

SAMUEL POLLOCK LARGE'S DIARY OF 1869

Edited by MARGARET PEARSON BOTHWELL

SAMUEL POLLOCK LARGE was thirty-four years old when he wrote the entries in his 1869 diary,¹ and he had been married for seven years.

He and his brother, Isaac Newton Large, had various business interests, but they were best known for their part in the boat building industry of Elizabeth township,² Pennsylvania. They were sturdy sons of hardy pioneers and were thrifty, energetic men.

They must have sensed that war was inevitable between the North and the South when they purchased the necessary land and the buildings thereon in early 1860 to start their boat building business. Their silent partners in their venture were God's rivers and trees.

Many of the men of the Large clan served in all of America's wars and some met death on the battlefield. Most male members of that clan were active in military organizations in the area in which they resided.³

The name of Large is familiar to many people throughout Pennsylvania and numerous other places in the United States and for various laudable reasons.

Isaac Newton Large was known as "Newt," and he and his brother, Samuel Pollock Large, must have heard, in their boyhood years, many stories about boat builders and boat building. They, undoubtedly, had heard that boat building had fascinated and occupied

Mrs. Bothwell, frequent contributor, devotes her talent to a new field of interest.—Ed.

1 This diary and all the other ones of the diarist came into the possession, years ago, of his grandson, Richard S. Large, whose wife, Sarah Stewart Davis Large, treasures the diaries as highly as her husband does, and so do their two married daughters whose children will undoubtedly share the family's pride in the diaries. Mr. R. S. Large recently retired as Supervisor of Market Research and Records of the Duquesne Light Company, Pittsburgh, Pa.

2 Time and men altered the original boundaries of Elizabeth township.

3 The "Union Artillery Company of Jefferson township, which dated from about 1853 or 1854 . . . must have been . . . largely a family institution . . . Men were enlisted for seven years. The officers were: Andrew Large, Captain; John Large, First Lieutenant; James Large, Second Lieutenant; Isaac Large, orderly; Henry Large, corporal; David Lynch and John Beam, fifers, Henry Large, tenor drummer (same as corporal); Wellington Large, bass drummer." Richard T. Wiley's *Elizabeth and Her Neighbors* (Butler, Pa., 1936), 285.

the attention of a young Pittsburger, William Ramsey, early in the 1760's,⁴ and that river craft had been constructed in Pittsburgh in the 1760's and perhaps earlier. They had often been told how boat building had been established in "Elizabethtown"; about Stephen Bayard's boat yards, as well as about the magnificent achievements in boat building by Major John Walker and John Craighead, who had been partners in a sawmill operation, and whose initial fame grew out of the building of the *Monongahela Farmer*.⁵ Some others who deserve honorable mention here in connection with the financial and other risks involved in the building and operation of that famous boat were Jacob Ferree, John Robison and David Pollock.⁶ Samuel Pollock Large and his brother "Newt" felt the urge, after listening to such stories for years, to become boat builders.

When those two men looked at trees, as they reached young manhood, they saw not only their beauty, but they visualized boats being made from the sturdy trunks. They changed the trees into lumber, the lumber into boats, and boats into money. They made use of God's good rivers for their own benefit and that of many other people.

Richard T. Wiley, who had delved deeply into the history of Elizabeth and neighboring communities, and who drew his last breath in 1955 after ninety-eight years on earth, wrote, among other things regarding boat-building activities in Elizabeth township:

The pioneer in this industry locally was the mill and yard of S. P. and I. N. Large, at the foot of Church Street where the Marine Ways had been maintained in later years.⁷

The boat-building property of the Larges had, perhaps, once been the site of a cemetery, for Mr. Wiley informed his readers that "Many human skeletons were unearthed in the vicinity of the mouth of Church Street when the barge yard of Large Brothers was established there about 1860."⁸

4 George H. Thurston's *Allegheny County's Hundred Years* (Pittsburgh, Pa., 1888), 99, 100.

5 "Walker was . . . proprietor of a sawmill in partnership with John Craighead, and it was largely by the energy of these men that the *Monongahela Farmer* was built . . ." Warner's *History of Allegheny County, Pa.* (Chicago, Ill.), II, 103.

