DIARY by JAMES ALEXANDER SLIGH 1881

12 Market Place, Selkirk

Born 9th September 1863 in Selkirk

Employee of The British Linen Company Bank, Selkirk

Completed 4Years Apprenticeship with Bank on 21st June 1881 (See diary entry)

Would be 18 years old on 9th September 1881

Awarded Prize for English – Selkirk Grammar School 20th July 1876

Father:- David Sligh -- Family Grocer and Wine Merchant, 12 Market Place, Selkirk

Mother:- Jane Sligh (nee Thomson)

James Alexander was youngest of Family having three older brothers [David, Thomas and Robert] and two older sisters [Agnes and Janet (Jessie)].

Mother's family (Thomson) were Bakers in Dalkeith. James therefore had Aunts, Uncles and Cousins in Dalkeith -- see references in Diary.

DIARY by JAMES ALEXANDER SLIGH 1881

Saturday,1 New Year's Day. Bank Holiday, January 1881
Very much disappointed at change in the weather from frost to fresh as I expected a good day's skating. Three Dalkeith Cousins (Jessie, Mary & David S. Thomson) & Aggie Bella Scott, Lizzie Cumming, J.S.H. Laidlaw & Thomas Stavert at tea with us in the evening.

Sunday, 2 --- No Entry

Monday, 3
Still fresh. Nothing out of the ordinary done to-day. Over at Tom's at night with Robert ornamenting Bridescake. Jessie Sligh & Jessie & Polly Thomson over at Miss Cumming's to tea.

Tuesday,4
Still fresh & very mild for this time of year. Jessie Sligh & Jessie Thomson called at night on Mr.& Mrs. Lyon at Tower Cottage, also at Mrs. Muirs, Fernlea. Nothing new going on.

Wednesday,5
Nothing of any importance done to-day. Jessie Sligh & Jessie Thomson along at Fernlea to tea & J.Thomson's Slipper was lost on the way by J.S. It was advertised for in the Southern Reporter on Thursday & the Viewfield Servant returned it.

Thursday,6
Went to Mr.Bennett Teacher tonight for lessons on Latin etc. for the first time this year. I have been getting lessons from him since the beginning of November 1880 & for which he charged at the rate of 9d. per night. I go to him twice a week (Mondays and Thursdays)

Friday,7
Very frosty to-day. Went down at night with the 6 o'clock train to Ln. with J.Clapperton to skate but found that the Lindean Steward had broken all the ice by driving a cart across it.

Saturday,8
Very frosty to-day again. Went in the afternoon with Mr.James Mathison & James Clapperton to Bowhill Loch & had a splendid skate, ice as smooth as glass. Then we got tea with Miss Mathison & a game of cards. We left Bowhill about 8 o'clock & reached home about 9.

Sunday,9 ---No entry

Monday,10
Frost still very hard. Had no time to go to skate to-day as I had my lessons etc. to prepare to go to Mr Bennett. Jas.Clapperton went out to "The Pot Loch" & had a skate.

Tuesday,11
Frost hardly so hard to-day. About 7o'clock at night it came on an awful storm of snow which prevented me getting any skating. Letter came from A.C.L.Loudon to Mr.Steedman about J.Clapperton & a letter came from F.&B. Greenock in answer to a letter which J.C. had sent applying for a situation.

Wednesday,12
This the worst day we have had this winter I think. Snowing the whole day mostly & drifting terribly. Rev. Mr. Steven delivered a splendid lecture on Controversy to the members of the Mutual Imp. Assoc'n in the evening. There were very few members there which was a great pity.

Thursday,13
Terrible day this. It is said there has not been such a storm here for six years. The wind too has drifted it very deep some places. Our van could not go up Ettrick and the Ettrick & Yarrow postmen both went away on horseback & they had to ride through fields some places ---the roads were quite blocked up.

Friday,14 ---January
This is our Quarterly Balance in the Bank to-day but I had nothing beyond the ordinary work to do. I was out at a quarter to five for all together but Clapperton (I think) would likely be in again. I took a walk out to the "Pot Loch" to-night about 8o'clock just to see what condition the ice was in & found it was rather rough but there were a great many people out.

Saturday,15
Frost still very hard. I was out in the afternoon at the Pot Loch & had a very good skate. J Clapperton did not go as he had a cold.

Sunday,16 --- No entry

Monday,17
The frost has been harder to-day in the day-light than it has been for a long long time. R.Daniel, W.Heard, & I went out about 9o'clock to the Pot Loch & had a splendid skate. W.Heard never tried it before, but he could do it very well. He just fell once or twice. J.Clapperton accepted the situation at Greenock to-day.

Tuesday,18
The frost is not so hard to-day as yesterday but it is still very hard. Jessie Sligh took my skates down to the Ettrick & learned to skate a little. She never tried it before. I was down along with R.Daniel, W.Heard, & J. Gray at night at the Ettrick & had a most enjoyable skate. Our gas meter was frozen to-night again. It was frozen last night too.

Wednesday,19
Frost just about the same hardness as yesterday. There has been another fall of snow through the night & places where it has not been disturbed is lying 12 or 16 inches deep. Of course the additional snow has spoiled all the skating & it (the ice) is not swept anywhere. I was at the Debating Society at night but there were very few there. I have a cold just now.

Thursday,20
Frost continues just about the same. Nasty showers of snow at intervals throughout the day. And at night a terrible storm of wind & snow came on. I was along at Bennett's tonight as usual. There has been great storms in England the last two or three days. Trains blocked everywhere almost.

Friday,21
Frost a little harder to-day. We can get no skating just now there is so much snow on the ice. I went to Muir & Laurie's at night and bought a pair of skates for Jessie for which I paid 5/6 and on trying them I broke the strap & had to take it to the Saddler's to get mended.

Saturday,22
James Clapperton left the B.L.Co.Bank to-day as he wants a week's holidays before he goes to his situation in Greenock. I was in the Bank in the afternoon & finished the Cash Book etc. as I thought I was better there than doing nothing seeing I could not get any skating.

Sunday,23
Rev. John D. Brown, Chapel Street, preached in the West U.P. Church at night under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Assocn. & the church was crowded so much that they had to carry forms in. Our Church has not been so full for a very long time. We had an exam. at the Bible Class to-day on the Judean Ministry,16 questions altogether. I answered eleven.

Monday,24
This the first day that Clapperton has been away but if we do not get any busier we will not miss him very much. I was all ready to go to Bennett's at night for my lessons but the girl Mitchell came along just about 7o'clock and said I was not to go as Mr. Bennett had a very bad cold.

Tuesday,25----January
We were a little busier in the Bank to-day but we managed quite easily. I was at Bowhill along with J.Clapperton & got tea with Mr. Mathison & we left here about 4o'clock. After tea we had a crack & a game of whist then we got our supper & left Bowhill at 9o'clock arriving home about ten. It was just a visit for J.Clapperton to bid them good-bye.

Wednesday,26
It has been a terrible frost last night again. The glass at Bowhill was down at 29 being 3degrees only off zero.—(Perhaps he means 29 "Degrees of Frost"—reading 3degrees F.) I was at the Debating Society at night & Robert had a debate "Should the Selkirk Burgh Customs be abolished". He had the affirmative & Andrew Henderson ,Watchmaker, the negative side of the question. Robert had a paper on it which took him 20 min. to read. But it was just lost as there were only 11 there.

Thursday,27
The weather is rather fresher to-day if anything. I was out the BK at a quarter to five not withstanding I had an a/c to make out (one of L&S). I was at Bennetts as usual at night for an hour. Jessie was away in the afternoon at Ettrickhaugh dam skating. Jessie Elliot & James Lewis & Alex. Elliot & Barclay(Natl. Bk) & Mackintosh(Sheriff Clerk Depute) were there also.

Friday,28
It has been a little fresh to-day again. We had the slaters taking the snow off the roof of the Bank in the afternoon. I was out the Bank at 5o'clock for altogether which I considered very good for the first Friday since Clapperton went away. Mr Mathison was in the Bank after tea though.
Got my hair cut tonight at Andrew Anderson's.

Saturday,29
It is a great deal fresher to-day the roads are getting into a terrible mess. Alison Smith, Hawick (Mrs.Gideon Robertson's sister) was buried at Kelso to-day. She died on Tuesday. Mr Mathison went away to Edinburgh in the afternoon at 2.35 & came home of the Sunday night. I had Jessie in the Bank in the afternoon letting her see the premises. J.Clapperton was in the Bk to-day bidding us goodbye.

Sunday,30
This was the Sacrament at our church to-day Mr McCallum was assisted by Mr Polson, Jedburgh, (who is a brother to Polson of Brown & Polson). I was not out in the forenoon. The services were all at once through the day & Mr Polson preached at night on the last verse of the 1st Chapter of Hewbrews.
Wm. M. Laidlaw was at Selkirk to-day as he had been at his cousins funeral.

Monday,31
Still fresh. The roads are in an awful mess with slush. Our water pipes in the Bank burst but there was no harm done as the water was turned off. I was along at Bennetts at night as usual. Jessie has had a mark or two about her neck for a week or more & the Doctor was over to-day & he says it is Ringworm. We were very busy in the Bank to-day but I was out before 5o'clock. There was a beautiful Auroraborealis at night.

Tuesday,1 -February
Still fresh. But the snow is not melting very fast. We were very busy in the Bank to-day but I managed to get out by tea-time. James Clapperton entered in his engagement in Greenock to day. He went through yesterday & his father went through with him. We had a letter from Uncle James, Dalkeith this morning informing us that Mr James Gray, Banker had bought his house for £1780: --.

Wednesday,2
Weather still fresh. Very busy in the Bank to-day. We had a lecture at the Debating Society at night from William Little, (who is subagent at the Natl. Bank Galashiels) His subject being "Characteristics of the present age". It was a very good lecture but rather dry. It was raining very heavily at night about 8 o'clock.

Thursday,3
The weather is still keeping fresh. We had a very busy day in the Bank to-day. I was in at night till eight o'clock. Therefore I could not go to Mr Bennett for my "lessons". Mr Steedman went away to Edinburgh to-day to stay for a day or two.

Friday,4---February
Fresh to-day again. We were very busy in the Bank to-day again. I was not out till 10 minutes past eight. Mr Mathison was asking me to-day what I intended doing. Whether I was going to stay in Selkirk or go elsewhere. I just had to tell him I had not thought about it yet.

Saturday,5
It was fresh this morning but at night frost came on again. I was in the Bank till after 4o'clock in the afternoon writing up the Cash Bk. I was not out the house after 6o'clock at night –We received the New Bill Book at the Bank to-day from H.O. We had to get it sooner as the old one was filled up.

