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## The Journal of Charles Rawn:

"Towards the Seat of War," July 16 to August 2, 1861

Edited by Angela L. Eifert Key

### Introduction

Three months and a day after the fall of Ft. Sumter, Charles Rawn took a trip South. His account of that journey is the subject of my master's thesis. He went "to or towards the seat of war" with two friends, Edwin Pollack and a man he refers to only as Etter. The ambiguous title of his journal may be attributed to the fact that at this time, no one knew where any impending battles of this war would take place. Regardless, his intent was to meet his son Charles, visit Washington, and obtain information on the war situation

Rawn and his friends left Harrisburg, presumably by carriage, on July 16, 1861. Rarely does Rawn express emotion in his journals, but there is a tone of excitement as he writes on his first day, "I sat down immediately and wrote letter of trip and incidents this far to my wife at Harrisburg." He was anxious to tell her about his adventure thus far. Any letters he received from his wife were picked up at the "National." The National Hotel was his original reservation for lodging, but he found better accommodations once he arrived in Washington.<sup>1</sup>

Rawn's first stop was Martinsburg, Virginia. He and his party visited Hagerstown and Charlestown before spending a day in Harper's Ferry to tour the arsenal and engine

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<sup>1</sup> Throughout this trip, Rawn wrote his wife six letters. She sent him five letters. Rawn routinely checked the National Hotel, his original plan for lodging, for any correspondence.

house made famous by John Brown's valiant abolitionist effort. This may have been a pilgrimage for Rawn, who was a staunch opponent of slavery. By July 20, Rawn had arrived in Washington and stayed in a boarding house owned by the Fitzgeralds. From his hotel, he would take an omnibus to the war department and capitol where he spent his days listening to meetings of Congress. He would also stand in the street and socialize with politicians, judges, and generals. He frequently bought a newspaper, the *New York Herald*, or *The Sun*, for which he paid two cents.<sup>2</sup> Additionally, he would treat himself to a lemonade almost daily, which must have been a relief from the "very hot" days he described.<sup>3</sup>

On July 21, 1861, the Battle of Bull Run at Manassas, just outside of Washington, took place. Rawn wrote of the "agitation" there in his entry of that day. His entry of July 22 provides a more detailed description of this first major battle. Though his exact position during the battle is uncertain, Rawn gave a graphic account of the dead and wounded he observed. His tone was somber, yet anxious, as he says, "dead, wounded and dying being brought continually...wild and unforgettable in a degree the slaughter on both sides has been immense—in the thousands. There was desperate fighting—desperate fright in some quarters and desperate getting out of the way in all many directions and in all imaginable disorder."

The next day Rawn talked to General Mansfield, who predicted, with Bull Run as an indicator, that the Union army would soon be defeated by the rebels. After their conversation, General Mansfield issued Rawn a pass into Virginia where his son Chas

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<sup>2</sup> Rawn mentioned buying a newspaper on July 20, 24, 25, and 30.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce and Weather Bureau, *Climatic Guide for Baltimore, Maryland* (Washington D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1956) 7. The average temperature in Baltimore, Maryland, for July 1861 was 74.8 degrees Fahrenheit.

was serving in the Union army under General Patterson. Rawn traveled by steamboat to Alexandria and found Chas, who was sick with a cold and toothache. In another rare and heartfelt moment, Rawn disclosed his paternal feelings of concern when he wrote, “I did not wish myself that Chas should enter the army at all, nor did I feel entirely free to dissuade him from it.”

Rawn has two encounters with President Abraham Lincoln and his wife, Mary Todd. On both occasions, Rawn describes their physical appearance. The First Lady is “nice...pleasant-faced.” President Lincoln looks younger than Rawn has expected, with a “large mouth and nose, black whiskers and goatee...lantern jaws, high cheek bones, smallish deep sunken eyes.” Rawn continues to express his high esteem for the President: “he looked animated and agreeable and laughed with a perfectly demonstrative gesture...I am much pleased with his looks and manners.” Rawn is impressed with his “benevolent firmness...honesty, vigour [sic] of thought, firmness, and determined purpose.” Rawn recalls a humorous comment made by his acquaintance Mr. Shaw: upon seeing the tall President along side his short First Lady, they saw “the long and short of human life.” The inclusion of such humor in his journal is out of the ordinary.

The Lincolns attended Dr. Gurby’s Presbyterian Church, as did Rawn. By the Sunday service on July 28, Rawn was joined by his son John Calvin. He and Calvin spent their days at the war department and the Smithsonian Institution.<sup>4</sup> Rawn paid for everything he and his son did. This extra expense of his son forces him to write a Dauphin Deposit bank check to Simon Cameron for \$25.00. Cameron then cashed the check and gave the cash to Rawn.

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<sup>4</sup> The Smithsonian Institution was founded by the United States Government in 1846 with funds from James Smithson. [www.smithsonian.org/infocenter](http://www.smithsonian.org/infocenter). March 2002.

On July 30, Rawn celebrated his 59<sup>th</sup> birthday.<sup>5</sup> There is no mention in the journal of any kind of party or special treatment, although he did receive a letter from his wife on this day. Before he and Calvin returned to Harrisburg, Rawn had his clothing laundered and settled his account with the Fitzgeralds. Father and son stopped by the unfinished Washington Monument before arriving at the train depot.<sup>6</sup> The ride home, via an overnight stay in Baltimore, was “most wearisome slow and continually stopping.”

Upon conclusion of his 16-day trip, Rawn stopped writing in this journal. For some reason, however, he wrote six more entries from September 13 to October 17 (1861?) in the back of the journal. He wrote in pencil, which has since faded significantly. The text is extremely difficult to decipher, and the transcribed text found in this paper is minimally coherent.

In summary, Rawn’s journal is fairly emotional compared to other journals in his collection. There are moments of horror and fright, pride and patriotism, happiness and humor, as well as curiosity and surprise. The main purpose of his trip was accomplished—he visited Chas, mingled with Congressmen and generals to understand the war situation, and had a pleasant visit in Washington with John Calvin.

## **The Journal**

July 16-3 Clear and cloudy. Pleasant. Rose at 5 am. Breakfast at 6. Pd. My Bill \$1.25. Pollack and Etter each paid same and left in a special Hack [?] at 6:35 am driven by a

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<sup>5</sup> Rawn was born on July 30, 1802.

