

LOWELL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

GREEN FAMILY DIARIES:

THE REVEREND AARON GREEN

1791 - 1853

And

DOCTOR JOHN O. GREEN

1816 - 1885

A FINDING AID

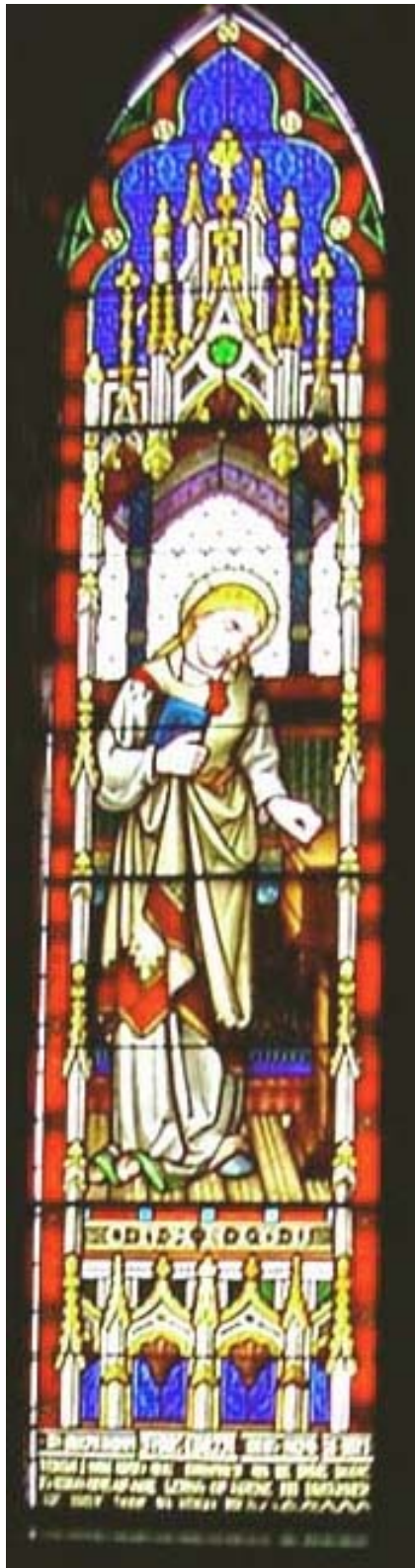
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LOWELL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
CURATORIAL DEPARTMENT

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Stained glass window in commemoration of the life of Jane Green in St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Merrimack Street, Lowell, Massachusetts.

CONTENTS

Preface.....	ii
Copyright and Privacy Restrictions.....	iii
Introduction.....	iv
Scope and Content Note.....	v
Collection Description:	
Series I:	
Transcriptions from the Reverend Aaron Green diaries.....	1 - 7
Series II:	
Transcriptions from the Doctor John O. Green diaries.....	8 - 36

PREFACE

This document, *Finding Aid for the Green Family Diaries : The Reverend Aaron Green 1791 – 1853 and Doctor John O. Green, 1816 – 1885*, describes the diaries of Reverend Aaron Green, and his son Dr. John O. Green. They were donated to the Lowell National Historical Park by John Orne Green III of San Francisco, CA.

The processing of this collection was completed in February 2007. The diaries were surveyed for content at the Lowell National Historical Park by Cleo A. Ace, volunteer, with the help of Dan Walsh, Museum Specialist.

Researchers are requested to contact the Lowell National Historical Park by phone at 978-970-5237 for assistance in accessing and using this material.

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INTRODUCTION

The five diaries of Reverend Aaron Green span the years 1791 to 1853. The nine diaries of Doctor John O. Green span the years 1816 to 1885. All fourteen diaries were read but only significant national and/or local events from both diaries were noted in the summarized transcriptions in this guide. They constitute only a small percentage of the entries in these diaries but, in that, they illustrate whatever wider view these men had of their world. A far greater percentage of these diaries consist of perfunctory entries concerning quite routine daily events or states of mind. In the aggregate, these entries provide some insights into the mindset and outlook of their authors but tell us relatively little about the community or larger world in which they lived.

Reverend Aaron Green was a minister in Malden, Massachusetts for many years. He never named the denomination of his church in his diaries. When he retired, he and his family moved to Andover, Massachusetts. Reverend Green died in his home in Andover.

Doctor John O. Green, his son, was one of four children who survived. He grew up in Malden, graduated Harvard Medical School, and moved to Lowell where he practiced medicine for more than 50 years. He died in his home in Lowell.

The transcriptions are in chronological order for each set of diaries.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Accession number: LOWE 695

Catalog number: LOWE 14733

Quantity: 1.5 linear feet (9 items)

Storage: 3 legal archival document boxes.

Location: Lowell National Historical Park, 67 Kirk Street, Lowell,
Massachusetts 01852 – 1029. Phone 978-970-5000.

Description: The Green Family Diaries (1791 –1885) consist of five diaries written by Reverend Aaron Green, and nine diaries written by Doctor John O. Green. Volume Two of Doctor John O. Green’s diaries was disassembled for conservation assessment. and is stored in a separate archival storage box, along with a complete photo copy of the volume. Otherwise, each set of diaries is contained in its own box.

This collection of diaries was donated to the Lowell National Historical Park by John Orne Green, III, of San Francisco, CA.

Series I, Diaries of Aaron Green, Minister January 1, 1791 – October 20, 1853

Aaron Green was born in January of 1765 and died December 23, 1853. On December 13, 1796 he married Eunice Orne. They had five children, Charles Green (no birth date recorded) who died in 1809 at age 2 years and 9 months, Charles Green, (a second son with the same name, (no birth or death date recorded), John O. Green, born April 15, 1816, and died December 23, 1885, Caroline Green (no birth or death date recorded), and George Green, (no birth date recorded) who died July 14, 1842. Eunice Orne Green died at the home of her son Dr. John O. Green on January 23, 1858.

Five bound volumes covering the period January 1, 1791, through October 20, 1853, comprise the diaries of Rev. Aaron Green. The first volume begins on January 1, 1791, a day before his 26th birthday. Each volume is a collection of about ten years worth of loose diary leaves which were later bound by his son, Dr. John O. Green of Lowell, into five leather covered volumes each with dates it covers stamped in gold on its spine. The leaves are fragile but legible. The writing is very compressed and he usually records one full month in about three pages of text. Throughout most years he has usually written something for every day except when he was ill. In the last volume, when he was too old and infirm to make an entry every day, he only recorded things he considered worthy of note. By the end of the fifth volume, his entries are short and perfunctory.

His diary entries are mainly about the details of daily life and the acquaintances with whom he prayed, took tea, or traveled. He seldom takes note of national or even statewide events and, in this respect, he is his son's father. In some years, he ended his December entries with a summary of the births, deaths, and marriages within his community but in other years he did not. In addition, he usually gives an annual summary of his finances following the final entry as well.

Interestingly, neither he nor his son, Dr. John O. Green, ever states Rev. Green's denominational affiliation.

Volume One: January 1, 1791 to December 31, 1801

This diary begins when he is 26 years old and is still not ordained. He "kept school" most days and traveled widely throughout the area from Maine to Massachusetts, often being in a different town each month. Even though not yet ordained, Rev. Green was a guest preacher at churches in the area. His first notation of an Independence Day celebration was July 4, 1793.

September 30, 1795. Rev. Green was ordained in Malden, Massachusetts, on and from that time on he stayed in Malden except when he was a guest preacher at another church.

December 13, 1796. He married Eunice Orne at Lynnfield Massachusetts, and he summed up that year by recording his finances by the month.

Year end summary, by year, for Volume One:

1791: No summary.

1792: No summary.

1793: Summary with an aphorism about life's passing, weather details, yellow fever outbreak.

1794: Summary with an aphorism about the passing of time, weather details, harvest results, wars in Europe.

1795: Summary of weather details, wars in Europe, his ordination.

1796: Summary of financial status, number of deaths.

1797: Summary of number of deaths, marriages, baptisms (paid duties), financial status.

1798: Summary of number of deaths, marriages, baptisms (paid duties), financial status.

1799: Summary of number of deaths, marriages, baptisms (paid duties), financial status.

1800: Summary of number of deaths, marriages (paid duties), births, financial status.

This year the births are listed by month and parent's name.

1801: Summary of deaths, marriages, baptisms (paid duties), financial status

This year the births are listed by month and parent's name.

Volume Two: January 1, 1802 to December 31, 1812

August 12, 1802. Rev. Green recorded that the masons had returned and were laying brick for the new brick meeting house apparently built by the Town of Malden.

September 22, 1807. Rev. Green noted the presence in the night sky of a bright star that lasted for about two months.

October, 9, 1804. He recorded a hurricane of great force. There was a break in the record from July 24th until October 1st, due to illness. He did not define the illness, but simply noted that he was unwell and might have died.

Noted in his year end summary was the Act of the U. S. Congress that established an embargo on trade with Great Britain and France, and British and French cargos carried by neutral countries was passed on December 22, 1807. He detailed the hardship to farmers this Act entailed.

The year 1809 was noteworthy only because he recorded the death of his son Charles on October 7th at age 2 years and 9 months. No cause of death was given.

August 20, 1812. He noted the onset of the War of 1812.

