

THE DIARY OF
JOHN STURROCK
MILLWRIGHT, DUNDEE
1864–1865

Edited by Christopher A Whatley

THE DIARY OF
JOHN STURROCK
MILLWRIGHT, DUNDEE
1864–1865

Edited by Christopher A Whatley



THE EUROPEAN
ETHNOLOGICAL
RESEARCH CENTRE

Sources in Local History

CONTENTS

Preface	iii
Introduction	iv
Editing	xxxi
Acknowledgments	xxxii
Journal	1
Income and Expenditure Account, 1865	127
Notes	140
Further Reading	147

PREFACE

Professor Whatley's edition of the diary of John Sturrock was widely welcomed on its publication in 1996 not only for its vivid depiction of the day-to-day life of an artisan in mid-century Dundee, but also for the unique insight it offered into working-class habits and attitudes. It is reproduced in electronic form here as part of the revived, online *Sources in Local History* series, with additional endnotes, a further reading section and images selected from the collections of Dundee City Library, National Galleries of Scotland and the National Library of Scotland. The front cover illustration shows a steam engine and engineer, Dunniker Foundry, Dysart, 1870s (reproduced courtesy of the University of Dundee).

Kenneth Veitch
European Ethnological Research Centre

INTRODUCTION

It was not common for working men in Britain in the nineteenth century to keep daily diaries.¹ The survival of the diary of John Sturrock, a Dundee millwright in the early mid-Victorian era, is therefore significant, especially as accompanying it are a set of the author's immaculately detailed income and expenditure accounts.² It is much to be regretted that his 'work book', which recorded the various jobs he did, and the overtime he worked, appears to have been lost. The diary however does include some information about his hours and the nature of his employment.

What first-hand knowledge we have of the doings, lifestyles and attitudes of the working classes has largely been derived from autobiographies. Scotsmen (rather than Scotswomen) produced a disproportionate number of these.³ It is well to note however that one of the most frequently quoted of them, James Myles' *Chapters in the Life of a Dundee Factory Boy*, first published in 1850, is decidedly not the autobiographical account its title suggests. Rather, it is a didactic novel, written by a former Chartist, a self-made and self-educated man with a moral mission. Myles never worked in a mill or factory.⁴

It is Sturrock's diary however which is the subject of this volume. Although the diary and accounts only cover a short period of time (fifteen months in the former case, a year in the second), they provide a unique record of John

INTRODUCTION

Sturrock's habits and interests at this time in his life, when he was in his mid-20s. Later in this Introduction, attention will be drawn to some of the more noteworthy of these.

Sturrock of course was one man, and as has been indicated, the very fact that he kept a diary makes him unusual. Even rarer is the regularity with which he kept it. What will be seen to be his voracious reading of particular types of books and magazines tends to stand him apart too: David Vincent, the modern master of the working class autobiography, has observed that the pursuit of knowledge 'was and has remained a minority tradition within the working class'.⁵ Yet this does not detract from the value of the source. It is vivid in its detail, and provides a remarkably rich insight into Sturrock's character. Readers will gather from this, and from his habits and pastimes, that he can be firmly located within the 'respectable' working class in Victorian Britain. It is this which gives the source its widest interest. The steadiness of Sturrock's life which the diary conveys, bears witness to its realism; most lives were and are like that. Sturrock however is not simply a cipher; he is complex and even contradictory. There was also an unmistakably Scottish dimension to him. In addition, the diary reveals much about Dundee in this crucial period in the town's development, or at least those aspects of it which were of interest to Sturrock. These offer a new and refreshing insight into Victorian Dundee, which sometimes contrasts sharply with the received view.

Images of Dundee in the mid-nineteenth century are almost uniformly dismal. These are not without foundation. Later than Glasgow or Paisley, Dundee's textile industry had taken off in the 1820s; during the following two decades, as with much of the rest of urban industrial Scotland, the town had experienced the shock of industrial revolution, at the core of which were three major waves of mill and factory building, a vast expansion in shipping activity, and a doubling (between 1821 and 1841) of the town's population, to 63,000.⁶ In the early 1800s descriptions of Dundee were of a modest-sized, comfortable and relatively peaceful Scottish town. By 1837 a permanent military presence had been established in Dundee, while in 1842, such was the apprehension of a Chartist-led armed rising that some 500 special constables were sworn in and

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

ready to defend the mills against attack.⁷ At the turn of the 1840s the Reverend George Lewis, minister at St David's parish, reported that on a recent visit to England he had 'looked in vain for the evidence of deeper physical degradation' than that which confronted him every day in Dundee.⁸ He was convinced that parts of Dundee (and Glasgow) were worse than anything he had seen in the English manufacturing towns of Bolton and Manchester. Certainly within the context of Scottish urban society in the nineteenth century Lewis' impressions find statistical support. Although much smaller in size than Glasgow, throughout the century Dundee and its west coast counterpart were unenviably yoked with similar statistics of social suffering. Death rates and levels of overcrowding and drunkenness were worse than the other larger Scottish towns, while Dundee's record on infant mortality was the poorest of all.⁹

As is well known, the fortunes of its inhabitants were more than usually dependent upon a single volatile industry, coarse textiles, and in this sense Dundee stands apart from the other main Scottish cities.¹⁰ Compounding the problem was the fact that profit margins on most heavy linens and jute were slim (fortunes were made by buying raw materials cheaply, and by volume production), international competition was increasingly severe after the mid-1850s, and wages were amongst the lowest in the British textile industry.¹¹ These were paid to an overwhelmingly female labour force, although not insignificant numbers of young males were also employed, until the age at which they would have to be paid adult rates, when they were turned out (around 800 per annum in the later nineteenth century), unless they were destined for careers as overseers or mechanics, or the few other occupations open to males in the jute industry.¹² With much justification, it has been proposed that Dundee's focus upon jute and flax had created 'a large manufacturing centre of physically retarded children, overworked women and demoralised men'.¹³

Although the 1860s (the decade in which John Sturrock's diary is located) spanned some of the best years in Dundee's modern history, the benefits were not felt evenly across the classes. The inflow of population was at an all-time high, while the rate of new house-building lagged far behind what was required.¹⁴ Sub-division of older property, much of it medieval, and chronic

INTRODUCTION

overcrowding and rampant disease, were the results. Dundee was by no means the only Victorian city in Britain which was lacking in clean water. The extent of its unavailability, however, a problem which was exacerbated by the demands on an extremely limited supply made by the burgeoning mills and factories, allied to its poor quality, were the subjects of much critical comment and concern, and the feeling was that Dundee's problem was worse than the rest.¹⁵ Even though boom conditions existed for a time as the Civil War raged in North America (the course of which was avidly followed by Sturrock), and fortunes were made by many of the town's employers, the tendency was for the textile industry to attract more workers (females in particular) and employ those who were already in the town more regularly, but without having to offer substantially higher wages.¹⁶

They did rise however, and conditions improved in the short-term, but sometimes with effects which did not meet with the approval of the town's middle classes. For mill and other lower paid workers, the unexpected income and the prospect of a period of full employment was a temptation to many to spend a good proportion of their windfall on drink, and 'not to be particular to be at their work on Monday morning, but ... go in on Tuesday, or even Wednesday, or just work one week and be idle the next'.¹⁷ Many of those so condemned were from Ireland, migrants from whence formed the largest single ethnic grouping within the textile industry and had a profound effect on the social character of Dundee.¹⁸ Whatever their origin however, millworkers of both sexes indulged in particularly rowdy forms of street culture; where drunkenness was concerned, female millworkers were more often apprehended than males, although amongst the population at large, men were more likely to appear in the police courts than women.¹⁹ Efforts on the part of the authorities to control drinking – by closing shebeens or arresting those involved in brawls – could incur the wrath of the mob, as happened in January 1863 when a yelling crowd of 300 'loose characters' followed and stoned officers who had arrested two sailors for fighting, and then proceeded to smash lamps and windows in the area around the police station.²⁰ Rowdiness however was apparently endemic in Dundee, with its textile industry having

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

created a far from docile army of female workers, and a 'raucous shawl-clad mill-girl culture, which shocked male observers with its coarseness and loud laughter'.²¹

Portrayed this way, in many respects Dundee seems at odds with the suggestion that Scottish Victorian towns were more likely to be better ordered than their English counterparts.²² This however is only part of the picture, albeit a large one. It ignores the many features of Dundee's emergence as a major Scottish urban centre which it had in common with the others. Victorian Dundee presents a more complex urban phenomenon than its depiction as a 'frontier town' suggests. This is a term which is better applied to 'new' industrial towns such as Airdrie, Coatbridge, Dalmellington and Motherwell.²³ It is quite proper that so much historical attention has been focused on Dundee's textile industry and the conditions and culture of its female workers. Appropriately, it has been described as a 'woman's town'. Yet there was another side to the city's unbalanced economy, a world of relatively well-paid, male artisans, which at its edges at least, overlapped with that which has just been described.

John Sturrock was one of these artisans, a member of a small, elite, group, numbering some 3,000 skilled men who were employed in the twelve or so engineering firms which were going in Dundee in the 1860s. Although these men represented a variety of trades and skills, most (2,000) were workers in iron, who were said to form, 'by far the largest class of male operatives in Dundee'.²⁴ The companies for whom they worked made a range of metal products, including marine engines for the shipyards, and stationary steam engines for the mills and factories. The staple products upon which the sector had grown however were spinning, weaving and other machinery for the town's expanding textile industry. There was however also demand for skills in wood, in which Sturrock was competent too, for the manufacture and fitting of composite products like water wheels made at works such as the nationally renowned Douglas Foundry, the first firm in Dundee to engage in millwright work.²⁵

With only two or three firms, most notably Baxter Bros and Cox's of Lochee, being large enough to support their own engineering establishments, work for

INTRODUCTION

the independent foundries and engineering firms which employed millwrights such as Sturrock was plentiful during the period covered by the diary. Indeed it coincides precisely with what were probably the most prosperous years in Dundee's nineteenth century economic history. The town's textile trade, in which a pattern of boom and slump had already become established (the previous peak had been reached during the Crimean War), began to ascend new heights in the second half of 1863, as the effect of the embargo on raw cotton exports from the South during the American Civil War began to bite. Of 1864, one contemporary observed: 'High prices were ruling; large, well-appointed mills were being built; new machinery was being fitted up; [and] merchants and manufacturers were building handsome houses for themselves in the suburbs or at Broughty Ferry'.²⁶

Even although the 'tide of prosperity' had ceased to flow as strongly early in 1865, ongoing commitments to new mill and factory building, and extensions to existing property, meant that the 'engineering and machine makers ... [had] orders for months to come'.²⁷

A few statistics drive the point home. Between 1864 and 1867 the number of firms in textiles increased from 61 to 72; the nominal horse-power of their steam engines rose from 4,621 to 5,822, and the spindles and power looms they drove from 170,550 to over 202,000, and 6,709 and 7,992 respectively. There was an accompanying rise in the number of workers, from 36,020 to 41,550.²⁸ In fact the engineering and millwright trades did even better than these figures suggest. For them the 1860s continued to bring prosperity, with the numbers employed almost doubling between the mid 1860s and 1871. The foundations of the good fortune of those who worked in Dundee had been laid earlier: emigration during the 1850s, and the migration of some workers to the expanding shipyards on the Clyde, had had the effect of creating a shortfall in the numbers of skilled men, 'so that although our trade is bad', noted Baxter Bros' Peter Carmichael in April 1854, 'wages are rising'.

Sturrock's diary entries reflect the buoyancy of the engineering sector: this is partly conveyed in his reports of long hours of work, until nine, ten or even eleven o'clock at night, and sometimes later, as on 19 May 1865 (and on other

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

occasions too) when he had ‘Wrought all night’, as manufacturers strove to add to their stock of machinery, and repair what they already had. Significantly, several of the works at which he was employed were either being erected in 1864 and 1865, or extended.

Hard work however brought Sturrock considerable rewards, as on Saturday 1 October 1864, when he recorded that at Lilybank, and at foundries throughout Dundee, a full hour had been introduced for breakfast, without any reduction in pay. In April of the following year his wages rose by 1s, and in September by 3s, to 19s a week, when he had expected a rise of only 2s. This was considerably more than most mill and factory workers: during the 1850s flax and jute spinners had been earning only 6s-7s.²⁹ By the end of 1865 Pearce Bros, the company for whom Sturrock worked, were paying their workers’ wages weekly, instead of fortnightly, another valued concession, and an indication that the firm was generating a healthy cash flow.

The premises of Pearce Bros, of Lilybank Foundry, 143 Princes Street, were to the north-east of the town’s commercial centre, in the Cowgate. Victoria Street, where Sturrock lodged until April 1865, was a few yards to the north. Both lay in the shadow of the Baxter’s Den Works, and were within sight and easy reach of the bustling docks. The most modern, the Camperdown Dock, was being hurriedly completed in 1865, in response to the demands of the town’s flax and jute merchants and manufacturers for more berths for ships which had begun to import jute direct from Calcutta. Additional warehousing facilities were required too.³⁰ Both the final stages of its dock’s construction, and the opening, marked by the entry of the colourfully-decorated, jute-laden, ship, the *George Gilroy*, were observed by Sturrock.

Although no records of Pearce Bros appear to have survived, order and time books from the later 1830s and 1840s, when the business was owned by Messrs Marshall & Edgar, serve to provide a clue as to what the nature of the business was just before Sturrock’s time.³¹ Marshall & Edgar employed around seventy men, who manufactured a wide range of iron castings – such as boiler plates, pulleys, brackets and block wheels – as well as making and installing flax spreading and heckling machines and spinning frames, mainly for mills

INTRODUCTION

and factories in and around Dundee. Railway wheels and axles were also in demand, as the Scottish railway mania ran its course. A prominent customer for mill machinery was A & D Edward, of the integrated Logie Works, which in 1864 was the second biggest in Dundee, its owners constantly in the market for the most up-to-date equipment prior to their inexplicable failure in 1876.³² Sturrock's diary confirms that the character of the foundry's work had changed little by the mid 1860s, with several of Dundee's textile firms – Halley & Sons, John Gordon at Grove Mill in the Lower Pleasance, and G Schleselman & Co.'s Balgay Mill in Lochee Road, for example – being amongst its customers.

While it is true that in many ways, Sturrock appears to have stood apart – indeed he deliberately distanced himself – from large sections of the working classes in Dundee, particularly the 'anarchic' mill workers, there is one important sense in which he was typical of the majority of the town's inhabitants in the mid-Victorian era.

He had been born outside the town (8 November 1840), and baptised in the nearby parish of Monikie. His maternal grandfather had evidently been a small tenant farmer at Mill of Lour, near Forfar, while his paternal grandfather and father had been handloom weavers at Guildy, Monikie. Migration towards Dundee had thus been by small steps. Sturrock's move into Dundee (the precise dating of which is uncertain) is likely to have coincided with the end of the great wave of Irish migration into the town which reached its apex in the 1840s, but carried on at a lower level through the following decade. Nevertheless, the migrant stream of which he was part, drawn from the town's rural hinterland, was that which had traditionally provided Dundee (and most of the rest of urban Scotland) with the greatest proportion of its incomers, a role which it assumed once more in the 1860s.³³ Sturrock's relatives and future wife, Anne (a distant cousin), continued to work and reside in the countryside outside Dundee. Each of his brothers (of whom there were either six or seven) were engaged in agriculture, either as the tenants of small farms, or as farm workers, although as the diary reveals, one spent at least a short (unhappy) period in the army. By providing Sturrock with a powerful incentive to return with great frequency to his roots, this may have partly softened the blow of

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

living in the industrial city. Up until around 1850 large numbers of mill and factory workers had gone into the country during the late summer to work on the harvest.³⁴ The rural-urban divide was not always as sharp in practice as it may seem.³⁵

Working class responses to industrialisation were many and varied. As has been widely recognised however, the radicalism of the first half of the century, which culminated in the Chartist challenge of the later 1830s and 1840s, tended to dissolve during the 1850s. Class antagonism was replaced by class collaboration, as workers came to recognise the futility of attempts to replace capitalism, and the potential benefits which the system would produce.³⁶ This was no less true of Dundee as it was in the other manufacturing towns of Great Britain. Former Chartists dropped out of politics, or became Liberals, and in some cases, ardent advocates of the prevailing economic system. Dundee's James Myles was one of these, who abandoned Chartist lecturing to become a bookseller, small publisher and, briefly, newspaper proprietor.³⁷ Thus, he declared in his *Myles Forfarshire Telegraph*, in January 1851, 'The first half of the present century is gone, and wonderful it has been', before going on to hail the triumphs of commerce and mechanical science, the praise of the last-named being heard 'in the hum of the spinning-mills, the splash of steamships, and the hissing sound of locomotives'. This was a sentiment with which Sturrock obviously had much sympathy, as will be seen below.

The principal dividing line in mid-Victorian Britain, it has been argued, was not between rich and poor, employer and employee, or capitalist and proletarian, but between those who were 'respectable' and the rest.³⁸ Although explanations for the cult of respectability are far from uniform, most descriptions of its features stress the importance of independence, thrift and ability to provide for one's family. Sturrock's commitments to the virtues of self-help is indicated most clearly in his accounts, which reveal not only that he saved a sizeable proportion of his earnings, but also a pattern of expenditure which included periodic contributions to the household and living expenses of members of his family, such as his mother and sisters, as well as gifts of small sums of money to various child relatives. Charitable donations – many of them

INTRODUCTION

spontaneously given, to the poor he passed in the street – and church door collections feature too, as they did in considerable volume throughout Dundee during the short-lived ‘golden-age’ of the early- and mid-1860s. In 1864 one church alone raised an unprecedented £1,400 in its Christmas collection.³⁹

The comfort Sturrock derived from the countryside and his kin has been noted. His church-going and pious reading (which was fairly widespread amongst self-educated working men) also provided him with succour and spiritual guidance in adverse circumstances. The cloying *Sunday Magazine*, one of his favourite pieces of reading material, provided the following fatalistic advice about how to deal with illness: if struck down,

The first thing is to lie meek, and humble, and still. If you are tempted to murmur at times wasted, or opportunities lost, remember that He, who has bidden you to redeem the time, must know the value of it better than you ... Hymns at such times are a great solace ... If the message comes that the Master calls for you, to depart and be with Christ, if worse for us, is better for you.

His enthusiasm for sermons, which regularly took him into two different churches on a Sunday, confirms the notion of the God-fearing Scottish Presbyterian artisan,⁴⁰ and underlines the religiosity of the urban Scot.⁴¹ He was fervently anti-Catholic too, dismissing a Christmas Day mass he attended in St Mary’s RC church as ‘the merest piece of trumpery that I ever saw’. Instead, he enthused about his attendance at a soiree of the Scottish Reformation Society – for which he paid entry money of 1s – which was one of a number of organisations established in the nineteenth century in Scotland to protect the country from the ‘dangers’ of Catholicism.⁴² Protestant martyrs, notably John Knox, were amongst his heroes.

He identified too with the emergent Scottish nationalism of the mid-nineteenth century – a ‘particular form of patriotism which recreated Scotland as a nation within a nation’⁴³ – not only reading Sir Walter Scott’s poems, but also visiting and making a small donation to the partially completed Wallace

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Monument on Abbey Craig, near Stirling, which he took the opportunity to visit when he was working temporarily in the area repairing the shafting in the Hillfoots mill of the woollen manufacturers Alexander Wilson & Co.⁴⁴ Another trip into the country – this time strictly for leisure purposes, at the start of his annual holiday – took him by rail to Pitlochry (‘Pitlochrie’ in the original), thereafter to Killiekrankie, another symbol of a Scottish identity which drew on the Lowlanders’ incorporation of the romanticised Highlands (reinforced by their adoption by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert) and a neutered Jacobitism. There was almost certainly a self-improving aspect to his excursion.⁴⁵ Significantly, given the contemporary vogue on the part of some paternalistic employers to encourage loyalty and encourage their workers to participate in ‘rational’ leisure pursuits, of which the excursion train was one, a week earlier Sturrock had watched as a party of Carron Iron Works employees passed through Perth station, *en route* for Blair Atholl.

As has been suggested, Sturrock was in many respects the archetypal ‘respectable’ working man, who embodied the evangelical culture of urban Britain which ‘deprecated idle or useless leisure’.⁴⁶ This can be seen in the opening paragraph of the diary, which is a statement of his motives for keeping it. Amongst other things, Sturrock was anxious to ‘form an estimate’ of how he spent his time away from work, and ascertain whether he had been ‘trifling it away or turning it to any particular advantage’. His habits and attitudes were the antithesis of the sorts of working class behaviour which so distressed contemporaries in Dundee and elsewhere; particularly loathsome were young workers from the mills and factories, who instead of spending their evenings pursuing ‘intellectual and moral culture, and healthful and harmless amusements and recreations’, congregated on the streets. These, it was claimed, were ‘generally crowded with the youth of both sexes, and immodest songs, obscene language, oaths, and curses, are too frequently heard, and that as often from the gentler sex as from the other’.⁴⁷

Sturrock too recoiled from such sights, as on one evening late in February 1865 when he wandered into the town’s swarming Overgate district, but was quickly driven out by the ‘smell of spirits and tobacco’, and perhaps more

INTRODUCTION

in a part of Dundee which was renowned for its drunkenness, poverty and prostitution. He was however prepared to go to the circus, and to the 'shows' which accompanied the town's annual July fair, and although disapproving on the first occasion, on the second, the following year (1865), he lingered longer and indeed stopped and talked to some weavers, female factory operatives who were said to be a hard-working, thrifty and self-respecting class of workers.⁴⁸ By the 1860s, these were mainly females, power loom weavers who had replaced male hand loom weavers from the early 1840s, and who tended to stand apart from the rather more noisy and less restrained spinners and preparers in the 'low' mills.

This was about as far as he was prepared to go in a life which was singularly short of abandon: an exception seems to have been the traditional Hallowe'en celebration, an enduring event in Scotland's somewhat restricted but far from moribund calendar of popular festivity.⁴⁹ In November 1864 he was evidently involved in a night-time trip to an open air reel in Baxter Park, while he was also present at a spontaneous and spirited Hallowe'en dance on 13 November 1865, when with a dozen or so friends, Sturrock 'went out and got hold of a blind fiddler' to provide the music. That he was later able to attend to his accounts suggest that this was a sober, if energetic, affair. Indeed expenditure on alcohol is notable by its virtual absence from Sturrock's list of outlays; only occasionally did he indulge in a glass of wine or a modest quantity of porter (although on one occasion, 28 December 1865, he did buy two pints). Whisky consumption was evidently confined to weddings.

Nor does his diary provide the slightest suggestion of sexual impropriety. Not for him the abuse of their status and sometimes workplace power by male mill overseers, mechanics and others in skilled occupations, who found themselves pursued in the Sheriff Court by the distressed mothers of illegitimate and unsupported infants, with the date and precise location of the site of the alleged conception – as on a 'common stair in Brown St, Westport, Dundee' – publicly revealed.⁵⁰ Despite the increasing dependence of households in Dundee on the earnings of females, and the existence of many more female heads of households than was the norm elsewhere, Sturrock shared the

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

dominant Victorian ideology as far as women were concerned, which rested on the notions of ‘separate spheres’ and the chastity (before marriage) of women.⁵¹ His ideal, of a domestic angel and supportive companion (as well as other suitable attributes, outlined in publications such as the *Sunday Magazine*), was represented by Anne, to whom he was devoted, and married in December 1867, and who, he hoped (29 October 1864), would relieve him of the tedious task of sewing his clothes.

Self-consciously he battled with indolence, reprimanding himself if he lay in bed later than nine o’clock on a Sunday morning. One of the most interesting days he had, 15 January 1865, which he spent walking and exploring in and around Stirling, was marred because it was a Sunday, and he had neglected his usual religious devotions. He was a regular attender at the Watt Institute, Dundee’s mechanics institute which had originally opened in 1824 for the use of ‘young tradesmen in the useful branches of arts and sciences’. Although numbers attending had fallen off by mid-century, Sturrock was a regular attender at a revived series of lectures held at new premises in Lindsay Street.⁵² At the library there, and in his lodgings he spent hours both in the evenings and at weekends reading useful and improving literature, which mass production had made much more readily available. In the cases of the *Dundee Advertiser* and the weekly *People’s Journal*, both of which he purchased regularly, Sturrock was one of the early beneficiaries of the removal of the Stamp Tax in 1855, which heralded what has been described as a ‘revolution’ in popular publishing.⁵³ Sturrock was thus able to enjoy, in the columns of the *Advertiser*, the serialised novels of David Pae, an immensely popular writer who emphasised the need for personal moral reform – amongst all classes.⁵⁴

Arithmetical exercises and engineering drawing were staple ingredients of the leisure hours he spent indoors. In studying subjects which were work-related, Sturrock was unlike most self-educated artisans, whose search for ‘useful knowledge’ usually took them towards more heady works of literature and philosophy.⁵⁵ Sturrock however was not entirely uninterested in these disciplines, and read the poetry of Crabbe, Milton and the aforementioned Scott.

INTRODUCTION

Apparently keener to please than most respectable but staunchly independent artisans, and showing little of the suspicion of middle-class patronage and guidance which evidently characterised the labour aristocrats in Kentish Town and Edinburgh,⁵⁶ Sturrock's reading matter would have greatly impressed those employers in Dundee who shared Peter Carmichael's belief that young men (apprentices in particular) should be advised of the 'advantages of education' and the 'disgrace of ignorance'. In order to compete with their continental rivals, firms like his required educated workers: thus, he counselled, 'Lads beginning their apprenticeship should be encouraged in every possible way to continue their education in the evening'.⁵⁷ This however appears to have been a minority view, with most training still being obtained by practice and example.⁵⁸

One of the books Sturrock read however, William Templeton's popular *The Millwrights' and Engineers' Pocket Companion* (1833), boasted that it distinguished itself from much of the rest of the genre, which had been 'swelled out by theoretical problems'. It contained much practical information, with sections on the strength of materials, specific gravities, and geometry, as well as descriptions and capacities of various sorts of water and steam pumping and other engines. Less obviously useful, but typical of the eclectic reading habits of the self-taught, he periodically digested chunks of Chambers' popular and cheap *Encyclopaedia*. Scottish works of this sort however, with their overt moral overtones, should not be confused with their colder, less 'human', English counterparts,⁵⁹ one of which, the *English Mechanic*, he began to purchase, in instalments, in October 1865.

Yet despite the apparent closeness of the relationship between Sturrock and his employers – indicated in his numerous visits to the house of his manager, John Sturrock⁶⁰ – he also had a strong foothold in working-class society. The *Advertiser* was solidly Liberal, while even more radical was the reforming *People's Journal*, which had the biggest circulation of any weekly paper outside London. There is no sign that Sturrock ever bought the Tory *Courier*. What this suggests is that he shared the political culture of the skilled, male Scottish working classes,⁶¹ and was in sympathy with the Abolitionist, pro-North stand which

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

the *People's Journal's* editor, William Latto, took during the American Civil War. Latto had been a Chartist, and a hand loom weaver.⁶² Radicalism in this context however should not be confused with class antagonism: sympathetic to labour, Dundee's Liberal newspapers were resolutely committed to the causes of amelioration and reconciliation.⁶³ Sturrock however had more specific reasons to be interested in the Civil War (although he had a genuine fascination in America and American culture) in that he had relatives there, two of whom died as a result of the conflict.

As has been seen, Sturrock shared too the enthusiasm for nationalist movements which periodically fired the political consciousness of the skilled working class in Scotland. This was international in scope, as can be seen by his enthusiasm for the preaching of the Reverend Alessandro Gavazzi, the Italian patriot and republican, whose combination of nationalist ardour and anti-papal rhetoric evidently had a powerful appeal for Sturrock. Popular Liberalism in Dundee, tapped and reinforced by the local press, was, as in many other British towns, both intensely local *and* international in its outlook.⁶⁴ In Dundee however, it has been argued that provincialism predominated.⁶⁵ This however should not be allowed to conceal the commitment of many Dundonians to the empire, seen in part by the Volunteer movement which was born in Dundee in 1859.⁶⁶ Amongst those who had joined Dundee's 1st Volunteer Battalion of the Royal Highlanders was Sturrock's fellow-lodger, Mungo Smith.

Further confirmation of his place within the mainstream of that segment of the working class described above is found in Sturrock's devotion to the lectures (organised through the Watt Institute) of the Reverend George Gilfillan, another radical Liberal, whose attacks on the worst of the iniquities of industrialism were also tempered by his acceptance of the capitalist order.⁶⁷

As far as the current debate about the nature of social relations in nineteenth-century Britain is concerned, Sturrock provides no support for those who favour coercion or social control as explanations for the absence of conflict.⁶⁸ Indeed, while the diary provides few clues to the formative influences upon Sturrock prior to 1864, there can be little doubt that this was a man who not only consented to the capitalist system, but who positively revelled in its bounties.

INTRODUCTION

In this he was not alone.⁶⁹ Reference has already been made to James Myles. Another example is Ellen Johnston, for several years a power loom weaver in Dundee, and a near-contemporary of Sturrock, who wrote and published a series of what to modern eyes read as cloying and sycophantic poems in praise of particular factories, employers and managers.⁷⁰ 'Dear Chapelshade Factory! Once more do I hail thee', is the first line of her poem, 'Most Respectfully Dedicated to Mr James Dorward', a weaving manager at Chapelshade works, and is indicative of the form and tone. What is important is that recent work which has begun to look behind the assumptions long made about the part played by class consciousness in determining working class identity in mid-Victorian Britain suggests that Johnston may have been more representative of working class attitudes generally than might be assumed.⁷¹ So too might John Sturrock. Further investigation into class formation and relations in Victorian Dundee however is required before a definitive answer can be given.