Sunday,6
Mr Mc Callum preached himself to-day. I was at the Bible Class in the afternoon as usual but Jessie was not as she had the ringworm. There was only the Established Church in at night so none of us where out.

Monday,7
It was frosty in the morning & then it came on an awful storm of wind and snow and in the afternoon it got fresh & and the snow began to melt & made the roads an awful mess of slush. At night, however, it came frost again. I was along at Bennett's at night as usual. They took stock of our goods in the shop here to-day 7/2/81.

Tuesday,8
Very slippy roads to-day - pretty hard frost. We were not busy in the Bk to-day except at 3o'clock we were rather busy. Robert & Robt. Daniel were up to Yarrow to-day the length of Bengerburn.

Wednesday,9
I began to-day to head the a/cs for those customers who have not Pass Books. I was at the Debating Society at night where the journal was read by Robert Sligh. There were 20 members I think present. At night it was snowing very heavily.

Thursday,10
The roads are an awful mess to-day as it has been raining very heavily this morning between six and seven. The Bank had an advertisement in the Southern Reporter to-day for "a respectable youth as apprentice". There were no applications to-day however. The State books did not balance to-day (at least I thought they did not) but there had been a mistake in the summation of the Totals.

Friday,11
We were not very busy in the Bank to-day but I was in to about 7o'clock. There no applications for the "apprenticeship" to-day yet.

Saturday,12
We were not very busy in the Bk till about half past twelve & after that we were very busy. We have not had such a "burst" for a long time. I was in, in the afternoon till about half past four. There two applications to-day. They are both from Lilliesleaf.

Sunday,13
Mr McCallum preached himself to-day again. I was at the Bible Class as usual in the afternoon. Jessie Sligh & Lizzie & Janie Cumming & myself were at Mr Lawsons church at night when the Rev. Walter Brown Galas's preached. This was the sacrament at their church.

Monday,14
We were not busy in the Bank to-day I was out a little after four o'clock. I was along at Bennett's at night as usual. We had no fire at least very little it would not burn owing to the wind & the room was filled with smoke.

Tuesday,15th---February
We were not busy in the Bk to-day either. Miss Storie Dressmaker threw up her lease No.11 to-day. She says she is leaving Selkirk owing to bad health. I was cleaning my bicycle at night after tea time as it was rather rusty with lying such a long time unused.

Wednesday,16
We "marked off" the I/Rs. in the Bk in the forenoon as we were not busy. In the afternoon we were very busy though. It was "fiars day" & L.&S. rent days for Poliv'h Alv'a etc. etc. I was at the Debating Society at night Mr J.Russell ,Bridgepark read a splendid paper on Free Trade. I was not out the Bank till 10 minutes past 5.
(Note – Scots Dictionary defines "friars" as :- The prices of grain legally fixed for the year in each county.)

Thursday,17
We were not busy in the Bank to-day. It was Messenger day too. I was out the Bank about 10minutes past four. Miss Cumming was over and took tea with us at night, I was at Bennett's at night as usual. I got a price list of Bicycles sent me last night from Geoghegan & Co. Waverley Market Edinburgh. I did not write for it but they had kept my address when I got the Camp from them.

Friday,18
We were not busy in the forenoon but we were rather surprised in the afternoon just about half past two o'clock Thomson & Porteous (Jas. Porteous) came in with a few cheques which kept us back a little. He always comes on a Friday. I learnt my "lessons" at night & about half past 7 I went out on the Street & saw W.L. Lunn. We walked about for a while on the St's. then we went up to his lodgings & I got Cassell's popular educator from him to see it.

Saturday,19
The weather is a little fresh & the snow has disappeared a little but it has never been a sight fresh yet. We were not very busy in the Bk. & I was out at 3.30. I met W.J.Lunn in the afternoon and showed him my Bicycle etc. Maggie Campbell (the Minister's niece) is very bad just now with gastric fever. She is hardly expected to see morning. M. Yellowlees (J.Yellowlees' daughter) is also very bad with inflammation in the kidneys.

Sunday,20
Rev. Wm. Steven preached in our church to-day & Mr.Mc.Callum in his (owing to Maggie Campbell being so ill MrMc.C. had not a sermon prepared). He (Mr.Steven) preached from II Peter 2 @ 1.&2 verses. We did not think very much of his sermon. There was no Bible Class--- Mr. Farquharson's Ch. was in at night. Tom was the only one that went. Maggie Campbell is a little better to-day.

Monday,21
Maggie Campbell died this morning at 9o'clock with gastric fever. I was in the Reading room after tea & 3 boys were in making a terrible noise. Mackintosh was in but he did not speak to them. After he went away Mr Farquharson came in & after the boys went out Mr F. asked me if I knew they were members or not & said the Sec'y should be spoken to about it. David and I were not in bed till near 2o'clock Tuesday morning Adam Stewart & his wife were making such a row. I was at Bennett's at night as usual.

Tuesday,22
The weather is still just between frost & fresh the roads are almost clear of snow now where there is traffic. The Stationery arrived from Edin'r at the Bk to-day just about 3o'clock. We began to open it about 4o'clock & and we got it all put out of sight by 5o'clock. I was in the house at night preparing my Latin etc. etc. The Bible Class Social meeting was to have been to-day.

Wednesday,23
This is the quietest day we have had in the Bank for a while at the Market day. (It was not sale day) Maggie Campbell was buried in Brierylaw Cemetery in the afternoon at 2o'clock. I was at the Debating Society at night. There was to have been a debate on "Republicanism" but the parties who were to take it up could not get. The night was spent with extempore debate written on paper.

Thursday,24th---February
We were not busy in the forenoon but we were a little busier in the afternoon in the Bank to-day. The sun has a strong heat now & it is melting what snow is left. I was out the Bk about half past four. I was at Bennett's at night as usual. Jessie was at the singing.

Friday,25
We were very busy in the Bk to-day we did not get comp'd till Saturday. Mr Mathison & I were in till eight o'clock p.m. I did not get the State Bk's balanced till 3.45 p.m. & it was after tea-time or the get the Cash finished (the compar'g at any rate). I did not get anything worth while done to my translation at night. Word was sent to the successful offer for the Bk additions to-day.

Saturday,26
We were not busy in the Bk to-day but I was in , in the afternoon making out a/c's etc. Robert and Jessie went away to Dalkeith with the 2.35 train. They are to meet Jas. P. Thomson from London & bid Uncle Jas. & the family goodbye. I was not out the house after tea time. I was preparing my Latin.

Sunday,27
Mr Mc Callum preached himself to-day. He had only one Sermon but it was a pretty long one. He was very dull owing to the death of Maggie Campbell. There was no Bible Class. Robert & Jessie being away at Dalkeith it was a very dull day to us all & it was snowing the whole day more or less.

Monday,28
We were not very busy in the Bk to-day. J.Mathison A.Christie & I were in the old dwelling house in the afternoon seeing it. It is an awful dirty house. George Inglis ("the" scored out) Mason Rosemount died this morning at 2o'clock. He was very bad with his breath just before he died. I was at Bennett's at night as usual. I received a price list of bicycles to-day from Chas. Milne which I sent for on Saturday.

Tuesday,1st March
The weather is again very frosty but through the day the streets got quite slushy with the heat of the sun. I wrote away at night to Jennings&Co. Glasgow for a Price List of Bicycles. I was not out after teatime. I was busy with my lessons but I had some translation (Latin Book page) which I could not manage. I was out the Bk about a quarter to five o'clock.

Wednesday,2
It has been a very hard frost last night again. The roads are very slippy. We were very busy in the Bk to-day—It was the Duke of Buccleuch's rent day, Tryst day, & also Sale day. Mr Steedman was out at Sinton & was not home till about half past 5. I was not out the Bk till a quarter past seven. The masons began to the additions to the Bk to-day by pulling down part of the dyke into the garden. Robert came home from Dalkeith at night.

Thursday,3
This an awful day of wind and showers of snow. We were not very busy in the Bank. I was out in time for my tea. I went to Bennett's at night but I just stayed about a quarter of an hour the room was just filled with smoke quite suffocatious. Hardie the Painter died yesterday morning. Gastric fever is very bad in the town just now it is said there about 40 persons has it.

Friday,4
What a day this is again. It has been something dreadful. The trains from Edinburgh are blocked up both on the Peebles line & Stow line. We did not get our Letters at the Bk till after one o'clock and <u>then</u> there were no letters from the South. As this is the 4th of the month & weekly balance day we were kept awfully back – could not get books squared off. The gas went out at night in the Bk when Mr Mathison & I were in – it required water – R.Daniel did not get home till half past 11o'clock. Had to leave the road some places for drifts.

Saturday,5th---March
This is a terrible day of wind & snow. The Ettrick & Yarrow postmen went away on horseback & the Ettrick postman (Grieve) coming down, walked from Tushilaw Inn. Christie began to Keep No I State Bk to-day. We were not very busy in the Bank to-day but I was in all afternoon writing a/cs & we "marked off" the I/Rs. Mrs Geo.B.Anderson Heatherlieburn died this morning at 6.30 with gastric fever. The Scotsman did not come till 9 o'clock at night.

Sunday,6
This was the anniversary of Mr McCallum's coming to Selkirk to-day. Rev Mr Moffat of Rose St. Edinburgh was to have been here but he could not come owing to the lines being blocked. Mr McC. was to have preached in the afternoon but instead he preached in the forenoon. There were no services in the afternoon – Mr McC. preached at night himself again. The Church was filled. The Collections rec'd. were £24 odds. There were neither Sunday School nor Bible Class to-day.

Monday,7
It is fresh to-day not a thorough but the snow is melting. The roads are an awful mess with slush. We were not very busy in the Bk to-day. I began to make out the Incident a/c to-day. I got very little sleep last night David was in such a state with toothache. It was about 5o'clock this morning before we fell asleep. I was along at Bennett' at night & I told him I would not get after this week as we were busy in the Bank preparing for the Annual Balance.

Tuesday,8
The weather is fresh to-day again. We were not busy in the Bk to-day only 1½ pages in the big C'h. Bk. I completed the Incident a/c to-day & after 4o'clock I wrote half of a List of a/cs in the Ledr. Balance Bk. ---Mrs G.B.Anderson, Heatherlieburn, was buried to-day. My Father was at the funeral.--- I slept upstairs in Jessie's bed myself not to be disturbed with David.

Wednesday,9
It is very fresh now the snow is disappearing rapidly—It has been raining all day mostly too.. Robert Sly & R. Daniel were up at Yarrow to-day the length of Bengerburn. The Ettrick & Yarrow are both down in great flood. David & Tom were down at night seeing it. It has done a great deal of damage. It has not as big for a long time.