Year end summary, by year, for Volume Two:

1802: Summary of number of deaths, marriages (paid duties), births, financial status.

- This year the births were listed by month and parent's name.
- 1803: Summary of number of deaths, marriages, and births.
- 1804: Summary of number of births from January to June, listed by parent's name.
- 1805: Summary of deaths, marriages (paid duties), births, financial status. This year the births are listed by month, parent's name, and son or daughter.
- 1806: List of births for the year by month and parent's name that precedes January 1, then the summary of number of deaths, marriages (paid duties), births at the end of the year.
- 1807: Summary of number of deaths, marriages (paid duties), births, financial status. This year the births are listed by month, parent's name, and son or daughter.
- 1808: Summary of number of marriages, deaths, births, financial status. This year the births are listed by month, child's name, and sex.
- 1809: Summary only of number of marriages, births, deaths. The births are listed from January to March by child's name and sex..
- 1810: Summary of number of deaths, marriages, births, financial status.
- 1811: Summary of number of deaths, marriages, births, financial status.
- 1812: Summary of financial status only.

Volume Three: January 1, 1813 to December 31, 1822

There were entries for every day of the year 1813. There was mention of the family going to a troop review in Waltham that was led by General Varnum on October 6th. The review was marred by the death of two troopers when some munitions exploded. This year the celebration of Thanksgiving was also mentioned. It was a floating holiday that alternated between late November and early December but was never celebrated on a Sunday. In this year's summary, note was made of the continuation of the war with Great Britain, the strict trade embargo, and a fire in Portsmouth, NH that destroyed 200 buildings. Also mentioned was the fact that two men, whose names are not legible, were sentenced to death for the murder of Nicholas John Creviry, and several unnamed Indians, who were workers in Mr. Odionne's nail factory.

September 6, 1814. Reverend Green noted his potatoes were rotting in the ground and he had hired two men to dig them up for him.

September 23, 1815. A hurricane struck.

July 5, 1817. President James Madison was in Charlestown, MA for a military exhibition and Rev. Green was introduced to him.

October 5th, 1817. An earthquake struck the area.

There was a break in the journal for 1818 between June 7th and July 6th because he was too ill to write. In his year end summary he also noted that from November 9th to November 29th, he was very ill with a broken collar bone.

For the year 1819, the period between March 2nd and March 24th was missing. No reason is given and because the pages separated from the binding it is possible they were lost.

The year 1820 was bound incorrectly and as a result the dates are not chronological. The entries started at September 20th and went through December 20th, then moved to January 1st through September 19th and ended up with December 20th through December 31st.

Year end summary, by year, for Volume Three:

- 1813: Summary of number of deaths broken out by adults and children.
- 1814: Summary of number of marriages, births, deaths only.
- 1815: Summary of marriages, births, deaths, financial status.
- 1816: A poem about the inevitability of death.
- 1817: Summary of number of births, and deaths, marriages at which he officiated.
- 1818: Summary of number of deaths, financial status.
- 1819: Summary of number of deaths, marriages at which he officiated, births, financial status.
- 1820: Summary of number of deaths, marriages at which he officiated, births.
- 1821: Summary of births, deaths, marriages, but with no numbers recorded.
- 1822: Summary of deaths, marriages at which he officiated, births.

NB: The spine of this journal has broken off and the book is very fragile. Many of the pages are completely separated from the binding.

Volume Four: January 1, 1823 to December 31, 1834

November of 1823. Rev. Green's congregation took up a subscription and purchased a new \$600.00 organ for the church.

Noted in Rev. Green's summary at the end of 1824 was the tour of General Lafayette throughout the Union in 1824. The actual date was September 2, 1824.

Also noted in the year end summary was that the church replaced the old cupola with a new one.

October 27, 1826. "Mother Anne" died at age 83, having lived with the Greens for several years. Perhaps she was his mother-in-law.

January 8, 1827. Rev. Green's religious society, which was never identified, was out-voted by the Universalists who approve giving lectures in Rev. Green's meeting house.

July 11, 1827. Rev. Green was asked by the church to stay until September 30, 1827, which was the end of his ministerial year. He agreed to that request.

August 13, 1827. Rev. Green agreed to buy a house in Andover, MA for \$2000.00 to live in after he retired as minister.

April 6, 1828. Rev. Green and his family moved to Andover, MA.

June 21, 1828. Their son Dr. John O. Green's wife died in childbirth. Jane and their still-born son were buried in Tyngsboro, MA.

It is in this year that his Sunday entries change from "Preached at ..." to "Attended Services at..." This seems to indicate that he retired after 36 years as a minister in Malden. He now began to farm in earnest and to take in boarders.

June 27, 1833, President Jackson passed through Andover on his way from Salem, NH to Lowell, MA. The Green family went to Lowell to see him because he was so rushed going through Andover that he could not stop there.

In the 1833 year end summary, Rev. Green noted they no longer had to take in boarders because their son George has arranged for their financial comfort. However, there are further notations of boarders stopping with them in later years so they may have continued to need to take in boarders.

In the 1834 year end summary, Rev. Green recorded the deaths of his brother Bernard, at age 82 ½, at Methuen, MA, and the 2nd wife his son Dr. John O. Green, Minerva B., at Lowell at age 25. She and her son died two days after the child's delivery.

Year end summary, by year, for Volume Four:

- 1823: Summary of deaths, marriages, at which he officiated, births.
- 1824: Summary of deaths, marriages, at which he officiated, births.
- 1825: Summary of financial status.
- 1826: Summary of deaths, marriages, at which he officiated, births, financial status.
- 1827: Summary of deaths, marriages, births with no numbers recorded.
- 1828: Summary of financial status, and move to Andover.
- 1829: Summary of financial status.
- 1830: Summary of financial status.
- 1831: Summary of financial status.
- 1832: Summary of financial status and recording disease.
- 1833: Summary of financial status.
- 1834: Record of two family deaths.

Volume Five: January 1, 1835 to October 20, 1853

The 1836 year end summary noted the marriage of Rev. Green's daughter Caroline to William Blanchard, on the 10th of May, and that their son Charles sailed for Calcutta on July 11th.

The 1839 year end summary noted the marriage of Dr. John O. Green to his third wife, Miss Jane McBurney of Boston.

August 22, 1839. George came from New Orleans for a visit.

August 27, 1839. Charles was married to Miss Charlotte Coolidge.

April 1, 1841, the death of President William Henry Harrison was noted.

July 14, 1842, the Rev. Green's son George, died in New Orleans at age 41. This may be why Rev. Green and his wife continued to take in boarders.

In July and August, 1843, Rev. Green's wife Eunice was quite ill, but was fully recovered by December.

From September 27, 1846, to October 12, 1846, there were no diary entries, evidently because he fell in his garden and struck his knee on something that injured him badly. At the end of the year he made mention of the war between the United States and Mexico.

The 1847 year end summary noted several things. He listed the relatives who had died up to that year. He noted that son Charles and his family had sailed to Paris, via Liverpool, to have a French specialist operate on his grandson Charley to correct his hearing. Son Dr. John O. Green also went to Paris via Liverpool a week later to be with Charles and his family.

The year end summary for 1849 noted that cholera had affected most of the cities and towns in the area. The arrest of Professor John W. Webster of Harvard University for the murder of Dr. Parkman of Boston was also recorded.

The year 1850 began with a statement that, because of his advancing age and infirmity, he would record only those days when something of note occurred. From that time on his entries were short and perfunctory. August 30, 1850, he noted Professor Webster was hanged at Boston for the murder of Dr. Parkman.

October 13, 1853. Rev. Green fell again in the entry and "hurt me badly".

October 20, 1853, Charles Green and his wife asked his father to baptize their daughter Jessie, which he did.

His last entry was October 20, 1853, and he died in his home in Andover December 23, 1853, having reached age 88 years and 11 months. An entry made on the back page of this journal, in a different hand, stated that he was "in his chamber & mostly in bed two or three weeks, his digestive organs failing entirely, and he dying of exhaustion."

Written below those words was “Jan 24, 1858, “Our dear Mother was found dead in her bed in Lowell, having been in unusual health for one of her age, & went to bed with no complaint. The bed clothes were undisturbed; showing she died without a struggle.”

“AE. 87 yrs. R.I.P.”

“Hear what the voice from heaven declares
To those in Christ who die:
Released from all their worldly cares,
They’ll reign with him on high.”

Year end summary, by year, for Volume Five:

- 1835: Summary of financial status.
- 1836: Summary of financial status.
- 1837: Closes the year with a prayer.
- 1838: Summary of family news.
- 1839: Summary of family news and weather details.
- 1840: No summary for this year.
- 1841: Summary of financial status.
- 1842: Summary of financial status.
- 1843: Summary of financial status.
- 1844: Summary of financial status and weather details
- 1845: Summary of financial status, weather details, family news.
- 1846: Summary of weather details, family health, mentions his own short illness and fall.
- 1847: Summary of family deaths up to this point in time and both son’s trips to Paris.
- 1848: Summary of weather details, harvest results, financial status.
- 1849: Summary of harvest details, financial status, two murders.
- 1850: Summary of financial status, family news.
- 1851: Summary of family news.
- 1852: Summary of financial status.
- 1853: Last entry, October 20, 1853 notes he is too blind to continue his diary.