<sup>6</sup> U.S. National Park Service, *Washington Monument*. (U.S. Department of the Interior, pamphlet.) The cornerstone to the Washington Monument was laid in 1848, and construction continued until 1853, when funding ran out. With the Grant administration, funding and construction resumed, and the project was completed in 1884.

young man named William Geyer for Martinsburg, VA about 18 to 20 miles from Hagerstown. Stopped awhile at Williams first only [?] on the way and examined late [?] positions of Cap. Doubleday's batteries there forded the Potomac which is there about 300 yds wide and at deepest where we forded about 2 feet. We were accompanied by two gentlemen named W.R. Simon of Newville, Cumberland County, PA, and W.L. Elliott now of same place who especially wined us in the engagement of Mt. Hack at \$1/4 per piece for the fine from H. to Martinsburg. We examined the places of late fights on the round such as the Toll House where chimney shot away by Doubleday. Larger creek now crossed [?] by our troops. Leave town [?] on his confederates fired on them from it also the Porterfield farm some 6 miles more. Morning ride where horse [?] pierced shells, balls, and barn burned. Arrived at Martinsburg at 10 ½ to 11 am. Met some 75 to 100 loaded army wagons on the road taking stones back to H. to send by way of Chesapeake which came to Harper's Ferry also stuck [?] some 25 to 40 things [?] going to Martinsburg. Stones 20 to a town to Hagerstown. Had to have pass from Col. Yohe of Easton, PA to be admitted into the town of Martinsburg. We had ascertained before we got here that this army some 25,000 strong under Gen'l Patterson had moved on towards Manchester yesterday morning. We drove to the United States sight [?] kept by one where we got out and questioned.

I sat down immediately and wrote letter of trip and incidents this far to my wife at Harrisburg. Etter and Pollack also sincerely wrote to their wives. We dined 1 PM. Met Capt. Eyster and many other gentlemen and some acquaintances and were introduced to many—also met James Brooke of Del. Boy examined immense destruction by rebels of some 40 to 50 first class locomotives at this place—also of the beautiful bridge—I

wished to follow on some 10 to 11 miles towards Winchester after the army this afternoon but was overruled. We [?] Etter and Pollack backed by Capt Eyster's and other suggestions. We had a delightful afternoon to have met Gen'l Rowe and a friend of his first came to town who also go on after the army to Browne [?]. Walked around town to sending places in afternoon and made up this memorandum at 4 to 5 PM. Name of one Ernie William Geyer. Met Capt. J.M. Rydic [?] Sundry [?] of our acquaintances of his company New Cameron friends [?]. Witnessed admirable drill at 6 to 7 PM. To bed 10 to 10 ½.

17-4 Clear. Fine. Pleasant...up 3 to 4 am. Pd. For [?] and [?] 25 cts before breakfast to take with Chas in camp. With Capt. Eysters quarters about 5 am before he and Lieut. Burd [?] were up but rented them—We made arrangements to leave for Bunker Hill 11 miles off where army is—met Gen'l Rowe formerly of law offices this friend a Mr. McClanahan at Martinsburg. We paid on several bills to \$1.67 each that is Pollack, Eppers, and self at Martinsburg Henry Strammell's [?].

July 18-5 Warm. Unposing [?] and [?]. We had our boys into to breakfast and dinner with us today—to write my son Chas. Edwin Pollack and Eugene Snyder—The breakfast did us well but the dinner was soup and [?] and then not much beyond half as much either in quantity and quality from the unexpected crowd and piercing [?] upon on things in the establishment. We visited fronts of the encampment after breakfast and 2 or 3 other times through the day. We settled with our carriageman [?] this morning up to this time

and we each paid him \$5.75 for his [?] carriage. Money today and yesterday; he paying his own way for himself and horses. That was \$17.25 to hire him two days. Mr. Pollack and Ethers arranged with him to remain over here to catch [?] and run away to Hagerstown to M [?] and agreed to pay him \$5 and the proper fare at about 6 cts a mile to Hagerstown. I do not expect to return with them but shall probably remain with the army here or where it may go for a few days and go to Northampton city before going home. Col Yohe, Jordan , adj. Hablary [?], Capt. Eyster and the military gentleman called a low query today—also adj. Gen'l Awl. These men made up their few at about 5 PM. Spent Ev. [talking] around among officers gentry [?] to work for Gen'l Rering [?] –we were at Gen'l Millieur's in the morning—did not meet [?] him but we spent an hour or so at Gen'l Rerring's about 9 PM. To bed 10 to 11.

19-6 Clear. Fine. Very warm. Very hot, hum. Up at 4 am. I pd Bill for Ethers, Pollack, and self and extra meals from camp. To write my son [?]. Mr. E. Snyder and Ed. Pollack lending C. R. [?] the \$8.00 being \$2. Which was refunded to me. (Ethers and Pol. Severally at Harper's Ferry when we got there today by me [?] from each of \$2.50 uphill [?]. The Loud called it 1 ¾ days since supper [?]. Ev. To after breakfast this morning. I paid old Rge [?] for small bottle 25 cts. Handed M. Chey. \$3.00 m---[?] with \$2 I gave him yesterday \$5.00. Also gave him service [?] papers and Envelopes. Figs [?] and he left—Chestertown in our earnings at about 7 ½ am. Mr. R. [?] in another Awomperry's [?] carriage for Harper's Ferry some score [?] miles. Arrived at Harper's Ferry about 10am, parked round on the boundary natural to the river [?] of the place, not the least of which is the harried [?] destruction of [?] by the rebels when they invaded the plain at



Harper's Ferry. I paid one carriage man Henry Geyer \$1.00 for my ride to that place this morning and parted with Mr. Eppers and Mr. Pollack after each of their paying me \$2.50 as share of bill pd by me in Charlestown this morning. They came on in carriage at about 11 to 11 ½ am, on carriage I rented ¾ mile down the river to a place called Land Shark [?] Bukwain [?] 5 cts for carrying trunk—Pd by M. Barnhart for Bullet makes 15 cts—that he said he was taken [?]. Pd. Browne cartridge box about my taken [?]. We saw the Engine House in which old Brown<sup>7</sup> and his men were fortified and where they had made holes in the walls to fire out. Where his men were. Where his people fired from at the Engine House<sup>8</sup>, and we forded the river in our carriage allowed somewhat difficulty to cross [?] aground comprehend [?] of M.S. Ralph [?] where time 3 mos. Is int. and who left Charlestown this morning for home also forded the River by mending s[?] with H[?] off river r[?] up home Ev. I paid fare to Riley House from Sand [?] Herk [?] 70 miles \$2.55 left South [?] 1:25PM in am[?]<sup>8</sup>—Met H. P[?] of Lochiel Megs [?] at 5 PM. Short round old Relic of H. Ferry from here. Pd Fare Riley House lot parking \$1.25—arrived 6 ½ to 7 PM. Paid boy carrying valise 16 cts. Stopped at Natural H[?] Burke hurried in 2 ag. Met Col. Ceverly. Theo Evenawalt Milo[?] on Avenue and bed at 10 to 11 PM.