Thursday,10
What a surprise everyone got this morning! Hardly any snow to be seen! People are mostly all saying they never saw snow disappearing so rapidly. We did not get the letters in the Bk till nearly two o'clock owing to something being wrong with the Bridge(Railway) at Abbotsford over the Tweed. There has been a large landslip up the Ettrick road through the night. Vans etc require to go up the Yarrow & through by Bowhill. It is at the foot of the brae past the Haining Lodge. I was at Bennett's to-night for the last time & paid him 16/6 for my lessons since the New Year. Rev Walter Brown, Galas. Gave a very good lecture on "John Foster" to the Debating Society at night & after it there was a great discussion about whether the Session should be carried on to the end. On the vote being taken it was settled in the affirmative.

Friday,11
This is a fine fresh day. We were not busy in the Bk. The Led'r. was 3d. off but we were not long in finding it. Mr M. was in till 8o'clock & I was in till 8.40 making out a/cs. etc. David went away to Edinburgh to-day to see about J's bus's. We had expected him to be home at night but he did not come. I had my Bicycle up in the garden at night, but I found there was not near enough of room.

Saturday,12
We were not busy in the Bk to-day. I was out the Bk about 3o'clock & I met W.J.Lunn & we went for a walk. We also went to the Cricket Ground & I saw a football match between the Selkirk Club & Hibernian Club Edinburgh. Hib'ns. made 14 goals & Selkirk 0. David & Jessie Sly came home from Dalkeith at night.

Sunday,13
Mr McCallum preached himself to-day. But as he felt unwell there was no Bible Class. Jessie and Tom & the Misses Cumming were at Mr Lawson's Church at night, Mr Miles of Biggar preached. James Hope, Groom was buried in the afternoon. My Pater was at the funeral.

Monday,14—March
We were not busy in the Bk to-day but I stayed in till about a quarter to five. There were 2 accidents happened this afternoon Mr Grieve's (Ashiesteel) horse fell when he was going down the street, &, about the same time a boy got his leg hurt with one of Mill's horses down the West port. I met W.J.Lunn at night & we bought some cement & tried to put the India rubber of my Bicycle right but we could not manage it.

Tuesday,15
We were not busy in the Bk to-day either only 1 ½ pages in large C'h. Bk. I was in after tea tho' for about an hour filling up letters enclosing a/cs. I met W.J.L. & H.Boog at 7o'clock (at night of course) & we made a thorough inspection of H.B's Bicycle. After that we took a walk out the length of the hills just to see what like the roads were. But we found they were in an awful mess with mud and stones.

Wednesday,16
Rather busier in the Bank to-day but scarcely 2 pages in lge. C'h.Bk. I was out about a quarter to 5 for altogether. After I got my tea I went over to the Reading Room for about an hour. About 7o'clock I met W.J.L. & H.B. & we took a walk down the Galas. Road past the toll a little. After that I went to the Debating Society there was a debate between D.Grubb & H.Brown "Is Republicanism the best form of government " – A.Brown said he thought the strangers present should retire as there was private business going on : At this the Secretary who had brought a friend left the meeting & also a few others.

Thursday,17
David went up Ettrick yesterday & came home to-night (Thursday) consequently I slept myself last night . We were busier in the bank to-day than yesterday. I met W.J.L. in the Reading room about half past 6 then we met H.B. about 7o'clock. We took a walk up the Hawick road & down the Loan after which we went to the Choral Union Concert & heard the piece "Samson" . We enjoyed it very much. Jessie Sly was there with Miss Cumming.

Friday,18
We were very busy in the Bk to-day. Christie's NoI St. Bk was off the "stott". We were not long in finding it out however. I intended going in after tea again but just after I had got my tea & was just standing at the Parlour fire when my father cried up the stair that there was a fire along the St. We found it to be Hall the Joiners workshop & what a fire it was? There has not been such a fire in Selkirk for a long time. The people pulled out a lot of wood but still there was a lot destroyed. David was at Edinburgh to-day again seeing about J's business.

Saturday,19
We were very busy in the Bk to-day but I hurried on & got away at 2 o'clock for altogether there were 2 ½ pages in lge.Ch. Bk. H.B.,W.J.L. & I went for a walk in the afternoon as we had not our Bicycles.

Sunday,20
Owing to Mr McC. being unwell he did not preach. There was a Mr Rorke a Student took his place. He was rather dry in his Sermons. He was at the Bible Class & I enjoyed him very much. The Free & Estd. Chs. were in at night but none of us were out.

Monday,21
This was a very quiet day in the Bank just 1½ pgs.in lge.C'h. Book. It is very stormy to day again, in fact after tea it was just as stormy a night as we have had. After 7o'clock I went up with W.J.Lunn to W.H.Robson & he (W.J.L.) ordered a "Special Express" Bicycle. The trains came over Tweed Bridge to-day for the first time for Eleven days. It has only been temporarily repaired in the meantime.

Tuesday,22nd---March
We were not busy in the Bk to-day only 1 ½ pgs. In lge. C'h. Bk. again. A supply of cheques came from H.O. which I arranged & entered in Cheque Book. I had a bad headache the whole day especially the forenoon. My Mother was at Mrs Wm. Muir's at tea at night. W.J.L.: H.B.: & I.B. & myself were busy in our Stable at night cleaning & repairing the bearings on Henry Boog's Bicycle. David was over at L.& S. to-day asking about (you know what) which Mr Steedman would not grant.

Wednesday,23
We were not busy in Bk to-day either just the same in C'h. Bk. as y-day. I had a headache at night again. I was in the Reading after tea & had a read of the Border Advertiser etc. I met W.J.H. about 6o'clock & we bro't. My Bicycle along from Aitkin the Smith --- As he could do nothing to it for want of time --- I took down the dreg wheel of my B'. to Mitchell the Smith & he said he would make a new one. There was no Debating Society at night.

Thursday,24
We were busier in the Bank to-day. There were about 2 ½ pages in lge. Ch. Bk. It was ten miutes to 5 or (before) I got out. I met W.J.L. & H.B. about 7o'clock & we took a walk out the Hawick road past Crawfords a little but the roads were very rough with the frost. I took my Bicycle down to Mitchell the Smith this morning, before I went into the Bk , to get repaired. I went into the house a little after 8o'clock it was so cold in the s't. & windy.

Friday,25
We were very busy in Bk to-day but I managed to get away at 5o'clock. Aggie Bella Scott & Lizzie Cumming were at tea in our house to-night, the teaparty was over however when I got out the Bk. W.J.L. got word to-day thro' W.H.Robson that his Bicycle would be sent away either to-day (Friday) or Saturday. We intended to go out the road to-night with H.B's Bicycle but did not go as it was snowing.

Saturday,26
We were very busy in the Bk to-day. I got the C'h. Bk written up & summed but not compared by 2o'clock & I did not think it worth while to come in for all that was to do. There were 2 ½ pgs. In lge. C'h. Bk. W.J.L. got a P.C. to-day direct from J.Devey & Son Coventry that his Bicycle was off y-day. W.J.L., H.B. & I were out the Hawick road in the afternoon with H.B.'s Bicycle. W.J.L. never tried it before but he soon learnt & was able to ride a good few yards in a very short while. After tea we took a walk down to the stn. (thinking perhaps the B. would have come but it didn't) & across & saw Russel's new Mill. After that we came up to the town & I gave W.J.L. his "Popular Educator" to take up to Hillside as he is going home to stay & is coming up every morning with the train.

Sunday,27
Mr McC. preached himself to-day --- At the close of the services he said that owing to ill health he had been recommended by the Session to take a change & which he would do as soon as weather permitted. There was no Bible Class to-day--- The Foresters marched to The Established Church at night to attend service at which there was to be a collection for their behoof (arch. benefit). Tom & Jessie were at Heatherlie Ch.: there a (stranger) minister preached. None of the rest of us were out.

Monday,28
We were not busy in Bk to-day only 1¼ pgs. in L.C. Bk . But I had an a/c to make out L.S. for ---(you know what) & it began in the year – 64 – so I had to use 23 Ledgers with that it was 5o'clock or (before) I got out – After tea I went to Reading Room after which I met H.B. & we took a walk down to the Stn. to see if W.J.L.'s Bicycle had arrived—but it had not – We missed W.J.L. very much as he intends going home every night with the train---The roads were splendid for B'ing but both H.B.'s machine & mine were at the "Smiddy".

Tuesday ,29
We were not busy in Bk to-day either, about 2pgs. in L.C.Bk. W.J.L.'s Bicycle which was ordered on 21st just came to-day but as Lunn went home at night he did not even see it. I saw it in the Ry. Van going up. I got my B'c from Mitchell the Smith all right – he has put it into very good order. He chg. 3/6. H.B. & I cleaned our Bcs. in our granary after 8o'clock at night. Robt. wrote to Dalkeith (Mr H---) about our b'ns.

Wednesday,30th----March
Very busy in the Bk to-day 2 ½ pgs L.C.Bk. I began the I List to-day & wrote at it all forenoon & got to the end of last yrs. List. I went up with Bicycle to W.J.L. after 5o'clock & at 6o'clock we got W.J.L.'s from Mr Rob'n. After which H.B. came out so that the whole 3 of us had Bicycles each. We had a splendid night of it riding each Bicycle. W.J.Lunn had a good many tumbles, especially one up about the Free Ch. There were only 4 members turned up at the Debating Society---there was no meeting held---It was owing to a Liberal Meeting in the Vol'r. Hall. I was not one of the four who went to the Debating Society.

Thursday,31
Very busy Bk to-day again 2 ½ L.C.Bk. I had an advertisement in"S.Reporter" my Bicycle for sale there were no applic'ns to-day. I wrote at the I/R List till half past 11. (& wrote) from State 1 to end of State 29. W.J.L. took his Bicycle with him to the Stn. intending to take it home but lost the train & had to stay all night –W.J.L. : H.B. & I were all out the Hawick road after tea & had some good riding but W.J.L. was rather nervous after getting so many tumbles last night.

Friday,1st---- April
Very busy in the Bk to-day 3 pgs. L.CBk. I was in Bk after Tea & was out at 7o'clock. This was "Hunty-Gowk Day". There no applications for my Bicycle to-day. I am rather disappointed. W.J.L. took his home with the train to-day. Sandy Rose arrived with his Shooting Gallery to-day. He comes every fair.

