

Journal kept by P. (Philetus) Fales
1850-51 in Paris mostly

"Very sentimental but typical of the period
and the young man.

Almost illegible from fire and water."

(Comments by Maud Fales Strong, daughter of Philetus)

JOURNAL KEPT BY PHILETUS FALES 1850-51

March 3, 1850-August 15, 1851

Trip to Europe, to London and Paris (most of the time)

Go forth my Book on thy mission! Faithfully record day by day on thy now unspotted pages this heart's throbs. Tell a round unvarnished tale; and be a truthful index of the owner! Thine is not a brilliant destiny. But under whatever sky he may be tossed, thou shalt accompany him, and be his bosom companion. If be joy or sorrow, his joys and his sorrows shall alike be made known to thee! And when, weary of seeing, he shall sometimes commune with his own spirit, to you will he tell his musings. But look not thou for careful diction, or rounded periods. Hasty pages will be thine, torn at random from life's book. Only keep thy charge--that is thy work--; and let thy sole ambition be, "sometime" read by him whose thou art. For thou art not for the public gaze; nor yet must friend's eye look into thee.

(end of foreword)
unpaged

March 3, 1850. Saturday

Six o'clock P.M. Bade adieu to my Vermont friends with whom I had spent a most delightful winter. My friend Doct. H. accompanied me to the Railroad depot. Giving him a hearty shake of the hand, I entered the cars and was immediately on the route to Hartford. Unknown to every one around me, there was abundant time for reflection, and thoughts of past scenes, and the friends I was leaving crowded thick upon me. The weather too was in consonance with my feeling. All day it had snowed most violently, and a more unpleasant evening cannot be imagined. This circumstance doubtless had some effect upon my spirits; at all events, I was more than wonted sad, upon like occasions, and was impatient to reach Hartford. Arrived there, to kill two hours of time, which it was necessary to wait for the N. H. train, unpleasant as it was I started forth to take my second stroll through those streets. But the inclemency of the weather kept most people within doors; and the straggling traveller, met occasionally, served only to increase the gloom. Returning to the depot, I had but just quietly stretched myself at length in three chairs, very comfortably, when a rough fellow came in and informed me that I must leave, as gentlemen were not allowed to be in the ladies sitting room. I remonstrated, and informed him that there were no ladies it it, but all to no purpose. Fortunately while we were still wrangling about it, the train arrived, and I took my

leave of the burly baggage-master. The passage to N. Haven was a lonely one. But meanwhile the storm had passed over, and the stars were out in their loveliness. At eleven we were on board a beautiful steam-boat, bound for the queen city of the New World. Took my stand on deck and watched the beautiful city we were leaving with deep interest. I was leaving N. England for the first, perhaps for a long time, it may be forever, and was loath to take my eyes from it; but as the outline of the city became indistinct, sought my berth, and slept a "dreamy sleep" till the next morning.

March 24th.

Upon reaching the deck, found that we were already in sight of N. Y. What struck me with the greatest force, was the vast forest of masts, bearing the flags of almost every nation; and as we drew near, the beautiful steamers, which coast the Hudson, and the Sound. We were soon in the midst of them. On landing got a cabman to take me to 63 Barclay St. and while waiting breakfast visited the Park and City-Hall. Returning, fell in with a crowd of Catholics, which joining was soon at the entrance of a noble Church. There stood a fat priest collecting pence from the willing offerers. But not having anything to give, I brushed hastily by him and entered without making the usual signs. Waited there about half an hour watching what was going on; but not kneeling, or performing

from newspaper in Ottawa, Kansas May 1825 & March 30, 1907

THE DEATH OF PROF. P. FALES

END CAME TO OTTAWA'S EARLY EDUCATOR ON SATURDAY.

Prof. Fales Passed Away at the Home of His Daughter in Connecticut—Body Here for Burial.

Prof. Philatus Fales died at Winsted, Conn., Saturday morning. Death came to relieve a long and weary illness. It is announced in a letter received by E. M. Sheldon this morning that Mrs. Fales would start home at once with the body of her husband, expecting to arrive here on Wednesday at 11 a. m. Burial will be in Highland cemetery.

The death removes one of Ottawa's oldest citizens, whose ranks have been

pitilessly assailed during the past year. Prof. Fales was a prominent factor in making Ottawa what it is, intellectually and morally. He came to Ottawa in the latter part of 1865, from St. Louis, where he had been engaged for some time as a teacher in the school for the blind. It was there that he met and married Miss Abbie Lewis, also an instructor in the school. Prof. Fales came to Ottawa under contract with Ottawa university to teach in the small frame building which the school then had on Main street. Some years afterward, he took a position in the city schools. Ottawa men and women, some of whom are now grandparents, attended school under Prof. Fales' instruction. Professor Fales also served as superintendent of the county schools.

About six years ago illness prostrated Professor Fales, and for the past five years he has been helpless, his ailment developing into softening of the brain. Mr. and Mrs. Fales left here about four years ago for Winsted, Conn., to live with their daughter, Mrs. Maud Fales Strong.

Professor Fales was born in Maine, and was aged at his death about seventy-six years. Of three children but one, Mrs. Strong, survives. The body of the late Harry Fales is buried in Highland cemetery. The other child died in St. Louis. Prof. Fales was a member of the First Presbyterian church, or Ottawa. With other Ottawa men he organized the Highland cemetery association, and was one of its directors at the time of his death.

