

September

MONDAY 11

1911

a house where there was a case to enter hoping to escape the infection.

The plague reached us all the same asking the Dr. how he thought it possible he said measles seldom caught from clothing but had been known to do so and in this case he had gone to the soldiers hospital without an overcoat and concluding to come to our house borrowed a soldiers overcoat from which the infection must have spread.

Dark day indeed there were 7 in the house who had never had measles and we could hardly hope for them all to pull through. Josephine and her two

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children Sister Eliza
Fannie Katie Rufus

We tried what we could to keep it out of Rufus' room. There were beds in every room except the kitchen. Neighbors were very kind. Some baked bread and sent in. Some took soiled clothes home and washed.

Faithful Aunt Jane Williamson was with us most of the time. Mother kept her place near Rufus day and night. Brother James was paroled and with us most of the time. He and Jane both most skillful nurses. When all the others began to mend the infection reached Rufus.

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WEDNESDAY 13

1911

I must pass over the next few weeks lightly

Even at this late day I can not speak of this dear heroic Brother without being unnerved

So patient never a complaint such pain hardly a moan hopeful but resigned to the last the passed beyond the reach of pain Dec 16 1862

Please turn up the light - seems dark he said The light is made up he was told Then I am dying he said and began a prayer his last words prayer

Dr Williamson preached a good sermon and a few neighbors I believe went through the falling stone to the hillside cemetery

September

THURSDAY 14

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three miles away Father the only one of the family able to go

Mother was but fifty years old and remarkably preserved but she seemed an old woman from that day and nearly lost her eyesight

Four years later Father died & I must tell of one bright spot - one happy event - The next March Amos

Williamson Huggins was born a very proper child almost remarkable after all his Mother had gone through

After Father's death Mother felt that she could no longer live on the place where she had suffered and lost so much and the family moved to

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Unwise After Fathers
death Uncle Dyer wrote
and asked if he could
be of any help He was
invited to come right on
E. L. Huggins was in the
regular army James Hol-
tslow was killed

Fathers death left 7 women
folk and no man in the
place Eliza had lost her
health and become a helpless
invalid We enjoyed Uncles
stay one year very much
but as he made other plans
We all moved to Abingdon
Grandmother and many of
Mothers relations lived in
that State also Mrs. Marsh
Josephine and her children

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only a few miles away
All gone from the dear
old Kisery hill home

John Murray Kerlinger

I married Mr Kerlinger
October 4th 1870 We had four
children William Murray born
July 9th 1871
Callie May in May 11th 1873
Rufus Alexander Nov 30th 1875
Eli Herbert born 1880 Mr & Mrs
Mr Kerlinger was a kind
and loving husband and
Father, Respected and loved

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by all who knew him

He had served three years
in the Union army
I am sorry I did not in his
life time record some of his
interesting experiences for now
I may have forgotten much.

He never cared to dwell on the
sad experiences of the Civil war.
He was born in Baltimore His
Mother belonging to a large
family who owned slaves.

While the Klinger was an
ardent Union man also Anti
Slavery he had a warm sympathy
for the South. He never joined
the G. A. R. said the war feeling
ought to die as soon as possible.
He would rather join the Blue
and Grey.

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WEDNESDAY 20

1911

The Indian outbreak 1862

In the summer of 1862 Mr
Klinger was engaged at the
Lower Indian Agency with a
Cam. ~~arg~~ taking pictures he called
him types Sunday evening
while standing on the steps
of his boarding place a friend
drove for in his buggy and
stopped I am just starting for
a few days at St. Peter he said
"jump right in and go with
me even for two and glad to
have your company. Now to go
to Saint Peter at that time was
far from his thoughts but
why not and see Father and
Mother. A few hasty preparations
and they were off.
Over a beautiful flower
covered prairie they rode

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until they reached Ft Ridgely about 12 miles on their way. Here they concluded to stop for the night. Before starting next morning came the fearful tidings of people killed at the Agency they had just left. Few white men there escaped. What a providence that sudden impulse to leave now seems

Soon the Indians attacked the Ft in great numbers.

An account of this battle is found in The history of Minnesota in the Civil and Indian wars Vol 2 I have a copy of the book. Mr. Kerlinger fought as well as he could. It was a desperate fight. Women helping all they could. Several were wounded and I believe one killed.