Saturday,2
We were very busy to-day again 3 L.Cbk. I was in the Bk till about 5o'clock. After tea H.B. & I went up the Hk. road with our Bicycles but it was so windy we could scarcely ride so we turned & went straight down the st. & Ettrk. Terrace & after that we resolved to go to Galas. & also to go by Boldside Stn.Rd. When we were going up a brae we met a man & a boy & the man wanted a Bicycle and the boy said he knew an other fellow who wanted a Bicycle & he went into a house & brought the fellow out & after a long talk the fellow bought my Bicycle for £4:- . I wtd. £5: but was very well pleased at getting that. H.B. & I then came home as fast as we could & arrived in Selkirk about a quarter past 8o'clock. – The fellow's name is Mr Hewet , Waitknowe & he is a Clerk.

Sunday,3
There was a Mr Watt (a student) preached to-day (he has been here before) in Mr Mc Callum's absence. We liked him pretty well – He took the Bible Class in the afternoon I liked him pretty well but there was rather much singing (four times we sang) After tea Tom & Rob't & I took a walk out by Shawmo't & in by Smedheugh - (Bobbie & Lion were with us) We all enjoyed it very much. Jessie was not at the Bible Class to-day She was for a walk with Aggie B . Scott & Mrs Robert Laurie & she got tea at Gowan Brae.

Monday,4
The census was taken last night over all Great Britain—and W. Stavert got ours.
We were very busy in the Bk to-day 3L.C.B. This being the 4th of the month there were a lot of bills due. After tea I went away with my Bicycle to Galashiels & delivered it up to the above (Mr Hewat) & got the £4:- for it. H.B. came & met me on his- he was about the top of Glenmayne brae I rode on his part of the way & sometimes we were both on at once (but I would walk the most of the way I think) We reached home about 8o'clock & here was I Bicycle – less.

Tuesday,5
This was the "Fair day" but it was the smallest one I ever saw. It is thought it is owing to the farmers being so far behind with their work—cannot get the seed in it is so frosty at night still—We were not busy in Bk at all for a "fair day" only 3pgs L.C.Bk. I was in after tea & wrote up the I/R List from State No35 to State No50 which finishes it at this date. Geo. Eckford came into the Bk to-day as an apprentice to serve 4 years.

Wednesday,6
Mr Math'n was away at Edinburgh to-day so I was in the Bk the whole day from 9.15 till 5o'clock—I took over some lunch with me—I was in after tea again till 7o'clock. After that I went up to W.H.Robson & ordered a "Special Express Bicycle". H.B. went up with me. W.H.R. wrote the letter at once & we posted it.

Thursday,7th ---April
We were very busy in Bk to-day again. I was in till after 8o'clock. – After teatime I did nothing else but filled in the addresses of the I/R's on the List from the beginning of it to 10Dec –80- I was that length when a circular came from H.O. saying the addresses were to be filled in also, the State Bk was all wrong (I mean No.I) would not balance at all & just let it lie over till tomorrow morning.

Friday,8
We were very busy to-day in Bk . N.B.Ry W'rss were due we had 18 to-day—A.C's NoI State Bk was all wrong to-day again . I do not know how many mistakes he had – The Ledger was "off the stott" too & we c'pd the whole w'ks of work off the St.Bk & checked the w'k in the Ledger & had overlooked the mistake 2 or 3 times. I was not out the Bk till about a quarter past ten, & Mr.M. too. Uncle Jas. was here to-day for the last time. He came at twelve o'clock & went away at 6o'clock & Jane Ann came at 6o'clock.

Saturday,9
We were not busy with our ordinary work to-day but we (MrM.&I) had plenty to do with the Balance things . I wrote the most of c/a & D/as List in the morning (I had written a few of the names last night) & in the afternoon & night I was busy with the Decimal etc. of the I/R List. Mr M'n was busy with the Ledger Int etc. –I was not out till after 9o'clock.

Sunday, 10
Mr McCallum not being home yet there was a student (Mr Harcus) preached we enjoyed him very much. There was a Bible Class but I did not go as Jane Anne Thomson was here & I wanted to get my tea with the whole co'y but Jessie & she had gone out for a walk with A.B.Scott & did not come in till we were finished. Tom & Jessie & she were at the established church at night.

Monday,11
We were very busy in the Bk to-day there was a great deal to do with the ordinary work too. I did nothing all forenoon but multiplied the £'s by the days in the I/R List. A.C. began to keep NoII State Bk on Saturday -- A.C. got away at ten minutes to 5. G.E. about a quarter to 8. & Mr M'n & I did not leave till half past ten. I made up 25 Pass Books. Jane Anne Thomson went away at six o'clock to-night My Father & Mother went with her to Dalkeith. I bad her goodbye I have little chance ever to see her again.

Tuesday,12
We were not busy with ordinary work to-day in the Bk but we had plenty to do with the Bal'ce things. I was in till a quarter past ten but I came over about nine o'clock & got some supper. Mr Math'n went at eight o'clock to Rev. Dr Russell's lecture in the Vol'r Hall which (lecture) was under the auspices of the Debating Society there were not very many there, the proceeds of it are to be sent to the widow of the late William Moffat, Elocutionist, Glasgow. David took Alva Cottage to-day for a year for us. I went to the Bk to-day & drew some money (you know how much) off my D/K.

Wednesday,13
We were terribly busy in the Bk to-day all the Manuf'rs were up with B's etc – A.C. did not get away till the six train & Mr M'n & I were not out till eleven o'clock. I got a P.C. from J.Devey & Co. this morning saying that my Bc'c was sent off yesterday . Jessie was at the singing – it was the trial the recital (annual) has to be to-morrow night – she was very indignant at Mr Roy.

Thursday,14
We were not busy in the Bk to-day with our ordinary work but we had plenty to do with the Balance as to-morrow is "Good Friday"- we got the books balanced to-night. I wrote the I/R List for a while but a little after 9o'clock Mr Math'n said he did not see any use in us working very late to-night seeing we would have a whole day to-morrow – so I "bundled up" 7 off I went to the Recital (our Ch) . None of us Slys were on the platform (Jessie would have been I daresay but she and Tom went away to Dalkeith this morning as Uncle Jas. has to be presented with his gold watch etc etc to-night). I found, on entering, the church was crowded & the heat was something dreadful. The piece they gave was "The Pilgrim Fathers" & a few Anthems Solos etc after. They did very well.

Friday,15th---April
This is "Good Friday" & a Bk Holiday but we are not getting it as our Annual Balance falls on to-day but as above stated we got the Books balanced last night (some of them that is) . A.Christie, Mr M'n & I were in all forenoon. A.C.balanced his St. Books & Mr M'n & I adjusted the Int on Ledger balance & after that I began & summed the decimal of the I/R List & calculated the Int. & then I wrote for a while at the Principal List itself . A.C. (he stayed in Selkirk all last night) went away with the 2.35 train & I went out about 5o'clock & did not come in again as I felt tired. Mr M'n was in a little after tea. I went up with Robert & Tom after 6o'clock to see Alva Cottage , We all thought a good deal of it except the bedrooms which will not hold our Furniture as the ceiling is slanting at both sides. Tom came home from Dalkeith in the afternoon. David was in Dalkeith to-day.

Saturday,16
We had a lot to do to-day again in the Bk with the Balance things. I wrote at the principal I/R List from 3 in the afternoon till 9o'clock at night . I got the names and addresses all in & got it sum'ed. W.H.K. told me to-day (in the Bk) that there had been a mistake with my Bicycle, it having been sent to Leith & another person's (a Leith gent) was being sent to me. H.Boog was at Galashiels himself to-day (on his Bicycle of course).

Sunday,17—April (Easter Sunday)
Mr McCallum preached himself to-day. I was at the Bible Class in the afternoon. Jessie was not as she is at Dalkeith again (so are my Father & Mother). Robert took D.Grubb's class at the Sunday School to-day. Tom went for a walk in the afternoon with Wm.Hall (from Glasgow) & Allie Elliot. None of us were out at night.

Monday,18
I was in the Bk till 11o'clock with Mr M'n. I got all the I/R decimal & Int. filled in to-day & checked except the long summation of 2 years. My Father & Mother & Jessie arrived at night. They left Dalkeith in the morning & went with Uncle Jas. to Glasgow & saw the "Lochfergus" – the ship they go in to New Zealand. My Pater went to Dr Cassels but he can do no more for his deafness.

Tuesday,19
I was in the Bk till 10 o'clock myself – Mr M'n left a little after 7 o'clock to go home. We got the I/R List & some other things (which A.C. wrote) sent away to H.O. at night. I then began to the Reports & got some of them written. Pater, Mater & Jessie were up at Alva Cottage in the afternoon again seeing it. The gardeners are working at it.

Wednesday,20
We got the Reports etc finished off & sent to H.O. to-day. So <u>that</u> is everything to go to H.O. now of the returns. The next thing I will have to start to is to "square off" the a/c's for customers who have not got pass-books. Cooke's Circus was here –To-day. It was the poorest procession I ever saw & the performance inside (at which David, Tom R't & I were at) was also very poor. I was out the Bk at 5o'clock. I did not go again as I was going to the Circus.

Thursday.21
I began to "square off" the a/cs to-day (see yesterday's memo'). Mr M'n went away about 4o'clock with a Mr Sturrock & T.Dunn for a walk up to Bowhill I think it would be – I was in the Bk till nearly eight o'clock – H.B. was in for a while –Tom R't Jessie & I (not together) were at Dr Evatt's lecture in Mr Lawson's old church (after 8o'clock). He was rather dry we thought—Dr Lane was in the chair. Got my hair cut at A.Anderson's to-night at tea time.

Friday,22
I got all the a/cs squared off to-day & Mr M'n folded them & G.E. entered them in the Letter Bk so they are ready for Mr S. to sign to-morrow. David was in at Dalkeith to-day again. It was the sale of Uncle Jas' furniture. There were none of them (The Thomsons) there except Uncle Ja's & Jessie. David bought a few things which are to be sent out on Monday.

Saturday,23rd----April
We were not very busy in the Bk to-day—We got all the a/cs posted (those to deliver were mostly all kept till Monday). I was out the Bk about half past 4o'clock. I went down to the St'n with H.B. to see if my B____ had come –but it had not. H.B. was not out with his to-day as it has been raining occasionally. Uncle Jas' Shop fittings etc were sold to-day.

Sunday,24
Mr McCallum preached himself to-day again. He took notice in his sermon of the death of Lord Beaconsfield & also the sudden death of W'm Scott, the precentor of the Free Ch. but who has been attending ours for some time. Jessie & I were both at the Bible Class—Mr McC. read the result of the Exam held 23rd January—I had made a poor job of it—mine only counted 75. None of us were out at night.