Of several factors which account for the accommodation of the working class in Victorian Scotland with capitalism, one which may have been particularly influential in Sturrock's case was the material circumstances in which he found himself. Above all there was his skilled occupation, with its irregular hours (except for Saturdays, when he usually finished at 2 pm), and the absence of close supervision, which contrasted with the tedium and regimented nature of much mill and factory work (see entry for 4 January 1865). There was too the variety of tasks upon which he was engaged, and the different locations at which he was employed, and of course the relatively high wages he was paid. He was no proletarian, suffering indignities such as loss of status, and the low pay, which accompanied 'de-skilling'.⁷² Sturrock by contrast was able to afford to fund a lifestyle which included luxuries such as fruit and sweets, refreshments, newspapers, journals and books, a fair amount of travel by rail and cab, and various other forms of commercial entertainment, in the form of shows and the occasional visit to the diorama. Sturrock was fortunate enough to be able to afford to buy the medicine and castor oil which was recommended as the cure for his racking cough in May 1865.

Sturrock benefited too from the bourgeois assault within and beyond

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

the workplace, at the heart of which was the paternalist model of industrial relations. Although relatively little research has been done on this in Scotland,⁷³ it is certain that such a strategy was adopted by some Scottish employers.⁷⁴ Dundee was not excluded, although the absence of investigations into the extent and nature of employer paternalism in the dominant textile industry means that the picture is currently both impressionistic and patchy.

Sturrock's diary shows that his employers, Pearce Bros, used a paternalistic style of management, paying an unexpected wage rise for example (see above), and organising a supper at the Albion Hotel (18 August 1865) to celebrate the completion of a particular contract. That their methods bore fruit can be seen in Sturrock's attendance (16 November 1865) at a worker-sponsored soiree in the Thistle Hall, held to give thanks to Pearce Bros for their decision to pay wages weekly rather than fortnightly. Events like this do not appear to have been unusual, even in the textile industry. In mid-century, firms such as J & W Brown, of the East Mill, and Brown & Millar, were also in the habit of holding socials at which tea and cakes and other foodstuffs were served, and where both employees and proprietors were present.⁷⁵ It should not be assumed however that the pressures to conform were all coming from 'above': workers as well as employers had as much if not more of a vested interest in co-operation as they had in conflict.⁷⁶

As has just been suggested, the bounds of paternalism extended beyond the factory gate, in what amounted to a 'cultural offensive'.⁷⁷ The crisis confronting the employing classes in Dundee in the 1830s and 1840s, referred to above, had a transforming effect on their actions not unlike that which prevailed amongst their much more closely-scrutinised counterparts in towns such as Bradford, England's fastest growing textile town in the early nineteenth century.⁷⁸ There, social dislocation, civic squalor, alienation and political challenge had led to the industrial bourgeoisie 'taming social, cultural, and environmental forces that by the 1830s seemed beyond control'.⁷⁹ In a relatively short period of time, confrontation was replaced by liberal consensus.

Similarly, it was reported in Dundee in 1850, while great extremes of wealth and poverty still existed side by side, during the previous ten years

INTRODUCTION

the town's 'influential classes', who included several leading employers, had 'exerted themselves in the promotion of schemes of benevolence for the exclusive benefit of working men, with a view to increasing their comforts and elevating their characteristics'. It was anticipated that these measures, which had included the provision of coffee and reading rooms, model lodging houses, ragged schools and allotments, would result in a 'better feeling springing up between the different ranks of society', which in turn would 'tend to assuage popular discontent, and increase the general happiness of the community'.⁸⁰

By the early 1860s, the process of reform had gone even further, although not always with the enthusiasm that some of the town's mercantile elite would have wished. Appalled at the state of Dundee's water and sewerage arrangements, which had resulted in another outbreak of cholera in 1853, Peter Carmichael declared that 'our present liberty is licentiousness', and that he would rather 'live under a despotism for a few years' than witness further the consequences of foul water, along with shortfalls in educational provision. Amelioration on the scale that was required was slow in coming. Civic improvement in Dundee, as in many British towns, lagged behind Glasgow. Many mill and factory proprietors were evidently solid supporters of and contributors to the Calvinist view which pervaded bourgeois Scotland, namely that to intervene and tackle the causes of diseases such as cholera would be to interfere with God's purpose, and raise rates. (Carmichael's explanation for the lack of action on Dundee's water problem in 1853 was that 'No-one will allow his pocket to be touched'.) Changing minds was a slow process which required reformers to appeal more to self-interest than to the worthiness of their cause.⁸¹ Yet such was the extent of the squalor which they saw before them that some philanthropic individuals were driven to abandon the ideology of inaction.

Although the moves to municipal improvements did not gather much force until the 1870s and 1880s, enough had been done by 1864 to enable John Sturrock, in common with similarly placed working men in many parts of Britain, to take advantage of several of the private and philanthropic improvements referred to above.⁸² He visited the Dock Street Refreshment

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Rooms, for example, and on other occasions drank coffee in coffee rooms; periodically he had a warm bath at the public baths at West Protection Wall.

Sturrock's favourite leisure activity however, which he usually engaged in several times a week, was walking, sitting and musing in Baxter Park, which was situated within a few hundred yards of his lodgings. On the personal level this makes sense. Sturrock's father, William, was by the time of the diary, a gardener, and keeper of the Panmure Monument on the estate of the same name, and he may therefore have been in a better position than most urban workers to appreciate the 'walks [which] existed in all directions ... between beautiful shrubberies and beds of rare and lovely flowers', although it has been argued, perhaps with too little qualification, that the 'love of gardens and gardening was one of the few tastes which many Victorians of all social conditions had in common'.⁸³

Gardens however had been widely used in the Scottish moralists' crusade to provide 'systematic recreation' for the working classes.⁸⁴ Diary entries too confirm that Sturrock found great pleasure in taking advantage of the park's elevated location, as well as the town's recently laid-out Eastern Necropolis. From Baxter Park, contemporaries believed, the 'finest' view of the Tay estuary could be had.⁸⁵

While the laying out of parks and pleasure gardens was not new in the nineteenth century, the creation of 'useful landscapes within the town for the use and enjoyment of the public at large' was 'essentially a Victorian idea',⁸⁶ inspired by the rapid growth of unhealthy, air-less industrial cities, concern about 'rational recreation' and the desire to create 'places of innocent amusement where people could mix and enjoy the beauty of the flowers and trees and in so doing become virtuous and happy'.⁸⁷ This was certainly so with Dundee's Baxter Park, whose paternalist sponsors anticipated that it provided 'the working population [of Dundee] with a means of recreation and enjoyment after their hard labour and honest industry'.⁸⁸ Class tensions (but not class distinctions) were to be dissolved on this 'common ground, where all the inhabitants of that large and busy town may meet in mutual acknowledgment of their dependence the one upon the other'.

INTRODUCTION

Much of the impetus for the provision of parks came from the local authorities, notably in the Scottish case from Glasgow Town Council.⁸⁹ Less important overall, but of particular importance in the 1860s, was the thrust which the movement derived from local benefactors, such as industrialists like Titus Salt at Saltaire, or Sir Francis Crossley in Halifax. See too Cunningham. Similarly in Dundee, Baxter Park, the fourth of the great public parks to be laid out in Scotland in the nineteenth century (after others in Edinburgh and Glasgow), was the gift of David Baxter, of Baxter Bros. Designed by the country's leading landscape architect, Sir Joseph Paxton, it was opened to the public in September 1863, to the acclaim of a massive crowd of an estimated 70,000 people.⁹⁰

Parks also provided controlled space for marking events of major local, national and even international significance. Baxter park played host to some of these. One instance was the Queen's Birthday in May 1865, which was celebrated by a performance by an Artillery Band, and watched by Sturrock. The order of this occasion contrasts with the apparent disorder of earlier celebrations of this sort, as on the Queen's Birthday in 1853, which had culminated in the sacking of the Town House and the breaking of virtually every window in the High Street. Indeed it was this outrage, which came as a profound shock to a number of contemporaries, which strengthened the campaign in Dundee for more leisure space: 'You cannot coop up hordes of human beings in narrow pestilential closes, hemmed in on all sides with whisky shops, and pawn shops', stormed the *Advertiser*, without regard to their 'social condition', including housing. Extended church provision and the exhortations of ministers were of little avail. Other large towns, the paper went on, had parks and botanical and zoological gardens: 'If amusements are not provided ... they may be expected to amuse themselves, and that occasionally, without much consideration for public order and quiet'.⁹¹ Remarkably, less than twenty years later, the generosity of Dundee's provision of public leisure grounds was a matter of envy in some quarters.⁹²

Yet even by Sturrock's time, Baxter Park was by no means the only part of Dundee through which he could apparently travel unmolested, with nothing

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

untoward to offend his sensibilities. (By and large, he appears to have been immune to the concentrations of squalor which scarred Dundee prior to the first major wave of slum clearance and road widening which followed the Improvement Act of 1871). The Overgate was clearly an exception, and it would be flying in the face of the evidence to ignore the incidence of drunkenness and endemic disorder in Victorian Dundee, but even so, Marine Parade, Stannergate, Cowgate, Bucklemaker Wynd (Hilltown), High Street, Murraygate, Nethergate, Blackness Road, Perth Road and Magdalene Green were all relatively quiet, at least at the times when Sturrock chose to walk through them. It was during what were typically short-lived strikes that the town's commercial centre was invaded by hooting, chanting, gesticulating females,⁹³ but 1864 and 1865 were good years for industrial relations. Although 'promenading' on the town's main thoroughfares in the evenings was a notorious feature of the boisterous leisure habits of mill and factory workers in the evenings, this did not go on much after 9 pm; it was on Saturday nights that things tended to get 'rough' and out of hand. Sturrock spent most of his Saturday evenings ensconced in his lodgings, reading and writing, or in the country.⁹⁴

This Introduction is not intended to be exhaustive. Readers will have their own interests to follow, and will explore avenues which are not mapped out here. It is to be hoped that like Sturrock, who walked many more miles in a typical week than most twentieth century urban dwellers do in months, and who as a consequence frequented his cobbler's premises in Victoria Street with a frequency which today seems uncanny, their journeys will be fulfilling.

Notes and references

¹ Burnett, J. *Useful Toil*, London, 1974, 10.

² The originals of these are held in the Archives Department, University of Dundee, MS 15/58/1, Vols 1 and 2 of John Sturrock's Diaries, 15 August 1864-19 November 1865; MS 15/58/2, John Sturrock's Account of Income and Expenditure, 1865.

INTRODUCTION

³ Vincent, D. *Bread, Knowledge and Freedom: A Study in Nineteenth-Century Working Class Autobiography*, London, 1981, 8.

⁴ See Whatley, C A. 'Images of Dundee: fact, fiction and function in the works of Victorian working class writers in Dundee' (unpublished paper); for discussion of the literary genre within which Myles worked, see Donaldson, W. *Popular Literature in Victorian Scotland*, Aberdeen, 1986.

⁵ Vincent, 1981, 131.

⁶ On Dundee's economic development in the first half of the nineteenth century, see Lythe, S G E. The historical background. In Jackson, J M, ed. *The Third Statistical Account of Scotland: The City of Dundee*, Arbroath, 1979, 69-76; Jackson, G and Kinnear, K. *The Trade and Shipping of Dundee, 1780-1850*, Dundee, 1991. Whatley, C A. The making of 'Juteopolis' – and how it was. In Whatley, C A, ed. *The Remaking of Juteopolis: Dundee c.1891-1991*, Dundee, 1992, 7-22.

⁷ Dundee Archive and Record Centre, Town Council General Committee Minute Books, 1839-1843, vol. 3.

⁸ Lewis, G. *The Filth and Fever Bills of Dundee, and what might be made of them*, Dundee, 1841, 3-5.

⁹ Whatley, 1992, 12.

¹⁰ Rodger, R. Employment, wages and poverty in the Scottish cities, 1841-1914. In Gordon, G, ed. *Perspectives of the Scottish City*, Aberdeen, 1985, 40-41.

¹¹ See Lenman, B, Lythe, C and Gauldie, E. *Dundee and its Textile Industry, 1850-1914*, Dundee, 1969.

¹² Lennox, D. 'Working class life in Dundee for 25 years, 1878 to 1903', 2 vols, PhD thesis, University of Dundee, c.1906, I, 169-70; Dundee Social Union. *Report on Housing and Industrial Conditions*, Dundee, 1905, 49-55; Gordon, O. *Handbook of Employments*, Aberdeen, 1908, 99-104.

¹³ Walker, W M. *Juteopolis: Dundee and its Textile Workers, 1885-1923*, Edinburgh, 1979, 85.

¹⁴ Lenman, Lythe and Gauldie, 1969, 77-102.

¹⁵ Lenman, Lythe and Gauldie, 1969, 8-9, 77.

¹⁶ Lenman, Lythe and Gauldie, 1969, 64, 67, 70.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

¹⁷ *Dundee Advertiser*, 31 July 1863.

¹⁸ Collins, B E. 'Aspects of Irish immigration into two Scottish towns (Dundee and Paisley) during the mid-nineteenth century', M.Phil. thesis, University of Edinburgh, 1979, 48, 235-7.

¹⁹ Bull, C. 'Who are the Subalternists? A study of the Dundee millworkers from 1850-1885', M.Phil. thesis, University of St Andrews, 1989, 19-31.

²⁰ *Dundee Advertiser*, 27 January 1863.

²¹ Morris, R J. Urbanisation and Scotland. In Fraser, W H and Morris, R J, eds. *People and Society in Scotland, volume II, 1830-1914*, Edinburgh, 1990, 80; for a fuller account, see Gordon, E. *Women and the Labour Movement in Scotland, 1850-1914*, Oxford, 1991, 137-68.

²² Morris, 1990, 91; see too Best, G F A. Another part of the island: some Scottish perspectives. In Dyos, H J and Wolff, M, eds. *The Victorian City: Images and Realities*, London, 1978, 389-411.

²³ For recent studies of some of these communities, see Campbell, A. *The Lanarkshire Miners*, Edinburgh, 1979; and Duncan, R. *Steelopolis: The Making of Motherwell, c.1750-1939*, Motherwell, 1991.

²⁴ Dundee District Libraries, Lamb Collection, 278 (5), 'Iron Trades', c.1872.

²⁵ Dundee District Libraries, Lamb Collection, 196 (46), *The Reformer*, 9 December 1871.

²⁶ University of Dundee Archives, MS 102/1/2, Peter Carmichael's 'Life and Letters', 270.

²⁷ University of Dundee Archives, MS 102/1/2, Peter Carmichael's 'Life and Letters', 293.

²⁸ See Warden, A J. *The Linen Trade, Ancient and Modern*, London, 1867; Watson, M. *Jute and Flax Mills in Dundee*, Tayport, 1990.

²⁹ Rodger, 1985, 41.

³⁰ Whatley, C A, Swinfen, D B and Smith, A M. *The Life and Times of Dundee*, Edinburgh, 1993, 80.

³¹ University of Dundee Archives, MS 46/1, Marshall & Edgar, Order Book, 1836-47; and MS 46/2, Time Book, 1846-47.

³² Watson, 1990, 23.

INTRODUCTION

- ³³ Flinn, M W, ed. *Scottish Population History*, Cambridge, 1977, 466-7.
- ³⁴ Lenman, Lythe and Gauldie, 1969, 57.
- ³⁵ For a telling example, see Dundee District Council, Archive and Record Centre, GD/x99, Memoir of Alexander Moncur.
- ³⁶ There are many books on the subject of the so-called 'Mid-Victorian consensus'. A useful introduction is Wright, D G. *Popular Radicalism: The Working-Class Experience, 1780-1880*, London, 1988, 150-69; on Scotland, see Knox, W. The political and workplace culture of the Scottish working-class. In Fraser and Morris, 1990, 138-66.
- ³⁷ Norrie, W. *Dundee Celebrities of the Nineteenth Century*, Dundee, 1873, 132-33; see too, Wright, C L. *Scottish Chartism*, Edinburgh, 1953, 210.
- ³⁸ Best, G. *Mid-Victorian Britain, 1851-1875*, London, 1971, 260.
- ³⁹ *Dundee Advertiser*, 26 December 1984.
- ⁴⁰ Brown, C. *The People in the Pews: Religion and Society in Scotland since 1780*, Glasgow, 1993, 31.
- ⁴¹ Morris, 1990, 92.
- ⁴² McFarland, E W. *Protestants First: Orangeism in 19th-Century Scotland*, Edinburgh, 1990, 96-101.
- ⁴³ Morris, J. Victorian values in Scotland and England. In Smout, T C, ed. *Victorian Values*, Oxford, 1992, 38.
- ⁴⁴ For a general account of nationalism in Scotland, see Hanham, H J. *Scottish Nationalism*, London, 1969; and for cultural aspects of this, see Pittock, M G H. *The Invention of Scotland: The Stuart Myth and Scottish Identity, 1638 to the present*, London, 1991.
- ⁴⁵ Cunningham, H. *Leisure in the Industrial Revolution*, London, 1980, 158-59.
- ⁴⁶ Brown, 1993, 32.
- ⁴⁷ Dundee District Libraries, Lamb Collection, 196^a (25), 'The Trades of Dundee', newspaper cutting, nd, c.1856.
- ⁴⁸ The best recent description of and analysis of the weavers' characteristics and culture is to be found in Gordon, E. *Women and the Labour Movement in Scotland, 1850-1914*, Oxford, 1991, 155-58; see too Walker, 1979, 43-4.
- ⁴⁹ Fraser, W H. Developments in leisure. In Fraser and Morris, 1990, 250.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

⁵⁰ Information gleaned from the much-neglected Sheriff Court records; for 1863-64, see Scottish Record Office, Dundee Sheriff Court, SC 45/1/12.

⁵¹ For a recent survey, see Gordon, E. Women's spheres. In Fraser and Morris, 1990, 206-35.

⁵² Paul, J. Scientific and literary institutions. In Paton, A W and Millar, A H, eds. *Handbook and Guide to Dundee and District*, Dundee, 1912, 408.

⁵³ Donaldson, 1986, 2.

⁵⁴ Donaldson, 1986, 87-95.

⁵⁵ Vincent, 1981, 135.

⁵⁶ See Wright, 1988, 167; Belchem, J. *Industrialisation and the Working Class: The English Experience, 1750-1900*, Aldershot, 1990, 173, and others deny that 'embourgeoisement' or 'assimilation of middle-class values' was involved as the working classes carved their identity in mid-Victorian Britain. While allowing that Sturrock's independent habits and attitudes may have been generated from within his own class, he seems not to have been entirely free of 'deferential respectability'. Values were shared. See Knox, 1990, 152-61.

⁵⁷ University of Dundee Archives, MS 102/1/2, Peter Carmichael's 'Life and Letters', 145-8.

⁵⁸ Vincent, 1981, 142.

⁵⁹ Morris, 1992, 35-6.

⁶⁰ John Sturrock was listed in the *Dundee Directory* of 1864-65 as manager of Lilybank Foundry. He lived close by, in fact in the same street. He may have been a distant relative of Sturrock, but if so the diary makes no reference to this.

⁶¹ Knox, 1990, 152.

⁶² Donaldson, 1986, 98.

⁶³ This was not unique either to Dundee or to Scotland. See Joyce, P. *Visions of the People: Industrial England and the Question of Class, 1848-914*, Cambridge, 1991, 40-3.

⁶⁴ Joyce, 1991, 41.

⁶⁵ Dunn, D. Dundee considered as Mount Parnassus. In Herbert, W N and Price, R, eds. *Gairfish: A Dundee Anthology*, Dundee, 1991, 40-2.

INTRODUCTION

- ⁶⁶ Templeman, H T. What Dundee contributes to the Empire. In Paton and Miller, 1912, 98-120.
- ⁶⁷ Walker, 1979, 53-4.
- ⁶⁸ For an excellent survey, see Reid, A J. *Social Classes and Social Relations in Britain, 1850-1914*, London, 1992.
- ⁶⁹ Knox, 1990, 158.
- ⁷⁰ Johnston, E. *Autobiography: Poems and Songs of Ellen Johnston, the 'Factory Girl'*, Glasgow, 1867.
- ⁷¹ Joyce, P. A people and a class: industrial workers and the social order in nineteenth-century England. In Bush, M L, ed. *Social Orders and Social Classes in Europe since 1500*, London, 1992, 199-217.
- ⁷² Joyce, 1992, 203-4.
- ⁷³ The classic English study is Joyce, P. *Work, Society & Politics: The Culture of the Factory in Later Victorian England*, London, 1992.
- ⁷⁴ Knox, 1990, 143; Davies, J M. Social and labour relations at Pullars of Perth, 1882-1924, *Scottish Economic and Social History*, 13 (1993), 27-42.
- ⁷⁵ *Myles' Forfarshire Telegraph*, 4 January 1851.
- ⁷⁶ Joyce, 1992, 204-5.
- ⁷⁷ Joyce, 1991, 59.
- ⁷⁸ Koditschek, T. *Class Formation and Urban Industrial Society: Bradford, 1750-1850*, Cambridge, 1990.
- ⁷⁹ The words are from Epstein, J A. Review of Koditschek, T. *Class Formation and Urban Industrial Society: Bradford, 1750-1850*, Cambridge, 1990, *International Labour and Working Class History*, 42 (1992), 106.
- ⁸⁰ Myles, J. *Rambles in Forfarshire, or Sketches in Town and Country*, Dundee, 1850, xiii.
- ⁸¹ See MacLaren, A. Bourgeois ideology and Victorian philanthropy: the contradictions of cholera. In MacLaren, A, ed. *Social Class in Scotland: Past and Present*, Edinburgh, 1976, 36-54.
- ⁸² Belchem, 1990, 171-5.
- ⁸³ Carre, J. The public park. In Ford, B, ed. *Victorian Britain*, Cambridge, 1992, 77.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

⁸⁴ Fraser, 1990, 244.

⁸⁵ Dundee District Libraries, Lamb Collection, 228 (20), Handbook to the Public Places of Recreation in Dundee, nd, 1-3.

⁸⁶ Chadwick, G F. *The Park and the Town: Public Landscape in the 19th and 20th Centuries*, London, 1966, 19.

⁸⁷ Conway, H. *People's Parks: The Design and Development of Victorian Parks in Britain*, Cambridge, 1991, 202.

⁸⁸ University of Dundee Archives, MS 105/XI/1, Minute Book (vol. 1) of Baxter Park, 1863-1901, 4.

⁸⁹ Conway, 1991, 57-8.

⁹⁰ Whatley, Swinfen and Smith, 1993, 119.

⁹¹ *Dundee Advertiser*, 7 June 1853.

⁹² Dundee District Libraries, Lamb Collection, 228 (21), newspaper cutting (1871) from the *Sheffield Telegraph*.

⁹³ Gordon, 1990, 177-8.

⁹⁴ Gordon, 1990, 162-3; Lennox, c.1906, 286.

EDITING

The diary and accounts are reproduced here largely in the typescript form into which they were put by his grandson. He corrected and modernised Sturrock's spelling and inadequate grammar. Unfortunately, this does have the effect of removing some of the immediacy of the original and gives the impression that Sturrock was a rather better writer than he really was. On the other hand, reproduced this way the text is much easier to follow, and little of substance is lost. Readers intending to quote from the diary however should still quote from the original. Minor errors in Sturrock's arithmetic have also been corrected, but even so a small imbalance between income and expenditure remains.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Richard Cullen of Dundee Archive and Record Centre generously and for no reward applied his genealogical skills on my behalf to find the dates and places of John Sturrock's birth and marriage. He is a credit to his profession. Professor G I T Machin, until recently head of the department of Modern History, University of Dundee, kindly read and commented upon the text of the introduction. Any remaining flaws of course are my own responsibility.

Several years ago, a former colleague, Dr Annette M Smith, drew my attention to the diary and accounts. Had she not done so, they might still be lying, forgotten or little-used, on a shelf in the University Archives. That they have finally been published is in no small part due to the warm reception I had when I showed them to John and Val Tuckwell, of Tuckwell Press, and Professor Sandy Fenton, of the European Ethnological Research Centre.

My father, H A Whatley, generously undertook the laborious task of preparing the index. He also drew my attention to otherwise unnoticed typographical errors.

My greatest debt however is to my dear friend and long-time historian colleague Dr Michael J Bartholomew, of the Open University. As summer school tutors on the Open University's Arts Foundation courses since the late 1970s, we have both made use of pages of Sturrock's diary and accounts

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

as instances of primary sources which provide a unique and telling route into the lifestyle and mind of a respectable mid-Victorian artisan. It was Dr Bartholomew's continued enthusiasm for the material and continuing discovery of new possibilities within the evidence which largely convinced me that John Sturrock's papers should be published. The way that literally hundreds of students, including members of Dundee University's Modern History department's 'Victorian City' class, have responded to and learned from them left me in no doubt.

Finally, I should acknowledge the assistance provided by Mrs Joan Auld, formerly archivist at the University of Dundee who tragically died in a mountaineering accident in September 1995. Joan Auld was the inspiration and driving force for the Archives and Manuscripts Department at the University. John Sturrock's diary is just one part of a massive collection of historical records pertaining to Dundee and its region which she gathered over a period of just under twenty years. It is a collection which is of local, national and international significance. Featuring business records but also containing rich seams of material for social historians as well as other sub-disciplines within history, Joan Auld's work will be of inestimable benefit to many generations of historians. Joan was desperately excited by this and other publications which made use of materials in her care. She located the cover illustration for this book. She will be sorely missed.

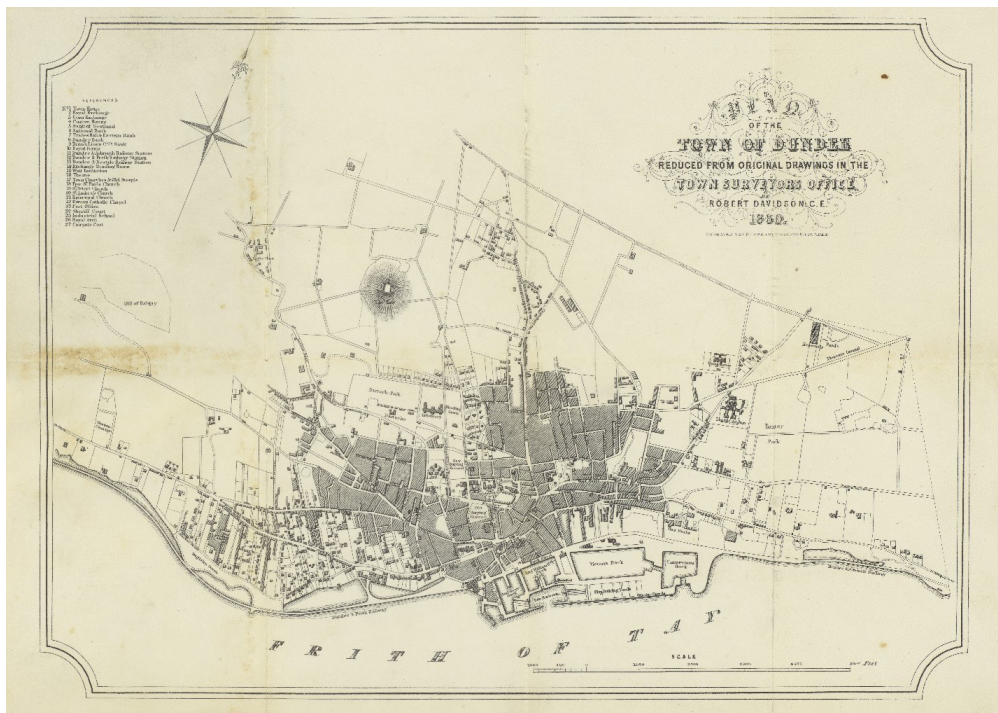


Fig. 1 Robert Davidson's *Plan of the Town of Dundee*, 1860, shows the town as Sturrock would have known it before the major redevelopments of the 1870s onwards. (Reproduced courtesy of the National Library of Scotland)



Fig. 2 A detail of James Knox's *Map of the Basin of the Tay*, 1850. Sturrock often visited friends and relations in the countryside surrounding the city. The location of his father's cottage, near the Panmure Testimonial on Camustone Hill, has been circled in red. Sturrock's brothers Alexander and David lived nearby. The whereabouts of some of his other siblings (Clementina in South Grange, James in Buddon and William in Greystone) have been circled in blue. The location of Kellas, the home of his sweetheart and future wife, Anne, has been circled in white. (Reproduced courtesy of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland)

The Diary of John Sturrock

VICTORIA STREET, DUNDEE, AUGUST 15TH 1864

Having commenced work in Lilybank Foundry here in Dundee today, I have resolved to keep a sort of journal or register of how I spend my leisure time, as much perhaps from curiosity as any other thing, but as I intend to keep a true and faithful record of how I spend and where I spend every evening, together with some of the more particular occurrences of daily life, also my correspondence, thoughts and feelings, and any particular mood or frame of mind I may be in, I may be able to form an estimate of how I have spent my leisure time, whether I have been trifling it away or turning it to any particular advantage. This first evening, August 15, I have spent at home reading the newspapers and resolving in my mind how I was to head this.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Tuesday 16

Called on an aunt of my father's, Mrs McHardy, and also her daughter, Mrs Arthur, with whom I spent the evening.

