

(This paper contains the complete transcription of Louisa Jackson's diary. An abridged version was published in the May 2004 issue of the Lewis County Historian. The original diary is located in Manuscript #078, Jackson-Koontz-Glover Collection, at the Washington State Library in Tumwater.)

Louisa Jackson, youngest daughter of John R. and Matilda Jackson, wrote a diary in 1865. This journal was carefully preserved over the years, and was eventually donated to the Washington State Library by Anna Koontz, a Jackson descendant. The homemade journal is fashioned from lined paper, cut in half with scissors and basted into a calico cover. Every other page has an embossed crest in the upper left corner, evidence of stationery of good quality. The calico fabric, though somewhat faded and stained, still retains its pattern of red leaves on a black and red background. The interior of the cover is faced with a different fabric, consisting of white squiggles on a dark blue background.

Louisa had four half-brothers born to her mother, Matilda, and her first husband, Nicholas Coontz (later spelled Koontz). Mr. Coontz drowned in the Snake River in 1847, while the family was heading west over the Oregon Trail. The Coontz children included Henry M., born in 1838; Alonzo Barton, born in 1840; Felix Grundy, born in 1841; and John Nicholas, born in 1844. Henry drowned in the Cowlitz River at age 19 in 1857. Grundy died due to a severe knee injury at age 15 in 1856.

Louisa's mother and her second husband, John R. Jackson, had three children: Mary, born in 1849; Andrew, born in 1851; and of course, Louisa, born in 1853. Andrew died at age ten of diphtheria. Louisa mentions her sister Mary and her half-brothers Barton and John in her diary almost daily.

Louisa's childhood home was a busy one, as her parents' house offered food and an overnight stop for many travelers between the Columbia River and Puget Sound. John R. wore many hats, including first sheriff of the county, clerk, assessor, member of the legislature, justice of the peace, and area representative at many meetings. Matilda was equally busy as a housewife, mother, and innkeeper.

Louisa's diary gives a wonderful word picture of the events important to a young girl in 1865. She always included a word on the weather, but otherwise focused her entries almost exclusively on the doings of the menfolk. Louisa was 11 and 12 when she wrote this diary, and schooling in those days was somewhat sporadic. She didn't use much punctuation, and her spelling tended to be phonetic. In this transcription from the first six months of Louisa's diary, punctuation, spelling, and capitalization follow the original as closely as possible. (For clarity, extra spaces have been added between sentences. Journal entries are printed in italics.)

*Jan 1 1865 Tolable pleasent Margeret & Andrew Urquhart Sarah & Calvin Garrison Were here new year We had a fine time
2 Cloudy Johny boiled food Bart done one thing & nather Mr Orton hoed barrls*

Margaret and Andrew Urquhart were children of James and Ellen Urquhart from Scotland. They lived about three miles west of Jackson's. Calvin Garrison came west from Iowa in 1861, when he was about 16 years old.

"Boiled food" probably refers to boiling mash (grain, scraps, etc.) to feed the hogs.

The ubiquitous and ever-busy Mr. Orton remains a mystery. He does not appear in Lewis County censuses of 1857 or 1871. Perhaps he lived in the area for only a few years, then moved elsewhere. A man named Nathan Orton took up a donation land claim on Delameter Creek in Cowlitz County (west of present-day Castle Rock), but there is no way to tell if this was Louisa's Mr. Orton.

*3 rainy Bart shoeing hroeses Johny & Tom fanning up wheat Mr Orton hoed blairls
4 Cloudy Bart & John sorted apples Mr Orton hoed bairls
5 Cloudy Bart started to go to Mr Davis mill he broke down Mr Orton and Johny were helping him to fix up about all day Ma and I washed*

The phrases "hoed barrls" and "hoed blairls" refer to hooping barrels, the process of attaching metal hoops around the curved wooden staves to make the traditional barrel shape.

"Mr Davis mill" probably refers to the Davis family grist and sawmill at Claquato. Lewis Hawkins Davis, the founder of Claquato, and his five sons built and operated a mill at the southern base of the Claquato hill. According to historian Charles Miles, the mill was powered by a waterwheel located on the aptly-named Mill Creek, which emptied into the Chehalis River. By shifting certain gears, power could be shunted from the millstones, used for grinding grain, to a straight saw for cutting lumber. After L. H. Davis died in the fall of 1864, the mill business continued under the firm of L.A. Davis & Brothers.

In an interview published in the *Chehalis Bee-Nugget* of March 17, 1922, Louisa stated, "Mother was a wonderful worker. Sometimes women stopped and helped her sew. Sometimes we had a man cook. I remember one named Gus Gangloff who was particularly handy. We had Indians to help in the fields but not in the house." Edward Yates, who first met the Jackson family in 1852, added, "I often wondered how Mrs. Jackson kept up with all the work that was to be done in the house. There was no female help. But Mr.

Jackson helped as did the boys—and they were very good boys. There were no conveniences like there are now in modern houses. Water had to be drawn from a well. Mrs. Jackson didn't stand and look when she had things to do but kept going. She was a great woman to work."

6 *Johnny staid at home*

7 *To little lambs came to day. Johnny boiled food. Bart got back from mill. Mr Orton cut oak*

8 *Cloudy. Sabbath. Bart went to the Cowlitz. rest staid at home. the sheep staid in the Prairie beause Pa could not find the lambs*

9 *fogy. John pulled turnips. Bart hauled turnips. Mr Orton cut oak*

10 *Cloudy. Bart trash. Mr Orton cut oak for Spokes. John done one thing and nother. One little lamb came to day*

11 *Fair. Mr Orton making spokes. Bart & John fened up Some wheat. John boiled*

12 *Cloudy. Mr Orton makeing spokes. Bart & John kill four hogs. Miss Person Mr Person Miss Mc & Mary Person also. Shu staid with me. the rest went to the ball at Skook chuck. to more lambs come*

The ball held at Skookumchuck raised money for the care of wounded Union soldiers fighting in the Civil War. The *Pacific Tribune* of January 21, 1865, reported that the "ladies of Skukum Chuck and vicinity gave a party on Friday evening...for the benefit of the Sanitary cause, at which they realized the sum of one hundred and sixty five dollars for the relief of our wounded soldiers. All honor to the ladies of Skookum Chuck, whose hearts are in the good work. Efforts to raise additional contributions for that fund has for some time lain dormant in this Territory, and although it has been neglected here, the war still rages, and as the Sanitary Commission is one of the greatest blessings to the soldier, it should be supported. In Oregon they have an organized movement and why not here. We hope soon to announce that in other sections they have followed the example thus set."

T.M. Pearson was a wagonmaker from New York. His daughter Mary, being only about seven at the time of the ball, would have been too young to attend and thus stayed home with Louisa.

13 *Cloudy. Mr Orton cut timber for felles. Bart he trashed. Mr Roberts Sent his beef Cattle off*

"Felles" is Louisa's word for felloes, the curved wooden pieces that make up the rim of a wagon wheel. Bart was probably thrashing, not trashing.

Mr. Roberts is undoubtedly George B. Roberts, one of the most well-known employees of the Hudson's Bay Company agricultural endeavor known as Cowlitz Farms. The farms were near the present-day Cowlitz Mission Catholic church just north of Toledo. Roberts had a land claim about two miles northwest of Jackson's.

14 *fogy. Mr Orton makeing felles. Bart thrashed. Johnny shrapened a Plow. to travlers past to Stead all night*

Ever since John R. Jackson settled at "Highland" in 1845, his home was a convenient stopping place for emigrants and other travelers. In September 1863, John R. paid \$3.22 for a license from the Territory of Washington, allowing him to operate a hotel until May 1865. The hotel license still exists, in the same collection that contains Louisa's diary.

15 *pleasent. Bart went to the Mr Uquhart. Mr Person Miss Person Miss Mc and eat thir dinners and went home. three lambs came. Mr Finch Mr Tom Davis three other Gentlemen passed*

E.L. Finch had a donation land claim about four miles due south of Jackson's. He was a farmer from New York, and would have been about 45 in 1865. Mr. Tom Davis was probably the son of Jonathan C. Davis, who had a donation land claim next to Finch's. Davis was born in Tennessee, and would have been about 25 when Louisa's diary was written.

16 *rainy. Mr Orton makeing felloes. Johnny cutting up hoes. Bart & Tom thrashing. [indecipherable] Macfadden past*

O.B. McFadden, an attorney and judge, lived with his family in Saundersville (Chehalis), in a log home that still stands today.