6 Their names were signed to a letter of instructions to Mr. John Walker, dated Elizabethtown, May 11, 1801, which began: "SIR — You being appointed master and supercargo of the schooner *Monongahela Farmer* and the cargo thereof by the *Monongahela Company* . . ." *Ibid.*, 103-04.

7 Richard T. Wiley, *Elizabeth and Her Neighbors*, 109.

8 *Ibid.*, 8.

The Large Brothers had purchased that property in April, 1860, from John Craighead and a few other persons.

It was stated in *The Elizabeth Herald*, Boat Building Centennial Edition:

In the year 1860, S. P. and I. N. Large built a saw and planing mill just below the northern limits of the borough and established yards there in which the following year they began building coal barges on an extensive scale . . . they prosecuted the business there vigorously for about twenty-five years and in that time did enough steamboat building to have a place in this history. The mill was burnt down a few years after the start, but was promptly rebuilt . . . They subsequently disposed of the property.⁹

Samuel Pollock Large and his brother and business partner, "Newt," rarely knew an idle moment. They wanted success, worked hard to get it and had the joy of achieving it.

Their ancestry was one of which they could be very proud. The family tree of the Large family has branches that reach into the families of descendants of many American pioneers.¹⁰

America's first Samuel Large settled in New Jersey and served with the notable and courageous General James Wolfe during the siege of Quebec in 1759. About that time, Samuel's son John was born. Years later John served as a drummer boy in the Revolutionary War. Samuel had another son, Jonathan, and a daughter Abigail who married Peter Rockefeller. John Large, the drummer boy,¹¹ was the paternal grandfather of Samuel Pollock Large.

The diarist's father was Samuel Large,¹² a farmer who had a grist mill and distillery and who courted and married Jane Pollock, daughter of David and Martha Westbay Pollock and granddaughter of Henry Westbay,¹³ a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

9 Mrs. S. Kussart, in *Navigation on the Monongahela River*, VI, 521, added to that information by stating that during the quarter of a century that "The firm of S. P. and I. N. Large . . . carried on business" in the Borough of Elizabeth, "they built for the firm of O'Neil & Co. the hulls of the Steamboats Fred Wilson No. 2, the Little Fred, and a tug boat, together with some smaller craft"; and that "The plant lay idle for a year or more after Messrs. Large ceased operations, and was then leased by William, Geo. W., John, Jr., Philip and Michael Weigel . . ."

10 Carman, Lowe, Greenlee, Gordon, Stewart, Davis, Metz, Bartholomew, McCulloch, Anderson, Hayes, *et al.*

11 The genealogy of the Large family states that he was a drummer boy in the Revolution, but another source (the *1955 Year Book of The Pennsylvania Society Sons of American Revolution*, 200) lists him as "Pvt., N. J. Mil."

12 Samuel Large was born Dec. 25, 1796; died Aug. 19, 1864. The Large family genealogy states that "The town of Clairton [Pennsylvania] is now built on most of his farm."

13 Henry Westbay (1740-1824). His remains were interred in Round Hill Cemetery, Elizabeth, Pa.

Attractive Jane Pollock Large was called to Eternity's shores when her little daughter Martha was only eight years old. Samuel Pollock Large and Isaac N. Large, Jane's sons, were even younger than Martha when she had to leave them, their father, and this world. The children's grandmother, Martha Westbay Pollock, came to their father's home to look after them, but she passed on seven years later.

The Westbays and the Pollocks were from Ireland, but the Larges were Huguenots.