Wednesday 17

Called on Mrs and Misses Packman.^[1] Went to Baxter Park with Elizabeth, also Helen Wright, with whom I went home.

Thursday 18

Spent the evening in cleaning drawing tools and reading Chambers *Encyclopaedia*.

Friday 19

Had a visit from John Wright tonight, after which wrote a letter to Anne Sturrock, Kellas, and must now hasten to bed for it is past one o'clock.

Saturday 20

Went down to the railway station with my father in the afternoon. Then went and took a stroll through the new docks which are being made at present. Went round the harbour and took a look at the shipping. Came home to tea about six o'clock. Went in the town again for an hour or two. Put eight pounds in the bank and bought an album for holding portraits in.

Sunday 21

Took a walk in the Baxter Park this morning before breakfast. Went to Wallacetown Free Church in the forenoon, Free St Andrews in the afternoon. Read a while after tea Hawes's Commentary on the Song of Solomon and Mr Charles's letter. Went through the Park again and out Stobsmuir Road and happened to meet Margaret Packman with whom I came home and have spent about two hours in idle gossip which might have been employed in useful reading.

AUGUST 1864

Monday 22

Went to the town on some small errands where I spent the greater part of the evening.

Tuesday 23

Spent the evening at home in reading and arithmetic. Annoyed about an hour with a young lass, for whose company I had no relish.

Wednesday 24

Called on Mr and Mrs Peter Kydd with whom I once lodged. Spent about an hour coming home in looking at the auctioneers on the High Street and could not help thinking that were one to hear them, without seeing or knowing what they were, one would not believe that they were other than a pack of madmen.

Thursday 25

Working tonight till a quarter to nine o'clock.

Friday 26

Dundee Fair and annual holidays. Happened to meet Margaret Wright tonight with whom I went along to Ward Foundry,^[2] where her brother was working. Then took a look through the sweetie stalls on High Street and Reform Street with her. Came up to her Aunt's, Mrs Weir; stopped too long for the train and had to go down to Monifieth with her. A most beautiful moonlight night, which with the public lights here I was admiring coming home, where I arrived between 2 and 3 o'clock, but must be excused as it is the Fair day.

Saturday 27

My landlady went away to Glasgow this morning and is to stay till Monday night, so I will have to be my own cook till then, which is a job I don't like. Wrought tonight till 12 o'clock.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Sunday 28

Lay in my bed this morning, to my shame I must say, till 9 o'clock and then made some breakfast, of which I must say I made a very bad job. Went to Wallacetown Church, felt somewhat drowsy during the sermon, which was on the whole not over well fitted to arouse a drowsy hearer and was as short as it was dry; the whole service lasted only an hour and ten minutes. I then went and took a walk in the Baxter Park, where I sat for a long time and admired the beautiful view of the Tay and the adjoining coast of Fife. As I felt a little fatigued after last night's work I did not go to church again. Read a few psalms in the Park, came home between 3 and 4 and spent the rest of the night in reading. A sort of loneliness has come over me once or twice during the course of the evening and I could not keep from thinking that if I had a home of my own and a true friend with whom I could share my joys and sorrows that I would live much happier than I can do in lodgings, but I don't see things so clear before me yet to justify me in taking that step and the object of my choice does not feel herself at liberty either to give me her hand as yet, so we must put our trust in God, who knoweth what is best for us all, that he will provide all things for us in their right time and place. As I have to be at my work again at 12 o'clock I have not gone to bed at all.

Monday 29

Never stopped work till 9 o'clock on the morning of the 30th.

Tuesday 30

Got the rest of the day to myself. Went down the town about midday and took a look round the harbour, then went to see the shows, which are here on the occasion of the Fair, and must say I was disgusted at the appearance of some of them outside and I suppose the inside was no better. There were machines there for telling you your weight, the force of blow that you could give an enemy, the strength of your wind and,

AUGUST 1864

as the exhibitors say, all the greatest wonders of the known world. One was exhibiting an extraordinary large ferret and rat and the only real gorilla alive in England. There were swinging boats and hobby horses in abundance and judging by the photographic salons one would think all the Dundonians have surely got a shadow of themselves now. I went over to Newport at 4 o'clock and took a walk down the water-side; was delighted with the view of the river from that side, which I think is far better than from Dundee. Came home between 7 and 8 and must say I was ready for my bed then.

Wednesday 31

Wrote a few lines of a letter to my brother George and brought forward this book which has been back for some nights.

SEPTEMBER

Thursday 1

Spent the evening in reading and writing.

Friday 2

Had a visit of John Wright and spent the evening in interesting conversation with him.

Saturday 3

Got stopped work at 1 o'clock this afternoon to give us an opportunity of seeing the Prince and Princess of Wales who embarked here this afternoon for Denmark. Got a good sight of them as they passed along Dock Street, especially of the Prince whom I would easily have recognised by the portraits which I have seen of him.^[3] Went out to the Kellas after the procession was over, from thence to my father's at Panmure Monument.^[4]

Sunday 4

Came in by the way of Kellas on Sunday night and got a short conversation with Anne Sturrock but could have taken one I don't know how much longer. Got company the rest of the way with J. Wright and got home about 9 o'clock.

Monday 5

Wrought till 12 o'clock at Scott's, Perth Road.^[5]

Tuesday 6

Called on John Gibson at Mrs McHardy's.

Wednesday 7

Called on John Wright and spent the evening with him.

SEPTEMBER 1864

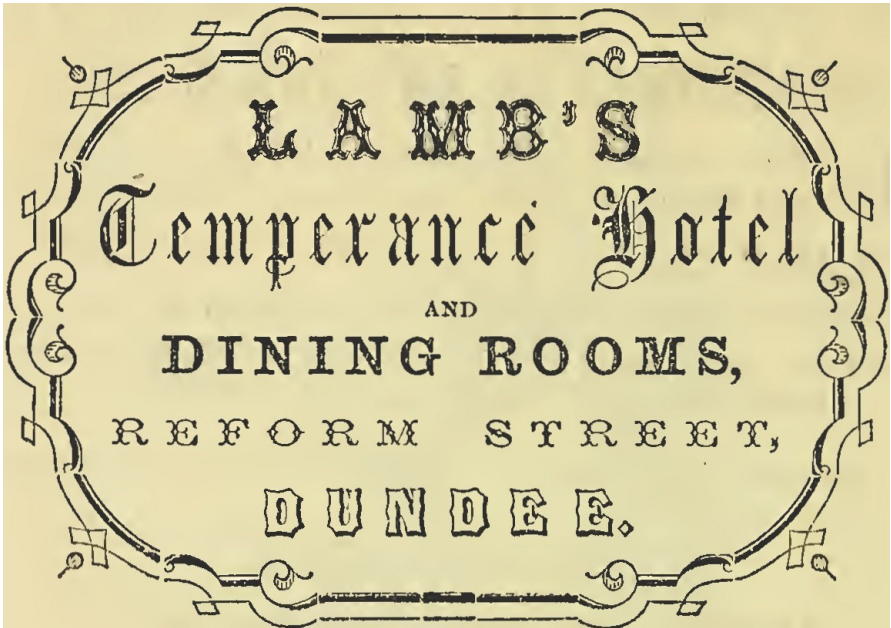


Fig. 3 An advertisement for Lamb's Temperance Hotel, where Sturrock attended a meeting about the YMCA (12 September 1864) and the Scottish Reformation Society's annual soiree (14 February 1865). From *The Post Office Dundee Directory ... for 1864-65*, Dundee, 1864, xlv. (Reproduced courtesy of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland)

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Thursday 8

Was along at Mr Crockett's, ironmonger,^[6] where I happened to meet Mary and Ann Findlay. Went along with Mary at her residence, Airlie Place, where I spent the evening.

Friday 9

Wrote and went to the Post Office with a letter to Anne Sturrock, Kellas. Then read about an hour and a half at Walter Scott's *Poems*. It is now half twelve o'clock.

Saturday 10

Went down to the railway station to meet my brother George whom I was expecting. Waited for him till I thought he was not coming. Came up and took a walk in the Baxter Park, where a flower show was being held to celebrate the anniversary of the opening.^[7] Met my brother about half eight and afterwards went through the principal streets of the town with him, also the Watt Museum, and got home between 10 and 11.

Sunday 11

Got up at six o'clock and went to the top of the Law with my brother, where we got a most delightful view of the surrounding country. Went to Mr Ewing's church,^[8] then took a walk along the promenade at the shore. Then went through the Baxter Park and the Eastern Necropolis with him. Got some tea and went out with him the length of Claypots Castle. Went up to Baldovie Toll and along to Midmill. Waited a while for J. Wright and read a chapter or two of Ecclesiastes and was particularly struck with some of the verses. Got home about half past nine, read a while and went to bed.

Monday 12

Got a letter tonight from my cousin, Andrew Sturrock, with which I was particularly pleased. Was at a meeting in Lamb's Hotel,^[9] which was

SEPTEMBER 1864

held for the purpose of instituting a Young Men's Christian Association for the town of Dundee. Got an account of the origin of the first society from a Mr Harris of London, who has been connected with them from the beginning, and some illustrations of the many benefits which have accrued from them in other large towns. A committee was formed to call a larger meeting on an early night when the society will be instituted, which I hope will meet with all success which it most richly deserves. However it is now half past twelve and I must haste to bed.

Tuesday 13

Spent the evening alone in reading.

Wednesday 14

Went and joined the Watt Institution Library along with J. Wright and Alex Robertson. Took McClintock's *Researches after Sir John Franklin*.^[10] Took a stroll along the Nethergate after leaving the library and got home about ten o'clock.

Thursday 15

Wrought till eight o'clock, read a short time at McClintock and got to bed.

Friday 16

Wrought till eight o'clock, then went along with J. Wright and spent about an hour with the Miss Packmans.

Saturday 17

Stopped work at two o'clock, then spent some time in showing my sisters, Ann, Isabella and Mary, through the town. Came up to Mrs Arthur's and got tea, then left for Monifieth with the quarter to six train. Stopped a short time at our sister's, South Grange, and arrived at the Monument about half past eight.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Sunday 18

Went to church in the forenoon. Started for Dundee about five o'clock. Came by way of the Kellas, where I met Elizabeth Packman, who came home with me, where we arrived about half past eight.

Monday 19

Wrought till eight, then spent the rest of the evening in reading McClintock's *Researches*.

Tuesday 20

Wrought till eight, then read a while at the newspapers and McClintock.

Wednesday 21

Ditto 10 o'clock.

Thursday 22

Ditto.

Friday 23

Ditto. Received a letter from my father informing me that my brother George went to Aberdeen on Wednesday morning and listed with the 98th Highlanders and that he has sent word to them not to seek after him as he will not leave them, and as he listed once before and was bought off, it will be best to let him get his heart's content of them now. The shock which it has given my dear mother I am afraid will be too much for her.

Saturday 24

Got stopped work at two o'clock, then went along to Roger's and stood for my carte de visite.^[11] Then took the train to Monifieth on my way to the Monument. Found my mother a good deal troubled about my brother's absence, but on the whole not so bad as I thought she would be.

SEPTEMBER 1864

Sunday 25

Came home on Sunday afternoon by way of Monifieth with my brother-in-law, William Hendry, and thence along the Ferry Road. Got a very bad night as it rained almost the whole of the road. Went along to the Post Office with a letter to my brother from my father and got Home about nine o'clock. Saw in an American newspaper at my father's on Saturday night of the death of one of my cousins in America from fever contracted in the army before Petersburg. He had a brother who fell before Richmond about a twelve months ago.^[12] They were both young men in the prime of life and their deaths must be a very sore bereavement to their family.

Monday 26

Wrought till 10 o'clock.

Tuesday 27

Ditto.

Wednesday 28

Got through with my later working last night at which I was very glad for I was heartily tired of it, in addition to it being a pretty stiff job which we were at, caging a heavy flywheel, which draws the sap out of one pretty well. Went in the town on some small errands after tea and read a short time at McClintock before going to bed.

Thursday 29

Spent the evening at home without doing anything in particular.

Friday 30

Went along to Mr Rodger's for my cartes de visite with which I must say I am pretty well pleased. Then went to the library to exchange my book and got a treatise on the marine engine. Got home about eight o'clock, took a look at my book and read a while at the newspapers before going

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

to bed. Got a letter from my father yesterday informing me that they had a letter from George and that he was heartily tired of the soldiers already and wishing he was off, which we are trying to accomplish.

OCTOBER

Saturday 1

Got a full hour to breakfast today which we are henceforth to get without any reduction of pay and also all the rest of the foundries in town. Stopped work at two o'clock, went along and took a walk up the Baxter Park, then in the town, where I was half expecting to see Anne Sturrock. Looked about where I thought there would be any chance of seeing her but alas! she was not to be seen, at which I was somewhat disappointed. Came home to tea about six o'clock and bought the *Sunday Magazine* as I came up, a new publication by Dr Guthrie.^[13] Then wrote a letter to Anne Sturrock expressing my disappointment at not seeing her and setting a night when I would be out to see her. Spent the rest of the evening in reading the *Sunday Magazine* and newspapers.

Sunday 2

Got up about seven o'clock and took a walk in the Baxter Park before breakfast. Went to Mr Ewing's church and heard Mr Gilfillan's monthly lecture in the evening. Also finished the reading of my *Sunday Magazine*. Went along the town a bit with J. Wright about nine o'clock and got to bed between ten and eleven.

Monday 3

Went along with my fellow lodger, Mungo Smith, to Free St Andrews, Mr Ewing's church, to take a seat, but found that the meeting was postponed till tomorrow night. Went down for a short time to a sale of books in Reform Street. Got home between eight and nine, then brought forward this book which was back for some nights and now must get to bed, for it is eleven o'clock.

Tuesday 4

Started to the Kellas after I got my tea, but by a stupid blunder of my

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

own in not spelling Tuesday right, I was disappointed. I spelt it 'Thues' ... which caused Anne to mistake it for Thursday, although she has told me since then that she read it over and over again to assure herself that she was right. As I deserved, I got a cold stand for my carelessness and had to trudge home again without getting anything to cheer me up, but not in the least angry with or blaming her at being disappointed.

Wednesday 5

Went along to Mrs Packman's where I spent an hour or two and spent the rest of the evening in reading.

Thursday 6

Did not get stopped work till half past two on the morning of Friday 7 October, and as I had to be off early again I did not go to bed at all. Started at quarter to five along with James Sturrock, Kellas, who occupied my bed all night, for the farm of Dryburgh to fire and attend to a portable engine and threshing machine. Got home about seven o'clock, then went along to the foundry about eight to get some orders from my foreman but did not see him. Was not long home when my manager's wife came along with them, and also Elizabeth Packman with whom I went along to her mother's and stopped till ten o'clock.

Saturday 8

Out at Dryburgh again. Did not get through till half past six. Got home at eight, dressed myself and went out to the Kellas with James Sturrock, where we arrived about half past ten.

Sunday 9

Did not get up till about nine o'clock, then went to church and had a sermon from Mr Boyd on the vanity of seeking true happiness in any other thing than serving God. Took a walk with Anne Sturrock after dinner with whom I spent the most of the afternoon very happily. Came home with J. Wright where I arrived between eight and nine.

OCTOBER 1864

Monday 10

Went along to my manager's, Mr John Sturrock's house with a message from the Kellas. Came home about nine, then wrote a letter to the Rev. Mr Leslie, Arbroath, asking him to send me my certificate of church membership, then brought forward this book and got to bed about twelve o'clock.

Tuesday 11

Went along to Airlie Place and put a lock on Mary Findlay's chest, where I stopped till ten o'clock.

Wednesday 12

Wrought till ten o'clock.

Thursday 13

Ditto.

Friday 14

Ditto.

Saturday 15

Got stopped work at two o'clock then went out to my father's where I arrived about six o'clock (took the train to Monifieth).

Sunday 16

Did not get up till nine o'clock which I must say is a very bad way of spending the Sabbath morning and as I had a rather severe cold and a somewhat troublesome cough I did not go to church at all. Got home about eight o'clock, went in the town a bit with J. Wright and got to bed about eleven o'clock; but on the whole cannot say it was a well-spent day.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Monday 17

Went along after tea and met J. Wright at the Seminaries where we were intending to join an evening class for drawing, but owing I suppose to there being services in the church tonight, it being Thanksgiving Monday,^[14] there was no class. We then strolled about a while through the town, went into Mathers' Coffee House and had a pie and ginger beer and had a look at the newspapers.^[15] I also bought a large cravat to put on in mornings and evenings as they are getting somewhat cold now. Got home a little before ten and now spent about an hour in writing.

Tuesday 18

Spent the greater part of the evening in reading the newspapers, the bi-weekly *Advertiser*, which I sent off next morning to my uncle in America.

Wednesday 19

Got a commencement at the drawing school tonight. The hours of attendance are from half past seven to half past nine every alternate night for three months, fees six shillings, which is hardly twopence a night.

Thursday 20

Was intending to go out to the Kellas to see my Anne tonight but had to work till nine o'clock at which I was not very well pleased. But found when I came home a letter from Anne telling me not to come tonight which was a little consoling as I then knew I had neither disappointed nor kept her waiting.

Friday 21

Wrought till nine o'clock tonight.

Saturday 22

Had to work till six o'clock. Then spent the rest of the evening at the fire-side reading. I was intending to have gone and seen Anne tonight

OCTOBER 1864

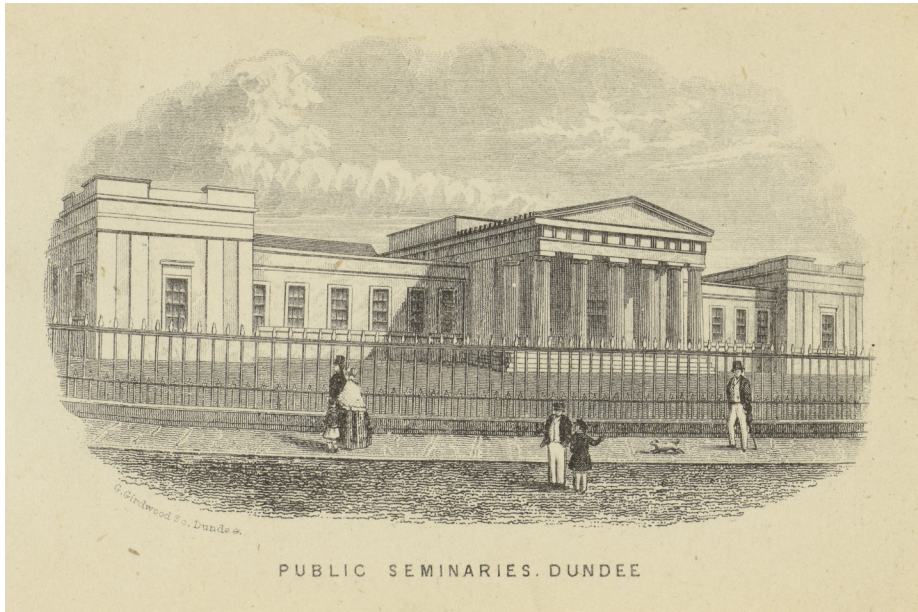


Fig. 4 The Public Seminaries, where Sturrock intermittently attended drawing classes. From Maxwell, C. *A Historical and Descriptive Guide to Dundee*, Dundee, 1873, facing page 70. (Reproduced courtesy of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland)

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

but the weather said no, for it has poured down rain the whole day from morning to evening as long as I saw it. So we must console ourselves the best we can for a few nights longer.

Sunday 23

Got up about eight o'clock and as it is still continued to rain I did not take a walk before breakfast which I usually do. Went and heard the Rev. Mr Ewing in the forenoon and afternoon. Spent the morning and interval in reading Dr Guthrie's *Sunday Magazine*. Commenced to write a letter after tea to Anne, but was hardly commenced when J. Wright came in [and] with whom I spent about two hours in conversation on different subjects, then finished my letter, read a chapter and went to bed between eleven and twelve.

Monday 24

Wrought till ten o'clock.

Tuesday 25

Ditto.

Wednesday 26

Wrought till nine o'clock.

Thursday 27

Got off at six, then went along to Mrs McHardy's to see John Gibson, where I stopped till ten o'clock, then took two hours at the drawing.

Friday 28

Wrought till ten o'clock.

Saturday 29

Got off at two o'clock. Did not go out till seven. Spent the afternoon at the newspapers and doing small jobs at the tailoring business. Oh for

OCTOBER 1864

one, I need not say who, to do them for me! Stopped about an hour and a half in the town and spent the rest of the evening in reading and drawing till almost twelve o'clock.

Sunday 30

Got up a little before eight. Went to the Baxter Park before breakfast. Then went and heard Mr Ewing in the forenoon. Went out the length of Stobs Toll between the services with J. Wright, and I, hurrying back to go to church, who should I meet coming along the street here but my Anne who being in the town today had been calling on me when I was out. I was most agreeably surprised at seeing her and as my landlady and bedfellow were both away at church I brought her back for a short time. We then went along to Mrs Packman's as her brother George and Miss Dykes were there. They started about five o'clock for home. I went out to Stobswell with them. I also got her carte de visite from her tonight. Spent the rest of the evening in reading, except a while's conversation with J. Wright.

Monday 31

Wrought all night.

NOVEMBER

Tuesday 1.11.64

Went to the library with my book and did some other small errands coming home, where I arrived a little past eight and as I was somewhat tired after last night's work I was not long in going to bed.

Wednesday 2

Wrought till eight, but cannot say I then did anything before going to bed.

Thursday 3

Wrought till eight, then had a while's writing before going to bed.

Friday 4

Wrought till eight and then had a while at the drawing.

Saturday 5

Got stopped at two o'clock, then went out to my father's.

Sunday 6

Did not get up till about nine o'clock. Went to church in the forenoon and started at five o'clock to come home. Came in by the Kellas and got an opportunity to chat a while with Anne. Came in with J. Wright and Margaret Packman. Went along to her mother and stopped a while and got home about ten o'clock. Got a newspaper at my father's today from an old sweetheart now married in New Zealand.

Monday 7

Eight o'clock again and expect to be so all the week. Spent the rest of the evening reading the New Zealand news.

NOVEMBER 1864

Tuesday 8

Eight o'clock again, then sat down to have a while at the news but slept the most of the time. I may also say that this is my birthday which makes me twenty four years of age. How time flies! It seems little more than a few weeks since I remember telling some of my playmates that I was nine years old! And was proud of it too, thought I was something then. Alas! Poor mortals! We are all rather prone to think we are something more than what we actually are.

Wednesday 9

Eight o'clock again. Then wrote, and went to the Post Office with a letter to James Keay, a millwright with whom I am acquaint, giving him from my foreman an offer of a job at Lilybank Foundry.

Thursday 10

Got off at six o'clock tonight and then spent the evening at Mrs Packman's in company with the Misses Packman and a few acquaintances in some little amusements on the occasion of Hallowe'en.

Friday 11

Got off at six o'clock and as this is one of the nights that the drawing class meets I ought to have been there, but as my landlady and fellow lodger had a number of their friends and acquaintances invited tonight to have a little sport on the occasion of Hallowe'en, I could not with propriety go away. We had a first rate evening's amusement which we kept up till between one and two o'clock. We then, to the number of five couples, went out to the Baxter Park and had a reel in the Pavilion. Came back and separated at the end of Victoria Street. I had to go along to Barrack Street with a Miss Anderson, a milliner, and got home at three o'clock.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Saturday 12

Got through at two o'clock. Then went out with Elizabeth Packman to the Kellas where there was also a little sport on the occasion of Hallowe'en, which is tonight. We broke up between ten and eleven. I spent an hour most happily with Anne. It is most delightful to have a true and loving friend with whom one can spend an hour now and then. It helps to drive away the cares and troubles of our daily life and seems a foretaste of that happiness which I yet hope to enjoy with one I dearly love, I need not say who.

Sunday 13

Did not get up, to my shame I must say, till past nine o'clock. Went and heard the Rev. Mr Boyd from whom we got a good sermon on Mary choosing the one thing needful. Alas! how few of us even think of that one thing while we are blessed with health and strength. Spent most of the afternoon chatting with Anne and Elizabeth Packman. We got a somewhat wet and dirty night to come home in. Stopped a short time at Mrs Packman's and got home a little before ten o'clock.

Monday 14

Wrought till ten o'clock. Then took a while at this book bringing it up. My bed-fellow and I had a pretty long discussion on the virtues and qualities which a good wife ought to possess. We are both of the opinion that we would be much better of a good wife, but neither of us will have one in a hurry for all that I think. But all things considered I intend to have one as soon as possible to. Got to bed at one o'clock.

Tuesday 15

Wrought till ten o'clock. Then had a little more writing and got to bed at twelve o'clock.

NOVEMBER 1864



Fig. 5 The pavilion in Baxter Park, where Sturrock spent the early hours of 12 November 1864 dancing with companions. (Reproduced courtesy of Libraries, Leisure and Culture, Dundee)

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Wednesday 16

Got stopped at six and got to the drawing class for the first time since I joined it on the 19th October. Then brought forward my time book in which I am keeping a note of what I am working at and also the extra time that I work and the time I am paid for.

Thursday 17

Wrote and went to the Post Office with a letter to J. Wright who met with a rather sad accident on Friday the 11th. His foot was caught and the toes nearly torn away by the eccentric of a steam engine that he was working at.^[16] He was taken out to his father's the same day and I have been very careless in not sending a few lines ere this time to enquire for him, neither going myself to see him, especially as I was at the Kellas which is within ten minutes' travel of his father's. Cleaned my drawing tools after I came home and did some other little nicknacks and got to bed about eleven o'clock.

Friday 18

Got to the drawing class again. Then wrote a little before going to bed about twelve o'clock. Received a most welcome letter tonight from one of my cousins in America, Barbara Sturrock, in which she was telling me of the death of one of her brothers, who was in the army, after suffering eight weeks from fever contracted in the camp before Petersburg. He is the second brother who has lost his life since the commencement of the war. I also got a note from my father telling me that my brother George, who listed some time ago, got home on Saturday and that William, who has not been very well for some time, is not like to get much better yet, poor fellow.

Saturday 19

Got off at two o'clock, then took the train to Monifieth on my way to see my brother James at Buddon Stables, with whom I stopped all night.

NOVEMBER 1864

Sunday 20

Got up about eight o'clock, then came along about midday, to see my sister Clementina where I stopped all afternoon. Left at six o'clock to come home. Called on Margaret Wright as I came past but she happened to be out. Got home about eight o'clock and to bed at half past ten.

Monday 21

Wrought in the shop till ten o'clock after working till six at Schleselman's factory,^[17] Pole Park, putting up shafting at cogwheel for him after six. Took a look at the papers after I came home and got to bed at twelve o'clock.

Tuesday 22

At cogwheel again till ten o'clock, then took a while at the pen. Got to bed at twelve.

Wednesday 23

Ditto. Wrought till five o'clock in the morning.

Thursday 24

Ditto. Wrought till ten o'clock.

Friday 25

Got off at six and very glad of it. Then wrote, and went to the Post Office with a letter to Anne and took a while at this book, bringing it up before going to bed.

Saturday 26

A quarter to three till I got off tonight. Then went out to my father's at Panmure Monument.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Sunday 27

Did not get up till about nine o'clock again. Went to church in the afternoon. Then went along to my brother David's at Panmure Cottages after dinner, where I got my tea. Came home by the Kellas as usual, where Anne was anxiously awaiting my coming. Had a while's conversation with her, then went in and had a talk with her father who, I think, is beginning to be aware of my intentions towards his daughter. I was afraid for some time that he would be opposed to our union but am beginning to change my mind now and would fain hope that things will turn out to be all that we could desire yet. Came in by James Wright's and found that John's foot was almost whole again. Got home at half past nine and got a very dark wet stormy night to come home in. It was heavy rain the whole way from Kellas to Dundee.

Monday 28

Wrought till past ten at Schleselman's factory.

Tuesday 29

Ditto. Till ten.

Wednesday 30

Ditto. Very tired tonight heaving up shafting and putting it in its place.

DECEMBER

Thursday 1

Wrought till twelve o'clock tonight to get started tomorrow.

Friday 2

Got started to-day when all went off pretty well. Got off at six, which is a sort of about now, and spent the evening in filling up my books which were both back for more than a week.

Saturday 3

Did not get off till a quarter past three. Then went in the town and bought some articles of clothing. A fancy woollen shirt, flannel for ditto, and a new coat. Came home to tea between six and seven. Took a look at the newspapers and went in the town again for my coat as I had not money with me the last time to pay for it. Came home a little past nine. Sat down to the newspapers and did not get to bed till almost twelve o'clock.

Sunday 4

Did not get up till nine o'clock again, a very bad habit which I am getting into, which I must try and shake off. Went and heard Mr Ewing forenoon and afternoon but felt drowsy and listless at both services. Took a walk down to the shore, along the promenade and out the Nethergate a bit between the services. My bed-fellow had a Mr and Mrs McLean, friends of his, at tea with him tonight with whom I spent a while in conversation. I then went along to hear Miss Armstrong, the lady preacher,^[18] in the Corn Exchange but cannot say what sort of a sermon it was as I could not hear, but by what I did hear and see I think she is a first class speaker. J. Wright came in tonight to commence work tomorrow as his foot has got pretty right again. Read a while at the *Sunday Magazine* before going to bed about eleven o'clock.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK



Fig. 6 An interior view of the Dundee Corn Exchange, where Sturrock attended a number of events. From Maxwell, C. *A Historical and Descriptive Guide to Dundee*, Dundee, 1873, facing page 78. (Reproduced courtesy of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland)

DECEMBER 1864

Monday 5

Got to the drawing tonight, then wrote a little before going to bed between eleven and twelve, which is my general bed-time.

