known for his "harmless and often amusing eccentricities". Died Grahamstown 30.10.1843.

SOURCE

Presented by Mrs Rose Innes, Dr Turton and Mrs v.d. Vyver (who also presented Mary Adam's diary).

ATHERSTONE, Elizabeth (nee Damant)

see

DAMANT, Elizabeth

DIARIES

(1) written whilst working on the Uganda Railway. Nairobi,
2.1.1915 - 14.4.1915.

68p 8vo (16cm x 10cm) MS

(2) ["At the front German East Africa"]. Arusha, etc.,
25.3.1916 - 29.8.1916.

c.122p 8vo (17cm x 12cm) MS

(3) written mainly in East and later South Africa. Various
places, 31.8.1916 - December 1932.

227p 8vo (18cm x 12cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"April 1st. [1915] - A big, swagger official envelope, directed to me, was received shortly before noon and on opening same found enclosed a foolscap sheet, blank but for the date at top! I was fairly taken in, thinking at first it was an intimation regarding our "new" bungalow. I hear that a military officer in Nairobi House signed a number of papers, one of which, he afterwards learned, was inscribed "I am an April fool". He had actually signed the paper without reading it!"

NOTES ON TEXT

(1) records his life and work in Nairobi in the Traffic Audit Branch of the Uganda Railway and includes comment on the War, especially in British East Africa.

(2) describes his services as Political Officer, B Squadron, East African Mounted Rifles. Portions are written in shorthand. Includes some topical verse some of which may be by Aubrey.

(3) covers his return to civilian life on the Uganda Railway (1916-1922), his appointment as editor of the Mombasa Times (1918-1920), as reporter on the Cape Argus (1920-1922), as sub editor of the Cape Times (1922 - 1926) and to the editorial staff of Grocott's Daily Mail, Grahamstown (1926 - 1930). Includes impression of places visited in England. Portions written in shorthand. Reverse text.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Born 1870. A newspaperman, he worked on several newspapers in South Africa, Kenya and England including the Cape Argus, Cape Times and Grocott's Daily Mail, of which he was the editor at the time of his death in Grahamstown on 22.9.1950.

SOURCE

DIARIES:

(1) Rough diary of a visit to Platberg and neighbouring areas and Smithfield. n.p., c.1861. MS 15 542

12p 4to (17cm x 20cm) MS

(2) "Important events connected with the frontier": a journal of events April 1846 - May 1846. Lower Albany, 1846? MS 15 293

16p fcp (38cm x 24cm) MS

(3) A collection of letters to "My dear son" or "My dear John" written into 4 booklets forming an autobiographical record. MS 15 289
Has been partly published. Fauresmith, 24.7.1861 - 27.3.1862.

168p 4to (23cm x 18cm; 18cm x 20cm) MS

(4) "A record of dealings of God to my soul; and the manifestations of Divine Providence in behalf of the Mission." MS 15 386
Various pl., Nov. 1834 - Dec. 1847.

30p fcp (33cm x 20cm) MS Bound

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"I often think on the indjustice done to this people with great pain of mind, for in reference to the Hottentot the present country comprising the Cape Colony was the land of their Fathers - now they have no foot of ground to call their own, excepting the Dat River Settlement..."

NOTES ON TEXT

This is diary material included in the Ayliff papers in the Methodist Archives collection, Cory Library. Document (1) a mission tour largely descriptive of Platberg mission and the Basuto and Bastards found there. (2) Describes the outbreak of war in 1846 and his activities in Lower Albany. (3) Covers 1820 Settlement, Wesleyan missions etc. (4) Entries at irregular intervals - a personal Christian diary - his attitudes to God and to his work. Includes comment on the "Kaffers", "Hottentots", "Fetcani".

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Methodist Missionary and 1820 Settler. Se Dictionary of S.A. Biography vol. 1.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

DIARY: his life as a missionary in Sierra Leone.
Sierra Leone, 13.10.1837 - 18.10.1840.

240p 4to (19cm x 15cm) MS Bound vol. Blank pages
not counted.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Wednesday 18 Today I have visited one family and this afternoon
rode to Murray Town, preached and gave tickets to the small society,
I think I have not laboured in vain."

NOTES ON TEXT

Contains an outline of his daily activities as a missionary and of
the progress of the mission. Includes his personal feelings,
religious state of mind, problems and achievements.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Born Bilston 6.10.1815. Methodist missionary in Sierra Leone and
Gambia for 15 years. Later minister in England. Died Stow-on-the-
Wold 24.12.1877.

SOURCE

Methodis Archives Collection.

BAKER, Charles

JOURNALS:

(1) visit to the East Central African Mission by Rev. Allen MS 15 254
Lea, missionary secretary, Mr Charles Baker and Mr Felix Lutz.
Tanganyika and elsewhere, 31.5.1927 - 31.7.1927.

47p 4to (26cm x 17cm) MS

(2) Short journal of a visit by Baker and Rev. Andrew Graham, MS 15 595
President of the Methodist Conference to South West Africa. n.p., 1926.

4p 4to (26cm x 17cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

(From no. 1): "The train is crowded but our compartment has been reserved and we are in the middle of the carriage, next the dining-car...the native trucks are packed to suffocation, benches along each side and two down the centre - they have their own food and water. No sanitary arrangements - their luggage (such as they have) is squeezed in between the rows of perspiring Swahilis and Indians."

NOTES ON TEXTS

(1) Describes briefly the work of the delegation but for the most part concentrates on its travels - the sights, peoples and modes of transport in Tanganyika, Uganda, Kenya and Zanzibar.

(2) Similar to the first but in its short compass has more emphasis on Church affairs and problems and less on travel experience.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Baker was a prominent Methodist layman. He was on the committee of the East Central African Mission, which was run from South Africa. Lea, Lutz and Baker were an official delegation sent from S.A. to visit the Mission.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

WANDERINGS in South Africa by sea and land: a journal.
Cape Town, 1879.

142p 4to (27cm x 20cm) MS 3 volumes

SAMPLES OF TEXT

"The earth in this neighbourhood was carpeted with the creeping stems of the yellow flowering "Duyvels Doorn" (*Tribulus terrestris*). This plant to the exclusion of many others, appears to have taken possession of the soil. Horses, cattle and sheep do not eat it; but ostriches, I am told, will fatten on its thorny seed vessels. The pheasant, Guinea-fowl, and partridge also feed on them."

NOTES ON TEXT

Bulk of text by Mrs Barber, sections by Col. Bowker. It describes a journey from Kimberley to Cape Town and then by sea to Natal. Includes Robben Island, description of Natal and the aftermath of the Zulu War. There are numerous botanical and zoological observations. Text was possibly written for publication.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

M.E. Barber born 1818 in England, daughter of Miles Bowker, 1820 Settler. Married Frederick Barber. See Dictionary of S.A. Biography vol. II. J.H. Bowker, 1822 - 1900 was her youngest brother. He was a soldier and naturalist.

SOURCE

Presented by I. Mitford-Barberton.

DIARY: from his departure for South Africa. South Africa,
4.2.1815 -31.12.1828.

372p fcp (30cm x 19cm) MS Bound vol.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Preached from 1 Cor. 8-9 on the danger of embracing a sentiment which I have too often heard lately declared: that men are at liberty to neglect public worship when that worship is not exactly conducted according to their own views... afternoon a prayer meeting and a baptised child. Evening preached from [?] 26 13 and 14. Was again white-washing the inside of the house."

NOTES ON TEXT

This has only been partly examined in depth because of its length. Entries mainly brief dealing with his daily activities, and affairs on the missions. There is coment on the "coloured people" on the missions, on mission staff and visitors, and on his visits to Grahamstown among other things.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Born Cambridge and died at Paarl. L.M.S. missionary. Worked at Theopolis 1815 - 1819, Bethelsdorp 1819 - 1821, Theoposlis 1821 - 1839, Paarl 1839 - 1861.

SOURCE

Bequeathed by the late H.E. Hockly.

See also History of Theopolis Mission
1814 - 1851
MR Currie TR 83-23

DIARIES (in printed "diary" volumes): recording his work as a Methodist missionary. Various pl., 1879, 1883, 1885, 1887 - 1892, 1894, 1897 - 1904, 1906, 1908 - 1909.

22 vols. 1v. = 8v0 (18cm x 12cm) & 21v = fcp (33cm x 20cm). MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

1894 vol. "21 Friday Schools close. Tickets. Ngwenya. Rode to Alice to get change. A busy afternoon with teachers. Willie Surmon and Giddy arrived from K.W. town for holiday - the latter to go on to Alice. Choir. 22 Saturday [Leaders] Mtg. Teachers. Copying returns. Emmie taken ill."

NOTES ON TEXT

Entries are brief and mainly factual notes, there is little personal revelation or comment. They cover his activities and movements while stationed at Kamastone (until 1885), Annshaw and Buntingville; family events and from time to time his transation work. Barrett notes also his preaching appointments. Entries are similar in all volumes until his illness in 1909. These diaries form part of a collection of E.J. Barrett's papers.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Barrett was born in Devonshire on 10.6.1840. Came to the Cape in 1863 and while he was here entered the Methodist Ministry. His ministerial life was spent in Xhosa mission work and he became one of his Church's experts on the Xhosa language, working on Xhosa Bible hymn book and dictionary translations inter alia. He became a Supernumerary in 1909 following an illness and lived in retirement from then until his death on 7.1.1932.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection

DIARY:

(1) during the Siege of Mefeking, 1.10.1899 - 31.5.1900. MS 7 348

150p fcp (33cm x 20cm) TS Original TS signed by the
writer + MS illus. & corrections.

(2) During Siege of M^aefeking. Mareking, 3.2.1900 - 12.5.1900. MS 7 347

95p 4to (21c, x 19cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Saturday 11th - Awakened at 5.30 a.m. by a shell exploding in the town. After satisfactorily cursing the Boers I got up and had a look around. I might just as well have remained in bed as no more arrived. It is not wise to remain in bed while shelling is on, as one can never be cock-sure where they are coming ..."

NOTES ON TEXT

(1) A breezy account of the Siege in considerable detail, written from day to day and typed by Solomon T. Plaatje his interpreter. Bound into a volume of documents on the Siege.

(2) Appears to be part of the writer's MS from which the TS version was produced. Text is identical in the relevant section of the TS.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Born in Grahamstown and died in Port Elizabeth. Eldest son of C. H. Bell (q.v.). Civil servant holding the position of magistrate at various places. At the time of this diary he was Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate of Mafeking. Received C.M.G. for services during Siege.

SOURCE

Presented by Mr T.G. Bell

DIARY: Orange Grove and Grahamstown, 1862.

103p 8v0 (20cm x 13cm) MS (In "Lett's Diary")

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"10 Wednesday - Rode into Town. Engaged Gateman and his wife to come next Tuesday at #7 per mensem. 11 Thursday - Fine, a little rain towards even. Hare came out. We walked over to Newing Green after dinner."

NOTES ON TEXT

Early entries more note-book than diary - figures etc.; later slightly fuller concerning mainly daily farming activities, state of weather, visitors, salaries, prices.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Originally a professional soldier. Became officer in the C.M.R. About 1862 resigned from the army and began farming at "Orange Grove". Later became magistrate in Basutoland.

SOURCE

Presented by Miss May Bell.

JOURNAL: uittreksel uit de reisbeschrijving van ... naar Grahamstown + uittreksels uit brieven door mij ontvangen uit Grahamstown. Various pl., 1.10.1913 - 16.1.1916.