17 *fogy. Mr Orton & Tom cedar timber thrashing. Johnny pulling purnips. Pa went to the Cowlitz*

18 *rainy. Mr Orton making Spokes. Bart & Tom fanning up wheat. Johnny boiled*

19 *Storming. Mr Orton filling the wheel thrashing. Johnny hauled mamure*

20 *fogy. Mr Orton fixing the wheel. Bart thrashed. John and I chopd Sausge meat*

21 *cold & pleasent. John & Bart fened up oats. Ma & I scrubed to day*

22 *cold & pleasent & windy. We all staid at home*

23 *cold & windy. Bart hauled wood. John cut wood. lamb came. Mr O makeing felloes*

24 *John boiled food & hauled wood. Bart thrashed. Mr Orton making felloes. the little lamb that came last evning deid last nigt*

25 *cold and clear. John and Mr Orton splitting cedar. Bart tharshed outs*

26 *snowed. John and Mr Orton spliung cedar. Bart hauled*

27 *rainy. Mr Orton making felloes. Bart tharsh. John hauled mamure*

28 *rainy. Bart & John fanning up oats. Mr Orton making felloes. Mr Jay Stilman staid all night. one little lamb come to day*

Jay Stillman was the son of Henry and Catherine Stillman, who had a land claim near Boistfort. Jay was born in Wisconsin, and would have been about 21 in 1865.

- 29 *Bart went to the Cowlitz the rest Sade at home one more little lamb one man staid all night*
30 *Cloudy Mr Orton cutting cedar timber John & Bart kill 2 hogs*
31 *Cloudy John & Bart hauled timber out of the woods*

- february the 1 rainy Bart thrashing oat Mr Orton making bords John Shaving bords I received a letter from Mary*
2 *Snowed Bart thrashed John done one thing & nother Mr Orton making bords*
3 *Cold and clear Mr Orton shaving bords Bart thrashed John cutting of logs*
4 *Cold Mr Orton went home John & Bart fanning up*
5 *clear & cold Bart went to the Cowlitz rest staid at home John answered Janes letter I answer Marys letter Mr Murray & three other gentlemen staid all night*
6 *Cold Bart set logs afire John hauled manure*
7 *Clear Bart thrashed John cut logs*
8 *Clear Bart thrashed John boiled food Mr Phillips passed*

Mr. Phillips may have been James T. Phillips, who came to Lewis County in 1852. He lived about seven miles northwest of Jackson's, near present-day Kennicott Road.

- 9 *pleasant John & Bart fanning up oats one man Stoped all night*
01 *Pleasant Bart Spliting timber John hauled up wood Mrs Phillips passed on her way home Mr Phillips bought the beef Cattle & Sheep*
11 *Cloudy John Stared with the Sheep Mr Orton return Bart drove the Colts home from the newyacam*

In her diary, Louisa sometimes wrote "01" when she meant "10". She also spelled Newaukum many different ways. In 1865, most words (especially anglicized native words) were spelled phonetically and differed from writer to writer. Some words did not acquire a standardized spelling until the 20th Century.

- 12 *rainy John returned after dark a while*
13 *Showry Mr Orton was sick and did not work Bart thrashed John made a mall the horse doctor passed*

"Mall" refers to a maul, a large wooden mallet. And, oh, to know who the horse doctor was!

- 14 *rainy Bart thrashed John made a butter knife handle Mr Orton did not work*
15 *Stormy Bart & John killed two hogs Mr Orton working up Stairs*
16 *Stormy Mr Orton fixing up stairs John cutting up hogs Bart hauling out manure Mr H Cock staid all night*

Colonel Henry Cock lived in Olympia from the 1850's until 1867, when he moved to Walla Walla. According to his obituary in the *Washington Standard* of July 19, 1895, he "served in the Indian war and was interpreter for Gov. Stevens in making treaties with the Indians."

- 17 *Stormy Mr Orton working up stairs Bart thasing oats John choping Sausage I washed Pa went to the Cowlitz*
18 *pleasant Mr Orton working up Stairs John Stuffed sausage Bart thrashed nine lambs come & one lamb deid*
19 *pleasant Bart & John went to the Cowlitz three men eat dimer here Mr Phillips & Mr Winson eat dimer also*

Although Louisa consistently referred to Mr "Winson", this was probably Timothy R. Winston, who lived a few miles south of Jackson's. At age 18, he traveled from Virginia to California to find gold, and after four years of hard labor, he decided to move to Washington Territory. In 1856, gold fever struck again, and Winston headed north to the gold fields in British Columbia. Eventually, he returned to Lewis County. According to his obituary in the *Chehalis Bee-Nugget* of February 11, 1910, he was "a member of the first surveying crew that ever crossed the Cowlitz pass from eastern Washington. He was then a member of the Northern Pacific surveyors, before that line was located in this country."

- 20 *Cloudy Mr Orton working up stairs John & Bart fanning up oats*
21 *Very pleasant Mr Orton working up Stairs John also Bart thrashed*
22 *pleasant Bart thrashed John Bart fanned up oats Mr Orton working up stairs*
23 *Cloudy Bart & John hauled up wood Mr Orton work up stairs*
24 *pleasant Bart & John Stared with the cattle Pa Started with the buggy also for to bring (Mary) home Mr Orton working up Stairs a part of the day and making boards part*
25 *Very pleasant Mr Orton worked up Stairs Barton returned*
26 *Stormy John returned Mr Murry stoped all night*
27 *Stormy Mr Orton working up Stairs John hanged up meat Barton Scoped wood*
28 *Cloudy Mr Orton made a door Barton done one thing another John hauled out manure*

March

- 1 fair Mr Orton working on the Stairs John hauled out manure Barton tharshed
2 Snowy Mr Orton musing away at the Stairs Barton tharshed John musing away at Something

"Musing away" seems to be Louisa's version of our "puttering" or "fiddling" when referring to miscellaneous chores.

- 3 Cloudy John & Barton fanned up oats
4 Cloudy Mr Orton ceiling the front proach Barton hauled out manure John was musing away at Some thing
5 rainy Barton went to the Cowlitz
6 Cold & Snowy John mended harness Barton chopped Some wood Mr Orton made Some troves

"Troves" may be Louisa's way of spelling troughs.

- 7 Clear and cold Mr Orton working at the front room Barton washing harness John mending harness
8 Cloudy Mr Orton did not work becaus he was Sick Barton chopped wood John fixing harness
9 rainy Mr Orton working at the front room Barton chopped wood John mending harness
10 Rainy Mr Orton puting up Some troves Barton musing around John mending harness Mr Robin & Mr Bernie was here to day Mr Robin came to tell Pa that he would only give him 50 cents for his oats per busal

Mr. Robin is probably John Robin of the Castle Rock area. Robin came to Cowlitz County in 1859, and in the 1860s, worked for Oliff Olson operating boats on the Cowlitz River. He also drove the stagecoach between Olympia and Monticello (now Longview). In later years, he opened the first shingle mill in Washington and produced millions of cedar shingles each year.

- 11 Showery Barton & John went to the Newacum to get Barton's heffer up and her calf also the one that was at Mr Winsom Mr Orton musing away at Some thing
12 Cloudy Barton went to the Cowlitz Mr Finch & Mr Pearson Stopped and eat dinner Mr Finch went on to Olympia that is the hul of it
13 Stormy Mr Orton makeing two gates Barton went to fix the telagraf John Clean the barn up

The telegraph line from Portland north to Olympia was completed about 4 PM, Sunday, September 4, 1864. On the following day, William Pickering, Governor of Washington Territory, sent the following message to the east coast: "To His Excellency, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States: My Dear Sir: Washington Territory this day sends her first telegraphic dispatch, greeting yourself, Washington City and the whole United States, with our sincere prayers to Almighty God that his richest blessings both spiritual and temporal may rest upon and perpetuate the Union of our beloved country, that His omnipotent power may bless, protect and defend the President of the United States, our brave army and gallant navy, our Congress, and every department of the National Government." On September 6, Lincoln replied, "Gov. Pickering, Olympia, W.T.: Your patriotic dispatch of yesterday received and will be published."

- 14 Stormy Mr Orton fixing up the gates up Barton greasing harness John helping Mr Orton one man Stopped all night
15 Stormy Mr Orton musing around at Something John went to the Cowlitz Barton greasing harness
16 Most of the day pleasent John mending harness Mr Orton musing away at Something Barton chopping wood
17 Pleasent Mr Orton making bee haves John spliting wood out in the turnip pach Barton hauled up Some potatoes Mr Ledo come and got 1 bu of wheat 2 \$ worth of flour & a 50 cents worth of pork

Mr. Ledo, as spelled by Louisa, does not appear in censuses of the time. However, she may have been referring to Louis LaDue, who was here as early as 1857, and was a farmer from Canada. He and his wife had several children, and at one time lived a few miles east of Jackson's, between Onalaska and Ethel.