Monday,25
We were not busy in the Bk to-day. I made up some passbooks in the forenoon. I was very indignant when I got a P.C. from Devey & Co. Wolverhampton this morning saying " Your goods were sent off to-day" –(Saturday)---I expected it would arrive to-day – That fellow in Leith had sent it back to Wolverhampton –He might have kept it till he got word about it . I was out the Bk at 5o'clock & after tea I went to the Reading Room after which I went out the Hawick road with H.B. & his Bicycle.

Tuesday,26
We were not busy in the Bk to-day. I was out about half past 4o'clock—I asked Mr M'n to let me away on Thursday (the Fast day) & Friday to go to Edinburgh & Greenock to see "The Thomsons" start. He kindly consented & also offered me the Saturday so as Monday is a Statutory Bk holiday (First Monday of May) I am getting from the Wednesday till the Tuesday. I was down with H.B. at J.G.Allan's & saw his Bicycle & also the one which he got for A.Drylaw but which is too little for him. After that we went out the road with H.B's Bicycle & had a good ride.

Wednesday,27
We were not busy in the Bk to-day. I got away about 5o'clock---not to put an appearance again till Tuesday. I was awfully disappointed at my Bicycle not coming to-day. T.B. got the Bicycle which we saw last night at J.G.Allan's. He paid six pounds for it. We went out the Hawick road with his & H's & he (T.B.) learned to it a little.

Thursday,28
This is the half yearly fast day in Selkirk. There was a Fire in the Equitable Society's shop this morning. Robert & I went away to Edinburgh with the trip at half past nine & spent the day with our cousins & we stayed all night in Porteous Temperance Hotel. High Street. (For particulars of this day see memo in pencil at end of Diary). (See below for pencil entry)

Friday,29
The Thomsons', Tho's Porteous & his daughter & 2sons & Rob't & I left Edinburgh this morning at half past 9 & went to Greenock & saw the Thomsons on board the ship "Loch Fergus". –We spent the afternoon in Greenock & left about 7o'clock with the Porteous' & stayed in Glasgow all night. (For particulars of this day see memo in pencil at end of Diary). (See below for pencil entry)

Saturday,30
Rob't & I spent the forenoon & part of the afternoon in Glasgow & left about 4o'clock. Arrived in Edinburgh about 20 minutes to six. Got tea at Laidlaws' & left Edinburgh about 7o'clock –We reached home at 9o'clock (For particulars see end of Diary). (see below for pencil entry)

Pencil Entry (see above) :--

Thursday,28 --April
About 4o'clock this morning we were wakened by the fire bell ringing & went out to see where it was & found it was the Equitable Society's Shop. The firemen were not slow in getting it extinguished but a large quantity of the stock was destroyed. R. & I left Selkirk with the trip at half past 9 & arrived in Edinburgh 11.35 . We went in the forenoon & saw there the part(?) house with Jane Anne & Geo. After dinner we went & saw Mr & Mrs (G----?). After tea we went to the station & met (?????) . We saw the train leave for Selkirk. After that we went up to Porteous Hotel (where we are staying) & sat

Pencil Entry (Continued)

Thursday,28 April (continued)

speaking for a while & Bill L. came up too – about half past ten John & Bill L. & R & I went to the Station & met Uncle Ja's. the Laidlaws had (?????) on the Bridge & (???) 3 went up to the Hotel and in a short while we went to our beds.
(The above was written in the train near Bathgate on Friday)

Friday,29---April
We left Edinburgh this morning at 9.25 –accompanied by Mr Tho's. Porteous & his 2 sons & daughter. We arrived in Greenock about half past 12. The Dees' & Jessie Thomson were at the Station. We went direct to the Tug & started just at once. We all got on board & saw their places—which are not up to much. & Mr Henderson read over the papers giving each party their places. After a short while Captain Brotchie conducted a short service praise (the 100th Psalm) & a short Lecture then closed by prayer. After that we had to bid them goodbye—Captain B. also sold & gave away a great many Bibles Tracts "Sunday at Home" etc. The whole scene was most affecting. We got on board the tug again & at the Station the Dees took 2 cabs & we drove to their house 30 Brisbane St. (Shortly to be 36) & got dinner. After dinner we went out with Willie Dees & Mr Porteous 2 sons & had a long walk. Saw the Shipping etc. I went & saw J.Clapperton in Clarence St. We had a job to find out the place—after that we got tea with the Dees & left to get the train for Glasgow but arrived in the Station (West Princes Dock) just as the train moved off---We took a walk along the esplanade (which is a mile & a ¼ in length) & came back and got a train at a quarter past 7 --- The Porteous' accompanied us to Glasgow & we went to Queen St . St'n. & saw them on the train --- then we went to Cranston's Temp. Hotel & got supper & retired to bed (No 46).

Saturday,30th April
We got up about half past 8 & got breakfast in the (Waverley) Hotel. Then we went down to the Broomielaw & saw the shipping. We also saw the "Anchoria" start for America & what a number of passengers she had – it was something awful to look at. The side of the ship was just lined with passengers all looking on shore as there was a crowd assembled to see them off. We went after that & saw the Cathedral, Necropolis etc. etc. etc. We got our dinner in a place in the Trongate (It was not a good dinner) then walked about for a while again. We went to Queen St. station a little before 4 o'clock and were astonished to meet Alex. Elliot & J. Mathieson- they were going to Stirling. We left Glasgow (Queen St.St'n) at ¼ past 4 & arrived in Edinburgh at 20minutes to six. We went down to the Laidlaws (Neilson St.) & got tea & John Laidlaw came to the St'n with us. We left a little before 7 & reached home at 9 o'clock. They had received a Post Card Jane Anne Thomson saying they were going to sail on Saturday morning at 2 o'clock. I got my Bicycle out of the crate- it had arrived on Friday- I am delighted with it.
End of Pencil Entry

Sunday,1st May
This was the Sacrament in Selkirk to-day. Mr Copland of Cathcart Cong'n Ayr assisted Mr McCallum & Mr Burns of Linlithgow assisted Mr Lawson—I was at Ch. 3 times. There were neither Bible Class nor Sunday School to-day. Jessie was sitting in Aggie Bella Scott's seat & Tom was in our seat at night.

Monday,2
Such a day to be Bk holiday ---Just pouring of rain in the morning---H.B. & I spent the most of the forenoon in cleaning my New Bicycle (in our granary). In the afternoon although the roads were still very dirty—we (H.B.& I) went over to Alva Cottage via Ettrick Terrace –my Bicycle was a little stiff. After 7o'clock H.B., T.B. & I went all out the Hawick road & had a good ride.

Tuesday,3
I went to the Bk to-day of course but have not been at it since last Wednesday. We were very busy to-day. I was not out till 7o'clock. After that H.B., T.B. & I went out the H'k. road with our Bicycles & had some good riding. W.H.Rob'n. came out too & what a rate he rode over "Crawfords" brae –his Legs over the handles.

Wednesday,4th May
This being the 4th we were very busy in the Bk but I got away at 5o'clock. There were a lot of our things flitted over to Alva Cottage in the afternoon . We could not go out with our Bicycles at night the roads were in such a mess.

Thursday,5
We were not very busy in the Bk to-day. I was out at 5o'clock . After tea I went out past the "Wire Fence" on my Bicycle –myself. The roads were very heavy some places. At 7o'clock I went to the soiree of our Musical Assoc'n there were not very many there & I did not enjoy it. Henry Boog had his Bicycle advertised for sale in the Southern Reporter to-day.

Friday,6
We were not busy in the Bk to-day—I was out at 5o'clock. We could not go out with our Bicycles to-night as it was very showery. We went & had a ride on J.Ferguson's old Bicycle & tried to learn him, but he was very timid. At 8o'clock H.B. & I went to the meeting about the Common Riding races --it was a very noisy one.

Saturday,7
We were pretty busy in the Bk to-day but I hurried on & was done (at least it was written and summed) with the Ch.Bk at ½ past one, 2 ½ pages in it. –H.B.; T.B.; & I started for Gala's in the afternoon & I was going to see J.Falla, joiner. The Haugh. & on taking the turn at Slaethornbank my Bicycle was pitched right over & came an awful crack against the paling. It was rather damaged but I got it right & went over to Galashiels. I went & saw W.Sanderson in Gala's about the Cottage. We stayed in Gala's a while & left about 6o'clock & G.Spence came over with us. Rather windy roads ????

Sunday,8
As the Synod is meeting in Edinburgh just now, the most of the ministers exchange pulpits—We had W'r. Brown of Galashiels forenoon and afternoon. The interval commenced to-day. D.Grubb gave an address to Sabbath School Children at night in the old U.P.Ch. Mr Stevenson of Melrose presiding. Jessie was at it.

Monday,9
We were not busy in the Bk to-day I was out before 5o'clock a while—Steedman wrote to my Pater to-day about his a-d-t (advertisement ?). After tea I took my B' along to Aitken the Smith & he straightened the handle & sorted the Back-bone. I went away myself about 7o'clock & rode to Glenmayne. I met Stodart there & came up to Tweed Bridge where we met Spence then we (3) came up to the old toll ("Nae place") & Geo. Allan came down & Spence turned with him. Then H.Boog came down & T.Stodart & I turned & went down the length of Lindean Bridge with him & had a fine run home. H.B. sold his machine at night to Simpson a millworker at Heatherlie for £5: Stg.

Tuesday,10
We were very busy in the Bk to-day but I was out about half past 4. I went away on my Bicycle about half past 6, (not knowing where to go). I went down the Melrose road to Darnick & from there into Gala's & home. It is a very bad road from Lindean the whole way to Gala's via Darnick. It is rather stony yet & the road is all "ups & downs". It was very warm work. There was something wrong with my Back Wheel. It made an awful noise. I think it is the cones require tightening but I have not a "thing" to do it with as they neglected to send one. H.B. was up at W.H.Robson's (himself) at night & ordered a 48`` Spec'l Express.

Wednesday,11
We were not very busy in the Bk to-day.—I am filling in the Int. etc in ink in the a/cs in the old Ledger just now . I went away at a ¼ to 6 on my Bicycle & mounted at the Haining Gate & did not dismount till I was at Sunderland Lodge (Murrays). I was at Ettrickbank at 6 o'clock. I went round by Yair Bridge & Rink & was home about a ¼ past 7. I met Stodart & H.B. (with Ferguson's Bicycle) going down Ett'k Terrace but did not turn to go with them.

Thursday,12th May
We were very busy in the Bk to-day ---It was messenger day & as the term is coming on we had to get a big supply (Silver etc) . I was out about 20 min's to 5. After tea I sorted the back wheel of my Bicycle & at 7 o'clock T.B. H.B. (with Ferguson's) & I went all down Ett'k. Terrace. H.B. did not go any further than about Bridgeheugh & Ferguson was there learning. T.B. & I went to about Netherbarns we rode right up The Boldside brae as the wind was at our back . I went to R.Hardie Tailor at night & got myself measured for a suit of Clothes (Blues).