The biography of Henry Large, who arrived in this world in 1836, and who was a son of Jonathan Large, sets forth that he owned a distillery, and that the brand of Monongahela rye whiskey made in it "had been established by his grandfather," and that it had "a national reputation for excellence."¹⁴

Henry's only child, Fannie Laura, evidently did not share his pride in the distillery for she was, at one time, President of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. She became the wife and loving companion of William H. Stevenson¹⁵ who was President of The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania for twenty years (1910-1930). During his tenure of office, THE WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL MAGAZINE came into existence, and the Society, for the first time in its history, acquired land, erected a building upon it and moved into its very own place.¹⁶ This achievement was made possible through financial and other help derived from many sources, but was due, in large measure, to pleas made for it by the Society's president, Mr. Stevenson, and its secretary, Mr. Burd Shippen Patterson. Fannie Large Stevenson aided the project by enlisting the support of many of her influential women friends.

And now a few more words about Samuel Pollock Large, the

¹⁴ Warner's *History of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania* (Chicago, 1889), II, 513. [Henry Large (1836-1895) was a son of Jonathan Large and a grandson of John Large. Henry married Anna H. Greenly (Greenlee).]

¹⁵ George T. Fleming, ed., *History of Pittsburgh and Environs*. William Holmes Stevenson's "first American ancestor was Jacob Keepports" who "was known as Captain Keepports and was purchasing agent for the State of Maryland during the Revolutionary War." Mr. Stevenson was born in 1857 and died in 1930. His father was George K. Stevenson (1828-1919). William Holmes Stevenson and his wife, Fannie Large Stevenson, had a daughter, Anna Large Stevenson, who died in 1921; and two sons, Henry Large Stevenson and William Holmes Stevenson, Jr.

¹⁶ The building was opened on Feb. 17, 1914. The addition to the building was put into service in the fall of 1931, but Mr. Stevenson died prior to its completion. The building's auditorium, which was part of the addition, was named Stevenson Hall in his honor.

diarist. He wearied of life in Pennsylvania sometime after disposing of his boat building business, and went to Denver, Colorado, where his seventy-seven years of life came to a close on October 31, 1912. He continued to make notations in diaries, year after year, until a short time before his death. The following excerpts from his diary of 1869¹⁷ give some insight into life as he and some others knew it ninety-five years ago.

THE DIARY

- Jan. 1 The old year retires and the New Year makes its entrance with a continuous rain all night, which keeps pouring all day. Rivers high and rising . . . Peters Creek very high . . .
- 2 River rising and partly overflows field below saw mill . . . Uncle and self examine abutments on creek . . .
- 6 River still well up and barges going out.
- 13 Lizzie¹⁸ and self drive to Elizabeth in sleigh — plenty of snow but deep and spoils sleighing. Death of Benj. Lohr.
- 16 Thomas Fergus¹⁹ had \$4600 U S bonds stolen from him in Union Nat. Bank.
- 17 Fine day at church. Mr. Snodgrass in pulpit.
- 19 Death of Ferguson Biggs²⁰ this morning . . . Meeting of Enterprize Co. — gain for last 6 mos. \$12093.85. Capital stock \$728,278.12 . . .
- 21 Call on Mr. Tepe and look at his locust timber and order 100 posts @ 35 cents . . . Meeting of Coal Co.
- 23 . . . Working at Tom's sled . . . Jim Lyons & Sam came down to see about article. Jim Reed-Em get here in 2 horse buggy.

17 The diary is leather bound and is approximately 3¼"x6¾" with an expansion compartment for memorandums. The title page has imprinted on it "Excelsior Diary for 1869," and an engraving by V. Orr & Co. depicting the sun and beneath its resplendent rays, racing over a rocky road was a two-wheel chariot drawn by two high-spirited horses, and in the chariot there stood a very attractive girl holding the reins of the horses.

18 "Lizzie" was his wife, Elizabeth Pratt Breedon Large. They were married in 1862 and became the parents of three sons, Richard Breedon, Samuel Shaffer and Isaac Newton, and a daughter, Annie Harriett, who married Craig McCulloch in Denver, Colorado.