- 18 Stormy John boiled food Mr Orton making a wheel barrow Barton chopping wood one man Stopped all night
19 Showery and pleasent Mr Granger with a Stage loud a lady & three gentlemen and also a little girl Barton left with to bring the haves back Mr Granger wanted to go to the Mounttacillow

Charles Grainger was an Englishman who sailed the seas for several years before settling in Olympia. He had the dubious distinction of being Chief Leschi's guard and executioner (Grainger always felt that he had executed an innocent man). In 1865, Grainger drove the stagecoach between Olympia and Monticello. In June 1866, he and L.A. "Ed" Davis of Claquato formed a partnership to operate a U.S. mail and passenger stage line between the two towns. After the partnership was dissolved in 1868, Grainger ran a livery stable and skating rink in Olympia. He died in 1896.

Monticello was one of the first settlements north of the Columbia River. Located near what is now southern Longview, Monticello was founded by Harry Darby Huntington, a member of the large Huntington clan in Cowlitz County.

- 20 solable pleasent Mr Orton making the wheel barrow Barton returned this evering John fixing the fence

21 *Spring begins rainy Mr Orton making a wheel barrow Barton fixing Mr Grangers dubel tree John mending old Shoes Mr Smith eat dinner here Pa bought a pair of [indecipherable] harness from him*

The "dubel tree" that Barton was mending was a double-tree, a stout wooden crossbar which allowed two horses, working abreast, to be hitched to the tongue of a wagon.

22 *Cloudy Mr Orton fixing the buggy bed John washed harness Barton fixing Some iron about the buggy Mrs Macdonal & John Cutting come & returned home the Same day Mr Phillips called in to day bonth two oxes & one cow & calf Mr Smith little boy come and got ten pounds of lard*

"Mrs. Macdonal" was Mary Jane (nee Cutting) MacDonald, wife of John Malcolm MacDonald. She, her brother John, and sister Catherine all came to America from England with their parents Anna Maria and Henry Cutting—they were related by marriage to George B. Roberts. The Cutting and MacDonald land claims were near the present-day junction of North Military Road, Avery Road, and Koontz Road, southeast of Napavine. John Cutting was a telegraph operator in western Washington for many years. He claimed to have named the town of Napavine (Napavine) after an Indian princess of the area.

23 *Cloudy & Showery Mr Orton fixing the buggy John making Saddle blankets Barton helping Mr O about the bug*
24 *showery hale & snow started with the Cattle Pa went to Newucum Barton went a little farer Mr John Moore come and got*
29 *bu of oats John went on to Mr Warens Mr [indecipherable] boy passed*

John Moore was a carpenter from Pennsylvania. He and his wife Mary (from Ohio) eventually settled near present-day Forest and raised a family of seven children.

25 *pleasent Pa went to the Cowlitz Mr Orton fixing the buggy bed*

John R. Jackson's trip to the Cowlitz this day may have been to attend the Democratic convention, held to elect delegates to the Democratic Territory Convention to be held in Olympia in April.

26 *Cloudy Barton Pa & I drove Some cattle to the Lackamas John returned home Mr Granger and his Stage load come and stoped all Night got two of our horses this morning*

In her 1922 interview, Louisa said, "I was out of doors a great deal with father after brother died. He had lots of horses and cattle and some good ones and I used when a little girl to ride frequently with him. In later days we had a two-horse buggy which father used, as he as badly crippled with rheumatism."

27 *Cloudy and rainy Mr Orton fixing gates John & Barton went to Lackamas to hunt ren and a heffer & calf but proved unsuccesful John went this eving again turned out the Same Mr Granger come this eving*
28 *Cloudy Mr Orton making a bedSead Barton John & Pa killed a beef Mr Pearson & Miss also Mary came Mr went on to Mr C Bernier Mr Orton's son came and Stoped all night Lassy and her calf up from the lackmas*
29 *Bautiful John plowed half of day Barton all day Mr Orton fixing the bugg two men Stoped all night Mr Pearsons left here to day*
30 *pleasent Mr Orion fixing the buggy John & Barton plowing Mr J Moore got 28 bu of oats Mr Smiths little boy come and got twenty lbs of bacon*
31 *pleasent Mr Orion harowing Barton plowing John plowing*

1 of April rainy Mr Gosnell come and got Some beef Mr Rastass Garrison passed John & Mr Orton harowing Barton Sowing

Wesley B. Gosnell came to the Olympia area from Maryland in 1851. He commanded a company of Indian scouts during the Indian troubles of 1855-56 and was later appointed an Indian agent. He married Catherine Cutting in 1860, and the couple moved to Cutting's Prairie (just south of Napavine) in 1862. Soon thereafter, they moved to Drew's Prairie (where Lacamas Creek flows into the Cowlitz River), and in 1865, they moved to Cowlitz Landing.

Erastus B. Garrison had a 160-acre land claim northwest of Jackson's, near present-day Bishop Road. Garrison was born in 1839, and died in 1885. He is buried near John R. and Matilda Jackson in the Fern Hill Cemetery on Bishop Road.

2 *Snowy Pa went to the Cowlitz John and I went to the lackmas and got Spammie and her yeling up*
3 *Showry Mr Orton fixing the gates Barton & John harrowing and plowing Pa & I went to the Newacum and got the colts up Mr Mrs Moore and her little boy passed*
4 *Cloudy Pa Started to Mr Macfaddens to attend a meeting Mr Orton & Barton plowing & John working in the garden*

At 10 AM on April 4, the commissioners of the Skookum Chuck and Cowlitz Plank Road Company met at O.B. McFadden's house in Saundersville (Chehalis) "for the purpose of adopting the necessary measures for the organization of said Company." On January 7, 1865, Olympia's *Washington Democrat* reported that the company had been incorporated to construct "a plank road from Skookum

Chuck via Sander's Bottom to the Old Cowlitz Landing. We are informed by Deacon Miles that there is a reasonable prospect of this road being built in the course of time, which will be one of the most beneficial enterprises that has been started in the Territory. No one who has traveled over this route will dispute it. The state law enacting the incorporation added that the company was to construct a "single or double track road from Skookum Chuck, via Norwaukum bridge, J.R. Jackson's to Drew's in Lewis County, or to a point on the Cowlitz River; track shall be of plank, stone, gravel, or either." The commissioners of the new company included O.B. McFadden, Marcelle Chappellier, Henry Winsor, Timothy R. Winston, John R. Jackson, John McIlroy, Sidney S. Ford Sr., James T. Phillips, Marcel Bernier, Wesley B. Gosnell, A.B. Dillenbaugh, and Henry Miles.

5 Showery Mr Orton fixing the gates up at the barn yard John & Barton plowing Mr J Moore come & got 30 bu of oats Mr Shapaleer passed

Marcelle Chappellier owned a water-operated sawmill and a store on Cowlitz Prairie. According to the store's letterhead, Chappellier traded in "dry goods, groceries, liquors and general merchandise." The store's ledger showed that little actual money changed hands; most goods were traded in exchange for farmers' produce and wild game. After Chappellier died in 1872, his estate was sold "by public vendue" and according to the administrator's sale advertisement, included "4 yoke Work Cattle, 3 Cows and Calves, 2 Steers, 2 three-year old Colts, 2 Brood Mares, 1 pair farm Horses, 1 yearling Colt, 12 head Hogs, Carpenter's Tools, Turning Lathé, &c., 1 Breach-Loading Duck Gun, 1 Gang Plow, 2 Reapers, 2 Two-horse Wagons, 1 Spring Wagon, 1 Thoroughbred Wagon, and other farming implements, too numerous to mention. Also one portable Grist Mill complete, One-half interest in a Wheeler and Melich Threshing Machine, the other half interest for sale. Also: 300 bushels of Oats, 220 bushels of Wheat, and 1 small burglar-proof Safe."

6 fair Mr Orton fixing the how harrow John & Barton plowing Mr Phillips passed

7 fair Mr Orton fixing horserack Mr Ledo begun to work Barton Sowing wheat John a harrowing Mr Ledo plowing Mr T Davis and Mr Smiths boy come and got 15 bu of oats & 1 bu of potatoes 5 of weath

8 fair Mr Orton & Mr Ledo plowing Barton Sowing John harrowing three men stoped all night Mr Laman called

Laman could have been a misspelling of Lemon, a family that lived in the vicinity, or could have referred to Mr. J.D. Laman from Steilacoom.