94p 4to (20cm x 17cm) MS Bound vol.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Morgen, Kerstmis, een rustige dag. Zoals je weet, maken de Engelsen heel wat drukte van het Kerstfeest. Ik heb een drietal uitnodigingen gekregen om aan het kerstdinee deel te nemen, maar kon natuurlijk maar een aannemen ... Het belangrijkste van het Engelse Kerstfeest is weer het Kerstmaal... in elk huis houdt men dezer dagen een Kerstmaal, gewoonlijk 1e Kerstdag... Het was een fijn dinee. Een van de voornaamste spijzen op zo 'n maaltijd is de Kerstpudding, een speciaal toe bereide."

NOTES ON TEXT

The first section was transcribed from his "dagboek" and the second formed by extracts from his letters home. Part one describes his journey from Rotterdam to London, by Kinfauns Castle to Cape Town and by rail to Grahamstown. Part two describes Kingswood, Grahamstown and surrounding areas, with trips to Kimberley, Johannesburg and smaller centres. Text is cheerful and concerned inter alia with the strange customs of the "English" and the differences between Dutch and Afrikaans. It is not profound or analytical.

LANGUAGE

Text is in Dutch but also "in die nieuwe spelling" in which the writer felt himself a "beginneling".

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Recruited in Holland as Dutch master for Kingswood College. Left there in 1916 and taught subsequently at C.B.C. and Boys High, Kimberley. Then became principal of Pearson High School (P.E.) from 1938 - 1947. M.P.C. for Port Elizabeth North (1949).

SOURCE

Presented by H. Bezemer.

JOURNAL: kept on board "Corfu" bound from Port Elizabeth to London. At sea, 22.11.1871 - 16.1.1872.

36p 4to (20cm x 16cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"30th Decr. This is Saturday & painting going on at present which is disagreeable. Weather mild. Sunrise at 7. I think we have now done with the N.E. Winds as at the present moment there is a calm, still the ship goes her course N by E 1/2 E. I have learnt a little of the Compass by this time."

NOTES ON TEXT

A ship-board diary written, partly at least, to occupy the writer's time. He is concerned with the weather, the course and movement of the ship, ships, fishes and birds seen and general activities of a long voyage and on the accommodation and food but very little on the people on board.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

T.T. Blundell was the son of Henry Caslon and Elizabeth Blundell (nee Taylor) and was born at Port Alfred on 2nd February 1848. He was manager of "Mr Heugh's business" at Aberdeen but suffered from a weak heart caused by rheumatic fever and died at Somerset East on 23.9.1872 shortly after the voyage described in this diary.

SOURCE

Bequeathed by F.B.M. Blundell.

DIARY. Albany and Kaffirland, 19.12.1834 - 25.11.1835.

282p 8vo (13cm x 10cm; 10cm x 8cm) MS (8 note books)

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"I was astonished at the small effect of our fire, only six of the enemy being seen down and four of these were carried away inspite of us ... not one of their shots hit any of our men, they wizzed past me both sides at once sometimes, the men were in high spirits, the Scotchmen shouted "Waterloo" and the Hottentots "Thlalapanzi", the Fingoes were very frightened of the Kafirs guns."

NOTES ON TEXT

A lively often uninhibited account of the writer's experiences during the 1834-35 Frontier War. The grammar and idiom is often of interest.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Born England, died Tharfield. 3rd son of Miles Bowker, 1820 Settler. Fought in Frontier Wars. Member of Cape Parliament. See I. Mitford-Barberton: The Bowkers of Tharfield.

SOURCE

Sir George Cory's collection.

DIARY: describing the efforts of Kimberley women to feed troops passing through the station. Kimberly 9.8.1900 - 24.11.1900.

10p fcp (33cm x 20cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"... Mr Thornburn who is now wearing the red tabs of a staff-officer] came to help - or at least to find an orderly and give him directions to do whatever we sh[ould] tell him to - it is so wonderful what an increase of self-respect 2 red tabs supply."

NOTES ON TEXT

This short diary is devoted almost entirely to the troop feeding operation and impressions of the soldiers served by it. There are many days during the diary period for which there are no entries - possible because no train came in. Miss Brice's comment is often lively and she seems to have enjoyed the operation.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Miss Brice was a teacher and was teaching in Kimberley at the time of writing the diary. She subsequently (1912) became Principal of the Girls High School in King Williams Town. Her brother Alexander, an inspector of schools, was in Kimberley during the Siege.

SOURCE

Found among the papers given by Dr A.W. Burton.

DIARY. Eastern Cape, April - September 1846.

72p 4to (18cm x 12cm) MS Bound vol. 114p of
Latin and other language exercises.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"25 Tuesday - Wanted to be in readiness to proceed to General's camp but not receiving further notice, remain. Here that Capt. Hoff with his men had shot 100 Kafirs without losing one of his men and had captured 5 000 cattle, this was an official report the first part of which does not bear the stamp of probability..."

NOTES ON TEXT

Account of rather inactive service during the 1846-47 Frontier War, during which he served in various capacities including interpreter and guide. He seems to have become rather bored and cynical after some dull service.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Son of Rev. John Brownlee. Killed at the Izele River in British Kaffraria on 28.3.1851 during 1850-53 Fronteir War.

SOURCE

Uncertain

JIM'S JOURNAL. Eastern Cape (mainly), 17th October 1876 -
15th May 1879.

1 408p 4to (21cm x 14cm) MS 3 bound volumes including
photographs, cuttings and pressed flowers.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"18.XII.76 Monday 63rd day Hot...Called at Mr Galpin's shop which is next door to Mr Coplands in Bathurst Street and was very much interested and pleased in looking at the stock to find it so varied and good. It is the best shop of the sort I have seen in the colony and they evidently sell as high a class of goods as they can. In Mr Galpin's workshop he has a reflecting telescope by Spencer Browning with 8 1/2 inch speculum, several peculiar watches and various scientific instruments."

NOTES ON TEXT

Written for his family in England "Jim's Journal" records James Butler's first visit to the Cape. It includes his voyages to and from the Cape, his stays in Grahamstown, Cradock and vicinity and visits to various parts of the Eastern Province. Also described are the 1877-78 Frontier War and Butler's involvement in religious activities and the I.O.G.T. His style is always clear and often lively.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

James Butler was born of a Quaker family in London and came to South Africa first between October 1876 and May 1879 for health reasons. Later in 1879 he returned permanently to settle in Cradock as a businessman and the proprietor and editor of the Midland News. See the Butler family papers for further details. He died in Cradock.

SOURCE

On loan from Profs. F.G. and J.E. Butler.

DIARY: of holiday tours in 1872 - 1876 and of a voyage to South Africa in 1932. England (mainly), 27th July 1872 - 21st August 1876 and 2nd - 18th September 1932.

166p 8vo (17cm x 12cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"TUESDAY 8 AUG 76 - Up at 6.30 cleaned my bicycle... Had Bkfast & started Miss H, walked with me for some distance found I had left my satchell at Hotel went back for it & walked to Theale with Miss H. It is her birthday - (5 miles) she went back by rail Riding on to Newbury 17 miles from Reading (12 from Theale in 70 minutes 10.45 to 11.55) found my bicycle spring very weak, presently it cracked & then broke in two, still I rode into Newbury..."

NOTES ON TEXT

The entries written in the 1870's describe summer holiday tours in Britain or France usually with friends or relatives. These can include religious meetings, and the 1876 holiday was by bicycle. The 1932 entries are beginning of a record of a visit to South African relatives but only the voyage out is in fact described. All entries are brief and in pencil.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Joseph Butler, who was a member of the Quaker family one branch of which emigrated to South Africa, lived in Kingston, Surrey. He worked for the engineering firm of Tangyes Ltd and became a J.P. He was active in the Society of Friends and in community service. For further details see the Butler family papers.

SOURCE

On loan from Profs. F.G. and J.E. Butler.

JOURNAL:

(1) "containing an account of the first six years of my missionary life in Southern Africa." Various pl., 23.12.1829 - 31.12.1835. MS 15 005

381p fcp (30cm x 20cm) MS Bound vol.

(2) Journal containing an account of incidents and occurrences ... in Kaffirland, Albany and Bechuanaland. Various pl., 22.4.1836 - 19.9.1841. PR 3548

460p fcp (33cm x 20cm) MS Bound vol.

(3) Journal 1842 onwards. Various pl., 27.3.1842 - 26.5.1861. MS 15 006

337p fcp (30cm x 20cm) MS Bound vol.

(4) "Memoranda": a diary to just prior to his death on 12.12.1875. Natal, 28.12.1875 - ? . ? . 1875. MS 15 007

391p 4to (20cm x 17cm) MS Bound vol.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

(From no. 3): "31st Was employed most of the forenoon in measuring off homesteads for some of the people, who seem at present inclined to build themselves houses, and cultivate gardens, though hitherto they have been of all the other inhabitants the most wandering and unsettled, because the least pious and devoted to God."

NOTES ON TEXT

(1) was written in the Western Province (Cape Town, Somerset West, etc.). Describes the life, thoughts and feelings of a Wesleyan minister in considerable detail. Generally religious in tone and content but there are occasional general observations on people, places and events.

(2) Pages 1 - 105 deal with his period at Buntingville; pp. 106 - 339 with the Grahamstown & Salem circuit; pp. 340 - 460 with Plaat Berg. Similar in content to (1) and (3) but includes comments on his reading.

(3) is a resumption of his journal "after a long interval". Pages 1 - 290 deal with mission work at Thaba 'Nchu, Plaatberg and related matters in the "Bechuana District" of the Church. Pages 291 to the end deal with Port Elizabeth and Cape Town work. Entries at irregular intervals. Slightly more factual journal than (1) especially as regards frontier missions, affairs and people.

(4) is a detailed journal of pastoral life in Pietermaritzburg written in his old age. Contains much sharp comment on people and events including non-church affairs.

Born Kirkintilloch (Scot.) 1.8.1805 and died Pietermaritzburg.
Methodist missionary, came to S.A. in 1829 and spent 5 years in Cape
Town. Then moved to the Eastern Province and Orange Free State for 25
years. Returned to Cape Town 1857 - 64 and then moved to Natal as
Chairman of the Natal District of his Church. Remained in Natal until
his death.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

DIARY: of a voyage from Gravesend to Port Elizabeth and of activities there on arrival. On board ship and Port Elizabeth, 8.11.1861 - 19.3.1862.

14p 8vo *15cm x 10 cm) MS Bound vol.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Tuesday Dec 24th Barometer 29.9" Wind WSW in morning light but steady - course S by W to S Thermr. 60* Clouds hanging about on horizon all day in light round masses (cumulus). Day fine and clear - warm in sun, eveng, clear and stars bright: especially Venus. The ladies kept on deck all the day. Louis and Missis Toby and Edwards better. Mr Toby worked at his paperknives and I helped the carpenter make a [?] sail boom. Saw a great black fish at intervals wh was said to be a Grampus. Quoits with rope grummetts ... men sang several songs in the eveng. which altho' rather rough sounded well coming from the forecastle."

NOTES ON TEXT

First 116p deal with the voyage, the remainder with activities in Port Elizabeth. Fairly detailed account of the voyage incl. meteorological observations and comments of a newcomer on P.E. and the people met there.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

The dates of his birth and death were supplied by the donor, also his profession - he was a surveyor (see also the text for this). Other details not known.

SOURCE

Presented by D.F. Codner.

DIARY: written during the Siege of Kimberley.
Kimberley, 16.10.1899 - 19.2.1900.

56p fcp (34cm x 20cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"It was an interesting experience in its way. You could see the smoke of the gun first, then hear the report & a few seconds later hear the whizz - or hisszs - if one is to attempt an imitative word - of the shell - then see the thud & cloud of dust - if it is on sand - or loud explosion & smoke - if on hard ground... Throughout the time - the last ten days - one has noticed how the sense of novelty & comedy overbears the sense of danger ..."