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<sup>7</sup> John Anthony Scott, *John Brown of Harper's Ferry* (New York: Facts on File, 1988) 20. John Brown was the abolitionist who led a group of men to storm the arsenal at Harper's Ferry, (now West) Virginia. The "engine house" was also referred to as the "Firehouse."

<sup>8</sup> Scott, 5. See Appendix 2 for map of Harper's Ferry.

20-7 Clear. Fine. Very warm. Very hot sun. Started after breakfast to call at Gen'l Camerons.<sup>9</sup> Met Judge Carey in the Street not far from Cameron's residence. Called at Cameron's was informed that he had gone into Virginia and would not be home till tomorrow. Then called at Ordinance department of the war department to see of U. Winehammer and found him very pleasantly situated at Main's in Room 47. He was very glad to see me. I wrote two letters while there between 9 and 11 ¾ am wrote one to my wife at Harrisburg, and one to my son Charles with Gen Patterson's division of the army at Charlestown, VA. I then got into an omnibus and rode to the capitol and paid 6 cts. House of Reps. Not in session—Senate was. Mr. Lathan [?] of California commenced a speech even after I went in on a special order being a joint resolution approving of the President's course in the war measures pursued by him before meeting of congress. Mr. L a very graceful and interesting speaker of considerable vigour of hYTE [?] and argument. Galleries well-filled but Senators seats not, there being only some 20 to 25 Senators present. Met Riley at Capitol—returned at 3 PM to Hotel for my dinner, made up my mind to leave hotel this Ev on account of annoyance by house guests [?]ing [?] last night. We had to fight and fend against them all night with only partial success. I had called on my return to dinner from capitol at a Wm. Fitzgerald's next door to the CI[?]y Hotel and about two squares nearer the capitol than the "national" where I had understood Mr. Bartuk[?] was in the habit of mapping and inquiries of her if she had accommodations for me. Said she had one simple room I could get and showed it to me. Found it equally as snug and comfortable as that at National. And she charged \$1.00 a day. Told her I

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<sup>9</sup> General Simon Cameron was a personal friend and counsel to President Lincoln. He was appointed to the War Department. During the war, Cameron was elected as Pennsylvania's U.S. Senator and served for 11 years until he resigned.

would come this evening to tea. I paid [?] bill \$3 ½ for one day at National and left at 6 PM. A black boy of Mrs. F's house named "Ben" carrying my luggage fumed [?] into no. 20, looked round for mosquitos, saw only one or two. Mrs. F. had told me she believed they were not troubled with them and had asked one of the boarders in my presence who had son he was not. There are some 30 persons Ladies' and gentlemen at this House—I met Richard Mallister sep[?] Clark and Riley after ten in wine [?] of Ev. Riley walked with me to the post office. I paid for a "Press" and "New York Herald" of today 5 cts. To bed at 9 ¾ to 10 ¼.

21-1 Clear. Some clouds in early morning before 8 am and much cooler. I was slightly annoyed last night by a mosquito, but on the whole slept very well. Up about 4 ½ to 5 am. Walked up to National before breakfast and inquired for letters. Got none. Breakfasted at 7 ½ to 8 am. Saw an old gentleman at stable whose voice [?] struck me as very familiar. Then examined his animation [?] and settled hey and den[?] that he was my old friend Thomas Wallace whom I have not seen for 20 to 28 years. Inquired the name of one of the waiters and found him to be the veritable Thomas Wallace.<sup>10</sup> When I got up from breakfast, I went around to his side of the table, took his hand, and told him when he should be done breakfast I wanted to see him when he should get through. He looked at me earnestly but did not know me. He is now about 77 years old he says but looks remarkably well. After he came out from breakfast, I met him, but he could not make me out. When I told him I was the veritable "Charley Rawn" that boarded with

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<sup>10</sup> Mr. Thomas Wallace is also mentioned in the Rawn entry dated January 16, 1832. Mary Groff, "A Lawyer's Life," December 1996: 7.

him some 30 years ago, he expressed great pleasure at meeting me. He is the same Tommy Wallace in manners and matter yet. I met here two interesting and intelligent men one named William Tyler and the other surname [?] the former of Pautauket, Mass. The other of Ohio at 11 am. We went to Dr. Gurbey's Presbyterian Church where a gentleman of New York named Cowen preached and where the communion was administered in which Wm. Tyler and myself participated. Dr. G's church (a new one) of which I have heard a good deal over not come entirely up to my expectations. Is a two story church that is with lecture Room and in basement with a very elevated entrance (same with steps) to the church or audience floor. I [?] with [?] stove trimmings. Within narrow front patio 4 columns. I attended there again in Ev. At 8 and heard the Dr. preach an interesting sermon on parental duty illustrated by a history of the early life and conversion at over 31 yrs. pope [?] of Aurelius Augustus—Service about an hour in length and after 10 o'clock when I got back to quarters. Wrote letter to my wife this afternoon at 4 o'clock—was introduced by Wm. Tyler to a gentleman and his wife named Shaw, who quarters at this house. He and his wife are very tall fine looking people. She remarkably tall for a woman. He has been a civil Engineer in VA for the state in former time and is now as I understand fleeing from or leaving that state on account of the troubles. They have 2 children (sons) I believe with them and have two daughters in Charlottesville yet. There is a constant agitation here today about the progress of the fight which is raging at Bull's Run, Centerville, Fairfax and in that vicinity. The firing is heard here it is said occasionally through the day, though I have not been in any suitable position to listen attentively for it. To bed 11 PM.