9 fair John & I went to the Newacum got up the colts Pa went Cowlitz & Barton went and took 20 bu of oats 6 bu of wheat

10 Mr Orton working in the garden John also Sowing Mr Ledo and a nother man plowing Mr Telus called too

"Telus" may refer to James Tullis, John Tullis, or to Amos Tullis, who settled near Olympia in 1852. During the Indian uprising of 1855-56, Amos served as a captain in charge of a small command of men assigned to guard the mail transportation between Monticello and Olympia. In 1856, he bought a farm in Lewis County and raised stock for several years. He also served as sheriff, county commissioner, legislator, and commissioner for the insane asylum at Fort Steilacoom.

11 Cloudy Mr Orton at work in the garden part of the day Mr Moses palanting peas Mr Ledo plowing Barton Sowing Mr Shapaleer & Mr Debeau come and got 30 bu of oats Seven travelers passed one of them stoped and eat Supper and went on

In the early 1850s, Louis L. Dubeau came to this area from Canada, by way of the 1849 California gold rush. He settled on Cowlitz Prairie and for some years kept books for the mercantile business of Chappellier & Daulne. He later acquired the store, and served as postmaster, stage agent, justice of the peace, Lewis County sheriff, and county commissioner. In 1863, he married Isabel Cottenoir, a descendant of Simon Plamondon and his first wife, Thas-e-muth, of the Cowlitz tribe. Louis and Isabel had fifteen children. In March 1874, Dubeau's store and house burned, destroying all the contents, except for some store stock that was salvaged before the building was entirely consumed. According to Olympia's *Pacific Tribune* of April 1, 1874, "Dubeau and his wife were both absent from home when the fire broke out; several small children only being in the house. Mrs. Dubeau and a young man named St. Peters had two hundred and fifty dollars in greenbacks burned, the former one hundred, and the latter the remainder. The entire loss is estimated at \$3,000." Apparently the children survived unscathed. Dubeau died in 1885, with an estate valued at nearly \$5,000.

12 Cloudy Mr Orton sowing Barton harrowing M Ledo & Mr Moses plowing

13 rainy Mr Orton Sowing Barton plowing Mr Moses painting Mr Ledo plowing John received Janes letter

14 Cloudy Mr Orton dressing spokes Mr Ledo & Mr Moses plowing John harrowing Barton Sowing Tom worked half aday & went to the Cowlitz

15 Showery Pa went to the Cowlitz and took a hog Mr Orton Sawing spokes Mr Ledo & Barton plowing John seting cabbage plants Mr Moses helping set cabbage plants and so on Mr J Phillips & Mr Winson passed going to the meeting they had a show at Mr Debeaus

16 showery Mr Orton went to the Cowlitz Barton tuck some oats to Mr Gosnells Mr Phillips & Mr Winson called on they home Mr Hendricks also they saw a panther in our perria but we did not get him

Mr. Hendricks could have been William Parsons Hendricks, who was a farmer from Ohio, and would have been 47 in 1865. However, there were several men named Hendricks living in the vicinity. A panther (mountain lion or cougar) in the prairie would not have been an unusual sight in 1865.

17 rainy Mr Orton fixing the wheels Barton & Ledo plowing John harrowing the Meddow Mr Moses trimming the orchard & fixing the grape vine

18 Showery Mr fixing the wheels Barton & Ledo plowing John fixing a plow Mr Moses trimming the orchard we heard the report of Lincons death he was shot died last Saturday night at 8 and Mr Seyward is not expected to live

Lincoln was shot on April 14, and died the next morning. Just a few years before, the news might have taken weeks to reach Washington Territory, as the only communication was by overland transportation or ship around Cape Horn. However, by 1865, telegraph lines and stations were well established through western Washington. William Henry Seward was Lincoln's Secretary of State. Lincoln's assassins also intended to kill Seward, and indeed entered his home and wounded him. However, he gradually recovered and survived to serve as Secretary of State under Andrew Johnson. Seward is perhaps best known for his plan to purchase Alaska, known as "Seward's Folly."

19 fair Mr [indecipherable] the wheels Mr Ledo & Barton plowing John harrowing Mr Moses trimming the orchard Mr Grainger passed to day with pasengers and returned to night Pa got up Molake and her calf from from the Lackamas Mr Gosnell come and got Some bacon

20 fair Mr Orton fixing the wheels Mr Ledo plowing Mr Moses plowing John harrowing

21 Cloudy Mr Orton fixing the wheels Barton Sowing Mr Ledo & Mr Moses plowing John harrowing Tom also Pa went to the Cowlitz

22 plesent Barton Sowing oats Mr Ledo & Mr Moses plowed till noon then went home Mr Orton fixing wheels

23 Barton went to the Cowlitz Mr Burton & Mr Maning were here Ellen & John were here also

Mr. Burton may have been Jackson Barton, who came from Ohio to this area by ox train in the early 1850s. He homesteaded a few miles south of Jackson's. He died in 1906 at the age of 82.

Joseph P. Manning (sometimes spelled Mannen) was born in 1827 in Missouri, and came west by wagon train at the age of 21. His traveling companion was his cousin, Joseph Glover, who was a nephew of Matilda Jackson. Manning eventually took a donation land claim just east of Winlock, and married Caroline Aubert in 1855. Manning served as Lewis County sheriff and as a territorial legislator. He died in 1916.

Ellen and John were probably the children of James and Ellen Urquhart. In 1865, Ellen would have been 19, and John would have been 16.

24 pleasent Mr & Mr Orton working in the turnip pach John plowing in thare Barton Sowing Mr Ledo plowing

25 Cloudy Mr Orton working in the the turnip pach Mr Moses trimming the trees Barton hauling up wood John plowing in the garden Mr Ledo Sacking up potatoes

26 rainy Mr Orton making axaltree Mr Moses working in the Garden Mr Ledo & John making the Cow pen Barton Sowing wheat in the turnip pach

27 rainy Mr Orton making axaltree Mr Moses working in the Garden Barton hauled up a load of ash John making Cow pen Mr Ledo went hom two men stoped all night

28 rainy Mr Orton making a basket John fixing the pasture fence Barton doing one thing & other Mr Moses painting three men stoped all night

29 Cloudy Mr Moses went home we owe him \$5 ¹/₂ John & Tom picking up potatoes in the barn yard Mr Orton making post & rail fence four men stoped all night

30 Cloudy one man stude all night

May the 1 John & Mr Ledo hauled two loads of potatoes to Cowlitz landing Mr Orton went as far as Mr Pomphfreys

William Pumphrey was born about 1830, and came west in the early 1850s. He took a donation land claim in Cowlitz County, where Olequa Creek drains into the Cowlitz River. Depending on weather and river conditions, his residence was often the "head of navigation" on the Cowlitz, meaning that boats could go no further upriver. His home eventually became an important way station for travelers on the river, and was also a stagecoach station. Pumphrey was a well-known figure in territorial days, and served as auditor and sheriff in the 1850s. He passed away in 1897.

2 Cloudy John & Mr Ledo hauled two loads of potatoes to Cowlitz landing

3 Cloudy & rainy Mr Ledo & John hauled one load of potatoes to the landing & went on to Mr Ledos

4 pleasent John plowing Mr Ledo four men got breakfast and went on

5 fair John got home

6 fair John hauling wood out of the turnip pach

7 Sabbath John & Mary went to Mr Winsons after Some wheat Barton returned from Olympia

8 Clear John plowing & Barton harrowing in the turnip pach Mr R James Jr come on a Visit

Although Louisa clearly wrote "R" James, Jr., no record of that name has been found. Perhaps she meant S. James, Jr., who was the son of Samuel James of Grand Mound.

9 pleasant Barton & I planting peas John & Mary planting corn & beans one man soped over night
01 fair Barton covering peas John planting beans & so on
11 fair Barton grubing out Stumps John plowing on the turnip patch Pa & I went to the Cowlitz

Although May 11 was Louisa's birthday, she made no mention of a celebration. In fact, throughout the entire year's diary, no birthday parties were noted.

12 Cloudy Barton fixing fences John plowing Mr & Mrs Winson & Mr Smith also eat dinner & went on to Mr Smiths
13 rainy Barton grubing out Stumps John also John too for some Sulatus Mr & Mrs Winson & Mr Smith com to Stop all night

Louisa may have been referring to saleratus, the 19th Century term for sodium bicarbonate or potassium bicarbonate. Olympia's *Pacific Tribune* of January 20, 1865 gave this explanation of the substance: "What is Saleratus? Wood is burnt to ashes, the ashes are lixivated, ley is the result. Ley is evaporated by boiling, black salts is the residum. The salt undergoes purification by fire, and potash of commerce is obtained. By process we change polash into pearlash. Now put this in sacks and place it over a distillery tub, where the fermentation evolves carbonic acid and gas, and the pearlash absorbs it and renders it solid, the product being heavier, whiter and drier than the pearlash. It is now saleratus. How much salts of ley and carbonic acid gas a stomach can bear, and remain healthy, is a question for saleratus eaters. Some people say saleratus will not harm the stomach. It is a lye ~ Clear as mud!

