

Alvin Thompson Smith
Diary 1853

- Jan. 1 Worked some at my Quarterly Account & brought 2 cows & calves from our creek
- Sab 2 Tended meeting at Walkers
- 3 Did chores about home
- 4 Worked at my Quarterly Accounts & some at my sled
- 5 Did the same
- 6 Salted some beef & worked at my Quarterly Account
- 7 Finished my Quarterly Account & did chores
- 8 Hunted cattle & horse
- Sab 9 Tended meeting at Mr. Walkers
- 10-11 Tended to my stock
- 12 Hunted for my stock & agreed with Doct Adams to make rails on Mr. E. Walkers claim at $1\frac{1}{2}$ dolls per 100
- 13 Hunted for my horses & found one colt dead
- 14 Worked some at my fence
- 15 Did chores about home .
- Sab 16 Tended meeting
- 17 Did chores & went to Hillsborough & back
- 18 Did chores & went to Br. Geigers & got a copy of survey of my land claim
- 19 Went to Portland & took some butter
- 20 Went up to Oregon City to prove up my claim but did not
- 21 Staid in Oregon City for the same purpose
- 22 Did the same and proved up my Land Claim
- 23 Staid in Oregon City & tended meeting
- 24 Came to Portland
- 25 Did some trading & came home
- 26 Did chores about home
- 27 Sold Mr. Peet (?) 10 bu. of wheat at 3 dolls per bu cash paid
- 28 Repaired by dooryard fence. The Doct. Adams family left for Milwaukie
- 29 Did chores & cleaned over some wheat
- Sab 30 Tended meeting at the Walkers
- 31 Sent my team to the mill & mended some of my fence that the high water took away & hired James Dorothy
- Feb. 1 Did chores about home
- 2-3 Mended fence that the high water took away
- 4 Did chores & cut lumber at Mr. Walkers
- 5 Cut some lumber at home
- Sab 6 Tended meeting at Mr. Walkers

- Feb. Feb. 7 Did chores & went to Br. Geigers & grooved my axes
 8 Cut some lumber for my house
 9 Did chores about home & gave K. Whit some lumber
 10 Hunted for lumber for my house
 11 Tended to mails & set some peach trees
 12 Worked at my fruit trees
 Sab 13 Tended meeting at Mr. Walkers
 14 Tended Probate Court
 15 Halled up some wood to the door
 16 Staid at home & wrote a letter to Mr. Spalding & a part of one to Conn.
 17 Finished my letter to Conn.
 18 Sent my letter to Conn. & did chores & went to Br. Geigers with Mrs. Smith & James helpt Mr. Walker
 19 Did chores about home
 Sab 20 Tended meeting at Mr. Walkers
 21 Did chores & sowed about $3\frac{1}{2}$ bu of wheat
 22 Set out some peach trees
 23 Sowed 2 pecks of wheat & worked about house
 24 Repaired fence & sowed 2 bu of wheat
 25-26 Did chores & transplanted some current bushes
 Sab 27 Tended meeting at Mr. Walkers
 28 Repaired some of my hog pen fence
 Mar. 1 Did chores & James went to the mill
 2 Halled up 3 wagon loads of wood
 3 Spent the day in fasting & prayer meeting at Br. Geigers
 4 Sowed six bushels of wheat & plowed
 5 Ditto & Mrs. Smith went to Mr. Griffins on a visit & to Mr. Eells
 Sab 6 Tended meeting at Mr. Walkers
 7 Sowed about 6 bu of wheat
 8 Ditto about 5 bu wheat & sowed some onion seed & went to Mr. Harpers & got some top onion seed
 9 Set out the top onion seed
 10 Did the same & did chores
 11 Did chores & helpt Mr. Reasoner clean up 31 bu of wheat that I raised in 1849
 12 Planted potatoes & peas & tended to my fruit trees
 Sab 13 Tended meeting at Mr. Walkers
 14 Did chores & fixed to go to Portland
 15 Went to Portland