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Many Women and children found their way into the Ft by night often wounded and starving.

Mr. Kerlinger never told any special act of heroism he performed but he told one of my childhood friends I must mention.

The ammunition for the Fort was in a small building some distance from the Ft. as ammunition began to run low volunteers were called for to go to this house for more a very hazardous undertaking. Only Andrew Williamson volunteered. He made the trip and returned safely.

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SATURDAY 23

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4. on the mother and friends
 must have expected to hear of
 his death supposing him at the
 Agency from whence few escaped
 After the Indians were subdued
 and Mr Kerlinger had returned
 to his home in the woods 10
 miles from Mankato he joined
 the 4th Minnesota Reg. his
 youngest brother hardly
 more than 18 years old also
 joining the same time
 I think I am mistaken here
 Thomas A was in Company
 E John M in Co F There is
 some mistake in the book
 of "History of Minnesota in
 the Civil War" It gives
 correctly the date of the
 Outbreak as Aug 18th At
 that time I knew John M.
 was at Ft Ridgely and a
 Civilian

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SUNDAY 24

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The war book gives the date
 of ^{his} enlistment as Aug 15th
 I have not time to follow
 the history of the Regt. Any one
 wishing to do so will find in
 "Minnesota in the Civil War"
 Page 414 Vol 1 a narrative
 of the 4th Minnesota quite
 complete It was in the terrible
 battle and defeat of Luntown
 an account of which you
 will find in Vol. 2nd same
 history where both the Kerlingers
 fell out exhausted and were
 captured and taken to Anderson
 I will try as well as I can
 remember to give a little
 personal history not found
 in any history book.

During that terrible battle
 Mr Kerlinger fell exhausted
 and when he awoke he found

September

MONDAY 25

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The battle field deserted and no sign of our army. He must have seen a looked upon a terrible scene of carnage. But how to escape was his chief thought.

He thought he knew to where our army would be and calculated how many nights hiding by day it would take him to reach them.

He still had his haversack and counted the hard work, sweat for each day's journey.

He found a hiding place in the dense woods and like the running away slave of old crept out at night to travel by the stars.

One morning he ventures to go a little further after day light and suddenly came a boy who was the worst frightened

September

TUESDAY 26

1911

I can not say. The boy took to his heels fast as he could. Now of course the search would soon begin. Where to hide? Was it not Providence? he saw a hollow tree, the entrance was quite a distance up and a bear might be below but no time to look for better quarters.

He scrambled up and felt below. None too soon, the boy and several men with guns came near the tree.

Tell us just where you saw him? Right there.

He was no Turk.

Yes he was he wore blue clothes.

Oh you imagined it all.

Strange there were no dogs.

When the men were gone Mr. Kerlinger feeling sure the

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WEDNESDAY 27

1911

place would be watched
spent the whole day in the
cramped quarters. Then went
out at night again.

He thought he was near our
army and ventured to walk
until dawn when he was
killed by a rebel picket and
made a prisoner.

He always had a warm feeling
for the Captain who took him.
If you have any money he said
"Secret it well for you will
be searched and you will need
your money in Andersonville."
The name could not have
been so terrible at that time as
it became later. In his knapsack
he still had half a hard tack.
On the way to prison he bought
an old fashioned counterpane
and a few other things.

September

THURSDAY 28

1911

that he found great necessities.
Arriving at Andersonville
he found his younger brother
only 18 years old there. He too
had fallen exhausted in the
field. Mr. Werlinger said
"I was glad then I was there
for I knew he would not
live through alone."

As to the life in Andersonville
he seldom spoke. Some said
I heard some one ask him
if the havers were not exhausted
he said "They could not be."
He always thought being
a freemason saved his life.