NOTES ON TEXT

Written at intervals during the siege for his parent(s), describes his own military activities and general conditions.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Cape civil servant who held various posts 1894 onwards. During the Anglo-Boer War years was clerk at Kimberley, clerk to the Solicitor-General (Kimberley), acting chief clerk (Kimberley) and clerk to Crown Prosecutor (Kimberley). During the Siege he was also a member of the Civil Service Corps. Was later secretary to the Transkeian Territories General Council and a magistrate.

SOURCE

Presented by Canon M. Carmichael.

JOURNAL: "from when I landed at Cape Coast Castle, West Africa"; covers West Africa, France, England and South Africa. Various pl., 25.1.1843 - 15.2.1857.

442p fcp (26cm x 20cm) MS Bound vol.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"The general conduct of these two Princes is anything but praiseworthy, they are a stumbling-block in the way of the people, and strikingly illustrate the fallacy of the theory which says 'give instruction or an European education and you ensure the advancement of civilization and promote the general good of the country'. Education is useless without something more powerful with which to fortify the mind."

NOTES ON TEXT

p. 1 - ³¹⁷~~312~~ Gold Coast; p. ³¹⁸~~313~~ - 372 England and Boulogne; p. 372 - 375 voyage to the Cape; p. 376 onwards Eastern Cape. The Gold Coast entries are fuller than most later ones. The journal includes the normal descriptions of the writer's spiritual state and his mission activities and a varying amount of general comment. Considerable description of the Gold Coast customs and beliefs.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Born Alvaston 26.12.1817, died Queenstown 9.7.1893. Methodist missionary appointed to Gold Coast 1842. Returned to England 1845. Two years later went to Boulogne and then in 1849 to the Cape of Good Hope. Served in the Eastern Cape.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

DIARIES (in printed "diary volumes: recording brief summaries of events"). Various pl., 1854, 1865, 1871 - 1875.

10 vols 8vo (mainly 15cm x 9 cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"M[onday] 8th. Fine day. Stellenbosch. 6.30 left Green Point with Girls. 7.16 a.m. Araf[abella] Hoets and ourselves in Train. 9[a.m.] at Stellenbosch - Winns Hotel. Visited the Church. At Mr Denys and Miss Rossouw. Spent evening with them." (From 1872 volume).

NOTES ON TEXT

The text of each entry is usually very brief and records mainly arrivals and departures. Occasionally an entry may give more details of Chase's personal or political activities. The volumes also contain note-book material: family notes, postal details, statistics (often divided into Eastern Province/Western Province figures), gardening notes, "native" policy notes and related details. The diaries cover the later part of Chase's career as Resident Magistrate of Uitenhage, his retirement to Cradock Place and his period in parliament.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Public servant, merchant, author and politician. See Dictionary of S.A. Biography vol. 1

SOURCE

Presented by Messrs. A.C. & J. Chase.

DIARIES: youth and early life. England, 1.1.1879 - 21.12.1884.

317p 4to (20cm x 16cm + 21cm x 17cm) MS (unbound)

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"1.1.1884 Past experience has taught me, that there are certain subtle thieves of Time, whose influence is not easily overcome, and who are continually hanging about the path of a student, such thieves are, Sleep, Indolence, Sloth, pursuit of pleasure in place of execution of duty, these are all very expert in limiting the success of a student, and therefore it behoves us to keep our eyes on the alert, and make strict account of our time, for this purpose I now propose to open another diary, which forms one of my new resolutions for 1884."

NOTES ON TEXT

There are two diaries - for January-August 1879 and for January-December 1884. The first two months of 1879 deal with the end of his employment as a page at Lancing College and the remaining months with his life as a servitor at St John's College, Hurstpierpoint. January to May 1884 covers his employment in the Siemen's works. The remaining text describes his return to St John's as a junior master. The style and content of the entries varies considerably over the period of these diaries.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Cory became Professor of Chemistry at Rhodes University College and a distinguished historian. See the following entry for a South African diary.

SOURCE

Presented by Dr C.G.A. Cory.

JOURNAL: "a trip to the Transvaal". Johannesburg,
31.12.1896 - 19.1.1897.

100p 4to (23cm x 18cm) MS Bound

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"The old man [President Paul Kruger] was standing when we went in - when Mr Z introduced us P.K. said (in Dutch, of course) that he hoped I was not one of the Rhodes' men come to annoy him. This was meant as a joke. We sat down and I asked Mr Z to explain that my mission was to try and work a school of mines in the Colony in connection with the Transvaal and that I hoped that the time would come when the English and Dutch would at least be united in educational matters if in nothing else. P. Kruger made some remark to the effect that 'His mission is peace while Rhodes wants to make war'."

NOTES ON TEXT

Describes a trip undertaken in connection with the class in mining engineering which was to be established under Cory at St Andrew's College in 1897. Cory (i) publicised this course (ii) visited mines and related works and also met mining people and educationalists. p. 1 - 59 are a general diary of the trip, impressions of Johannesburg, Pretoria, etc., p.63 to end are more details notes and diagrams of his mine visits and conversations.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Professor of Chemistry and historian. Se Dictionary of S.A. Biography vol. II or the Struik edition of his Rise of South Africa vol. I.

SOURCE

Sir George Cory's collection.

JOURNAL:

(1) Salvation Army experiences in Scotland MS 15 144
10.4.1882 - 31.7.1884.

86p 4to (23cm x 18cm) MS Bound vol.

(2) from his departure for South Africa to shortly MS 15 145
before his death. Various pl., 20.3.1891 - 9.5.1944.

3020p fcp + 4to (33cm x 20cm; 23cm x 18 cm)
16 vols 15: fcp, 1:4to.

SAMPLE OF TEXTS

(From no. 1) "Went to Glasgow to Council of War led by the General, he spoke right to our souls and urged us all to live right with the Lord, he also spoke very strongly about training children urging us to teach obedience..."

NOTES ON TEXTS

(1) Zestful account of the state of his health, soul and the weather. Interesting description of Salvation Army activities.

(2) Could not be fully examined in depth because of length. Most entries are brief but they become longer for more important events such as when he was trapped in Colesberg by the Boers. In the main entries outline his daily doings (incl. non-church activities). Length and tone of entries vary as the writer ages, earlier ones tend to be fuller.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Born Manchester, died Pietermaritzburg (?). Methodist minister. In South Africa worked mainly among whites until appointed to Indaleni institution in 1913 when he remained for 21 years until his retirement.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

JOURNAL: Written during the 1877 - 79 Frontier War. Eastern Frontier, 4.3.1878 - 6.6.1878.

59p 4to (26cm x 20cm) MS Bound

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"He seemed to consider the heights above him (to which no paths led but where his forces had to be moved shortly) as a pleasing tract of country, meant for military experiments... From that time till the close of the war this Buffalo Range to Fort Merriman or Isidengi, Middle Drift or Debe Nek became a district over which Col. Wood played 'a war game' in which the 'Fleisch und Brod' were never forgotten."

NOTES ON TEXT

Account in some details of the military operations. Writer was in a position to observe and comment on the abilities of regular troops, colonial volunteers and Fingo levies; also on the tactics adopted, their success or failure, the personalities and abilities of the various commanders.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Officer of the 95th Foot. Served in Indian Mutiny 1857-8. Promoted Major 1875. Military secretary to Theisiger (later Lord Chelmsford) in operations during 1877 - 9 War and after this served with Chelmsford in the 1879 Zulu War. See R.A. Brown ed: The Road to Ulundi

SOURCE

Presented by Mrs Rupert de Smidt.

DIARY: 9th February 1806 onwards. England, 1806 - 1807.

190p 4to (23cm x 19cm) MS Bound

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"After a hearty lunch we accompanied them on the water where we were amused by Fowling till four o'clock. When we returned to dress and dinner. They spent the evening at Cards - my spirits being rather depressed I relinquished my book and took Catherine's vacant seat at the table cheerful that followed supper and as [?] our expected Guests had left an apology for not dining with us and we were a snug family party as usual."

NOTES ON TEXT

The writing is small and difficult to read which makes thorough examination of the text difficult. However the diary appears throughout to describe domestic life in England.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

She was the first wife of Dr John Atherstone (married 1811) and the mother of William Guybon Atherstone. Came to the Cape with her husband and children in 1820. Died 19.11.1837 at Grahamstown.

SOURCE

Presented by Mrs B. Dillon.

DAY BOOK: Kept on the farm including a journal.
Sidbury, 4.9.1877 - 25.3.1884.

1 vol. (155p of journal) fcp (33cm x 14cm) MS

SAMPLE TO TEXT

"1879 Jan.9. Pulled Quills from Birds. Flors shearing. Hunted Porcupine last night, did not find him.

Jan 10. J. Rippon called here on his way home. Harry bought calf from him - 17/6. Feathers risen 10 per cent."

NOTES ON TEXT

The day book includes a variety of farm records and accounts, recipes and remedies. There are two sections of journal (a) 1877 - 1880 and (b) January - March 1884. The entries are mainly a record of family activities, comings and goings. There are some personal and family references and some references to leisure activities like cricket. Farming activities include information on ostrich farming, Loma Slater's The story of Sidbury... indicates that other later volumes also survive, perhaps in family hands.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

The writer is Ambrose George Daniell, son of William Henry and Ambrosina Georgina (nee Campbell) Daniell. He was the grandson of Richard Daniell, the 1820 Settler. A.G. Daniell succeeded his father as the owner of the farm Springfield at Sidbury.

SOURCE

Presented by E.O. Daniell.

JOURNAL:

(1) Barville Park, 24.5.1876 - 31.8.1877

41p 4to (20cm x 17cm) MS

(2) Barville Park (Albany), 26.1.1878 - 23.10 1878

20p 8vo (18cm x 12cm) MS

(3) Barville Park, 1.1.1887 - 8.3.1890.

49p 4to (23cm x 18cm) MS

SAMPLE TO TEXT

"While I was in the bush Mr and Mrs Tuthill paid B.P. a visit ... Took from 'Top Nest's a large tin dish full of honey. Hive was full and fat ... Mrs Hayton and grand-daughter arrived here about sunset."

NOTES ON TEXT

All three journals are similar and can be taken as one. They describe life on and around Barville Park - "honey-hunting", fishing, hunting, fruit and vegetable gardening and the comings and goings of relatives and visitors. There are references to local cricket matches and other rural "events".

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Writer seems to be Samuel W. Dell, fourth child of 1820 Settler Edward Hunt Dell. He was unmarried and lived with members of his family at Barville Park farm. See Mitford-Barberton & White: Some Frontier Families.

SOURCE

Presented by Mrs Walter Dell.

DIARY: believed to be that of Peter Dixon, a trader from
Namibia from about 1843 who had contact with Jonker Afrikaner.
Namibia: 6.4.- 27.5.1844 + 1.2.1855 - 22.11.1855

82p [many blank] fcp 29.5cm x 19cm MS (Bound volume = printed
"diary")

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Friday 14 [April 1855] - Schooner "Witch of the Wave" arrived in the Bay.
Passenger Mr Wahlberg, the Entomologist "en route" to Damara Land &c in
search of Curiosity"

NOTES ON TEXT

The provenance of this diary, and that of William Latham (qv,) is uncertain. It was received by Cory Library with other, apparently unrelated, documents being added to the Methodist Archives. The writer seems to be Peter Dixon from internal evidence, though parts of the text seem to be in a different hand, apparently that of William Latham, who was Dixon's son-in-law. Entries are fairly brief and scattered throughout the volume. The 1844 text is a list of goods headed "Dr to Jonker Afrikaner". See correspondence with B. Lau of the Windhoek Archives in Cory files.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Peter Dixon went to Namibia with his family and other traders in 1843/4 and established a trading post at Sandfontein about 1845. He also traded throughout Namaland and Domaraland and was still trading in 1877 See B. Lau: Carl Hugo Hahn...