Tuesday 6

Wrote a letter to my cousin Andrew Sturrock, gardener at Skelmorlie Castle near Greenock.

Wednesday 7

Got to the drawing again. Then wrote a little after coming home.

Thursday 8

Went along to the Scouringburn to see J. Wright and I found that he had not been able to be at his work all day from a disordered stomach and a sore head. But he was better then and thinking to go to his work next morning. Had a letter from my father today in which he was telling me that my brother William had got another son and also that my eldest brother, Alexander, had been laid up with a rheumatic fever some days since, which I earnestly hope he may easily get over. I may also state that I bought a small locket tonight in which I intend to give my portrait to Anne as a New Year's present.

Friday 9

At drawing class tonight.

Saturday 10

Went along to Mr Rodger's after dinner, intending to stand for my portrait, but it was too dull and dark for it tonight. Went down to the shore and took a look through the shipping. Came up through the fish market and got home about five o'clock, then spent the rest of the evening at the fireside in reading the newspapers and writing part of the letter being a few lines for Anne. Got to bed about eleven o'clock.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Sunday 11

Got up at half past eight. Went to Mr Ewing's church in the forenoon, Mr Adamson's, Wallacetown, in the afternoon, who I must say is in my opinion a dry preacher. I was intending to go and hear Miss Armstrong in the evening but was prevented by J. Wright coming in, as we must always have an hour or two's conversation when we get the opportunity. We had almost two hours tonight on two or three different subjects. I then went and heard Mr McGregor of Free St Peter's, who delivered a sermon in Mr Bewick's chapel, Bell Street, on behalf of the newly formed Young Men's Christian Association. He gave a most eloquent and impressive sermon on Romans 14, 7 and 8: 'For no man liveth to himself and no man dieth to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord'. It would be well for us if we would keep those words more in mind than we do but alas! our gilty hearts will think of nothing but this world and its vanities.

Monday 12

At the drawing class tonight.

Tuesday 13

Spent the evening at home in reading and writing.

Wednesday 14

At the drawing class again.

Thursday 15

Went on the town and bought some little articles. Came home between eight and nine. Then took a turning about among my clothes and spent the rest of the evening in arranging them and other stuff in my chest.

Friday 16

Wrought all night at the foundry putting up shafting for connecting, also the new engine for driving the work, also all Saturday the 17th, till

DECEMBER 1864

twelve o'clock at night. My sister Ann who was in town came up when I was at my dinner, expecting to get me home with her, and as I thought I might get off at six o'clock, she stopped till then for me and as I could not get away, she stopped all night with Mrs McHardy.

Sunday 18

Got up at half past eight, got some breakfast and went along to Mrs McHardy's but found they were only new up. Left for the Monument with my sister at half past ten and arrived at one o'clock. They were all there but my oldest brother, Alexander, [who] has been laid up for two weeks past with rheumatic fever and is no better yet. Came home by the Kellas and had a while's conversation with Anne, and arrived home in company with J. Wright a little past nine.

Monday 19

My brother-in-law, William Benny from Monifieth, came in when I was at my tea, asking if I had seen Ann on Saturday, as she had been stopping with them for some days before and was intending to go back on Saturday night when she left them. As my brother George, who was seeing them on Sunday, said she was not at the Monument on Saturday night, they were afraid that she had done what she once did before, run away. But happily I was able to give them evidence to the contrary. I then went down to the Station with him and thence along to Mr Rodger's. Came home and sat down to have a while at the newspapers, but soon fell asleep as I was somewhat tired after so much work on Friday and Saturday and travelling on Sunday.

Tuesday 20

Went along to the Packman's with J. Wright, where we spent the evening.

Wednesday 21

Spent the evening at home in bringing forward my journals.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Thursday 22

Spent the evening at home in drawing.

Friday 23

Was at a supper tonight in the Albion Hotel with some fellow workmen, the manager and all the foremen connected with the engine work on the occasion of these engines starting, where we spent a very agreeable evening till 11 o'clock.

Saturday 24

Went down to the public baths after dinner and had a warm bath and a cold shower, which I think I will be a great deal better of. Then bought some trifles and came home to tea or rather I should say coffee, which I prefer to tea, about six o'clock. Got a pair of everyday boots tonight also with which I am very well pleased both in appearance and price, which is thirteen shillings and sixpence. Spent the evening after six o'clock at home in writing a letter to Anne and reading the newspapers.

Sunday 25

Got up at eight o'clock and took a walk the length of the Eastern Necropolis before breakfast. Went to St Mary's Roman Catholic chapel this afternoon in which it being Christmas Day solemn high mass was performed at noon, which in my opinion is a piece of the merest trumpery that ever I saw. I could not help wondering to myself when the priests were going through their ceremonies and manoeuvres if they actually believed such ceremonies were acceptable to God. For myself I must say that I was little other than disgusted with them. Went home and heard Mr Ewing in the afternoon and felt somehow or other that I was home again, or at least more where I should be, when I got in Free St Andrews. Got an excellent sermon from Mr Ewing, which he closed with the words, 'Go to Christ now this very night. Tomorrow may be too late.' Most solemn words certainly if we could only keep them in

DECEMBER 1864

mind, but alas! the depravity of our hearts will not allow us to think of words so much to the point as these. Spent the evening after tea at home principally in reading.

Monday 26

Went along to the drawing school but found there was no class tonight. Got home again about eight and spent the most part of the evening at the needle, doing some small jobs at the tailoring business.

Tuesday 27

Spent the evening at home and did nothing in particular except giving a walking stick which I am finishing for my brother David a rub of sandpaper.

Wednesday 28

Went along to Mrs McHardy's expecting to see her son Patrick who is over from Liverpool seeing her at present. But he happened to be out so I did not see him. Came home about ten o'clock.

Thursday 29

Wrought till eight o'clock, and as I was intending to have gone out to the Kellas to see Anne tonight, I wrote a letter to her after I got home telling her the reason I could not get out tonight.

Friday 30

Had to work all night.

Saturday 31

Had to work till twelve o'clock at night. Another year is now past. Another measure of time is gone. Gone forever beyond our reach and whether we have improved it or trifled it away there is now no remedy. Oh! that we would keep this in mind more than we do. It would keep us from doing many a thing which we afterwards wish we had never done.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Grant O God that we may keep it more in mind in the present than we have done in the year that is now past.

1865

JANUARY

Sunday 1

Slept this morning till half past ten and being still somewhat tired and also four or five inches of snow on the ground I did not go to church today. I was not in fact beyond the door the whole day. Spent the most part of it in reading the *Sunday Magazine* but was like to take a nap sometimes. Got my tea in company with a few friends of my landlady's with whom I spent two hours or so very pleasantly. Had also a short chat with J. Wright and went to bed at half past eight, as I had to be at my work at twelve o'clock again.

Monday 2

Had to work till eleven o'clock tonight.

Tuesday 3

Wrought all night.

Wednesday 4

Got through with my extra work at this time at six o'clock this morning and very happy at it. I now intend to have the rest of the week to myself

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

and have a little enjoyment also on the occasion of Auld Yule, which I intend to spend at home among my friends. To begin with I called on Mrs McHardy after breakfast time and then went in the town and bought some trifles and took a look about me for some time, as there was not a train to Monifieth till ten minutes to one. Called on my sister Clementina at the South Grange and got home to my father at five o'clock and as I was both tired and sleepy by that time I went to my bed about seven and lay till a quarter to nine next morning.

Thursday 5

Yule Day. Went along in the forenoon to my brother David's at Panmure and then to Alexander's at Guildy who I am sorry to say has been laid up with a rheumatic fever for five weeks now and little or no prospect of him getting any better yet. Went back to the Monument again and started for the Kellas at three o'clock, where I arrived about half five, and got my tea with Anne and her father with whom I spent part of the evening most happily. Then went up with Anne and her brother James and his wife to their home where we spent another two or three hours most delightfully and got to bed about twelve o'clock.

Friday 6

Spent the whole forenoon one way or another here and started at twelve for my brother William's at Greystone, Carmyllie. Called on David Sturrock at Lucieslap [*i.e.* Luckyslap] as I passed, where I got dinner. Then on to his brother Alexander and his mother, who was my apprentice mistress and a good one I must say she was to me. I was very kindly treated by them all and invited back again to see them. Arrived at my brother's at five o'clock, who I am sorry to say is nothing better yet, but I don't think he is any worse either. Got my tea with him and his wife from Peter Cameron, his next door neighbour. Then called on my aunt Margaret and her husband, James Murray, who I am sorry to say has had a slight stroke of paralysis which has disfigured his face a little. Otherwise they are both quite well.

JANUARY 1865

Saturday 7

Stopped here till midday then started for my father's. Spoke in to Mrs Lumgair's on my way south and also my brother Alexander who is nothing better yet. Called and paid John Spalding, tailor, for some clothes making and got home a little before dark about as tired as though I had been working hard all the week. Attempted to read once or twice in the course of the evening but it always ended in a sleep. Went to bed between ten and eleven.

Sunday 8

Got up about eight o'clock. Went to church and heard a good sermon from Mr McIntyre although to my shame I must say that tonight, Wednesday, I remember little or nothing about it. Started at half past four for Dundee. Came by the Kellas and had a while's conversation with William Sturrock and Anne, and then of course a while by ourselves. Got home about nine o'clock somewhat tired as the roads were very bad tonight. Got to bed about eleven.

Monday 9

Got commenced to work again this morning as usual. Was intending to have spent this evening at home, but J. Wright came in about eight o'clock, with whom I went along to Mrs Packman's where we stopped till half past ten. Went along to the Cowgate with him. Took half an hour at the pen when I came home and got to bed at twelve o'clock.

Tuesday 10

Went in the town for some trifles but mainly for a locket and portrait from Mr Rodger's, with which I must say I am highly pleased. Went up to Mrs McHardy's when I came home (as I got a locked door here) and had a crack with John Gibson. Came home at ten o'clock, took a while at the pen and got to bed between eleven and twelve, my usual time.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Wednesday 11

Had a whole evening writing, bringing up this book.

Thursday 12

Spent the evening in reading and writing.

Friday 13

Finished, and went along to the letter box with a letter which I commenced at dinner time for Anne telling her that I could not be out tomorrow night as I intended, as I have to go to Dunblane tomorrow morning. Trifled away the rest of the evening and did nothing in particular.

Saturday 14

Started this morning at ten minutes to eight for Dunblane, where I arrived about half past ten, to do some repairs on the shafting of Alex. Wilson and Co.'s woollen mill. Commenced at two o'clock and wrought till twelve.

Sunday 15

Lay in bed till half past nine, then started between ten and eleven to see the Wallace Monument, which is about four miles from Dunblane. Passed through the Bridge of Allan which is a most beautiful and romantic little village consisting almost entirely of a first class style of houses fitted up for the convenience of summer visitors, of which it receives an immense number during the summer months. The Monument is situated about two miles south-east of Stirling on a bold lofty eminence known as the Abbey Craig. It is built in a bold warlike-looking style, very strong and altogether well worthy of its object. It is about 150 ft high at present and is to be 200 when finished. It will be a noble monument for a noble man. We went into a hotel at the foot of the Craig when we came down to get some refreshment which appeared to be a regular drinking shop

JANUARY 1865

on Sunday. There were three sitting drinking in the room to which we were shown with whose conversation I was perfectly disgusted. As we were within two miles of Stirling we then took a walk that length and got a look through the castle which is a fine strong ancient building, the west side of which is situated on the very brink of what I would call an inaccessible precipice. There is a most beautiful little cemetery adjoining the Castle which we next took a look of. I think it is one of the most beautiful spots that ever I saw. It is very rocky and romantic and adorned with some noble monuments and statues. Most prominent among the former stands the Martyrs' Monument erected in memory of those who shed their blood for their religion and their liberty. Among the latter are John Knox and several other noble Scotchmen. There is a most beautiful view got from the cemetery as well as the Castle, in which one of the most conspicuous objects is the beautiful River Forth winding in numberless sweeps and curves which it is hardly possible to trace on its south-eastward course towards the ocean. We then went round the Castle Hill which is skirted the whole way round with a nice walk, which is a favourite walk with the good folks of Stirling, crossed the bridge which spans the Forth and turned our faces homewards, where we arrived at seven o'clock, for myself well-pleased with what I had seen but not so well with such a manner of spending the Sabbath, which to say the least of it is far from right. As we had to be at our work again by twelve we got to bed about eight.

Monday 16

Wrought till midnight again.

Tuesday 17

Wrought till half past two in the morning.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK



Fig. 7 The old town cemetery and castle, Stirling, which Sturrock visited on 15 January 1865. The Martyrs' Monument (on the far left of the photograph) in particular attracted his attention, although its decorative cupola was not added until 1867. (Reproduced courtesy of the Trustees of the National Galleries of Scotland, NGS PGP R 2201.30)

JANUARY 1865

Wednesday 18

Got finished about breakfast time, then packed up our tools and took them to the station and as we did not get a train till ten minutes to two, we went up and got a sight of the ancient cathedral, which of itself is worth going a bit to see. It is about seven hundred and fifty years since it was founded and most of it is still in a pretty good state of preservation. There is a small part of it roofed in and used as the parish church. Of the rest there, desolation. We arrived home here in Dundee about five o'clock very cold and somewhat hungry, and kept pretty close to the fireside after I got down to it. In fact I slept the most part of the evening at it. Got to bed about ten o'clock.

Thursday 19

Spent the evening at the pen bringing forward this book.

Friday 20

Went out to Kellas tonight to see Anne with whom I spent part of the evening very happily. Got home a little past twelve o'clock.

Saturday 21

Had to work till twelve o'clock tonight fastening cogs in the flywheels of our foundry engine.

Sunday 22

Lay in bed till nine o'clock and was not outside of the door till I left for church at eleven o'clock. Went down to take a walk along the Marine Parade after service, where I met David Findlay and William Macdonald who had come in from the Kellas to get a sight of the town and as neither of them knew much about it I did not go to the church in the afternoon but went through the principal parts of the town with them, the Baxter Park included. We then came and got some tea and went along to Mrs Packman's, where we stopped till about seven o'clock when they set out

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

for the Kellas and I came home to my lodgings and as I had to be back to the cogs fastening again by twelve o'clock I went to my bed a little past eight. Was all morning to six o'clock at the cogs.

Monday 23

Spent the evening at my pen filling up my books.

Tuesday 24

Went to the town tonight and bought two hats, one for my father and another for my brother William, and then took a look about me for a while and got home a little before nine and finished up and varnished a walking stick for my brother David before going to bed.

Wednesday 25

Spent the most part of the evening at Mrs McHardy's.

Thursday 26

Spent the evening at home in reading and writing.

Friday 27

Trifled away the evening at two or three things without doing anything in particular.

Saturday 28

Got off at two o'clock tonight, dressed myself and went along to Mrs Packman's, where Anne and her sister-in-law, Mrs James Sturrock, were waiting me, with whom I went out to the Kellas and from thence to the Monument where I arrived a little past eight and found them all in the enjoyment of good health. My brother Alexander is also getting better again.

Sunday 29

Lazy in bed till nine o'clock again. Really I am getting very lazy on

JANUARY 1865

Sunday mornings but I must make an effort and shake it off again, for I am not at all pleased with myself for lying so long on Sabbath mornings. Heard an excellent sermon from Mr McIntyre on the words: 'Great is our Lord and of great power. His understanding is infinite'.^[19] He closed with the solemn admonition to call upon the Lord while he is to be found, for that time was with all short and uncertain and might with some of us be closed this very night, words which we all know to be true but which we will not act upon as if they were true. Came home by the way of the Kellas and had of course a crack with Anne and got home about half past ten.

Monday 30

Read a while at the newspapers, wrote a little and had a while's conversation with my fellow lodger.

Tuesday 31

Not being very well tonight I went to bed about seven o'clock and did not go to my work till ten next morning.

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 1

Went in the town a while tonight. Got home at half past eight, took a look at the *Sunday Magazine*, which I bought, wrote a little and got to bed about ten, about an hour earlier than usual.

Thursday 2

Spent the evening at the fireside without doing anything except reading a short time at Walter Scott's *Poems*.

Friday 3

Slept a good part of the evening at the fireside and read a little at Scott's *Poems*.

Saturday 4

Spent the afternoon at the newspapers. Went in the town at half past six and got home again a little past eight. Then wrote a little and read a little at Scott's *Poems* before going to bed.

Sunday 5

Lay till nine o'clock as usual and went to Free St Andrews in the forenoon and afternoon. Happened to see an old acquaintance, Bythinia Emers, at church in the forenoon, with whom I went along the Nethergate a bit. Went and heard the Rev. George Gilfillan's monthly lecture in the evening on the religious aspect of Ireland.^[20] Got home about eight o'clock and read a while at the *Sunday Magazine* before going to bed.

Monday 6

Working till ten o'clock tonight and will be for all the week.

Tuesday 7

Ditto.

FEBRUARY 1865

Wednesday 8

Ditto.

Thursday 9

Ditto.

Friday 10

Ditto.

Saturday 11

Got off at two o'clock and spent the afternoon at the newspapers. Then went in the town and happened to meet Elizabeth Packman, with whom I went along to her mother's and stopped till about ten o'clock. Then took a look at Crabbe's *Poems*^[21] which I bought tonight and also a Valentine for somebody. Got to bed about twelve o'clock.

Sunday 12

Got up at half past eight, half an hour earlier than usual. Went to Free St Andrews forenoon and afternoon, and heard a sermon in the evening by the Rev. Dr McGavin on behalf of the Young Men's Christian Association on 'Young Men – their Obligations and Blessings', and which the Rev. Doctor handled in a very eloquent and impressive manner.^[22] Happened to meet Helen Wright as I was coming home, with whom I turned and went a short way in the Nethergate. Got home a little before nine. Read a chapter and psalm and went to bed about ten.

Monday 13

Working till ten o'clock.

Tuesday 14

Took this evening to myself and went to the Scottish Reformation Society's annual festival or soiree,^[23] where I enjoyed myself nicely and was so highly pleased with the proceedings and object of the society that I intend to join it the first opportunity. Got home about eleven o'clock.

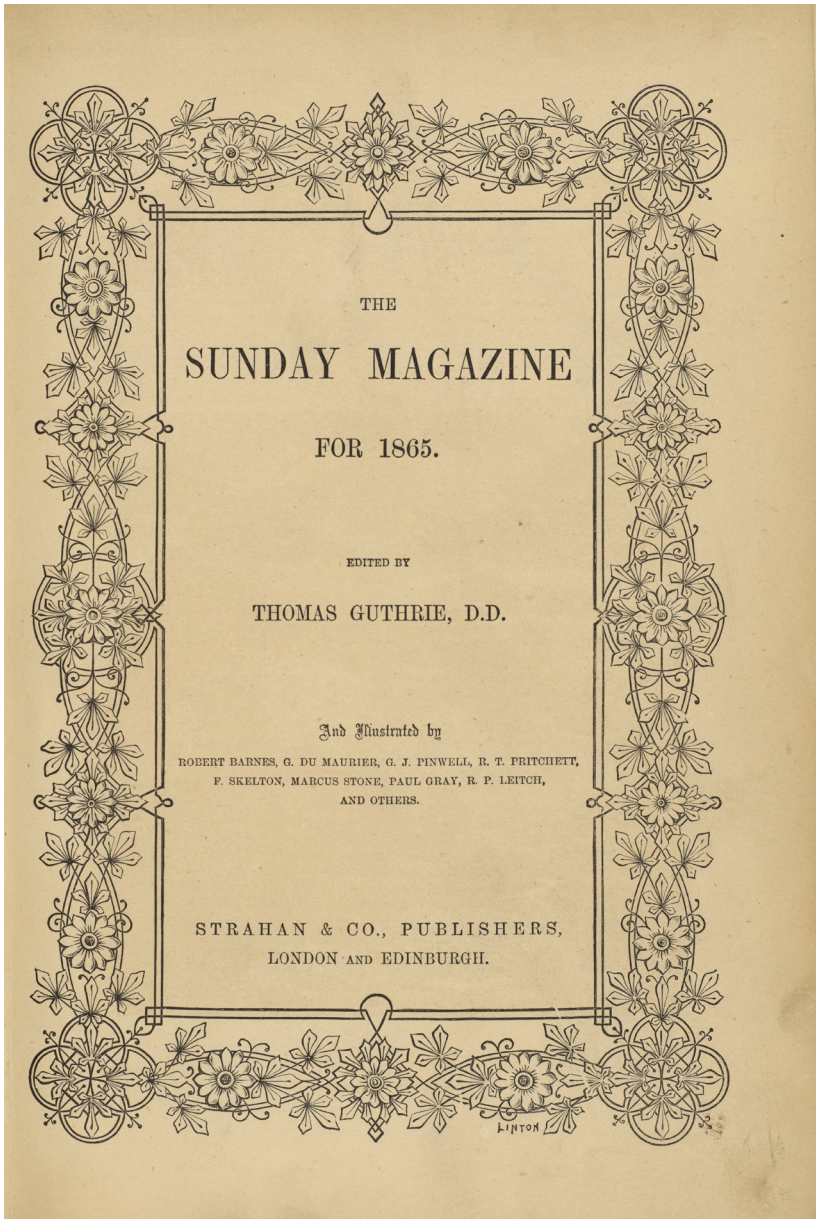


Fig. 8 The title page of the first edition of the *Sunday Magazine*. (Reproduced courtesy of the Trustees of the National Library of Scotland)

FEBRUARY 1865

Wednesday 15

Working till ten again.

Thursday 16

Ditto.

Friday 17

Ditto.

Saturday 18

Got off at two o'clock and then went out to my father's. Took the train to Monifieth and got a very coarse night to go up in, as it was a heavy snow almost the whole way and also three and four inches lying on the ground.

Sunday 19

Got up at half past eight and found it a fearful day of snow and drift which continued the whole day with little or no intermission, in consequence of which I did not get to church and had given up hopes of getting in to Dundee either. But it faired up about five o'clock and I started and got not such a bad night as I expected I would have got. Came in by the Kellas as usual where I stopped about an hour and a half and of course had two or three minutes of a crack with Anne. Got home at ten o'clock.

Monday 20

Working till ten o'clock again.

Tuesday 21

Ditto.

Wednesday 22

Ditto.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Thursday 23

Ditto.

Friday 24

Ditto.

Saturday 25

Got through at two o'clock and took a while at the newspapers after dinner. Then dressed and went down and had a look at the shipping in the harbour, then up and down a short time in the town and home to tea about six. Then took a look at the *Sunday Magazine* which I bought and went in the town again a little before eight and stopped about an hour and a half, wandering about here and there, having nothing to do in particular. Went up the Overgate and came down again and don't think I was ever so disgusted with it as I was tonight, for what with the smell of spirits and tobacco I thought I would have been choked before I got out of it and thought that I actually breathed more freely when I got upon the High Street again. Took a look at the newspapers again after I got home and went to bed a little before twelve.

Sunday 26

Got up at eight o'clock and intended having a walk before breakfast, but being a wet morning I did not go out. Went and heard Mr Ewing as usual forenoon and afternoon. Had a walk along the Marine Parade before coming home between the services. Went out after tea and had a walk round the Baxter Park in company with my bed-fellow. Was called in to J. Sturrock's as we were coming back, so went in and had a while's conversation with his mother, who was my apprentice mistress,^[24] about the changes that had been taking place about Luckyslap since I left it. Got home about eight o'clock and found Margaret Wright here with whom I went to Stobswell. Was home between nine and ten, read a chapter and psalm, and got to bed between ten and eleven.

FEBRUARY 1865

Monday 27

Got through at six o'clock and hope to do so all the week. Was intending to have a whole evening's writing, but a young lass, Catherine Goodwin, who stops directly above us and with whom we often have a while's conversation, we spent the evening till nine o'clock in conversation and amusement. We then went up with her to her father's to get a sight of her library of which she has a pretty good one, out of which I selected Dick's *Christian Philosopher* to have a read of in exchange for some of mine which she has been reading.^[25] Had of course a crack with her father and mother also, who were both very frank and friendly with us and appear to be a very well-living happy family indeed and one whose acquaintance I will be most happy to cultivate. But I must go to bed now, for it is past one o'clock and I have been scrawling away at the pen since a little before eleven.

Tuesday 28

Wrote a letter to my cousin Andrew Sturrock. My bed-fellow and I then sat and chatted together till almost 12 o'clock.

MARCH

Wednesday 1

Wrote a letter to my cousin Thomas Petrie and then one to Anne and did not get to bed till almost one o'clock.

Thursday 2

Was along at Mrs McHardy's and her daughter Mrs Arthur's tonight. Came home a little before ten and had almost half an hour's writing or so before going to bed.

Friday 3

Wrote a letter to my cousin Barbara Sturrock in America.

Saturday 4

Got off at two o'clock. Took a while at the newspapers after dinner and then went in the town and looked about me a while and went and had a warm bath at the public baths, which I really think I am the better of. Came home to a tea a little past six, spent a while more at the newspapers and some other trifles and then wrote a letter to my brother William at Carmyllie and did not get to bed till almost twelve o'clock.

Sunday 5

Got up about eight and was intending to have a walk before breakfast but it happened to be a wet morning and I did not go out. Went and heard Mr Ewing as usual in the forenoon. My bed-fellow and I then took a walk along the Marine Parade, then up and along the Nethergate and out the Perth Road a bit till church time as we were going to hear Mr McGregor of St Peters, from whom we got an excellent sermon from the words, 'Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel unto every creature', the duty of which he pointed out in a very striking and forcible manner. Met Helen Wright when I came out with whom I went along to the east end of the Magdalen Green where she is residing at

MARCH 1865

present. Went along after tea and heard the last of George Gilfillan's course of lectures on Ireland, which in my opinion he has handled in a very able and masterly manner. Got home about eight and had while's reading before going to bed about eleven.

Monday 6

Went out to the Kellas tonight to see somebody ...

Tuesday 7

Went in the town on some errands tonight. Got home at nine and did some writing before going to bed.

Wednesday 8

Got one of my eyes hurt today with a chip of metal, so much so that I can hardly open it at all especially in gaslight, so went to bed between seven and eight.

Thursday 9

Went to my work in the morning as usual but found it would not do, as I could not bear the light on my eye at all, so did not go back after breakfast time. Got a shade made to keep the light out of it and went along to Blackie and Son's office in the Nethergate with Scott's Bible to get bound for my sister Ann. Then went down to have a look at the shipping in the harbour, but found I could not look upon the water at all, so held along to the very east end of East Dock Street, up to the Ferry Road, went out a bit, then up to the Baxter Park and stopped in it till about two o'clock. Set out again about half past four and went out to the West Mains, then down the den and came in the toll road, and got home about six o'clock, and as I could not manage to read any I was not very long in getting to bed again.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Friday 10

Went to my work again today but was very bad at looking upon anything on which the sun was shining or which was of a light colour. Went down to the High Street in the evening for my dress hat which I was getting altered. Was home about eight o'clock and had then a while's conversation with my bed-fellow and a friend of his which was calling on him. Tried to write before going to bed but could not look so long upon the paper as I could write a complete word.

Saturday 11

Got off at two o'clock and went out to my father's. Took the train to Monifieth as usual and then got company to the Craigton with an old school-fellow, James Sheriff, a pattern maker in the East Foundry.

Sunday 12

Got up about eight o'clock and took a walk round the top of the hill before breakfast time. Went to church as usual and started for Dundee at half past six. Did not get an opportunity for a crack with Anne at all tonight, as Elizabeth Packman and Ann Findlay were both there, with whom I got company in. Went down to the Shore Terrace with Ann Findlay where we arrived exactly at ten o'clock. Got home and got to bed about eleven.

Monday 13

Went along to the Post Office Savings Bank but found it shut, so just turned and came home again and took a while at this book, filling up, which was back for three or four days. Then wrote a letter to J. Wright, who is at present in Brechin. Did not get to bed till almost twelve o'clock.

Tuesday 14

Working till ten o'clock again.

MARCH 1865

Wednesday 15

Ditto.

Thursday 16

Wrought all night.

Friday 17

Wrought till eight o'clock and got to bed by nine.

Saturday 18

Took a while at the newspapers after dinner. Went in the town a while and was home again by half past five. Went down again a little after seven and put some money in the bank. Stopped about an hour. Took a look at the newspapers again and did some writing before going to bed.

Sunday 19

Got up about half past seven but did not go out to have a walk before breakfast as it was a cold stormy morning with occasional showers of hail, which had continued the whole day. I accordingly took the nearest church in the forenoon – Mr Skene's Free Wallacetown – Mr McDougall's Chapelshade in the afternoon, and heard Mr McGregor in the evening who delivered a sermon in St Paul's on behalf of the National Bible Society, whose claims on public support he laid down in a very striking and forcible manner. Got home a little past eight and sat down to read, but somehow or other I could not put my thoughts upon reading, so I gave it up and gave scope to them and then had a while's conversation with my bed-fellow after he came in and got to bed at eleven o'clock.

Monday 20

Went in the town and got my hair cut. Was home again a little past eight and did some writing and some other little trifles before going to bed.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Tuesday 21

Wrote a few lines of a letter to Anne which I finished and went along to the letter box with by eight o'clock. Then employed myself till about ten o'clock in drawing a sketch of a vertical boring machine which I saw at Dunblane when I was there, which for simplicity and convenience is the best I have seen yet.