- Mar. 16 Staid in Portland & did my trading
 17 Came home
 18 Did chores & tended a meeting at Br. Geigers concerning forming a church
 19 Cleaned up 9 bu wheat (red) & did chores & tended to the mail
- Sab 20 Tended meeting at Walkers
 21 Sowed about 5 bu of red wheat & 6 bu of peas
 22 Did chores & went to Mr. T.G.Naylors & got some apple & pear sprouts to graft
 23 Engrafted & set out some pear sprouts
 24 Did chores about home
 25 Tended a meeting at Mr. Walkers to consult relative to forming an orthodox Congregational church & sowed $4\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of peas
 26 Sowed about 5 bu of red wheat. Mrs. Smith made a visit to Mr. E. Walkers with Mr. Goodels family & Mrs. Eels
- Sab 27 Tended a meeting at Mr. Walkers & had a communion service. Br. Goodel preached
 28 Halled out maneur (sic) & transplanted some apple trees
 29 Sowed $4\frac{1}{2}$ bu of peas & set out some apple trees
 30 Staid about home & worked some on my Quarterly Accounts & Mr. Eells came & had a talk respecting buying his land which he had from Mr. Clark
 31 Finished my Quarterly Account & tended meeting at Mr. Walkers respecting forming a church
- Apr. 1 Did chores at home & loaned Henry Raymond 250 dollars beside 450 that I loaned to Cushing Eells the 30th of last November at 10 per cent interest for to buy Mr. Eells land which he bought of Harvey Clark & wife & got Mr. Luelling to set 20 grafts for me which he insures to live & to be the kind he represents them
 2 Worked over my sick mare all day & then she died. Mr. Spalding came here this evening
- Sab 3 Tended meeting at Mr. Walkers
 4-6 Tended Probate Court
 6 Frank Reasoner sowed about $2\frac{1}{2}$ bu of oats
 7 Sowed about $2\frac{1}{2}$ bu of oats & grafted & set out some apple trees
 8 Did the same
 9 Set out my grafted trees & excuted a bond & oath to keep the Post Office
- Sab 10 Tended meeting & E. Walker preached
 11 Sowed about 5 bu of oats & did chores
 12 Grafted some apple trees
 13 Did the same & went to Br. Geigers
 14 Plowed some in my orchard & Mr. Griffin & wife came here
 15 Mr. Geiger helpt me alter my young horses & then I plowed some

- Apr. 16 Plowed some in my orchard
 Sab 17 Tended meeting at home
 18 Plowed some in my orchard & worked on my apple trees
 19 Finished plowing my orchard
 20 Went to Portland with butter
 21 Sold my butter & came home
 22 Did chores at home & had a talk with Mr. Griffin respecting our church affairs
 23 Went to Br. Geigers & did chores
 Sab 24 Tended meeting at home
 25 Worked in my garden & Mrs. Smith was taken quite ill
 26 Worked in my garden & planted potatoes
 27 Worked in my garden & went with Mrs. Smith to Mr. Walkers to a Maternal meeting
 28 Worked in my garden & orchard
 29 Did chores about home
 30 Worked in my garden
 Sab May 1 Tended meeting at home
 May 2 Did chores & halled a load of wood
 3 Butchered my hog & paid Mr. Geiger his meat
 4 Salted my pork & did chores
 5 Went to Harrisons mill with grist
 6 Came home with my grist
 7 Sowed & harrowed in $2\frac{1}{2}$ bushels oats
 Sab 8 Tended meeting at home
 9 Went to Hillsborough to tend Probate Court but had no court owing to informality
 10 Did chores & ~~fixed~~ to go to Portland with butter. Reasoner planted corn
 11 Did chores & tended a meeting to appoint delegates to attend a convention Saturday at Hillsborough
 12 Went to Portland with my butter
 13 Did my trading & came home
 14 Staid at home & doctored Mrs. Smith
 Sab 15 Tended meeting at home
 16 Tended Probate Court
 17 Harrowed some in my orchard
 18 Did the same & planted beans
 19-20 Planted cucumbers, melons and squash seeds
 21 Planted corn

