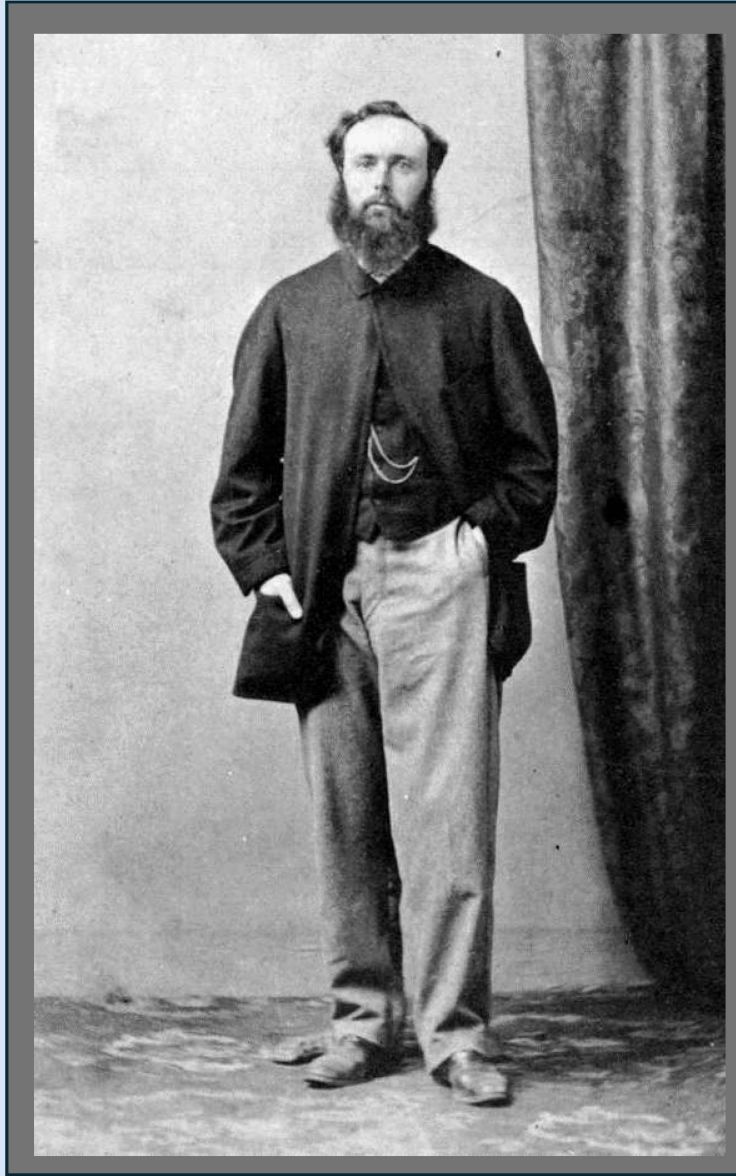


DIARIES OF PETER O'REILLY

1858 – 1905



(BC ARCHIVES PHOTO G-01065: PETER O'REILLY, C. 1862)

1868

DIARY TRANSCRIPTION

Royal British Columbia Museum & Archives

Microfilm Reel A01907, Box 1, File 12

FOREWORD

Peter O'Reilly's 1868 diary has been voluntarily transcribed for informational purposes only. Researchers interested in this diary are advised to consult the original document housed at the Royal British Columbia Museum & Archives, found in MS-2894, the O'Reilly family fonds.

TRANSCRIPTION NOTES

Each year's transcription includes a brief diary summary for each month. A reference and comments section is also provided to identify people, places, events, or things mentioned in the diaries. Comments, where provided, are discretionary and are given when it appears helpful to the understanding of the diary contents. The existence of a reference or comment within the diary is indicated by an asterisk beside the diary date. Multiple asterisks indicate multiple references or comments for the same date.

Square brackets are used to denote transcriptionist comments. Best guesses of words or phrases appearing in the text are enclosed in square brackets and not italicized, while functional comments about the text are italicized. The following are examples of functional comments.

[*illegible*] – a word cannot be read.

[*deletion*] – a strikethrough cannot be read.

[*no entry*] – no entry in the diary for that date.

[*left blank*] – a space reserved for text entry.

[*overwritten text*] – text written over the top of other text.

[*loss*] – text that is too faint to read.

[*missing*] – microfilmed diary does not contain that date.

Spelling inconsistency is commonly found and is usually not corrected from the original, however, letters are occasionally inserted in square brackets to clarify the understanding of an otherwise misspelled word.

Deleted words and sentences are included and struck through where legible.

