

Arms, Ellen Louisa (Sheldon) (b. 1847)

Diary, Nov. 5, 1859-Aug. 4, 1860. Greenfield, Mass.

1 vol. manuscript 21cm

Well-written diary of the twelve-year old daughter of a prominent Greenfield businessman. Useful for information on social, religious, and domestic life in antebellum Greenfield. Particularly good for descriptions of elementary education and children's costume, recreation, literature. The diary itself seems to have served as a tool for acculturation. Includes descriptions of Christmas and Thanksgiving celebrations. Ellen was the older sister of Jennie Maria Arms, who later married George Sheldon. Ellen herself, married George Sheldon's son, John. The Sheldon family appears frequently throughout the diary.