He would give the signals
to the officers over him and
who would now and then let
him go out on furlough when he
would gather what green stuff
he could find and in this

September

FRIDAY 29

1911

escaped the scurry
 At one time a number of prisoners
 were taken on freight cars to a distant
 prison. Much of the road ran through
 dense woods and quite a number
 ventured to jump off hoping to escape.
 Mr. Herlinger thought it worth trying
 but his brothers would join him and
 he would not leave him behind.
 What fate they met I only know
 of one Thomas Pellyjano cousin
 of Mother's thinking no fate could
 be worse jumped off in the darkness.
 He had volunteered leaving wife
 and 4 children at home in Minn.
 For a while a darky who found him
 brought him food then he ventured
 to a farm house, was kindly treated
 hidden and fed but the farmer
 before long said I am afraid to
 keep you any longer neighbors
 are getting suspicious Don't endanger

September

SATURDAY 30

1911

yourself for me give me up.
 So back to Anderson he went but
 always thought that respite
 saved his life for he lived
 many years afterward.
 At last arrangements were made
 to exchange a certain number of
 prisoners and the officers ordered
 ten out of each company and
 those the most feeble most near
 death. A new lot had lately
 come in most of them in fairly
 good condition it occurred to
 Thomas that he would have
 a good chance if he could slip in
 among these heartier ones. He who
 was so thin and hardly able to stand.
 When the officers came around
 to count he said what are you
 doing here? Thomas answered
 I never asked a favor of you before
 but I do ask now keep your

October

SUNDAY 1

1911

mouth shut. The officer smiles
and passed on to the poor we are
now got home to God's country
as they called the North
At last the day of exchange
came and here a thoughtless liberty
lost many lives. People were
allowed to pick freely among
these long stores men selling
pies and cakes and many died
from overeating. Mr Kerlinger
himself came very near doing
so and found his digestion so
greatly he boarded two years in
Minneapolis at a hygienic sanatorium
where no salt was used and no meat.
Being a man of strong natural
constitution he recovered and
did much hard work.
Dying at the age of 65 in 1897.

October

MONDAY 2

1911

Mr Kerlingers last days

I wish I could tell how
beautifully his sun went
down. He was declining
in health and strength
for some months without
much suffering.

He took increased interest
in Church and reforms
a changed view of the
relative value of things.

Although we lived at
Cupertino 8 1/2 miles from

Church at San Jose he
drove down to Wednesday
evening prayer meetings
even in cold weather.

The pastor will be disappointed
he said for he told us the
Elders must hold up his
hands as Aaron and Hur

October

TUESDAY 3

1911

held up the hands of Moses
 As he still failed he went in
 to a Catholic Sanatorium
 in San Jose and I must
 say the Sisters were very
 kind and I believe were
 real Christians

One day the old Priest
 who lived in the building
 came in to see him Mr.
 Kerlinger gave his hand
 such a warm clasp he
 exclaimed "Oh your heart-
 it is in the right place"

Many of our Church people
 came to see him and receive
 his warm hand clasp
 When I thought the end was
 near I sent for Will. to come
 from the University
 and the three others from
 Cupertino We were all with

October

WEDNESDAY 4

1911

him the last night
 I had been with him day
 and night some time
 About bed time the nurse
 came in to see if all was
 right he held out his
 hand and said Good night
 nurse adding Good night
 every body

All night he talked by spells
 to us with a clear strong
 voice Expressing strong
 faith in God and love
 to every body

"All my prayers are answered
 I go in just the right time"
 he said. He had a natural
 dread of death I think for
 often as we prayed together
 he prayed Be with me
 in the hour of death

About 11 o'clock April 1st
 1894

October

THURSDAY 5

1911

he gently breathed his last.
Our Minister Mr Mount-
of the Cumberland Church
preached a very appreciative
sermon from the text

Know ye not that a Prince
and a great man in Israel
hath fallen to day.

Among other things he said
I never before saw any one
rejoice so far Heaven as
he did the last year of his life.

I will not be able to add
more. Light almost gone
January 19th 1925
Saranap

He sleeps in the beautiful
Oak Hill Cemetery near
San Jose with Herbert
beside him.

October

FRIDAY 6

1911

Copied from notes written by
Mrs. Mary Keeling.

"One by one as the roll is
called on high, the grand old
workers for the cause of truth
and temperance fall out of
the ranks on earth, to swell
the ranks of the faithful
gone before.

John Murray Keeling
who died in San Jose, Apr. 1
1897, was born in Baltimore
May 23, 1828, his parents
moving to Ohio when he was
only 9 years old.