July 22 – 2 Rain. Rained steadily all day. Commenced in last night. The city in a tremendous excitement this morning from the war news. Dead, wounded and dying being brought in continually. I saw several of the wounded. One man with a Buck shot in the neck. Marks [?] of a man Regt. Wounded badly in the right arm—taken into a Boarding Home across the way from my quarters. Gentlemen's brother James, of the [?] Highland Regiment was killed dead by a shot directly through the head. I saw and talked with a friend of his Regiment who saw him after he was killed and who asked to carry him into a [?] and off the field and who says he brought his son [?] to the city. He says some 300 of their Regt. Must have been killed. The latter of Bull's Run which was on Thursday was renewed again yesterday morning at 6 or 7 o'clock.<sup>11</sup> When I say Bull's Run it is meant in that vicinity. From all accounts which of course are measurably wild and unforgettable [?] in a degree the slaughter on both sides has been immense—in the thousands. There was desperate fighting—desperate fright in some quarters and desperate getting out of the way in all many directions and in all imaginable disorder by some of our troops as I make out by the statements. Cameron's Regt as one of his men informed me was getting along in the battle very well till they were come on suddenly and unexpectedly by the cavalry and not being able to form in hollow square could not resist a terrible slaughter with the charge made on them. The Regt was compared as the man says of all Scotchmen.[?] Sundry prisoners of the rebel army have been brought in this morning and through the night as I understand this now about 10 ¼ am and I shall look around for further information. Excitement continued whole day. I saw and talked with a number of wounded men. There are small and large crowds here and there over

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<sup>11</sup> Paul Fleischman, *Bull Run* (New York: Harper Collins, 1993) inside cover. See Appendix 3 for map of Bull Run vicinity.

the city and especially at the Hotels and along the PA avenue who are listening gracefully to the various accounts of soldiers who were in the fight. I rode in omnibus about 11 am to 12 ½ PM to Georgetown intending to go to the soldiers' hospital but as it rained hard and I wanted to be at the Capitol at 12 to 1 PM. I merely changed p[?] and rode back to

the Capitol and paid round trip	.12
Paid Ropes [?] and envelopes	5
Paid Pos. stamps	10
Paid Lemonade at Capitol	5

Wrote to my wife at Harrisburg in reply to hers received this morning. Was at Capitol till about 2 PM. Spent afternoon and Evening at my boarding House in consequence of the constant and heavy rain. To bed 10.

23-3 Clear. Fine. Pleasant. Fine air. Met Capt. McCormick on street soon after breakfast who informs me that "our boys" and the "Lochiel Greys" are at Harper's Ferry with sundry Regiments and have been there since Sunday.<sup>12</sup> Army came there Sunday. I have also met J. P. Rutherford, Judge Wilmot at his room who gave me a note to Gen'l Mansfield for "a pass" to go into VA also saw and shook hands with Gen'l Cameron at war Department and others.<sup>13</sup> Got pass of Gen'l Mansfield as above. Talked with him and H. B. Wright of Luzerne, PA. He seemed much depressed about the fight at

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<sup>12</sup> Captain Henry McCormick recruited volunteers from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in 1861—Company F, Lochiel Grays, 25<sup>th</sup> Regiment. He and his wife, Annie Criswell, had five children: Henry Buehler, Vance, Mary, Hugh, and Annie.

<sup>13</sup> Captain John Parke Rutherford (February 14, 1802-May 12, 1871) was an abolitionist and served as quartermaster in the United States Army during the Civil War.

Manasses and said he expected the rebels would take Washington and Baltimore and then it would be up with us. I instrumented [?] my experience—the sentiment he is certainly failing or getting childish or is awfully scared. I left note at war department for Gen'l Cameron (v. copy kept) wrote to my wife from McAlvine [?] Brown's desk in said department (ordinance). Went in omnibus to Capitol at 1 ½ PM and on to the floor of the House and had the benefit of a seat along side of the Hon. Jos. Bailey of Perry Co., PA who informed me of different members by name and pointed them out such as Bennet [?] and Ex. Gov. Wickliffe of Kentucky, Sullan Digham of Ohio. L. and McClennand of Ills, and Mr. Bailey says that Mr. G. is an excellent speaker and I should so judge from what I have seen in two or three days.

I paid omnibus ride from war Department to Capitol 6

And Lemonade at Capitol 6

12

To quarters at 2, dinner at 3 ½ and in till after tea at 6 ½. Visited Willard and others after tea to find Capt. Henry McCormick. Found him at the Washington Hotel, where he introduced me to Dr. Owen. He said he was going back to Harpers Ferry in the morning. And that the whole of Gen'l Patterson's army had moved to that place from Charlestown on Sunday last. That my son Chas. Had been unwell with some cold, fever, tooth ache and he had advised him to ride to the Ferry. I met young Geiger of Harrisburg and Hon. Jos. Bailey of Perry at Willards. To bed 10.

July 24 – 4 Clear. Fine. Pleasant. Mr. Tyler and myself set out at 8 to 9 am to the Smithsonian Institute where we spent about 2 hours highly entertained with the Paintings in the museum grounds and at 12 noon we went to the Capitol and remained to near PM.

I paid newspapers and Lemonade	.7
Tobac at Fitzgeralds	10
For washerwoman (3 pieces)	<u>.25</u>
	.42

Spent rest of day till after tea at quarters. Wrote to my wife in reply to letter received from her yesterday and after tea met Newton Davis, Geo W. McCallan and Mirting [?] of Harrisburg. Soon after me Hank Davis brother of above who has gone with Col. Cowen's Regiment as adj. I think and for whose safety fear here being entertained at Willard's Hotel and there wrote another letter to my wife and enclosed both in one envelope and sent by n.h. Dairy. He informed me that the Lochiel boys were in Baltimore today (this morning, I believe) on there [sic] way home. Their Capt certainly knew nothing of this move when I saw him last night between 9 and 10 PM. This time is not actually up till 1 to 2 am. Met G. W. Harris Esq at Willards.<sup>14</sup> We talked together [?] and walked down the avenue together when I came home to my quarters. To bed 10.