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection

DIARIES : covering the period 1900 - 1917 and relating to his daily activities as a Methodist minister. Various places : 1900 - 1917.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"July 26 Tuesday - I was at Willowmore reading & cleaning pictures in the morning. In the afternoon visited several people. At night went to a prayer meeting held at M Pettits 12 persons present. The weather fine but cold".

NOTES ON TEXT

Records his daily activities as a minister including sermons preached and people visited as well as tasks done at home.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Rev Peter Eyre came to South Africa in 1899 as a Minister of the Methodist Church. He served at Cradock, Verulam, East London (1900-1905) and Observatory, Dordrecht, Mossell Bay, Somerset Strand, Willowmore and Salem. He died at Salem in 1917.

SOURCE

Donated to the Cory Library by Mr and Mrs P D Wilmot.

DIARY: on the defence of Cuylerville. Cuylerville, 1846.

8p + 4p + 18p fcp (32cm x 19cm) + 4to (26cm x 20cm) + 8vo
(20cm x 17cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Close to the fence I seen a kaffir not above 9 feet from the mussel of the gun and [it] would not go off. Therefore what ever was done on the third and last attack I did not help anything with it for after I broke my Ram rod the 2 guns I had afterwards in the kraal I could not and did not fire a shot with for I called F. Clayton and he shot the one that I saw... and I remained in the kraal with nothing at last but my pistol..."

NOTES ON TEXT

An account of activities while Cuylerville was under attack during the 1846 - 47 Frontier War, including transport riding. Fragments often not consecutive - only notes and tables listing guard duties, rations issued, details of horses and servants. Text lively though spelling and grammar often unorthodox.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Came to Cape as a child in 1820. Lived with his brother James on family farm at Cuylerville. After the departure of James he lived a recluse-like life. Was an amature land surveyor of repute. Died from a smake-bite. See obituary in the Grahamstown Journal 12.4.1872.

SOURCE

On loan from Mr G.K. Moorcroft.

GRANT, James Murray [1836?] - 1921

Diaries: recording his work as a FAMP/CMR officer and in retirement after 1896. Various pl.: 1871 - 31.12.1919.

49 ~~47~~ volumes 8vo(9cmx6cm - 16cmx10cm) MS

Biographical details:

Grant was born in Britain about 1836, the son of James Grant and Mary (nee Bell). He came to the Cape with the 85th Foot in 1856. In 1865 he transferred to the King's Own Scottish Borderers with whom he served in India. Grant returned to the Cape in 1867 and was appointed to the Frontier Armed and Mounted Police, in 1878 he transferred to the Cape Mounted Riflemen in which unit he rose to the position of Commanding Officer (1892-96). After retiring in 1896 Col. Grant lived in Port Alfred and East London before coming to Grahamstown shortly before his death on 5 June 1921.

Notes on text:

All entries are written in pencil, the majority of them in small "Lett's" diaries and they are consequently brief. Some volumes, including 1871 and other early volumes, are note-books with survey and other notes rather than diaries. Twenty-two volumes are from the period after Grant's retirement. These describe a formerly active man not always comfortable in retirement. The earlier volumes describe his police or military and administrative work at a period which includes the Langalibalele campaign, the 1877-78 Frontier War, the Moorosi campaign and the Sotho War 1880-1. Grant also did extensive survey work in the Transkei and Ciskei. He writes in a distinctive, forthright style.

Sample of text:

"Wednesday June 17 [1874] ... Went to call on Mrs Barratt and immediately Ayliff with two of his flock of daughters and West Fynn arrived to see me. Had a confab with Ayliff... says that the Pondo are in a bad frame of mind and that if I carry out my intention of marching through Pondoland I may have some trouble. Will think on it..."

Source:

Presented by Mr P.S.L. Gordon

Cory reference number: MS 17 099

DIARIES: recording his life as a CMR and later SAMR officer. Various pl., 1.1.1892 - 3.10.1916.

22 volumes 8vo (13cm x 9 cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"26 September 1914 SAT. Reached Sandfontein at 7.30 am. At the same time the enemy was signalled approaching in force. At 8 am they attacked from all sides, under cover of fire from 10 guns. Our position was untenable under artillery fire. We hung on till 6 pm & were compelled to surrender. Northway killed, Geary, Waterfield, Self, Owen, T[revor] Jones wounded of Officers. 60 casualties in all."

NOTES ON TEXT

All entries are in pencil. The great majority are in printed "Lett's" diaries and consequently brief. Grant's style tends to be laconic and factual. He notes sporting (cricket, golf, hockey, shooting etc) activities and includes some religious observations as well as his official duties and family matters. There are no volumes for 1894, 1901, 1903-4. Some volumes have large blank sections.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

R.C. Grant was born on 22 November 1864, the eldest son of James Murray Grant. In 1898 he married Mina Stewart, eldest daughter of Rev. James Stewart of Lovedale. They had a son (James Murray born 6.1.1899) and two daughters. Grant joined the Cape Mounted Riflemen in 1880 with whom he served in the Anglo-Boer War, emerging with the rank of Lieut.-Col. and a DSD. He became Commanding Officer in 1911, and in 1913 commanded the 1st SA Mounted Riflemen. Col. Grant was severely wounded in the German SWA Campaign (1914) and taken prisoner. In 1915 he was appointed Commandant of Potchefstroom. He was awarded the OBE in 1918, retired in 1922 and died on 29 January 1951.

SOURCE

Presented by Mr P.S.L. Gordon.

GRANT, Ronald Charles 1864 - 1951

Diaries: recording his life as a CMR and later SAMR officer. Various
pl.: 1.1.1892 - 3.10.1916.
22 volumes 8vo(13cmx9cm) MS

Biographical details:

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Source:

Presented by Mr P.S.L. Gordon

Cory Reference number: MS 17 100

DIARIES: Schiet Kop farm, Sidbury, 1877 - 1918
(w 1888, 1891-6, 1900, 1902, 1907, 1909, 1911 -13, 1916-17)

15 bound vols. fcp (mainly 33cm x 20cm)

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"A warm day. I was completing my census returns. The boys were working at the dam. Herbert, Clarisa and family left for Sharon at 11 am. Kinki went for post."

NOTES ON TEXT

Entries give an account of the daily life on the farms Schiet Kop, Woodbury and Ivydene and include an account of the campaign of D Company of the First City Volunteers into Bechuanaland in 1897. They also include details of the production and sale of farm produce and livestock. There are, in addition, entries of a more personal nature by Ivy Gush, wife of Joseph Malcolm.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Joseph Malcolm Gush was the son of George Gush, the grandson of Jospheh Gush and the great-grandson of Richard Gush, the 1820 Settler.

SOURCE

Presented by Mr C.W. Gush.

DIARY: includes notes, drawings and a sketch-map of the Fish River.
Fort Beaufort, 12.4.1846 - 7.6.1846.

41p 4to (24cm x 18cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"A post came in from Grahamstown. No news papers in it. Dreadful accounts from Lr. Albany. Bathurst still holds out. Pato's people have openly declared themselves. Nothing new at all today. Busily employed making a map of frontier."

NOTES ON TEXT

Twenty-two pages of diary describing the 1846-7 Frontier War as seen from Fort Beaufort. The remaining pages contain "Analysis of the actual cost of buildings at Comitjies Post", trigonometrical notes, drawings including a coloured arum lily and "a fragment of the history of the Cape Colony written in the year 1946." (This 9 is intentional). Handwriting difficult to read, diary entries brief.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

An Irish cartographer and engineer. See Africana Notes and News vol. XIV p. 251 ff for a biography.

SOURCE

Presented by Mrs Richards Williams.

DIARY : kept on the farm Carnarvon Estates by Walter Poultney Halse and later his nephew Cecil Halse. Includes a genealogical chart of the Halse family, rainfall figures for the period 1880-1900, statistics of wild birds shot on the farm, 1887-1909. Carnarvon Estates : 1880-1955

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"12 Monday - Commenced snowing at about 10 pm on Sunday night, this morning 3 inches all over Flats. Snow came on at about 1 pm thicker than I have ever seen it before if it continues falling at present rate will be the biggest storm on record, I doing up workshop. Boys at potatoes - hacking off sprouts. Mama wonderfully well.

13 Tuesday - Got up this morning to find the country a perfect picture of the Polar regions, after careful measurements found it to be on the open flats from 16 to 18 inches, what will it be in New England and on Stormberg! A photograph of the farm would have been worth almost any thing. The trees etc etc resembling fairy land spangled in silver, Expect to find many of our cattle dead. Also sheep. Edward and I managed to get to Klein Vley on horseback - down waggon road. Intended returning over Flats Via Greys in quest of springbucks, but thought it dangerous - we could not have less than a doz tumbles into holes and over ant hills, I think all the dams will overflow."

NOTES ON TEXT

This document is mainly a day to day account of work done on the farm, interspersed with comments on visitors, neighbours and sunday leisure activities. The diary covers the period 1.6.1886 - 28.11.1900, and 2.1.1941 - 1955. The first part is written by Walter Halse; the second by his nephew Cecil. The handwriting is very difficult to read.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Walter Halse was a second-generation farmer in the Dordrecht, Sterkstroom District. He and his brother Edward ran the farm on patriarchal lines with about 18 white and 22 black tenant farmers.

SOURCE

The original diary was lent to the Cory Library by Mr A R D Halse so that a photocopy could be made.

PRIVATE JOURNAL: recording his life as Colonial Chaplain at St Georges' Cathedral, Grahamstown. Grahamstown, 17.7.1856 - 26.3.1858.

184p 4to (20cm x 17cm) MS(&PR inserts)

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"[December] 7[th] [1856]. Rain. No troops at church. Lord Mark, Lt. Colonel of 13th communicated. - I did not go to Fort England owing to the rain and mud because I felt sure there would be very few on such a day. Very thin congregation in the church PM. and on 59 communicants at the Sacrament. Mr Banks read prayers A & PM. Mr Thompson and Mr Hardie assisted in administering."

NOTES ON TEXT

The text of this journal has been transcribed and annotated by H.M. Matthew in his typescript Grahamstown Diocese: Historical notes vol. 2. The journal is annotated "private journal cont[inue]d" but the early volumes were lost in a shipwreck. The existing journal records in some detail the daily life of a Grahamstown priest. There is much emphasis on ecclesiastical matters but the text is not without liveliness or more general interest.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Born 23rd August 1799 near Lake Windermere and died 15th March 1861 at Grahamstown. Anglican priest (deacon 1830 London, priest 1831 Calcutta). Missionary in South India and Mauritius. Acting Colonial Chaplain at Grahamstown 1833 - 1838. Colonial Chaplain 1838 - 1861.

SOURCE

Grahamstown Diocesan Archives.

DIARY:

(1) Various pl., Oct. 1900 - Dec 1901.

131p 8vo (18cm x 12cm) MS

(2) diary entries included in a note book. Various pl., 1878 - 1881

114p 8vo (9cm x 14cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

(From no. 1) "The work of the Commission began on Monday 19th August and finished on 5th September during which time we disposed of 798 cases as follows: Votes disfranchised 449, non-voters disqualified 234, acquitted 25, withdrawn and other 90..."

NOTES ON TEXT

(1) An account of a return sea voyage to the Cape (with stop at St Helena) and his travels in the Eastern Cape and to Kimberley and Mafeking for sittings of the Court trying War rebels. Descriptions of towns visited in war time; Boer "scares" and brief mention of the actual trials.