Wednesday 22

Went out to the Kellas to see my Anne tonight with whom I spent about two hours most delightfully. Started to come home about ten or a little past it and was overtaken by a cab about half roads and got a drive the rest of the way. Arrived at eleven o'clock but trifled about a while and also read some bits of Milton's *Paradise Lost* and did not get to bed till twelve.

Thursday 23

Went and saw Professor Pepper's Ghost or rather Ghosts tonight, which I think is one of the most wonderful and curious contrivances which ever I saw.^[26] You could almost swear sometimes that it was real living persons jumping and dancing about on the stage and appearing and disappearing you could not tell how, and in proof that they were shadows and not real persons you can see a real person through them and also one ghost through another. It is really one of the most perplexing exhibitions that ever I saw. Got home at ten o'clock, did some writing and did not get to bed till about twelve.

Friday 24

Spent the evening in drawing a sketch of a vertical boring machine or at least trying to do so.

Saturday 25

Took a while at the newspapers after dinner and did not go out till after

MARCH 1865

tea which I took about five o'clock. Went down and took a walk round the docks, came up and got some things I was in need of, and was home again by seven, and was just set down to have a quiet evening by myself at the fireside when James Sturrock, Kellas, came in and being on his way home he would have me to start with and bear him company which I accordingly did without much entreaty. We first went along to Mrs Packman's and stopped a while and got out to the Kellas a little past ten.

Sunday 26

Lay in bed till half past nine o'clock and being a cold spring day with some snow on the ground and occasional fierce showers of it I did not go far from the fireside till church time, when I went down and heard Mr Boyd, getting a seat as I always do when I got there with Anne and her father. Went down with James in the afternoon and spent two hours or so with them, where we all got our tea together, his wife and family being all there too. Started to come home about seven o'clock and was expecting to get J. Wright in with me, he having got home from Brechin on Thursday, but found him in bed with a bowel complaint which seized him on Saturday morning and with which he had been in bed all Sunday. Got home a little before half past ten and got to bed a little past it.

Monday 27

Took a while at my journal, filling up, a look at the newspapers and did some other little things.

Tuesday 28

Had a while's conversation with my bed-fellow after tea and spent the rest of the evening in reading Dick's *Christian Philosopher*.

Wednesday 29

Spent the evening in practising my hand at drawing.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Thursday 30

Read at the *Sunday Magazine* for April the most part of the evening.

Friday 31

Did a little at the drawing tonight but trifled away about an hour after tea without doing anything.

APRIL

Saturday 1

Got a rise of one shilling on my wages today which was perfectly unexpected. Got through at two and met my brother George as I was coming home, who was in search of a job, having got tired of the place he was at in the country. So after getting some dinner and dressing myself we set out to see if we could find one and happened to be successful at the second shop we tried. We then left per railway for Monifieth about half past five and arrived at the Monument a little past six o'clock.

Sunday 2

Did not get up till nine o'clock. Went out and had a walk round the wood and through the walks till almost church time. Took a look through the greenhouses in the afternoon and trifled through the rest as I generally do there without hardly reading a word. Started about five as usual to come in and got plenty of company after I came to the Kellas, as Eleanor and Margaret Packman, George Milne, and Mr and Mrs John Sturrock were all there, with whom I came in and landed about half past eight o'clock. Read a chapter and psalm and got to bed a little past ten.

Monday 3

Had about an hour's conversation on religion with my bed-fellow. After tea went along to Mrs McHardy's and stopped till ten o'clock with John Gibson, then started to my journal and books, filling up, and must now haste to bed for it is about half twelve o'clock.

Tuesday 4

Went along to a sale of furniture in the Corn Exchange Hall but not seeing the article I was in quest of, I did not stop above ten minutes or quarter of an hour, but went along and called on J. Wright, with whom I stopped till ten o'clock.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Wednesday 5

Had a good while's conversation with my bed-fellow after tea, then varnished the stock of his rifle for him, he being a member of the Highland Company of Volunteers.^[27] Then read a while before going to bed at a book entitled 'Is It Possible To Make The Best Of Both Worlds'.^[28]

Thursday 6

Dressed myself after tea with the intention of going out, as I was expecting J. Wright along, when we were going to call on Mrs and the Misses Packman. But as he did not come I spent the evening at the fireside professing to be reading Dick's *Christian Philosopher*, but I rather think that Morpheus (sleep) came in for the best share of my attentions.

Friday 7

Lounged about a good while after tea without doing anything, then took a while at the *Advertiser* which I bought today, containing the particulars of the opening and some of the trials in the Circuit Court which opened here yesterday, being the first ever held in Dundee and of course creating quite a sensation in the town. Then addressed the paper for my uncle in America and did some other writing before going to bed.

Saturday 8

Off at two o'clock as usual and was dressing myself in all haste expecting my brother George in with his trunks when he came in but no Trunks with him as he could not get a horse and cart today, they being all so busily engaged with the seed putting in at this season of the year. So we then went down the town and looked about a while, had a look at the shipping in the harbour and then went east to the new or Camperdown Dock and was taking some refreshment in Dock Street Refreshment Rooms previous to his leaving with the quarter to six train when he remembered that I had not shown him where his lodgings were, which I had got for him during the week, and consequently he would not

APRIL 1865

know where to go with his trunks if he happened to get them in on Monday. So we came up to Mrs McHardy's, she having got them for me, who took us across to them, they being just a little east of her a few doors up Victoria Street in Victoria Square. He then went down to catch the ten minutes to seven train, and I went along and had a walk through the Baxter Park. Was home a little before eight, read a while at the newspapers and scratched down the afternoon's transactions before going to bed about eleven o'clock as usual.

Sunday 9

Got up at twenty minutes past six and took a walk down the river to the Stannergate and as it was a perfectly beautiful morning it was a perfect treat to get out and enjoy the pure fresh air of the river-side. Was home again a little past eight and took a look at the *Sunday Magazine* till church time. Went and heard Mr McDougall of Free Chapelshade in the morning and Mr Knight, Free St Enoch's,^[29] in the afternoon. Happened to meet Helen Kydd, an old acquaintance, and her two fellow servants between the services, with whom I went along to their residence in the Nethergate and stopped till almost church time in the afternoon. Went and took a walk in the Baxter Park after tea and took a seat at the foot of the flagstaff for a good while from which I admired the beauties of the park and the surrounding scenery. Met Elizabeth Packman as I was coming out of the South Gate on my way down to church again, with whom I turned and went out and had a walk through the New Burying Ground and went up and stopped about an hour in her mother's on my way home where I arrived about eight and had a while's reading before going to bed about half past ten.

Monday 10

Was just set down and had got one line of a letter written to Anne when my brother George, who has got his trunks in today, came in and in a few minutes also J. Wright on his way to call on the Miss Packmans

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

whose father, Captain Packman, who has been absent almost two years, came home today. We then went along together and stopped till half past ten, after which I finished my letter to Anne and got to bed at twelve o'clock.

Tuesday 11

Wrought till twelve o'clock tonight at J. Gordon's engine.

Wednesday 12

Was intending to have gone out to see Anne tonight but had to work till half past six and as it takes me almost half an hour to come home, I had just to content myself without seeing her tonight and did nothing except filling up my journal, before going to bed, which was back for two or three days.

Thursday 13

Wrought till ten o'clock.

Friday 14

Ditto all night.

Saturday 15

Got through at two o'clock and spent the afternoon till six o'clock in sleeping and reading the newspapers alternately, then went out after tea and took a walk through the Baxter Park and was home again by half past seven and wrote a few lines to Anne telling her the reason that I could not get out to see her on neither Wednesday nor Friday night as I intended. Then took a while at my books, filling up, and got to bed about half ten o'clock.

APRIL 1865

Sunday 16

Got up at a quarter to eight and went out and had a walk in the Baxter Park before breakfast. Then got ready and went along to Free St Peter's church today and also my brother George, where we heard an excellent sermon from Mr McGregor on Hebrews 9, verses 16 and 17, 'For where a testament is, must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead; otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth'. He divided it into three heads: I the testator, II the testament and III the legatees, and enlarged at considerable length on each in succession. The Rev. William Arnot from Edinburgh,^[30] who was assisting him in serving the tables, it being the sacrament today, gave some very beautiful addresses also. We stopped till the conclusion of the services at a quarter past four and so interesting were they that I did not weary in the least. I went in the evening to Free Wallacetown and heard one Dr Gibson from Glasgow,^[31] who gave an excellent discourse from the words, 'Who loved us and gave himself for us'.^[32] I then went out the road a bit to meet John Wright in company with his sister Margaret and my landlady and as usual went in the town a bit with him and got home a little before ten.

Monday 17

Went out to the Kellas tonight to see Anne, with whom I spent about an hour and a half most delightfully. We then went in to her brother James where I stopped another hour fully and did not get home till half past twelve.

Tuesday 18

Read till half past seven at today's *Advertiser*, then washed myself and dressed, and went down to the Post Office with it for my father to let him see the particulars of the fall of Petersburg and Richmond,^[33] which is contained in today's paper. I then sat down to write a little after I got home and was intending to get to bed soon tonight, but I got into a

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

conversation about love, and the time slipped past with us till it was past eleven before we got to bed.

Wednesday 19

Trifled away the evening till eight o'clock without doing anything except going down Princes Street for some lotion for my eyes, having got one of them hurt with a chip of metal. I then did some writing, bathed my eye and got to bed about half past nine.

Thursday 20

Took a walk down to the harbour tonight where I met my brother with whom I took a look at the shipping for a while. Then came up the town and bought some small articles. Happened to meet J. Wright and stopped a short time with him and got home about half past nine. Got a locked door when I came home and to put off the time took a step along to the east end of the street where I met Helen Wright on her way home, who asked me if I would go along with her, which I did as she had a pretty long road to go, no less than to the very west end of Magdalen Green. Met my bed-fellow coming up the edge of the Green as we were going down, who had been along seeing his sweetheart who stops somewhere down there about. He turned back with us and we then came home together, where we arrived a little past eleven o'clock.

Friday 21

Went down to Dens Brae top of Princes Street to see an old friend and bed-fellow, John McKinnis, who got married about a month ago to Miss Jessie Dandy with whom I was also acquainted. I spent a very happy evening with them and did not get home till a little past ten. I then did a little writing and did not get to bed till half past eleven.

Saturday 22

Got through at two o'clock and spending about an hour looking about the town in company with my brother we left with the half past four

APRIL 1865



Fig. 9 The north side of the Nethergate in the late nineteenth century.
(Reproduced courtesy of Libraries, Leisure and Culture, Dundee)

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

train for Monifieth. George Milne and Eleanor and Margaret Packman went down with the same train with whom we got company up to the Monument, or at least almost, for although they were within a hundred yards of my father's house, there would none of them go in with me.

Sunday 23

Did not get up till a little past eight and only had a short walk round the wood before breakfast. Went and heard Mr McGregor as usual and started at five o'clock for Dundee. Stopped a short time at the Kellas and also at James Wright's, and got home at a quarter past nine, in company with J. Wright and one James Croll who was out seeing James Sturrock at the Kellas. Did not get a conversation, nothing like what I would have liked, with Anne tonight. Had a nice opportunity too, if only my brother had been a bit out of the way.

Monday 24

Took a while at the newspapers after tea and then tried a little practice at arithmetic, and in proof of the general saying that perseverance is always rewarded I managed to do a rule in vulgar fractions with which I have been beat two or three time before. I then took a while at my books, filling up, and got to bed a little past eleven.

Tuesday 25

Spent the evening at home in reading a while at Templeton's *Millwright's and Engineer's Companion*, and a while at Dick's *Christian Philosopher*. Got to bed about half past ten.

Wednesday 26

Went down to Reform Street and put some money in the Savings Bank for my brother Robert. Met James Hendry in the Bank and went down to the High Street with him, where we were joined by J. Wright and had a while's conversation together. J. Wright and I then went down to the harbour and thence along to the Camperdown Dock and looked about

APRIL 1865

a bit and back to the High Street again. Got home at ten o'clock and was informed by my landlady that she was to try and do without lodgers any longer and consequently that I would have to leave on Saturday week, which I must say gave me more pleasure than pain as I have been thinking of trying a change for some time past.

Thursday 27

Took half an hour or so at the *Advertiser* after tea, which I bought today to get the particulars of the assassination of President Lincoln and Secretary Seward of America^[34] which arrived yesterday forenoon and with which I must say I was horror struck, an assassin being in general looked upon as a mean dastardly coward and having chosen for his time the very hour of victory it makes the act if possible more horrible and heart rending. I then went out and spent a while in the Baxter Park with J. Wright. Was back here again by nine o'clock and had an hour's conversation together before he went away. Got to bed about eleven o'clock.

Friday 28

Went along with my bed-fellow to Mrs Arthur's and stopped a few minutes. Then went across the street to enquire about lodgings, but found there was only an opening for one and as we would like in together again if possible, that of course was not to our mind. We then went in the town and went down and had a walk round the docks. Came up and gave Mrs McHardy a call and got home at ten o'clock.

Saturday 29

Set out after dinner in company with my bed-fellow in search of lodgings which we succeeded in getting down in Princes Street after a little searching about. They are not just exactly what we would have liked but they will do for a time and we can take the first opportunity of better ones which turns up. We then took a turn through the Baxter Park, went in the town and looked about us for a while till tea time. Went in the

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

town again at seven o'clock, went down and had a look at the shipping in the docks and wandered about a while without going anywhere or doing anything in particular except going in to the shoemaker's for a pair of boots on my way home, where I arrived about a quarter or twenty minutes to nine o'clock. Then had a while at the newspapers and also a nap of a sleep and being somewhat tired as well as sleepy I got to bed at half past ten.

Sunday 30

Got up at six o'clock and went out to the Den of Mains to enjoy the fresh morning air for a while. It was a most beautiful morning and I was highly pleased with my walk so much so that I did not get back again till a little before nine. I went along and heard Mr Knight in the Thistle Hall in the forenoon, and happening to meet James Hendry as I was taking a walk at the shore between the services, I had a while's conversation with him and then went along with him to Free St Paul's in the afternoon and heard Mr Borwick in the evening, who delivered a very able sermon in St James's U.P. Church, the late Mr Reston's, who was taken ill in the pulpit last Sabbath and expired in about an hour. I then went out the road and met J. Wright and went in the town a bit with him and met his sister Margaret and Ann Findlay with whom we stopped a quarter of an hour or so. I then came up with his sister and got home a little before ten.

MAY

Monday 1

Had to work till eight o'clock tonight and then wrote and went down to the Post Office with a letter to Anne.

Tuesday 2

Was preparing to have a while at my journal, filling up, when David Findlay, who has commenced work to-day in town with Baxter Brothers, came in and in a little after, my brother George and from one thing to another the evening passed over till it was ten o'clock till they left. I then commenced to my writing and did not go to bed till twelve o'clock. Received a letter today from my cousin Barbara Sturrock in America in which she mentioned the downfall of Richmond and great rejoicings in the North in consequence. Judging from her words Northerners must have a most bitter hatred at Southerners or Rebels as they always call them. She calls Richmond the home of the vilest traitors that ever polluted this earth. I also received a portrait of her oldest brother Andrew with which I am highly pleased.

Wednesday 3

Went along to see J. Wright and then started together for a walk out the Blackness Road. Went out a mile and a half or two miles then down to the Perth Road, came in a bit, down to the Magdalen Green, came in that way in the Nethergate and up to the top of the Murraygate where we separated a little before ten. Had a while's writing after I came home and did not get to bed till twelve o'clock.

Thursday 4

Spent the evening at home doing sundry little nick nacks such as arranging my clothes and books, etc., previous to removing and read a while at Dick's *Christian Philosopher* before going to bed at half past eleven.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Friday 5

Had to work till eight o'clock. Then did some trifles and took a while at the *Christian Philosopher* before going to bed at half past eleven. Had a letter from my Anne tonight which she told me that she intended to be in Broughty Ferry tomorrow afternoon and would be very happy to see me there if it was convenient for me to get down, she being aware that I have to remove tomorrow night.

Saturday 6

Got my clothes and things all packed and made ready for removing and then went in the town with my bed-fellow and got a cart to remove our chests. Was about half past four till we got removed which made me too late to get down to the Ferry in time to see Anne which I intended to have done if we had got removed in time. I then took a look at the newspapers till tea was ready, after which I went up with my bed-fellow to the Barracks to see the Volunteers drilling and then wandered about the town up and down here and there till eight o'clock by which time I was perfectly weary of it. I then went down to the Corn Exchange Hall to see a Diorama of Jerusalem, the Holy Land, Syria and other eastern views, with which I was highly pleased.^[35] Got home a little before ten and was not very long in going to bed.

Sunday 7

Got up at a quarter to seven and went out to the Baxter Park where I enjoyed myself most delightfully till about nine, admiring the various flowers and shrubs who are all beginning to get green and beautiful now. Went and heard Mr McDougall today. Took my usual walk along the Marine Parade and sat down a while till church time and then went up and heard Mr McGregor who of all the ministers I have yet heard in the town is the one I like best. Took a while at the *Sunday Magazine* after tea and then went along to hear Mr Gilfinnan, but found when I got down that instead of going in to the church they were coming out

MAY 1865

of it, it was that full. I then went up to the Corn Exchange to hear John Bowes who was to be on the same subject, namely, the fall of Richmond and the assassination of President Lincoln, which subject he handled in my opinion in the most miserable manner that ever I heard any subject handled in, so much so that great numbers, and myself among them, left before he was near finished.^[36] Got home a little before eight, had an hour's writing and a while at the *Sunday Magazine* before going to bed about half past ten.

Monday 8

Dressed myself and took a look at the newspapers till half past seven and then went along to Mr McGregor's Bible Class to which I was invited by Helen Wright and with which I was very pleased. I also spoke for a seat tonight but have very little hopes of getting one, there has been such a demand for them before now. Got home at ten o'clock, had a while's writing and got to bed about half past eleven.

Tuesday 9

Spent almost the whole evening in conversation with my bed-fellow on two or three subjects and then read a short time at the *Christian Philosopher* before going to bed at half past ten.

Wednesday 10

Working till ten o'clock.

Thursday 11

Ditto.

Friday 12

Ditto.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Saturday 13

Got off as usual at two o'clock, dressed myself and went in the town and looked about me a while and then started with the half past four train for Monifieth and arrived at the Monument in company with my brother about a quarter past six.

Sunday 14

Did not get up till a quarter to nine. Went and heard Mr McIntyre as usual and started at five o'clock for Dundee. Stopped a while at the Kellas as usual and got two or three minutes' conversation with Anne, but not half so much as I would have liked. I have not got a quiet crack with her for a long time now and beginning to weary for another opportunity of spending an hour or two in company with my own dear Anne. Came along by J. Wright's as usual. Stopped a short time there and got home a little before ten.

Monday 15

Went along by J. Wright's and then went down together to St Peter's, intending to go to Mr McGregor's Bible Class, but found that there was none tonight, he being away from home some way. We then took a walk out the Perth Road for a mile or so, went down and crossed the railway to the river side and came along that way to the Magdalen Green. Came in the side of it, which is a most delightful walk now that the trees and flowers are beginning to get green and beautiful. Came in the Nethergate and up to the restaurant in Reform Street and had a pie and ginger beer and got home at ten o'clock. Took a while at my books, filling up, and did not get to bed till almost twelve o'clock. Well pleased as yet with my new lodgings and think I will be far more comfortable here than where I was before.

MAY 1865

Tuesday 16

Went in the town and bought a large pot for my sister Clementina and some little articles for myself and was home again by eight o'clock and then wrote a letter to my darling Anne.

Wednesday 17

Wrought till ten o'clock.

Thursday 18

Ditto.

Friday 19

Wrought all night.

Saturday 20

Got through at five o'clock. Looked a while at the newspapers after dinner and was on my way in the town about four o'clock when I met my brother Robert whom I was expecting in the forenoon and had now given up hopes of seeing him tonight, and more than that, who should he have in company with him but Miss Allan, teacher in Greystone, Carmyllie, who has been in town for a day or two at present, seeing her father and mother who reside here and who had been down at the station waiting him. I then turned with them and went up to her father's in Church Street, where we stopped a while, and then went out to the Baxter Park together, where we stopped till half past seven, and after getting some tea, we went up to her father's again for her, when she told us she had been getting a scolding for not taking us along with her to get tea. I then went down to the station with them and saw them off on the train for Carnoustie. I was expecting my brother to have stopped with me all night but as she had to be home to her school again on Monday morning and there being no trains on Sunday he of course could not let her go away herself. I then went up to the High Street after leaving

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

the station and looked about me a while and got home at nine o'clock. Made an attempt to read the newspapers but found it wouldn't do, so got to bed a little before twelve.

Sunday 21

Lay in bed till half nine today and did not go out for a walk before breakfast but took a look at the *Sunday Magazine* till that time. Went up to Mr McPherson's church today but he did not happen to be preaching himself. Went down in company with my bed-fellow and took a walk along the Marine Parade which I generally do between services and went up and heard Mr Ewing with him in the afternoon. Took a while at the *Sunday Magazine* after tea and then went out to the Baxter Park. Took a seat up at the foot of the flagstaff and admired the beauties of the Park and the surrounding scenery for a long time. Went up and out through the new burying ground to Stobs Toll and thence out the road and met J. Wright and got home at half ten.

Monday 22

Spent the evening at home and at my books, filling up, and did not get to bed till half past eleven.

Tuesday 23

Was along seeing the Diorama of the Holy Land again tonight in company with J. Wright and his sister Margaret who got a prize of a mahogany writing desk there.^[37] I went along with John and her to the Magdalen Green and carried home her desk for her and bought some paper and envelopes on the way out as a hansel^[38] to it. Got home at half past eleven.

Wednesday 24

Was out in the Baxter Park tonight with J. Wright and one of his fellow workmen where there was a great turn-out tonight, the Artillery

MAY 1865

Band being performing there on the occasion of its being the Queen's Birthday.^[39] We stopped till about half past nine and then went in the town and out the Nethergate to the Magdalen Green and back to the High Street where we separated. Got home at eleven o'clock.

Thursday 25

Trifled about without doing anything in particular till eight o'clock, when J. Wright came up when we went up to Mrs Packman's. Stopped till about half past nine then went in the town a bit with him and got home at ten o'clock.

Friday 26

Having got a heavy load of cold somehow or other I was in no trim for reading or any other thing tonight, so sat at the window the whole evening looking out to see what was passing up and down the street.

Saturday 27

My sisters Ann and Mary being come to town today, I did not go to my work after nine o'clock, but dressed myself and went down to the High Street and met them at ten o'clock. I then went with them to get their portraits taken and spent the forenoon going about the town with them till a little past one when I brought them up to my lodgings to get some dinner. We then went up and called on Mrs Arthur and her mother, Mrs McHardy, and left with the half past four train for Monifieth. Went up to our sister's at the South Grange where we got tea and stopped a while and got home a little before eight.

Sunday 28

Lay in bed till nine o'clock and being no better of my cold yet, I took a dose of physic before breakfast, so of course I could hardly go to church and being a wet sort of day, I sat in the house almost the whole forenoon and started for the Kellas a little past three where I got my tea with her

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

father and brother and likewise got a short conversation with Anne. Had a good long one with her brother George but would have been as well pleased if I had got the long one with Anne with whom I have not got a quiet crack for a long time now. Got home a little before ten o'clock.

Monday 29

Being no better of my cold tonight but rather worse, as it has sitten down into my breast today, so much so that I have had a great difficulty in breathing, together with a hard hacking cough, I went down to Dr Greig of the Dundee Laboratory^[40] who gave me a powder to take among some gruel before going to bed and also some castor oil to take in the morning and said I would be much better to give up work for a day or so.

Tuesday 30

Did not get up till about a quarter to nine today and intend taking the rest of the day to myself also. I have not been quite so bad for breath as I was yesterday but the cough is still somewhat troublesome. I have spent the whole day in the house, about as much from necessity as choice as from shortness of breath and weakness together the slightest exertion tired me. I have done little or nothing the whole day but looked out at the window, except doing a little at my journal, filling up, in the afternoon, which was back for four or five days. Went to bed about half past nine.

Wednesday 31

Lay in bed till a little past eight and intend taking the rest of this day to myself also. Am a great deal better today, the cough now being the worst thing that is troubling me. Had a pretty smart attack of it for a while after going to bed last night. Went down between ten and eleven to Dr Greig's and got a bottle of cough mixture, then down and had a look at the shipping in the harbour and east to the Camperdown Dock and had

MAY 1865

a look at it, and only got home a little before two o'clock. Read a little and took a while at my journal, filling up, again in the afternoon. Read a while at Dick's *Christian Philosopher* after tea and went to bed a little before nine.

JUNE

Thursday 1

Commenced to my work this morning again but have not got nearly rid of my cough yet, of which I had a smart attack last night. Went in the town tonight for my sisters' cards with which I must say I am not particularly well pleased. Was home again a little past eight and of course had a good look at the cards then and read a while at the *Sunday Magazine*, which I bought tonight, before going to bed.

Friday 2

Been a good deal better today. Spent a while in conversation with my brother, who was up tonight and read a while at the *Sunday Magazine*. But in truth I have trifled away a good part of the evening without doing anything.

Saturday 3

Got off at two o'clock as usual, then cleaned and dressed myself in all haste to meet Anne who came in a little before two and whom I saw and spoke to as I was coming home from work. Went to Mr Rogers with her to get her portrait taken for carte de visite. Took a walk round the harbour and saw the Watt Museum, etc., etc., and walked about till half past six, when she started for home, accompanied of course by myself, who could not at the least leave her till she was the longest half of the way home at any rate. Stopped a short time at Mrs Packman's on the way out and instead of going part only, I went home with her altogether, and stopped with her brother James all night. We enjoyed a nice talk by ourselves on the way out, taking plenty of time and not hurrying ourselves in the least. Arrived at the Kellas a little past nine, had two or three minutes of a crack with her after that and did not get to bed till twelve o'clock.

JUNE 1865



Fig. 10 The Watt Institution, Constitution Street. Founded to further the education of tradesmen, especially skilled workers, it housed a library and a museum, both of which Sturrock patronised. He also attended talks held in its lecture theatre. The photograph is from the late nineteenth century, by which time the building had been taken over by the YMCA, coincidentally another cause supported by Sturrock. (Reproduced courtesy of Libraries, Leisure and Culture, Dundee)

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Sunday 4

Lay in bed till half past eight and went to Hillock Free Church in the forenoon with James Sturrock. Had a walk with Anne in the afternoon with whom I spent about two hours or so very pleasantly. Then got tea with her and her father and brother George, and went down with them to Murroes Church, where there was a service tonight and is to be fortnightly during the summer. Mr McMurtie of Mains or Tealing, I forget which, conducted the service tonight, with which I was well pleased. Started to come home about eight o'clock. Came in by J. Wright's with whom I got company in and arrived here at quarter to ten o'clock.

Monday 5

Went down to the High Street and got a bottle of cough mixture. Then went to the shore and had a warm bath which I enjoyed very much. Got home a little before nine and took a while at my books, filling up, before going to bed.

Tuesday 6

Took a while at the newspapers after washing myself and went to bed at eight o'clock, and got a mustard plaster on my chest to try and relieve the cough which is not like to leave me very soon and has been settling down into my breast for some days past. Kept it on for an hour and twenty five minutes and could have kept it on longer not finding it near so painful as I expected it would have been from what I have heard of them, it being the first I ever had on, but perhaps it was not so strong as some of them are made.

Wednesday 7

Read a while at Dick's *Christian Philosopher* and took a while at my journal, filling up. Went to bed at half past nine and got another mustard blister tonight. Found it a good deal smarter than the one I had on last night. Don't know how long I kept it on.

JUNE 1865

Thursday 8

Found my breast very smart this morning when I got up – and has been a little the whole day, but I have been better today than I have been for a week past. Went along to Mr Roger's for some of my cards, which I ordered on Saturday past but they are not to be ready till Saturday coming, Anne's only being ready, with which I am highly pleased. He has made a first class job of them I think. I then went along to J. Wright's where I only stopped a few minutes and came along to the Post Office with him. Went down to the harbour and had a look at the shipping. Took a walk along the Marine Parade, round the Camperdown Dock and up to the Cowgate where we separated at ten o'clock. Took a while at my books filling up after coming home and did not get to bed till fully half past eleven.

Friday 9

Working till ten o'clock.

Saturday 10

Got off at two as usual and after dressing myself went in the town and along to Mr Rogers' for my cards which were to be ready tonight but were not. Met J. Wright on the High Street as I was waiting for my brother George. Went and had a drink of lemonade together and came up the length of the Cowgate with him and then down St Andrews Street to the station and left with the half past four train for Monifieth and arrived at the Monument a little past six.

Sunday 11

Lay in bed till half past eight. Went to church in the forenoon and was somewhat drowsy even after lying in so long. Started at half past five for the Kellas where I stopped a good while and only got home at a quarter to ten.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Monday 12

Working till ten o'clock again. Took a while at my books, filling up, after coming home and did not get to bed till almost half past eleven.

Tuesday 13

Went in the town on some errands and was home again about half past eight. Took a look at the newspapers, put some portraits into my album and altered and arranged the others, and took a short while at my books, filling up, before going to bed about eleven o'clock.

Wednesday 14

Working till ten o'clock.

Thursday 15

Ditto.

Friday 16

Went in the town for my cartes de visite and some other little things. Then down to the harbour and looked about me a while, then east and round the Camperdown Dock, which is now finished and almost full of water and is to be opened in the course of a week or a fortnight. Got home about a quarter past nine and trifled about without doing anything in particular and did not get to bed till about eleven.