His grandfather, John Murray
was a prosperous merchant
and owner of a plantation and
a number of slaves. He (John
Murray) was the father of 12
children who grew to maturity
and raised families. The

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SATURDAY 7

1911

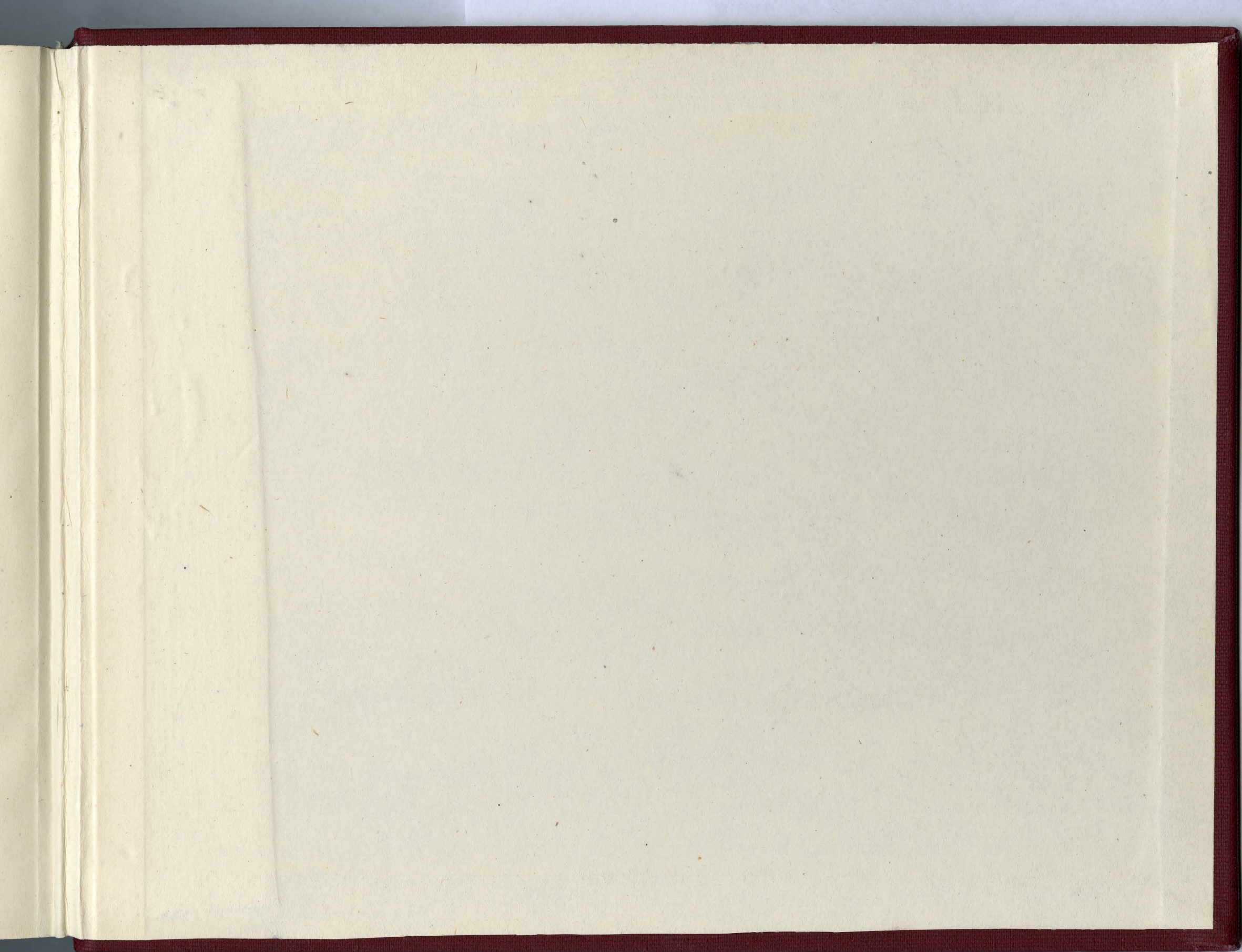
youngest of the Joshua Murray died in the Willows (near San Jose) in 1895. Mr. Kerlinger & Joshua Murray were near the same age and had been playmates in childhood. There were 82 grandchildren (of John Murray). Father Kerlinger, early left an orphan, lost sight of most of his sisters and brothers. He was an upright man and lived to be nearly 93 years of age, writing letters with his own hand a few years before his death. Early in the fifties they removed to Minn., where both parents died. In his youth Mr. Kerlinger was ambitious for wealth. Several times the prize seemed almost within his grasp when

