

Allen, Caleb (1861-1927)

Diaries: *vol. 1*: Apr. 1, 1877-May 13, 1878; *vol. 2*: Jan. 1, 1882-Dec. 31, 1882; *vol. 3*: Jan. 1, 1902-Dec. 2, 1902; *vol. 4*: Jan. 1, 1903-Nov. 20, 1903

4 vols.                    Manuscript                    12 to 20.5 cm

Note: Caleb was the son of Josiah Allen, a farmer living in the Wapping section of Deerfield. The first two diaries chronicle his life as a teenager and young adult; he attended school, town meetings, lectures, concerts, dancing school, and dances. He helped his father around the farm with chopping tobacco stumps, sawing, tapping sugar, and boiling sap. He also helped his mother make soap. Local events like a barn-raising, a strawberry festival, and the laying of the Dickinson High School cornerstone in 1878 were noted. The second diary notes his involvement with a school band, reading the book "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and getting his teeth filled. A highlight was going on an overnight excursion to New York and going up the Hudson River. Cash accounts are at the back of the volume.

The 1902-1903 diaries contain brief entries recording hours spent on making furniture and tracking employees' time. Some expenses are noted.

Vols. 2-4 are Standard pocket diaries.

Diary Collection – Allen