(2) general notes and brief diary entries dealing with military and civil activities, especially as magistrate at Queenstown, during the 1877-79 War, including the questioning of prisoners.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Civil servant holding the position of Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate at Albert, Queenstown, Kimberley, King William's Town and Albany. Served in the 1877-79 War and in various official capacities. Retired June 1900 and served as a member of the Court for the trial of 2nd class Rebels.

SOURCE

Presented by Miss Star King.

JOURNAL:

(1) two portions. N.E. Rhodesia or Nyasaland, c.1901 + n.d. MS 14 431-2

10p 4to (26cm x 20cm) MS + 26p 8vo (20cm x 13cm) MS

(2) "S.P. His Diary. Strictly Private". Lovedale and elsewhere, c.1925 - 1926.

Loose p. 4to (26cm x 20cm) TS

(3) "American journal". U.S.A., 12th April 1923 - MS 14 856
c.24th May 1923.

80p 8vo (15cm x 10cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

(From no. 1) "Takobi bluntly says 'you do not want to enter the kingdom because you do not want to stop lying and adultery, you are not willing to set your slaves free, and you will not stop selling one another and you will not give up your many wives.'"

NOTES ON TEXT

(1) describes two mission journeys to native villages and contains comment on local customs and beliefs.

(2) is a chronicle of events at Lovedale and elsewhere written in a "Pepysian" style for the benefit of his children. Despite the style and humorous tone the diary contains much information on the activities of the principal of Lovedale.

(3) is a brief journal and notes made on a visit to the U.S.A. and to American institutions similar to Lovedale.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Presbyterian missionary. Worked in N.E. Rhodesia and Nyasaland, then became Principal of Lovedale Mission. See Dictionary of S.A. Biography vol. 1.

SOURCE

On loan from Mrs T.D. Walsh. MS 14 856 transferred from K.W.T. Museum.

JOURNAL: produced at intervals for circulation among her family and fiends in Scotland. Various pl., 4.11.1899 - 26.11.[1903?]

65p + 73p 4to (20cm x 26cm x20cm) MS Loose.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"We formed a fairly big ulendo. There were five of our party each with a machila and between us we required about eighty carriers. Over 30 of the boys were needed for the machila teams, the others carrying tents, food etc etc."

NOTES ON TEXT

Covers journey from England to Livingstonia Mission (Malawi) in some detail and "holiday" expeditions from there at various times. Some description of mission work, more travel experiences, the country and people visited and domestic affairs.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Margaret Henderson (nee Davidson) was the wife of Rev. James Henderson (q.v.)

SOURCE

On loan from Mrs T.D. Walsh.

DIARY. Various pl., 1874 - 78 + July 1878 - December 1880

220p 8vo (20cm x 13cm) MS 2 vols.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"A very few of our English friends know what is meant by going to the sea side in Africa. In England it generally means a month's freedom from the cares and anxieties of household duties, abundance of fishing, reading and repose. In Africa it means becoming a gipsy and living the life indolent as far as the men are concerned and of very hard work as far as the women are concerned..."

Helen B.

NOTES ON TEXT

Lively account of his life in South Africa. Basically he describes his pastoral life as a Methodist minister but there is a good deal of general and often humorous comment on people, places and events. Area covered includes Grahamstown area, Cape Town area, Bloemfontein and the Diamond Fields and Natal.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Methodist minister. Served in various capacities including mission work. Principal of Healdtown from 1890. Held positions of Chairman of the Grahamstown District of his Church and President of its Conference.

SOURCE

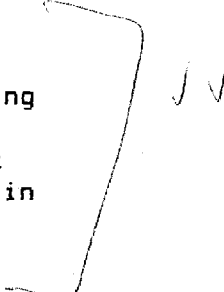
Methodist Archives Collection.

JOURNAL: from the date of his ordination. London & Cape of Good Hope,
25.10.1838 - 14.10.1847.

261p 4to (20cm x 17cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"24. This morning was occupied in visiting the Residence of Mosheshe. The Accounts which have been given by some parties of his style of living are much exaggerated. Nevertheless he is without exception the first Chief of this part of Southern Africa. He has lately had a house built after the European model, which is not yet quite finished: about 60ft in length & 20 in width comprising 5 tolerably good rooms. The house is built on the summit of an isolated mountain or rock..."



NOTES ON TEXT

✓ An account of his ordination, departure from England, voyage to the Cape and the beginnings of his missionary work in the Eastern Cape. In general a factual and unemotional account of his daily activities. Entries are not always regular and the closing years 1845 - 7 have large gaps.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Methodist clergyman and missionary, in later life an Anglican priest. For a short biography see Dictionary of South African Biography, vol. II.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

DIARY: letter written to her sister in England during the Boer occupation of Burghersdorp forming a diary. Burghersdorp, November 1899 - March 1900.

20p fcp (33cm x 20cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Wed. 15th About 8.30 a.m. they did come - all mounted and armed - about 50 went down the street carrying the Free State flags to the Market Sq. and Court House. About 300 or 400 lined the top of the Kopje behind and fronting the town. The 50 or rather the commandant read his proclamation - among other things that in 14 days all must leave or be commandeered!"

NOTES ON TEXT

Written at intervals during the Boer occupation the letter becomes a diary of the period. It is strongly anti-Boer in tone and describes the actions and attitudes of the "English", colonial Dutch and occupying Free Staters.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Mrs Johnson was the wife of Reginald J Johnson, Rector (= headmaster) of the Albert Academy at Burghersdorp.

SOURCE

Presented by Miss I. Johnson.

JOURNAL: written during a visit to England. Various pl., Aug. 1880 - March 1881.

83p Bvo (9cm x 12cm) MS Bound

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"We went through Trafalgar Square. There is a monument to Lord Nelson - lion at each corner. Saw the fountain play."

NOTES ON TEXT

Relates her impressions of places visited (incl. churches) and people met, while in England with her husband. The entries are mainly brief but are interesting as they give the point of view of a "colonial" who had never seen England before.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Georgina Waters was born at sea when her parents Rev. and Mrs H.J. Waters were on their way to South Africa. In 1868 she married Rev. Bransby Lewis Key, later Bishop of St John's Kaffraria. See G. Callaway: A shepherd of the veld.

SOURCE

Presented by A. Pilling.

DIARY: "mission work in Kaffraria." King William's Town, 1.3.1859 -
[?]3.1860.

199p 4to (19cm x 12cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Monday Mar 28th [1859]

Recd. J. Aldred here in mornng. and left in course of day for St. Johns. I
wrote a note to Woodrooffe by him suggesting that Mr A. should relieve
him, for a month, as settled between us on Saturday. Also sent
explanations of divers matters of accounts to Miss Harding & Mr. W."

NOTES ON TEXT

In addition to his duties in King William's Town Kitton was also appointed
Secretary and Treasurer for the Southern District of Kaffrarian missions
in 1858 by the Bishop of Grahamstown. The diary is chiefly a record of
his activities as secretary and treasurer. It is devoted mainly to 1859
(182 pages). Entries vary in length and include records of his
correspondence and at times copies of letters.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

According to H.M. Matthew he was born on 19th October 1818 at Wisbech.
Died June 1891 at King William's Town from 1858 and Archdeacon of British
Kaffraria from 1861.

SOURCE

Grahamstown Diocesan Archives.

LAING, James 1803 - 1872

JOURNAL: of missionary life. Various pl., (a) 1827-1836; 1836 - 1845;

MS 16 579

(b) 1845 - 1858; 1859 - 1871

MS 9 043

4v. Sizes of pages vary greatly. MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Visited a few people. Found a young man who had not been cicumcised because he was afraid of the operation. He was called a coward by the prople and despised by them. I said to him 'shew that you are a man by your works.'"

NOTES ON TEXT

Extensively used and quoted by W. Govan in his : Memorials ... of the Rev. James Laing, 1875. It is a detailed account of Laing's life covering roughly 40 years from his voyage to the Cape in 1830 to 1871. Most of the journal is devoted to his missionary activities at Burnshill, Lovedale, Kat River and neighbouring areas, and includes accounts of the Wars of 1834-5, 1846-7 and 1850-3. Observations of "Kaffir" life and attitudes, as also of those of the government and the colonists. The handwriting is often difficult to read and Laing at times abbreviates confusingly. The volumes also contain college tickets and certificates, some letters and academic notes.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Missionary of the Glasgow Missionary Society. See Dictionary of S. A. Biography vol. 1.

SOURCE

- (a) Mr P von Lill
- (b) Lovedale Loan Collection.

DIARY: of a trader, farmer and fisherman in Namibia; who was working for the Walfisch Bay Mining Company. Namibia: 1.2.1859-14.8.1859

106p [many blank] fcp(30cm + 20cm) MS (Bound volume = printed "diary")

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Friday 8 [April 1859] - The waggons arrived and loaded, started at 4pm. Andries via Roode Bank with Mr Rath. The boats came from the wreck without any further news - brought a basket of papers which gave to [Friedliff?] to sort."

NOTES ON TEXT

The diary was deposited in the Cory Library as part of the Methodist Archives. The only related item in the deposit was the diary believed to be that of Peter Dixon (q.v.), Latham's father-in-law. Parts of the Dixon diary appear to be in Latham's hand. This volume shows fire-damage around the edges. Entries vary from one word to a third of a page in length. There are frequent gaps where no entries were made.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

William Latham came to Walvis Bay from England about 1845. He held a leading position in the Walfisch Bay Mining Company, a copper mining venture. He also worked for Dixon at Sandfontein and married his eldest daughter. Latham later worked for C.J. Andersson and in the 1860's became militarily and politically involved against the Afrikaner family and their followers. See writings of Brigitte Lau on Namibia.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

DIARIES: written in printed "diaries". Various pl., 1885 - 1886.

2v. fcp (33cm x 20cm) MS + PR c.220 pages

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"General Joubert passed this afternoon from Maletsi's where he has been to command the different Kaffir chiefs to live at peace... He evidently does not like the idea of the natives increasing in force and numbers but advocates putting down the chieftainship rather than disarming the people."

NOTES ON TEXT

The 1885 diary has entries that vary from very short to fairly lengthy and deal mainly with everyday activities. In the 1886 diary entries tend to be more detailed and include lengthy descriptions of mission journeys and meetings with Chiefs. Lowe was based at Good Hope Mission.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Methodist minister. Pioneer Methodist missionary in the Transvaal (1884 onwards). Remained in the Transvaal for the whole of his career. See Transvaal Methodist, Nov. 1930.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

JOURNAL: of a holiday in Britain. Various pl., 1897.

24p Bvo (20cm x 13cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"On to Newport met Mrs Jones, son & daughter, Miss Harries and Miss Dyne. Heard Welsh singing. 15 000 people. Went to son's that night. I saw Somerset coast and Clovelly."

NOTES ON TEXT

A rather dull, tourist's account of a holiday in the United Kingdom. It is maily a catalogue of places visited, sights seen and people met. Text ends in mid-sentence.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Identity of the writer is uncertain, apparently a McKay, possibly one of the donors.

SOURCE

Presented by the Misses McKay per Prof. Mountain.

DIARY: written in various places and at various times including Cape Town in 1809 and Boschberg (Somerset East) in 1816. Various pl., 1809 - 1816.

145p 8vo (13cm x 20cm) MS Bound volume.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Monday December 4 1809 at half an hour after ten at night was experienced at Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, a most terrific earthquake. Three shocks between the time above mentioned and Eleven O'clock accompanied with a noise so truly horrible that language cannot find words to express it..."