19 Isabella J. Drennen, a daughter of Margaret Pollock and her husband, William Moore Drennen, was the wife of Thomas Fergus, according to the biographical sketch of Thomas H. Drennen in Warner's *History of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania*, II, 388-89.

20 *Ibid.*, I, 83. Ferguson Biggs was "a member of the first council of West Elizabeth Borough."

- 26 Kill beef cow — weighs 470 & hide 70. Hear that miners on strike below & that they are getting 4 cts in lower pool.
 - 27 Death of Wm. Rapp.
 - 29 Mr. Kirby brings S. M. Brown the Life Insurance agent down and talks about giving me a policy of insurance
 - 30 . . . Dr. Shaffer²¹ and Mr. Brown, life insurance agent here in morning. Got an insurance of \$10,000.
 - 31 Heard thunder and saw flashes of faint lightning yesterday morning Spitting snow a little.
- Feb. 2 Preparing hen house — erecting platform at door, also laying hearth in wash house. Ground hog day — cloudy throughout — not a ray of sunshine. Observe glow of fire towards Pittsburg this evening. Proves to be at Soho²² on the river.
- 3 Finish laying hearth in wash house . . .
 - 5 Uncle Henry Large and his two daughters Christiana Hays & Amanda Davidson²³ and two children each here on a visit and for dinner. Henry Large (cousin) brought them down & himself & wife go on to Mr. Roads²⁴
 - 7 Drive wagon to church [He mentioned by name the eight other persons in the wagon] . . . Thawing and landings very muddy

21 John Eckert Shaffer, M.D. (1821-1889). *The Old & New Monongahela* by John S. Van Voorhis, A.M., M.D., Belle Vernon (Pittsburgh, 1893), stated: "Dr. Shaffer came to Elizabeth December 10, 1845, and began the practice of medicine." *The Presbyterian Banner* of Oct. 14, 1885, reported that Dr. Shaffer's daughter Sue became the wife of W. L. Plumer in October, 1885.

22 *Pittsburgh Gazette*, Feb. 3, 1869 — "Destruction of Evans, Clow & Dalzell Pipe Works By Fire — Several Dwelling Houses Burned — Eleven Families Homeless A terrible and destructive fire occurred between six and seven o'clock yesterday evening, by which the extensive Pipe Works of Evans, Clow & Dalzell, at Soho . . . and several dwelling houses were destroyed The loss is variously estimated at from \$100,000 to \$200,000"
L. H. Everts & Company's *History of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania* (Phila., 1876), 105, stated that "The Crescent Tube Works of Evans, Dalzell & Co. were established in 1866 and enjoy the reputation of being the first in the United States to construct pipe larger than eight inch bore"

23 Christiana Hays was Mrs. John K. (or McK.) Hays, and Amanda Davidson was the wife of James Davidson. They were daughters of Henry Large (1798-1890) and his wife Jane (Ferree) Large (1804-1885). Henry and Jane had five other children.

24 Richard T. Wiley — *Elizabeth and Her Neighbors*, 78. "In 1843, Benjamin Coursin, James Irwin and Frederick Roads formed a partnership and engaged in the building of steamboat hulls at Elizabeth."

