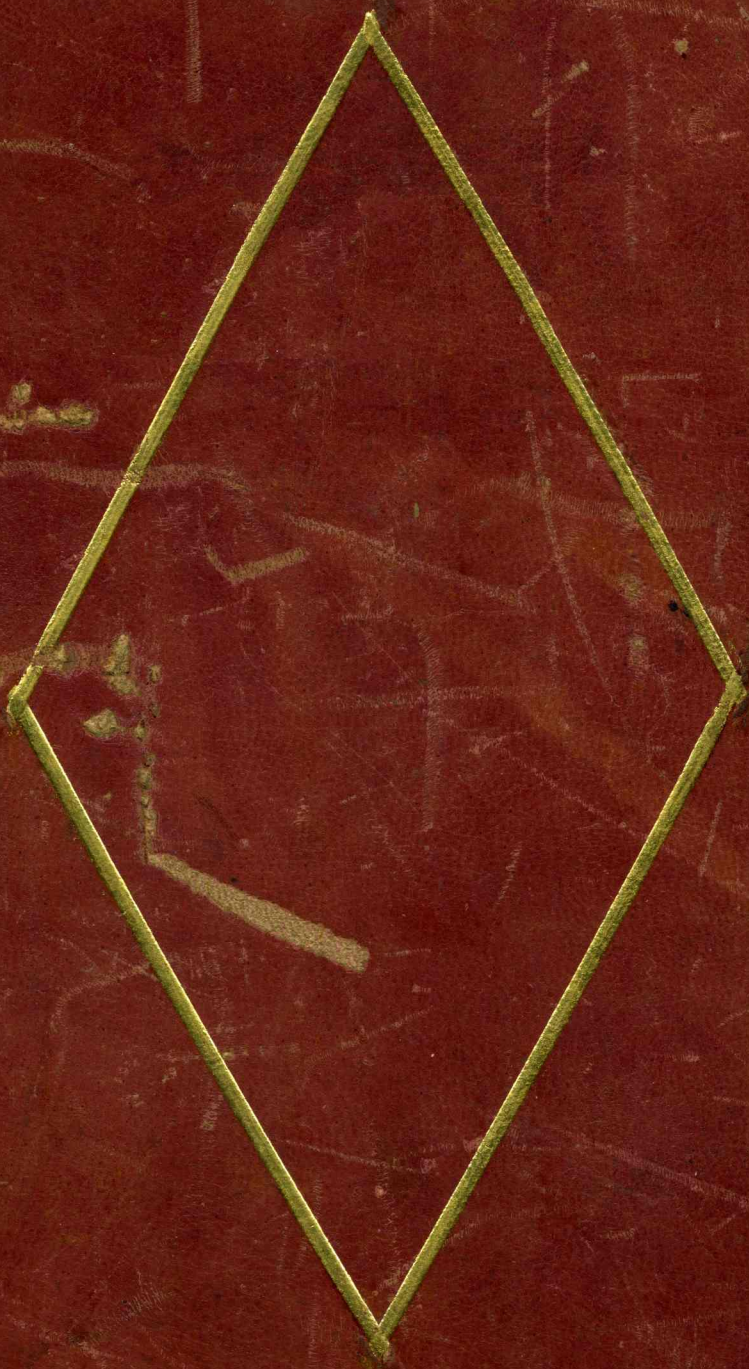