25 – 5 Clear. Fine. Hot Sun. Warm. My new friend Mr. Tyler of Pautauket, Mass left for home this morning. He is a remarkably pleasant and instructive companion. I went to Willards Hotel after breakfast. Met Jos. Casey, Esq, Theo Adams and others. Mr. Casey

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<sup>14</sup> George Washington Harris (June 23, 1798-August 13, 1882) was the son of John Harris, the founder of the city of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He was admitted to the Dauphin County Bar in 1820.



informed me that he had had a conversation with Gen'l Cameron who expressed he was willing to give my son Chas a Lieutenants commission in the Regular army. I told Mr. Casey that I highly appreciated his kindness in that I did not wish myself that Chas should enter the army at all, nor did I feel entirely free to dissuade him from it. That Chas had expressed himself to me as preferring the artillery arm of the service if he did enter. I also met Mr. Wiestling who wanting to go to Alexandria today or he was going home in the evening, I agreed as a matter of company to go with him. We went to Judge Wilmots.<sup>15</sup> Lowery, Hukmary [?] and Baileys quarters to get note to Gen'l Mansfield for paper, but not finishing there in went to Capitol where we found Mr. Bailey who [?]

New paper and Envelopes	.6
Omnibus fare today	25
Lemonade for self	.6
Steamboat fare to and back from Alexandria	<u>15</u>
	.52

Mr. W. and self started on boat for Alexendria at 12 to 1 PM. Got to Alex, at about 1 ¾ PM. Looked round city and especially at the Marshall home where Ellsworth was shot. Found it with soldiers quartered in it. City crowded with soldiers. Said house, a stain lay [?] where Ellsworth was shot he's been [?] [?] and carried away in small pieces and chips all the stairs are considerably demolished—We found the town perfectly desolate in

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<sup>15</sup> Charles Buxton Going, *David Wilmot, Free-Soiler: A Biography of the Great Advocate of the Wilmot Proviso* (Gloucester: Appleton, 1966) 553. The Honorable David Wilmot served as a U.S. Senator from Pennsylvania from 1861 to 1863.

business appearances, greater pomp of houses, and stores cleared and vacated. This a larger and much better looking city than I thought for by odds. My two other sights of it were unfavorable the last in 1852 and very brief. We returned in steamboat at 3 to 4 PM and from Boat to PA Avenue in omnibus and I got my dinner at about 4 ¼ PM. Mr. Wiestling went after his du[?] and leaves for Harrisburg this Evening. I received a note from Hon. Simon Cameron dated 23 inst. P or 1—postmarked 25 inst. In answer to mine of said business [?]-made up this [?] at 5 to 6 PM. Spent Ev. walking around to Hotels—Received letter from my wife, Harrisburg 24 inst. To bed at 10 PM.

26 – 6 Clear. Fine. Very hot sun. Went to war department about 9 am.

Rode up in omnibus .6

Tubine[?] last Ev. 5

Omnibus ride to Capitol 6

This ride was by M.Rutherford and self from Presidential mansion to omnibus ride at 4 to

Gen'l Cameron 6

Lemonade at Capitol 6

Met Judge String at war department. J.P.N. Hilfrat, M. W. Mucbrenner's room an hour or more. JPR Hilfrat met and talked with Gen'l Cameron received invitation to dine with him at 4 ½ PM which we accepted. We met gentleman by name of Krempron of Ohio who was very anxious to see Gen'l Se[?]. We waited till he came to his office quarters by war Department and stood clear by and nodded to him as he got out of his carriage and walked in. JPR and self remained at Capitol at Senate and in House of Rep to about 2 PM when we left. I came to my quarters—at 4 PM met JPR there and we had a very

pleasant social time dining with the Gen'l at a circular table holding 4 to 8 persons comfortably. Present at dinner was the Gen'l, JPR, Dr. Boggs, the General's brother in law, and self. We had a plain but most excellent dinner of boiled chicken, pork and beans, very fine potatoes, and the nicest [?] tomatoes, [?] even toasted, also first class champagne and Sherry. I had half dined at my quarters at 3 ½ PM before going there, as I was very hungry but every thing tastes so very excellent at the General's that I made another normally full dinner and found the wine to go very natural and to taste extra. The Gen'l told me he intended to give my son Chas a [?] or Lieut in the army. Also Ed. Pollack. I told him Chas would prefer to get into the artillery arm of the service. He said he did not know about that he is greatly awarded but I believe is remarkably efficient and enduring. I was very [?] and kind. We talked of his brother killed at the last battle. The boy revered his horse, a most beautiful boy stallion about 9 years old but the body of his brother had not been recovered. He being smart delightfully not far from the department. We went out at his insistence after dinner to look at his stud of horses—all his carriages. He has a beautiful pair of long legged deer, speedy looking horses. He rides his brothers. His brother in law Bruce is there is a clerk in war department and came in to dinner part as we got through. We also met Saul Mumma of Dauphin County there who came in with Mr. Brown but not to dinner as he had dined. In the evening, JPR and self meeting Mr. Mumma usually at 8 to 9 PM, as his request went into restaurant and took lemonade with him. When I returned to my quarters about 8 ¾ I found my son Calvin here who had come on in pursuance of some of my letters from him to my wife—I was of [?] glad to meet him as m[?] also of Rutherford—he handed me a letter from wife. We went to bed at 9 to 10.

27-7 Clear and cloudy. Pleasant. Son Calvin and self took omnibus after breakfast to war department.

Paid 12

Paid back to Capitol at 12 ½ PM 12

Lemonade, nuts and Lemon and pos. stamps (+9) 19

We met John P. Rutherford, S. Mumma, Judge Wm Murray, and Richard Fox at said dept.

