

Extracts from Cousin William Crockett's diary 1876.

William Crockett (Sam's cousin) was already a student at Edinburgh University and kept a diary for the year 1876. Highlighted are the entries of particular interest with reference to Sam.

FEBRUARY

Thursday 3rd February. Started for Edinburgh about 1:00 AM and reached it at 9:00 AM. It was very wet and stormy. Called at Mr Jowert's shop. Went to the college at 11. We had to sign our papers. I obtained lodgings at 50 St Leonard Street in company with another student. (Lowe) at 3shillings and 6pence. I got dinner and tea at Mr Jowert's.

JULY

Wednesday, 19th July. The Rector had a prayer meeting this morning and gave us a short speech before breaking up. I had a walk with Ewing and Farish. I left Edinburgh about 2. Came with Farish to Lockerbie. In CD about 6. Met by Mary, Jim and Pa.

Thursday the 20th July

Agnes Anne went off with the cheap trip to Ayr this morning.

Friday 21st July

I went up to Glenlochar today and had dinner and tea with uncle Sam in the evening I met Uncle R and Mary at the station Uncle Sam is sore on the union. He goes nowhere. I think he is sorry for the way he treat Lawrie

AUGUST

Thursday 3rd August. Pa and I called on Niveson to day. We went to Lawrie's for dinner. He was going to Blythe's marriage. We had tea at Cotton Street with Uncle Sam.

Friday 4th August. My father, mother and the children went off to Liverpool with the 10:20 train in the evening. AA and I called in on Mrs Clark. We met Mr Fleming. We also were in seeing W. J. Clarke.

Friday, 11th August. I did not feel quite as well this morning, but I started with Sam for Airyland, where his mother is. We had dinner and tea at the. at the dairy we had a great drink of new milk and witnessed the process of milking. Sam sketched. We came home same evening.

Saturday 19th August. Sam called in the morning to see me. The Doctor was also in to day. Uncle Bob brought me a paper. Auntie Kay and Aunt Aggie are very kind to me. Agnes Ann plays and Grandma is often upstairs.

Thursday 24th August. The Dr called and told me I was safe to go home now. He gave me a prescription for a lotion. I called on Mrs Williamson and spent the evening at Cotton Street.

Friday 25th August. Left for Liverpool at 10:25. I got the doctor's account, 5 shillings, before starting. Uncle B paid my ticket. Got into Liverpool safe and sound at 5.45. I had a pleasant journey with pleasant companions

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 13th September. Left for Edinburgh at 9:30 arrived about 5.15. Had Farish from Lockerbie, found my room all right. Lowe is in the bedroom. Had a walk with Farish called at Mr Jowert's shop.

Saturday, 23rd September. Studied in the morning. Had a walk round the something received. my letter from A. **Wrote home and to Sam.** Studied in the afternoon. Spent part of the evening in the museum. The weather is dull but mild

Wednesday, September 27th. Today we were drilled by Mackay. at Watson's. I saw Miss Miss something. We go into the ladies room as they are getting lessons in cookery. Missus Clow make wakens me at 6 in the morning. Got my bill. 11. pounds 1 shilling.

OCTOBER

Wednesday, 4th October. Lowe slept in this morning. Went to Watson. He told me Sam had got the bursary. Crawford gives us arithmetic instead of Greek.

Tuesday, 10th October

called on Mrs Jowert, but she was not in. Received a letter from Sam stating that he would lodge with me.

Wednesday 25th October In the college till one. My ankle continues swelled, but not so painful. Spent the evening with Mr and Missus Max. Read Henry VIII's reign in the evening. Bathed my foot in cold water. **Wrote to Aunt Annie about Sam's coming.**

Thursday, 26th October. Had a walk around the Queens Park. Dull, but very quiet. This the. Edinburgh. something studied geometry in the afternoon. Met Sam at Princes Street station. After tea, we arranged books, etc. We had a walk as far as the university.

Friday 27th October. Sam and I went through the castle. Were in Queen Mary's room. Visited William in. George St. We drew. He drew his 10 pounds. Took him through the museum in the evening. Read Enoch Andrew and other poems of Tennyson.

Saturday 28th October Today we walked round the Queen's Park and visited Holyrood. We did not go out in the evening. Read Loxley Hall and other poems. I wrote to Liverpool.

Monday, 30th October

Today Sam and I visited Portobello and came up in the tram. He visited Mr Lockby in the afternoon

Tuesday 31st October. The University session was opened by a speech from Sir A Grant in the Free Assembly Hall. There was a great uproar S writes long love letters to a certain C.

DECEMBER

Thursday 21st December. Sam's Latin exam took place today. At Windsor Street as usual

Friday 22nd December. Sam went off S tonight.

JANUARY 1877

January 2nd 1877. In the evening, had tea with Mr and Mrs Robson, the girls, however, were out at Mr Max's in the morning as usual. Sam came home tonight. A box arrived with my clothes from Queen Street. They have been most mindful of me.

January 5th 1877. In the evening, went with Sam to the Philomathic society. The debate was, should sacramental fast days be abolished?

Sunday 14th Jan 1877 Dr Smith preached in the afternoon. Sam and I had tea at Missus Jowert's.