NOTES ON TEXT

See the notes by Prof. C.H. Price in S.A. Medical Journal 22 August 1959 p. 709 -10. It is not basically a diary rather a note-book containing notes on classical mythology, botany, travel, material medica etc. Many of the entries relate to the Cape (eg. Cape plants and their uses). There are also diary entries including (i) the Cape earthquake of 1809 (ii) his journey from Somerset Farm to Cape Town with description of the Fronteir Boers in 1816.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Mackrill was a naturalist and medical man, also Superintendent of the Somerset Farm at Boschberg. See Burrows: A history of medicine in South Africa and Dictionary of South African Biography vol. II.

SOURCE

On loan from the heirs of Dr S Schonland.

JOURNAL. Various pl., 12.7.1870 - 22.6.1872; 2.8.1876 - 6.3.1882; 7.3.1882 - 31.12.1884.

3 vols 4to (18cm x 12cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Sept 1st Thurs. Saw Umpande (Panda) this morning at 9. The old king was lying on blankets. Recd. us kindly. Asked me many questions about Pondo and other chiefs. Finished by asking if I had any Pondo dogs as they are good to hunt with."

NOTES ON TEXT

The volumes listed here are marked I, III, & IV. The volume II which is missing covers a period when the writer was in England. Vol. I has a most interesting description in some detail of Natal and of the Zulus and Zulu missions (all denominations). There is also a description of a visit to the Eastern Province. Apart from sea voyages, periods in Britain and various visits the text deals largely with his ministerial life in Natal. Vol. IV contains information on the establishment of the South African Methodist Conference and its first two meetings.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Methodist minister. Served in Natal from 1851. Was later Chairman of the Grahamstown District of his Church and President of its Conference.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

DIARY: "first voyage to S. Africa..." and "subsequent tours in the [Grahamstown] Diocese up to March 1941." Various pl., 27.12.1937 - 4.3.1941.

138p 4to (19cm x 15cm) MS (+PR inserts & illus.)

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Wed. March 9th [1938]. Cocktail party with Still - met a lot of people, Dr Henderson & Mrs, Mr & Mrs Gane, Major Walker, Landsdowne, Smidt, Cathedral at 7.30. Dinner RAMONA cafe. Dentist called Cory, son of historian."

NOTES ON TEXT

The first 41 pages deal with his departure from England and journey to Grahamstown via Las Palmas, Ascension Island and St Helena and the subsequent text with his early years in the Diocese. Entries are mainly brief and laconic, almost telegraphic in style. Text is mainly impersonal and factual with little comment.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Born in England in about 1887. Worked for Steel Brothers and Co. in India and Burma from 1908 to 1936. Retired in 1936 and appointed Diocesan Secretary for the Anglican Diocese of Grahamstown in 1938. Served as Diocesan Secretary voluntarily until 1961 when he retired to Salisbury, Rhodesia where he died on 20 July 1968.

SOURCE

Grahamstown Diocesan Archives

SAMPLE OF TEXT

(From part 4): "[5th Oct. 1918] It is impossible to conceive or describe the scenes one passes through as we get nearer to the front line. There is incessant traffic of all sorts backwards and forwards. All sorts of transport - motor lorries conveying army service, medical, ordnances, bridge-building and water stores; besides motor cars and motor bikes, horse waggons and horses, and troops marching back and forward from the front line..."

NOTES ON TESTS

The documents listed here form part of a collection of related papers. Texts are very varied - some being true diaries, others reminiscences and some autobiographical sketches and general notes. Some diaries describe his pastoral work in general, parts (2) and (4) concentrate on his experiences as an army chaplain. Part (5) describes a trip to Australia and New Zealand (1921) and one to England and Ireland (1934).

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Methodist minister. Born at Dunmanway in Ireland. Came to S.A. before the Anglo-Boer War in which he served as a chaplain. Served similarly in South West Africa and France during World War 1. Minister of Central Hall, Johannesburg for 16 years and twice President of Conference. Retired in 1951.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

DIARIES:

(1) Early Life

Various pl., 3.7. [1890] - 21.2.1894
134p 8vo (18cm x 12cm) MS

(2) Anglo-Boer War period

Various pl., 9.5.1899 - 30.9.1900
266p 4to (20cm x 13cm) MS

(3) Inter-War period

Various pl., 24.3.1903 - 22.11.1903
104p fcp (33cm x 20cm) MS

Various pl., 1.1.1909 - 25.7.1909
59p 4to (20cm x 13cm) PR + MS

Various pl., 3.9.1909 - 20.3. [1910]
26p 4to (20cm x 13cm) MS

(4) World War 1 period

South West Africa, 4.12.1914 - 30.3.1915
178p 4to (20cm x 13cm) MS

South West Africa, 16.1.1915 - 12.8.1915
200p 4to (20cm x 13cm) MS

At sea, England and France, 7.3.1918 - 8.9.1918
252p 8vo (18cm x 10cm) MS

France, 26.9.1918 - 31.1.1919
172p 4to (20cm x 13cm) MS

France, 9.9.1918 - Oct 1918
46p fcp (33cm x 20cm) MS

France, 1.2.1919 - 13.7.1919
110p 8vo (18cm x 10cm) MS

(5) Post War period

Various pl., 9.3. [1921] - 17.8. [1921]
6 vols 4to (20cm x 13cm + 18cm x 13cm) MS

Ireland, 6.7.1934 - 16.4.1935
63p 4to (20cm x 13cm) MS

(6) Small printed "diaries"

Various pl., 1890 - 1948
29v 8vo (13cm x 8cm) PR + MS

CAPE JOURNALS: recording his early years as Archdeacon of Grahamstown.
Various pl., 15.11.1848 - August 1855.

5 vols (779 pages) (10cm x 13cm; 9cm x 15cm; 18cm x 13cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"January 1st [1849]. After a hot Christmas, which the Dutch keep in a solemn rather than a festive manner, we entered on the New Year amidst general tokens of rejoicing in the population around us. The coloured people were accustomed in the days of slavery to have a holiday and receive gifts from their masters on New Year's Day, and they accordingly do not seem willing now that the custom should die out."

NOTES ON TEXT

"Although he is often concerned with matters of church policy, it is the descriptive passages, his generalizations on Dutch and British frontier living and hospitality, the vivid accounts of the devastation caused by the Kaffer Wars and striking word portraits of individuals ... that are probably of greater interest to the general reader today." (V.R.S. 37. The bulk of the text appears in the edition by D.H. Varley and H.M. Matthew published by the Van Riebeeck Society in 1957. (First Series no. 37)

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Merriman was born in Marlborough on 4 April 1809 and died in Grahamstown on 16 August 1882. An Anglican priest (deacon 1833; priest 1836) he became Archdeacon of Grahamstown, Dean of Cape Town and finally Bishop of Grahamstown. See Dictionary of South African Biography vol. 1 for details of his life

SOURCE

Grahamstown Diocesan Archives

MOFFAT, Mrs Mary (nee Smith)

MS 6 027

JOURNAL: addressed to her parents Mr and Mrs J E Smith. On board ship
7.9.1819 - 4.12.1819.

31p 4to (23cm x 19cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

Our sailors have saved a good deal of water by means of a large sheet or awning which they spread over the aft part of the deck. They have corks here and there which they pull out and let in the water."

NOTES ON TEXT

Describes her voyage to the Cape to join and marry Robert Moffat. It is a detailed and personal account of the voyage including the discomforts and fears of sea travel and descriptions of the Captain, passengers and events en route. There is a supplement describing home-making and food on the mission station at Griqua Town dated 11.8.1820. There seems to be a similar document in the L.M.S. archives in London. It is not possible to say which is the original but if the document listed here is not, it must be a contemporary or near-contemporary copy.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

She was the wife of the missionary Robert Moffat. See C. Northcott: Robert Moffat...

SOURCE

Presented by Mis C.W. Price

DIARIES: P.E.A., Transvaal, Basutoland and elsewhere. Various pl., 1907 - 1925.

c. 1080p 8vo + 4to (19cm x 12cm; 23cm x 18cm) MS 7 bound vols + 4 tied.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"A 'dug-out' conveyed our baggage and our party across in three journeys. We were asked an inclusive chage of 200 reis. This was my first experience in a 'dug-out'. It was made from a tree trunk of hard wood, very carefully hollowed out and made with a rower's seat at each end...."

NOTES ON TEXT

Describes his mission journeys in Portuguese East Africa and the Transvaal (Sekhukhuniland area) mainly. Quite detailed accounts of travel experiences and the country traversed and church organisation and affairs. He normally only includes secular affairs when they affect church matters.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Methodist minister. Did much mission work among the Bapedi in Sekhukhuniland. Se Methodist Conference minutes, 1932, p. 11 - 12.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

MULLINS, Robert John 1838 - 1913

DIARIES:

- | | |
|--|----------|
| (1) Various pl., 22.7.1854 - 4.9.1855
480p 4to (9cm x 17cm) MS | MS 7 111 |
| (2) Various pl., Nov. 1856 - March 1957
94p 4to (20cm x 17cm) MS | MS 7 112 |
| (3) Various pl., April 1857 - Aug. 1857
83p 4to (20cm x 17cm) MS | MS 7 114 |
| (4) Various pl., 1.9.1857 - Oct. 1868
480p 4to (19cm x 17cm) MS | MS 7 113 |
| (5) Life at St. Augustine's. Canterbury, 1860 - 1861
150p 4to (19cm x 12cm) MS + FR | MS 7 115 |
| (6) Various pl., 24.4.1862 - April 1863
58p 4to (20cm x 17cm) MS | MS 7 116 |
| (7) Various pl., Nov. 1863 - Dec. 1867
299p 4to (20cm x 17cm) MS | MS 7 117 |

SAMPLE OF TEXT

(From no 2): "Wednesday 18.[2.1857] - Umthlakaya's [=Mhlakaza] day today. The first thing I heard this morning was a boy hollering out that the sun would set in the east. Only Nomsothlo's? children to school. He sends them down regularly... N.B. the sun set ass usual."

NOTES ON TEXT

A mimeograph edition containing selections from the diaries 1854 - 1861 was published in 1955 edited by W.M. Levick. The text in this edition is very selective and has at times been altered by the editor. Mullins is mainly matter-of-fact and unemotional, though the early entries reveal the writer's youth. In the main he describes mission life - in Umhala's country, at Bolotwa and elsewhere in the Diocese and the beginnings of his headmastership of the 'Kafir Institute'. There is little deep comment on events though significant ones such as the 'cattle-killing' are mentioned.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Anglican missionary and teacher. Arrived at the Cape in 1854 and went into mission work in the Grahamstown Diocese. Ordained deacon in 1863 and priest in 1864. Headmaster of the 'Kafir Institute' at Grahamstown from 1864 to 1907. Held various church appointments.

SOURCE

Presented by Mrs W.M. Levick, Major A. G. Mullins and Mrs R.G. Knowling.

DIARY: of the Siege of Kimberley. Kimberley, 5.10.1899 - Feb. 1900.

252p fcp (33cm x 20cm) MS Bound vol.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"20th Day. On Friday morning Nov. 3rd ... I heard some one knocking at my bedroom door calling 'George! get up the hooters are going! don't you hear them!?' ... I was only about two minutes until I was out and on my way fastening on my coat as I went running along the streets, which were now flocked with excited women and children, while business carts horses waggons cabs and horses, were tearing through the streets like wild fire up one street and down another as if it were for dear life, kicking up clouds of dust as they tore along each to their respective houses."

NOTES ON TEXT

A personal and detailed account of what Murray did, saw and heard during the Siege, written regularly and at the time. He was a young working man, as his style and spelling indicate, who was only a minor active participant in the events around him but his diary does reflect the views, feelings and activities of the ordinary people of Kimberley. Later in 1900 he attempted to have the diary published but was discouraged.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

George Murray was a miner employed by De Beers on underground work. During the Siege he was a member of the De Beers St John's Ambulance Defensive Corps, while continuing to work in the Mine. In 1900-1 he was living at 70 Merriman Street.

