Early Michigan Diaries and Autobiographies

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The following first-person accounts tell us about a wide range of experiences, from pioneer to schoolmaster, schooner captain to soldier, railroad employee to surveyor. All but one are nineteenth century accounts. Together they offer a rich picture of life in early Michigan.

General

Baraga, Frederic.
The diary of Bishop Frederic Baraga: first bishop of Marquette. 1990.
MICH. BX4705.B18 A3 1990

Croghan, George.
George Croghan's journal of his trip to Detroit in 1767... 1939.
MICH. F483.C76 1939

Doty, William A.
MICH. F574.R35 D67 1949

Douglass, David Bates.
American voyageur; the journal of David Bates Douglass. 1969.
MICH. F484.3.D67 1969 Douglass was a member of the 1820 Lewis Cass expedition.

Estep, Charles.
Diary of Charles Estep. n.d.
MICH. F566.E87 A3z Pioneer life in Sebewa Township, Ionia County beginning in 1883.

Gerish, Jacob.
Journal of Jacob Gerish, Jan. 1, 1837-Sept. 12, 1850. 196?

Hobart, Henry.
MICH. F572.K4 H6 1991

Kirkland, Caroline Matilda Stansbury.
MICH. F566.K5z 1965 First published in 1839, these loosely fictionalized sketches attest to the observation skills of this pioneer author.
Kristiansen, Soren.
MICH. CT275.K745 A3

Mann, William Arthur.
Wm. Mann's diary. n.d. 1 reel.
MFM. HF5391.B6z Most of the entries in the 1894-1901 diary detail the author's career as a carpenter foreman for the Michigan Central Railroad.

Martinson, Martin H.
Hendrik's diary. 1969.

Perry, Oliver Hazard.
Hunting expeditions of Oliver Hazard Perry of Cleveland, verbatim from his diaries... 1980.
MICH. F566.P472z. Recounts expeditions in northern Michigan and in Monroe, Lenawee, Sanilac, Tuscola and Hillsdale counties in the 1830s and 1840s.

Power, Nathan.
MICH. F566.P88 A3 1965 Set in Farmington in the mid 19th century.

Rogers, Samuel Reed.
Diaries of Samuel Reed Rogers of Raisin Township, Lenawee County. n.d.
MICH. F566.R65z

Schlatter, William.

Schoolcraft, Henry Rowe.
Narrative journal of travels through the northwestern regions of the United States, extending from Detroit through the great chain of American lakes to the sources of the Mississippi River, in the year 1820. 1953.
MICH. F484.3.S37 1953

Stewart, Daniel J.
Diary of an American farmer, 1868-1885. Wyoming County, New York and Branch County, Michigan. n.d.
MICH. SS21.5.A2 S75
Stockwell, Madelon Louisa.  

Wallace, Mary Austin.  
Mary Austin Wallace: her diary, 1862; a Michigan soldier's wife runs their farm. 1963.  
*MICH. DOC. CIW 2M39*

Whitehead, Lewis Young.  
**Diary of Lewis Young Whitehead, father of the Menominee Range, 1833-1908.** 1976.  
*MICH. F572.N8 W47z*

Young, Ed.  
Diary and daybook of Rev. E.D. Young, Isabella Mission 1861-1862; Centerville, Michigan, 1859. 1859, 1861-62.  
*MICH. BR1725.Y68 A3z*

Civil War

Bailey, George W.  
*MICH. E514.B3 1990*

Benson, Charles E.  
*MICH. E 514.5 7th B46 1991*

Coe, Hamlin Alexander.  
Mine eyes have seen the glory: combat diaries of Union Sergeant Hamlin Alexander Coe. 1975.  
*MICH. E601.C67*

**The diary of John B. Kay: Company G. Sixth Michigan Cavalry, Libby, Belle Isle, Andersonville.** n.d.  
*MICH. E611.D53*

Ely, Ralph.  
The diary of Captain Ralph Ely of the Eighth Michigan Infantry: with the wandering regiment. 1965.  
*MICH. E514.5 8th .E46 1965*
Foster, George Palmer.  
GENE. E601.F68 1986

Gillaspie, Ira Myron Bailey.  
MICH. E601.G544 1965

Henderson, Zoraida.  
*Diary of Zoraida Henderson: and diary of a Portland soldier.* 1938.  
MICH. F566.H3 A3z

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