Saturday 17

Got off at one o'clock as usual. Took a look at the newspapers after dinner and did not get ready to go out till half past three, when I went in the town on some little errands then down to the Perth or Union Street Station to see about the Saturday excursion trains, next Saturday being our annual holiday, when I intend to take a trip to Pitlochry, to see the far famed Pass of Killiekrankie. Did not leave the station till fully five o'clock, there being a large party of excursionists from Carron leaving at the time I was there which I stopped and saw away. I then went by

JUNE 1865

East Dock Street and the Ferry Road to the Stannergate, where I took a seat at the waterside and enjoyed myself very nicely for about two hours or so, having a beautiful view of the river and the opposite coast of Fife, besides taking an occasional look at the newspapers which I had with me. I then came in the Ferry Road again and down to the station, where I arrived just as the Volunteers were coming out from Monifieth, where there was a grand review of all the Volunteers in the county this afternoon by the Earl of Dalhousie, Colonel Jones (Inspector of Volunteers) and several others and which was finished up by a sham fight between the Artillery and Riflemen. Met my bed-fellow, who is a member of one of the Highland Companies, at the Station and took a stroll through the town for a while together and did not get home till quarter past ten. Then took a while at my journal, filling up, and did not get to bed till almost twelve o'clock. Highly pleased with my afternoon's enjoyment.

Sunday 18

Got up about half past seven and had a walk in the Baxter Park before breakfast. Went up to Hilltown to hear Mr McPherson but was disappointed as he was not preaching. Nevertheless I heard an excellent sermon from the words, 'Simon! Simon! Satan hath desired to have thee that thy faith fail not'.^[41] Came home after the sermon and took a look at the *Sunday Magazine* and went down in the afternoon to Chapelshade where I also heard an excellent sermon on the ten virgins, five of whom were wise and five foolish.^[42] Read a while at the *Sunday Magazine* after tea and went out between five and six to the Baxter Park with my bed-fellow where we sat and enjoyed ourselves for a good while and then went out to the Necropolis or New Burying Ground, which is a most beautiful place and took a look at the *Sunday Magazine* again. Read a chapter and psalm and got to bed at eleven o'clock.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Monday 19

Had a letter from J. Wright this morning who went away to Coupar Angus last Monday to put up two engines there. Went up to my shoemaker in Victoria Street to get some tackets put in my boots, but he happened to be out of the kind required so did not get it done. Called up to Mrs Arthur's and stopped a short time and was home again about eight. Then cleaned a spy-glass which I intend taking to Pitlochry with me on Saturday and did some other little trifles before getting to bed about eleven o'clock.

Tuesday 20

Was all night fitting a cog-wheel along at North TAY Street.

Wednesday 21

Went out to the Kellas tonight to make some arrangements with Anne and her brother George, who are going to Killiekrankie with me on Saturday. Got a good long crack with Anne, who was particularly kind and delighted-like with me tonight. Parted with her at half past eleven and got home at a quarter to one, pretty tired and sleepy too by that time.

Thursday 22

Working till ten o'clock.

Friday 23

Went in the town for some little things and was home again by half past eight and took a while at my books, filling up, and laid out my clothes, etc., to be in readiness in the morning, tomorrow being our annual holiday at the Foundry which I intend spending in company with my Anne, her brother George and Miss Dykes at Pitlochry and Killiekrankie. Got to bed at half past ten.

JUNE 1865

Saturday 24

Got up a little before five, was dressed and had breakfast by a quarter to six, and went out the road about a mile and a half and met them coming in from the Kellas. Got down to the station just in time for the seven o'clock train to Perth and got a compartment of a second class carriage to ourselves, so we had a very comfortable journey up to Perth and enjoyed ourselves nicely. Arrived there at eight o'clock and looked about us a while and got some refreshment before the train started for Pitlochry at half past nine. Had to take second class tickets at Perth as there were no third issued with that train. Arrived at Pitlochry at a quarter to eleven. Of the village itself I can say nothing as we did not go through it but held directly out the toll road to the famous Pass of Killiekrankie, which is about three or four miles north from Pitlochry and through which both the railway and the toll road passes. I will not attempt to give anything like a description of the scenery either of the Pass or of the route up from Perth, but merely say that from Dunkeld especially all the way to Killiekrankie it is to the lover of the wild and romantic in nature very beautiful and interesting. We went up the toll road between two and three miles and then went down to a nice walk in the bottom of the Pass, which goes up the whole length of it to the top. We did not go far up when we sat down and took some refreshment and enjoyed ourselves for a good while on the banks of the Tummel, which comes down the Pass and whose waters are here particularly clear and beautiful. Anne and I then set out together and went up to the top of the Pass and in my opinion were well repaid for our trouble, for the view which we got there was really one of surpassing beauty and grandeur. We then went up about a mile further with the intention of seeing the old battlefield, but we happened to be on the wrong side of the water having crossed it on a bridge down at the top of the Pass. We were both highly delighted with our walk having gone up very leisurely and taken plenty of time to look about us. When we came down again to where we

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

left George and Miss Dykes we found that they were away. They came up to the top of the Pass a while after us but not finding us there, they got wearied waiting and set out on their way down to Pitlochry again and were about half an hour or so before us. The train left here for Perth at ten minutes to six and the second class carriages being full, we got into a first class one and had a very comfortable seat down to Perth, where we arrived a little past seven and in Dundee at twenty minutes to nine and being somewhat hungry by that time we went to the coffee house in Dock Street and had a cup of coffee and steak, and then went along to the Arbroath Station and took the last train for Broughty Ferry, which did not get away till ten o'clock tonight, a quarter of an hour behind her time. We then took a cab from there to the Kellas, where we arrived at ten minutes past eleven, all of us highly pleased with our day's enjoyment. Got to bed at twelve o'clock.

Sunday 25

Got up at half past seven and after getting breakfast with Anne and her father, having stopped with them all night for the first time, always stopping with her brother James before, any night that I happened to stay at the Kellas. I went down to the Murroes Church with them and Mary Findlay who was at James Sturrock's today. Went up and stopped a while at James's after dinner, and then went down again with Anne and Mary Findlay and spent the afternoon with them till tea time, after which I spent an hour very *pleasantly* with Anne and started to come home about seven o'clock, Mary Findlay being away about half an hour or so by that time, which I purposely stopped for, not wishing to put myself in the way of her and her sweetheart, who was out meeting her, enjoying themselves. Got home at a quarter to nine and met up with Mary and her sweetheart at the end of the Lilybank Road and came down Princes Street to my lodgings with them.

JUNE 1865

Monday 26

Spent the evening at the newspapers and my books, filling up, and went to bed about eleven o'clock.

Tuesday 27

Went along to Constitution Road where Margaret Wright is now stopping with Mr Kydd, builder, and spent the evening with her till ten o'clock. Started to my journal, filling up again, after I came home, and did not get to bed till a quarter to twelve.

Wednesday 28

Went up to my shoemaker in Victoria Road and got some tackets put into my boots. Had a while at my journal, filling up again, after I came home and read a while at Dick's *Christian Philosopher* before going to bed.

Thursday 29

Went to see Sanger's Circus tonight, where there was an immense number of spectators, as it is to be only a few days in the town.^[43] It is well worth going to see for one night but after that it has no interest for me. Got home at ten o'clock.

Friday 30

Spent the evening writing a letter to my cousin Andrew Sturrock.

JULY

Saturday 1

Had to work this afternoon and did not get home till about a quarter past nine. Was along at James Irons' Mill putting on two cogwheels and a very dirty job it was.^[44] I then wrote a few lines of a letter to my father after I came home, as I was intending to have gone out tonight and they were expecting me and would be wondering what had come over me if I had not sent them a few lines to let them know I was working.

Sunday 2

Got up about half past seven and went out and had a walk in the Baxter Park before breakfast. It is looking very beautiful at present, there being a rich blossom of flowers now. I take great pleasure in having a quiet walk through it on Sabbath morning, which I generally have every Sabbath that I am in the town. Went and heard Mr McPherson today and being their quarterly Sacrament there was no interval in the middle of the day, so I stopped till the tables were all served which was at four o'clock. Took a look at the *Sunday Magazine* after tea and went along to Chapelshade church where I heard an excellent sermon and also a long one for we were no less than two hours and twenty five minutes in the church. Saw Margaret Wright as I was coming home and stopped a quarter of an hour or so with her. Got home a little past nine and went to bed about half past ten.

Monday 3

Trifled about a while after tea without doing anything and then wrote a letter to John Wright, who is at present in Coupar Angus, and a pretty long one I gave him too and did not get to bed till almost twelve o'clock.

Tuesday 4

Got a letter from my cousin Andrew Sturrock this morning, from whom I have not heard for six months before, and would not yet had

JULY 1865

I not sent one to him on Saturday giving him a blowing up and telling him that since he had got married he was like to forget all his old friends and acquaintances now. It seems he had lost my address, which was the reason he gave for not having written to me sooner, but the letter also contained the news that he is now the happy father of a little daughter. So of course he is to be excused if he is like to forget some of his old friends now. Went in the town tonight and was home again by half past eight. Then read a while at the *Sunday Magazine* which I bought and took a while at my journal, filling up, before going to bed at half past eleven.

Wednesday 5

Spent the evening at home and wrote a letter to Anne and to my cousin Andrew Sturrock of Craigton, Monikie, who has got a situation with the Water Company in town here and having promised to try and get lodgings for him I succeeded this morning in getting accommodation for him with an old acquaintance of his own, Ebenezer Arklay, in Victoria Street. Got to bed about half past eleven.

Thursday 6

Went in the town tonight and looked about me a while, then down to the harbour and had a look at the shipping and east to the Camperdown Dock and looked at them a while, drawing out the piles of the coffer dam, which is a very slow and laborious process. Got home about half past nine and took a while at my journal, filling up, before going to bed about eleven o'clock.

Friday 7

Went up to see Mrs Packman tonight or rather I should say, the Miss Packmans, their mother being with her husband, Captain Packman, at Alloa, from which place he sailed this morning at one o'clock for Genoa. She came home tonight when I was there, very tired with her journey, having gone down with her husband from Alloa to Leith, and in

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

consequence did not get to bed all last night. Got to bed about eleven o'clock, that is me and not Mrs Packman.

Saturday 8

Got off at two o'clock as usual and started with the quarter past three train to go out to my father's where I arrived about five o'clock.

Sunday 9

Lay in bed till nine o'clock, then went to the church in the forenoon as usual and started at five o'clock for Dundee. Came in by the Kellas as usual and got a fine pleasant chat with Anne. Not being like to get one in the house and it being a rainy night and particularly heavy the time I was there, what did Anne do but get an umbrella, then we both went out and got a nice quiet crack together. So if that isn't 'umbrella courtship' as Anne said it was, I don't know what is. Got home a little before ten o'clock.

Monday 10

Wrote a letter to my cousin Andrew Petrie tonight and then intended to have a while at my journal, filling up, but getting started in conversation with my bed-fellow, I only got two or three lines done and did not get to bed till twelve o'clock either.

Tuesday 11

Got a letter from John Wright today in which he was telling me that he was getting tired of Coupar Angus already and wishing he was back to Dundee again. Was away out the Perth Road seeing Mary Findlay tonight and did not get home till about half past ten, and then took a while at my journal, filling up, and got to bed about half past eleven.

Wednesday 12

Wrote a letter to my cousin in America and sat and chatted with my bed-fellow and did not get to bed till half past eleven.

JUNE 1865



Fig. 11 The Marine Parade. Sturrock often walked here on a Sunday between church services. (Reproduced courtesy of Libraries, Leisure and Culture, Dundee)

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Thursday 13

Wrought till quarter to seven tonight, then went along to the Post Office with the letter for my cousin. Went down and had a look at the shipping in the docks. Took a walk to and round the Camperdown Dock and got home about half past nine. Took a look at the newspapers and a while at my books, filling up, and got to bed about eleven o'clock.

Friday 14

Went in the town and down to the Greenmarket where I purchased Walker and Webster's *Pronouncing Dictionary of the English Language*, which I saw last night and thought it was too good a bargain to let slip, the price of it being only four shillings. I then took a look round the docks and came up the town again where I met George Milne and had a while's conversation with him, when he told me that he had left the foundry tonight, his apprenticeship having expired tonight. Got home at nine o'clock and took a look at my dictionary before going to bed at eleven o'clock.

Saturday 15

Got off at two o'clock and went off at four on a pleasure excursion up the river with the steam tug *Atlas*. Touched at Newburgh to allow any that desired it to get off there then held up as far as Perth, but having no time to stop, it just turned round and came down again. Stopped a few minutes at Newburgh and arrived in Dundee exactly at ten o'clock. Very highly pleased with my afternoon's excursion there being nothing to mar our enjoyment except some showers shortly after we started, after which it cleared up pretty well so that we got a good view of the grand and imposing scenery with which both sides of our beautiful river is adorned. I could easily spend another Saturday afternoon the same way, which I perhaps will yet before the summer is through. Did a little to my books, filling up, after I got home and then chatted a while with my bed-fellow and did not get to bed till past twelve o'clock.

JULY 1865

Sunday 16

Got up at seven o'clock and as usual took a walk in the Baxter Park before breakfast. Went along to St John's, Mr Laird's church, in the forenoon, where I saw Mary and David Findlay and came along to the High Street with them, where I met my bed-fellow and had a walk along the Marine Parade with him, and then went along together and heard Mr McGregor in the afternoon, where I saw and had a few minutes' conversation with Helen Wright. Took a look at the *Sunday Magazine* after tea and then went and heard Mr McGillvray of the Mains in Chapelshade, where I saw and stopped a short time with an old acquaintance of the name of William Kydd. Met John and Mrs McKinnes as I was coming home and went up with them to their house at the top of Dens Brae and stopped till about ten o'clock with them. Got to bed a little before eleven.

Monday 17

Got a letter from my cousin Thomas Petrie this morning. Took a while at my journal, filling up, after tea and spent the rest of the evening in doing sundry little nick-nacks not worth mentioning and did not go to bed till half past eleven.

Tuesday 18

Wrote and went to the Post Office with a letter to Anne, then took a look at the newspapers before going to bed about eleven o'clock.

Wednesday 19

Went up to Mrs McHardy's where I stopped till about quarter to ten and got to bed about the half hour past it.

Thursday 20

Went in the town to the High Street, then down and round the docks and along to the Victoria and Camperdown Docks, which were opened today by the ship *George Gilroy*, belonging to Gilroy Brothers, from

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Calcutta with jute. It presented a beautiful appearance on entering the docks, being all hung over with flags and bunting from stem to stern, besides being manned by a detachment of the Royal Naval Reserve, who greatly heightened its appearance by being stationed in true naval fashion out at the extreme ends of the yard arms. After taking a look at it and having a walk round the Dock, I went out the Ferry Road a bit, then up and through the Baxter Park along the front of the Morgan Hospital and looked a few minutes at it and got home at half past nine, and after lounging about a while and scrawling down this sketch of my evening's walk I got to bed at eleven o'clock.

Friday 21

Wrought till eight o'clock tonight and then took a look at the bi-weekly *Advertiser*, which I bought today for the purpose of sending to my uncle in America to let him see the particulars of the opening of the new docks yesterday. Did not get to bed till half past eleven.

Saturday 22

Got off at two o'clock as usual and then went out to my father's, taking the train to Monifieth as usual and arrived at the Monument about five o'clock.

Sunday 23

Got up at eight o'clock and went out and enjoyed the fresh morning air before breakfast in company with Charles McHardy, a cousin of my father's and a native of Dundee, who came out with his wife last night, who is to stop for a week at my father's for the benefit of her health, as she has not been very strong for some time past. We also had a visit from my grandfather from Forfar today and also my uncle Charles and his wife and my aunt Joan and her husband, William McKenzie, so there was quite a full house at the Monument today. They started on their way home again about half past six, and Charles McHardy and I left for

JULY 1865

Dundee at a quarter to seven. We came in by the Drumsturdy road and in consequence I was disappointed of seeing and getting a crack with my dear Anne and sorely disappointed her also no doubt, as she was expecting me tonight. We got home about a quarter past nine and not getting my midway rest as usual I was pretty tired. Was at church in the forenoon as usual.

Monday 24

Loitered about looking out at the window for a while after tea and then went in the town with my bed-fellow and sauntered about a while. Was along at the station also and saw a number of the Arbroath excursionists leaving, of whom there has been a great number in town today. Got home again a little past nine and sat and looked out at the window again till ten and then commenced to my books, filling up, and did not get to bed till twelve o'clock.

Tuesday 25

Went out to the Kellas tonight to see Anne, with whom I stopped till twelve o'clock and got home about a quarter past one.

Wednesday 26

Wrought tonight till a quarter past two putting a new drum in the turning shop.

Thursday 27

Went down the town with my watch of which the main spring was broken. Saw Margaret Wright and had a while's conversation with her and got home at half past eight and took a while at my books, filling up, before going to bed about ten o'clock.

Friday 28

Went and called on Mr and Mrs Peter Kydd in the Hawkhill with whom I once lodged for a while. Got home about ten o'clock and was not long in going to bed.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Saturday 29

Got off at two o'clock as usual and started at a quarter past three with the steam tug *Atlas* on a trip to St Andrews. Had a very pleasant sail down the river; passed close to the wreck of the *Dalhousie*^[45] and arrived there about six o'clock. But as we had little more than an hour and a quarter to stop, there was no time for seeing anything hardly, but as far as I saw of it, I think it is well worth spending a day in, there being some grand old ruins in it, which are almost worth going to see themselves. We arrived in Dundee again at half past ten after a somewhat long voyage of three hours, the wind being directly against the steamer coming home and very bitter cold till we got up the river a good bit, when it was not quite so bad. Took a look at the newspapers after I came home and got to bed a little before twelve.

Sunday 30

Got up at seven o'clock and went east to the Stannergate and had a bath before breakfast. Went and heard Mr Knight of Free St Enoch's in the forenoon and started about one o'clock and went out to my sister's at Monifieth where I have not been for a good while past now. Found Mr Sturrock Arthur there and also Mrs Arthur, who has been stopping there for a few days past, and is to take another two or three yet. Mr Arthur and I started a little before seven to come home and arrived in Dundee about twenty minutes past eight. I went along to his house with him and had a crack with Mrs McHardy and him for a while and got down to my lodgings a little past nine. Had a while's conversation with my bed-fellow and a brother of his who stopped with us all night, and did not get to bed till past twelve o'clock.

Monday 31

Took a while at my books, filling up, and then wrote a letter to John Wright, and did not get to bed till past twelve o'clock.

AUGUST

Tuesday 1

Wrote a letter to Anne tonight and got to bed about a quarter to eleven.

Wednesday 2

Went in the town on some errands tonight, then down to the docks and looked about me a while and was home again by nine o'clock. Then read a while at the *Sunday Magazine* for August which I bought tonight and got to bed about eleven o'clock.

Thursday 3

Went in the town for my watch tonight but did not get it. It is not to be ready till Saturday now. I then went down and along Dock Street, round Camperdown Dock and up and had a walk through the Baxter Park and was home about nine o'clock and read a while at Dick's *Christian Philosopher* before going to bed about eleven o'clock.

Friday 4

Went up to Mrs McHardy's tonight and had a crack with John Gibson a while. Then came along to her daughter's, Mrs Arthur, where I stopped till ten o'clock. Then took a while at my books, filling up, and got to bed about eleven.

Saturday 5

Got off at two as usual and started with the quarter past three train for Monifieth on my way to my father's.

Sunday 6

Got up at eight o'clock and went out and had a walk before breakfast. Went to church as usual in the forenoon. Felt a little drowsy about the beginning of the sermon, but on the whole was not half so bad as I have been for some time past. In fact, I might say since ever the warm

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

weather commenced. Went along to my brother David's at Panmure after dinner and spent the afternoon with them and started at quarter to seven for Dundee. Came in the old or Drumsturdy road and arrived home about nine o'clock, it having rained pretty heavy for the last three miles, which made me step out rather smarter than I would otherwise have done. Got to bed at half past ten.

Monday 7

Got a letter from John Wright tonight with which I was particularly well pleased and which was also a particularly long one, having filled to a few lines two whole sheets of paper. Went up and called on Charles McHardy tonight where I spent a very happy and pleasant evening, both him and his wife being very kind and delighted-like with me. They also took and introduced me to Mr John Yeadon, who is inspector for the whole of Scotland for a steam engine and boiler insurance company. He is a very nice frank sort of fellow and one from whom a great deal of useful information could be got in the course of conversation. I got home at quarter to eleven, had a little conversation with my bed-fellow, a while at my books, filling up, and got to bed at half past twelve.

Tuesday 8

Wrought all night.

Wednesday 9

Got a letter from my dear Anne tonight in which she was expressing her regret at having to disappoint me in not going with me to my father's on Sunday first, as she had promised. Her reason for it is that it was that day two years on which she lost her dear mother. All honour to you, my darling Anne, for your kind remembrance of your mother. Little incidents such as that tends to strengthen my love for you every day, Anne, and to long most earnestly for the time that shall make you mine. Yes, dear Anne, often, often, do I look forward to and long for that

AUGUST 1865

happy day. Went in the town tonight for my watch and took a walk up Reform Street and round the High Street and was home again by eight o'clock. Did a little to my journal, filling up, etc., etc., and went to bed at half past nine.

Thursday 10

Spent the most part of the evening in reading and then wrote a few lines of a letter to my father and brought forward my journal and got to bed about a quarter past eleven.

Friday 11

Trifled away about an hour after tea without doing anything, then started to the tailoring business and sewed on two or three buttons and mended some cracks and flaws, etc., and had a while's discussion and conversation with my bed-fellow before going to bed about eleven o'clock.

Saturday 12

Got off at two o'clock as usual and went out to the Baxter Park after dinner where I stopped till six o'clock, when I came home and got tea and then went in the town for a while and had a stroll here and there for a short time and then went east to, and had a walk round, the Camperdown Dock in which there are three very large vessels lying at present, which are well worth going to see. I then came west the south side of the docks and up through the Greenmarket to High Street where I stopped a short time and got home about a quarter past nine. Took a while at the newspapers and filled up my books for the night and got to bed about half past eleven.

Sunday 13

Got up at half past seven and had a walk in the Baxter Park before breakfast. Went and heard Mr Knight of Free St Enoch's in the forenoon and afternoon. Took a walk round the docks and along the Marine Parade

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK



Fig. 12 The Albion Hotel stood on the corner of Tally Street and the Overgate. Sturrock attended work suppers there on 23 December 1864 and 18 August 1865. (Reproduced courtesy of Libraries, Leisure and Culture, Dundee)

AUGUST 1865

between the services and heard Mr Riddle, Cameronian minister, in Free Chapelshade in the evening who delivered a very earnest and impressive sermon from the words: 'Who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ'.^[46] It was listened to by a very large and attentive audience. I got home about a quarter past eight, took a look at Brown's *Self-Interpreting Bible*^[47] and read some pieces here and there and got to bed at half past ten.

Monday 14

Wrote a letter to my cousin Andrew Sturrock, chatted a while to my bed-fellow occasionally, and took a while at my journal, filling up, and did not get to bed till almost twelve o'clock.

Tuesday 15

Went to my manager's, John Sturrock, tonight where I stopped till ten o'clock. Got to bed about eleven.

Wednesday 16

Went up to Mrs McHardy's tonight with some butter for her which came in my box yesterday. Was home again by half past eight and not having been very well today I sat down and rested myself a while and then took a look over some of the first of my journal and made some corrections in it. Filled up a part of this and got to bed about ten o'clock.

Thursday 17

Went along to Constitution Road tonight to see Margaret Wright. Her sister Helen came in while I was there with whom I went along to the west end of the Magdalen Green where she is stopping at present. Got home at half past ten and got to bed about eleven.

Friday 18

Was at a supper at the Albion Hotel tonight with the manager, several of the foremen and a number of the engine fitters and millwrights of

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Lilybank Foundry, 23 in all, on the occasion of three engines starting. We spent a very pleasant evening together and broke up a few minutes past eleven. Got home at twenty minutes to twelve.

Saturday 19

Got off at two o'clock as usual and then went out to my father's at Panmure Monument.

Sunday 20

Got up at eight o'clock and started at nine to go and meet my Anne, who was coming to go to church with me today. I went along the length of Denhead, although from the nature of the day, which was very dull and somewhat rainy, I did not expect her to come. However I stopped till a quarter past ten, after which I thought she would not come, but imagine my surprise at seeing her in the church when I went in. I could scarcely believe my eyes. She did not get away at the time she intended and not knowing the road up to the Monument, she just stopped at the church. She came up with us of course after the service and spent the afternoon at the Monument and started between six and seven to go home again, accompanied of course by myself. We arrived at the Kellas at eight after a pretty pleasant walk and a nice quiet crack by ourselves and something sweet to season it with of course. I stopped about half an hour or so at the Kellas and arrived in Dundee at ten o'clock. Got to bed at eleven.

Monday 21

Spent the evening at the newspapers and my books, filling up, etc., etc. Got to bed about eleven o'clock.

Tuesday 22

Spent the evening at my manager's, Mr John Sturrock's, house who has very kindly offered to give me some instruction and lessons in connection with my trade, etc., etc.

AUGUST 1865

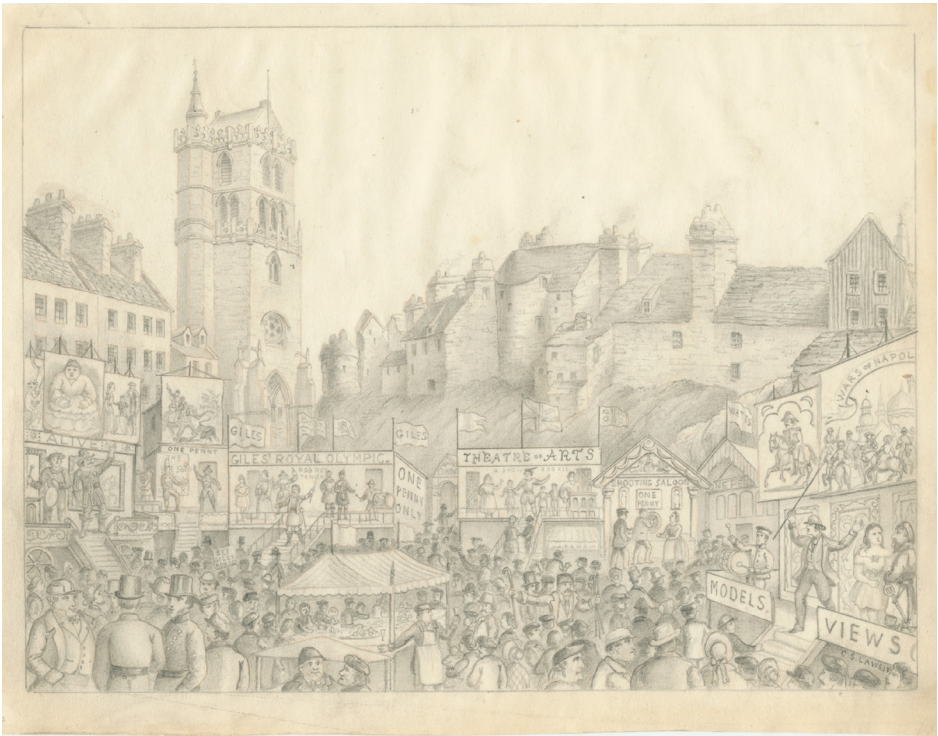


Fig. 13 An early nineteenth-century sketch depicting the variety of entertainments available at the shows put on during the annual Dundee Fair, and the large crowds they attracted. Although Sturrock was disgusted by them in 1864, in the following year he paid to enter four shows. (Reproduced courtesy of Libraries, Leisure and Culture, Dundee)

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Wednesday 23

Went in the town and got my haircut. Took a walk round the docks and had a look at the shipping, etc. Got home at half past nine and read a while before going to bed about eleven.

Thursday 24

Spent the evening at Mr Sturrock's.

Friday 25

Went in the town with my bed-fellow tonight and then went east [to] Dock Street to have a look at the shows, etc., which are here on the occasion of the Fair and annual holidays. Went in to three or four of them, some of which were worth seeing and some were not. Happened to meet two of my bed-fellow's weavers (he is a tenter) with whom we chatted a while and then took a walk round the High Street together on our way home, they stopping in King Street. Got home at half past ten, scrawled a few lines in my journal and got to bed about a quarter past eleven.

Saturday 26

Wrought till eleven o'clock tonight at James Irons' Mill where I commenced at two o'clock in the afternoon.

Sunday 27

Did not get up till quarter to nine today. Went to Wellgate Territorial Church in the forenoon, St Enoch's in the afternoon and Chapelshade in the evening. Commenced a letter to my Anne in the afternoon and finished it in the evening. Got to bed about eleven as usual.

Monday 28

Wrought till ten o'clock at James Irons' Mill.

AUGUST 1865

Tuesday 29

Commenced at five o'clock at Mill today and wrought till ten again.

Wednesday 30

Wrought all night and got home about eight o'clock on the morning of the 31st, and after getting some breakfast and myself cleaned went in the town between ten and eleven. Went down to the shore and had a nice warm bath which I enjoyed very much, and after looking about me for a while I got home at half past one and then read at the *Sunday Magazine*, which I bought today, till about three, when I went up to Mrs Packman's and stopped till about half past five and was not long home when John Wright came in. He got home from Coupar Angus on Saturday last and went off on Monday afternoon on an excursion to Glasgow from which he returned this afternoon and being on his way out to his father's I went out to Midmill with him and got home again a little before nine. Did a little to my books, filling up, and got to bed about half past ten.