- 8 . . . Stake out ground for fences around yard . . .
 - 9 Send buggy to town for Newt²⁵ & Mary . . . Aleck's sister goes away on boat . . . River rising. Barge stage.
 - 11 . . . Gather some stone and begin to lay walk from kitchen door to gate.
 - 12 Oliver Gibson begins to dig post holes for fence above the house around yard . . .
 - 18 . . . Calculating income tax return²⁶
 - 19 3 inches snow on the ground and blowing . . . Mr. Ed. W. Tower and five others drowned²⁷ above Geneva from the upsetting of skiff at night — the whole party — none escaped and no one saw the accident.
 - 21 Sunday. Fine spring-like weather. Drive to church in wagon. Mr. Boyd in pulpit. Lizzie, Ellen, two children, Mrs. Inglis and Mollie make up the load
 - 26 . . . Rev. Mr. Boyd of Muskingum Co., Ohio, who preached for us last Sabbath, comes down home along & remains all night.
- March 3 A. W. & Self drive Dick over to Mr. McClure's near Finleyville & buy 36 head of sheep for \$90.00 and drive them home.
- 4 Inauguration of Gen. Grant as president.²⁸
 - 6 . . . Visit Mr. McDonough to give in income tax return . . .
 - 12 . . . Buy Mr. Powells cow for \$60 to be delivered when he moves . . .
 - 16 Lizzie & self drive to town with Newt & Mary, go to Mr. Sam'l. Walker's golden wedding²⁹ this afternoon and eve-

²⁵ "Newt" was Isaac Newton Large, the diarist's brother and business partner.

²⁶ *The Encyclopedia Americana* (1920 ed.), 14, 744. "Income tax . . . (1) *The Civil War Income Tax*. The first and practically the only experience of the Federal government with income taxation was primarily as a war tax during the period of 1861-72."

²⁷ *Presbyterian Banner*, April 28, 1869 — "In Memoriam. In the book of God's Providence a page was written on February 19th, 1869, the import of which it has not yet given those most deeply concerned to understand. In company with four others, on the evening of that day, Mr. Edwin W. Tower left Morgantown, W. Va., in a skiff for Geneva sometime during that night, at what hour and by what means will not be known until the revelations of eternity, the whole company were drowned. Not one was left to tell the sad story"

²⁸ *Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography* — "On March 4, 1869 [U.S.] Grant was inaugurated the eighteenth president of the United States."

²⁹ There was no family in the area better known than the Walkers.

ning. Very stylish crowd of relatives and friends. First marriage in Bellevernon. Mr. Johnston officiating. Mr. Boyd solemnizes this one . . . Hon. J. K. Moorhead at wedding.

- 24 Funeral of Aunt Libby Drennen.³⁰ Cold & stormy. Started for the funeral but ferry impassible for horses & stopped in town . . .
- 29 . . . Mr. John Ketchum comes in afternoon to see our Chester stock of pigs.
- 31 . . . My birthday. River at its height about 8 A.M. and begins to fall . . .

April 3 . . . Meet Bob Elliott & talk about sale of Mill . . .

- 5 At J. Oneils³¹ in morning to see if barge were loaded. Promised to put it under tomorrow.
- 6 . . . Meet Mr. Coon who has just arrived with 4 rafts of timber, first run of the season.
- 8 . . . Jim Lyons tramping out corn sold to Hen. Large . . . 4 rafts of timber brought up to mill.
- 10 Death of Mr. James Wylie³² this morning. Uncle over to see Oliver Wylie who is very low.
- 12 I go to funeral of Mr. James Wylie who is buried in the new cemetery, first grave . . .
- 18 At church. D. Pollock in the pulpit . . .
- 24 Funeral of Oliver Wylie³³ at 11 o'clock. Act as pall bearer. Second grave in the new cemetery.
- 27 Home from party at 2 A.M. & to bed. Ride down to J. Oneils in morning to see about his loading a barge of coal for us.

³⁰ Isabella J. Drennen.

³¹ L. H. Everts & Company's *History of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania* (1876), 115 — "O'Neil & Co. was organized in 1860 by J. N. and Wm. W. O'Neil, and the business was conducted by them until 1866, when S. P. & I. N. Large were admitted into the copartnership, and the style of the firm was changed to its present title. The works are located in Pool No. 2, at West Elizabeth. Daily capacity, 12,000 bushels. Number of hands employed, 170. Number of barges, 120." The quoted portion appeared in the chapter "The Coal Interest."