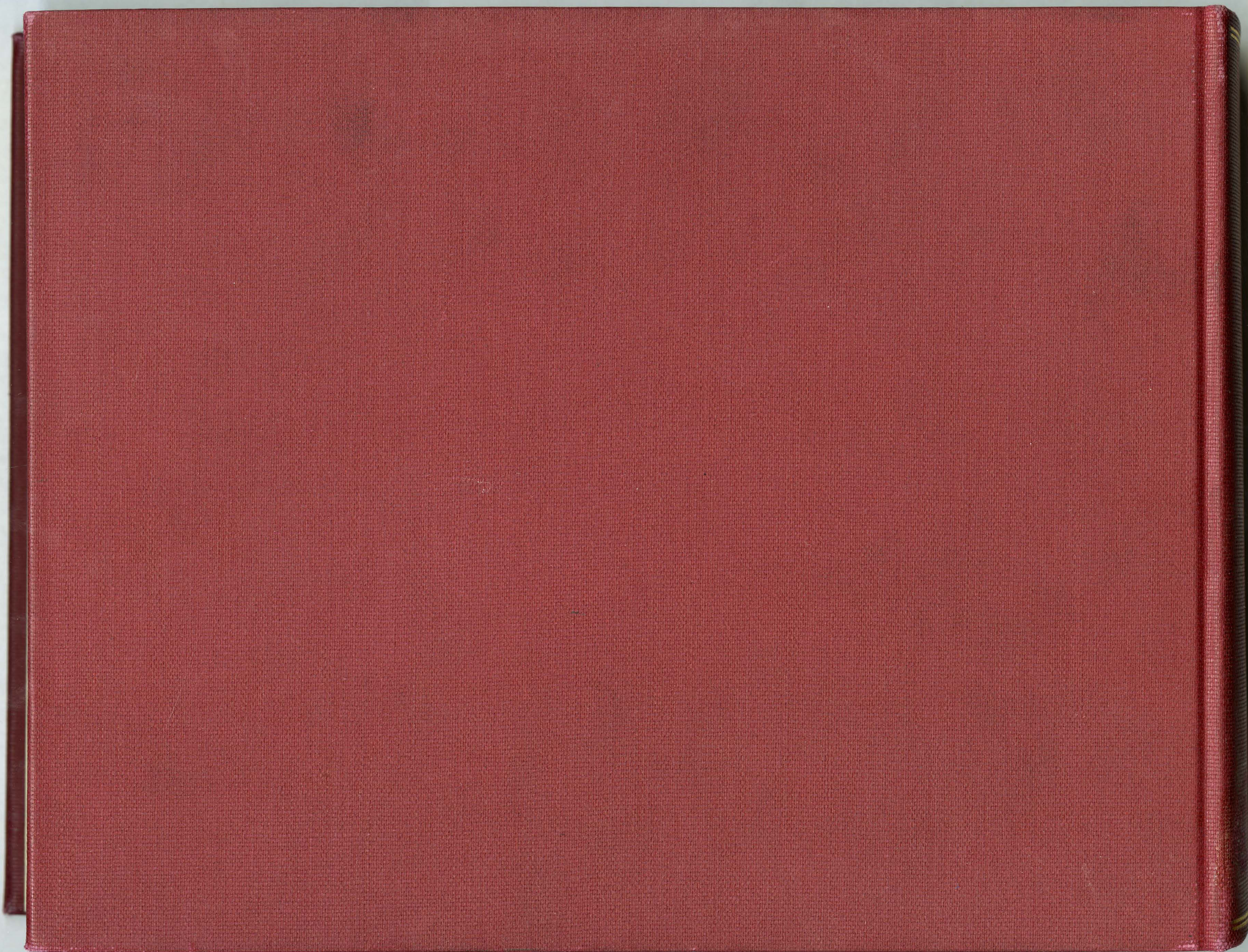
October

SUNDAY 8

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reverses dashed his hopes. In later life he regarded these disappointments as kind providence. ~~In it~~ (the rest of the notes ^{see} have already been written in this book.)







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