SEPTEMBER

Friday 1

Got up about seven o'clock and started at half past eight for the Kellas where I arrived at ten with the intention of stopping all forenoon and then starting after dinner for the Monument. But it turned out to be a pretty late dinner time indeed, for I did not get away till seven o'clock, a good part of the time of course being spent with my darling Anne.

Saturday 2

Got up about a quarter to seven and started a little before nine to go up to my brother William's at Carmyllie who by the by has been down at the Buddon with our brother James for the last nine or ten days and from what I have heard he has been rather better since he went down and a good deal readier for his food since he went down than what he used to be. But for all that I am like to think his working days are done, poor fellow. My brother Alexander at Guilday was just commencing his harvest when I went over and I stopped all forenoon with him and gave him a little assistance. Had already had about an hour and a half or two hours shearing and have been feeling the effects of it all this day, Monday, yet got up to Carmyllie between two and three o'clock. I also went up in the evening and saw my uncle and aunt and got a crack with them.

Sunday 3

Got up about seven o'clock again and started a little before eight for the Monument in company with my brother Robert, William's wife having started at the same time for the Buddon to see her husband. Went and heard Mr McIntyre as usual. Started at five o'clock for the Kellas. Got a long quiet crack with my Anne and left at half past seven for Dundee where I arrived about nine. Had a while's conversation with my bed-fellow and did not get to bed till a quarter to eleven.

SEPTEMBER 1865

Monday 4

Spent the evening at the newspapers and my book, filling up. Got to bed about eleven o'clock as usual.

Tuesday 5

Spent the evening at Mr J. Sturrock's.

Wednesday 6

Spent the evening at Mrs Packman's in company with J. Wright, then went along to the top of the Murraygate with him and got home at ten o'clock.

Thursday 7

Spent the evening at Mr J. Sturrock's. Got a call from my dear Anne today at dinner time, but which was of course a short one, it being nearly three o'clock when she called and which was merely to let me know that she was expecting to be in town again on Sunday in company with her brother George and Miss Dykes.

Friday 8

Went out to the Baxter Park tonight where there was a Grand Flower Show today in commemoration of the opening of the same. The show was open to the public this afternoon and is to be all tomorrow also. I went in and saw it tonight and was quite delighted with it. It was in my opinion a splendid collection both of flowers and vegetables, there being some specimens of the latter which I could call perfect monsters. There were also some beautiful bouquets and floral devices. Went up to Mrs Packman's a few minutes as I was coming home and got Elizabeth's and Margaret's cards. Got home about twenty minutes to ten, filled up a bit of my journal and got to bed about twenty past eleven.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Saturday 9

Got off at two o'clock as usual and went up with my sisters Ann and Isabella (who came into town this morning) to the Baxter Park. Went through the flower show with them and round the park and then came down and got some tea after which we went up to the Bucklemaker Wynd and called on Charles McHardy and then went in the town to look about for a while. Happened to meet first Helen and then Margaret Wright with whom we strolled about here and there till ten o'clock at which time we all separated on the High Street. I then went up with my sisters to Mrs McHardy's, where they stopped all night. Took a while at the newspapers after I came home and did not get to bed till about quarter or twenty to twelve.

Sunday 10

Lay in bed till eight o'clock today and even then I was very unwilling to get up, having got very little sleep all night from my stomach having got over-loaded and out of order someway or other, so much so that I have not taken above as much food all day as would be one ordinary diet, the very sight of it being quite enough for me. Went up at nine o'clock with my sisters to Charles McHardy's to our breakfast to which we were invited last night. Stopped till about half past ten when I went along to Mrs Packman's where I was expecting to see my Anne with her brother George and Miss Dykes, but they did not arrive till eleven o'clock and then they all went away to church, except Mrs Packman and George, with whom I stopped a while and then came along to Sturrock Arthur's where my sisters were and went along with them to the west end of the town to call on a cousin, Jane McKenzie, Mrs Stratton. Landed at Mrs Packman's again a little past two, with my sisters, after which we all set out together and had a walk in the Baxter Park where we stopped till tea time, my sisters and I going to Sturrock Arthur's to ours. We went along for a while again to Mrs Packman's from where they all started a little before six for home. I went out the length of Midmill with my

SEPTEMBER 1865

sisters, but the Kellas folk having their gig with them had been nearly home by the time we got there. I got home between seven and eight and went to bed about a quarter to nine, as I was both tired and sleepy, not having been anything like well all day. Did not get a quiet crack with my Anne today at all.

Monday 11

Wrought till ten o'clock tonight and then did a little to my journal, filling up, before going to bed. Met my cousin Thomas Petrie as I was going up to my work at dinner time. He came in to the town in the forenoon and had been looking about for a while for my lodgings but without success. He went up to the foundry with me, when I got permission to show him through it, and he not having seen anything of the kind before was quite delighted with it. Better today than what I was yesterday but not quite right yet.

Tuesday 12

Working till ten o'clock again then took a while at my journal and did not get to bed till twelve o'clock. Got about all right again this afternoon.

Wednesday 13

Working till ten o'clock again and then wrote a few lines of a letter to J. Wright and got to bed about half past eleven.

Thursday 14

Ten o'clock again.

Friday 15

Ditto.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Saturday 16

Got off at two o'clock as usual and then went down with the quarter past three train to Monifieth, then went along to my sister's, Clementina's, at the South Grange, where I stopped a while and got up to the Monument between seven and eight. Got a rise of three shillings on my wages today, which now makes them 19s. per week. I was expecting to get a rise for some weeks past but never expected to get more than two at the outside and was quite surprised and need hardly say delighted too when I saw three shillings instead of two more than usual.

Sunday 17

Lay in bed till nine o'clock today. Went and heard Mr McIntyre as usual and was particularly pleased with him today. Started at five o'clock for the Kellas, where of course I had to stop a while and exchange a few sweet words with my darling Anne. Got company in with Margaret Packman and Ann Findlay. Went down to the Shore Terrace with the latter and was up to my lodgings again by half past nine and was in bed by a quarter to eleven. Got an invitation today to my brother Robert's wedding and at which I have to act as best man.

Monday 18

Went in town tonight and bought a new necktie for the marriage, also a bottle of port wine which I intend to give him in a present. Was home again a quarter past eight and took a while at my books, filling up, and did not get to bed till almost half past eleven.

Tuesday 19

Went along and called on J. Wright with whom I spent the evening till almost ten o'clock. He then came along the length of the Murraygate with me, when we went into Mathers' Temperance Hotel and had a pie and ginger beer. Got home at half past ten, took a while at the newspapers and got to bed about the same time as last night.

SEPTEMBER 1865

Wednesday 20

Went up to Mr Allan's in Church Street, the father of my brother's intended wife, to make some arrangements about the marriage on Friday. Stopped till about a quarter to ten, filled up a bit of my journal and got to bed about a quarter to eleven.

Thursday 21

Spent the evening at Mr John Sturrock's, came home about a quarter past nine and trifled about and did not get to bed till about half past eleven.

Friday 22

This being my brother's marriage day I did not go to work at all, but took an extra hour in bed, namely till half past six, and then went in the town and looked about a while and took a walk round the docks, both old and new, and got home again about half past eight. Got breakfast and dressed myself and went down to the station and met Robert who arrived at five minutes to ten, accompanied by George and Isabella. Robert and I then went to the Register Office, engaged two cabs to take us to the station and got up to Church Street at half past ten. Got through with the ceremony at half past eleven, got some dinner and got down to the station in time for the ten minutes to one train for Carnoustie, and then walked up to his house at the Milton of Carmyllie, where we arrived about half past three, and kept up the sport to between two and three o'clock in the morning, after which I went home with a lass of the name of Margaret Ramsay to the Goat, a small farm belonging to her father and about a mile or so from the Milton. We sat down and had a while's chatting together before I came away again and I did not get back to the Milton till almost five o'clock when I got to bed as quickly as possible and lay till nine on Saturday morning and after getting breakfast I went up to Greystone to see my brother William, who is strictly speaking not likely to get much better yet. I had only time to stop about an hour or

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

so at Greystone as I had to see a young girl, Christina Chambers, a niece of my brother's wife, down to the station at Carnoustie by a quarter to three o'clock, and as I have to be out at the Monument on Saturday first, I just came up along with her and did not go to my father's at all. Came up with Miss Chambers to her grand-father's, Mr Allan's, and stopped about half an hour or so and then went in the town to meet my brother George who came up with us. Met him at the top of the Murraygate and brought him up to my lodgings to get some tea. Went in the town again and looked about us till half past six at which time he left with the train on his way home. Was accosted as I was making my way home by a son of William Lumgairs, Kerrystone Bank, who asked me if I knew anything about some lodgings which he had been hearing about and which he was in want of and as I happened to be acquainted with the landlady, an aunt of John Wright's, Mrs Weir, I went up with him to her house, the same being exactly on my road coming home and where of course I had to stop a while. Got home about a quarter to eight, took a while at my books, filling up, a while at the newspaper and got to bed about a quarter to eleven, being both pretty tired and sleepy by that time.

Sunday 24

Lay in bed till eight o'clock today and did not go out to take a walk before breakfast as I usually do but spent the time at the *Sunday Magazine* reading. Went and heard Mr Knight of Free St Enoch's in the forenoon and afternoon. Took a walk along the Marine Parade and out of the Nethergate to the Magdalen Green between the services. Wrote a few lines of a letter to my darling Anne after tea, then went along to Free Chapelshade and heard an excellent sermon from Mr William of St Paul's on the parable of the servant who received a talent from his master and then went out and hid it in the earth, and thus abused it instead of using it.^[48] Met John Wright as I was coming home and turned and went along to the old Newtyle Station with him and got home at nine o'clock. Read a while at the *Sunday Magazine*, etc., and got to bed about a quarter to eleven.

SEPTEMBER 1865

Monday 25

Went up to Mr Allan's tonight for some parcels to send out with the carrier tomorrow. Got home at a quarter to nine, took a while at my journal and got to bed at a quarter to eleven.

Tuesday 26

Went up to Mr Sturrock's tonight where I stopped till about half past nine, then took a while at my journal and got to bed at eleven.

Wednesday 27

Went out to the Kellas tonight to see and get a crack with my dear Anne. Also went in and stopped a while with her brother James and got home about a quarter past twelve.

Thursday 28

Went in the town tonight and bought for myself a small spirit level and pair of trammel heads for James Sturrock. Happened to meet J. Wright with whom I went into the Restaurant and had a bottle of ginger beer and a game or two at draughts. Got home at a quarter past ten and to bed at eleven.

Friday 29

Spent the evening at home practising a little at the drawing. Got to bed about eleven.

Saturday 30

Got off at two o'clock as usual and then went out to my father's. Started with the quarter past three train.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK



Fig. 14 Reform Street in the late nineteenth century. (Reproduced courtesy of Libraries, Leisure and Culture, Dundee)

OCTOBER

Sunday 1

Lay in bed till nine o'clock today and then went and heard Mr McIntyre as usual. My brother Robert and his wife being given them a call at the Monument today and also my cousins Thomas and John Petrie from Mill of Lour, I did not get started for Dundee till a quarter past six and being too late then for having any time to stop at the Kellas I took the Newbigging and Drumsturdy road on which I have no calls to make and got home at a quarter to nine o'clock and took a look at the *Sunday Magazine* before going to bed about half past ten.

Monday 2

Went in the town and bought some little trifles and then up to Lamb's Lane, Bucklemaker's Wynd, and called on Charles McHardy. Got home a little past ten, took a while at my books, filling up, and got to bed about a quarter past eleven.

Tuesday 3

Spent the evening at Mr Sturrock's till twenty minutes to ten. Got to bed at eleven.

Wednesday 4

Went in the town and put three pounds in the bank, and then went along to call on J. Wright, who happened to be away at Arbroath where he is to be for two or three days. Came direct home again where I arrived at eight o'clock and then took a look at the *Sunday Magazine*, which I bought as I was coming up. Got to bed at half past eleven.

Thursday 5

Spent the evening at home practising a little of my arithmetic (decimals). Got to bed about half past ten.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Friday 6

Spent the evening at Mr Sturrock's till half past nine, then took a look at Molesworth's *Formulae*⁽⁴⁹⁾ and got to bed about a quarter past eleven. Got a few lines of a letter from my dear Anne tonight in which she was telling me that she and her father and her brother's wife and children had been all up at Carmyllie together and that she saw not all of *my* friends but all of *our* friends. Yes, dear Anne, they are ours, for though we are not yet united in the bonds of marriage, I even now look on myself as being as much yours at the present time as if we were so, and that little word 'ours', a thousand thanks to you for it, Anne, for I have no words to express the happiness and joy or pleasure which it gave me, for it conveyed to me the joyful assurance so plainly and frankly, much more I think than ever you gave me before, that you are mine. Yes, dear Anne, and that you look upon yourself as being so even now and which I fervently hope we will continue to do as long as God sees fit to spare us for each other. It is now within a few minutes of twelve.

Saturday 7

Got off at two o'clock as usual and then went in the town after dinner and saw the Rifle Volunteers assemble in front of the High Schools at four o'clock, after which I looked about me a while and went down and took a walk round the docks, both old and new, and got home to tea at a quarter to six. Went in the town again in the evening to a Grand Concert of first class artistes in the Corn Exchange Hall who were engaged for the inauguration of the new organ which has been put there. Got home at twenty minutes to eleven, filled up a little at my books and got to bed about a quarter to twelve.

Sunday 8

Lay in bed till eight o'clock this morning and then went out and took a walk through the Baxter Park before breakfast. Went and heard Mr Knight of Free St Enoch's both forenoon and afternoon, with whom I

OCTOBER 1865

was particularly well pleased today. Came home in the middle of the day and took a look at the *Sunday Magazine*. Went with my bed-fellow to Sturrock Arthur's after tea, where we stopped a short time and then went down and heard Mr Spence of Ward Road Independent Chapel. Went up and met John Wright at the end of Victoria Street and went in the town a bit with him and got home again at nine o'clock and after reading a while at the *Sunday Magazine* and a chapter and psalm, which I always do on Sunday night. I got to bed at half past ten.

Monday 9

Went down to the High Street tonight to meet J. Wright with whom I made an engagement last night. But owing I suppose to its being a heavy night of rain he did not come. At least I did not see him, so I got home again by eight o'clock and after filling up a bit of my journal and writing a letter to my darling Anne I got to bed at half past eleven.

Tuesday 10

Spent the evening at Mr Sturrock's till twenty minutes to ten. Took a look at Molesworth's *Formulae*, had a while's conversation with my bedfellow and got to bed at eleven.

Wednesday 11

Went and heard the first course of lectures to be given under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association, which was delivered by the Rev. William Arnot, Edinburgh, subject: 'The Dundee Young Men's Christian Association', which he handled in a very eloquent and masterly manner. Got home at ten o'clock, filled up a little of my books and got to bed about eleven.

Thursday 12

Wrought till a quarter past seven tonight then took a while at the drawing and got to bed a little before eleven.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Friday 13

Spent the evening at drawing again. Was making a sketch of a vertical boring machine, which I have got finished tonight. Got to bed about eleven.

Saturday 14

Got off at two o'clock as usual and tomorrow being the Sacrament I went down to church after dinner and got my token. Got out at half past four and after buying a cravat and looking about a while I got home to tea about half past five, after which I went down to the High Street again and then along to the Arbroath Station with my brother George who was in town today. Came back to the High Street again by way of Greenmarket and took a stroll along the Nethergate, Reform Street, etc., and was home again by a quarter to eight. I forgot to mention last night that I saw and got a short conversation with my Anne yesterday at dinner time who was in town along with her father who I suppose was not aware that it was principally to see me that Anne came along with him yesterday. I said in the letter which I wrote to her in the beginning of the week that perhaps I would be out on Friday to see and get a crack with her. So she, so kind-living and mindfull of me, could not think of letting me come so far, as she always says, to see her and so soon after getting a letter too, so she took the opportunity to come in with her father, under shelter of some little errands of course, and so keep me from coming out. Many thanks to you, dear Anne, for your tender regard for my comfort. Spent the rest of the evening after coming home at the newspapers and my books, filling up, and did not get to bed till half past eleven.

Sunday 15

Got up at half past seven and had a walk through the Baxter Park as usual before breakfast. Joined myself today to Mr Knight's Free St Enoch's congregation, with whom I partook of the Sacrament. He

OCTOBER 1865

was assisted by one Professor Douglas of Glasgow,^[50] who served both the tables but of whose addresses I could make little or nothing. Mr Knight then gave a very instructive and solemn closing address which was so plain and clear that anyone I think could have understood it. The service concluded a little before three o'clock and commenced again a quarter past six. Spent much of the intervening time reading the *Sunday Magazine*. Professor Douglas conducted the service and gave an excellent discourse with which I was highly pleased. Met a shop-mate, Alex Robertson, as I was coming home and had a while's conversation with him, when John Wright came up, with whom I went in the town a bit and got home at half past nine and got to bed about an hour after.

Monday 16

Spent the evening at home taking a turn-over among my clothes, packing up my dirty ones and doing some little jobs at the tailoring business, but which would have been far better done by a dear girl whom I hope to have one day yet to do them for me. Took a while at my books, filling up, and got to bed about eleven o'clock.

Tuesday 17

Went and heard the second of the course of lectures tonight which was delivered by James Dodds, Esq., London, subject: 'How England and Scotland met the Spanish Armada in 1588'.^[51] It was on the whole a splendid lecture but not nearly so interesting to me as what the first one was. Got home at ten o'clock and got to bed at eleven.

Wednesday 18

Spent the evening at Mr Sturrock's where I stopped till ten o'clock. Then did a little to my books, filling up, then got to bed about eleven.

Thursday 19

Wrought to half past eight tonight, then mended one of my braces, and took a look at today's *Advertiser* and got to bed about eleven o'clock.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Friday 20

Spent the most of the evening reading the *English Mechanic*,^[52] a journal which I have commenced to take, and which is a weekly record of mechanical inventions and scientific and industrial progress. Had a while's conversation also with a Mr Caird, a friend of my bed-fellow's, who was calling on him tonight in company with his young wife, he having got married on Monday last, previous to his leaving for a three years' engagement as mechanic on a power-loom factory in Spain. Did a little to my books, filling up also, and got to bed about a quarter past eleven.

Saturday 21

Got off at two o'clock as usual and left with the quarter past three train for Monifieth on my way to my father's where I arrived about five o'clock and found them all well.

Sunday 22

Lay in bed again till almost nine o'clock. Went to church as usual and heard one Mr Walker from Dundee, who gave an excellent sermon from the words, 'Having a desire to depart and to be with Christ which is far better'.^[53] Started about five o'clock as usual for the Kellas where I arrived a little past six and found Elizabeth Packman waiting for me. Stopped about an hour and half or so and of course contrived to get a few words with my dear Anne before leaving. Came in by Duntrune and also got company with John Wright and his sister Helen and arrived home at twenty minutes past nine and got to bed at half past ten.

Monday 23

Was up at Mr Sturrock's tonight, where I stopped till half past nine, then filled up a bit of my journal, read a while at the *English Mechanic* and got to bed at twenty minutes past eleven.

OCTOBER 1865

Tuesday 24

Lecture night again. The lecturer tonight was the Rev. George Gilfillan, subject: 'The Moral and Religious Influence of Sir Walter Scott's Writings', and, more especially I think from what he said, of his novels, the *Waverley*, and from what he, the lecturer, said of their influence, if it is not great, at least ought to be so at any rate, and to give some idea of estimation in which he himself holds them, he stated at the commencement of his lecture that there was not a day that passed but what he read a part of them and not a year but that he read them all from beginning to end. The lecture was on the whole a pretty interesting one.^[54] I got home a few minutes before ten took a while at the *English Mechanic* and got to bed at half past eleven.

Wednesday 25

Went and heard the great Italian patriot, the Rev. Alessandro Gavazzi, who delivered a lecture tonight in the Corn Exchange on 'Italy – Past, Present and Future' and which was one of the most powerful pieces of eloquence that ever I had the pleasure to hear. He intimated at the close of his lecture that he was to preach three different times in Dundee on Sabbath first and I intend at present to hear him all the three times again if possible. Got home at a quarter to ten, took a while at my journal, filling up, and got to bed about half past eleven.

Thursday 26

Went up with my bed-fellow to Victoria Street and called on a young lady, Miss Catherine Mill, from whom I had the loan of Dick's *Christian Philosopher*, to return which was my errand tonight. Got home about a quarter or twenty past ten, took a look at Milton's *Poems* and got to bed about half past eleven.

Friday 27

Spent the evening at home reading the *English Mechanic*, etc. Got to bed about a quarter or twenty to eleven.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Saturday 28

Got off at two as usual. Then took a while at the newspapers after dinner and went in the town and looked about a while and had a walk round the docks and got home to tea about six o'clock. Went down again about half past seven and looked about a while and happened to meet Margaret and Helen Wright and another servant girl and some lads with them, where I halted a while and then came home with Margaret and the other girl, both of whom stopped in the Constitution Road. Got home at half past ten, filled up my books and got to bed at half past eleven.

Sunday 29

Got up about eight o'clock, but being a very heavy rain which continued till about mid-afternoon, I did not go out for a walk before breakfast, but employed the time in reading the *Sunday Magazine* for November, which I bought last night. Went and heard the great Italian patriot and preacher, the Rev. Alessandro Gavazzi, today. He preached in the forenoon in Mr Borwick's U.P. Church from the text, Romans 3 and 28: 'Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law'; in the afternoon in Mr Ewan's Free Church from 1 John 4 and 14: 'And we have seen and do certify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world'; and in the evening in the Corn Exchange Hall from James 2 and 26: 'For as the body without the spirit is dead so faith without works is dead also'. They were three of the plainest and most practical sermons I think that ever I heard. He lays down his heads so plainly and clearly and illustrates them in so many different ways that anyone could understand them. Went up the length of Stobswell after the evening sermon expecting to meet John Wright, but did not see him. Got home at a quarter past eight, read a while at the *Sunday Magazine* and filled up my journal and got to bed about half past ten.

OCTOBER 1865

Monday 30

Went up to Mr Sturrock's where I stopped till half past eight, then went along to Mrs Packman's, where I stopped till about ten, after which I wrote a letter to my Anne, and did not get to bed till twelve o'clock.

Tuesday 31

Went and heard Professor Nicoll from Glasgow deliver the fourth of the course of lectures tonight.^[55] The subject was 'Tennyson, Poet Laureate' and notwithstanding that he handled it in a very masterly manner it was not on the whole so interesting to me as what the others have been. Got home a little past ten, filled up my books, and got to bed about twenty past eleven.

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 1

Spent the evening at home reading the *English Mechanic*. Got to bed about half past eleven.

Thursday 2

Went along to J. Wright's lodgings in the Scouringburn but did not see him, he not having got home today as he was expecting from Bullionfield Paper Works, where he has been all this week and also the last. I then came along to Constitution Road and called on his sister Margaret where I stopped till ten o'clock. Filled up a bit of my journal after coming home and got to bed about half past eleven.

Friday 3

Took an evening's practice at arithmetic. Got to bed about half eleven as usual.

Saturday 4

Wrought tonight till eleven o'clock at Halley and Sons Mill, lighting cogs of flywheel.

Sunday 5

Got up at half past six, dressed myself and set out for the Kellas where I arrived at half past eight and got breakfast with James Sturrock after which I went to church and heard Mr Boyd. Got dinner with James again and went in the course of the afternoon and spent a time with my Anne, when I was telling her that I was quite tired and wearied of this cold and comfortless way of living in lodgings and that I should like a wife and home of my own now. She for her own part said she was quite ready and anxious to come and share it with me, except, kind tender-hearted creature that she is, she cannot see how she can leave her father, and indeed seeing how they're situated to each other I cannot blame her for it, but rather love her the more for her consideration for her father's

NOVEMBER 1865

comfort and happiness. So there is no other recourse but have patience and put up with lodgings a little longer yet. Got my tea with her father and her and then had an hour and a half or two hours conversation with them, and started a little past eight for Dundee again where I arrived at half past nine, having got company with John Wright from Midmill Bleachfield, where we happened to meet exactly together. Got to bed about half past ten.

Monday 6

Spent the evening at Mr Sturrock's till half past nine. Then filled up a bit of my journal and trifled about and did not get to bed till half past eleven.

Tuesday 7

Went and heard Mr Ballantyne from Edinburgh deliver the fifth of the course of lectures.^[56] The subject was: 'Life among the Red Indians and Fur Traders of North America' and he having spent six years among them himself as governor of one of the Hudson Bay Company's forts he could speak from personal experience and gave some very interesting details of how they spent their time away out in these wild regions of the Far North and West. Got home about ten o'clock and sat down to read a while at the *English Mechanic*, but soon fell asleep and slept till almost half past eleven.

Wednesday 8

Had a visit from John Wright tonight with whom of course I spent the evening in conversation and one thing or another till about half past ten, then went in the town a bit and got to bed about half past eleven as usual.

Thursday 9

Spent the evening at arithmetical practice ... extraction of the square root. Took a while at my books, filling up, before going to bed about a quarter past eleven.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

Friday 10

Went in the town tonight and happened to meet John Wright and his father and his sister Helen with whom I came up to the top of King Street, John and his father being on their way out to Duntrune. I then went along with Helen to the west end of the Magdalen Green and got home again at half past nine. Read a little for amusement and made up my books for the night and got to bed a little past eleven.

Saturday 11

Got off at two o'clock as usual and started for the Kellas about half past three and arrived there at five, and being about Hallowe'en it was the intention to have little sport there tonight. But as James Sturrock has been lying all the week, an attack of bronchitic gastritis and inflammation, we did not have so much sport as perhaps we might have had had he been well. However I got my tea with Anne, her father, her brother George and Miss Dykes, and then we four had a little sport together in the course of the evening. Miss Dykes left about ten o'clock and then Anne and I had a crack together, after which I went up to James's to bed about eleven o'clock.

Sunday 12

Got up about a quarter past seven and started for the Monument to my breakfast where I arrived about nine. James Sturrock had a very restless night and on the whole was rather worse than better. Went to the church as usual and being the Sacrament Day the service did not conclude till a quarter to four. Started for the Kellas at my usual time and I am sorry to say found James even worse than he was in the morning, so much so that I don't think he was sensible of my being in the room at all tonight. Got a word or two with my dear Anne before leaving, aye and a sweet kiss and a fond embrace too. Came in by Duntrune for J. Wright and arrived in Dundee about half past nine. Got to bed about half past ten.

NOVEMBER 1865

Monday 13

Went along to Margaret Wright's tonight, and was one of a party of about a dozen which she had got permission to have on the occasion of Hallowe'en. Some of them who were keen for a dance went out and got hold of a blind fiddler, and his fiddle also of course, and we started dancing with such spirit that we kept up the sport till twelve o'clock. Filled up my income and expenditure book after I came home and got to bed at one o'clock.

Tuesday 14

Lecture night again. The lecturer tonight was the Rev. J. P. Chown of Bradford, subject: 'A Summer Furlough across the Atlantic', and which was in my opinion the best lecture of the whole series so far.^[57] It was in fact just a miniature trip to America and back again in less than two hours and at the same time one of the best descriptions of American manners, habits and customs that one could get, I think, without actually seeing it themselves. Got home at a quarter past ten, chatted a while with my bed-fellow and then filled up a bit of my journal and did not get to bed till twelve o'clock.

Wednesday 15

Spent the evening at Mr Sturrock's till ten o'clock. Then took a while at my journal again and got to bed at half past eleven.

Thursday 16

Was at soiree of employees of Lilybank Foundry tonight in Thistle Hall to which their employers, Messrs Pearce Brothers, were invited in compliment to them for their readiness and willingness in granting us the payment of our wages weekly instead of fortnightly. There were several excellent and appropriate speeches delivered, especially one by George Robb, draughtsman at the work, and the other by Mr James Reid, time-keeper. There were also several songs sung and on the while

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

the evening was spent in the most agreeable and harmonious manner imaginable and broke up, after enjoying an hour and a half's dancing, at twelve o'clock.^[58] Got home at twenty minutes past and was not long in getting to bed.

Friday 17

Spent the entire evening at the fireside without doing anything except going down the street a few shops for a dose of castor oil which I am thinking of taking tomorrow as I have been very dry and bound up inside for some time and tonight I felt particularly tired and lazy like somehow and could not be troubled to do anything. So stopped the most of the evening at the fireside and after filling up a bit of my journal got to bed at eleven o'clock.

Saturday 18

Did not get off till about half past two today and after taking a look at the newspapers a while, I dressed myself and set off with the half past four train to my sister's at Monifieth, where I stopped till nine o'clock. Travelled up to Broughty Ferry and took the ten minutes to ten train and arrived at my lodgings here at half past. Took a look at the newspapers and got to bed at half past eleven.