³² Warner's *History of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania*, II, 81, "Wylie station . . . is so named from J. P. Wylie." The deceased man was J. P. Wylie.

³³ *Presbyterian Banner*, June 9, 1869 — "Died April 22, 1869, at the residence of his father, J. Oliver Wylie. The deceased was the son of J. P. and Hannah Wylie of near West Elizabeth, Allegheny County, Pa. . . . He was married to Miss Rebecca, daughter of J. B. and Sarah Sheriff of Elizabeth, Pa."

- 28 R. M. Stewart comes up on the Elizabeth and remains all night.
- May 4 . . . Rolling logs in clearing at tunnel in afternoon
- 6 . . . Engineers surveying route for railroad along the river . . .
- 8 . . . Mr. Blair goes up along in buggy to the mill
- 10 To Pg. on the Elizabeth. Newt along. Buy 2 rafts timber from Black . . . Fred Rhodes along & buys 2 rafts . . .
- 14 . . . New fence takes in nearly an acre of ground along the creek . . .
- 18 Death of Andy McKinley's daughter³⁴
- 20 . . . Mary Walker and Maggie Houghton here on visit . . .
- 29 . . . Procession decorates Soldiers graves . . .
- June 1 . . . Put ring in nose of Alderney bull Gen. Putnam.
- 2 Start to Pg in barouche . . . St. Charles³⁵ for dinner and leave Pg at 4 P M and reach Plankington's for supper and lodging
- 3 Leave Plankington's at 6½ A M and reach Whitestown³⁶ at about 11½ for dinner . . .
- 8 . . . Drive out to see John Kennedy at his furnace (Lawrence) — Andy McCullough along . . .
- 14 George Smith here to receive his share of Mrs. Gibson's³⁷ estate . . .
- 24 . . . Painting notices against trespassers on the farm.
- 29 Mrs. Blair & Aunt Izabel & Callie come; also John George & wife & 2 children from Ginger Hill.

34 *Ibid.*, June 23, 1869 — "Died May 18th . . . at the residence of her father, near Elizabeth, Pa., in the 29th year of her age, Miss Catherine McKinley . . ."

35 The St. Charles Hotel was at the corner of Third Avenue and Wood Street, Pittsburgh, Pa. In a memorandum of the expenses of that trip, which was in the diary under "Memoranda" and was headed "Trip to But. Co.," i.e., to Butler County, Pa., Mr. Large had itemized the following: St. Charles \$3; Horse Shoes & Liniment 2.50; Livery stable 1.00; Tolls 1.10; Plankington 6.00; Whip 1.15; Plankington's 6.50; Tolls .80; Hotel 3.50; Livery 1.00; Literature \$5.25.

36 Thomas F. Gordon, *A Gazetteer of the State of Pennsylvania*, Whitestown, p.o. Butler co., 244 ms. from W.C. and 212 from Harrisburg.

37 Under "Memoranda," in the back of the diary, Mr. Large had written: Heirs to Estate of E. Gibson. George Smith, Mary Fru, Elizabeth Smith, James Smith, Sarah Smith, Melissa, Oliver & Thomas Gibson. The estate was that of Mrs. Elizabeth Gibson, and Samuel Pollock Large, the diarist, was administrator of it.