NB: The spine of this volume is completely gone, and many pages are loose.

Series II, Diaries of Dr. John O. Green, son of Aaron Green April 5, 1816 – November 18, 1885

Unlike the diaries of Aaron Green that were divided by the beginning and the end of each month within each volume, Dr. John Orne Green's diaries were divided randomly within each volume. Some months were prefaced by a new facing page in mid-month; some went to the end of the month and then had a new facing page. Some pages were of significantly different sizes within each book. In 1873, Dr. Green began to use the dating format that his father used for his diaries. The books are as follows:

Volume One – April 16, 1816 to February 21, 1821
Volume Two – February 23, 1821 to January 30, 1824*
Volume Three – February 1, 1824 – October 29, 1826
Volume Four – October 30, 1826 – December 31, 1831*
Volume Five – January 4, 1831 – November 8, 1834
Volume Six – November 9, 1834 – April 2, 1840
Volume Seven – April 3, 1840 – December 5, 1852
Volume Eight – December 6, 1852 – December 31, 1871
Volume Nine – January 1, 1872 – November 18, 1885 with the last page describing his death by his son Dr. Orne Green.

*Volume Two was taken apart for a conservation assessment and is stored in folders in a storage container.

*Volume Four was bound incorrectly. The first three days of 1831 appear after the first page of October 1830.

Dr. John Orne Green was born April 12, 1799, in Malden, Mass., the son of Rev. Aaron Green and Eunice Orne Green of that city. He died in Lowell, Mass., December 23, 1885, and was survived by his sons Dr. John O. "Orne" Green of Boston and George Green of New York.

He was married three times but all three of his wives preceded him in death. His first wife was Jane Thomas of Tyngsboro, Mass., whom he married on Sept. 12, 1826. His second wife was Minerva Slater of Slatersville, R.I., whom he married on Mar. 6, 1833. His third wife, and the mother both Dr. John O. "Orne" Green and George Green, was Jane McBurney of Boston, Mass. whom he married April 25, 1839.

The denominational affiliation of the Rev. Aaron Green is unclear but his son, Dr. John Green, was a lifelong member of St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Lowell and served as church warden there for many years. He summarized the Sunday sermons preached at St. Anne's and the mid-week "Preparatory Lectures" for almost every service he attended. This recording of detail stands in marked contrast to the laconic entries that characterize much of the rest of these diaries. In his political affiliations, Dr. Green was, evidently,

first a Whig and later a Republican, although his references to politics, whether local, state, or national, are very rare.

Other subjects that he deals with in any depth of detail are the weather in Lowell, which he recorded for as long as he lived there, and his correspondence. As for his weather records, they are impressionistic and anecdotal, not measured. He seldom gives temperatures unless the day was colder than zero degrees in winter or warmer than ninety degrees in summer and does not mention recording instruments of any kind. He also notes his correspondents and the subjects of their letters to him and his to them, as well as noting his speeches, medical writings, and eulogies but neither his correspondence nor his publications and other documents are part of this collection.

His references to his medical practice are very laconic but there are references to his "Day Books" which, presumably, contain detailed information about his diagnoses, treatments, procedures, and prescriptions. Unfortunately, these day books are also not part of this collection. He was frequently called out at night, often to attend women patients who were very likely in labor but he never actually states that. He also regularly vaccinated mill workers against small pox, at least until the mid-1850s when his references to this seem to trail off. The frequency with which he entrusts his patients to the care of the deity after having treated them himself is a sobering reflection on the state of medical knowledge at the time, especially in view of the fact that he was a graduate of the Harvard Medical School and a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society. His most frequently mentioned medical activity was taking part in post mortem examinations.

The revolution in medicine that characterized the nineteenth century is not revealed in his direct experiences as a doctor as recorded in his diaries. However, it is obliquely evident in the fact that his son, Dr. John O. "Orne" Green, became an ear specialist, while specialization was unthinkable at the beginning of his own career owing to the general lack of enough medical information and understanding on which to establish specialties.

Interestingly enough, he seemed to need to bring in additional income which he did by acting as Executor for the estates of a number of people over the years. He often recorded the fact that he was in Probate Court on these matters. He also served as the guardian of minor children.

Another characteristic of the diaries was his annual settling of accounts each January about which he was quite diligent. These accountings were for both his personal and professional accounts as well as his public accounts as a School Committee member and a Savings Bank director.

The volume-by-volume synopses that follow highlight the references to national, state, and local events recorded in those volumes. It is clear in looking at these synopses that there are considerably more days of the year on which his entries will not note anything other than very routine matters than there are days on which his entries will mention anything outside the compass of his own life.

Volume One – April 16, 1816 to February 24, 1821

November 18, 1816. John bought a new suit of clothes for an 8 week job teaching 40 scholars at Andover, to begin after Thanksgiving.

March 13, 1817. John and some classmates watched the hanging of “poor” Phillips which took place within sight of a balcony at Harvard. He did not note the crime.

August 27, 1817. John graduated from Harvard College. He was hired to teach at a private school at Castine, Maine. September 27th found him at home still, in Malden waiting for transportation to his new job.

October 4, 1818. He began studying medicine with a Dr. Buck Lester, presumably in the greater Boston area. By June 1819 he had begun practicing medicine under the supervision of unnamed other doctors and by December 11, 1819 he had either matriculated or was about to matriculate at Harvard Medical School, since he had begun to receive course catalogs.

Volume Two – February 23, 1821 to January 30, 1924*

November 18, 1821 John began writing his dissertation for his medical degree, which he finished on December 21st. It was submitted to Dr. Warren, Dean of Faculty at Harvard Medical School. He was examined orally on February 20^m 1822 by the entire faculty of Harvard, and on February 23rd, successfully read and defended his dissertation and was passed. He was informed that in three weeks he could call on the Dean and get his diploma.

April 23, 1822. He moved to Chelmsford, Mass. to practice medicine. He spent evenings with Engineer George R. Baldwin’s family and also acted as bookkeeper for a Mr. Carter whose books he posted. At this time, he attended Sunday meetings in Dracut, and also went to Chelmsford town. He extracted teeth, and dispensed medicines that he mixed himself.

April 30, 1822. He was called to see Kirk Boott whose horse had overturned Boott’s chaise and caused Boott to be injured.

October 21, 1822. He noted that yellow fever had broken out in New Orleans and he feared for his brother George who lived there.

April 7, 1823. He went to Town Meeting and voted for Governor. The tally was “Otis 135, Eustis 133”.

April, 19, 1823. He and Dr. Thomas of Tyngsboro, opened the head of Charles Moore “who had been disordered and delusional for some time”, and found “a great inflammation and congestions there”. Moore died and was buried the next day.

July 23, 1823. At 7:00 AM, he recorded that there was a slight earthquake.

September 4, 1823. Water was brought into the Boott Canal. And on November 29th it was so cold the water did not run in the channel at the Falls for some hours. At the end of this year, Dr. Green joined the Fire Club and signed the by-laws in December. It was a volunteer fire department. They were issued buckets and bags as part of their equipment the following year.

Late in 1823, the local doctors began vaccinating against smallpox.

January 16, 1824. The first case of smallpox was identified at Capt. Tyler’s. There was a great demand for the vaccine and many inoculations did not take and had to be repeated.

* This book was taken apart for conservation assessment and is stored in folders in a separate box.

Volume Three – February 1, 1824 to October 29, 1826

He noted that on February 12, 1824 the river was getting higher and the Mills were in danger. The ice broke up and went over the falls about 12 AM, and on the 13th the “freshet has increased and is a ... sight. Much damage is probably done above us to the Mills etc. etc.”

February 21, 1824. Dr. Green signed a paper as a member of the 2nd Congregational Society in Chelmsford.

March 17, 1824 smallpox appeared again and Dr. Green vaccinated 38 people at an unidentified factory.

Early in 1824 John noted his affection for Jane Thomas, Dr. Thomas’s daughter, and as she returned his affections he courted her. In May he took her to Malden to meet his family.

September 2, 1824. Dr. Green noted that General La Fayette was in Concord for the day,

March 8, 1825. Dr. Green was chosen a Trustee of the Chelmsford Classical School thus beginning his almost lifelong association with the schools in Chelmsford and Lowell.

April 19, 1825. Dr. Green marched in a procession in Concord to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the battle of Lexington and Concord. The Hon. Edward Everett delivered the 2 ½ hour address.

August 25, 1825. He began building his house by digging a well, building a perimeter, starting the foundation. By December he had contracted with the “Kendalls of Tyngsboro” to build his house on land he bought from Mr. Whiting.

He was called to testify at the trial for Kirk Boott who was hurt in a fall, and to whom he administered medical attention on November 11, 1825.

February 15, 1826. He recorded that Adams was elected President of the United States.

March 3, 1826. Dr. Green received news that his town of Chelmsford was to be incorporated into a town called Lowell.

April 8, 1826. The Whipple Stamping mill blew up and wounded one man badly.

June 6, 1826. He bought two elegant fireplaces in Boston for the new house he was building. Then on the 24th, Dr. Green met a portrait painter named Mr. Coal at the hotel. The painter was “taking a view of the factories for Mr. Boott.”

