

## Martha Shaw's diary 1853 – notes by MAES 5.9.2015

BL Reference F 197/5

The diary contains weather notes. Monthly bills, itemised, eg. Dress for self", at the back of diary. She lists letters received and sent. She often goes/walks twice to church on Sunday, Box and Ditteridge. They go to Bath a lot, "in a chaise" "drive", Rudloe. They go to balls,"pic nics". They watch cricket matches at King's Down. They are living at Middlehill, Box. Aurelie Hubert de Fonteny, French governess and friend also there. Fanny, Laura, Clara have organ lessons at Box church. Archery competition with teas and parties.

Jan	£146.18s.11d
Feb	£38.12s.6d
Mar	£17.4s.5d
April	£96.6s.2d
May	£47.12s.3d
June	£139.1s.11d
July	£87.1s.10 1/2d
Aug	£71.4s.2 1/2d
Sept	£49.18s.7d
Oct	£148.1s.0 1/2d
Nov	£89.9s.11 1/2d
Dec	£46.16s.6 1/2d
Year total	£1,031.17s.4 1/2d

3 Jan 1853: Fanny is laid up with a cold. Hoping to be able to go to Bridgwater tomorrow.

4 Jan : Dreadful bustle. Emily obliged at the last moment to go instead of Fanny and in her 10 year old washed frayed muslin – nice!

14 Jan: Party came home from Bridgwater well and happy.

24 Jan: Somebody "came to look at the house".

25 Jan: "Gentleman brought his daughter to see the house, all like it."

27 Jan: Fanny and I went to call on the Mants, Holworthys and Saundersons.

3 Feb: "Bath for a cook. Mrs Hale wants this house for 3 months. She shan't have it".

7 Feb: "Pony well again and goes very well".

9 Mar: Aurelie has left Robert! & will arrive today. Came by the 7 train.

11 Mar: "Busy stocking up the kitchen garden".

13 Mar: Aurelie's birthday.

14 Mar: Mrs Ness and Miss Wiltshire, other visitors.

15 Mar: To London.

16 Mar: Dieppe, Paris. Plus Annie, Clara.

22 Mar: Aurelie, Emily and Robert off to Paris and Canterbury.

18 Apr: "Photo".

21 Apr: Had our negatives taken.

22 Apr Photo

29 Apr Last day in Paris. Then on the coast, St Omer, bathed.

3 June: Arrived Newhaven.

18 June: Miss Hubert thinks Mrs Manning will take the house.

26 June: Mrs Mant came to see about the gate.

25 June: Hens hatch eggs. [girls have individual hens]

1 July: Emily a nice ride with Mr and Mrs Mant and Miss Holworthy.

15 Aug: Aurelie Hubert & Fanny, Laura, Clara to Box to take an organ lesson.

30 Aug: "A grand collection of archery people. What teas we have!"

31 Aug: "Went to the cricket march on King's Down. Vulgar in the extreme".

6 Sept: Archery and large party in the evening.

12 Sept: Pony ill. Hardly could get her out from Bath – bad bargain.

15 Sept. Gloster festival. Very fine music. Very disagreeable day. Thankful when it was over – so I paid for £5 of misery.

16 Sept: Archery. I am truly happy to say last tea party.

24 Sept: Fanny played the organ at Ditteridge very well. All pleased.

28 Sept: To Bath about the house – declined to let it furnished at £110. Lady came from Clifton.

1 Oct:  
and sang.

Church twice at Box and Ditteridge. G Mant dined here. Fanny played organ