- July 1 Hull of Oneil & Co. new boat launched yesterday and brought down to Elizabeth this morning.
- 11 Sunday. Fine day. No church . . . Send buggy up in morning for Newt. He remains until 5 P.M. Returns home & discovers fire in Planing Mill³⁸ — spreads immediately and consumes the whole. Save the house with difficulty. Mr. Pearsall brings us word of the burning.
- 12 . . . the mill and all machinery totally destroyed except boilers and stack, boilers being full of water & covered with masonry . . .
- 13 . . . A. C. Sampson comes down. Examines the ruins and makes out the papers to secure our insurance.
- 14 . . . Set carpenters to work repairing damage done to house. Mrs. Breedon & Tommy & Dickey go up along in the morning to look at the ruins. Drafting new mill.
- 21 . . . Among engine builders and machinists all day — Stone, Hubbard, Bole, Marshall. Home on night boat . . .
- 22 Bob Clark comes down for me early. Go up and find Stearns agent and contract with him to furnish us with a circular mill, carriage counter shaft — everything complete for sawing 60 ft. logs for \$2000. Lower boilers into engine room and begin wall of boiler . . .
- 24 Working at wall around boilers in front of stack. Mr. Speer doing the masonry. Drafting plan of roofs.
- 27 Rain in the night. Funeral of Maggie Blaine³⁹ . . .
- 29 Drive to town. Darrah & Dickey along and talk about price of Millstone finally agree to give them the refusal at \$50,000 for 20 days. They go on evening boat. Begin to lay foundations for planing mill & still digging basement for boiler & engine room. Night grows cool.
- Aug. 3 . . . Corinne starts for Minnesota with Mrs. Walker & Mrs. Blaine & Mrs. Vankirk . . . Mary George comes on morning boat . . .
- 4 Carpenters framing planing mill & Speers laying boiler

³⁸ This was the Planing Mill of the diarist and his brother, *i.e.*, of S. P. & I. N. Large.

³⁹ Richard T. Wiley, *Elizabeth and Her Neighbors*, 185 — "James G. Blaine's sister, Eliza, married Robert C. Walker, a son of Major John Walker . . . An unmarried sister, Margaret, . . . was an inmate of the Walker home, died there in 1869, and her body was buried in Calvary Cemetery, on the hill."

walls of brick.

- 7 . . . Saturday. Eclipse of sun at 5 P M — almost total.
 - 10 Mr. Dickey of Brookville here on noon boat to close purchase of Millstone
 - 12 Newt & Self drive Dick in to Pg. Meet Dickey & Darrah who agree to take Millstone property for \$50,000 receiving Dick into bargain. Dick frightens at Locomotive at Penn street crossing & gets buggy smashed to pieces. Home on night boat.
 - 17 To Pg. on the Elizabeth. Look at planer at Stones & order it to be shipped.
 - 18 Place engine on pier and level with molten lead.
 - 20 Go on 8 A M train to Mahoning & from there by stage to Brookville. Wheel gives out & detains us, reach Brookville at 11 P M and stop at American House all night
 - 23 Rise, early breakfast and start for Brookville before 6 A.M. Meet Mr. Darrah & Dickey and propose to cancel the Sale but they do not accede . . .
 - 24 Leave Brookville 2½ A M by stage to Mahoning, no other passenger . . . Mahoning for dinner & reach Pg at 5½ P M by train. Remain at St. Charles all night. Lock No. 2 closed for repairs.
 - 25 . . . See Hubbard about grindstone . . . Visit new tow boat with Mr. O'Neil. Newt comes down on noon boat & both back in evening. Boats change freight at No. 2 . . .
 - 27 Get pump to work very well. Locate planes & saw table . . .
 - 29 . . . To church in afternoon. D. Pollock⁴⁰ in pulpit. Call made out for him at a meeting in Elizabeth church 21st. Mr. Elder moderator.
- Sept. 6 Navigation stopped last week to repair Lock No. 2 , , ,
- 9 . . . Henry Large at Mill helping to put down carriage ways.
 - 27 . . . putting up log roller . . .

40 Warner's *History of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania*, II, 288-89 — "Rev. D. H. Pollock, Elizabeth, is a grandson of David Pollock, who first settled in Greensburg, Pa., and in or about 1792 purchased a farm near Elizabeth . . . The subject of this sketch was born on the homestead, Sept. 6, 1823 . . ."