July 6, 1826. Dr. Graves asked to meet with Dr. Green about a medical treatment disagreement they had and Dr. Green refused, as did several other doctors. On July 14th Dr. Huntington published a satirical account of that disagreement in the newspaper.

September 12, 1826, Dr. Green moved into his new home on Pawtucket Street, and on September 14th, at 11:00 AM he married Jane Thomas.

Volume Four – October 30, 1826 to December 31, 1830*

May 7, 1827. At Town Meeting, a Mr. Wright was elected to an unspecified office by a majority of one vote, over Kirk Boott.

June 6, 1827. Dr. Green applied for and expected to be elected a Fellow of the Massachusetts Medical Society in Boston. He received notification to that effect on July 23rd.

June 13, 1827. Dr. Green and his neighbors had to get permission from Kirk Boott to widen and straighten the street in front of three houses.

July 13, 1827. Dr. Green got news that his father, Aaron Green had been dismissed from his parish in Malden, at his request. There seems to have been a doctrinal difference with the Universalists in Malden.

October 19, 1827. Dr. Green began to vaccinate the employees against smallpox at the Hamilton Companies under the direction of Mr. Batchelder.

March 3, 1828. The entire school committee, including Dr. Green, was voted out of office at Town Meeting. He does not go into the reasons.

June 21, 1828. Jane Thomas Green died, having given birth to a still born son. They were both buried in Tyngsboro.

November 3, 1828. At the Town Meeting, Dr. Green recorded the results of the Presidential vote as Adams, 278 votes, and Jackson, 97 votes.

January 24, 1829. He recorded a huge fire at one of the Merrimack Manufacturing Company Mills and it was a total loss.

April 20, 1829. Dr. Green attended a meeting to discuss the establishment of the Lowell Institution for Savings, and on May 5th he was elected as First Vice-President. This begins a life-long association with this bank in various offices associated with the management of the bank.

May 8, 1829. Dr. Green presented his design plan for a new school house at the District meeting, and it was accepted. The building was completed on September 18, 1829.

October 7, 1829. At the Annual Muster at Middlesex, Dr. Green's horse was frightened and ran a mile, with him in the sulky, then smashed the carriage against a house injuring the doctor only slightly.

January 2, 1831. He attended the laying of the cornerstone of the Appleton St. Church and on the same day he met the Boott and Prince families at the "foot of the falls", "the late rains having made our river most beautiful".

* The first 3 days of 1831 were bound incorrectly in this book and appear after the first page of October 1830.

Volume Five – January 4, 1831 to November 8, 1834

January 7, 1831. Dr. Green began to compile a list of the dead in Lowell for 1830. He was paid to care for the poor so had to account for the dead.

January 12, 1831. He noted that he viewed an eclipse of the sun.

May 3, 1831. Dr. Green was re-elected Vice President of the savings bank. May 18, 1831 he was elected Secretary of the Massachusetts Medical Society; and on the same day noted "riots with the Irishmen in the evening which disturbed our streets."

July 6, 1831. Dr. Green was called to treat Major Moody, who died the next day at 8:00 AM.

August 9, 1831. Dr. Green went to see the Siamese Twins on exhibit in Lowell.

September 4, 1831. Governor Levi Lincoln attended Dr. Green's church for service all day.

November 8, 1831. Dr. Green noted that a "Dracut man tried to kidnap a child, but was chased and he dropped the child and escaped to the woods. He was caught 24 hours later, by pursuers, in the woods."

November 24, 1831. Dr. Green noted that he received an answer to his letter to Rhode Island for which he had been waiting. This was the first reference to the woman who would become his second wife, Minerva Slater, of Slatersville, RI. (A later entry in the diary indicated that Minerva Slater's sister Elizabeth was married to Dr. Josiah Bartlett, of Lowell, Dr. Green's close friend.)

February 1, 1832. Dr. Green compiled his "Mortality List" for his position as "Doctor for Town Poor People".

July 28, 1832. Dr. Green attended the opening of a new hotel in downtown Lowell, the Merrimack House, and noted that it was very splendidly furnished.

August 7, 1832. The first reference to his taking in student boarders appeared. This student was studying with Dr. Edson, St. Anne's pastor. He also boarded students that were studying medicine with him.

August 26, 1832. He recorded that by he had treated two cases of Cholera Moribus.

September 26, 1832. Dr. Green was invited to eat supper at the Merrimack House with Mr. Boott and family, and Mr. S. Lawrence of Boston. Thirty people were invited.

December 5 1832. Dr. Green attended Colonel Varnum's funeral. He was appointed the executor, and read the will to the heirs. (Colonel Varnum's death mask is at the Dracut Historical Society, Lakeview Ave., Dracut, Ma.) That same day, he mentioned that he lost a patient to scarlet fever.

He made the decision to move his office from his house to the Adams Building on Lowell St., on December 29, 1832. The move took place on the 30th. He had been considering the move for some time. In April 1833 he seems to have left that office due to the cold and a smoky stove, and was considering building an office on Adams St., nearer his house

March 6, 1833. Dr. John O. Green married Minerva Slater at Smithfield, RI at 12:30, with Dr. Bartlett as his attendant. They arrived home in Lowell at 4:00 PM on March 7th. He revealed that Mrs. Bartlett was Minerva's sister, and the wife of his good friend Dr. Bartlett in the April 3rd entry of this volume.

April 30, 1833. Dr. Green attended the post mortem of Mr. Appleton, who died on April 29th, "attended by most of the physicians in town."

June 27, 1833. President Jackson came to Lowell.

August 27, 1833. Dr. Green visited a tribe of Penobscot Indians "who camped on the banks of the Merrimack just below the falls."

September 13, 1833. Dr. Green's old friend Mr. Coburn (possibly Warren Coburn) died at 7:00 PM. Dr. Green was unable to save him. His post mortem the next day corroborated the doctor's diagnosis, and on the 16th, Dr. Green and Captain Austin directed Mr. Coburn's funeral "one of the largest ever in town."

October 17, 1833. Dr. Green started vaccinations at the Merrimack Corporation Counting House. He vaccinated 60 people.

October 25, 1833. The Honorable Henry Clay visited Lowell and spoke at Town Hall the next day. He was received with great respect.

December 18, 1833. Dr. Green vaccinated 41 people at the Hamilton Company Counting Room. On the 21st, he and Dr. Dalton vaccinated 160 people at two unnamed corporations, and on the 24th, both doctors vaccinated "many" (no number given) at the Lawrence Manufacturing Company.

January 12, 1834. Dr. Green noted that he missed church service because he was called to attend Kirk Boott.

January 18, 1834. The Town Meeting annexed Belvedere to the City of Lowell.

February 14, 1834. The factory girls demonstrated and marched all day because their wages were reduced. There was a run on the savings bank as well. The next day, the girls demonstrated again and "passed sundry spirited resolutions." Some of the mills have stopped; some are operating "in part."

April 7, 1834. Colonel Crockett was in Lowell to see the factories etc. Kirk Boott consulted with Dr. Green about buying land downtown."

April 13, 1834. A new steamboat started a route to Nashua from the doctor's neighborhood (on Pawtucket St.).

July 4, 1834. Dr. Green dined with the Whig party at Town Hall, Lowell, about 2:00 PM.

July 7, 1834. A Mr. Austin proposed that Dr. Green vaccinate “all his people, but at very inadequate pay as I conceive”.

July 13, 1834. Minerva Green was one of 30 people confirmed in the church by a Bishop.

On July 14, 1834. Dr. Green vaccinated 130 people in the Lawrence Corporation.

In the entry for September 5, 1834 Dr. Green recorded that a man was seriously injured at the Lawrence Corp. “The man was carried around a drum with great velocity just escaping with life and 2 limbs very badly injured”.

September 8, 1834. A Mr. Lund came to study medicine under Dr. Green at his office.

October 2, 1834. Daniel Webster spoke at Lowell Town Hall.

November 1, 1834. Dr. Green recorded that he was at a Whig caucus in Lowell Town Hall.

Volume Six – November 9, 1834 to April 2, 1840

November 20, 1834. Minerva Green was delivered of a son at 7:00 AM after 5 hours of labor. On December 1, 1834, Minerva Green died of “a severe peritonitis”. The child, John O. Green also died. Both were buried on December 3, 1834 in Slatersville, R.I.

May 26, 1835. Dr. Green witnessed the first use of steam on the railroad.

June 23, 1835. Dr. Green recorded that a man was killed by “passing on our railroad”. The next day the railroad opened to the public and Dr. Green estimated that they carried 300 passengers.

June 26, 1835. Dr. Green took the railroad to Boston in 1 hour and 10 minutes, and returned at night.

July 1, 1835. He vaccinated 110 people at the Lawrence Corporation.

October 29, 1835. Dr. Green visited Minerva’s grave in Rhode Island.

December 17, 1835. He recorded that three of Whipple’s Mills exploded which killed two men instantly.

January 27, 1836. Dr. Green prepared some new skulls for his collection that his brother Charles brought home from Calcutta. The skulls were for the study of Phrenology.

February 27, 1836. Dr. Green attended a Town Meeting to consider a city Charter. There was much angry discussion.