I wrote letter whilst there to my wife and left to go from when W[?] room in said department at 12 ½ PM. He and self went to Capitol to Senate chambers to hear speech of Johnson of Tennessee another special joint resolution to approve of the Presidents course in the war proceedings. Men's galleries filled. Ladies partially so. He commenced at 1 PM. We remained till about 2. He is an earnest argumentative speaker. I understand he finished about 4 PM. His speech is spoken of as of a high and patriotic order. When we left the Senate we went into the House for half an hour or more. Went to Library. Home to our quarters at 2 ½ to 3. Dinner at 3 ½ at 5 PM. Went to the [?] grounds at the march and the Marine Band from the Navy Yard answered [?] of some 32 to 40 persons hands dressed in scarlet [?] are in the habit of having every Saturday from 5 to 7 as I understand there is a commanding and pleasant tower erected about 100 yds to the war of the mourn [?] where they sit and perform. The President and his Lady came out and remained on the new patio of the mansion during the performance where persons looked and stared at them as much as they pleased. Mrs. L. appears to be a nice, rather short, pleasant faced looking little lady, and I was strangely disposed to believe in

scanning her closely that she feels “her keeping” as weary or perhaps more [?] the distinction of the position. The President is a better looking man than his pictures very large mouth and nose, black whiskers and goatee and hair of head and a younger looking man than I had heretofore. President does not look over 50. When he talked to the ladies, his wife and another on the Patio he looked animated and agreeable and laughed with a perfectly demonstrative gesture as he sat for an hour or more before the ladies joined him at that forward part of the patio he appeared to be the king profound and huxingly [?]  
—upon the whole I am much pleased with his looks and manners.

John Calvin [?] Shaw a son of the Mr. Shaw introduced to me by Mr. Tyler some days ago, who is just about the age of my son John Calvin, very tall and fine, intelligent, pleasant boy went with us to capitol. His father I understand graduated at West Point. He is a very gentleman’s man of polished manners and conversation, sure to be of a high moral standard perhaps religious, considering [?] the entering of war at West Point with the army of demoralizing. We spent Ev. At home after we got tea at 7 ½ PM, except that of C. and young Shaw went to the pub. To bed 10.

28 – 1 Clear. Pleasant in morning at waking up of yesterday’s men at 8 to 9 am, son John Calvin and self went to Dr. Gurby’s Presbyterian Church at 11 am. Dr. G. preached a good sermon from the text “dost thou believe on the son of God.” President Lincoln and his wife were present and sat on the right hand side of the middle isle [sic] as you go in about 3 rows front of where we sat on the left hand side. Consequently, we had a good look at their faces and persons. She is short and tolerable, thick sit[?] wood or rusty [?].

Her side face reminds one strongly of Rev. B. Ross du. Or his sister Hannah. She looks indeed in size, complexion, and shape of face like who [?] and apparently some 45 years of age. He is some 6 ft. 2 to 3 in high, I should think. Black hair and whiskers, long lantern jaws, high cheek bones, large nose, smallish deep sunken eyes, prominence of perceptive features, high and [?]ding forehead, slim in person and narrow, and for the shoulders, his mouth is large and expressive...something like that of old Frank Shuck[?] du. Benevolent firmness, deep thoughts are indicated. I like his appearance very much and am impressed with confidence in his honesty, vigour of thought, firmness, and determined purpose.

In the evening son Calvin and self attended Rev. Dr. Lunderband's [?] church on 4 /2 St. This is one of the largest churches of any kind I ever was in. Will readily hold I judge 1000 to 1500 people. Fine organ with the choir singing. Much better I think than in Dr. Gurbey's church. Dr. S. was there but a certain Rev. Mr. Bendington and I understand the same preached a very excellent sermon. Heavy thunder and rain in Ev. Home 9 ¾ and to bed 10 PM.

29 - 2 Cloudy. Sultry. Clear and cloudy. Sultry and warm and heavy rain at 3 ½ to 4 ½ PM. Heavy thunder. Hail and rain last evening at about 5 to 6 ½ PM.

I drew check on Dauphin Deposit Bank to the order of Hon. Simon Cameron who cashed it for me at the war Department. I may not want any more money than I yet have on hand, but I think something of going to Fortress Monroe and of remaining here a fundings yet and do not much to run too close. Said check for \$25.00.

July 29 – 2 continued Pd. Our hostess Mrs. Fitzgerald on account of Boarding for son Calvin and self \$8.00

I am to pay at the rate of \$5 per week and he \$3 ½ per week or 50 cts per day. I have been here 1 week and 2 days this evening. To [?] since v. inst. And John Calvin since Ev. [?] that is 3 days this Ev. He was present where I paid her and the times were stated as above 8 ½ am. We went to Gen'l Cameron's house when persons were coming constantly to see him but were tardily admitted or rejected. I met Adm. Harris of Phila who waited with us at the door at least ½ an hour before she got in. She is an adjunct of C. Hilfer with Miss Dix in visiting the wounded and sick at the Hospitals.<sup>16</sup> A Miss or Mrs. Merrill also waited for some time but got out of patience and quit in a rage after inquiry [?]. The Hamp [?] hacked [?] white [?] and sound berating for what she called his impertinence. Mrs. Hanes waited longer than she, but being more amiable accomplished her purpose as she said when she came out. When he came out to get in his carriage at near 10 am to go to the department, he invited myself and John Calvin to get in on the best opportunity to speak with him and we did so and rode to the war department. Once there, he cashed my said check which I had drawn for any boarding H[?]. To speak to him about 12 made of getting to Fortress M[?] and he said of Mr. Scott was in town he might get me a pass. We went to John A. Winebrenner's room on short time and from there home at about 12 to 1 and then attended by Mr. Shaw's boy John W. and Charley. We walked to the Navy Yard—where we remained an hour or so. The boys going in to swim in the mean time the government steam ship Pensacola is lying there fitting up. Is a new kind never yet in commission and is to carry some 20 to 30 large guns, 10<sup>th</sup> Man.

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<sup>16</sup> John A. Garraty, *A Short History of the American Nation* (New York: Harper Collins, 1993) 183. Dorothea Dix was a renowned Civil War nurse.

Regt., which has just come through in the steamer. JK Spalding also there. We came to quarters at about 2 to 2 ½ PM. Remained at quarters rest of day till after tea, and only walked with John Calvin and JW Shaw to and from P.O. after tea. To bed 9 ½ to 10.

30-3 Clear. Fine. Very hot sun. Saw Wm. Strunck[?] and his wife, walked past our quarters after our breakfast on their way I suppose by the basket to the market. I wrote note to Gen'l Cameron and sent to his house by my son Jn. Calvin about passes to go to Arlington and within the lines between there and Alexandria and to witness Monroe.

Handed John Calvin 5

Pd. Omnibus ride to War Department 6

Pd. Sun Newspaper<sup>17</sup> 2

13

Met J. Calvin at war Dep. He having been at Camerons. Also he then hailed B.G.