TRANSCRIPTIONIST: TIM FITZTHUM – VICTORIA, BC

CONTENTS

SAMPLE DIARY PAGE

DIARY SUMMARY

REFERENCES & COMMENTS

DIARY

JANUARY
FEBRUARY

SAMPLE DIARY PAGE

Ice skating at Harris Pond in Victoria.
January 11, 1868

Jan. FRIDAY 10, 1868

Bitter cold day, hard frost.
Carter delivered 950 lbs of hay for
which I paid him \$14-25.
Mr. Wood walked over & spent the
day with us.

SATURDAY 11.

Fine frosty day, every one who
could get a pair of skates were
on the ice at Harris Pond.

SUNDAY 12.

Better cold day. Church at
St. Johns. Rev. Gribbell
officiated.

DIARY SUMMARY

JANUARY

Peter and Caroline O'Reilly start 1868 with a new home and new infant born on December 31st – many visitors call at their Rock Bay home in Victoria - ice skating on Harris Pond - Peter travels to New Westminster to arrange accounts and meet Governor Seymour.

FEBRUARY

Edgar Dewdney visits the O'Reilly's in Victoria - Peter writes to Major Ellis in Ireland enclosing a list of clothing he desires.

NOTE

February 20th is the last known diary date for 1868. All diary dates between February 21st and December 31st are missing. The transcribed diary resumes for the year 1869.

REFERENCES & COMMENTS

1868-01-06

Maria Philadelphia Louisa (King) Hills
(1823-1888)

Married Bishop George Hills (1816-1895) in 1865.

DIARY – 1868

JANUARY

1868-01-01

WEDNESDAY

Carry & the young lady doing very well. Rode into town & called upon Mrs Wood. Mrs Pearse joined Walker & Newton, & called with them at Hill side on the Works & Mrs Graham.

1868-01-02

THURSDAY

All well. Walked into town called on Sir Jas, with whom I took a walk, afterwards on Mrs Young. Recd \$75- for Wm Lord for escort of \$1500 fr Kootenay

1868-01-03

FRIDAY

Carry & child very well. John went to New Westminster in the Enterprise. Walked into town & paid some bills. Hard frost.

1868-01-04

SATURDAY

Very cold day hard frost. Walked into town with Dr Helmcken executed some commissions, called on Mrs McDonald, got letters fr N W. per Enterprise.

1868-01-05

SUNDAY

Intensely cold day, hard frost & sharp North East wind. Read for Carry Walked into town in the evening for some medicine.

1868-01-06 *

MONDAY

Very hard first & bitterly cold day Called on the Bishop & Mrs Hills Mrs Ward & Mrs Jackson.

1868-01-07

TUESDAY

Bitter cold day. Frost with a keen NorEaster. Enterprise left for N. W. at 7- AM

1868-01-08

WEDNESDAY

Just such a day as yesterday Walked into town to meet the Enterprise but she did not return

1868-01-09

THURSDAY

Enterprise returned fr N W - (Burrard Inlet.) no news from the Capital, no letters Walked into town met Hamley & had a chat with him, paid the Nagles a visit. The "California" sailed fr Frisco at 7- O.C. P.M. Got a bale of hay from Leneveu

1868-01-10

FRIDAY

Bitter cold day, hard frost. Carter delivered 950 lbs of hay for which I paid him \$14-25. Mrs Wood walked over & spent the day with us.

1868-01-11

SATURDAY

Fine frosty day, every one who could get a pr of skates were on the ice at Harris pond.

1868-01-12

SUNDAY

Bitter cold day. Church at St Johns - Revd Gribbell officiated.

1868-01-13

MONDAY

Remained in ~~doors~~ doors all day, a crowd of visitors called. Frost

1868-01-14

TUESDAY

Fine warm day - hard frost. Skating becoming more fashionable every day
Visitors dropping in all the day.

1868-01-15

WEDNESDAY

Frost, bright warm sun
In the house all day

1868-01-16

THURSDAY

Dined at Charles' met the Walkers, Elliots, H. P. Walker & some others spent a pleasant evening

1868-01-17

FRIDAY

Str Enterprise sailed fr Burrard Inlet
The Bishop & Mrs Hills called
Paid a number of Bills

1868-01-18

SATURDAY

Hard frost but an appearance of thaw, rode into town, and drew \$100- fr the Bank, afterwards drove Mrs Trutch to see the skaters a lively scene. Enterprise returned fr Burrard Inlet. W A G Young returned received a number of letters.

1868-01-19

SUNDAY

Cold raw day looking very like a thaw. Church at St Johns, afterwards called on Sir Jas. Douglas, Wood & Etheridge called - at home all the Evening. Dear Carry dined with us at table for the first time.