Friday,13
We were very busy in the Bk to-day. I was not out till 7o'clock. The Ledger balance was wrong but it was in the summations.---Mr Steedman was at Edinburgh to-day.---Mr M'n was long in coming after tea & when he did come he had a stranger with him. Mr M'n went away at 7o'clock too. I went away on my Bicycle about 8 o'clock & was going down the road near Bridgeheugh when I met Stodart Spence & H.Boog & they advised me not to go any futher as I would have great difficulty in coming up against the wind. I took their advice & came up to the town with them. Spence & H.Boog went away over the Green on theirs. J.Stav't was down about 9 o'clock looking at mine:- If he gets his sold he is going to get one the same as mine.

Saturday,14
We were very busy in the Bk to-day & as I did not wish to come in again it was 20mins. past 2 or (before---archaic) I got out. T.B. & I went over to Gala's on our Bicycles & H.B. & J.Fergus'n went over with the train –we were home about 6o'clock. I went to Walker The Bookseller in Gala's to see about a serv't . The Selkirk B-Club had a run to Gala's & there were whole of the members at it . My Pater ,Mater & Jess were out at Whitmuir sale & bot a bed etc. etc. The roads were very good but it was rather windy. T.B. & I went over to Alva Cottage about 8 o'clock to get my B'ce gloves but the drawer was locked where they were in.

Sunday,15
Mr McCallum preached to-day. Jessie & I were both at the Bible Class in the afternoon---Jessie was at Chapel St. Ch. at night . This has been an awful day of rain & it is much colder too. We had to get a fire on in the parlour again.

Monday,16
We were very busy in the Bk to-day ---3 ½ pages L. Ch. Bk. I was not out till 10 past 7 o'clock. I went away after that on my Bicycle & rode over to Alva Cottage (My Mother & Jess were over seeing what progress the painters had made) then I rode down via Buccl'n road to Lindean Bridge & coming home I rode up Ettrick Terrace the length of Wellwood Stables –the furthest I have yet come.

Tuesday,17
We were very busy in the Bk again to-day. I was out at 10 minutes past 5. Mr Steedman was at Edinburgh to-day. Mr Alexander, Writer, died this afternoon. He has been very ill for a week or two. He had gone out driving one day & had caught cold. ---It has been raining the whole day almost. So I could not go out with my Bicycle. –H.B. & I got it up into our granary & we gave it a good rub with Bathbrick & paraffin oil.

Wednesday,18
We were pretty busy in Bk to-day again. I was out at 5 o'clock. I asked M'n if I should speak to Mr Steedman & ask him to send my name to H.O. He (Mr M'n) said he though I should. –I put my Bicycle right after tea ---put on saddle, treadles etc but I did not go out as I as I was going to Mr Craig-Brown's Lecture on "International Trade –its conditions". There were a good many at it & it was a very good Lecture.

Thursday,19
We were not so busy in Bk to-day. I finished the copying of the "state of C'h/a's" in the Bk to-day. I began to it y-day. It has been very showery the whole day. I was not out with my Bicycle ---H.B. & I went up to Alva Cottage after 8o'clock for a walk & to see the flowers w'h Rob't set to-day (Asters etc). The Choral Union had a concert at night. It was rather poorly attended---The singing was very good though. Miss Paterson sang a solo. Jessie & Tom were at it ---I got the loan of an old Melodeon from H.Boog at night.

Friday,20th May
We were not very busy in the Bk to-day---but it was 7o'clock or (before---archaic) I got out –After that T.B. & I went away on our Bicycles & rode down to very near Bridgeheugh & then along the low road & in to the St'n to see if Henry's had come (but it had not) & walked up the Forest Road & mounted at the old Church & rode up. It was rather windy though.

Saturday,21
Mr M'n was up at Crosslee sale to-day,(you know what for) (In the event of him not going I was to have gone). I was left at the Bk myself & I was pretty busy. It was 4 o'clock when I got out. H.B's Bicycle came about 5 o'clock & I helped him to give it a rough clean & at a ¼ past 6 we started for Galashiels & had a most enjoyable ride, we reached home about half past eight –he is very well pleased with it.

Sunday,22
Mr McCallum preached to-day again. He preached in the forenoon on "Friendship". He spoke about the Bible Class attendance to-day at the close of forenoon service. He began his lectures on the Books of the Bible at the Bible Class. Jessie & I were both there. None of us were at church at night.

Monday,23
We were pretty busy in the Bk to-day again. D.C.Alexander was buried in the Old Churchyard to-day. There were about 19 carriages at it. He was buried in an oak chest & was carried shoulder high from the foot of the Kirk Wynd. After tea I went over to Alva Cottage on My Bicycle. I met the 2 Boogs about 8 o'clock & we rode up the length of Philiphaugh (Middle) Lodge. Coming home both of them fell just about Grierson's house & Henry's bell was broken. I parted with them at the Bridge & went up to Alva Cottage. This is the first night I have to sleep at the Cottage.

Tuesday,24
We were very quiet in the Bk to-day, but what with balancing the Cash etc it was about half past 4 when I got out. This was Howford sale to-day. There were a large number of people at it. My Father & Mother were up but bo't nothing. I went over to Alva Cottage walking after tea. Then after 7 o'clock I went away on My Bicycle & took the Keys thro' to Ravensheugh. (As Mr Steedman was at Howford) & then I came back again & down the low road & met Simpson with his & we had a splendid ride to Galashiels & back, the roads were splendid but it was rather windy.

Wednesday.25
We were pretty busy in the Bk to-day. I spoke to Mr S'n about my time being nearly up. He informed me that M. & H. wanted a Clerk & if I thought about it I should go down & see Mr M. This I did at night about half past 7. He asked a few questions & said he would come up to-morrow & see Mr St'n about it. I saw W.H.Rob'n at night & ordered a spoke tightener to be sent along with the cone- tightener from him. My Pt'r stayed at the Cott. all last night & is going to do the same to-night. It was half past 9 when Jess & I went over---She was at the prayer meeting.

Thursday,26
This being the term day we were very busy in the Bk. I was not out till a ¼ past 7. About 8o'clock I went out on my Bicycle (from Alva Cottage) & rode down to Lindean where I met Simpson I turned with him & we rode right up to very near Beechwood but the Yarrow road was not so good as the Lindean one---It was heavy after the rain. Jess. Was at the singing & did not come over till half past 9. (The two Boogs were at Gala's together).

Friday,27
We were very busy in the Bk to-day again. I was not out till nearly 7 o'clock. I summed the Ledger Balances & they balanced straight off. I went over to the Cottage immediately & got my Bicycle & just met Simpson as I came down to the foot of the road & we went up the Yarrow road & round by Carterhaugh to Hood's where we met the Boogs (By arrangement). We stayed a little & then started & came down via Bowhill House & we rode along past the Singlie a little & then I came right into the town with my Bicycle to be ready for to-morrow.

Saturday,28th May
We were very busy in the Bk to-day again, however I "worked hard" & got away about 2 o'clock with everything finished but the comparing. H.B. T.B. & I went away on our Bicycles at 3 o'clock. H.B. went no further than Galashiels. T.B. & I went right on & rode till within 2 miles of Stow but it was rather windy & the heat was something dreadful – we were glad to turn. It is a very good road though. H.B. fell going up Boldside brae, he was capering too much & bent his handle but got it put right in Galashiels.

Sunday,29
Mr McC. preached to-day again. I walked up from Alva Cottage in the morning & home after ch: came out. Then up again for ½ past one & down after 3 again & up at 5 again for the Bible Class & then down again via Wooden Bridge. I found it was rather much tho' to go home in the middle of the day & I do not intend to do it again. Mr McC. at the Bible Class delivered his 2nd Lecture on Bible Criticism & he took notice of Alex Paton's death.

Monday,30
We were very busy in the Bk to-day. I was not out till half past 7. The 2 Boogs & I went away at 8 o'clock on our Bicycles & rode down the length of Lindean & up the length of the toll, then along the low road & over the stone bridge & twice round the Philiphaugh "Entries" & they went home & I went to Alva Cottage. I met Mr & Mrs McCallum when I was riding up the road to our house. They went in & saw it & my father. It is so warm now that a great many are bathing. Our serv't came home to the Cottage at night.

Tuesday,31
We were very busy in the Bk to-day as 2 Insp'rs landed on us unawares. I was out at 5 o'clock . The 2 Boogs & I went up to "the meetings" & had a bath it was pretty warm.
(Deleted lines!)
I rode over in the morning on my Bicycle. I am astonished at no word coming from M.H. to me yet.

Wednesday,1st ---June
We were very busy to-day with the Inspectors being here. A.C. had to finish the Small C'h Bk as I had a lot of things to do for the Insp'rs. I did not get the big Cash Bk begun to till after tea time. It was very near eight o'clock or (before ---archaic) I got out. Mr M'n Spoke to me this morning about my staying here for a while longer I spoke to the Insp'rs about it & Mr Ch't (?) wrote to J.Gunn Edinburgh about it. David has gone down to the St'n last night & discovered (Deleted lines !)
H.B. & I went away on our Bicycles after 8 o'clock & went down the Gala's road & we met Simpson. We went the length of Glenmayne brae (to the top) & back. H.B. rode home via E. Terrace. Simpson went home & I went over to Alva Cottage. Tom Kemp was over & got tea with us – he came with the train from Gala's & walked back. There was a servant arrived at night to us from Kelso.(Deleted lines).

Thursday,2
We were pretty (omission) in Bk to-day again. I was not out till half past 6 o'clock. My father went to Edinburgh this afternoon.(Deleted lines) Mr St'n spoke to me in the afternoon (after Mr M'n was away) about my staying on & asked me what I would stay for. He said he was going to Edinburgh to-morrow, Friday, & if he had time would call at the BK & see about it. The E.F.B.Club rode down through the St. to-night on their way to Melrose. There were 10 of them -----H.B. T.B. & I rode down the length of Bridgeheugh on our Bicycles after 8 o'clock & I went up into the town with them & left my machine there. Jessie was at the singing to-night there were not very many there. There was a performance of Straight (?) rope dancing etc on the St. at night. David got a tooth drawn to-day.

Friday,3
We were very busy in the Bk to-day. There were 35.S.Chq's came & we had 42 cheques drawn on us. I was not out till very near 8 o'clock. Mr St'n was at Edinburgh to-day. The performance was on the St. at night again. It was so windy that I was never out with my Bicycle. There was a sale of flowers on the St. at night. We did not buy any.