14 pleasant John went to the Newacum after one of the horses [indecipherable] left this morning Barton went to the Cowlitz eight men come along I Stopped to work
15 Cloudy Barton planting potatoes Mr Lee making latches John plowing
16 Cloudy Barton fixing up fence and Shearing Sheep Mr Lee makeing Latches Mr Ledo come to work
17 Cloudy Barton Shearing Sheep Mr Lee & Mr Ledo cutting brush John plowing in the turnip patch Pa went to the Cowlitz Mr Orton returned
18 fair Mr Orton Mr Lee & Mr Ledo cutting logs Barton Shearing Sheep John plowing & harrowing in the turnip patch
19 Cloudy Mr Orton Mr Lee & Mr Ledo cutting logs Barton Shearing Sheep
20 Rainy Mr Lee left and Mr Ledo also three men come and camped all night with a band of sheep
21 Pleasant Sabbath Mr Uquhart Mr Bernie and Mr Henessy come to See about a School at the Newaucum Mr Smith come also two men eat dinner

In her 1922 interview, Louisa discussed the schools of her childhood. "My first school was on Newaukum prairie in the George Roberts house. Sister and John and I attended. A man named Daniel Dodge, who was a law student, was the teacher. Three or four of the Urquhart children, three of the Moore children and Frank and Peter Bernier were also pupils. We used to drive an old pony back and forth to school, but sometimes he got away from us and then we had to walk home. George Roberts, the senior, lived on Cowlitz prairie after living on Newaukum prairie. Our second school was about a half-mile farther out on the prairie and we had about the same pupils. The teacher of that school was Mr. Hennessy, but we didn't like the school so well." Patrick Hennessy, who would have been about 54 when Louisa's diary was written, was from Ireland, and lived about 2 ½ miles south of Jackson's. Besides teaching school, he also served as the Superintendent of Common Schools in Lewis County from 1867 to 1869.

22 Pleasant Mr Orton went to the Cowlitz John & Barton seting out cabbage & turnips plants
23 Barton & John seting out plants Mr Orton makeing post & rail fence
24 Cloudy Mr Orton makeing post & rail fence Barton setting out plants John fixing up the Calf pasture fence two men Stopped all nigh with a band of Sheep Gorge Stopped all night with his new buggy
25 Cloudy Mr Orton fixing post & rail fence Barton & Pa Started to Olympia with about 13 bus of wheat & 94 fleasies of wool two Mr Laytons passed going home Mr Yates & Erastus Garrison passed going East to see the Country John plowing and seting out turnips
26 rainy Mr Orton makeing boards John hauled up one load of ceder and Sowed white turnips among the corn
27 Showery John put down the carpet Mr Orton makeing boards half of the day Sick John went to the Cowlitz
28 Cloudy Sabbath Pa & Barton got home
29 rainy Mr Orton commencing the wood shed Gorge Wanch passed Mr Mcfadden & Mrs Mrs Sims & Mr Sims and William Mcfadden come and got dinner & went on Johny & I went to School

George Waunch was one of the earliest settlers in the area. He was a native of Germany, and came west with Michael T. Simmons in 1844. He was a gunsmith and blacksmith, and had a land claim near Ford's Prairie.

Here Louisa first mentioned attending school. In "A Pioneer Story", Isabel J. Szwecynski relates that in those early years, the "usual school term was three months, which was probably due to lack of funds as well as to the need for the children to be at home to work."

30 Showery Mr Orton cutting cedar Barton went to Mr Gasnells & got Some things that Mr Orton got in Portland John Mary & I went to school

31 Showery Mr Orton Shaveing boards Barton plowing in Joes field John & I went to School

June the 1 Mr Orton shaving boards Barton Sowed the buck wheat & harrowed it in John plowed the potatoes & fixed the buggy Mr Norciss & Mr Ralf Berbie Stopped all night

Mr. "Norciss" remains a mystery. Narcis Tower and Narciss Farron both lived in the vicinity, but Louisa was quite consistent about using "Mr." only with a last name.

Ralph Burbee was a son of Jonathan and Cynthia Burbee, who settled in Cowlitz County. Ralph was born in Illinois, and would have been about 23 years old when Louisa's diary was written. He lived near the Jackson Post Office (outside of Castle Rock).

2 Showery Mr Orton splitting boards Barton hauling cedar John & I went School

3 Cloudy Mr Orton shaving boards Barton plowing in the turnip patch two Sheep drivers Stayed all night John went with them as far as Mr Mcilroys

4 Cloudy Sabbath William Macfadden come one traveler Stayed all night

5 pleasant Mr Orton Pa Barton & John went to the election at the Cowlitz and voted William Mcfadden returned and Staid all night

In this election, the men of Lewis County voted for several offices: joint councilman, representative, county commissioner, sheriff, auditor, county surveyor, and coroner.

In later years, Louisa noted that her father "was a very strong democrat and couldn't see any other light. He hated to see anyone turn." Edward Yates, who knew John R. as early as 1852, added, "He was a strong democrat and one night he and Mr. Wallace, who was once a candidate for congress, argued politics all night."

6 pleasant Mr Orton & Barton tearing down the wood Shed 2 men camped all night with a team Jiney Boots Stopped all night Johny & I went to School

7 pleasant Mr Orton Barton tearing down the wood Shed Mary Johny & I went to School Mr Phillips Mr Winson Mr Smith & Mr Whuacar passed

Mr. Whitacar was probably Lem Whitaker who lived about four miles south of Jackson's. He was from Pennsylvania, and would have been about 35 in 1865.

8 pleasant Mr Orton & Barton putting a new roof on the wood Shed

9 Showery Mr Orton & Barton working on the wood shed Johny and I went to School

10 warm Mr Orton working at the wood Shed Barton hoeing John plowing corn beans & potatoes John & Mary went to Mr Uquharts

11 Showery Sabbath Mr Bernies family passed going to the Cowlitz John & Mary got home

12 Mr Orton working on the wood Shed Barton Seting out turnips plants John & I went to School Peter come and got one Sack of coal

13 Cloudy Mr Orton working on the wood Shed Barton Seting out turnips plants Mr S James and another man Stopped all night and a french Doctor also John & I went to School

14 rainy Mr Orton Barton hoeing one thing an nother Johny & I went to School three men Stayed all night

15 rainy Mr Orton Shaveing boards Barton seting out turnips plants John & I went to School three men Stopped all night

16 Showery Mr Orton working at the milk room John & I went to school Barton trashing wheat

17 Cloudy Mr Orton working at the milk room Barton & John fanning up wheat Pa went to the Cowlitz

18 Rainy Sabbath Barton went to the Cowlitz two men got dinner

19 warm Mr Orton Saveing boards Barton hoeing John & I went to School Pa & Mary Started to Olympia in the buggy

20 Cloudy Mr Orton Splitting cedar & hewing it for the platform John & I went to School Barton hoeing

21 Cloudy Mr Orton fixing the platform Mr Elie come to iron of the wagon Barton helping him John & I went to School O Macfadden passed going to Mr Gosnells

22 Pleasant Mr Orton helping to fix the wagon John & I went to School Ob Macfadden Mr & Mrs Macfadden passed gonong home

23 Pleasant Mr Orton helping fix the wagon Barton & Mr Elie do Johny & I went to School Pa & Mary got home

Louisa used the abbreviation "do" for "ditto." This was common in 19th Century writing.

24 Pleasant Mr Orton fixing the platform Barton & Mr Elie do John plowing potatoes & hoeing turnips a Pedlar come along

25 Pleasant Sabbath Barton went to the Cowlitz with Mr Elie brought back the horse Mr Tucker & family come & Stayed all night

26 Pleasant Mr Orton takeing the loft out of the kitchen Barton fixing the wagon John & I went to School

- 27 Cloudy Mr Orton ceiling the kitchen loft Barton fixing the wagon John & I went to School
28 Cloudy Mr Orton cieling the kitchen Barton hoeing potatoes John & I went to School Pa went to the Cowlitz a family
Stayed all night
29 Cloudy Mr Orton fixing the pantrey Barton hoeing potatoes John White washing the kitchen
30 Cloudy Mr Orton fixing the kitchen John & Barton working on the road

The remainder of Louisa's diary will be published in a future issue of the newsletter. Anyone wishing to read the complete transcription may inquire at the Museum library.

Many thanks to Margaret Shields for providing research assistance for this article. For a more complete description of John R. Jackson's life, refer to "John R. Jackson, Washington's First American Pioneer" by Trudy Hannon, in the Museum library.