March 3, 1836. Dr. Green submitted long letter to the Board of Health on the Bills of Mortality for the previous year.

April 11, 1836. A Town Meeting was held to accept a City Charter, and on April 21, 1836, the first city elections were held. The entire Whig ticket was elected and his brother-in-law, Dr. Bartlett was elected Mayor. Then on May 4, 1836, Dr. Green was chosen Chairman of the School Committee and also appointed one of the Health Commissioners. This began his long time service to the public schools of Lowell.

June 13, 1826. Dr. Green noted he was boarding at Stowe House. The house on Pawtucket Street was lonely without Minerva. By July 15th, he seemed to be back at his house.

June 15, 1836. Dr. Green wrote some regulations for the Lowell Board of Health.

July 30, 1836. Dr. Green took the steamboat to Methuen, and on August 10th he took the “new railroad to Andover from Lowell”.

August 19, 1836. Dr. Green and the School Committee examined children to be admitted to high school. This was apparently the process for selecting students to be promoted from one level to the next.

October 3, 1836. Dr. Green recorded that “there was a turnout (strike) among the factory girls which is rather increasing”.

November 14, 1836. City elections for Electors were held. There was strife between the Tories and Whigs in the city. Jackson voters won the election.

November 28, 1836. Local physicians met to form a committee to discuss a fee table. On December 2, 1836, Dr. Green was busy drawing up plans for a new room at the High School, and in the evening he attended a meeting to hear the Committee’s report on a physicians “fee table”. Dr. Green drew up the plans for his house, this school addition, and several other architectural changes, without assistance from an architect.

February 18, 1837. Dr. Green vaccinated 114 people against small pox. On the 24th he vaccinated at the Lawrence Corporation also.

April 11, 1837. Dr. Green recorded the death of Kirk Boott of a sudden stroke while riding in his chaise on Merrimack Street at 12 noon. On the 12th, Drs. Green, J.S.B. Jackson, and Putnam spent the afternoon doing an autopsy on Kirk Boott...

April 21, 1837. Dr. Green recorded that "They have commenced stopping the mills owing to the pressures in the money market". As of May 12, 1837, the banks have all suspended specie payments for the present.

May 6, 1837. Dr. Green noted that one of his patient's was the brother of Governor Everett, who came to Lowell to visit his brother.

June 19, 1837. One of the Appleton Mills caught fire and burned for 1 ½ hours before it was put out.

September 14, 1837. Dr. Green and Dr. Kimball were sent by City Hall to do a post mortem in Greenfield NH in a case of suspected murder.

September 26, 1837. Dr. Green testified in court on the "Graves case". This could be the result of the treatment disagreement between Dr. Graves and Dr. Green dating from 1826, and Dr. Huntington's satirical newspaper article about the matter. On January 2, 1838 Dr. Green went to Cambridge on the Graves case. It was continued.

November 14, 1837. Dr. Green and seven others went to Concord to a Board of Education meeting that was addressed by Horace Mann.

November 28, 1837. Dr. Green and Dr. Pillsbury, of Chelmsford, closed the Small Pox Hospital after an epidemic that lasted six or seven weeks. On December 27, 1837, Dr. Green's article on small pox was published in the Boston Medical Journal. He also recorded that he lost a small lawsuit, although he felt he was in the right.

February 1, 1838. He vaccinated people at the Lawrence Counting room.

On his way home from church in Dracut on February 4, 1838, Dr. Green fell through the ice on the Merrimack River and "was half immersed", although not otherwise injured.

February 18, 1838. Dr. Green prepared the Small Pox Hospital accounts to send to the City Treasurer. It may be that the hospital was privately run by local doctors, opened and closed at their discretion, and the city reimbursed the doctors after each epidemic.

Dr. Green learned that he had been nominated for Mayor at a caucus on February 24, 1838. On March 3, 1838, he received 31 votes out of 300 cast for Mayor. He was disappointed at the tally.

On March 8, 1838, the doctor had a post mortem of an unnamed person at 29 Appleton Corporation, with many physicians attending.

March 26, 1838. The School Committee and the doctor visited a school run by the Catholic Church. It would seem there was some coordination between the city and the parochial schools at the time.

March 30, 1838. The doctor spent the afternoon academically examining students for admission to the High School. On April 2nd he was re-elected Chairman of the School Committee.

April 21, 1838. Dr. Green went to Boston to advocate for Lowell's claims for small pox patients before a legislative committee. He did not report the results of the testimony.

April 22, 1838. Dr. Green and Dr. Bartlett cut a tumor from Reverend Green's lower lip "of rather a bad character". On the 28th, Rev. Green was well enough to go home.

May 4, 1838. Dr. Green was elected President of Lowell Lyceum.

June 4, 1838. The Graves case was called up and postponed for one month.

The doctor mentioned a solar eclipse on September 18, 1838.

October 2, 1838. Dr. Green noted that the Nashua cars began to run from Lowell for the first time.

December 4, 1838. Dr. Green went to court in Cambridge on the Graves case. He felt his actions (not described) were vindicated by other physicians.

For the first time on February 6, 1839, Dr. Green made reference to a "lady who will, I trust, have henceforth a sweet interest in this journal". He did not give her name. On the 8th of the month, he rode with Jane McBurney, and "went to a party in the evening to see her and other friends again".

February 21, 1839. Dr. Green was nominated for the position of Alderman, and he decided to stand for election. He was elected Alderman March 5, 1839 and on that date, also made arrangements to add on to his house in anticipation of his marriage to Jane McBurney.

March 11, 1839. He vaccinated school children against small pox. On the 13th, he and Jane went to a Lyceum lecture to hear Horace Mann.

April 25, 1839. Dr. Green and Jane McBurney were married at 11:00 o'clock in St. Paul's in Boston by the Reverend Dr. Stone. At 3:00 PM they went to Providence for

the night, then proceeded to New York City the next day and stayed until the next Tuesday. They returned to Lowell on the 30th and stayed at the Merrimack House until renovations on Dr. Green's house were completed.

October 22, 1839. The Philadelphia banks suspended specie payments and New York and Boston were deciding what action they would take.

Volume Seven –April 3, 1840 to December 5, 1852

Dr. Green noted that the Boott house opened to the public on May 7, 1840, "having been fitted up for a hospital".

The school committee elected all the teachers for the schools at their evening meeting on September 28, 1840. This is the first mention of this practice.

December 3, 1840. Lowell High School took possession of the new room that Dr. Green had designed and overseen during the construction process.

January 9, 1841. The doctor noted that the river in flood carried off the "old mill near the bridge". He does not say which mill or bridge.

The 12th of January, 1841, Dr. Green conducted the post mortem of the "High Sheriff, Mr. Varnum", who died suddenly the previous night. (The death mask of Benjamin Varnum, the High Sheriff, is on display at the Dracut Historical Society museum.)

A son was born to Jane and John Green June 7, 1841 at 1:30 PM, after a "severe labor". Dr. Bartlett and Mrs. Pierce (Jane's sister) stayed with Jane until the baby was born. He was named John O. Green, Jr. The baby was baptized August 1, 1841.

September 6, 1841. A. J. Bennett, a director of the Lowell Bank, while drunk, was robbed in Boston. This disgusted Dr. Green who was on the Board of Directors of the bank. The Board, at their annual meeting of October 4, 1841, "turned out" A. J. Bennett from the position of Bank Director.

May 24, 1842. Both Dr. Green and the Reverend Aaron Green went to Dover, NH to see Aaron's only surviving brother Ezra Green, 96 years old. On the next day, the family received notification that John's brother George died in New Orleans on July 14, 1842, of fever.

August 1, 1842. Dr. Green was present at the laying of the cornerstone of St. Luke's church. He does not say where.

The family received a letter on December 3, 1842, informing them that the ship carrying George's remains had finally arrived in Boston. To honor his death bed wish, the family had bought a plot in Mt. Auburn cemetery after news of his death arrived. Mt.

Auburn was where Dr. Green's father, Aaron, and his mother, Eunice had cemetery plots. The ship took four months to get to Boston from New Orleans "due to being dismasted en route".

In January, Dr. and Mrs. Green heard that St. Anne's church has been bought by their church committee for \$12,000. This notation was dated the 27th of the month, 1843.

April 18, 1843. Dr. Green noted that the river is the highest since 1799, according to those who remember, and that the Mills are stopped. "Some houses in Belvedere are undermined and some inundated with water".

May 5, 1843. He noted that Mr. John Slater, the father of his late wife Minerva, was buried in Rhode Island.

June 15, 1843. A committee sent to Providence to invite President Tyler to visit Lowell returned with a "yes" answer. He came on the 19th of June and there was a procession and "a large flocking of people".

Jane Green was delivered of another son on December 21, 1844, about 5:00 PM. He was christened George Thomas Green on April 21, 1844.

There was a large fire, July 7, 1844, on Union Street in Chapel Hill that burned six or seven houses.

For the first nine days of October 1844, there is a break in the diary. Dr. Green went to New York and Philadelphia, but does not say why.

April of 1845. The doctor and his neighbors decided to put up Rock Maple trees along the "whole of Pawtucket Street". July 7, 1845, Dr. Green engaged rooms in downtown Lowell for an office. His office had previously been in his house after Minerva's death.