Saturday,4th June
We were very busy in the Bk to-day this being the 4th of the month. I was not out till a quarter to 4 o'clock. I was not out anywhere with my Bicycle it was so windy & it came rain just about 3 o'clock. There was a Bicycle Club passed up thro' the town in the forenoon from Edinburgh. They went from here to Hawick. H.B. & I cleaned our Bicycles in our Granary after tea. The Dalkeith cricketers were here to-day playing a match with the Selkirk Club.

Sunday,5
Mr McCallum was at home to-day again. I was at Ch. forenoon & afternoon & went home in the middle of the day. It was not near so warm to-day as last Sunday. Jessie and I were both at the Bible Class. Mr McCallum gave his third Lecture on Bible Criticism. Jessie and I went home about half past seven via Forest Road & Bridge Street.
Monday,6
We were not at all busy in the Bk to-day. I was out about half past 4. I was not out with my Bicycle to-day as it has been very showery all day. My Mother engaged a servant (from about Galash's) to-day to come on Wednesday. It was an awful rain at 11 o'clock at night after we were in bed. There were "Hobby Horses" in the St. at night. –I presume they will be going to Hawick Common Riding.

Tuesday,7
We were very busy in the Bk to-day. Mr M'n asked me to help him with his A/c of Charge & Discharge of the Police Com'rs. So with doing that I was not out till 9 o'clock. He (Mr M'n) had a very bad headache to-day. Jessie was up at the town at night with Miss Watson (Lauriston House) & went down with her too & Miss Watson went into the House (Alva Cottage) & sat till half past 9 fully. My Mother was over so my Father had to bring her come & he slept in town.

Wednesday,8
We were pretty busy in the Bk to-day again. I was out at 5 o'clock. Mrs Robert Laurie. (Ironmonger) had a son to-day about 4 o'clock. I went out on my Bicycle about half past 6 & rode to past the drinking trough at "Greendemons" without dismounting – It was bitterly cold- H.B. & T.B. were at the Hill playing at Kickball. Jessie was at the prayer meeting & I went home with her.

Thursday,9
This was Bk Mess'gr day but we were not busy. I could have been out at 4 o'clock but Mr M'n asked me to write a Br. of his a/c. so that it was 8 o'clock when I got out. He (Mr M'n) went up to Bowhill in the afternoon & and came down at night again. Jessie went away to Hawick to-day --"To-morrow is Hawick "Common Riding" ---I went away with my Bicycle after 8 o'clock a while & rode up & down the Philiphaugh road. J McIntyre was there with his. The E.F.B.C. was up at Bowhill—there would be 8 of them I think.

Friday,10
We were <u>not</u> busy in the Bk to-day –I was out at 5 o'clock. I cleaned my Bicycle –at least the Gun-metal parts after tea & I do not think the Bicycle ever looked cleaner—I was not out with it tho' as it was threatening rain all night. [I bo't a pair of braces at Clark the drapers at night (1/10)]. There was a Bicycle Club [from Gala. I think] came into the town about 9 o'clock at night. They made a short halt at the County Hotel & then went away to Galashiels.

Saturday,11
We were very busy in the Bk to-day – At half past one I had the Cash Bk half written when I asked Mr M'n to get away as I was going to Hawick. He let me, so after getting my dinner I met Stoddart (2-25) & off we set for H'k. H.B. went up the H'k road a short way with us. I rode to about a mile past Ashkirk without dismounting & Stoddart rode to very near Hawick but dismounted for the braes (downwards). We got into Hk at 4 o'clock so that was at the rate of 8 miles an hour. We went direct to Drummonds, Sandbed & left our Machines there. I went up into Drummonds house & got myself washed ---they went through to the Games & stayed a while – then came through & got tea. After tea Alex.D. & I went across to the Games again, & Jessie Sly & others went for a walk ---about half past 7. I saw Stoddart off for Selkirk. After that we went through to the Haugh again & a coy of Alex Dr'ds cronies Wattie Burns, Alex Hamilton etc etc had an awful time of it what with shooting etc. We went into Dr'ds house for all night about ten o'clock. This is the first time I have ever been in Hawick---I must say it is a fine town tho' rather rough.

Sunday,12th June
(Hawick staying) Alex. Drummond & I got up about ¼ to 9. We breakfasted at 9. We were at the Parish Ch. forenoon and afternoon. Dr Macrae preached in the forenoon & afternoon & his ass't Mr Cathols (I think it is) in the afternoon. Jessie Sly was not out in the forenoon. After tea we took a walk up the Wellgate & into the Cemetery & then we went & saw their Uncle. Then Alex. Dr'd & I took a walk to the Cemetery out the Selkirk Road to see if we could see his Cousin Alex. We went back to his Uncle's & then we went along to the sandbed (?) & in a short while his Cousin came in. He sat a long time speaking. After he went away we got supper & retired to bed.

Monday,13
We were not busy in the Bk to-day, out at 4.30. Cleaned my Bicycle after tea. I left H'k this morning at a quarter past 7 with the train. I had to come with the train as it was very wet. –I arrived in Selkirk about half past 8. I went over to Alva Cottage about ten o'clock. My Mother is going to sleep there to-night for the 1st time as to-morrow is the washing day. My Pater did not come over till nearly half past 10. He was at a town Council meeting.

Tuesday,14
Were not busy in Bk to-day, out before 5. H.B. & I rode down to near Bridgeheugh & the turned & along the low road to Alva Cottage – but my F'r & M'r were not in –had gone over to town. We watched the cricketers a while then rode up to town. After 8 o'clock we went out to the hills & got a game at football. I went home about 10 o'clock & Tom went over with me for the walk.

Wednesday,15
We were not very busy in the Bk to-day – out by 5 o'clock. I was not out with my Bicycle. Jessie came home from Hawick at 7 o'clock at night. She has had a very sore finger all the time she has been away. I went out to the hills with Lunn, H.B. & others & had a game at football. I went home with my mother at a ¼ past 10.

Thursday,16
We were very busy in Bk to-day as we had to make this our balance day—to-morrow being the Common Riding. Mr M'n went away to Edinburgh with the 3 o'clock train & Mr St'n came in & balanced the C'h so what with one thing & an other it was 8 o'clock when I got out. This has been a dull nasty showery day – I doubt it will not be good weather for the Common Riding to-morrow.

Friday,17
This is the Common Riding day. Father & I got up at a ¼ past 6 (at the Cottage) & came over in time to see the procession – there were about 40 riders. The procession started from Wellwood. David went away to Spittal at 7.35. Rob't & I went away with the Sabbath Trip to Kelso at ¼ to 10. We had not time to see the "Casting of the Colors" but we heard the band playing just as we went down Ettrick Terrace. We arrived in Kelso at half past 11. We went with the procession direct to Floors Castle – There we went & saw Mr & Mrs Knight & had dinner with them. They were very happy to see us . After dinner we went out & saw thro' all the greenhouses etc etc & went just wherever we liked . We left Floors about 3 o'clock & went to Sheddon park & saw how the Scholars were getting on. About 4 o'clock we went to Smith's & got tea & stayed there till train time (¼ past 7). The Kelso band accompanied us up to the St'n. The Selkirk band was with us too. It has been a splendid day we have only had one shower & that when we were up at the St'n. We arrived in Selkirk about 9 o'clock & found they had had a lot of rain here at night. The races had been very poor at Selkirk.

Saturday,18
We were open in the Bk to-day from 9 to ½ past 10. Mr M'n was at Edinburgh etc. Mr St'n informed me to-day of the change that was to take place & engaged me. We could not go out with our B's the r'ds being so heavy. There was a trip to Edinburgh to-day as usual.

Sunday,19
I was not at Ch. in the forenoon as I had toothache yesterday & it is not quite away yet. My Father & Mother were both there in the forenoon tho' & my Mother stayed till the afternoon. Father came home in the middle of the day for altogether & I went over in the afternoon. Then when Ch. came out Mother went straight over & I stayed & got tea & then went to the Bible Class. Then Jessie and I went over together. Mr McCallum was at home.

Monday,20th June
David came home from Spittal with last train. We were pretty busy in the Bk to-day but I was out at half past 4. H.B. & I went away about 6 o'clock & rode to Clovenfords via Yair then home via Gala's. It is the most enjoyable ride we have had this season . The road was rather rough between C'fords & Gala's but the rest of it was good. It was rather windy too. We met Stodart, Lewis, Elliot, MacKintosh, Allan, & Barclay down at the toll & I went down to Mr Barclay's Lodgings when we came home & got the loan of a copy of the club rules.

Tuesday,21
My apprenticeship with the B.L.Co.Bank, Selkirk is out this day, completing the 4 years. I got my "screw" in the forenoon. We were not very busy in the Bk to-day. I was out at 4 o'clock.—After tea H.B. & I went away on our B's but went no further than Mc Fadzean's (Yarrow road) owing to the wind –It very strong. After we came home I went over to the E.F.B.C. room & saw D.M.MacK'—& gave in my name as a candidate for election--- After that I went to And'w Brown & bo't a Club hat for which I paid 3/-.

Wednesday,22
We were very busy in the Bk to-day particularly so near 3 o'clock & I had the Cash to balance too which kept me back a little. I was out about half past 4. After tea I cleaned the Back wheel of my Bicycle. There was a club from Haw'k this forenoon & went up to The Lochs. They came down at night again & away to Haw'k. I rode home on my Bicycle at a ¼ past 9 via Ettrick Terrace. It was very windy.

Thursday,23
We were not busy in the Bk to-day. I was out at 10 min. past 4. Some of the Volunteers went away to the Camp at Melrose at 7 o'clock at night. At the same time The E.F.B.C. went away up Hawick road. (I do not know where they were going). About 8 o'clock I rode home then I started again & rode up the Yarrow the length of Foulshiels. It is still windy tho' not so bad & the road is very rough. Got my hair cut at A. Anderson's at night. We saw a comet at night.

Friday,24
We were not busy in Bk to-day. I was out at 5 o'clock & made up the Gen'l Blce. & summed the Bal'ce Bk of Ch/a & C/a (?). After tea I went over to the Reading room & then I went into the E.F.B.C. room where I spent the most of the night reading etc. MacKintosh & Stoddart were in cleaning their machines. I got a letter from MacKintosh (Sec'y) to-day informing me that I was admitted a member. At a ¼ past 8 I went to a meeting of the Debating Society --- It was to go over the Sec'ys & Treas'rs etc reports. There were 10 mem'rs present. H Boog has been bad to-day. He took 4 fits.