Louisa, youngest daughter of John R. and Matilda Jackson, kept her daily journal at the age of 11 and 12; perhaps she was influenced by her father, who was a dedicated diarist. In this half of her diary, Louisa devotes many entries to the harvest. She also notes events just like those we mark time by today: Independence Day, a wedding, the end of a school term, Christmas, and the end of the year.

In 1938, the old Jackson cabin stood by the side of the then Pacific Highway. Louisa's obituary in the *Chehalis Bee-Nugget* stated "In 1915, [the courthouse] was restored by the St. Helens Club of Chehalis. This, with a tract of land 100 by 200 feet, was deeded to the Washington State Historical Society and is now the property of the state. Mrs. Ware later deeded to the state five acres on the old homestead on the prairie and asked that it be known as Matilda Jackson park, in honor of her mother."

The home's yard and garden in its glory days were described by N.B. Coffman and Charles Miles in the *Chehalis Bee-Nugget's* "Claquato Landmarks" column on October 3, 1939. "The highway in front of the Jackson home was a broad grassy lane which widened out to the west border of the natural prairie, along which was a background of a dense shelter belt of young fir. A long cedar hitching rack marked the entrance to the dooryard.

"The dooryard was enclosed with a white-washed picket fence of a type called 'paling.' The front gate closed with a chain and weight. There was a driveway between the rack and fence. It was laid with cedar puncheon. Against the fence at the right of the gate was the weathered cedar horse-block. Stately foxgloves grew along the picket fence, seeding themselves from year to year.

"Inside the yard, clumps of tansy with their clusters of yellow blossoms grew on both sides of the gate. A pink and a dark red rose both having the same general form with compact blossoms, were planted along the front fence. Red and white daisies bordered the brick walk which led from the gate to the front porch. Bunches of ribbon-grass grew near the porch on both sides of the walk.

"Near the porch on the east side of the walk was a clump of vinca minor, called periwinkle. In line with the periwinkle on the south side of the walk was a laburnum tree and on the north an old-fashioned purple lilac. This lilac, surrounded with a wilderness of sprouts, still grows in the old yard. On either side of the entrance to the porch, which it framed was a white rambler rose. Covering part of the south end of the log courthouse was a dense fragrant honeysuckle, which was infested with aphid as they are today. When in blossom this honeysuckle became a great attraction for hummingbirds. On the remainder of the south side of the home were more roses similar to those along the front fence, with the addition of a lovely deep pink single rose. This rose was the especial favorite of Louisa M. Jackson, and was known as the Hudson's Bay rose. It grew at the south end of the ell, called the big bedroom. This rose was so named by Mrs. Jackson because it was a gift to her from this company's headquarters located on Cowlitz prairie. Over the gate leading from the backyard to the barn, was the white rambler again.

"The north side of the house was given over to pink sweet-briar on the west half, and wild raspberries, on the east half up to the woodshed. The sweet-briar grew in great thrifty clumps that were large and tall. During the summer season when a window was open, the fragrance was soon noticeable inside the house. In winter, red berries added a gay color note. In the north yard catnip and horehound seemed to have gone wild. Nightshade appeared in various nooks suited to its growth. The roses were all planted against fences or buildings where they flourished with no appearance of cowering, growing naturally without pruning or trimming. The fragrance of these old-fashioned roses was pleasing and in keeping with the rambling old house that they companioned.

"A short distance south of the residence was the 'office', a house built of fir poles about 15 by 20 feet. Here John R. Jackson kept his books and transacted business. It contained also a big Franklin stove and beds to accommodate an overflow of travelers."

Following is a transcription of Louisa's diary, with annotations. (Punctuation, spelling, and capitalization follow the original as closely as possible. For clarity, extra spaces have been added between sentences. Journal entries are printed in italics.)

July the 1 1865 Cloudy Mr Orton Started to go to his sons Barton & John working on the road two men stayed all night

2 Sabbath Barton went to Mr Uquiharts

3 pleasent Barton thrashing wheat John plowing in the turnip patch Mr James & his Sister came Johny went to the Cowlitz stayed all night

4 fair Gorge & his Sisters come we raised the flag Mr Orton returned

Ah, the flag. This was no ordinary flag. It was made of wool bunting that John R. Jackson had sent for from San Francisco; the stars were of muslin. Though patterned after the country's first thirteen-star and thirteen-stripe flag, it ended up with only eight stripes, since there wasn't enough material for the entire design. Its final size was six feet by fifteen feet. It first flew on July 4, 1853 at the first known Fourth of July celebration in the newly formed Washington Territory (the Territory was created by an act of Congress on March 2, 1853, just a few months before Louisa was born). The flag still exists in the collection of the Washington State Historical Society.

5 fair Mr Orton cutting Splitting posts & rail fence Barton trashing John hauling shavings out of the wood shed

6 pleasent Mr Orton do Barton & John fanning up wheat the soldiers from Steilacoom camped all night one of our lambs got its leg broke

Soldiers traveling up and down the Cowlitz Trail would have been a fairly common sight. In the early years of the territory, the Jackson home hosted U.S. Grant, George B. McClellan, and Philip Sheridan. These men served in the Northwest as junior military officers, and later gained fame in the Civil War. Lt. Ulysses S. Grant stopped at the Jackson home during a rainstorm in the early 1850s. The lieutenant, who later became general and United States president, was en route to Steilacoom from Fort Vancouver. In a July 4, 1958 interview published in the *Tacoma News Tribune*, a niece of Louisa's, Anna Koontz, remarked, "Grandmother told me about the visit. Lt. Grant stood before the fireplace to dry himself. My oldest uncle saw U.S. in gilt on Grant's army belt. He thought it stood for Uncle Sam."

7 Cloudy Mr Orton made a bread board Barton hoeing turnips John the trough Mrs Jackson & her son come

In Louisa's diary, a hand-written note (obviously added at a later date) states that this Mrs. Jackson was "no relation" to Louisa. The reference may be to one of the Jacksons from the Monticello/Castle Rock area.

8 Cloudy Mr Orton went away Barton & John cut a road to the creek Pa & Ma & Mrs Jackson went to Mr Robbertses

9 Cloudy & rainy Mrs Jackson went home Barton went to Mr Gosnells John Mary & I went to Mr Pearsons

10 rainy Barton & John Started to Olympia with 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ bus of wheat

11 Cloudy

12 Cloudy also

13 fair John & Barton returned

- 14 fair Barton making wagons racks John plowing in the turnip field
 15 warm Barton mowing in the field between the house & barn John hunting horseses
 16 rainy Sabbath Mr Tucker & Mr J Layton come & Mr McDonald and family & Mrs Lane Mr Hennessy & Gorge come

Mrs. Lane was Anna Maria Cable Cutting Gardiner Lane, and mother-in-law of John Malcolm MacDonald. Mrs. Lane's first husband died of "Oregon fever", and her second and third husbands committed suicide.

- 17 Cloudy Barton sowing white turnip seeds & hoeing turnips John & I went to school
 18 Pleasent Barton making a wagon rack John tearing the machine to peacies

The "machine" may have been a combination mower/reaper. In 1865, many of these "Ohio reapers" were sold on the Pacific Coast.

- 19 pleasent Barton & Mr Elie fixing the machine John & I went to school
 20 fair Barton Mr Eli & John fixing the machine 4 men got supper John took two of them to Mrs Mcguires & Stopped all night at Mr Mcfaddens two men stoped to work
 21 Barton rakeing up Some hay Mr Elie working in the in the Shop Mr Jones & Mr Green cutting wood John cutting with the machine Mr Bernie got 25 1/2 lbs of Bacon not paid for
 22 Do Barton rakeing hay & hauling Mr Green helping him Mr Jones mowing John cutting with the machine
 23 Cloudy Barton went to the Cowlitz a man come home with him Selling & Sa on we bought the histrey of Grant price \$2 50 cen

In an interview published in the *Chehalis Bee-Nugget* of March 17, 1922, Louisa stated "I remember seeing Governor Stevens, Mr. Huggins, and Dr. Tolmie. They brought me some little books. Brother Barton remembered seeing General Grant. There were many travelers who stopped at the place." Dr. William F. Tolmie was the superintendent of the Nisqually farm owned by the Puget Sound Agricultural Company, a subsidiary of Hudson's Bay Company. Edward Huggins was Tolmie's assistant.