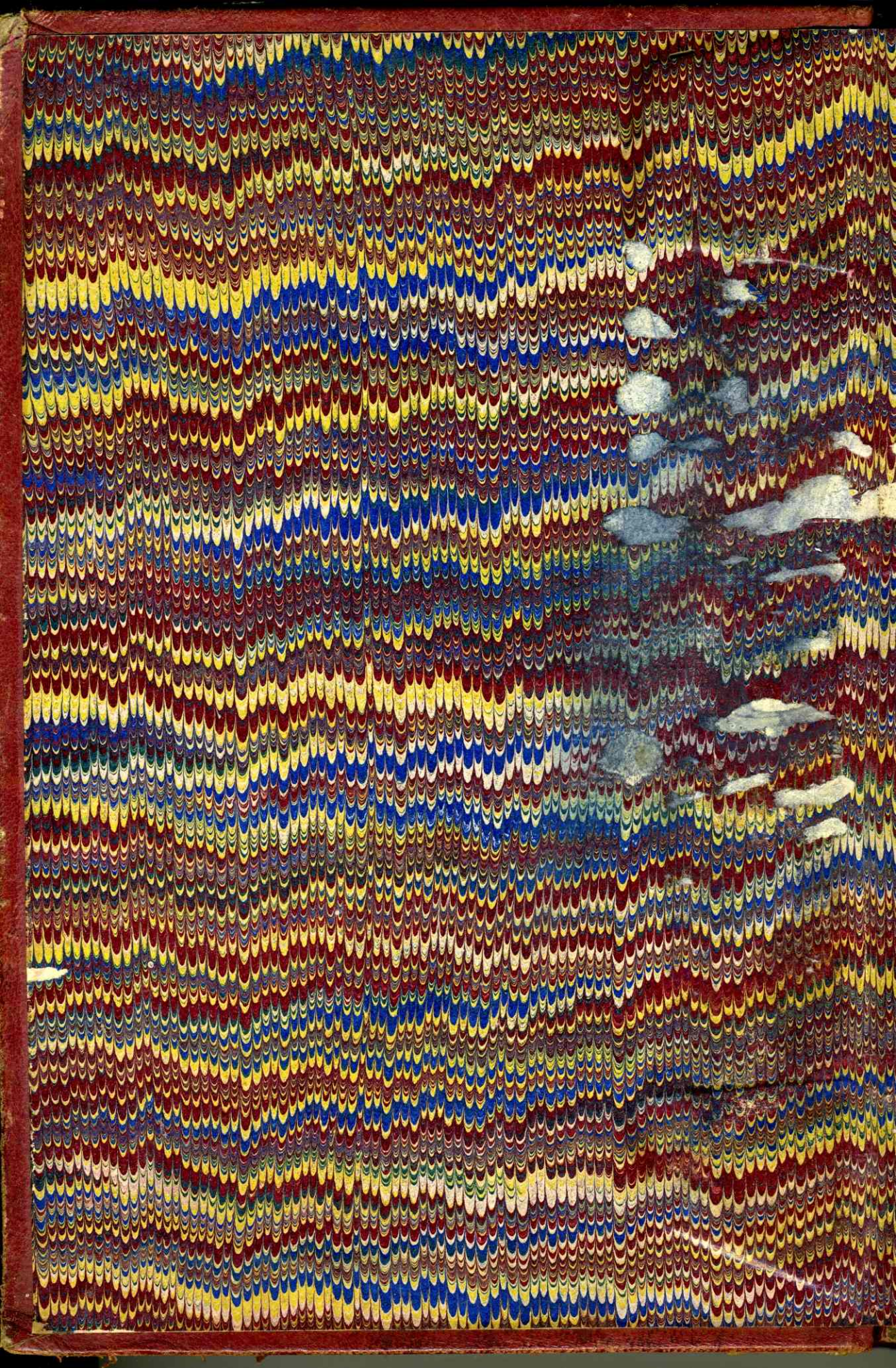