- May 22 Tended meeting at home
 23 Planted corn & Mrs. Wiley Knighton died this evening at 10 o'clock
 24 Planted corn & sold & delivered 5 sheep & 12 lambs to Doct
Perry Prettyman by his son
 25 Went to Br. Geigers with Mrs. Smith
 26 Worked at my fruit trees
 27 Halled up some wood
 28 Did chores about home
- Sab 29 Tended meeting at home
 30 Rolled my oats
 31 Overhalled & packed up some of my lumber
- June 1 Did the same
 2 Repaired my yard fence
 3 Did chores & tended a political meeting at Mr. Tuttles
 4 Did chores about home
- Sab 5 Tended meeting at home
 6 Tended the election at W.O.Gibsons
 7 Went to Portland & back
 8-9 Overhalled some of my lumber
 10 Planted corn, melon, cucumber
 11 Did chores about home
- Sab 12 Tended meeting at home
 13 Did chores at home
 14 Proped (sic) up some of my peach trees
 15 Ditto
 16 Worked in my garden
 17 Hoed corn
 18 Got Mr. Buxtons fanning mill to clean up my wheat & halled
 some wood
- Sab 19 Tended meeting at home
 20 Measured up the wheat that Speak got out & halled it in &
 hoed in my orchard
 21 Did the same
 22 Did chores & took home Mr. Buxtons fanning mill
 23 Hoed corn
 24 Worked on the road
- Sab 26 Tended meeting at home
 27 Hoed corn
 28 Worked on my Quarterly Accounts for the PO

- June 29 Finished making out my accounts
30 Hoed corn & beans
- July 1 Packed up some of my lumber
2 Did the same & tended school meeting
- Sab 3 Tended meeting at home
4 Packed up some of my lumber
5 Went & helpt Mr. Black raise his barn & went to Mr. Dixons & got my garden hoed
6-9 Set some stakes around my fields
- Sab 10 Tended meeting at home
11 Fixed for going to the Soda Springs with Mrs. Smith
12 Started for the Springs & went to Eli Perkins
13 Went to Vergil Pringles
14 Went to Mr. Henry V. Climers
15 Went to Mr. Philesten Lees at the Soda Spring
16 Went to Mr. H. Spaldings
- Sab 17 Tended meeting with Mr. Spalding
18 Stayed at Mr. Spaldings & went to see the grave of his first wife
19 Went back to Mr. P. Lees
20 To Mr. Clark Pringles
21 Went to Mr. Eli Perkins
22 Went home
23 Did chores about home
- Sab 24 Tended meeting at home
25-30 Worked at my barn floor
- Sab 31 Tended meeting at home
- Aug. 2 1-2 Worked at my barn floor
3 Went to the blacksmith shop & fixed for going to Portland
4 Went to Portland with my wagon
5 Staid in Portland & did some trading
6 Came home
- Sab 7 Tended meeting at home
8-11 Worked at my barn floor
12 Finished cutting & shocking oats
13 Went & got Mr. Emericks wagon & got it repaired to start after Mrs. Smith next Monday
- Sab 14 Tended meeting at home
15 Started for Mrs. Smith & went to Mr. Fords within 4 miles of Salem
16 Went to Mr. Philester Lees
17 Went to Mr. Spaldings with my wife
18-21 Staid at Mr. Spaldings & tended a camp meeting

- Aug. 22 Went to Mr. Henry V. Clymers
 23 Staid at Mr. Clymers because Mrs. Smith was very sick
 24 Went to Dr. Wilson in Salem
 25 Staid at Dr. Wilsons, wife very sick
 26 Came home to my place
 27 Did chores about home
 Sab 28 Tended meeting at home
 29-31 Worked at my barn floor
- Sept. 1-3 Worked at my barn floor
 Sab 4 Tended meeting at home
 5 Did chores about home
 6 Conversed some about our church affairs then cut some peas
 7-9 Cut peas & did chores
 10 Bought a wagon of Mr. Fisher & harness for two 8 yr old steers
 & a heifer calf
 Sab 11 Staid at home
 12-13 Cut peas & halled in oats
 14 Halled up some wood
 15 Worked some at my truck
 16 Notified Mr. Harvey Clark that we, Alvin T. Smith, William Geiger Jr., & John S. Griffin wish a council to settle our difficulties as regards church affairs
 17 Worked some at my trucks
 Sab 18 Tended meeting at Mr. Martins
 19-21 Worked some at my trucks
 22 Went to Portland with peaches & butter
 23 Did my trading & came home
 24 Did chores about home
 Sab 25 Tended meeting
 26 Went to Mr. Geigers & borrowed 65 lbs beef
 27-29 Worked on my trucks
 30 Thomas Owens came here & staid all night
- Oct. 1 Did chores about home
 Sab 2 Tended meeting at Mr. Beagles
 3 Did chores about home
 4 Tended a meeting of the so-called first Congregational Church of Tualatin Plains for the purpose of choosing a neutral Council of ministers & laymen to investigate the difficulties of the church from its first organization, & the church refuses to have a council. J.S.Griffin, William Geiger & myself were the ones requesting the council