1868-01-20

MONDAY

Walked into town to see W. A. G. Young found him on the ice at Harris pond

Walked home to town with Mrs Foster.
Dixon left. Paid him
Paid in full for one month

1868-01-21

TUESDAY

Arranged to go to N W to see H. E. about my leave
Jas Lewis came to work at \$30 per month.

1868-01-22

WEDNESDAY

Prepared & compared my affidavit in re the Bank of B.C. with H. P. Walker afterwards took a ride with him

1868-01-23

THURSDAY

Left in the Enterprise at 7- AM for N. W. Arrived at Burrard Inlet at 2½ at N W at 5¼. Met Begbie Dewdney & a crowd at the Colonial, walked to the Camp with Joe & remained at the quarters. Wrote to Carry, & gave it to Deasy to send off in the morning.

1868-01-24

FRIDAY

Called on H. E. & Mrs Seymour afterwards went into town & did some business at the Treasury & played a game with Begbie on the fives court. Dined at Gov house at 5- afterwards private theatricals & music at which there were present about 70- people, whist

1868-01-25

SATURDAY

In Treasury arranging my accts, drew my pay for Feby 67, & bal [not drawn] of my salary for March in all \$ [*left blank*]
Recd rents fr Edmonds on acct \$325
Jno Work, McKay, & Graham arrived from Yale having walked on the ice fr Yale. Played fives with Begbie
Recd letter fr the Major with enclosures fr Mrs Ellis

1868-01-26

SUNDAY

Very hard frost, lovely day. Church at N. W. not at all pleased with the service Lunched at Govt house, walked with Joe & John to the saw mill. Begbie dined at the quarters. Very stiff & sore, the effects of playing ball yesterday.

1868-01-27

MONDAY

Another hard nights first. Walked into town, called on Mrs Dewdney & lunched. Played a single game at five with the Judge. Dined at Govt house.

1868-01-28

TUESDAY

Up at 6½ & walked into Town supposing the sleigh would start at 9- AM but did not leave till 12- noon, left the Inlet at 6½ Jno Work McKay, Graham & Pooley on board, a very pleasant passage arrived at Victoria at 1½ AM. Walked home & found all well.

1868-01-29

WEDNESDAY

Rode into town & had a chat with Walker & W A G Young

1868-01-30

THURSDAY

[no entry]

1868-01-31

FRIDAY

[no entry]

FEBRUARY

1868-02-01

SATURDAY

[no entry]

1868-02-02

SUNDAY

[no entry]

1868-02-03

MONDAY

[no entry]

1868-02-04

TUESDAY

In town to execute commissions. Drove Carry & Mrs Trutch & Frankey. Dined with Young & afterwards went with them, Brook & Hamley to the Theatre. Amateurs performed in aid of the Orphans of St Anns, a very poor affair

1868-02-05

WEDNESDAY

[no entry]

1868-02-06

THURSDAY

[no entry]

1868-02-07

FRIDAY

Very stormy day raining heavily.

1868-02-08

SATURDAY

Hard frost with high wind very rough night Dewdney called early having arrived the previous night in the Enterprise. Walked into town with him & engaged a Chinaman to come & cook.

1868-02-09

SUNDAY

Remained in doors all day Dewdney dined with us

1868-02-10

MONDAY

Walked into town, had a long chat with Young, went into court for an hour to hear the case of Marvyn v B of B. C. Dewdney came out to stay with us.

1868-02-11

TUESDAY

Raining heavily all day remained in house writing letters. Jno Work & McKay dined with us

1868-02-12

WEDNESDAY

Walked into town with Dewdney & spent most of the day in court listning to the Case of Marvyn v Bank of B.C.

1868-02-13

THURSDAY

Enterprise left for N W at 7 AM Dewdney went up in her. Rained nearly all day, Brook & Young called, went with them for a ride round Beacon Hill & afterwards to Esquimalt.

1868-02-14

FRIDAY

Valentines day

1868-02-15

SATURDAY

[no entry]

1868-02-16

SUNDAY

Beautiful day Carry Mrs Trutch & self went to Church at St Johns. Revd Mr Hamilton (zealous) preached a capital sermon I went in the evening when Mr H. preached another beautiful sermon

1868-02-17

MONDAY

Drove over for Mrs Wood & Letitia who spent the day & dined also Mr Wood, Walker, & George Leggatt. Wrote to the Major, enclosing list of clothes also informing him that I held \$398.67 fr. Capt Knox & \$88.45 for him in all & \$487.12 equal to £97-8-6- to 31st Decr 67. Kept copy of letter & list of clothes.

1868-02-18

TUESDAY

Mail steamer "Del Norte" arrived fr Sanfrisco. Chas Hankin

returned in her.

Enterprise left for N. W. with the mail.

1868-02-19

WEDNESDAY

[no entry]

1868-02-20

THURSDAY

[illegible]

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