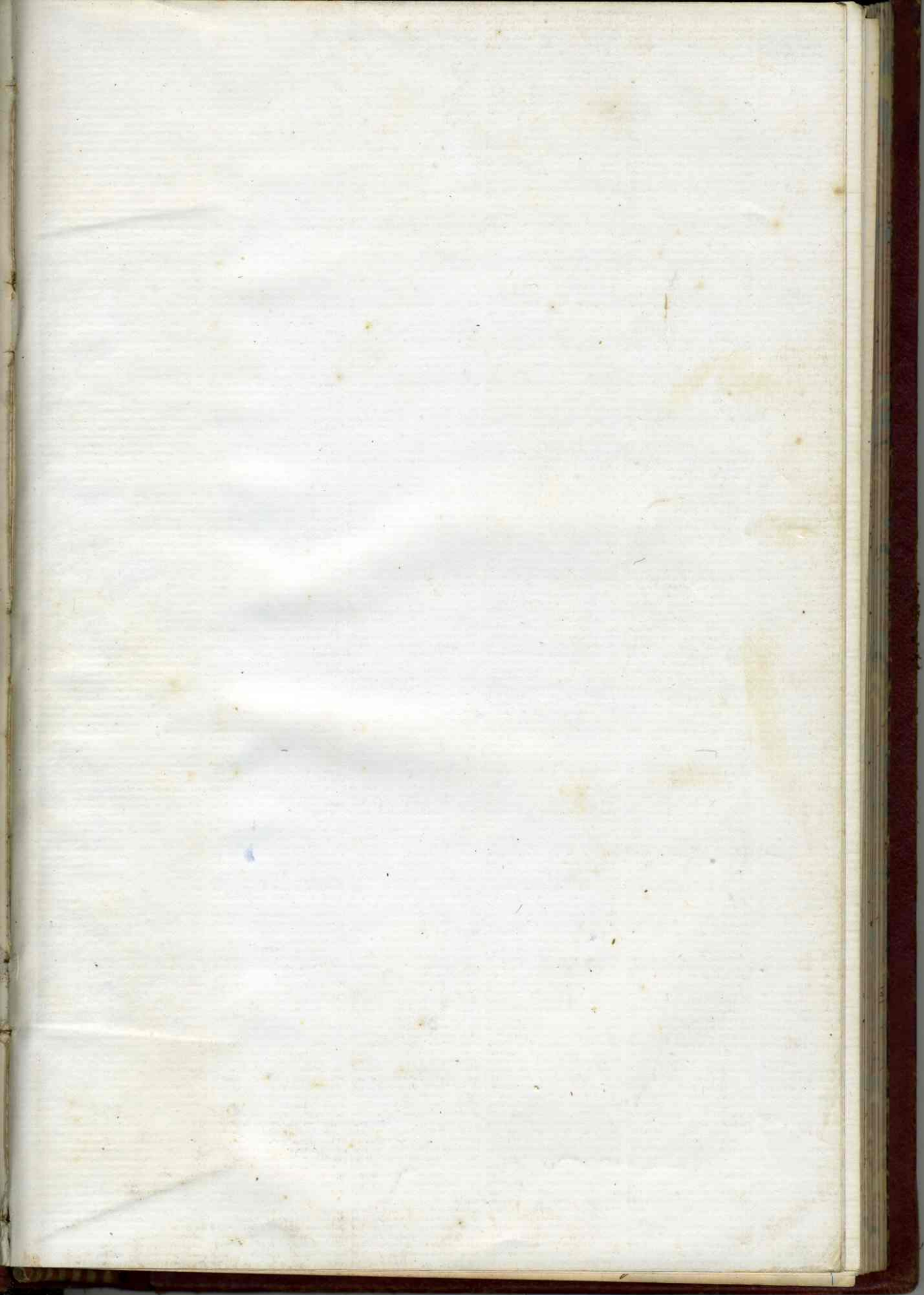