September 17, 1845. His son Orne was taken sick in the night. On October 25, 1845, Orne's nurse has finally left the house, and his illness seemed to be over. This illness was never identified, and was so serious that the doctor feared for Orne's life. He had a seizure on March 17, 1846 and Dr. Kimball was called to attend him.

October 24 1845. Dr. Green opened an office that he shared with Dr. Joel Spalding in downtown Lowell.

February 21, 1846. He records that there was a very bad snowstorm that caused the train from Boston to take 22 hours to get to Lowell.

March 3, 1846. Orne Green began to go to a private school taught by Lucy Dana, the daughter of Dr. Dana.

The entry for March 17, 1846 also notes that “one of the Hamilton Mills new buildings fell with a great crash last night, but nobody was hurt”.

March 27, 1846. Dr. Green delivered an address to the Massachusetts Medical Society. It was very well received and he was complimented and praised for it. He had worried a great deal that he would not be up to delivering a good address. On June 23rd, he had 200 copies of his address printed to send to people. On June 8th, the President of the Massachusetts Medial Society asked Dr. Green to send copies of his address to England.

June 30, 1847. President James K. Polk visited Lowell, and there was a very big parade.

July 11, 1847. The doctor noted that there were six funerals that day and that it was a summer of high mortality.

September 8, 1847. He wrote that there was so much sickness in Lowell that his family stayed in Andover with his parents, the Aaron Greens.

November 9, 1847. John’s brother Charles asked him to go to Paris, via England, with Charles’ family to be present for a medical consultation for Charles’ son, with a French specialist. He sailed on November 16, 1947. He returned to Lowell on February 2, 1848 and indicated that he had written a journal of his trip. The journal is not part of this collection.

February 29, 1848. Dr. Joel Spalding left their shared office in downtown Lowell to open an office of his own. They remained close friends for the rest of Dr. Green’s life.

March 21, 1848. The doctor noted that Mrs. Green went to a “Pic Nic” at the new carpet mill where “it is said 4000 persons assembled”.

April 25, 1848. Dr. Green was chosen as a delegate to the National Medical Convention on May 2nd in Baltimore. He was unable to attend due to the press of business.

May 16, 1848. He noted that there had been a severe fire on Market Street the previous evening that left 25 families burned out.

June 26, 1848. He recorded that “a new omnibus began running from the Falls to Belvidere, the first in the city”.

July 31, 1848. Dr. Green concludes that both boys had had “Hooping (sic) Cough” since June.

October 2, 1848. He wrote that he had been elected a Director of the Lowell Bank. (This was the Lowell Institution for Savings.)

There is a hiatus in the record from July 14th to the 29th when he was ill. He recorded that Dr. Kimball operated on his (Dr. Green's) large hemorrhoidal tumor using chloroform as an anesthetic on July 30, 1849.

July 25, 1849. His entry noted that the doctor had had a number of fatal cases of cholera in the last week.

August 5, 1849. He installed gas lighting in his office.

November 19, 1849. Dr. Green and others attended an operation by Dr. Kimball to see the internal iliac for ... on the sacrum, at Lowell hospital.

December 26, 1849. The new gas lights just introduced into the city were lighted for the first time.

February 7, 1850. Dr. Green sat for his portrait by Lowell artist Mr. Lawson. It was finished on April 2, 1850.

On July 13, 1850 he noted that the funeral of President Zachary Taylor was solemnized "in all our cities".

On the 31st of July, 1850, Dr. Green took Orne to a celebration of the opening of the Salem and Lowell Railroad.

September 13, 1850. He recorded the opening of the new Lowell Court House. The next day, he and Orne went to Boston to see the Navy Yard and the Mechanics Fair.

September 27, 1850. The doctor observed a cataract operation by Dr. Reynolds.

This year the doctor was not re-elected to the School Committee. This was the first time since his original appointment. Later he served on the Committee again.

February 19, 1851. Dr. Green renewed his "engagements" with the Lawrence Corporation for vaccinations.

He noted that on April 19, 1851, he had men installing gas pipes throughout the whole house, and the job was finished by April 23rd.

June 14, 1851. Dr. Green bought six houses at auction on speculation of a profit.

December 4, 1851. Dr. and Mrs. Green went to Boston on to hear Jenny Lind sing. The Whigs took the city election of December 8, 1851.

January 12, 1852. Dr. Green was called to the Cambridge court on Dr. Leach's trial for malpractice. He was again in court on the 13th and 14th of January.

April 11, 1852. He recorded that the river was very high and the Pawtucket Bridge was impassable, the Mills were stopped, and many Belvidere houses were filled with 10 feet of water.

On May 7, 1852 a man's arm got caught in a belt and, was torn off at the shoulder. The doctor noted that it "took us all afternoon to amputate etc. at the hospital."

October 29, 1852, was declared a day of public mourning for Daniel Webster's funeral.

January 10, 1853. Dr. Green recorded that the Butterfield-Varnum house burned down the previous Saturday night.

Volume Eight – December 6, 1852 to December 31, 1871

January 22, 1853. Dr. Green attended a meeting of the Pawtucket Bridge Corporation. The bridge was privately owned.

The Mechanic's Mills burned on the night of June 14, 1853, and at 7:30 AM on June 15th, the number 1 Merrimack Mill burned.

August 28, 1853. Dr. Green and Orne heard Edward Everett speak in Lowell City Hall at a caucus.

December 23, 1853. The Reverend Aaron Green died, and Dr. Green arranged for his funeral according to his father's wishes.

The temperatures noted for January 19th and 20th, 1854 were 15 and 18 degrees below zero, respectively.

February 4, 1854. He recorded that the previous evening there was a large fire on Merrimack St. that burned 15 stores.

May 25, 1854. Dr Green was chosen President of the Pawtucket Bridge Corporation.

June 22, 1854. He recorded that "There is a good deal of exasperation in Town between the Catholic Irish and our native population of the lower orders." He made no further explanation for the comment.

July 29, 1854. There was a large fire in Lowell Street that burned numbers of houses. He then noted that on the 30th Orne was examined and admitted to High School.

He mentioned for the first time in his diary that on June 4, 1855, he used instruments for a difficult birth on one of his patients. It looks as if he recorded 60 hours of labor before he used them. He called it “one of his worst cases.”

July 25, 1855. Dr. Green attended the funeral for Dr. Bartlett, his former wife’s brother-in-law, and his very old friend, in Smithfield, RI.

October 15, 1855. Dr. Green was called to Dr. Pierce, of Tyngsboro, who was ill with typhoid fever. He died on the 18th at 11:00 AM.

In a comment about a little known fact of life for poor women of the time, Dr. Green recorded that on January 9, 1856 he went to the State Almshouse and succeeded in getting a wet nurse, clearly for one of his patients who was unable to nurse.

April 21, 1856. Dr. Green’s son George, enrolled in Phillips Academy, and he boarded with his Grandmother in Andover while attending school. He had not passed the High School examination.

May 31, 1856. Dr. Green detailed a family trip to New York “via Springfield, West Point, Albany, Troy and Saratoga for about a week. They came home via Troy on June 6th riding 230 miles on the cars almost without stopping.”

June 11, 1856. He recorded that Mrs. Green went to Mrs. Nesmith’s to a theatrical entertainment, “something quite new in Lowell.”

After a semester at Phillips Academy, George was recommended for admission to the High School on July 22, 1856, and was admitted the next day.

September 23, 1856. Dr. Green arranged his father’s journals for binding. The result was a collection of five books (currently part of this collection.)

October 28, 1856. The Honorable Mr. Choate addressed the Democrats in City Hall in Lowell.

January 19, 1857. The doctor recorded that due to a huge snowstorm, the railroad cars that left Boston at 7:00 AM on the 18th, did not arrive in Lowell until 10:00 AM the 19th. And on the 24th, the doctor’s thermometer registered 24 degrees below zero.

February 7, 1857. Dr. Green noted that there would be “no school in future on Saturdays.” He was again on the School Committee.

August 25, 1857. The doctor recorded that he heard Mr. Choate argue the case of the Central Bridge Corporation. Possibly this was another privately held bridge.

October 2, 1857. There was a large (bank) failure in Boston that caused a great anxiety in Lowell and on October 9, 1857, he stated “the distress among merchants and others having trade is awful indeed.”

October 3, 1857. The chimes of bells for St. Anne’s had arrived and were put in the tower, they caused a great excitement in town.

In the evening of October 22, 1857, Edward Everett delivered his eulogy to Washington in Lowell.

November 4, 1857. The doctor attended J. Butterfield Varnum, of Dracut, and his wife at their deaths. They were buried side by side in the same grave. The doctor was named Executor of the Varnum estate.

October 30, 1857. He recorded that “The month will be memorable for the great many embarrassments of the Country. Our mills are many of them stopped and numbers have left the city. All of us suffer great depreciation of property.”

January 23, 1858. Dr. Green discovered his mother dead in her room at 6:30 in the morning. “She died peacefully.” She had come to live with the Green’s after his sister Caroline, with whom she had been living, moved to Malden in March of 1857.

February 6, 1858. He wrote he was preparing for a lawsuit, St. Anne’s vs. the Merrimack Manufacturing Co., but he did not explain the basis for the suit. It may have been a land dispute.