- Oct. 5 Did chores & halled wood
 6 Worked at my Quarterly Account
 7 Did the same. Mr. Young came on a visit & Mr. Horace Hart
 8 Finished my account & bought Mr. Horace Harts mule & took up
 a 2 yr old heifer mostly white with a brand on the left rump
 & a crop off the right ear. Mr. Hart started for the states
- Sab 9 Tended meeting at the school house near Mr. George Beals
 10 Worked some at repairing my barn
 11-15 Did chores at home
- Sab 16 Tended meeting at Mr. Tanners
 17 Worked at my peas & let out my cows to Mr. Horace A. Hent
 for a year on the same conditions that H.C. Raymond took them
 last year, also let him some of my ground on the same
 conditions as common for me
 18-19 Halled in peas
 20 Went to Harrisons mill & back
 21 Got some of my lumber into the homse
 22 Tended to the mail
- Sab 23 Tended meeting at Mr. Walkers
 24 Did chores
 25 Went to Mr. Eells with Mrs. Smith & Catherine for Catherine
 to go to school
 26 Went to Harrisons mill with Mrs. Smith & got my grist &
 came home
 27-28 Got out peas with threshing
 29 Worked some at the other house
- Sab 30 Staid home from meeting
 31 - Nov.2 Stacked up my lumber
- Nov. 3 Tried to trace out the east. line of my claim
 4 Hunted for & found my sheep that ran away
 5 Did chores
- Sab 6 Tended meeting at Walkers
 7 Did chores & halled wood
 8-16 Gathering corn (writing very faint)
 17 Birthday 51 yrs old. O Lord pardon my past & give me Grace
 for the future for Christs sake. This day worked at my
 grainery
 18-19 Tended to mail & worked at grainery
- Sab 20 Tended meeting at Mr. Walkers
 21 Husked out my corn & did chores
 22 Cut wood at the door
 23 Went over to Messrs Griffin & Eells to advise what to do
 respecting the church letter received from T.G. Naylor res-
 pecting calling a doctrinal council

- Nov. 24 Halled wood & did chores
 25 Tended the mail
 26 Met the committee to decide upon the council but had to leave before any decision was come to for to attend to the mail
- Sab 27 Staid at home
 28 Helpt Mrs. Smith about washing
 29 Cut & halled wood
 30 Halled in 40 bu of red wheat & 40 bu of white wheat
- Dec. 1 Halled in 25 bu of white wheat & 4 of red
 2 Did chores about home
 3 Fixed been (sic) & put white wheat in
- Sab 4 Tended meeting at home & Mr. Spalding preached
 5 Took Margaret to Mr. Eells to go to school & paid for Catherines tuition & agreed to let him have some wheat for her board & had talk with Mr. Griffin about the council
 6 Cleaned up my peas
 7 Halled in peas & Mr. Spalding left Henry to board here & go to school
 8 Got some posts to prop up my wheat been
 9 Set up posts
 10 Fixed been
- Sab 11 Tended meeting at Mr. Walkers
 12-15 Did chores about home
 16 Repaired my hen house
- Sab 18 Tended meeting at home
 19-20 Did chores
 21 Went over to Br. Geigers with Mr. Griffin to talk about our council
 22 Went to Mr. Tanners & Mr. John Fletts & back home
 23 Tended to mail
 24 Halled in rest of wheat
- Sab 25 Staid home
 26 Did chores
 27 Butchered a beef for Mr. Eells
 28 Sent beef over to Mr. Eells
 29 Went to the Academy to tend the council but the men of the council did not come consequently the council failed at this time
 30 Went to Mr. Naylors with Mrs. Smith on a visit
 31 Halled home the shingles that Reasoner made me which was 11,000