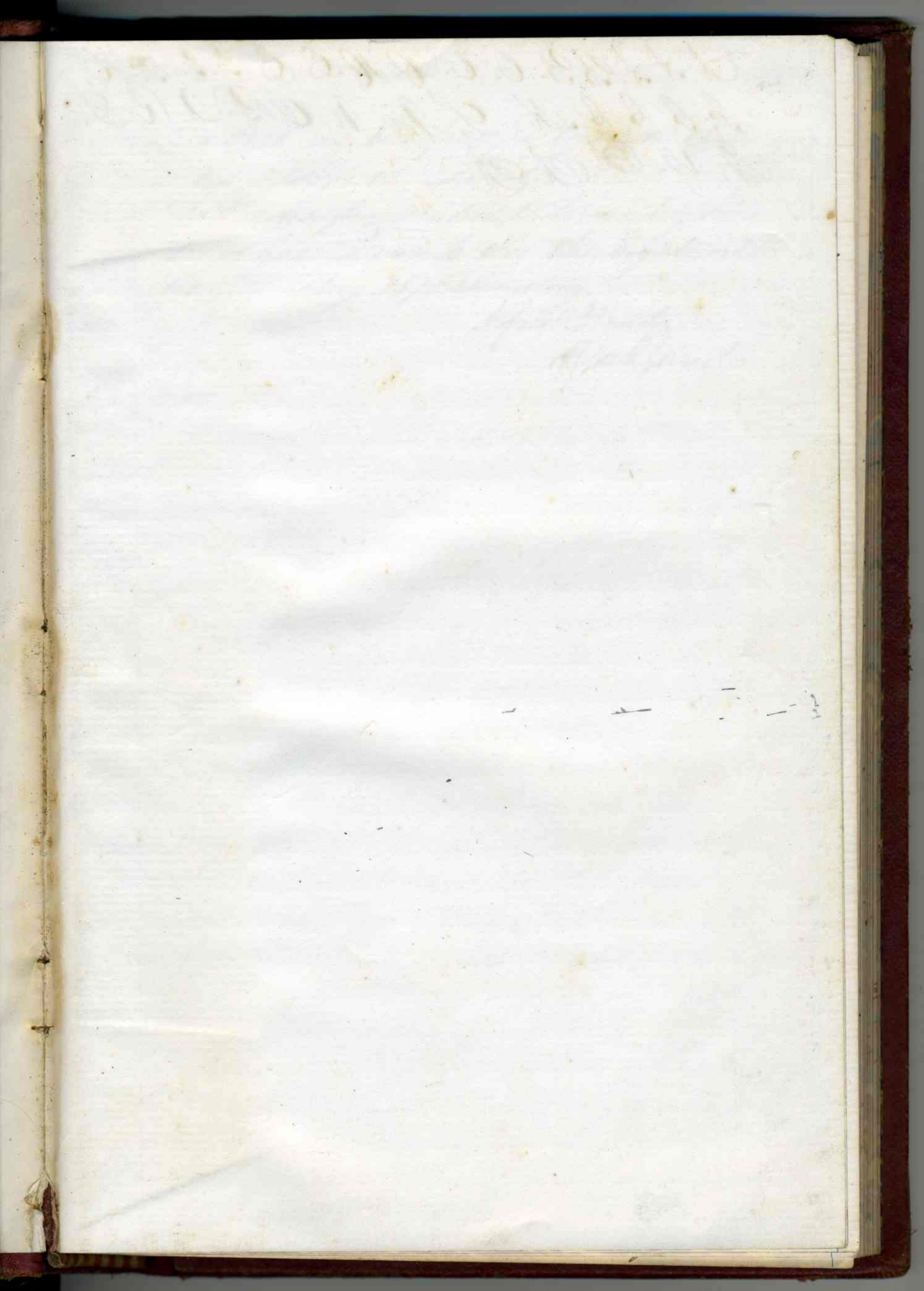
1873 - 1874











A. A. A. B. B. C. C. D. D. E. E. F. F. G. G.
H. H. I. I. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S.
T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z.

1
This is the property and diary
of Alfred Benitz.

It was presented to him by his
brother Frank on the eighteenth
day of May. 1873. Sunday.

Alfred Benitz.
Oakland.

[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

May 1873.

Thursday 8th. I went to school as usual today and had grammar most all day. Katy Shoang who came on the 6th went over to the city to the theater this evening with Mr. Helmky.

I went to the library after supper and paid for this month.

Friday 9th Mr. Howard came this morning and he said that we can come up to his house on vacation; he is going to stay over night. We had a grammar examination for promotion this forenoon and in the afternoon we studied Analysis. I watered a part of the garden after school.

Mr. Helmky came this evening. Mother and Charly went over to Dr. Zeile's today, and Charley says that if I still water the garden always, he will do all my other work.

Saturday 10th Mr. Howard went away today and so did Katy Shoang. I watered a part of the garden, the yard, the croquet ground this forenoon, and in the afternoon I watered the vegetable garden. I exchanged knives with

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father I giving my black handled for his white handled. We got two bales of hay this afternoon.

This afternoon I went with father and got some nails.

I am going to bathe this evening.