May 24, 1858. He bought Mrs. Green a sewing machine “which are in great vogue at this time.”

June 16, 1858. The doctor attended the annual meeting of the Merrimack Manufacturing Co., held in the Lowell Counting Room. “Of the 60 gentlemen attending, more than half were from Lowell.”

July 19, 1858. Orne Green was examined for entrance to Harvard College, he failed the examination.

August 17, 1858. There was “great rejoicing at the reception of the Queen’s and President’s messages over the Atlantic Cable.”

August 31, 1858. Orne left to attend Exeter School to get ready for the next Harvard examination. He boarded in a boarding house.

January 3, 1859. Dr. Green was chosen President of the Lowell Bank.

February 22, 1859. For the first time, the doctor noted that Washington's Birthday was celebrated as a national holiday. Schools and banks were closed, flags were flown, and cannons were fired.

May 20, 1859. The entry recorded that the river was so high it carried away a brace from the Pawtucket Bridge.

March 26, 1859. Dr. Green made his first semi-annual report to the Directors on the state of the Lowell Bank.

May 15, 1859. George and Dr. Green secured a room for George to live in, in Boston, while he worked as a clerk in the wholesale drug store called Charles J. Carny. There was no indication that the Green's planned for George to attend college.

June 10, 1859. The court case involving St. Anne's and Merrimack Manufacturing Co. was argued before the Supreme Judicial Court on Dr. and Mrs. Green, and Mr. Edson, the pastor of St. Anne's, attended.

July 20, 1859. Orne was admitted to Harvard College after passing his examination. He took three rooms in Brattle St., Cambridge.

August 13, 1859. A new steam fire engine arrived in the city.

October 4, 1858. At the annual meeting of the Lowell Bank Dr. Green was re-elected President, but the stockholders voted out the other six old directors and voted in six younger men. Dr. Green was not happy with the six new directors.

January 10, 1860. The doctor recorded that the Pemberton Mills at Lawrence collapsed, and 300 – 400 people died.

March 17, 1860. This is the first mention of the public celebration of St. Patrick's Day in Lowell. The doctor noted that "the Irish held a parade in honor of St. Patrick's Day,"

April 17, 1860. The court case of St. Anne's vs. Merrimack Manufacturing Co. was decided in favor of the manufacturing company, much to Dr. Green's disappointment.

April 22, 1860. At a meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society on, Dr. Green was chosen a Trial Commissioner.

June 26, 1860. The doctor bought land behind his house so his property would abut a new street called Falls St.

September 4, 1860. The doctor appeared before the County Commissioners about making the Pawtucket Bridge free. He was President of the association that owned the bridge at that time.

January 4, 1861. Dr. Green commented that “the Country seems to be in great danger of disunion.” On the next day, he commented that “the country seems in a fair way for civil war.”

February 20, 1861. The Pawtucket Bridge was purchased from the stockholders by Middlesex for \$12,000, and made free, the old toll house being the only indication that it had been a toll bridge. On March 12, 1861, the last meeting of the Pawtucket Bridge Directors was held at Dr. Green’s house “as all of its affairs have been settled.”

March 5, 1861. As President of the Lowell Bank, Dr. Green counted all of the cash in the bank. On March 13, 1861 he was chosen President of the new Manufacturers Bank, he resigned as President of the Lowell Savings Bank. He later rejoined the board and served as a director of the savings bank.

April 14, 1861. On the night before, news came to Lowell that the Civil War had begun.

April 15, 1861. Confirmation of the war came from South Carolina.

April 16, 1861. Five companies of military were ordered to Washington to oppose the southern troops.

April 17, 1861. He noted that the war incidents are “chiefly interesting”, but he can “not sympathize with its necessity or expediency.”

April 20, 1861. He noted “it is said some Lowell men have been killed at Baltimore.”

May 6, 1861. A funeral was held for two soldiers killed in Baltimore (Luther Ladd and ... Whitney.)

May 23, 1861. He said that “the war fever runs high among the majority of our citizens.”

May 24, 1861. He commented on that “the war has depressed business.”

July 2, 1861. The entry for this day recorded that the 6th Regiment arrived in Lowell from the war and had a great welcome.

August 12, 1861. The doctor noted that “most of the mills have stopped and workers are unemployed.”

August 29, 1861. George and Dr. Green went to Dedham to the camp of the 20th Regiment to see and say goodbye to Laurie Tilden, an old friend from Lowell, who was off to war.

September 26, 1861. The first National Day of Fast was established due to the Civil War. This National Fast day, was observed into the 1880's as noted each September in the doctor's diaries until his death.

December 4, 1861. George's employer, Charles J. Carny's business failed, and "he might be sent home at any time." On December 8th George was discharged. On February 6, 1862, he got another job at Linden & Meyers on India Wharf.

April 23, 1862. Was noted as the 40th anniversary of Dr. Green's arrival in Lowell.

September 11, 1862. Dr. Green noted his worry that both Orne and George would be drafted into the army.

June 19, 1863. Orne graduated from Harvard. On July 10, 1863 the doctor learned that Orne had been drafted into the army in Cambridge. On the 16th, Dr. Green tried to get Orne exempted from the draft. He succeeded in getting an exemption on August 1, 1863.

July 20, 1863. The doctor noted "a bad steam explosion near his office killed and wounded many men."

July 24, 1863. Orne began studying Anatomy with his father in preparation for becoming a doctor.

By July 31, 1863, Lowell had had 10 inches of rain for the month.

October 13, 1863. Workmen began to lay the first Horse railroad tracks in Lowell in Pawtucket near Dr. Green's house. He noted that it went to Belvidere and it began operation on December 10, 1863,

April 2, 1864. A parade held on this day celebrated the return of the 26th and 3rd regiments to Lowell from the war.

May 2, 1864. He recorded that Lowell furnished its quota of recruits. That meant that Orne and George would not be drafted.

July 4, 1864. The doctor recorded that the new conscription law passed by Congress had made both his sons eligible for the draft again.

July 13, 1864. He recorded that there had been rumors of the capture of Washington.

August 6, 1864. Doctor Green noted that he was unable to buy a substitute for the draft for either son. On the 15th, he wrote that he got George exempted from service. He certified that his knee condition made George unable to serve.

August 23, 1864. The doctor recorded that he and Orne went to Concord and Dr. Green paid \$1,050.00 cash to buy a substitute for Orne in the Army.

October 3, 1864. Orne returned to Harvard, to the Medical School to study.

November 22, 1864. Dr. Green went to Boston to see Orne and they went to see the *U.S.S. Kearsage* on exhibit at Long Wharf.

November 29, 1864. George left for New York City where he had been offered a job in the office of R. W. Travis, of Wall Street. He would live in New York City, visiting Lowell when he could, until Dr. Green died.

January 14, 1865. Dr. Green assumed the duties as Guardian of the children of W. P. Varnum.

April 4, 1865. He received news of the fall of Richmond.

April 10, 1865. He recorded the news of the surrender of R. E. Lee.

April 15, 1865. Dr. Green recorded the news that Lincoln had been assassinated the previous night. "The excitement today has been very great in ... and everywhere."

April 19, 1865. He recorded that the funeral of President Lincoln took place and that all business was suspended and all the churches were open. He laments "Alas for my country I may not live even to see it peaceful and happy again. Our darkness brought upon us by a few over zealous fanatics."

June 17, 1865. The commemoration of the Ladd and Whitney memorial took place at the Merrimack House. Governor Andrews gave an address from a stage at the hotel.

September 11, 1865. He noted that the St. Anne's school opened with 28 pupils. The doctor recorded that "both our city papers attack it with much temper and zeal."

July 10, 1866. Orne Green passed his oral examination by a panel of nine professors and earned his medical degree from Harvard Medical School. He specialized in surgery of the ear.

July 26, 1866. Dr. Orne Green left from New York City to go to Hamburg, Germany the first of two trips abroad to study surgical techniques in Europe. He studied

in Germany, Austria, France, and England. His father sent him letters of credit to support his study.

May 10, 1867. He recorded that the Sisters of Charity started St. John's Hospital, in Lowell.

May 13, 1867. Dr. Green served on the committee to set up rules for St. John's.

July 28, 1867. He made mention of an African American preacher from Kentucky who preached at St. Anne's at the afternoon service.

October 8, 1867. His entry recorded that there was a public reception for General Sheridan at Lowell.

December 7, 1867. Dr. Orne Green's second article on the ear was printed in the Boston Medical Journal. The article was submitted from Europe.

March 24, 1868. Orne returned to Lowell, after 20 months in Europe and opened an office in Boston at # 3 Tremont Place where he practiced as an ear specialist.

May 23, 1868. There was a gas explosion in J. C. Ayer's building on market St. that injured two men.

July 3, 1868. The meeting of the North District Medical Society was held at Dr. Jewett's on Kirk St. and was well attended.

November 6, 1868. Dr Green's neighbors on Pawtucket St. held a parade with fireworks to celebrate the election of a Republican President,

December 4, 1868. President Ulysses S. Grant visited Lowell.

November 18, 1868. Dr. Green wrote an article for the "New Society of Early Settlers of Lowell".

November 28, 1868. Dr. Green and others organized the Early Settlers of Lowell Society.