- 29 John Oneil & Sons sell their boat & barges to J. Walton.⁴¹
- Oct. 1 Our engine still on the wharf & Lock No. 2 not yet open.
 3 . . . Our engine is brought up by Elizabeth who came through Pg first time since closing No. 2 Lock — to resume her trips & goes back at 8.
 4 Today's record written under date of 3rd.
 6 To Pg. on the Elizabeth. Mr. Little with Penna. Ins. Co. also Girard Ins. Co. . . .
 8 . . . Mr. Hall of Stearns Black & Co. here to help set up saw mill. Hen. Large helping . . .
 12 Election day. Asa Packer Democratic candidate and Gov. Geary Republican candidate for governor.⁴²
 15 . . . Hear of the death of Josiah Johnston last night
 18 J. Blair here to see about buying his place.
 20 Get saw to cutting and draw some logs to make a beginning
 21 . . . Dr. Shaffer's son sick of typhoid fever.
 22 Drove up to mill with uncle, he wanting to see circular saw working
 27 . . . Pitman of new engine in saw mill breaks in consequence of flaw and causes bedplate to break in two and crop head to fly out with piston rod doing damage to cylinder & slide valve rods &c . . .
- Nov. 11 At Pg on Elizabeth . . . Home on night boat stick at No. 2 dam on the bar and don't get off till next morning.
 18 Thursday — Thanksgiving. S. Mill not running . . .
 19 John Blair comes over before breakfast. Go out with him to look at the piece of land he wants to sell . . . up to town in afternoon . . . Sawing barge timber. Borrow Mr. Blair's shotgun.
 24 . . . Meet Oneils & sell them our boat with coal at J Oneils works
 25 Mercury at 16° in morning . . . Mr. Raymond & self walk

41 L. H. Everts & Company's *History of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania*, 115, "The Coal Interest Joseph Walton & Co. These works were established in 1863, by Joseph Walton, Peter Haberman, and Joseph Keeling" — Jos. Walton & Co. were also boat builders.

42 John White Geary was seeking reelection and was victorious. His life span was Dec. 20, 1819-Feb. 8, 1873. He served with distinction in the Civil War and was severely wounded in it.

- up to Hen. Large to see the distillery. Not yet started. Dine with Aunt Hetty & Jane.
- 27 Saturday . . . Death of Dr. William Pollock.
- 29 . . . To Pg. on the Elizabeth . . . home on the Chieftain.
- Dec. 4 Jim Dodds here having come along with Aleck.
- 13 . . . Fred Wilson No. 2 gets back from her first trip. Horns given to her at Louisville.
- 16 Aleck goes over to J. Rhodds to buy a sow & pigs.
- 17 . . . Barge rise at Pg. Fred Wilson 2 preparing to go out with 5 boats & 4 barges. Get letter from J S Smith Boonston Iowa giving particulars of death of Wm. Pollock
- 21 Get a kitchen range from Bissell.⁴³
- 22 . . . Installation of David Pollock at Elizabeth church at 1 P.M.
- 25 Heavy Frost. We all go up in wagon to Newts for dinner. Meet Bill Fergus — McDonough and Rev. D. H. Pollock there.
- 27 Monday. Ride up to town expecting the remains of Wm. Pollock⁴⁴ to come from Iowa but not come on morning boat
- 28 Remains of Dr. Wm. Pollock came up last evening on the Elizabeth and taken to Round Hill for interment.
- 31 Sunshiny morning. To Pg on the Elizabeth. Smith flour mill at McKeesport fired & burned down last night. See Woods and get power of attorney to Levi Large to attend to our claim against Jonathan Large estate in Wis. The past year was a very unusual one. Very rainy and a great many rises in the river up to July. No extremely hot weather at all. Incessant rains during the Oct.-Nov. months with much cold windy weather followed by a very mild December.

⁴³ F. S. Bissell was then the sole proprietor of Bissell & Co. The company manufactured and sold stoves, ranges, grates, fenders, etc.

⁴⁴ A physician who died at forty years of age.