Sunday 17th. Mother gave me twenty five cents this morning which I gave to Frank for a blank pocket book. Charley and I went to church today, but our seat was taken by three young men so we had to take another seat. This afternoon I wrote a composition on Coffee trees, and drew a vase for a specimen, and finished a picture of a jack-screw.

Monday 18th I played foot ball this morning before school and this mornings recess. After school I watered a part of the garden. We had Arithmetic this forenoon and Analysis this afternoon.

After supper I went to the library and took a book.

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Tuesday 13th Before school I watered a portion of the garden. We had an examination in Analysis for promotion this morning, and until 2 o'clock we had Arithmetic and after that reading. After school I went to the Dentist, he took out my plate, and said that I need not come for a long time. I went to the library after supper and took a book. Before I went to library I watered the vegetable garden.

Harvey Burdell came this morning.
Wednesday 14th Before breakfast I went to the bakery. We studied Arithmetic most all day. After supper I went to library.

About half past eight P.M. a man came to our house for help; he said that he had been in all the indian wars, Mexican war and in the Rebellion.

He was wounded in the right knee, and he could not see out of his left eye, and then he began to talk indian; he said in the indian he acted as a guide, expressman and interpreter. It was a cloudy day

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Thursday 15th I played foot-ball at school today. Frank Harris chose me, it was splendid fun. After school I watered the garden. I went to the library after supper. Frank had our photographs on the table when I came home, I gave one to Father. Frank and Bella. Bella said that she would give me one of hers in return. Frank also had a large photograph of our house at Fort Ross, and of father about 20 years ago, and of mother about 15 years ago, and then of himself about 12 years ago and of Josephine when she was three years old, and then he had another picture of himself coming home from hunting.

We had Arithmetic all day.
Friday 16th I watered a part of the garden before school. We had an examination in Arithmetic for promotion today. I was finished at half past twelve but some were not finished for a few hours after that. I'm

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The afternoon there was no school to those that were finished. I read, untill about three o'clock and then watered the grass behind the house.

And then my mother watered the vegetable garden while Charley and I pumped on our pump in the stable yard. Johnny bought off Charles type for fifty cents.

Johnny gave the knife I had, to father for a nice mother of pearl handled knife, that had four blades. After supper I went to the Post office and then to the library and but I did not draw any books.

Saturday 17th I watered the yard, walks, chicken yards, the cypress trees and a part of the garden today; while I was watering the trees Mance Bissbottle and Johnny were throwing stones at me, while I watered them in return, and Mance got soaking wet. This morning I went to the grocery store, and weighed myself and found that I weighed 135 pounds but I think that I do not weight that much. I bathe tonight.

After supper mother watered the little garden.

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Sunday 18th. Mother, Josephine,

Charley and I went to church this morning. It was a very pleasant day. Mr. Blinn came this morning and they went out walking. In the afternoon Charley and I intended to go to Barnes but instead of that ~~but~~ we went in a boat to China point and to a dredging machine on the other side of the creek where we seen, and tried to catch with our hands numberless little fish. I succeeded in catching a thin long fish like an eel and I gave it to Johnny. After we came home I went in to Frank's room, where he was. He asked me what kind of a book I had for a diary I said that it was a pocket blank book, he then gave me another blank book, in which he said that I should write my diary and then he took that away and gave me this beautiful book and he said that if I kept it good he would give

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me a good present for Christmas.

After supper Father, mother and Josephine went to see Stemmings. I spent the evening in copying from my old diary in to this book.

I had to write a composition for Monday today.

Monday 19th. Father gave me 50 cents this morning for some work I done, but I spent it this afternoon for a box of letter paper and envelopes.

We studied History and Mental today. After school I went to the library. After breakfast I got a large hammer from Mr. Sims bottle for dove steaks.

After supper I studied german for there is going to be an examination tomorrow.

Bella gave me her Photograph this evening. Mrs. Williams was here this afternoon. We had strawberries for dinner today. It was a pleasant, sunny day. I saw in the call that they out to out to have a training ship, and I asked mother if I might go to school on one, if there is one and she said yes.

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Tuesday 20th We had a Mental Arithmetic examination this morning; we had ten questions, and we could not ~~see~~ ^{ask} any plate or any thing else. After the examination we had History. Mr. Craven said we were going to have a German examination this afternoon but it was postponed until tomorrow. After school I watered the garden.