Peacock was was crossing the street and came back and talked a while. We also there met Lieut. Frank Davis, who went to Gen'l Camerons to get a furlough to go to Harrisburg. J.C. and self went to Patent office, then to Smithsonian Institute where we met John Shaw and his brother and we all came home to boarding home at 1 PM.

Received letter from my wife date Harrisburg 28 inst. This is my birthday when I am 59 years of age. We spent rest of day at our boarding home till after tea at about 8 PM. We

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<sup>17</sup> According to Harold A. Williams, "In the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, Washingtonians depended on Baltimore newspapers for their news...[because] Washington papers [were] mostly party rags." *The Baltimore Sun 1837 - 1987* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins, 1987) 269-270. Interestingly, Rawn assimilated to Washington culture. The first three times he mentioned buying a paper, he bought a "Washington Herald." By the end of his visit to Washington, however, he bought a "Baltimore Sun."



went to the Presidents L(?) which opened at 8 ½ and continues to about 10 ½ PM. There being a considerable crowd there, John Calvin, J.W.Shaw and myself went together. Shaw had never been there before though some 2 mos. Or more in Washington and they are held every Saturday except that they were omitted last day on account of the confusion, disorder and here consequent on the battle of the Sunday before. I met them last night. Mr. Morley the father of Morley who lived in my Hoff[?] House and I introduced him to Prest. Lincoln. Met Gen'l Cameron there also miles lawyer of Huntingdon. Kapp there about all I was acquainted with. Mr. L. very long (tall) and mrs. L. is very short. He was observed by Mr. Shaw before we went there that when we should see them we would see "the long and short of human life."

Aug 2 – 6 Clear. Very warm. Very hot sun.

Paid Old Rye [?] and Lemonade .25

Pd. Mrs. Fitzgerald in full for self and Jn. Calvin

To this afternoon \$13.08

This includes \$8 pd her

Which includes 30 cts for washing

To [?] 13 days for me at \$5 per week \$9.28

From 20 July [?] in afternoon

7 days for Jn. Calvin at 50 cts per day from

26 July [?] in Evening \$3.50

\$13.08

Paid Rail Road Fare 1 ½ seats for John Calvin and self from

Washington to Baltimore	\$4.45
Omnibus in Baltimore J.C. and self	.50
From Camden to Calvert depot	
Ground nuts and pears in Baltimore	.06
Supper and Lemonade J.C. and self, Bal.	.75
R.Road fare J.C. and self Baltimore to Harrisburg	5.20
Paid omnibus son John and self to Gen'l Cameron	.12

Who had started this morning early for Harrisburg. We walked around by the unfinished Washington monument and home to our quarters at 10 to 11 am and made arrangements to leave for home this afternoon. Got our dinner at 1 PM. Left for depot 1 ½ PM. Pd. For fare as above J.Calvin and self working to Baltimore where we arrived in 2 hours at 6 ½ PM. Pd. Omnibus as above for driving us from Camden depot to Calvert St. Depot about 1 ½ miles. Slept at Hotel by latter depot. Met Gen James in car and at said Hotel. Also Col. Painter[?] of Westmoreland and T.J. Adams of Harrisburg and Col. Patterson and Mr. Morely in cars—and who came on to Harrisburg. We left Baltimore about 8 to 8 ½ PM and arrived in Harrisburg after a most wearisome slow and continually stopping ride. About an hour to 1 ¼ after midnight. Home and to bed [?].

Sept. 13 – 7 Eve. Cavalry met at 4 PM. March to the Capitol. Ref[?]sted to Gov. and [?] for marching out. [?] to proved to tearbite tonight and onto Charl[?] tomorrow. Left home after bidding good bye at 7 pm with about 46 men in there. Suddenly arrived at Mech'g at 9 pm. Crowded and boisterous and men gathering [?]. Left after 15 mp and

arrived at M. Boyer's Hotel at 12 ½ to 1 pm. Started North, carriages and got supper at 1 to 1 ¼ and to bed 2 am.

[?] slept on floor. Good many tired. Many in beds. I slept in no.4. What I sleep and snore [?] that 2 to 3 hours. Up at about 5 to 5 ½.

10-1 [October] Clear. Fine. Pleasant. Clear and cloudy.

Certified bill by [?] for 46 men and meals to get to buy (?). Saddly at 6 ½ formed Co. at 7 and left for Chambersburg at 7 ¼. Arrived at Shippensburg at 12 ½ PM. [?] and most gracing [?] the captain. Citizens started in the men giving to them houses by 3. [?] to get S[?] Frank Mahon and self went to E.J.W. Cuner, Mewhunt[?] Young girls couples got his wife in c[?] live very comfortably and at home.

14-1 (cont'd) gave us water from...coffee...I wrote there before...pencil to write...po...citizenry by capt.13 left at 2 pm around Chamb. 32...frm Cash...5 ¼ pm reported...all the chiefly at Mr. [?]...Motel...in every way of them...I get boys to clear and hunt feed myself....operations. Wrote to Mrs. R. after supper...Met [?] Harry...

15-2 Clear. Fine. Up 5 ½. Fed mare...relays...Wrote Mrs. R. pd...25 and boys 25 for sundry. Small party left 2 ½ to 3...arrived by 5 ½ to 6. J.B.Boys and self went to Mrs. Kunkles, his wife, and to...supper 7.

Pen and paper to write to my wife...to bed 10 ½ to 11.

16 – 3 Clear and cloudy. Left G. at 2 ½. Arrived at Thomas Sprukleys near Hagerstown at about 6 ½ to 7 after a...with whole company...fished for supper...the men slept in the barn...slept in house. To bed about 9 pm.

17 – 4

Cloudy. Signs of rain. Left S's at about 7 am...ordered...to prevent retreating rebels from getting across river into VA.

### **Names mentioned**

Adams, Theo

Adams, T. J. - Harrisburg

Awl, General

Bailey, Honorable Joseph - Perry County, Pennsylvania

Barnhart, M.

Bartuk, Mr.

Bendington, Reverend Mr.

Bennet

Boggs, Dr.

Brooke, James - Delaware

Brown, John - abolitionist who held arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Virginia

Burd, Lieutenant

Cameron, General

Cameron, Honorable Simon - prominent Harrisburg citizen

Carey, Judge

Casey, Jos. Esquire

Ceverly, Colonel

Cowen, Colonel

Cowen - pastor from New York

Cuner, E. J. W.