December 21, 1868. The doctor drew up the constitution for the (renamed) Early Residents Association and was elected President. The association started with 133 members.

February 23, 1869. A vote was held on water, and the yeas were over 448, a majority. The doctor commented "I am please at the triumph over Corporation influence." The vote allowed the City to bring water to residents.

March 11, 1869. Dr. Green recorded that it was discovered the City Treasurer, T.G. Genish, was a defaulter in the sum of \$30,000.

May 29, 1869. The doctor noted the effort to make that date Decoration Day for the purpose of decorating the graves of soldiers.

August 7, 1869. This entry made note of a solar eclipse at 5:00 to 7:00 PM.

October 10, 1869. He recorded that the new St. Anne's chapel, designed by Upjohn of New York City at the cost of \$12,000.00, was opened.

October 18, 1869. He went to Charlestown Navy Yard on and saw the *Tenon*, the *Stromboli*, and the *Eolus*, all iron clad monitors on exhibit.

October 26, 1868. The newspaper announced that Dr. Orne Green was appointed University Lecturer on diseases of the ear, probably at Harvard, but the University was not specified...

April 4, 1870. Dr. John Green was appointed attending physician at St. John's hospital for a three month rotation. He worked that rotation until December 1883.

July 21, 1879. Newspapers were referenced in the doctor's diary noting that Blanche Butler, the daughter of General Butler, married Senator Ames at St. Anne's in Lowell.

August 18, 1870. Dr. Green received notice that he was appointed on the trial of an accused Lynn physician to be held in Boston on Sept. 1.

September 1, 1870. He sat "as Chairman of the Trial Commissioners of the Massachusetts Medical Society and expelled a Dr. Asa T. Newhall of Lynn for charges made through the President of the Society."

September 13, 1870. Dr. and Mrs. Green went to Slatersville, RI to record the engraving on the headstones of his second wife, Minerva, of John Slater, her father, of Dr. Elisha Bartlett, her brother-in-law, and of Ruth Slater. The data is recorded in his diary, but not transcribed here.

October 11, 1870. Allen's Steam Mills exploded killing three or four men (Allen's Steam Mills were not listed in the 1870 Lowell City Directory). They were taken to St. John's Hospital and Dr. Green and three doctors did what they could.

December 31, 1870. The last entry of the year noted that Dr. Green spoke at the new Green School House opening, a building named in his honor in recognition of his long service to the Lowell public schools.

August 17, 1871. He recorded that there were 19 new cases of small pox in Lowell.

September 21, 1871. Jane McBurney Green died suddenly at 1:00 AM on her 60th birthday. Her funeral was held September 23rd, and she was buried in the Lowell cemetery.

December 9, 1871. Russian Grand Duke, Alexis, visited the Mills in Lowell causing much excitement.

Volume Nine – January 1, 1872 to November 18, 1885

January 11, 1872. The doctor received the design for his late wife Jane's memorial stained glass window.

March 29, 1872. Men were installing Jane's stained glass, memorial window in St. Anne's. It was named Charity, and was the first stained glass window installed as a memorial in St. Anne's church.

February 16, 1872. The new Masonic Temple was dedicated in Lowell.

June 26 1872. Dr. Green went to the commencement at Harvard and the President of the United States Ulysses S. Grant, was there.

April 16, 1873. The doctor contracted to have city water brought into his house although he planned to keep his cistern and pipes as well. On the 28th, he noted that he liked city water and that he had good pressure.

November 18, 1873. Dr. Green wrote that he was working on the "Old Residents" book which was about to be published. It consisted of papers written by the members and read at the meetings throughout the year. They usually related to the history of Lowell. The doctor collated, submitted the manuscripts, and edited the galleys of all the volumes of the association almost until his death.

June 17, 1875. Dr. Green attended the 100th anniversary celebration of the Battle of Bunker Hill in Boston. There was a huge procession, both military and civil, and it was attended by an immense crowd.

March 1, 1876. Dr. Green was a speaker at the Semi Centennial of Lowell's incorporation as a city.

June 28, 1876. The new Sanders Theater was used at the Harvard College Commencement for the first time.

August 16, 1876. A boiler explosion in the Merrimack Corporation on killed two men.

June 1, 1877. Smallpox reappeared in Lowell and calls for vaccination were rising.

March 30, 1878. Dr. Green first noted the deafness that was to plague him for the rest of his life. He also noted that Orne was unable to relieve it with instruments.

November 2, 1878. Dr. Green and 100 other old men marched as “Talbot” men against General Butler for the Governor’s race. It was the first time he had ever joined in a protest.

November 6, 1878. Talbot won the election against General Butler.

January 22, 1879. Dr. Green went to see the mechanical harvesting of ice. “About 120 cakes are passed into the house in a minute by steam engine.”

March 20, 1879. Was the 50th anniversary of the Lowell Institution for Savings, a bank he had served in various capacities for many years.

May 14, 1879. The *Lowell Times* published an article in recognition of Dr. Green’s 80th birthday with a very complementary article.

May 29, 1879. Dr. Green wrote to Lucy Larcom, in Boston, to ask her to write for the Old Residents Association. There is no note of a response.

August 27, 1879. Dr. Green received a large volume of Old Residents contributions from the binders. The book included Dr. Green’s picture as President.

November 9, 1879. The doctor called on Mr. & Mrs. James B. Francis after they returned from a nine month trip to Europe. (See J.B. Francis & Descendents Correspondence; catalog # LOWE-14491, for the letters from that European tour.)

November 10, 1879. A regatta was held on the Merrimack, above the falls, and the Vesper Club Boat House was dedicated that same day.

November 29, 1880. James B. Francis lent Kirk Boot’s diary to Dr. Green so he could make extracts from it. The doctor noted that the diary was very interesting.

May 3, 1881. Dr. Green purchased a house at 8 Dane St. so his housekeeper Mary’s relatives from Ireland would have a place to rent.

June 7th & 8th 1881. The doctor attended the ceremonials of the centennial of the Massachusetts Medical School at Harvard.

September 8 1881. There were prayers held at St. Anne's, by Government request, for President Garfield, who was ill due to an assassination attempt in Buffalo, NY.

September 20, 1881. The bells tolled in Lowell to mark the President's death.

April 22, 1882. The doctor was interviewed by the *Lowell Courier* on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of his coming to Lowell. The paper printed a long column describing his history in the city.

December 13, 1882. He noted that the City administration was composed of Democratic electees, three quarters of whom were Irish. This is the first mention of the Democratic Party in the diaries.

May 6, 1883. Dr. Green attended what he called "probably his last case of midwifery".

June 25, 1883. Dr. Green noted that Dr. Edson, the first pastor of St. Anne's, died at the age of 90.

September 11, 1883. The doctor recorded that the Lord Chief Justice of England visited Lowell.

December 19 1883. He resigned his position as senior Physician at St. John's Hospital.

December 20 1883. He recorded that at a St. Anne's Vestry meeting, on a vote of 5 to 4, Dr. Chambre, of Fall River, was chosen the new Rector of St. Anne's.

December 28, 1883. He noted on that the Eagle Mills of W. Chelmsford burned.

December 31, 1883. Dr. Green gave up one of his church pews that he had held for 30 years and stopped the *Medical Journal* and *Lowell Courier* subscriptions he had had for 50 years, "as a preparation for settling old accounts."

January 22, 1884. Dr. Green resigned as Warden of St. Anne's Church.

May 6, 1884. Dr. Green was chosen as President of Lowell Institution for Savings to succeed Dr. Edson.

September 3, 1884. Dr. Green recorded that he had received a bequest of \$1,000.00 in the will of Mr. J. Salisbury, an old classmate.

May 18, 1885. The doctor spent two hours at St. John's at an amputation and viewing "grand appointments."

June 24, 1885. Dr. Green chose not to attend the commencement at Harvard. It was one of the few since his graduation that he missed. He felt feeble and was not feeling well enough for the trip.

August 8, 1885. Dr. Green sat on the platform by invitation, at the Grant Memorial Services on the South Common in Lowell. It was attended by 6000 people.

August 16, 1885. Dr. Green felt so faint in church that he almost left the service. On the 22nd, he made note of his weight, 108 lbs. and the presence of a cough.

September 30, 1885. He recorded his belief that he had had bronchial fever for 2 weeks and was very weak.

October 20, 1885. He was invited to tea with Lucy Larcom by Dr. Chambre.

October 23, 1885. He complained that his right shoulder was very painful, and he noted that he shaved with difficulty on November 3, 1885 due to the pain in his shoulder and chest.

November 6, 1885. He went to the Old Residents meeting, and he recorded that his feet were very swollen. On the 12th, Dr. Spalding and Orne examined his chest.

November 18, 1885. Dr. Green noted that he spent two hours at his office and that his pain, dyspepsia, and dropsy had all increased.

He died in his bed on December 23, 1885.

His son, Dr. Orne Green wrote the following on the last page of the last volume:

“This was the last entry in my father’s diary. He was confined to the house and for the last week of his life to his bed, complaining so little that Dr. Joel Spalding and I did not appreciate the severity of the dyspnoea he mentions. ... He became unconscious on the morning of Dec. 22nd and died quietly at 4:45 PM.”

J. Orne Green.