Saturday,25
We were very busy in Bk to-day but I hurried on & was out about 1.45. I intended going down to the Camp at Melrose in the afternoon on my Bicycle but it came on such a heavy shower that I could not think of it. I went over to the Club room & spent a while reading then Jessie and I went thro' to the Cottage & got tea. About 7 o'clock Father & her & I came up again. I went to Scott the tailors at night & got myself measured for a Bicycle Suit. H.Boog was very bad to-day but on the turn at night.

Sunday,26
I left home about half past 9 to come up to see how H.Boog was keeping & was glad to hear that he had got the turn. My father & mother came up a little after 10. We were all at Ch. in the forenoon. My father went home after forenoon service but Mother & I remained & got our dinner here & went back to Ch. in afternoon. I was thro' & got my tea at Alva Cott. then came thro' to the Bible Class. When I came out I went over again with Tom & Rob't. Jessie who was out for a walk (after getting her tea at Gowan Brae) with Jas. Scott & Mr McLogan & Aggie Bella Scott came over about 8 o'clock. Jas. Little, Cabinetmaker's wife died to-day.

Monday,27th June
I was busy to-day all this forenoon in arranging the names of parties that we get op'ns of every year. I was not out the Bk till half past 4. At 10 minutes to 9 (at night) I went away on my Bicycle intending to go straight home via Ettrick Terrace but I met Colledge who was going to Lauder that night via Melrose & Earlston & I accompanied him a short way. At Lindean Bridge I met Jas. Lewis & went out the Gala's road a bit when we met H. Smith , Andrew Muir & another Bicyclist & something was wrong with one of their machines we helped them to try & put it right but we could not manage it. We were just going on when we met A.Elliot, J.M.Barclay, D.M. MacKintosh & A.J.Borthwick so we turned & came up the road with them & I parted with them at the "Old Toll" & rode home to Alva Cottage. I got a pair of shoes at Dickson's at night (13/6).

Tuesday,28
We were not busy to-day (with ordinary Bk work) but I was engaged all forenoon writing letters etc. for op'ns . I was out at 5 o'clock. At 8 o'clock I was to have met J.Stavert to go for a ride with him on his Bicycle but he never turned up. I met J. McIntyre however & he went with me & down the Gala's road J.G.Allan made up on us & we went the length of Gala's. We met MacKintosh & Barclay coming home when we were going. (It was a ¼ past 10 when I got home.) We also met Jas. Lewis going up Boldside brae when we were coming home. He turned & came with us home.

Wednesday,29
We were not very busy in the Bk to-day. I was out at ½ past 4. After tea I went out to the Reading Room & after that I went up to the E.F.B.C. room & MacKintosh, Barclay & Stoddart all came up but none of us went out with our Bicycles. I went home about 9 o'clock. In a short while Jessie, my Mother & Aggie Bella Scott came over. They had been at the prayer meeting. Jessie & Aggie B. Scott got a drive home in a cab which had been at the provost's.

Thursday,30
This was a very quiet day in the Bk. We were all out before 4o'clock. I went home (with Jessie) in time for tea & took over my box of cloths etc. that I clean my Bicycle with. I cleaned my Bicycle in the empty bed-room after tea. It has been such a day of rain this I could never think of going out with it. The E.F.B.Club were to have gone to Ettrick Bridge End but could not go owing to the weather. Daniel was going up Ettrick to-day via Bowhill (as he had a heavy load) when the axle of the van broke near Leslie Cottage. He had to come home & get another van, (Graham the Butcher's). David came over after 8 o'clock to see the house.

Friday,1st July
As I am only writing this day's proceedings on Monday the 4th July I cannot remember whether we were busy in the Bk or not. But as Mr M'n left the Bk about 4 o'clock to go to Tushilaw with some fellows from H.O. to fish I had a lot to do, what with Gen'l Bl'ce etc. As the a/c's bl'cd straight off however I managed to get away by 7 o'clock. I went over to Alva Cott. & brought over my Bicycle (as it was rather wet this morning to bring it) & coming up the Green I managed to ride the length of the Stable Door past Macaulay's being the furthest up I have ridden. I took it to the Club room to be ready to start to-morrow for Earlston.

Saturday,2
With Mr M'n not being at the Bk to-day I was very busy (& it was a very busy Saturday too) but I "worked" hard all forenoon to get away to go to Earlston. At 3 o'clock I went over to Clubroom & got my Bicycle ready when to my surprise & indignation there was not another member turned up to go to Earlston save myself---Barclay was there but he was going to Gala's –Stodd't & McTh. were away to H'k but where Robson (Cpt'n) was I know not. I was that much disappointed I could not think to go away anywhere myself. So I walked over to Alva Cott. with Jess. & got tea & came up to the town again. About 8 o'clock I went out the length of Crawford's & in again & took my machine to the Club room & left it there.

Sunday,3
Father & I were at Ch. in forenoon & Mother & I in afternoon (of us from Alva Cottage that is I mean). Mr McC. was away at Saltcoats & in his absence there preached Mr Mearns a student whom we have had before but poor chap he is not a good preacher. In the afternoon I went up & saw J.Stavert with Rob't.

Monday,4th July
I was very busy to-day again in the Bk—Mr M'n still being away –I was not out till 7 o'clock. I went out the Hk. road with Spence & Stoddart the length of the Trough near Greendemons on my Bicycle. After that I had a most enjoyable ride –The only thing wrong was that it was rather windy. I saw Mr M'n come home to-night about 7 o'clock but did not see him to speak to.

Tuesday,5
We were not very busy in the Bk to-day (as far as I can remember). Mr M'n was back to the Bk to-day again. MacK'n ,Barclay & I went away about 20 min's to 8 on our B's & went to very near Gala's when it came on very wet & it rained the whole way home—I had to change everything.

Wednesday,6
What a rain it was last night & thunder this morning about 4 o'clock ---The whole of us were wakened – there were 1 or 2 such loud peals. We were not very busy in the Bk to-day. A.C. & I marked off the I/R's in the forenoon . I was out at ½ past four. Jessie's serv't "bolted" this morning to Galashiels. We rec'd a letter from her at night & giving as an excuse that her finger was worse. I went over to Alva Cottage at half past 7 with Jessie & took over some soil & transplanted 4 flowers. It has been raining all day mostly.

Thursday,7
We were not busy in Bk to-day either (as far as I can remember as I am only writing this on Monday the 11th July). At night I got myself all dressed up with my uniform for the 1st time to go to Ettrickbridgend with the Club when here I was disappointed again – only Lewis & MacK'h turned up. Lewis said he was not going anywhere there being so few. MacK'h & I went to Gala's & had a very enjoyable ride over to Alva Cottage. W.H.Robson sold his machine to-night.

Friday,8
We were pretty busy in the Bk to-day. I was not out till ½ past seven. Mr M'n went away to Gala's at 4-50 (So did Mr Std'n). I did not intend going out with my Bicycle to-night but Borthwick asked me to go with him- so I had to hurry over to Alva Cott. for my Bicycle & go away down to the toll via Buccleuch Road to meet him. MacK'n was with him : when we came to Bridgeheugh we met Stoddart & he came with us too---We went the length of Glenmayne - (Br'k rode to near the top of the hill) then turned & I went straight on to Alva Cottage. It was a very enjoyable ride.

Saturday,9-------No Entry

Sunday,10
My Father & Mother were both at Ch. in the forenoon. & Mother & I in the afternoon. After we came out in the afternoon Rob't , Jess & I went down to Gowan Brae & saw the garden & got tea (Mrs Scott being at Musselbro') then Aggie Bella, Jessie & I went to the Bible Class, & Rob't went over to Alva Cottage. Jess & I went over when the Class came out.

Monday,11 to Wednesday,13 -----No Entries

Thursday,14
We were pretty busy in Bk to-day. Mr M'n went away to Bowhill about 4 o'clock. I intended going into the Bk again after tea but I was astonished when I came out for my tea to see W.M.Laidlaw – he had ridden out from Edin'r in the morning on his Bicycle. I went over to the Bk immediately after tea & shut up the place & went over & dressed myself.

Friday,15
This was quarterly bal'ce day in the Bk but I hurried on & got away about 7 o'clock. I had the principal bal'ce Sheet of C'h/a's & C/a's summed. At a ¼ to 8 MacKintosh, Stoddart, Borthwick, Barclay, Allan & I went away to Gala's for a joint run with the Gala. Club. We met them at the Cricket Ground & from there we started & right down & along Bk. St. & High St. Gala's on to the Melrose road & right on (with only one general halt) to Lindean. There were 22 altogether. I did not enjoy it I think they went far too fast. Borthwick & Barclay never went further than Gala's & it was nearly 11 o'clock when they got home.

Saturday,16th July
Christie went away for his holidays to-day. We were not busy to-day tho' & (altho' y'day was ¼ ly bal'ce) I was out about half past 3. Mr M'n & I went up to the Flower Show together –after that, David, & Rob't were there too & Tom Stavert. D.M. MacK'h went away this morning early to Spittal on his Bicycle to come up with A. Elliott. T.H. Stoddart went away in the afternoon to Kelso to meet them. I was out past Clarilawmoor on mine about 8 o'clock.

Sunday,17
Father & Mother were at Ch. in forenoon. Father came home in the interval & I went up & it was so wet that, altho' Mother stayed to go to Ch. in the afternoon, she did not—but went home whenever it faired. Jess was not out all day (so in the afternoon there were just Rob't & I in the seat) as she had toothache. I was at the Bible Class myself (Aggie B Scott is away at Musselbro' to-day). It has been so showery that only Tom went over with me To Alva Cottage---W.Hall was here from Glasgow to-day.

Monday,18
I was not out the Bk to-night till half past 7 as I was writing the quarterly returns. At 8 o'clock Allan, J.McIntyre, Spence & I went away on our Bicycles & rode over to Yair. & when we were there Robson made up on us. He has got his new machine (The "Matchless"). It is a beauty. He is very proud of it. Allan & Spence bathed in the Tweed just a little above Yair House—It was getting on for 11 o'clock when I got home. There was something wrong with John McIntyre's machine which kept him back a bit coming home --- I went straight home.

Tuesday,19
We were not busy in Bk to-day. I was out about half past four. About 20 min's past 7 I went over to Alva Cottage for my Bicycle & rode up to town via Dunsdalehaugh & Ettrick Terrace---I met Robson, MacK'n, Barclay & Borthwick & we rode over to Galashiels. Robson, MacK'n & I went & saw Cairns people –We got home about 10 o'clock & I went over to Alva Cottage about half past 10. Mother got Nelly Douglas as a servant for Alva Cottage to-day & she commenced duties this morning after breakfast.

End of Entries