Davis, Lieutenant Frank [or Hank]

Davis, Newton

Digham, Sullan - Ohio

Dix, Miss [Dorothy] - visited the sick and wounded at hospitals

Doubleday, Captain

Elliott, W. L. - Newville, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania

Ellsworth

Etter

Eyster, Captain

Fitzgerald, William - inn keeper in Washington

Fitzgerald, Mrs. - inn keeper and wife of William

Fox, Richard

Geiger, [Mrs. George?] - Harrisburg

Geyer, Ernie William - carriage driver

Geyer, Henry - carriage driver

Gurbey, Dr. - pastor of Presbyterian Church in Washington

Hanes, Mrs.

Harris Adm. - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Harris, G. W., Esquire

Hilfer, C.

Hilfrat, J. P. N.

Tennessee, Johnson

Ohio, Krempron

Lathan, Mr. - Senator from California

Lincoln, President Abraham

Lincoln, Mrs. Mary Todd ["Mrs. L."]

Lunderband, Reverend Dr.

Mahon, Frank

Mallister, Richard

Mansfield, General - issued Rawn a pass to go into Virginia

McCallan, Geo. W. - Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

McClanahan, Mr.

McClelland, Illinois

McCormick, Captain Henry

Merrill, Miss or Mrs. [Rawn was unsure of her marital status]

Millieur, General

Milo, Theo Evenawalt

Morley, Mr. - former tenant

Mumma, Saul - Dauphin County, Pennsylvania

Mucbrenner, M. W.

Murray, Judge William

Owen, Dr.

Painter [?], Colonel - Westmoreland

Patterson, General - Commander of 25,000 men

Peacock, B. G. [not sure if this person is a relation of James Peacock]

Pollack, Edwin

Ralph, M. S.

Rawn, Charles - son of Charles C. Rawn

Rawn, Frances - wife of Charles C. Rawn

Rering [?], General

Riley

Ross, Hannah - sister of Reverend Ross

Ross, Reverend B.

Rowe, General

Rutherford, John P.

Rydic [?], Captain J. M.

Scott, Mr.

Shaw, Mr. John W. - civil engineer from Virginia

Shuck, Frank

Simon, W. R. - Newville, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania

Snyder, Eugene

Spalding, J. K.

Sprukley, Thomas - Hagerstown

Stramell [?], Henry

String, Judge

Strunk, William - and wife

Tyler, William - Pautauket, Massachusetts

Wallace, Thomas - old friend/roommate of Charles Rawn, 77-years old, "Tommy."

This may be the Thomas Wallace from whom Rawn bought a stove and also to whom Rawn paid board in January of 1832. Rawn and Wallace hunted pigeons together.

Wickliffe, Charles Anderson - former governor of Kentucky (1839-1840), Whig, lawyer

Wiestling, Mr.

Willard

Wilmot, Judge

Winebrenner, John A.

Wright, H. B. - Luzerne, Pennsylvania

Yohe, Colonel - Easton, Pennsylvania

### **Summary of Expenses, July 16 – August 2, 1861**

Rawn's 16-day trip South cost him a total of \$69.99. This included several modes of travel, lodging, and miscellaneous items throughout his journey. Other than his first night at camp, dining with General Cameron, and a dinner in Baltimore, Rawn did not mention his meals. Perhaps his lodging at Fitzgerald's boarding house included meals. When his son John Calvin met him in Washington, Rawn paid for his lodging and travel as well. The following is a list, arranged categorically, of Rawn's expenses. Each



category is subtotaled, and the total expense of his trip is calculated at the end of this section.

Carriage rides

From Harrisburg to Martinsburg	\$1.25
Fine [?] from Harrisburg to Martinsburg	\$0.25
Hire carriage man for two days	\$5.75
(\$17.25 for all three men)	
Henry Geyer	\$1.00
Fare to Riley House	\$2.55
Parking fee at Riley House	\$1.25
	<b>Subtotal \$30.80</b>

Food and Drinks

First night's meal at camp [?]	\$2.00
Lemonades (7 x \$.05 each)	\$0.35
Ground nuts and pears in Baltimore	\$5.20
Supper and lemonade in Baltimore	\$0.75
	<b>Subtotal \$8.30</b>

Omnibus Fare

To the capitol (20-7)	\$0.06
Round trip to capitol (22-2)	\$0.12
To the capitol (23-3)	\$0.06

Travel on 27-5	\$0.25
Round trip to war department (28-6)	\$0.12
From Presidential mansion to General Cameron's	\$0.06
Round trip for Calvin and Rawn to capitol (27-7)	\$0.24
War department (30-3)	\$0.06
Baltimore: from Camden to Calvert depot	\$0.50
Omnibus to General Cameron's for Calvin and Rawn	\$0.12
	<b>Subtotal \$1.59</b>

#### Other Travel

Steamboat fare to/from Alexandria, Virginia (27-5)	\$0.15
Railroad fare for Calvin and Rawn from Washington	
To Baltimore	\$4.45
Railroad fare for Calvin and Rawn from Baltimore	
To Harrisburg	\$5.20
	<b>Subtotal \$9.80</b>

#### Services

Carrying trunk rental	\$0.05
Boy carrying valise	\$0.16
Lodging at the National Hotel	\$3.50
Lodging at Fitzgerald's Boarding House (\$1.00/day)	\$13.08
(included \$.50 per day for John Calvin)	
Washerwoman (three pieces)	\$0.25

**Subtotal \$17.04**

Miscellaneous

“Bills”	\$1.67
Small bottle	\$0.25
“Press” and “Herald”	\$0.05
Envelopes	\$0.05
Postage stamps	\$0.10
Newspaper	\$0.02
Tobacco [?]	\$0.10
New paper and envelopes	\$0.06
Postage stamps	\$0.09
John Calvin’s own use	\$0.05
“Sun” Newspaper	\$0.02

**Subtotal \$2.46**

Carriage Rides	\$30.80
Food and Drinks	\$8.30
Omnibus	\$1.59
Other Travel	\$9.80
Services	\$17.04
Miscellaneous	\$2.46

Total spent on trip \$69.99