- 24 Cloudy Barton & Mr Green hauling in hay Mr Jones cutting wood John Do
 25 Fair Barton & Mr Green raked & hauled hay Mr Jones mowing John do Mr Peter Smith passed and tolled our workhands Something about high wages at Some other place
 26 fair Mr Jones & Mr Green went away Barton raked till noon John mowing till noon then they hauled in Mrs Garrison come Mr Phillaps passed going to the Cowlitz to haul in hay
 27 Pleasent John & Barton Do Peter Bernier passed
 28 fair Barton & John hauled hay Mr Uquhart passed with tickets for Margrets wedding we are invited
 29 fair Pa Barton & John went to the election at the Cowlitz
 30 Pleasent Barton went to the Cowlitz Mr Ledo come & got Some things Mr Robberts come home with Barton John & I went to the School house & got our books School is out Mr Phillips passed going home Mr Clair come to work
 31 fair Barton Mr Ledo & Mr Clair hauling in hay John cutting with the machine two Chinamen camped all night

August th 1 Pleasent Mr Clair & Mr Ledo hauling in hay Barton & John Mary & I went Mr Eliczanders & Margrets Wedding we had a very nice time and good dinner

John Alexander was born in Ireland in 1831 of Scottish descent. He went to the California gold mines in 1852, and then to British Columbia. In 1858 he came to Washington Territory and bought land in Lewis County. James and Ellen Urquhart came from Scotland and settled on Cutting Prairie near Napavine. Their daughter Margaret met John Alexander and they were married on August 1, 1865, by Justice of the Peace J.D. Clinger.

- 2 Pleasant Barton & Mr Clair hauling in hay John mowing
- 3 pleasant Barton rakeing hay & hauling in Mr Clair & Mr. Ledo do John do
- 4 pleasant Barton rakeing mowing Mr Clair & Mr Ledo Same John finised Cutting & helped to hauled hay Mr Ledo worked till noon then went home got one bus of potatoes
- 5 pleasant Barton making doubletree John cleaning the little wagon Mr Clair painting it Mr O B Mcfadden and his two Sisters came also Mrs Phillips who has been stoping here two days
- 6 Cloudy Barton went to the Cowlitz Mr Phillaps come home with him O B & his Sisters went home Mary & John went to Mr Bernie got 83 lbs of beef
- 7 Cloudy Barton proping up apples trees John mending harness John & Barton went to a show at the Cowlitz
- 8 pleasant Barton chopping wood John meming & greasing harness Mr Hennessy come
- 9 Pleasant Barton pulling peas John greasing harness Mr Clair come to work Mr Shotwell come Mr Ensine men come & got 3 lbs of bacon & 33 lbs of butter
- 10 Barton puling peas John washing the buggy Mr Clair painting Mr Hennessy went away
- 11 Pleasant Barton cutting wood Mr Clair painting John fixing the buggy
- 12 Rainy Barton cutting wood Mr Clair painting the buggy
- 13 Pleasant Sabbath Mr Pinto passed
- 14 Pleasant Barton & John fixing the reaper Cutting Mr Clair takeing straw out of the barn commence harvest
- 15 Pleasant Barton & John Cutting oats Mr pulling peas Mr Ensines man got 3 lbs of butter
- 16 Do Barton & John Cutting wheat Mr Clair binding
- 17 Do John Barton & Mr Clair binding oats also Mr Ensines men come & helped
- 18 Pleasant Barton John & Mr Clair binding & Shocking up oats
- 19 Do they finised binding & shocking the wheat & also finised the oats 22 ac of oats & 8 of wheat
- 20 Pleasant Barton went to the Grand Pirrie Mr Clair went to the Cowlitz
- 21 Cloudy Barton & John fixing the reaper & Cutting oats Mr Clair binding oats Mr Foster come and got 16 lbs of Salt Mr Leg come

John H. Foster was born in the state of Maine in 1828 and was among those who went to California by way of Cape Horn in 1849. In 1852 he took up a donation claim two miles east of Chehalis. He then bought a farm at Claquato.

- 22 Rainy Barton cutting wood Mr Clair & John thrashing peas & Cutting down trees Pa Mr Plomondo & Mr Miles Started to Victoria

The trip to Victoria was to give testimony at a hearing regarding the disposition of and compensation for the Hudson's Bay Company land following the Boundary Settlement of 1846. The HBC owned thousands of acres of land in what would become Washington Territory; when the U.S. finally gained possession of the Northwest, HBC demanded payment for their land. Several "old settlers" were called to Victoria to offer their opinion on the monetary value of the HBC holdings. Testimony was given under the auspices of Hearings of the British and American Joint Commission. On this trip, Jackson was accompanied by Simon Plamondon and Henry Miles. Michael T. Simmons also gave testimony there.

- 23 Cloudy Mr Clair & John Chopping
- 24 Do Barton & John Cutting oats Mr Clair binding Mr Winson come Mr Mr Miller also
- 25 Fair Barton & John do M Clair & Mr Miller at work also an indian
- 26 Do Barton John finished Cutting oats at noon Mr Clair binding till noon & then helped Barton haul in
- 27 Cloudy & rainy Barton went to the Cowlitz Mr Clair got \$ 20 went home John went to Mr HogueS
- 28 Do Barton thrashing wheat Mr C & Mr M Cutting wood

- 29 Do Barton & Mr Clair fanning up wheat Mr Miller went to Mr Bernies & got a cradle John putting in window glass
- 30 Cloudy John & Barton cutting wheat Mr Clair & Mr Miller Cut bound & Shocked this near the house
- 31 Rainy Barton & Mr Miller Cutting wood Mr Clair burning logs Mr Prince stayed all night

September the 1 1865

- Rainy Mr Clair makeing a pair of Stirrip all of them fanning up oats in the afternoon
- 2 Cloudy Barton & Mr Miller cutting wood Mr Clair do John mending harness Mr Foster come & got 4 lbs of butter
- 3 rainy Sabbath Pa & Mr Plomondo returned one man stayed all night
- 4 Pleasent Mr Clair went home Mr Mr Miller got \$ 9 went to the Cowlitz John went to the lackamass to hunt cattle
- 5 Pleasent Barton & Mr Miller & John turning over wheat it is Sprouting
- 6 Do Barton cutting wood Mr Clair come John at work in the field
- 7 Cloudy & rainy John Barton Mr Miller & Mr Clair binding & Shocking Sprouting wheat till noon
- 8 Pleasent Barton Mr Miller & Mr Clair & John binding wheat till noon then set it up & bound some oats
- 9 Cloudy & rainy they binding & shocking oats till noon then hauled in 10 load in
- 10 Rainy John went to the Cowlitz we heard that Mr Mcdonalds youngest girl died this morning

Martha Harriet MacDonald died at age 2 years and 25 days. She was the daughter of John M. and Mary J. MacDonald. In the September 16th issue of Olympia's *Washington Standard*, her obituary read "Endeared, beloved, her parent's tenderest care; O! happy innocent, angelically fair, God took you hence in His heavenly joys to share."

- 11 Do Barton Mr Clair & Mr Miller setting up some oats & also splitting & cuting some wood
- 12 Do Mr Miller went away Barton cuting wood John finmised a gate Pa & I went to the Cowlitz
- 13 Cloudy Barton cutting wood till noon John picking up apples till noon then they was making a cider mill
- 14 rainy John & Barton finmised the cider mill & made some cider
- 15 Showery Barton cutting wood John made Some cider
- 16 Fair Pa & ma started to Mr Manings Mr & Mrs Decker come three men stayed all night
- 17 fair Mr Clair come Pa & ma got back Andrew and Ellen Uquhart come
- 18 fair day Barton John & Mr Clair cutting caping & hauling in
- 19 fair they finished cutting for 1865 then binding hauling in oats the rest of the day
- 20 Cloudy they hauling in
- 21 Cloudy Mr Clair & Barton thrashing John made cider 10 gals for Mr Debeau
- 22 fair Barton & Mr Clair fannig up oats Pa went to the Cowlitz took some pears apples & cider
- 23 Cloudy Mr Bernies two boys come to help work
- 24 rainy Mr Roberts returned from Victoria
- 25 Do Barton cutting wood John a picking up apples Mr Clair went home we paid him all but \$ 4
- 26 Do Barton cutting wood John makeing cider
- 27 Cloudy John Do Barton Do
- 28 Fair Barton setting grain to dry John boiling cider
- 29 Do John & Barton setting out oats & hauling in Pa went to Mr Bernies to get some of his boys to come & help work
- 30 Do they hauled in all day & set out oats till 10 Oclock at night

October the 1 1865 Sabbath

- Cloudy & rainy Peter & Frank went hom John Barton Pa & I hauled in with two wagons
- 2 Fair Peter Bernie come to work hauling in & finished at noon done harvest for 1865
- 3 Fair Mr Bernies gave a Party in honour of Frances birthday

This is the only birthday celebration mentioned by Louisa in her 1865 diary. Frances was born in 1851 or 1852, and was the daughter of Marcel and Cecilia (Celie) Bernier.