Died at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Fred C. Strong, Winsted, Conn., on March 30, 1907, Philetus Fales. He was born in Rockland, Me., May 7, 1825. While still a boy on the farm he resolved to have a college education, and he prepared himself to meet the college requirements. He entered Dartmouth College, and was graduated in 1849. He taught one year in Connecticut then went to Paris for further study. After his return, he taught several years in Washington University, St. Louis. When President Lincoln issued his first call for troops at the outbreak of the Civil War, Mr. Fales enlisted in the Second Iowa Regiment. Later, he became superintendent of the Missouri Institution for the Education of the Blind, St. Louis. In this school he stayed five years. Impaired health caused him, in 1870, to accept a call from Kansas to become the first president of Ottawa University. He served six terms—12 years—as superintendent of the Franklin County schools; and also served a number of years on the Ottawa city board of education. In 1871, he was president of the Kansas State Teachers' Association.

THERE are interesting coincidences in the lives of Dr. P. J. Williams and Philetus Fales. Both were natives of New England and were born in the same year—1825—Williams on April 12; Fales, on May 1. Both died in the same year—1907—Williams on March 21; Fales, on March 30. Both were graduates of Dartmouth, and both came to Kansas about the same time; Williams in 1869; Fales in 1870.

First National Bank
CAPITAL SURPLUS & PROFITS \$1,000,000
Circular, Kansas

F. C. Strong,

Winsted,
Conn.



PROFESSOR FALES IS DEAD

(1907)

Former Ottawan Passed Away at Home of Daughter in Connecticut—Burial Here.

E. M. Sheldon today received a letter announcing the death of Prof. Philetus Fales, formerly of this city, who died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Maude Strong, in Winsted, Conn., Saturday morning at 4 o'clock, of brain trouble.

Prof. and Mrs. Fales left Ottawa for a permanent home in the east in May, 1902, in the hope of benefitting Mr. Fales' shattered health. He left bearing the highest esteem of the community after a residence here that dated from 1868. In the years that he lived here, Professor Fales had been a pillar in religious and educational matters, and took a prominent part in the material as well as moral betterment of the city. He came here at the close of the War of the Rebellion, in which he took an active part as a union soldier, from St. Louis. He came at the instigation of Rev. I. S. Kallcock, one of the Ottawa University trustees, to take charge of the college in its opening years. In the spring of 1866 Professor Fales was made the head of the Indian department of the school which was held in a building at Hickory and Second streets. In the fall of that year he was head of the faculty of the school proper, which went into temporary session in the building now owned by Mrs. Crawford at 427 south Main street. He was succeeded in 1869 by Rev. Robert Atkinson when the school was opened in the new building. In 1873 Professor Fales was elected county superintendent of schools and served two years. He also completed an unfinished term as principal of the city High schools.

Professor Fales was peculiarly endowed naturally and by a very finished education for successful work in educational matters and took a large interest. He served as a member of the board of trustees of Emporia Presbyterian college. In church work he was equally earnest and diligent; during his years in Ottawa he was recognized as a mainstay of the local Presbyterian church; he was an elder of the society.

In March of 1868 Professor Fales, with John H. Kitts, purchased the Home Journal newspaper, changing the name to that of Republic and conducted it as editor until the fall of 1869. He was also an original stockholder in the First National bank.

Philetus Fales was born in Tomaston, Me., in 1825. He was educated

at Dartmouth college, and also studied in France, returning a finished master of its language. He married Miss Abigail S. Lewis, three children being the result of the union. One, a son, Dr. Harry Fales, is buried here; another child was buried in St. Louis. The daughter, Mrs. Maude Strong is a resident of Winsted, Conn.

The body will be brought here for burial; it is expected that it will arrive Wednesday. In that case the funeral will be held from the Presbyterian church in the afternoon. Burial will be in Highland, of which cemetery association Professor Fales was the original secretary and where the family has an elaborate monument.

DEATH OF PHILETUS FALES OCCURRED THIS MORNING. (1907)

Life History of Man Whose Talents
Were Diversified—Body to Be
Taken West.

Philetus Fales died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Frederic C. Strong, on Walnut street at 4 o'clock this morning from a general breaking down of the system. He had fallen rapidly the past week, and though he sat up two hours yesterday, it was known that it was only a question of a very short time when the end must come.

Mr. Fales was born in Rockland, Me., May 7, 1825. While still a boy on the farm he determined to have a college education and, with indomitable perseverance, he prepared himself, entering Dartmouth, from which he was graduated in 1849. He taught one year in Connecticut, then went to Paris, for further study. Upon his return, the west lured him and he went to St. Louis, teaching in Washington university for several years.

He was a man of diversified talents. While teaching the classics in the university he assisted as an engineer in laying out the Northern Missouri railroad, now a part of the Wabash system. Later, with a younger brother, he took an overland trip to the Rocky mountains with an ox team, and, as chief engineer, opened the once famous Russell's gulch. He was also a member of an early surveying party on Pike's peak.

Mr. Fales responded to President Lincoln's first call for volunteers at the outbreak of the civil war and served as a member of the Second Iowa regiment until a more pressing duty was

laid upon him in caring for the Missouri institute for the blind in St. Louis, where he labored five years.

By reason of impaired health he sought a home in the unfolding state of Kansas and went to Ottawa as the first president of Ottawa university. During the 37 years of his residence in Kansas he was engaged in educational work, leaving upon the schools of the city, county, and state the indelible mark of his broad culture and far-seeing wisdom. Broken in health, he came to Winsted in May, 1903, to spend his last years in the home of his daughter, Mrs. Fred C. Strong. Mr. Fales is survived by a wife, who is the daughter of the late Deacon David Lewis, a former resident of Winsted, and one daughter, Mrs. Frederic Clark Strong. His only son, Dr. Harry Fales, who died 10 years ago, was well known in Winsted, being a frequent visitor here.

Prayers will be offered at the family residence on Walnut street at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon. The remains will be taken to Kansas for burial and the funeral will be held from the First Presbyterian church of Ottawa, of which the deceased was an elder.

Obituary, probably from
Winsted Citizen, Winsted,
Conn