# THE REAL DIARY OF A ROCHESTER BOY, 1864

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The Real Diary of a Rochester Boy, 1864 by James H. Thompson

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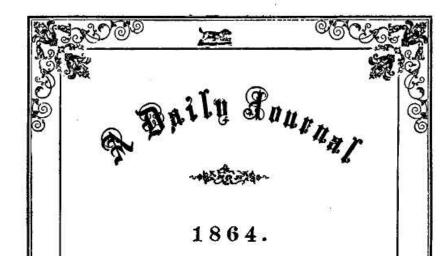
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### **JAMES H. THOMPSON**

# THE REAL DIARY OF A ROCHESTER BOY, 1864





Containing a Blank Space for Every Day.

RATES OF POSTAGE, CASH ACCOUNT, STAMP DUTIES, &C.



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## The Real Diary of a Rochester Boy 1864

Edited by James H. Thompson

> Reprinted from The Rochester Herald:

Rochester, N. Y.

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Of this edition of "The Real Diary of a Rochester Boy" five bundred copies have been printed by The Rochester Herald Company in November, 1917.

### Foreword

The original notebook which contained the "Real Diary of a Rochester Boy" was found in a dust-covered heap of old books in a second hand dealer's shop. Its faded covers and age-dimmed ink were invitations to explore its store of reminiscence and wealth of youthful pictures of life in Rochester more than half a century ago.

Throughout the year of 1864 the author of the diary faithfully recorded the minutes of his actual life. The larger things that were stirring the nation and world apparently were of little moment to him, and the fate of battles was of lesser interest than the weekly tragedy when he "washed and went to church." It is this very attention to the minor events of a boy's life that were magnified to major importance by juvenile eyes, the ingenuous recital and the naive attempts always to disclaim blame that are sufficient excuses for publication of this faithful journal.

If there be incidents related in the diary that are not easily recalled in fact, the editor pleads his license to inject interest into a recital that at times threatens to become tiresome in its repetition of uninteresting boyhood experiences.

J. H. T.

Rochester, November 30, 1917.

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### The Real Diary of a Rochester Boy

#### **JANUARY**

January 1—It's 5 degrees below zero and we had oyesters and company to-day. The oyesters was good. Played a game of uker on the sly. I am going to keep this diary this year or bust. Last year I stopped in March. I have got it locked in a box in my room. A diary ain't much good unless you keep it.

January 2—Very cold. Am convalesent from New Years dinner. Nothing happened. Hattie says she dreemed we had a organ. Amen. Ma thinks somebody stole her frute cake yesterday. Guess if she knew how sick I was in the night she wouldn't have no doubts.

January 3-Sunday. Washed and went to church.

January 4—Started in school after two weeks vacation. Stayed in school all day. Went down town after school and froze my foot. I put snow on it and made it worse. I couldn't get my boot back on and had to be took home. Guess I won't have to go to school to-morrow. The way I got my