We had some Simburger cheese for supper and it smelled so that we had to hold our noses while eating. And Viola would not wash the plate it was on. It was a pleasant day. After supper the children played "prisoners base". Mrs. Captain Fleming and another lady came after supper and so did Mr. and Mrs. Bluffin. Josephine gave me her photograph after supper. About 5 o'clock P.M. I went with Viola to get her trunk which was at Mr. Fleming's house. I gave Josephine ~~and~~ another one of my photographs.

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Wednesday 21st We had a german examination for promotion this morning. It was easy and I think that I was perfect. This afternoon we had an examination in History, we had twenty questions and I think it was pretty easy. We also had an oral examination in German this afternoon. We were examined by Professor Belche and I think his brother. He made me read an exercise and then made me decline some adjectives and articles. I watered the garden after school, and after supper mother watered the garden behind the house. After supper I went for some bread and then I went to the library, and in coming home I got some calico for my mother. After school I went after Bell's shoes and while going down I seen Emperor Norton, he had an eagle's feather about 2 feet long on his hat. A man asked him "why he did not whip The Modocs." and he answered "I would like to send that scalp of yours to them." It was a pleasant day.

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Thursday 22nd It was Frank's birthday today. I did not give him any thing but I wish I had been able to. We had singing for $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour this morning while a girl played a piano; we all had to go in one room. After singing we had an examination in drawing, there was a large chart

that had a windmill on it pinned on the wall. In the afternoon some scholars drew on the black board, and at about 2 o'clock some of the scholars that had nothing to do could go home, and I was one of them. After school I went to the grocery store and in going I heard a man lecturing about "lightening reckoning" and he was trying to sell books about it.

After I came home I watered the garden. My mother and Josephine went to the city and brought home the first cherries I eat this year. It was a pleasant day. After supper

May 18th 73.

Charley and I went over to Hardy's. While there we heard Winnie and the nurse girl coming to Charley's shop. Charley quickly went behind a door and I under the stage, and we succeeded in frightening them pretty well.

I borrowed two magazines of Charley Hardy. Mr. and Mrs. Bloom came this evening. Frank Sestie's boys and girls did not come today.

Friday 23rd. This morning we had singing untill about 10 o'clock. after that the teacher said that those that had nothing to do could go home. I was not one of them because Mr. Crann gave me a copy of the programme and told me to copy it. and about half past eleven I came home and took some vines and flowers to school to decorate the rooms. I played foot ball in the recesses. It was a very pleasant day. In the afternoon we all had to go in one room, to have our Exhibition. A good many visitors came while the scholars were speaking and acting. A dialogue between half a dozen of the first grade, afforded great amusement. I did not have to speak. The exercises were closed

May 18th 73.

by some remarks by a minister from Chicago. After school I went to the grocery store, after that I watered the vegetable garden. Josephine, Charley, and Bella have gone to the Exhibition of the graduating class. I wrote a letter to Suzzie this evening. "Frank Sealer's boys and girls" has come this morning.

Mrs. Fleming and her daughter came this afternoon.

Saturday 24th 73. After breakfast I watered the walks and yard, and after that I beat out carpets. After dinner Charley and I went down town; when I came home I wanted to go to the library, but mother hid the books so I could not find them. At three o'clock I commenced watering the garden and I was finished at about six o'clock. After supper I went to the library.

We had strawberries for dinner. It was a pleasant day but rather too hot than I would want it.

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Father gave me a half a dozen 3 ct stamps this morning. I am going to bathe tonight.

Sunday 25th Today was a remarkably dry day. Josephine, Charly and I went to church this morning. Mr Stone preached. About three o'clock this afternoon my mother and Josephine went to Schuttles, and when they came back they brought Schuttles with them. After supper Bella said that there was a large rat in the chicken yard, and I had to go there with the gun to kill it, but I could not catch sight of the rat. It was a very pleasant day. Frank who went fishing yesterday morning has not come back yet. After supper mother and Herman went over to Hardings. I gave Johnnie five small rubber bands for a cornic songster. Father said that in the Argentine Republic that when any one sows any thing some one has to keep the parrots from eating the seeds.