- 4 Fair Barton shoeing a horse
- 5 Do John & Barton Started to Olympia with 38 bus of wheat & 3 dozen of Chickens
- 6 Fair
- 7 Do
- 8 Cloudy & rainy Barton & John got home all safe
- 9 Fair Barton hauling out manure John gathering apples Mr Brins stayed over night
- 01 Fair Barton do John do
- 11 Fair John & Barton Do Pa & Ma started to Claquato
- 12 Pa & Ma returned Mr Yantis stayed over night

Mr. Yantis was probably B. F. Yantis of Olympia. Yantis operated one of the first stagelines between Olympia and Monticello (in partnership with A. B. Rabbeson), and was also a judge and farmer.

- 13 Fair A Emegrent stayed all night John
- 14 Do John parting Sheep
- 15 Barton went to the Cowlitz Mr Person stayed all night one man stayed all night
- 16 Fair John & 4 indians digging potatoes Barton hauling wood Pa & the man went to the grand Parrie
- 17 Fair Barton hauling wood John & the indians digging potatoes Pa went to the Cowlitz Mr Pinto passed with a band of Cattle

Horace H. Pinto and his family from New Orleans joined a band of emigrants traveling by ox team across the plains in the early 1850s bound for The Dalles, Oregon. Pinto was in the same party with the Denny brothers and Borens, founders of Seattle. Pinto came to the old Cowlitz Landing to stake a claim. Later he opened a store in Napavine and was the first Napavine postmaster.

- 18 Fair John & Barton hauling out rails
- 19 Cloudy John & Barton hauling rails indian tom working

John R. Jackson was also a diarist; perhaps he instilled the habit in Louisa. In his diaries (some still exist at the Washington State Library), John R. often mentioned employing Indians as farmhands, especially in the early days. They were usually paid in food, clothing, and blankets.

- 20 Cloudy Barton John do
- 21 Fair Barton John finished Mr R James come
- 22 Fair Mr James Johny Mary & went to Mr Roberts
- 23 Do Barton gathering apples John also Mr Wm Mcfadden come Mr Ely come
- 24 Fair Barton plowing Mr Ely went home in eveing
- 25 Fair Barton plowing John gathering apples
- 26 Do Barton plowing John gathering apples
- 27 John Do Barton Do Mr Yantiss & Mrs Martin come Mr Phillips stayed over night
- 28 Rainy Barton plowing John gathering apples & grinding apples for cider
- 29 Rainy Barton went to Cowlitz
- 30 rainy Pa Barton & John went to the Cowlitz got or hogs from Mr Ely
- 31 Barton plowing Johny went to Mr Alexanders & got 01 bus of wheat I also went to Mr Mr Mcfadden

November the 1 1865

- Fair Barton Sowing & plowing John harrowing 2 men stayed all night
- 2 Fair Barton & John Do Mr & Mrs Whitacur & Mrs Phillips come

- 3 Cloudy Mr & Mrs Whitacur & Mrs Phillips left Pa Barton & John went to a School meeting at Mr Bernies
- 4 Cloudy Barton plowing I think John harrowing & gathering apples
- 5 Fair Barton went to the Cowlitz Mr & Mrs Alexander come and went home again
- 6 Cloudy Barton plowing & Sowing wheat John harrowing & gathering apples Pa & Mary went to Mrs Moores got 1 bus of wheat Mr & Mrs Decker come
- 7 Cloudy Barton laying up fence John gathering apples Mr & Mrs Decker & I went to Mr Pearson
- 8 Cloudy & rainy Barton laying up fence John picking up potatoes Mr & Mrs Decker went home
- 9 Cloudy Barton do John gathering apples
- 10 Raining Barton & John ground apples for cider Mr Hennessy come
- 11 Cloudy Barton working on the road John pressing out cider Mr Hennessy went to his place
- 12 Rainy Barton went to the Cowlitz Mr Simmons & his Son come

Matilda's son, John Koontz, met Charlotte Elizabeth Simmons in 1865, when the Michael T. Simmons family moved from Thurston County to Lewis County. John and Charlotte married on November 13, 1867. Thus were united two of the oldest pioneer families in southwest Washington. One of their daughters was Anna Koontz, long-time Chehalis librarian.

- 13 rainy John & Barton grinding apples Mr Simmons & Mr Simmons left
- 14 Cloudy killed the beef we got from Mr Stillman Mr Simmons come
- 15 Do Barton cutting Cabbages Johny & I making apple butter Pa carried some beef to Mr Gosnell
- 16 Do John & Barton grinding apples for cider Pa & John also went to Mr Bernies also carried some beef 87 lbs John Stayed all night
- 17 rainy Barton went to Mr Bernies for a Sheep
- 18 Very Windy rainy John pressing out cider
- 19 Do Andrew Uquhart come
- 20 Do Barton & John hauling out Straw
- 21 Do Barton & John Do Mr Roberts passed
- 22 Do Barton thrashing John parting the colts
- 23 Cloudy Barton Do John getting the hogs up
- 24 Cloudy Barton Do John hauling out Straw Richard Pearson passed
- 25 Cloudy John & Barton putting up the hogs 22 of them Mr J Hendricks & Mr R Pearson stoped Pa went to mill 11 1/2 bus
- 26 Cloudy & rainy Barton went to Mr Uquhart Andrew come
- 27 rainy Barton threshing John boiled cider
- 28 rainy Barton Do John Do
- 29 Do John & Barton laying up fence
- 30 Cloudy Barton threshing

December the 1 1865 Snow Showers Barton Do Pa & John went to mill Gorge Roberts come & got two Sheep

- 2 Cold & Clear Barton Do John boiling Mr Phillips passed it Snowed about 1 inch last night
- 3 Do Mr Moore come Stayed all night
- 4 Do Barton & John fanning up wheat about 22 bus
- 5 Cloudy it snowed 1 inch Barton thrashing John boiling
- 6 Do Barton Do John went to mill with about 21 bus of wheat & Pa went to
- 7 Do Barton & John fanning wheat
- 8 Cloudy & rainy Barton diging potatoes John went to mill with about 17 bus of wheat
- 9 Do John & Barton & 3 indians diging potatoes finnish
- 10 Snowy Barton went to the Cowlitz John hauled in one load of potatoes
- 11 Clear Barton threshing John & Tom hauling out Straw Mr Orton went home
- 12 Cold & Cloudy Barton Do John boiled hog food

13 Clear Barton & Tom fanned up wheat John fixing a Shed
 14 Do Barton & John thrashing oats
 15 Do John & Barton fanned up oats
 16 Very cold four men come also Mr Crismon
 17 Cloudy they put up the beefs 8 of them also Barton & Tom thrashed
 18 Do Barton & Tom do John boiled
 19 Very Cold Barton & Tom fanning up wheat John fixing a Shed Mr Crismon went away Mr Griffis or
 Some shuch name come
 20 Do they are not doing mutch
 21 rain & snow snow is about 2 inches deep Barton & Tom thrashing John fixing a Shed
 22 Cloudy Barton & Tom Do John boiling food
 23 Rainy Barton & Tom fanned up oats John boiling food
 24 rain & Snow Mr Bernier passed
 25 Do I wish all a merry Crismas & a happy New year
 26 Snowed Some Barton Chopping wood John hauling wood
 27 Snow & rain snow about 6 inches deep Barton thrashing oats John boiling food Pa & I went to the
 Cowlitz
 28 Clear Barton Do John hauling Straw
 29 Snowy killed two hogs Barton thrased John boiled food
 30 Clear John & Barton fanning up oats 100 bus
 31 Sabbath Snowy Barton went to the Cowlitz
 Sabbath eve Dec 31 1865

Louisa's diary closes with the following lines:

*The year is past and gone
 How quickly it has fled
 And never to return
 And no one knows
 How soon we'll be numbered
 With the dead*

*When this you see remember me
 Louisa M. Jackson*

Louisa was born in the old family home on Jackson Prairie on May 11, 1853; and lived near there practically all her life. She was married to Josiah G. Ware, a former Illinois farmer, on July 4, 1888. Their wedding was held at the Chehalis Hotel. In 1909, Joe Ware shot and killed a neighbor in a dispute over a stolen rope and hammer. He eventually served time for manslaughter at the penitentiary at Walla Walla. Joe and Louisa had no children, but Louisa had four nieces. They were Mrs. John W. Smith, Miss Anna Koontz (an early Chehalis city librarian), and Mrs. George Beireis, all of Chehalis, and Miss Jessie Koontz of Seattle. In her later years, Louisa deeded a five-acre parcel of her parents' homestead to the state, and asked that it be dedicated as "Matilda Jackson State Park" in honor of her mother. Louisa died on January 16, 1938, at age 84. She is buried in the Fern Hill Cemetery on Bishop Road (near the Chehalis Industrial Park).