SOURCE

Gold Fields Collection.

O'CONNOR, John Thomas

DIARIES:

(1) rough diary of everyday events written while Resident Magistrate at Tsolo. Tsolo, 9.9.1886 - 31.12.1887 MS 14 559

318p 4to (23cm x 18cm) MS

(2) short diaries - (i) magisterial visits from Tsolo + comment on the activities of the Anglican church in the District. (ii) MS in printed 'diary' for 1891 while writer was Resident Magistrate at Ngamakwe. (iii) MS in printed 'diary' for 1897 while he was Resident Magistrate at Stutterheim. Various places, 1889 - 1897. MS 14 560

3 vols. 8vo (14cm x 10cm; 13cm x 10cm; 10cm x 9cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Friday 15th January - changed furniture and book shelf in my study ... had also heavy day in office. A number of Gcalekas arrived at dark with bags of tobacco for sale. Passed the shops in darkness and were directed in the right road by me. Left office after dark".

NOTES ON TEXT

The subject matter of the diaries is indicated above. The writer's style is mainly matter-of-fact. Diaries in a collection of his papers.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

O'Connor served in the F.A.M.P. and the C.M.R. in Basutoland, Griqualand West and East and elsewhere between 1867 and 1879. After this he was magistrate of several frontier districts. See his MS accounts of his career among his papers in Cory Library.

SOURCE

Presented by Mrs E. O'Connor via Prof. F. G. Butler.

DIARY: of the Siege of Mafeking. [Mafeking?], Xmas 1903

344p 4to (27cm x 20cm) TS Bound

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Greener asked me to-day if I could copy, by photography a sketch out of the Colonel's sketch book, saying that they proposed to draw a pen and ink sketch, photo it, and print on blue paper, or ferro-prussiate process, a #1 note or coupon. At the very first attempt the negative turned out very successful and now it only remains to produce the papers and print them."

NOTES ON TEXT

The diary covers the period 12.10.1899 to 20.5.1900. It seems to have been written at regular intervals during the Siege, probably in pencil note form. The present text was typed from these notes and bound in book form as a Christmas present for his daughter Kathleen. Ross is concerned to describe the military events of the Siege in some detail and not, except incidentally his own part in it. His comment on the activities of the regular army, the townsfolk, the 'Natives' and the Boers is usually balanced and sensible.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Ross was an auctioneer by trade and had been living in Mafeking for about 12 years at the time of the Siege. His firm, which held sales periodically during the Siege, was called Aldred & Ross. Ross was also a keen amateur photographer and published some of his Siege photographs in book form shortly after the Relief. His photographic interests were the cause of his involvement in the production of Siege bank notes and stamps by photographic means. During the Siege he was a member of the Town Guard.

SOURCE

Gold Fields Collection.

DIARIES: 41 stitched but unbound "volumes" covering the period 1829 - 1870 with some gaps. King William's Town. Pirie, etc., 1829 - 1870.

864p 4to - 8vo (sizes vary considerably) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"He [Sir George Grey] enquired - have you seen any of the ancient MSS. I answered I had in the Museum of the University of Glasgow. I said that they were very fine and elegantly executed... I took the occasion to suggest to him that the earliest of our Caffre publications might be found in the Colonial office..."

NOTES ON TEXT

Fulllest coverage in the periods 1846-48 - mainly the end of the 1846-47 War - and 1850-53 - describing Ross's activities during the frontier war especially in King William's Town. Parts of the diary seem to have been sent to his family in Scotland, this may apply to all. Some parts appear to be extracts from an original or drafts for one and some cover identical periods. The diary is not routine or repetitive and describes Ross's missionary work mainly based on his station at Pierie. He includes comments on missionary attitudes and strategy and attitudes to missions. The accounts of the 1850-53 War are especially interesting. There are many related Ross papers in Cory Library.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Missionary of the Glasgow Missionary Society. Xhosa linguist and printer. See Dictionary of S.A. Biography vol. 1.

SOURCE

Documents in the sequence MS 8216 - 8224 in the Lovedale Loan Collection.
Documents in the sequence MS 3246 - 3281 presented by Mrs B.J. Ross.

JOURNALS. Various pl., 1.1.1905 - 29.2.1944.

904p fcp (33cm x 20cm) MS 4 vols.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"6th - a cold, showery day with stron NW wind veering to SE. Kenneth over and he and Noel fixed up pump from well. Mr Goodwin left taking Miss May as far as Belville. All [farm] hands off. 7th - All planting tobacco. Louw over and bespozik tobacco plants. N down with bad cold. A nice day. Sent to village for meat etc."

NOTES ON TEXT

Brief, matter-of-fact entries about farming activities, surveying and the comings and goings of family and friends. The style and type of contents remains consistent throughout the volumes. The journals were written on the farms Sunnymede, Emerald (in the Middleburg, Graaf-Reinet area), and in Graaf-Reinet. They deal with the various types of farming including tobacco, ostrich and grape. Some of the entries were written by Idoni Rubidge in her husband's absence.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Thirteenth child of Charles Rubidge. Married Idoni Helena Smyth. See D.F. Du T. Malherbe: Family Register of the S.A. Nation. Was a farmer and surveyor.

SOURCE

Presented by J. McCabe.

DIARY: incomplete. Cape Town, 9.10.1900 - Sept. 1901
17p 4to (23cm x 18cm) MS + cuttings.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Wednesday 9 - Batts Wood S.S. treat. 60 children. 300 cakes, 8 gallons ginger beer, 3/- sweets (6 lbs). Went around exactly. Cakes 5 times but 4 times would have been ample. First muster of Wynberg Town Guard to elect officers."

NOTES ON TEXT

Mainly brief entries which deal with his daily activities except for an account of Lady Sprigg's death and a report of Sir Gordon Sprigg's views on a federal parliament for the British Empire. There are also various cuttings related to the MS text.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Baptist minister. Worked at Cradock, Wynberg, Queenstown and elsewhere.

SOURCE

Sprigg papers presented by Mr J.G. Sprigg.

FROM my birth to my conversion: reminiscence with journal. Long Sutton,
15.11.1816 - 14.1.1819.

43p 4to (20cm x 17cm) MS

aa SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Thursday 21st I lost a whole day yesterday, read nothing, thought less, and neglected private duties, and in consequence felt cold and unaffected at the Prayer Meeting in the evening. I felt this morning much condemned on the reviews of a day so spent, my cry is now O God pardon my waste of time, precious time - Help me to live today, and to thy name be all the glory."

NOTES ON TEXT

The first 14 pages are an account of his life to November 1816 principally religious in emphasis and including his engagement to Ann Maw and his vocation to missionary work. The remaining pages are a journal not always regular in composition of his life at Long Sutton. The text has been published with an introductory note by Prof. L.A. Hewson in Journal of the Methodist Historical Society of South Africa vol. 2 nos 2 - 3, 1954 - 5.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Pioneer Methodist leader in the Eastern Cape. For a short biography see Dictionary of South African Biography vol. 1.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

DIARY: Anglo-Boer War. Mafeking and E. Transvaal, Sept. 1899 - Aug. 1900.

47p fcp (33cm x 20cm) TS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"With an enemy 9,900 strong and well armed opposed to a force of 1,054 many of whom were unused to the use of arms and that too but indifferently [unarmed?] would have puzzled many a man but Colonel Baden-Powell was equal to the occasion."

NOTES ON TEXT

This appears to be an original TS and not a TS copy of a MS original. There are two sections dealing with the Siege and operations in the Transvaal mainly around Rustenberg respectively. The diary is impersonal describing events with little reference to the author himself. There is a good deal of details. The typescript was probably prepared from notes some time after the events described. Text indicates that the writer himself could type.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Writer was chief staff clerk to the Fronteir Force under Baden-Powell during the Siege of Mafeking. After this he served under Baden-Powell in the Transvaal.

SOURCE

Presented by Mrs Lewis Thomas (nee Shimwell).

DIARIES: 30.6.1837 - 30.9.1838; 30.9.1838 - 7.12.1839; 1.1.1850 - 26.4.1858; 27.4.1858 - 26.12.1859; 27.12.1859 - 25.9.1867. Various pl., 1838-39; 1850 - 1867.

1 400p Sizes vary (33cm x 10cm; 23cm x 19cm; 23cm x 9cm) MS 5 volumes.

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"This day was fine, Henry was working on the land and was laying the foundation for a brick house. This morning he shot a very large wild pig. I was shoemaking ... I went to Bathurst. Left a pair of shoes at Mrs Hartly for Mrs Miller not paid for. Bought from T. Hartly a bottle of brandy 2/- a biscuit /1 a glass of grog from Mrs Allen /3 ..."

NOTES ON TEXT

It covers life on his farm in Lower Albany and later when he was living with his son Henry on his farm. Describes the daily doing of the 1820 Settler farming community including prices of goods and details of Thomas's shoemaking and leatherwork; the effects of the 1850-53 War; and family and other relationships. Shone reveals a good deal about himself e.g. his battle with Cape brandy, the difficulties of living with a son in "your old age".

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Shone was an 1820 Settler. Settled in the Bathurst area where he was a shoemaker and farmer.

SOURCE

1838 - 39 (2 vols) on loan from Mr Roy Howe;
1850-58 on loan from Mrs Venables; 1858-67 on loan from Mrs L.M. Sparks.

JOURNALS: concerned with farming in the Peddie district. Peddie, 1.11.1848 - 30.12.1854.

316p 4to (37cm x 12cm) MS 2 vols.

SAMPLE TOF TEXT

"Tuesday 3rd - War cry at Piet Apples tower heard. firing in that direction after sunset, Mr Goodrich left 5 oxen in my charge. very windy and dry wether. all our lambs dying there mothers got no milk."

NOTES ON TEXT

Brief entries recording his daily activities and significant events at Peddie including arrivals, and departures, births, deaths and marriages. Also his farming, building and transport riding, contracts for fodder and prices and charges. The 1850-53 War figures but there are no descriptions of fighting, rather movements of the military and "Kafers", the effects of the War on Peddie, rumours and reports.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

1820 settler. Married Sophia Southey and lived at Peddie. He was a farmer, contractor for fodder, house builder ^{and} at Poundmaster (Peddie).

SOURCE

On loan from Mr A.C. Jolly.

STORMONT, David Duncan 1862 - 1931

DIARIES AND JOURNALS:

- | | |
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| (1) Lovedale, 1892 - 1900. 23 vols. | MS 7 473-95 |
| (2) England and Scotland 1901. 2 vols. | MS 7 497 -8 |
| (3) Blythwood, 1902 - 6. 3 vols. | MS 7 499 - 7 501 |
| (4) Scotland, 1908. 1 vol. | MS 7 502 |
| (5) Blythwood, 1909 - 1921. 9 vols | MS 7 503 - 7 511 |

38 vols. 4to (Mainly bound into 21cm x 17cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"13/7/92. I expected at least N. Moir, A. Gray to pass. Several of the others may pass by a fluke but only a fluke. They were not well prepared in any of their subjects. It seems to me that the native boys will have just as good a chance to pass, as the white boys have."

NOTES ON TEXT

These volumes do contain accounts of the writer's daily activities but not consistently. They also contain notes on his reading, his thoughts on a wide variety of topics - some purely academic others on the state, nature and purpose of mission education, the state of affairs in the Colony, the quality of Colonial life and the character of the African. There are also notes for sermons and papers. These documents form part of a collection of Stormont's papers.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Prebyterian missionary, scholar and educationalist. Taught at Lovedale and was sub-editor, later editor of the Christian Express. Became principal of Blythwood Institution in 1902 where he remained until his death. Was a writer, especially on mission topics, of some distinction.

SOURCE

Presented by Miss M. Stormont.