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Monday 26th This morning before eleven o'clock we had to go in Miss Hamilton's room, for the 3rd grade was in Mr. Craven's room singing; we had Spelling. After recess we had an examination for promotion in Spelling; we had 40 words.

This afternoon we had a transposition, composition on Tobacco, and then she read something of the brain, and then we had to write a letter. After school I watered the garden. After supper I went to the library. Frank came back today he shot 2 hares, but I do not know how many fish he has caught. This morning it was cold and this afternoon pleasant.

Tuesday 27th We had an examination for promotion in Composition this forenoon. I wrote on the Truth of July. Mr. Craven also examined us in writing this morning. I played foot ball at the recesses. This afternoon the 3rd and 4th

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grade of up stairs had their Exhibition. We had reading this afternoon, and about half past two we had an examination in Music, we each had to sing alone, but I would not sing. This forenoon we had an examination in written Music; we had ten questions of a credit each.

After school I watered the garden.

After supper I went to the library; and then to the Post office, where I got four letters, 2 for Josephine & Bella, and 2 for father.

Mr. and Mrs. Blohm came this evening, the former to give Frank his Spanish lesson.

It was a very pleasant day.

I eat apricots today for the first time this season.

Wednesday 28th Last night was very windy and I hardly slept any during the whole night. We had reading all forenoon. I played football at the recesses. About quarter past twelve I and half a dozen other boys had to carry the piano down stairs, and hard work it was too. After we had carried the piano down stairs our room was let

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out, and then we played football untill about three o'clock.

Mr. Blohm came this afternoon and stayed untill after supper. I saw the first Postal Card this afternoon, it was for mother and had an advertisement on the blank side. Josephine and mother went out to some body's house on Telegraph road after supper. It was a windy but warm day.

Thursday 29th. Today was the last day of school. This morning we had a written reading examination for promotion. I was finished about 9.30 After that I went down to see the Exhibition of the 4th and 5th grades I went out about 10 o'clock and played football untill about twelve, when I was finished I could hardly stand I was so tired but it was so much fun. After I came home and packed a few things that I wanted to give Howard. This afternoon there was a

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reading examination. I was not called upon until about quarter to three.

After bidding Miss Birmingham and Mr. Cranch good-bye. I came downstairs and was going to go into the fourth grade rooms, but the ~~rooms~~^{rooms} were so crowded that I could not get in, so I came home and watered the garden. After supper I went to the library and took back my book for I am not going to belong there next month.

After that I went to the grocery store. I measured myself yesterday and found that I was 5 ft. 7 in high, and father was 5 ft. 8 in high and Charley was 5 feet and 6 inches. Mr. and Mrs. Blom, came this evening. Josephine was 5 ft. 5 in high.

Friday 30th I watered the garden behind the house after breakfast, and after that I raked the whole stable yard until about 12 o'clock.

After dinner mother and I packed our trunks to go to Howard.

About 3 o'clock Charley cut the grass while I raked it.

I did not have any stockings on, so I had a large blister on the side of my foot so I could barely

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walk. After I finished raking I watered the garden.

It was a very pleasant day.

Josephine has two young kittens and I played with them a short time today and I ptu had to laugh at the funny actions they made.

I tried to draw with Charley's drawing machinery but could not succeed.

It was a warm day.

Saturday 31st. I watered the yard and garden this morning.

At 10 o'clock I bathed and dressed myself in readiness to go to the country.

Father gave me a dollar this morning.

We took the 1.40 train for San Francisco where we got a drayman to take our baggage to the Antelope.

The Antelope started about half past three and arrived at Donahue about 5.30 P. M.

We took cars for Petaluma where we arrived about 6 P. M. we staid in the cars until

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we arrived at Santa Rosa which
was at 7 o'clock.

We seen Mr. and Theodore Harding.
We then got in the stage for
Sebastopol. (I had to ride on top)
where we arrived about 10 P. M.

We staid over night at Wilson's hotel.
I spent 15 cents for peanuts on the
cars in Oakland.

It was a warm day.