6:20. Left Broad Street Station at 7:00. Arrived at Elizabethtown at 10:20. Met Brother H. E. Light and Brother E. B. Lefever in Lancaster city. We proceeded to the home of Brother S. H. Hertzler, the other member of the School Committee (See my minutes as secretary and my correspondence with Eva.

THIS LAST DAY — A CLIMAX, AND SO ENDETH A CRISIS

Diary, Tuesday, April 4, 1899

After dinner we were shown the sites (and the sights) of Elizabethtown for we found the town is an applicant for the College. We drove around for some time, possibly 1½ hours, and then went into session of Committee. I preached in the evening in town. Subject: "Elements of Christian Success."

I wrote the diary record of the weather in Elizabethtown on this day in contrast with Pottstown on the day we viewed sites there.

Diary Weather

Bright, beautiful day — a foretaste of Spring. I enjoyed the brightness of the day as we drove around Elizabethtown.

There are no hints of the transactions at the Committee Session referred to above, in my diary. These minutes, with much other historical material, are deposited in my archives, not now accessible.

I must not close this "Period of the Committee On Location without saying a few things that are apparent to anyone who will read between the lines, but I think in justice to myself and those interested in the cause of education at that time the matter requires a brief recital here.

In referring to some of the elements that I feel constituted this Crisis, I want it distinctly understood I am not complaining or criticizing nor apologizing for lack of accomplishment. I am writing the stern facts of history and history is nothing if not facts.

First, It has always been a matter of deep regret that a number of our teaching ministers were not at that "Educational Meeting" at Reading to help when helping was needful.
Second, The Committee on Location lost two of its most important members by resignation.

Third, The "Committee" saw fit (maybe of necessity) to hand the major part of the work over into the hands of the Secretary who was already overloaded with multiplied duties of pastoral responsibilities and much other church work. I have no doubt this over-loading in time and strength was a distinct handicap to the progress and development of the work for the time being, and led to my ultimate breakdown.

Fourth, then there were those persons, who, for reasons best known to themselves, did everything possible against this educational movement, some from within, some from without. Of the two, I think, the force from within is most to be feared.

Well, perhaps, in the end, this opposition, within and without, had but little permanent effect, but for the time being it added to the burden of the secretary in his tremendous, single-handed struggle.

Even if there were those discouragements, there was a measure of success, for the effects of my struggles were cumulative and when such results became apparent some were anxious to scramble into the bus when it was ready to go.

I can well remember the thrill that came with the consciousness that the crisis is about to end, even if it must come by the way of a climax that was the hardest struggle of all.

THE END OF "THE PERIOD OF THE COMMITTEE ON LOCATION

1898, November 29, to
1899, April 4.
(4 months, 5 days)