Sunday 19

Lay in bed till half past eight and then spent the morning till church time reading the *Sunday Magazine*. Went to Free St Enoch's in the forenoon and afternoon and heard Mr McGregor of St Peter's in the Free Gaelic Church in the evening. The day being very wet and dirty I spent the whole time between the services at home principally reading the *Sunday Magazine*. Wrote a letter to my dear Anne after coming home in the evening and got to bed at eleven o'clock.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
ACCOUNT, 1865

INCOME 1865

			£	S	D
Jan.	3	Money in hand	1	9	11½
	7	Received from my brother William to buy a hat for him		3	0
	9	Amount of Wages	2	0	11
	21	Amount of Wages	2	15	6
	28	Price of hat from my father		2	6
Feb.	4	Amount of Wages	1	15	8
	18	Amount of Wages	2	3	9
Mar.	4	Amount of Wages	1	19	1
	18	Amount of Wages	1	16	3
		Interest of ten pounds transferred from Post Office to National Securities Savings Banks		7	11
Apr.	1	Amount of Wages	1	12	6
	15	Amount of Wages	1	16	2
	29	Amount of Wages	1	17	4
May	13	Amount of Wages	1	16	5
	27	Amount of Wages	2	2	3
		Price of pot which I bought for my sister		3	8
Jun.	10	Amount of Wages	1	5	1
	23	Amount of Wages	2	4	8
Jul.	8	Amount of Wages	1	12	4
	22	Amount of Wages	1	12	1
Aug.	5	Amount of Wages	1	15	11
	19	Amount of Wages	1	16	2
Sep.	16	Amount of Wages	2	19	5
	30	Amount of Wages	1	12	2
Oct.	14	Amount of Wages	1	19	2
	28	Amount of Wages	1	16	9
Nov.	4	Amount of Wages		14	8
	11	Amount of Wages	1	2	0
	18	Amount of Wages		17	10
Dec.	2	Amount of Wages	1	15	8
	18	Amount of Wages	1	15	8
	30	Amount of Wages	1	17	4
		Total amount of wages in 1865	52	4	3½

EXPENDITURE 1865

			£	S	D
Jan.	3	Newspaper and ginger beer			3
	4	Sweetmeats and confectionery		1	1
		<i>Sunday Magazine</i>			7
		Wool lined gloves for present to my father		4	6
		Railway fare to Monifieth			6
	5	Strong ale and sweets		1	5
	6	Strong ale and half glass of brandy			7
		Boots soling and repairing		4	0
		Some coppers to James Sturrock's children, Kellas			2½
	7	To my brother William's children, Carmyllie			2
		For two overall jackets and pair of trousers making		5	6
		To my mother for flannel shirt, butter, etc.			5
	8	Church door collection			1
	10	Board and lodging		12	9½
		Oranges and sweets		1	0
		Small portrait for locket and two cards		3	4
		Small account book and pass book			3
	13	Cream of Tartar			1 ½
	15	Strong ale and biscuit			4
		To subscription box for Wallace Monument fund in Castle Hill Cemetery, Stirling			3
	18	Five days board and lodging at Dunblane		6	6
		To keeper of Dunblane Cathedral			6
		Travelling expenses to and from Dunblane		9	2
		Porter and ginger beer			5
	20	Oranges			3
	21	Newspapers and church collection			1½
	23	Boards and lodging		10	3½
		Sweets			3
	24	For two hats for my father and brother William		6	0
		For inside callipers or scribers			8
		Box of pills			2
		Lifeboat subscription			1
	28	<i>People's Journal</i>			2
		Sweets			3
	29	Church door collection			½
	28	Oxalic Acid			1
			3	16	11

EXPENDITURE 1865

			£	S	D
Mar.	4	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Postage stamps			6
		Warm Bath			9
	5	Church door collections			2
	6	Board and lodging		13	4
		Sweeties			3
	7	Writing paper and envelopes			7
		Steel square		1	0
	9	Biscuit			1
	10	Dinner at Coffee House			3
		Dress hat altering		3	6
	11	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Railway fare to Monifieth and sweeties			9
		Canvass for overalls		2	3
		For two draws or tickets for my brother William's lottery		2	0
	12	Church door collection			1
	13	Dinner at Coffee House			2
	18	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Postage Stamps			6
		Milton <i>Poem's</i>		2	6
		Mason on <i>Self Knowledge</i>		1	0
		Sweeties			3
	19	Church door collection			7
	20	Board and lodging		12	4
		Hair cutting			2
	22	To cab driver for giving me a drive part of the road coming home from the Kellas (all I had on me)			2½
	23	To see Professor Pepper's Ghost			6
	24	For dinners at Coffee House – four days			8
	25	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Flannel for two shirts		6	3
		New stick for umbrella		1	9
		Oxalic acid			6
	26	Church door collection			1
		James Sturrock's little girl, Maggie			3
	30	Four days' dinners at Coffee House			8
		<i>Sunday Magazine</i>			7
			2	14	9½

EXPENDITURE 1865

		£	s	D
Apr.	1			1
				4
				6
			3	8
	2			1
	3		12	3
	7			2
				3
	8			3
			1	0
				1
			2	0
	9			1
	10			3
	13			1
	15			1
			1	6
	16			1½
	17		11	4
	18			6
				2
	19			7
	20		2	5
			2	0
				1
				1
	22			1
				8
				9
				6
	23			1
	27			1
	29			1
				1
			18	0
	30			2
		3	0	3½

EXPENDITURE 1865

			£	s	D
May	1	Board and lodging		13	3
	2	Daily <i>Advertiser</i>			1
	6	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Board and lodging		5	8½
		To carter for removing my chest			7½
		New bonnet and necktie		2	0
		Sweeties			3
		Admittance to Diorama in Corn Exchange Hall			6
	7	Church door collections			2
	13	Board and lodging		7	3½
		Railway to Monifieth			6
		Sweeties			3
		To my mother for butter, etc.		1	0
		<i>People's Journal</i>			1
	14	Church door collection			1
		To my sister Ann's boy			1
	15	Pies and ginger beer			10
	16	For a pot for my sister Clementina		3	8
		Piece of steel for square blade		1	6
		Plane iron			7
	17	Black sugar			2
	20	Board and lodging		6	4
		Postage stamps			6
		<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		To collection to defray expenses of Volunteer Band in Baxter Park			1
	23	Admittance to Diorama front seat and two chances of prizes		1	0
		Paper and envelopes as hansom to writing desk which Helen Wright gained at Diorama			8
	26	Cough lozenges and figs			3
	27	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Board and lodging		6	8
		For twelve cartes de visite of my sisters Ann and Mary		8	0
		To black plaid which Ann, George and myself gave to my mother		10	0
		To help my sister Mary to get boots		3	0
		To Scots Bible binding and lost number containing Psalms and Paraphrases	1	0	0
		Sweeties			10
		Ginger beer and biscuits			8
		Railway ticket to Monifieth			6
	30	Sugar Candy			2½
	31	Bottle of cough mixture			11
		Bottle of ginger beer			2
	29	Bottle of castor oil and powder			8
			4	19	4

EXPENDITURE 1865

		£	S	D
Jun.	1			7
				½
	3			1
			6	6
			1	6
				2
			1	2
				3½
			1	0
	4			1
				1
	5		1	0
				3
				6
				½
	7			4
	10			2
				6
				4
				3
				6
			4	11½
	11			1
	13		1	2½
	16		3	6
				4
	17			1
			6	0
				1
				½
				10
	18			1
	20			2
	23		1	4
				3
				1
	24			1
			3	0
			1	0
				8
			7	4
				2
				10
				3
				7
			1	9
	25			1
	26		6	3
	28		2	0
				½
	29			6
		2	17	1 ½

EXPENDITURE 1865

		£	S	D
Jul.	1			1
			5	7
	2			1½
	4			6
				6
	6			½
	7			3
	8			1
			7	0
				2
				6
			1	9
	9			3
	11			4
	12			1
	13			6
				1
	14		4	0
	15			1
			5	10
			1	0
				6½
				3
	16			2
	20			1
	21			2
	22			1
			6	0
				3
				6
	23			1
	24			½
				1
	27			1
	29			1
				1
				1
				4
				1
				2
	30			1
				2
		2	5	8

EXPENDITURE 1865

		£	S	D
Aug.	2			
			1	2
				1
	3			1
	4			6
	5			1
			5	10
				3
				6
	6			½
				2
	9		5	0
				1
	12			1
			6	4
				3
				1
	16			2
	18			10
	19			1
			6	1½
				3
			1	8
				6
			1	0
	20			6
	23			2
				1
	25			2
				6
	26			1
			6	8
	27			3
	31			6
				7
			1	2
				4
		2	2	2

EXPENDITURE 1865

		£	S	D	
Sep.	1	Board and lodging		6	2½
		Daily <i>Advertiser</i>			1
		Confectionery			1
		Carpet tacks			2
	2	To my brother William's children at Carmyllie			3
	3	Church door collection			1
	6	Sweeties			3
		Apples			1½
		Pie			2
		Boot laces			1½
	8	Admission to flower show in Baxter Park			6
	9	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Board and lodging		6	5
		Admission to flower show of my sisters, Ann and Isabella, and myself			9
		Sweeties		1	3
		Apples			3
		Postage stamps			6
	14	Boots repairing			4
		Black sugar			2
	16	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Board and lodging		6	4
		Railway fare to Monifieth			6
		Pound of apples			2
	17	Church door collection			1
	18	Fancy neck tie		1	0
		Bottle of port wine for present to my brother Robert on the occasion of his marriage			3
	19	Pies and ginger beer			8
	22	Board and lodging		5	0
		Sweeties and rock on the occasion of my brother's marriage		2	6
		Two cabs to take us to the station		3	0
		Four railway tickets to Carnoustie		3	6
		Bottle of whisky and some wine of refreshment at marriage		6	6
		To fiddler at marriage		1	6
	23	Two railway tickets from Carnoustie to Dundee		1	9
	24	Church door collection			2½
	23	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
	27	Pound of apples			2
	28	Small pocket spirit level		1	10
	30	Board and lodging		7	9
		Sweeties			3
		Apples			2
		<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Railway fare to Monifieth			6
			3	4	5

EXPENDITURE 1865

			£	S	D
Oct.	1	Church door collection			1
	2	Box of pills			2
		Four small elastic rings			2
		Molesworth's <i>Pocket Book of Engineering Formulae</i>		4	6
	4	<i>Sunday Magazine</i>			7
		Pound of apples			2
	7	<i>People's Journal</i> and pencil			1½
		Board and lodging		6	0
		Two pounds of apples			4
		Ticket for concert in Corn Exchange			6
	8	Church door collection			1½
	9	1½ dozen of the Waverley steel pens			6
	11	Ticket for course of lectures got up by Young Men's Christian Association		4	0
	13	<i>Daily Advertiser</i>			1
		Pound of apples			2
	14	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Board and lodging		7	3
		Church door collection			1
		Woollen cravat		2	0
		Oxalic acid for taking iron marks out of my clothes			6
		Pound of apples			1
		To poor woman on street			1
	15	Church door collection			2
	18	Pound of apples			2
	21	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Thirty parts of <i>English Mechanic</i> with index		2	7
		Board and lodging		6	2
		Railway fare to Monifieth			6
		Pound of apples			1½
	22	Church door collection			1
	23	Top-coat repairing and dressing		1	0
	25	Admission to Corn Exchange to hear the Rev. Alessandro Gavazzi on 'Italy, Past, Present and Future'			6
		Pound of apples			2
	26	<i>Daily Advertiser</i>			1
	28	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Board and lodging		6	6
		<i>Sunday Magazine</i>			7
		Pies and ginger beer		1	0
		Two pounds of apples			3½
		To poor man on street			½
		Sweeties			3
	29	Church door collection			2½
	31	Pound of apples			3
			2	8	5

EXPENDITURE 1865

			£	S	D
Nov.	1	Postage stamps			6
	3	Brooch repairing for my sister Ann			3
	4	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Board and lodging		7	1
		Two bottles of lemonade			4
		Pound of apples			2½
	5	Church door collection			1
		To J. Sturrock's children, Kellas			2
	9	Three parts of <i>English Mechanic</i>			3
	10	Bottle of quinine and box of pills			8
		Pound of apples			4
		Crackers and two small china dolls for Hallowe'en			7
	11	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Ticket for Lilybank Foundry Soiree		1	0
		Board and lodging		6	3
		Crack nuts			4
		To my mother for butter, etc.		2	4
	12	Church door collection			1
		To James Sturrock's children			2
	13	Pair of Wellington boots		16	6
		Pound of apples			2
		Crack nuts			3
		Sweeties			3
		To fiddler at Hallowe'en spree			10
	17	Castor oil			3
		Hair oil			3
	18	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Board and lodging		6	6
		Pound of apples			2
		Sweeties			3
		Railway ticket to Monifieth			6
		To my sister's children there			2
	19	Church door collection			2½
	20	Railway fare to Blairgowrie		1	10
		Admission to lecture in Town Hall of Blairgowrie			3
	21	Writing paper, pen and envelopes			6
		Pair of boot laces			1
	22	Ale and porter			6
		<i>Daily Advertiser</i>			1
	23	Railway fare to Coupar Angus			4½
		To little girl in Coupar Angus			2
		Porter and ginger beer			5
	24	<i>Daily Advertiser</i>			1
	25	<i>People's Journal</i>			1
		Board and lodging		7	6
		Pair of laces			1
	27	<i>Advertiser</i>			1
	28	Porter, bread and cheese			6½
	29	<i>Advertiser</i>			1
	30	Pound of apples			3
			3	0	4

EXPENDITURE 1865

		£	s	D
Dec.	1			1
	2			2
			8	9
			2	6
			5	0
				6
	4			2
	5			1
				1
	7			1
				6
	8			2
			2	0
	9			2
			8	0
				3
	10			2
	12			1
	14			1
	15			10
	16			1
			10	2
			2	6
			4	0
			3	0
			3	6
			3	0
				1
				6
	17			4
	19			1
				3
	21			1
	23			2
			8	11½
				3
	24			1
	26			1
				6
	28			1
				6
	30			2
			9	9
			1	10
				8
			5	3
				6
		1	2	0
	31			1
		5	8	1½
		38	0	10
		11	0	0
		2	8	4½
		51	9	2½

NOTES

- 1 The Packmans lived at 10 Lilybank. See *The Post Office Dundee Directory ... for 1864-65*, Dundee, 1864, 168.
- 2 Established in 1810 by J & C Carmichael to make steam engines, the Ward Foundry was located in Milne Street. See *The Post Office Dundee Directory ... for 1864-65*, Dundee, 1864, 293.
- 3 Portraits of the prince and princess of Wales, by Charles Baxter, had been displayed at the Corn Exchange in January 1864. See *Dundee Courier & Argus*, 18 January 1864.
- 4 Also known as the Panmure Testimonial, or the 'Live and Let Live Testimonial', it had been erected in 1839 to commemorate the generosity of the earl of Panmure during the corn shortages of 1826.
- 5 H & A Scott were jute manufacturers and merchants. See *The Post Office Dundee Directory ... for 1864-65*, Dundee, 1864, 254.
- 6 James Crockett, or Crockatt, was based at 54 Overgate. See *The Post Office Dundee Directory ... for 1864-65*, Dundee, 1864, 251.
- 7 A detailed description of the show, and a list of all the winners, was printed in the *Dundee Courier & Argus*, 12 September 1864. Despite the bad weather, and the presence of pickpockets, it was judged to be a success, with over 5,000 people attending over the course of the day.

NOTES

- 8 The Reverend James Ewing (1810-86) was the minister of St Andrew's Free Church.
- 9 Lamb's Temperance Hotel was located at 56 Reform Street. See *The Post Office Dundee Directory ... for 1864-65*, Dundee, 1864, 50.
- 10 No book by this title can be traced. It was perhaps *The Voyage of the 'Fox' in the Arctic Seas: A Narrative of the Discovery of the Fate of Sir John Franklin and his Companions* (1859) or *Narrative of the Expedition in Search of Sir John Franklin and his party* (1861), both of which were written by Francis M'Clintock.
- 11 Alex Roger was a photographer based in South Tay Street, Dundee. Cartes-de-visite, photographs the size of visiting cards, were extremely popular in the Victorian period and were frequently exchanged between friends and relations.
- 12 The city of Richmond was the Confederate capital for much of the American Civil War (1861-65) and, along with the neighbouring town of Petersburg, was the target of numerous attacks by the Union army. The Union army had been besieging Petersburg since June 1864, with great loss of life. It finally fell in April 1865, leading to the end of the war.
- 13 *The Sunday Magazine* was established in 1864 by Alexander Strahan, who appointed the well-known Free Church minister and philanthropist the Reverend Dr Thomas Guthrie as its first editor. Containing a mixture of worthy poems, self-improving articles and well-written stories, and illustrated throughout, its aim was to both entertain and instruct its readers. It proved extremely popular and enjoyed a large circulation.
- 14 Thanksgiving Monday was part of the five-day communion season held annually by Presbyterian Churches in Scotland.
- 15 The Dundee Coffeehouse, part of a temperance hotel run by Alexander Mathers and his wife, was located in Murraygate. See *The Post Office Dundee Directory ... for 1864-65*, Dundee, 1864, 50.
- 16 An eccentric is a mechanism used in steam engines to convert rotary into linear reciprocating motion in order to drive a sliding valve or a pump ram.
- 17 George Schleselman was a jute spinner and manufacturer. See *The Post Office Dundee Directory ... for 1864-65*, Dundee, 1864, 180.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

18 Isabella Armstrong, a native of County Tyrone, was a Brethren lay preacher. Her lectures in Dundee drew large crowds, although not all Dundonians approved: one correspondent to the *Dundee Courier & Argus*, signing himself 'A Minister', thought that female preachers were 'contrary to the order of nature, and a violation of the arrangements of God's good providence' (*Dundee Courier & Argus*, 11 June 1864). For further biographical details, see Ewan, E, Innes, S and Reynolds, S, eds. *The Biographical Dictionary of Scottish Women from the earliest times to 2004*, Edinburgh, 2006, 223-4.

19 Psalm 147:5.

20 The Reverend George Gilfillan (1813-78) was the minister of the School Wynd church in Dundee. He was a noted public speaker, and regularly drew large crowds to his lectures. He also promoted poetry among the working classes. His most famous protégé was William McGonagall, who in his own inimitable style announced Gilfillan's powers of eloquence:

The first time I heard him speak,
'Twas in the Kinnaird hall,
Lecturing on the Garibaldi movement,
As loud as he could bawl. (*Weekly News*, 7 July 1877)

For further biographical details, see MacKenzie, R N. Gilfillan, George (1813–1878). In *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, Oxford, 2004, online edition [ODNB]: <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/10725>.

21 The poems of George Crabbe (1754-1832) were distinguished for their unsentimental depiction of everyday life and society, and of the working class. See Faulkner, T C. Crabbe, George (1754–1832). In *ODNB*: <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/6552>.

22 The Reverend James McGavin (1811-87) was the minister of Tay Square United Presbyterian church, Dundee.

23 This was the fifth annual festival of the Dundee branch of the Scottish Reformation Society. Held at Lamb's Hotel, it attracted over one hundred members and their friends. See *Dundee Advertiser*, 16 February 1865.

24 This, and the entry for 6 January 1865, suggests that Sturrock served his apprenticeship with John Sturrock's father at Luckyslap, and that he stayed with the family during this time. This would account for his close friendship with his manager.

NOTES

25 *The Christian Philosopher; or, The Connection of Science and Philosophy with Religion*, Glasgow, 1823, was a popular work by the noted Dundonian, the Reverend Thomas Dick (1774-1857). In this and other works, he combined science and Christianity, and argued for a harmony between the two. See Astore, W J. Dick, Thomas (1774-1857). In *ODNB*: <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/7597>.

26 John Henry 'Professor' Pepper (1821-1900), director of the Royal Polytechnic, London, toured the theatres of Britain and beyond demonstrating scientific and technological innovations. 'Pepper's Ghost' was a projection technique that used lights, mirrors and plate-glass to make objects, including ghostly figures, appear and disappear on stage. See Seccombe, T, rev. Curthoys, M C. Pepper, John Henry (1821-1900). In *ODNB*: <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/21898>. The performances had been widely advertised in Dundee both in the press and on bills, which boasted of the 'new and astounding effects' of what was styled a 'spectoghostophantodrama'. The large crowds were 'alternately delighted and horrified by the antics of the ghosts' (*Dundee Advertiser*, 21 March 1865). Sturrock recorded spending 6d on a ticket, which would have got him a 3rd class seat (*i.e.* one at the back of the hall).

27 The Forfarshire Rifle Volunteers were formed in 1859.

28 *Is it Possible to Make the Best of Both Worlds?: A Book for Young Men*, London, 1853, by the Congregational minister Thomas Binney (1798-1874), enjoyed great popularity in Victorian Britain, not least for its message that worldly success was no obstacle to enjoying everlasting life. It also promoted healthy activity, cheerfulness, cultural endeavours and the pursuit of knowledge.

29 The congregation of Free St Enoch's was formed from the congregations of two other Free churches in the town: St John's and Dudhope. It met in Thistle Hall, Union Street. William Knight (1836-1916) was ordained as its first minister in 1866. Following a dispute, he and his congregation withdrew from the Free Church and were admitted to the Church of Scotland in 1874. Knight went on to have a distinguished university career and become an authority on William Wordsworth. See Scott, H. *Fasti Ecclesiae Scoticae. The Succession of Ministers in the Church of Scotland from the Reformation, volume 5: Synods of Fife, and of Angus and Mearns*, Edinburgh, 1925, 337-38.

30 William Arnot (1808-75) was the minister of the Free High Church in Edinburgh.

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

- 31 *i.e.* Dr James Gibson (1799-1871), professor of systematic theology at the Free Church College, Glasgow.
- 32 Ephesians 5:2.
- 33 The Confederate strongholds of Petersburg and Richmond had been surrendered to the Union army on 3 April.
- 34 Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States of America, was assassinated on 14 April 1865. William H Seward, however, survived the related attempt on his life.
- 35 'The Great Original Royal Diorama of Jerusalem and the Holy Land' opened at the Corn Exchange on the 4 May. The colossal painting was viewed as part of a show that started at 7.45 pm and included a lecture, and choral and instrumental music. As at Professor Pepper's Ghost the month before, Sturrock bought the cheapest class of ticket available.
- 36 Despite its apparently poor reception in Dundee, the author went on to publish his lecture: *The Fall of Abraham Lincoln; Slavery Vanquished in Arms, Resorts to the Pistol and the Dagger, thus the South is Avenged: A Lecture Delivered in the Corn Exchange Hall Dundee, May 7, 1865.*
- 37 After running for a week, the diorama show was expanded to include a prize draw during which 'A vast quantity of Elegant Articles will be given away'. This did not please everyone: a correspondent to the *Dundee Advertiser* sniffed that the audience now consisted largely of people from the lower orders who were interested only in the prizes. (*Dundee Advertiser*, 19 May 1865).
- 38 More usually 'handsel', a gift bestowed to commemorate an inaugural occasion or event with the idea of bringing good-luck to the recipient. See *Scottish National Dictionary*, s v handsel.
- 39 Celebrations marking the monarch's birthday were traditionally riotous affairs, and the council hoped that the concert in Baxter Park would provide citizens with a more peaceful alternative. It was a success, with several thousand people attending the performance given by the artillery band, although a rowdier crowd did gather in the High Street and accompanied their revels with fireworks. See *Dundee Advertiser*, 25 May 1865.

NOTES

- 40 Dr David Greig was a prominent figure in the city. He served as surgeon to various institutions, as well as maintaining his chemist and druggist shop at 17 High Street and a medical practice in the Nethergate. See *The Post Office Dundee Directory ... for 1864-65*, Dundee, 1864, 231 and 307.
- 41 Luke 22:31.
- 42 Matthew 25:1-13.
- 43 A permanent home for Sanger's Circus was erected in East Dock Street later that year.
- 44 James Irons' jute and tow spinning operations were based at Park Mill, Douglas Street. He also had a linen factory at Seafield Lane. See *The Post Office Dundee Directory ... for 1864-65*, Dundee, 1864, 136.
- 45 The Dundee steamship *Dalhousie* had been wrecked at the mouth of the River Tay, near Abertay Sands, on 24 November 1864, with the loss of all passengers and crew.
- 46 Ephesians 1:3.
- 47 First published in 1778 and going through many editions thereafter, *The Self-Interpreting Bible* was the most successful work of Scottish minister and author John Brown (1722-87).
- 48 Matthew 25:14-30.
- 49 *i.e.* Molesworth, G L. *Pocket-Book of Useful Formulae and Memoranda for Civil and Mechanical Engineers*, London, 1863 and numerous subsequent editions.
- 50 Probably George Douglas, professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Exegesis at the Free Church College, Glasgow.
- 51 James Dodds (1813-74), originally from Softlaw, near Kelso, is perhaps best known nowadays as the author of the *Lays of the Covenanters*. In the 1850s and 1860s, however, he was also an extremely popular public speaker. See Blaikie, W G, rev. Baudry, S R J. Dodds, James (1813-74). In *ODNB*: <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/7747>. According to the *Dundee Advertiser*, the lecture was 'crowded with a highly respectable and intelligent audience', a description that would have no doubt pleased Sturrock (*Dundee Advertiser*, 18 October 1865).

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

52 *The English Mechanic* was a popular science magazine, published from 1865 to 1926. Its subtitle was ‘a journal devoted to the interests of all connected with engineering, building, new inventions, manufactures, metals, photography, chemistry, telegraphy, astronomy, electricity, etc.’.

53 Philippians 1:23.

54 Again, Sturrock would have been pleased by the report in the *Dundee Advertiser*: ‘The chapel was filled with a respectable assemblage of the intellectual *elite* of the town’ (*Dundee Advertiser*, 25 October 1865).

55 John Nichol (1833-94) was the first regius professor of English language and literature at the University of Glasgow.

56 R M Ballantyne (1825-94) had travelled to Canada at the age of sixteen and spent five years working for the Hudson Bay Company, which involved travelling extensively by canoe and sleigh to trade with local Indians. On his return to Scotland, he wrote an account of his time in Canada, *Hudson’s Bay; or, Every-day Life in in the Wilds of North America* (1848), and went on to become a prolific author of adventure stories and other works of fiction, primarily for young readers. See Rennie, N. Ballantyne, Robert Michael (1825–1894). In *ODNB*: <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/1232>.

57 J P Chown was a Baptist minister and popular public speaker. A detailed account of his lecture at Castle Street Chapel was given in the *Dundee Advertiser*, which praised it as being ‘both instructing and amusing’ (*Dundee Advertiser*, 15 November 1865).

58 A report appeared in the *Dundee Advertiser* the next day, which concluded that, ‘We are greatly pleased to witness so much harmony and good feeling existing between master and workmen as were exhibited at this most delightful social reunion’ (*Dundee Advertiser*, 17 November 1865).

FURTHER READING

The original diary and accounts can be consulted at the University of Dundee Archive, MS 15/58/1 and MS 15/58/2. A small number of scanned pages from the diary can be viewed on the Scottish Cultural Resources Network website: <https://www.scran.ac.uk/>.

On nineteenth-century Dundee, see Tomlinson, J. *Dundee and the Empire: 'Juteopolis', 1850-1939*, Edinburgh, 2014; Whatley, C A, Swinfen, D B and Smith, A M. *The Life and Times of Dundee*, Tayport, 1990; Whatley, C A, ed. *The Remaking of Juteopolis: Dundee circa 1891-1991*, Dundee, 1992; and Whatley, C A, Harris, B and Miskell, L, eds. *Victorian Dundee: Image and Realities*, 2nd edn, Dundee, 2011.

On the general Scottish background, see Fraser, W H and Morris, R J, eds. *People and Society in Scotland, Volume II, 1830-1914*, Edinburgh, 1990; and Cooke, A, Donnachie, I, McSween, A and Whatley, C A, eds. *Modern Scottish History: 1707 to the Present. Volume 2: The Modernisation of Scotland, 1850 to the Present*, Edinburgh, 1998. For the wider historical context, see also Smout, T C. *A Century of the Scottish People, 1830-1950*, London, 1986; and Best, G. *Mid-Victorian Britain, 1851-1875*, London, 1971.

On work and the working classes, see Knox, W W. *Industrial Nation: Work, Culture and Society in Scotland, 1800-present*, Edinburgh, 1999. See also Wright,

THE DIARY OF JOHN STURROCK

D G. *Popular Radicalism: The Working-Class Experience, 1780-1880*, London, 1988, and Smout, T C, ed. *Victorian Values*, Oxford, 1992.

On religion, see Black, A. *Gilfillan of Dundee, 1813-1878: Interpreting Religion and Culture in Mid-Victorian Scotland*, Dundee, 2006; and, more generally, Brown, G. *The People in the Pews: Religion and Society in Scotland since 1780*, Glasgow, 1993. Donaldson, W. *Popular Literature in Victorian Scotland*, Aberdeen, 1986, provides an overview of popular reading material and habits. For explorations of working-class leisure, see Cunningham, H. *Leisure in the Industrial Revolution*, London, 1980; and Griffiths, T. Work, leisure and time in the nineteenth century. In Griffiths, T and Morton, G, eds. *A History of Everyday Life in Scotland, 1800 to 1900*, Edinburgh, 2010, 170-95.

A detailed contemporary description of Dundee is given in Wilson, J M, ed. *The Imperial Gazetteer of Scotland; or Dictionary of Scottish Topography*, 2 vols, London, 1868, I, 444-55. *The Post Office Dundee Directory ... for 1864-65*, Dundee, 1864, lists many of the businesses and people mentioned in the diary, and also provides an idea of the social and occupational diversity of the town.

For some biographical information about John Sturrock and his family (which has been used to amend part of the introduction to this volume), and a photograph of his parents, see <http://www.monikie.org.uk/sturrock-guildy.htm>.

For other relevant works, see the endnotes to the Introduction.