JOURNAL. Lovedale, Jan. - April 1894.

50p . 4to (20cm x 17cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"About fifty communicants re-entered and placed their communion cards in the plate as they entered just in the same way as we do at home ... the sacrament was dispensed, first the bread by two elders, afterwards thje wine by other two ... it was the first communion service I had seen in a native church."

NOTES ON TEXT

Describes events at Lovedale and a visit to Knapp's Hope station and service there.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Wife of Rev. D.D. Stormont vide supra.

SOURCE

Presented by Miss M. Stormont.

STRETCH, Charles Lennox 1797 - 1882

MS 14 558

JOURNAL. Various pl., covers 1797 - 1849.

356p 4to (26cm x 20cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Feby 9th - on Monday evening Col. Smith, the chief of the Staff, reviewed the 'Grahams Town Volunteers'; after which he addressed them in a very energetic manner. He stated that it afforded him the most unfeigned satisfaction to find that they were in so efficient a state to meet and chastise the audacious invaders of the Colony."

NOTES ON TEXT

Describes his birth, education and early life to 1828. Notes on "Native Wars" incl. the 1819 War and detailed journal of the 1834-35 War and events after it. Notes on Settler, Boer and Xhosa relations. Entries 1838 - 1849 are mainly religious. Whole document contains pointed comment on people and events. The handwriting varies considerably and some portions seem to have been written long after the events described. There is evidence of correction of the text and addition to it. Some parts may not have been written by Stretch. Many pages blank or only partly filled.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Soldier, native commissioner and politician. See Dictionary of S.A. Biography vol. 11.

SOURCE

Presented by Noel Gilfillan Esq.

JOURNAL: at Healdtown. Healdtown, 31.8.1872 - 20.1.1873.

37p 8vo (18cm x 12cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Monday evening the discussion on the origins of the Kaffer race came off ... one thing seemed to me most pathetic - the obvious way in which each speaker admitted without hesitation the superiority of the white over the black races ... perhaps this sense of inferiority may not be so painful as I fancy."

NOTES ON TEXT

An account of life at Healdtown and of the people (black and white) and places encountered. An intelligent and interesting short account. Includes a description of a visit to Seymour.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Mary Chubb was the sister of Rev. Theophilus Chubb, a prominent South African Methodist. She married Rev. M Coulson Taylor who died in March 1867. She came to S.A. and lived in Healdtown with he brother. Later remarried.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

VAN NIEKERK, Jan Gideon 1864 - (1938?) and Jean Roux
1895 - (1975?)

PR 3 418 -
PR 3 447

DIARIES. Albertvale Farm, Bedford district, 1896 - 1975.
(w. 1900, 1903-4, 1927, 1939-1945, 1947, 1949-51, 1953, 1966).

64 bound vols. fcp (33cm x 20cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Jannie dipped the cattle this morning and then carted lucerne to the shed. The lucerne had been lying on the land for a week but could not be brought in on account of the weather ... Gertie and I went to Bedford for a little while ... to collect all the clothes she could find for the people that suffered so much during the floods."

NOTES ON TEXT

Entries give an account of life on the farm Albertvale including details of the sale of livestock and produce of the farm, including prices realised. Limited personal details. Jan Gideon van Niekerk is the writer of the diaries from 1896 - 1938 after which his son Jean Roux van Niekerk continues them until 1975.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Jan Gideon van Niekerk was a member of the 6th generation of van Niekerks to farm in the Bedford area. He was born in 1864 and was married 3 times. His son Jean Roux was born in 1895 of the marriage to Catherine Meintjies. Following his father's death he assumed control of Albertvale Farm.

SOURCE

, Presented by Jean Steward van Niekerk.

Jean Steward van Niekerk
(18.4.1925 -)
1946 -

DIARIES:

- (1) including notes. Transvaal and Swaziland, 1883 MS 15 246
- (2) diary in printed "diary" of a missionary journey - Marachane's tribe and elsewhere. Transvaal, Sept. - Oct. 1885. MS 15 257
- (3) diary in printed "diary". Various places, Jan - July 1886. MS 15 245
- (4) diary in a letterbook of a voyage to the Cape. At sea, 1876. MS 15 693
- (5) private journal of a journey to Mashonaland written for his wife and children. Various places, 30.6.1891 - 21.10.1891. MS 15 686
- (6) record of a missionary journey from Maritzburg to Swaziland and one from Pretoria to Swaziland. Various places, 26.7.1881 - 3.9.1881; 3.8.1883 - c.23.9.1883. MS 15 247
- 7 vols fcp + 4to + 8vo (33cm x 20cm; 26cm x 22cm; 20cm x 13 cm; 17cm x 8cm; 14cm x 8cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"The song was a kind of chant - celebrating the greatness of the Swazi nation - the triumphs of the warriors in war and the chase and also rejoicing that the King had come home again. (He had been away ten days). While the dance and chant went on two or three women rushed into the centre... the time and rhythm was perfect and when all the shields waved together it was very impressive."

NOTES ON TEXT

These documents form a part of a collection of Watkins papers many of which complement those listed here. (1) includes a visit to Makapan's tribe, another version of the 1881 visit to Swaziland - see (6), and some notes apparently not in Watkins' hand on Transvaal native preachers. (2) has brief entries describing a Transvaal mission journey. (3) includes a visit to Zululand and Dinuzulu in an attempt to open Wesleyan missions + mission travels in the Transvaal and Bechuanaland with visits to Montshiwa and Khama, notes on Boer-Bantu relations and the relations between missionary societies.

WATKINS, Owen 1842 - 1915 (continued)

(4) is a short and cheerful account of his sea voyage. (5) is an important description of the journey from the Transvaal to Salisbury. Mainly a description of the journey and the people met (incl. Rhodes, Selous, Jameson, Bishop Knight - Bruce). As the journal was private he was free in accounts of people including I. Shimmin, his companion. There are descriptions of native life and behaviour. (6) is an account of the refounding of the Methodist mission in Swaziland with accounts of Swazi customs and a visit to the King's kraal.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Methodist minister. Was in South Africa from 1876. Organised the new Transvaal and Swaziland District of his Church. Pioneer Methodist missionary to Mashonaland. Chaplain during Zulu and Boer Wars.

SOURCE

Methodist Archives Collection.

WATT, Dougal Campbell

DIARIES: (1) 2nd Mounted Brigade Field Ambulance in S.A.W. PR 2 717
n.p., 27.8.1914 - 4.8.1915.

7p fcp (33cm x 20cm) TS + 4p 4to (26cm x 20cm) MS

(2) "the old doctor's diary"; a record of his experiences MS 14 239 a-b
with the Colonial Scouts and at No. 1 Stationary Hospital,
Modder Spruit, Dec. 1899 - May 1900. Pietermaritzburg, n.d.

448p 4to (20cm x 21cm) MS (+TS version 94p + 38p 4to TS)

(3) 9.1.1900 - 23.3.1900 MS 14 239 c

38p 8vo (15cm x 8 cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Everybody passed a miserable night. McIllerton, Atwell and I got under a pair of pack tarpaulins, they being covered by one and the one I was under was laced so as to overlap the other... All the water from the other came dripping down on me and it rained more or less all night. The ground was soaked, my blankets were soaked and I was wet through to the skin..."

NOTES ON TEXTS

Documents form part of a collection of related material. (1) TS is a brief outline of the Unit's activities, the MS is a brief daily notice of movements and activities - slightly more personal. (2) The first part is a mainly light-hearted account of service with a Colonial irregular force in Natal and Zululand. It describes the working of such a unit and the frustration of somewhat inactive service. The second part is a more serious account of his experiences at No. 1 Stationary Hospital - the prevalence of disease (e.g. enteric), crowded conditions, inadequate staff and equipment and the vagaries of military organisation. It seems likely that diary (2) was prepared from notes made at the same time as events described. Diary (3) appears to be one of these original note books as its text has been reproduced in the corresponding section of diary (2) in a considerably amplified form.

WATT, Dougal Campbell (continued)

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

He was one of four brothers who came to South Africa from Glasgow - the most famous being Sir Thomas Watt. D.C. Watt was a doctor with medical degrees from Glasgow University. He came out about 1890 and practised in Pietermaritzburg. Served in the Anglo-Boer War and World War 1.

SOURCE

Presented by D.C. Watt, son of the writer.

DIARY: "of my time of service in 1st Reg. Brabant's Horse..." Various places, 28.11.1899 - 7.8.1900.

1 bound vol. 164p 8vo (14cm x 9cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"Meat so tough that one can hardly eat it. What we should do without pumpkins I dont know. We managed to get grub ready at ten and dined largley at 11.15pm. I was on horse gd."

NOTES ON TEXT

Daily account in some detail of service with the 1st Regiment of Brabant's Horse. Diary includes six pen and pencil sketches of men on horseback and a Dutch prisoner.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

F.H.L. Wicksteed was born in Weston-super-Mare. He married Muriel Holland of Grahamstown in 1893 and had two children, Marjorie and Guy. He farmed at Beaumont, Botha's Hill. During the Anglo-Boer War he served in Matabeleland, with Brabant's Horse and with Goninge's Flying Column. He died in Middelburg, Cape, a suspected suicide.

SOURCE

Donated by Mrs Marjorie Murray.

JOURNALS: kept during his term as principal of Lovedale. Lovedale, 1933 - 1942.

2 vols. fcp (33cm x 20cm) MS

SAMPLE OF TEXT

"26 Tu. Dr Kerr called to discuss the letter question and it was agreed to suggest a meeting of the Sports Board of Control ... before the meetings of the Fort Hare Gov. Council to see if this unhappy spirit can be changed in Inter Collegiate Sport. Staff prayer meeting led by Dr Wilkie ... Rev. R. Godfrey arrived for the purpose of collating land deeds in connection with Lovedale."

NOTES ON TEXT

Not basically a personal diary but a journal of events and activities at Lovedale mainly those involving the principal directly or indirectly. There is a small amount of personal information and also information on matters such as Fort Hare, other missionary institutions and Presbyterian Church affairs. Use of this journal is restricted during the life time of people mentioned.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

United Free Church of Scotland missionary in Calabar, the Gold Coast and Togoland from 1901. Played an important role there. Came to Lovedale as Principal in 1932. Resigned in 1942 and returned to Britain.

SOURCE

Lovedale Loan Collection. Presented to it by Mrs Wilkie.

Diary: partly in English, partly Portuguese, annotated "Maderia to Leith, Edinburgh & Hol'rood House", "To Ware, Bulstrode, London & Pentonville." Various pl.: October 1811 - May 1812.

92p 8vo(4.5"x2.5") MS (Bound in part).

Biographical details:

Mary Adams (nee Barker) was the wife of Thomas Price Adams (q.v.) and came to the Cape with him in 1820 in Bailie's party of Settlers. She died on 29 December 1863 at the residence of her son-in-law William McGlashan at Alice aged 76.

Notes on text:

This document was originally catalogued by the Cory Library as a copy by T.P. Adams of his wife's diary. It now appears more likely that it was wholly or partly written by him. A possible solution to the authorship problem is that the volume was used by both Thomas and Mary. It is part of a large collection of Adams papers. A large part of the diary is in Portuguese. The English text is more note book than diary and describes places visited in Scotland. There are also listings of trade figures.

Sample of text:

"Oct 3 - Agreed with Mrs Brown for an apartment, returned to Leith.
Oct 4 - Drank tea with Mrs Brown and Capt. Viviers introduced me to Mrs Quin - oysters at the side of the Theatre - soap /6/26. Oct 5 - went over the Castle ..."

Source:

Presented by Mrs Rose Innes, Dr Turton and Mrs v. d. Vyver

Cory reference number: MS 6 859

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